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Friday, June 5, 2026

Shawna E. Shea Memorial Foundation awards scholarships to outstanding local students

UXBRIDGE — The Shawna E. Shea Memorial Foundation (Shawna Foundation) is proud to announce the recipients of its 2026 scholarships, honoring the memory and legacy of Shawna Shea, a vibrant and compassionate young woman who passed away in 1999 at the age of 16. Since 2001, the Shawna Foundation has awarded scholarships to Uxbridge High School graduates who reflect Shawna’s character—her independence, empathy, and strength of spirit.

This year’s awards were presented at a ceremony at Uxbridge High School, attended by members of Shawna’s family, who continue to celebrate the potential and promise of young people riding their own waves toward a better future.

“Shawna lived her life with a deep sense of compassion and fierce individuality,” said her father, Skip Shea. “She invited others into her orbit and lifted them up. That’s the



The Shawna E. Shea Memorial Foundation presented three scholarships to Uxbridge High School graduating seniors at the UHS Awards Ceremony on May 27. Pictured above are, from left, Michael Phoenix; UHS seniors Lily LaLiberte, Hailee Lussier, and Hunter Doungsavanh; and Skip Shea, Executive Director of the Shawna Foundation.

Courtesy

spirit we honor with these scholarships.”

Shawna’s essence is captured in a poem written by her father shortly after her passing, titled *She Rode Her Own Wave*. The opening lines read:

She rode her own wave
inviting any and all on,
but never drifting off on others.

In her memory, three \$1,000 scholarships were awarded this year:

The Shawna E. Shea Memorial Scholarship — the original scholarship, first established in 2001. This year’s recipient is Lily LaLiberte, a graduating senior from Uxbridge High School. Lily plans to study psychology with the goal of becoming a clinical psychologist. She served as President of Mending Spartan Minds, the school’s mental health awareness club, and is a member of the National Honor Society.

The Shawna E. Shea Scholarship in Memory of Michael Liberty, honoring Turn To SCHOLARSHIPS page A10

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness comes to Uxbridge in June!

UXBRIDGE — The Town of Uxbridge is proud to announce two upcoming events that will highlight recent Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness grants obtained by the Town. Both events are

free and light refreshments will be available.

The first is a Community Kickoff on Thursday, June 11 at 6 p.m. at the Uxbridge Progressive Club, located at 18 Whittin St. The grant’s leadership team

will present all the phases of carefully removing a local dam. Specifically, the Home Brew Dam on Meadow Brook is slated for removal this summer. Its removal will restore the natural ecology to the

area and protect an adjacent municipal well from damage by flooding. The project also includes presentations at Uxbridge schools and the production of a video to document the project from beginning to end.

The second is an interactive session on Saturday, June 13 at noon at the Uxbridge Senior Center, located at 36 South Main St. Those who attend will participate in creating the design of the Gray Rock Pocket Forest, located on the site of the former Gray Rock Estate, at the corner of E Hartford Ave and Crown and Eagle Rd. The first interactive session was held in January. This session will build on ideas developed then, as well as work done in the interim by the “Posse,” the group responsible for administering the project. Such work includes a land survey to determine legal borders, wetlands delineation, and an informal inventory of existing native trees and invasive species. This project is built upon the philosophy that the public’s involvement ensures its relevance and ultimate success.

You are cordially invited to come to either or both events.

Get involved with either project:

Become a Citizen Scientist to monitor water quality and insect before

Turn To GRANTS page A1

BVT Signing Day celebrates skilled seniors

UPTON — The Cooperative Education (Co-Op) program at Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) held its 6th annual Career Signing Day on May 15. The ceremony recognized the senior Co-Op and career placement students, who proudly announced their career or military plans and signed commitment letters to work with their employers after graduation.

Vocational Director Kerri Baltramaitis welcomed the soon-to-be graduates, parents, instructors, industry partners, and school administrators before highlighting each student’s achievement in their trade area and the Co-Op program.

The Class of 2026 produced record-setting Co-Op numbers with 180 students participating in the program. Since March of 2025, students have worked more than 75,000 hours and earned a combined total of more than \$1.3 million in wages. The Co-Op experience is made possible through partnerships with a growing number of local businesses that support students each year, demonstrating the program’s positive impact on the local workforce and community.

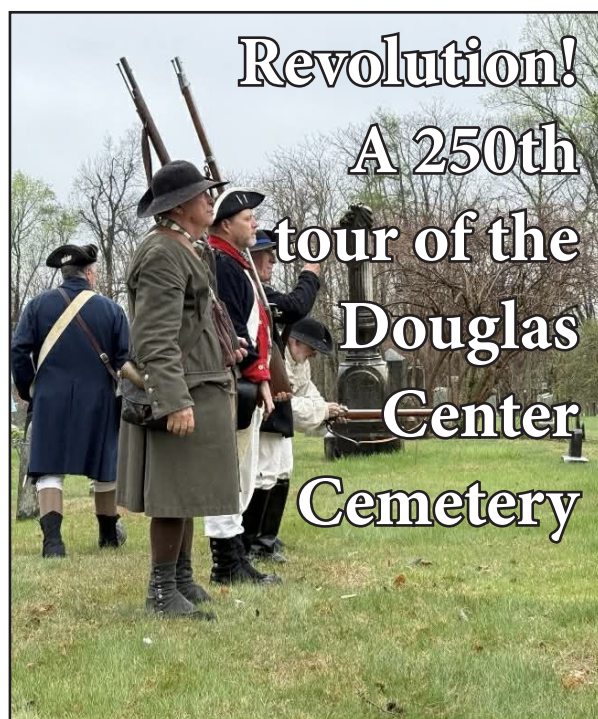
During the ceremony, students signed employment contracts with representatives from local companies, including A.S. Jones, Adaptive Plumbing & Heating, AFDJ Contracting, Armed Services, Avenue Fifty, Back Bay Mechanical, Boots on the Ground Landscaping, Boston Lawnmower, Boston Volvo, Boucher Energy Systems, Bulldog Fire Apparatus, Capurso Electric, Control Point, Crothers Tire & Auto Repair, D.C. Bates Equipment, G&C Plumbing & Heating, Grasseschi Plumbing, J&P Truck and Auto, JTS Diesel Performance, Kevin Allen Carpentry, L.R. Favreau Septic, Lavallee Systems, Marty’s Auto Service, Medway Oil & Propane, Milton CAT, Nicks Landscaping, Northbridge Smiles, Notturmo Home Services, nVent, Pace Auto Service, RJM Custom Autobody, Rob Roy Hair Salon, Scott Caffrey Plumbing, T&J Plumbing & Heating, Tegra Medical, Top Notch HVAC, Valente Plumbing, Heating & AC, Waters Corporation, Wayne J. Griffin Electric, and Z&E Landscaping.

Career Signing Day reflects a growing upward trend of students pursuing employment over post-secondary education. These modern vocational students are heading directly into industry careers with high-skill, high-wage employment, while continuing to build experience through full-time work and on-the-job training.

For more information about BVT, the Cooperative Education program, and Signing Day, visit www.valleytech.k12.ma.us/signingday.

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Milford, Millbury, Millville, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills.



DOUGLAS — The Eternal Residents of Pine Grove, The Douglas Cemetery Commission and the Douglas Historical Society are partnering to offer several tours of the Douglas Center Cemetery across from the town common on Sunday, June 14. The tours will be tailored to recognize the contributions of our Revolutionary War soldiers who participated in the effort to separate the colonies from England’s

control. Sarah Guimond, the vice chair of the Cemetery Commission and the host of an educational Facebook history blog called the Eternal Residents of Pine Grove, will lead the tours. She has used online and local sources to research the veterans who are buried in the Center Cemetery and will guide participants to specific headstones that tell the stories of the contributions that townspeople

from Douglas made to the effort to gain our independence.

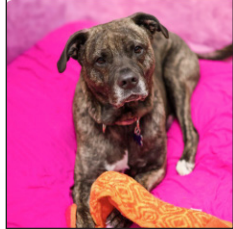
In addition, there will be a Patriot grave marking at the grave site of William Dudley with a special ceremony conducted by the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (CTSSAR) Israel Putnam Branch Color Guard at 2:30 p.m.

All tours will be on Sunday, June 14 at 10:30 a.m., at noon, 3 and 4 p.m. Suggested donations of \$10 per person to the Historical Society are appreciated. Please reserve a tour time online at eventbrite under Revolution! A 250th Historical Cemetery Tour. Parking details will be available with your registration.

The tours are made possible by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Parking is free. A portable sound system will enhance volume and an American Sign Language interpreter might be on site. Please email enjenckes1833@gmail.com with questions.

PET of the WEEK



MEET Pico

Pico is the total puppy package — goofy, cuddly, playful, and guaranteed to keep you smiling. This little guy loves everyone he meets and is always ready to make new friends, whether they have two legs or four. He's done wonderfully with dogs of all sizes, has lived with cats, and has been sweet with kids of all ages.

Pico is looking for an active, fun home where he'll have plenty of companionship, playtime, and things to do. He would love a home with playful dogs, feline friends, kids, or a busy family lifestyle to help keep him entertained and included in the action. He thrives on interaction and fun, and he's happiest when he has buddies to play with and people to hang out alongside.

This silly puppy loves enrichment, outdoor adventures, and anything involving snacks. Food puzzles, lick mats, sniffing games — Pico is all in! He's very food motivated, which will make training both fun and rewarding. He's also a surprisingly excellent car rider and is happiest when he can curl up for a nap after a busy day of adventures.

Like any young puppy, Pico is still learning the ropes! He's working on house training and polite manners, including not jumping up when he gets excited. He'll thrive with adopters who are ready to continue helping him learn through positive reinforcement, structure, consistency, and lots of love. In return, you'll get a social, affectionate puppy who is ready to be your best friend, adventure buddy, and constant source of entertainment.

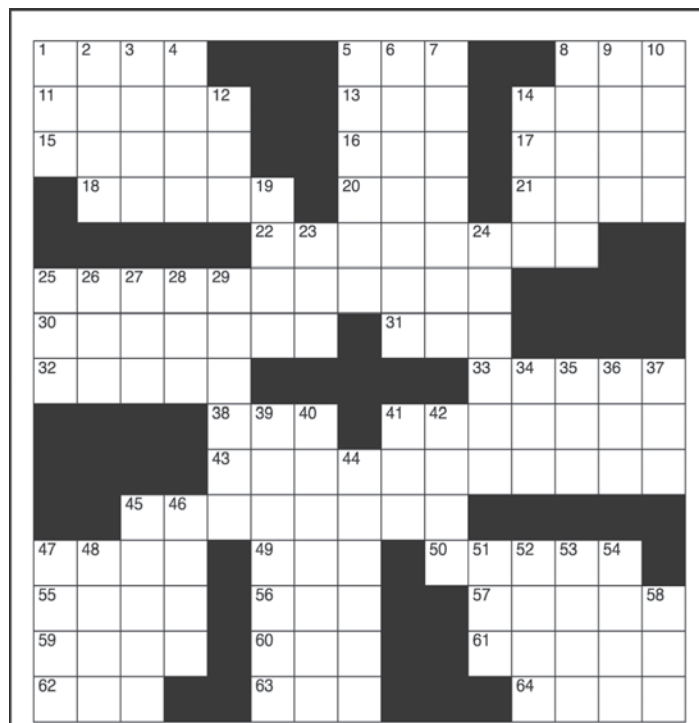
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Milford Federal Bank is proud to sponsor Baypath Humane Society's Pet of the Week!

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Egyptian bull-god
- 5. A young canine
- 8. Cologne
- 11. Fictional British P.I.
- 13. Midway between northeast and east
- 14. A place to shop
- 15. Minneapolis suburb
- 16. Single lens reflex
- 17. NY Mets great Tommie
- 18. Informal loan clubs
- 20. Habitual twitching
- 21. Holm oak
- 22. Willing to consent or submit
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Made possible
- 31. Language in Ghana
- 32. Relating to one's birth
- 33. Deep-bodied fishes
- 38. Defunct European currency
- 41. Small American songbird
- 43. One from L.A.
- 45. After tenth
- 47. Hillside
- 49. Red deer
- 50. Partner to "oohed"
- 55. Indian musical pattern
- 56. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 57. Golden peas plant
- 59. Breezed through
- 60. Midway between east and southeast
- 61. Frameworks
- 62. Danish krone
- 63. Fall back
- 64. Influential Korean leader

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Bridge building degree
- 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 3. Large, stocky lizard
- 4. Turkish leader title
- 5. Nag
- 6. Blank
- 7. Closely woven cotton fabric
- 8. A nice shot in golf
- 9. Away from wind
- 10. Evergreen shrub genus
- 12. Large African antelope
- 14. Something you receive
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. Wet dirt
- 24. No longer here
- 25. Writing utensil
- 26. Ribonucleic acid
- 27. Consume food
- 28. Licensed for Wall Street
- 29. Alternative forms of a gene
- 34. Buddy
- 35. We all do it
- 36. Chicken
- 37. No seats available
- 39. Yearned to possess
- 40. Ineffectual
- 41. Explosive
- 42. Turkish title
- 44. Worn near the foot
- 45. Impatient
- 46. Set an example for others
- 47. Actor Pitt
- 48. Instrument of torture
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Grayish white
- 53. A way to print
- 54. Storied college hoops program
- 58. Midway between south and southeast

History comes alive at the Asa Waters Mansion this August!

MILLBURY — In celebration of Asa Waters Mansion 200th Anniversary, and in conjunction with the 250th Anniversary of the United States, the Mansion is proud to announce, History Comes Alive at the Asa Waters Mansion. History Comes Alive, is a three-day Civil War living history experience, taking place on the historic grounds, located at 123 Elm Street, Millbury, from Friday, Aug. 7 through Sunday, Aug. 9.

Presented in collaboration with the 15th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry Reenactment Regiment and The Liberty Greys, this immersive weekend event will transport visitors back in time through engaging historical interpretation, live demonstrations, educational programming, and authentic encampments designed for all ages. Throughout the weekend, guests will experience narrated battle demonstrations, military drill and weapons demonstrations, civilian and domestic life programming, educational lectures, candlelight Mansion tours, live period music, sutlers, Sunday church call, and additional interactive experiences that showcase

the Civil War-era America from multiple perspectives.

The event is intended to create an engaging and educational environment where history can be explored in a meaningful, approachable, and community-centered way. Organizers hope visitors will gain a deeper appreciation for the region's Civil War Heritage while experiencing the sights, sounds, and stories of the era firsthand.

"This event is about bringing history to life in a way that is immersive, thoughtful, and accessible for everyone," said Asa Waters Mansion, Executive Director, Traci Parath. "Whether you are a history enthusiast, a family looking for a unique weekend experience, or someone interested in learning more about the stories behind the Civil War, there will be something meaningful for everyone."

Many events throughout the weekend are expected to be FREE and open to the public, with additional admission and scheduling

details to be announced as planning is finalized. Asa Waters Mansion remains one of the Blackstone Valley's treasured historic landmarks, and History Come Alive aims to connect the community with the rich and complex history that helped shape both our region, Massachusetts and the nation.

For more information, please contact Asa Waters Mansion Executive Director, Traci Parath at 508-865-0855 or email Traci at, tparath@millburyma.gov.

Millbury Farmers Market at the Mansion returns for another exciting summer season

MILLBURY — The Friends of Asa Waters Mansion is proud to announce the return of the Millbury Farmers Market! Held on the scenic, and historic grounds of the Asa Waters Mansion, located at 123 Elm St., Millbury, the Market brings together local farms, artisans, crafters, makers, food vendors, and small businesses from across the Blackstone Valley and beyond.

This Summer's Market is set to kick off on June 18, running from 3-7 p.m., and continuing on the third Thursday of each month through October, concluding with the Mansion's Annual Fall Fun Day celebration on Oct. 18. This season already features an impressive and expanding lineup of vendors offering everything from farm-fresh produce and locally sourced goods to handcrafted jewelry, artisan soaps and candles, baked goods, chocolates, coffee, barbeque, and more. Guests will also have the opportunity to enjoy offerings from local breweries, specialty food vendors, and talented craftspeople representing the region's vibrant small business community.

"This Market is quickly becoming a special community tradition. Now in its second year, we are seeing new and returning vendors, and growing excitement around supporting local farms and small businesses. We are thrilled to welcome everyone back to the Mansion grounds for another incredible year," said Traci Parath, Executive Director, Asa Waters Mansion.

The opening Market on June 18 will also feature a free live performance by Friends of Coop, beginning at 6 p.m., adding live music and entertainment to the evening experience.

For more information, please contact Asa Waters Mansion Executive Director, Traci Parath at 508.865.0855 or email Traci at, tparath@millburyma.gov.



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\$767,500, 1 Pickering Ln, Cora Lane Group LLC, and Benoit, Stephen P, to Santos, Jennifer A.

\$415,000, 185 Elm St, Taylor Margaret M Est, and Taylor, Stephen, to Nicholson, James.

\$400,000, 13 Dawes St, Suss Doris Est, and Oakley, Linda M, to Lam, Muoi.

NORTHBRIDGE

\$840,000, 103 Prairie St, Brudner, Stephen M, and Brudner, Michella, to Brickman, Jeffrey, and Barrett, Margaret.

\$775,000, 255 Prairie St, Recchia, Edward P, and Recchia, Norine K, to Eliopoulos, George, and Eliopoulos, Brooke.

\$505,000, 713 Fowler Rd, Haringa Rt, and Haringa, Steven, to Miller, Christian, and Haringa, Kelsey.

\$380,000, 9 Willow St, Holland, Thomas L, to Mp Acquisitions LLC.

UXBRIDGE

\$799,900, 22 Bayliss Way, Sutton Street LLC, and Bangma, Dale, to Nammour, Katherine Ana, and Nammour, Joseph G.

\$797,450, 111 Turner Farm Rd, Tf Rt, and Frateschi, Edward A, to Manivannan Ft, and Manivannan, J.

\$669,179, 205-D Crownshield Ave #17-D, Tmd Re Hldg-Uxbridge LLC, and Bobola, Timothy, to Maruco, Amanda, and Oldford, Marc Anthony.

\$636,100, 30 Chocolog Rd, Lee, Lisa, to Robertson, Meredith, and Robertson, Duncan.

\$599,900, 16 Farnum St #16, Santos, Jennifer A, to Poirier, Nicole.

\$565,000, 35 Pouts Ln #35, Creed, Jessica, and Dannibale, Jessica, to Dhruva, Chirag Hemanshu, and Joshi, Kruti N.

\$555,000, 44 Pouts Ln #44, O'Brien, David M, and O'Brien, Donna M, to Villemaire, Matthew, and Villemaire, Jessica.

\$525,000, 415 Pond St, Heno, Amanda Christine, and Heno, Brian Paul, to Nordquist, Matthew, and Nordquist, Jennifer.

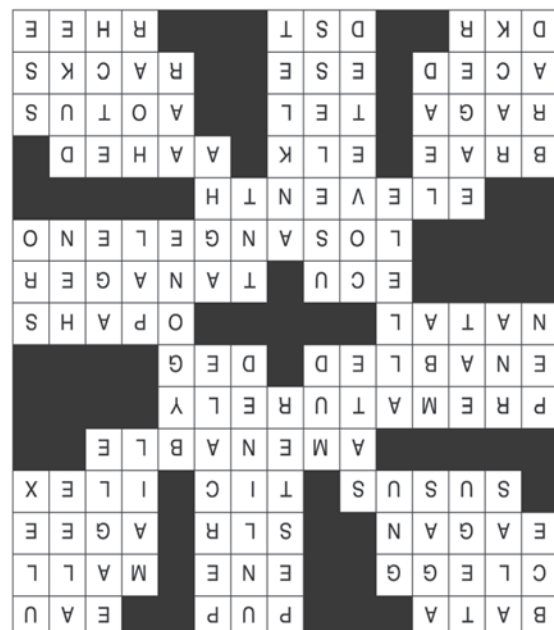
\$460,000, 79 High St, Kauzens, Jeffrey, and Kauzens, Jeffrey M, to Jarvis, Kelsey.

\$435,000, 14 Snowling Rd, Gallivan, Kathleen, and Gallivan, Gary, to Tracy, Thomas Michael.

\$416,000, 376 Douglas St, Villemaire, Matthew, and Wye, Jessica, to Wagner, Robert S, and Ryan, Nikki Ann.

Ware
None

PUZZLE SOLUTION



Local students receive academic awards from Nichols College

DUDLEY — Nichols College proudly congratulates the students honored for academic excellence and student achievement at the College's annual Academic Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, April 21. The event celebrated students across a range of majors for their hard work in the classroom, dedication to their fields and contributions to

the Nichols community. The following local students received the awards listed:

Shane Okenquist of Uxbridge received the Class of '55 Professor John Katori Endowed Scholarship. This award is granted to a junior-year student, with preference for students specializing in accounting.

Christian Rachiele

of Uxbridge received a Professor Keith Corkum Endowed Scholarship in Economics. This award is given to a student who demonstrates excellence in the study of economics at Nichols and service to the Nichols community.

Victoria Symock of Douglas received a Tutor of the Year Award. This award is granted to students who have demon-

strated excellence as a tutor at the Academic Resource Center (ARC) at Nichols College. The Academic Resource Center (ARC) at Nichols College helps students become stronger, more confident learners and is certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA).

We applaud these students for their

well-deserved academic recognition. Their achievements reflect a strong commitment to learning and personal growth.

About Nichols College Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educa-

tors, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. www.nichols.edu

Local students receive student life awards from Nichols College

DUDLEY — Nichols College proudly congratulates the students honored for their remarkable leadership, dedication and contributions at the College's annual Student Life Awards ceremony on Monday, April 20. The event recognized individuals and groups who have made a meaningful impact on campus life through their passion, service and commitment to the Nichols community.

The following local students received the awards listed:

Aidan Giunta of Douglas received the Outstanding Student Organization of the Year award. This award is presented to a student organization that has made a significant impact on campus life while demonstrating exceptional leadership development among

its members. This year, the executive committee members of the Wellness Club received the award.

Ella Haker of Uxbridge received a Bison Excellence Award. This award recognizes outstanding juniors and seniors who fully embody the mission of Nichols College and the spirit of student life.

We applaud these students for their outstanding leadership and service. Their contributions reflect a deep commitment to campus life and the culture of connection, collaboration and school pride that shapes student life at Nichols.

About Nichols College Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association to

Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educators, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. www.nichols.edu

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Summer starts at Chamber's annual Steamers At Sunset Lobster Bake!

UXBRIDGE — The Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce (BVCC) invites you to our quintessential Summer Signature Event, Steamers at Sunset! Join us for a traditional New England Lobster Bake on the evening of Thursday, June 25 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the stunning Barn at Blissful Meadows Golf Club, located at 801 Chocolog Rd., Uxbridge.

We are proud to recognize UniBank and Precious Ones Childcare Center and Preschool as our Presenting Sponsors for this year's fabulous evening.

Steamers at Sunset is one of our most eagerly anticipated events of the season, a lively evening filled with tropical-themed music by Captain Zip, outstanding cuisine, cocktails, and fun, surrounded by friends, colleagues, fellow chamber members, and potential clients. Attendees are encouraged to dress to impress in their finest Hawaiian attire for a chance to take home the coveted Golden Lobster Award!

Register online at www.blackstonevalley.org/events. Cost to attend is as follows:

Lobster: \$110 for Members / \$135 for Future Members

Steak: \$90 for Members / \$120 for Future Members

Chicken: \$80 for Members / \$110 for Future Members

Vegetarian (Beyond Burger): \$75 for Members / \$100 for Future Members

All attendees must indicate their

choice of steamers or corn chowder at the time of registration. Your ticket includes a variety of tray-passed hors d'oeuvres, choice of steamers or corn chowder, a garden salad, your pre-selected choice of entrée, baked potato, summer vegetable, and a light dessert. A cash bar will be available throughout the evening. Please RSVP by June 22. For more information, please contact Liz O'Neil at 508-234-9090, ext. 102 or email Liz at loneil@blackstonevalley.org.

We look forward to seeing you there!

The Mission of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce is to preserve and enhance the economic vitality of the Blackstone Valley by addressing the needs and concerns of businesses and providing leadership, support and resources in connection with issues which impact commerce and the quality of life in the Valley.

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall. This two-bedroom cottage near Tignish provides sweeping views of the ocean, the beach, and the North Cape lighthouse. Enjoy kayaking, bicycling, walking the beach, swimming in the warmer Gulf Stream waters, and exploring the community of Nail Pond and the many PEI attractions. Full Appliances. The cottage sleeps six comfortably. Weekly rent is only \$1,100. Contact Scott, for more information at 603-254-5032, or scottm@plymouth.edu.

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EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The best community projects begin with community voices

Some of the most important projects in a town are not the ones that make the biggest headlines. They are the ones that quietly improve the quality of life for residents today while protecting the community for future generations.

Uxbridge has two such opportunities in the coming days, and both share a common theme: local residents are being invited to help shape the future of their town.

The planned removal of the Home Brew Dam on Meadow Brook and the development of the Gray Rock Pocket Forest may seem like very different projects on the surface. One focuses on restoring a waterway. The other aims to create a natural community space. Yet both reflect a growing understanding that environmental stewardship and public involvement go hand in hand.

For many years, communities across Massachusetts and the country have grappled with aging dams. While these structures often served an important purpose in the past, some have outlived their usefulness. In certain cases, they can become liabilities, creating flood risks and disrupting natural ecosystems.

The planned removal of the Home Brew Dam is intended to restore the natural flow of Meadow Brook while helping protect a nearby municipal well from potential flood damage. It is an example of proactive planning rather than reactive problem-solving. Instead of waiting for a crisis, town leaders are taking steps now to reduce future risks.

Just as important is the educational component attached to the project. Students will learn about the process, a video will document the work, and residents can participate as citizen scientists monitoring water quality and local wildlife before and after the removal. That kind of public engagement transforms a construction project into a community learning experience.

The Gray Rock Pocket Forest initiative offers another example of creative thinking. Rather than simply deciding what should happen to a piece of land and moving forward without public input, organizers are asking residents to help shape the vision. The upcoming design session at the Senior Center gives citizens a chance to contribute ideas and help determine how the site will evolve.

This approach recognizes a simple truth. Public spaces succeed when the public feels a sense of ownership. People are more likely to care for, visit and support places they helped create.

In recent years, communities everywhere have faced challenges that sometimes leave residents feeling disconnected from local government and civic life. Projects such as these help rebuild those connections. They remind us that meaningful participation is not limited to Election Day or Town Meeting. It can happen while planting native species, helping monitor a stream, attending a design workshop or volunteering with a local project team.

The grants that made these initiatives possible represent an investment in Uxbridge's future. But grants alone do not create successful projects. People do.

The invitation extended by town officials is simple: show up, ask questions, share ideas and get involved. Whether your interest lies in environmental restoration, education, conservation or simply helping improve your hometown, there is a place for you at the table.

The strongest communities are built not only through good planning, but through active participation. These two projects offer residents an opportunity to do both. Uxbridge should embrace that opportunity.

OPINION

Opinion and commentary from the Blackstone Valley and beyond

Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted. It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Polar opposites

To the Editor:

Polar opposites are things, people, or ideas that are completely distinct and cannot easily be compared. Phrases used to describe polar opposites include: like night and day; apples and oranges; poles apart; and my favorite from jolly old England – chalk and cheese.

These all pretty much describe the difference between a Democrat-controlled government and a Republican-controlled government, particularly in terms of the benefits derived by we-the-people. The last time the Democrats had control of the government – the presidency and both houses of Congress (and before the Supreme Court became a right-wing terrorist organization), was just a two-year period, the 89th Congress in 1965, with Lyndon Johnson, a Democrat, as president.

The 89th Congress is widely considered to be the most productive congressional session in American history. In just two years, the Democrats used their power to pass the Voting Rights Act, and the law that created both Medicare and Medicaid in one bill. They passed the revised version of the Immigration and Naturalization act, the Clean Water and the Clean Air Act. They established motor vehicle safety standards. They ratified the 25th Amendment. They created the Federal Student Loan system. They created the National Endowment for the Arts, the Public Broadcasting Act, the Freedom of Information Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act. Over 60 landmark pieces of legislation in one single 24-month period. And they all benefited we-the-people. The America we know today would not exist if it weren't for the 89th Congress.

These laws were so popular with the American public that Democrats kept their filibuster proof majority in the Senate and a massive majority in the House into the 90th Congress, even as the Vietnam War was starting to turn south.

Contrast that with how we-the-people are benefitting under the current Republican controlled government, a.k.a. the Insane Clown Posse. Forgetting the corruption, their landmark legislation has been the biggest tax cut for the rich in our 250-year history. We-the-people got an unjustified and illegal war with Iran, we got nosebleed gas and food prices, illegal tariffs that have tanked the economy, and rising inflation. We were supposed to receive DOGE and tariff refund checks, but, presumably, mine got lost in the mail. While SNAP, veteran's services – 10,000 veterans may lose their homes -, health care, USAID, public broadcasting are all being cut, billions of our tax dollars are being used to build a ballroom, an arch, and to paint the Lincoln Memorial Reflecting Pool. Then there's the \$1.8 billion slush fund to support the people who attacked the Capitol on Jan. 6. (Didn't Trump tell us that it was ANTIFA who carried out the insurrection?) The bill also contains a provision that ensures that Trump and family will never be investigated or prosecuted for tax fraud, past, present or future. Now why would Fraudfather Trump want that?

A Republican-controlled government is a gift that keeps on giving. Here are just a few new presents:

- The Chemical Safety Board, an agency that investigates chemical spills and other disasters, is facing elimination under President Trump's budget cuts. The agency is opposing an attempt to roll back new chemical disaster rules that were introduced under President Biden and aimed at preventing accidents at thousands of industrial sites. The board's two remaining members warned this week that the administration was taking "a significant step backward" in preventing catastrophic chemical incidents.

- The Trump administration has been altering and removing decades' worth of datasets as part of a sweeping campaign targeting so-called "woke programs", "racial equity", "gender ideology" and "climate extremism". This censorship has affected a wide swath of federal resources. Experts warn that Trump's destruction of the country's data infrastructure will have lasting impacts on all aspects of our lives – whether it's FEMA's response to extreme weather, public health departments' monitoring of harmful new drugs in their communities or how food banks get meals to hungry families.

- Until last year, one of the best ways to find out if you live near one of the roughly 12,000 facilities that store hazardous, cancer-causing chemicals was to go to an EPA webpage for the Risk Management Program (RMP). But last April, the Trump administration took down this tool. Now the only way to get this information is to drive to one of the EPA reading rooms scattered across the country to examine paper records. The

deletion of the RMP tool comes as the Trump administration proposes further dismantling of accident-prevention regulations at chemical plants, even though the US continues to average one chemical accident every two days.

- Babies born in the US have a higher chance of dying than almost all other high-income countries. We've stopped tracking why. The Pregnancy Risk Assessment Monitoring System (Prams) is the nation's most comprehensive survey on women's experiences before, during and after pregnancy. Trump axed the entire CDC team that worked on it.

- As the Trump administration makes the largest cuts in history to SNAP – the hunger-relief program that serves 42 million Americans – the US Department of Agriculture has terminated a national survey of food insecurity. Hunger is rampant in the US. Results from the final survey, published in December, found that nearly one in seven US households is food insecure. Experts say the loss of the only national survey measuring hunger means understanding the impacts of the recent Snap cuts on hunger in the US will be nearly impossible. "There's only one reason for doing this," said Marion Nestle, professor of nutrition at New York University, on the termination of the survey. "If you don't measure it, it's not there."

- The cost of US climate disasters has climbed to nearly \$200bn a year. The government is no longer recording them. To quote Marion Nestle – "if you don't measure it, it's not there."

- Trump pulled us out of the World Health Org, and decimated our own health orgs. We are not prepared to deal with another COVID-style epidemic. His cuts to USAID have already precipitated a new Ebola outbreak in Africa. Just a matter of time before it hits our shores.

- Glyphosate is the most widely used herbicide in American agriculture. It has been linked to non-Hodgkin lymphoma in thousands of lawsuits that have cost its manufacturers tens of billions of dollars. RFK Jr. is standing firm in his defense of a White House executive order to ramp up production of glyphosate. The chemical he once portrayed as a poison is now being framed as essential infrastructure that's "critical to national security." Trump is just repaying his chemical company donors, at the expense of our lives. No compensation mechanism will be offered to people injured by glyphosate after Monsanto/Bayer is shielded from liability. If anyone still wondered whether 'Make America Healthy Again' was a genuine commitment to public health or a scam concocted by President Trump and RFK Jr. to rally health-conscious voters in 2024, the administration's ramping up the use of glyphosate answers that question. To the concerned parents who put their trust in his promise to 'clean up the food supply,' this is the ultimate betrayal.

I could go on, but you know how Jane Keating hates to read. The reason that Americans now believe that government can't accomplish anything that benefits we-the-people, is because we keep electing Republicans to government. Republicans and the rich hate government because it spends money, tax revenue, on things they neither need nor care about, like health care, social security, safety regulations, health insurance, and quality of life issues. In response, they intentionally 'do' government poorly, and then say "See, we told you that government was bad! Look at what Trump has done to America in the last year and one half. Remember all his promises? Ronald Reagan is famous for saying "The nine most terrifying words in the English language are: 'I'm from the government, and I'm here to help'". Given the Republican's track record, Ronnie got it right. Democrat-controlled government vs Republican-controlled government...polar opposites...chalk and cheese. You get to pick.

Re Bev's "Tale of two immigrations" – in America, in 2025, there were 11,721 homicides, 101,648 rapes, 672,892 aggravated assaults...I stopped there.... but she is only concerned with a handful perpetrated by illegal immigrants. Republicans are destroying America at every turn, but none of that concerns Bev...it's always the immigrants!! 'Honored' friends don't accept bigotry and hatred. But hypocrites do.

"Our world is not divided by race, color, gender or religion. Our world is divided into wise people and fools. And fools divide themselves by race, color, gender, or religion."

RICK BEVILACQUA
WHITINSVILLE

A historic perspective on offshore wind power

To the Editor:

Ever notice how our Biden adoring leftists never say anything good about President Trump while continuing to aid and abet Vladimir Putin and Russia with their anti-patriotic leftist rhetoric?

Meanwhile, President Trump shutting down those wind-power money pits will save us a bundle of taxpayer dollars.

We all recall this little Democratic Party blast from the past, do we not?

"The Biden-Harris Administration has built the offshore wind industry from the ground up."

Now, what's not funny about those Floating Offshore Wind Innovation projects being "built" from the ground up? A floating fleet of poorly designed, virtually unmaintainable, offshore wind turbines where the goal was to produce a measly 15 gigawatts of electricity by 2035.

As a comparison, the present Nimitz class aircraft carriers in the fleet produce about 10 gigawatts of electricity. None of which is easily transmittable to our land-based grid due to the need for high-capacity transmission lines to get that power from the sea where the power originates to the shore. With oceanic-produced wind power requiring even pricier hookups.

Now, it's not like we all don't know how extremely useful wind power can be, and has long proven itself to be. Dutch windmills and US Prairie windmills are the two most notable uses of longstanding merit.

However, it's the latter that remains the most untapped of locally produced wind-powered resources. The prairie windmill has an open center that can boost its power when properly configured with just the right blade setup.

The most bizarre example of which involves a prairie windmill-like, energy absorbing and producing structure that was first unveiled 146 years ago, circa June the 7, 1880. Which, in the Catholic terms of those Santa Fe, New Mexico days, fell on or about the time of the Feast of Corpus Christi.

A situation where science, engineering and the like, along with the immutable rules of woodworking tell us the seemingly impossible. That a pre-Columbian wooden structure of profound archeological significance somehow got itself repurposed by an estranged member of the coopering profession. A gray-haired and bearded man who installed that serpent-like relic as a stairway in a still incomplete chapel during the spring of 1880.

That wooden behemoth more commonly known as the St. Joseph Staircase. As such was prayed for by the Sisters of Loretto. Doing so after the slow and lingering death of the younger of their French architects, Priest Retail Mouly. Whose demise from typhoid fever occurred while under the care of some among the Sisters.

Priest Retail, a.k.a. "Projectus" Mouly, son of Antoine Mouly, died at St. Vincent hospital at eleven o'clock in the evening on Sunday, Nov. 16, 1879.

The date and time of Priest Mouly's passing is quite rarely reported correctly, so it's good to make proper note of it. With part of the problem due to the fact that "Priest" was his baptismal name that, in general, could not be used in reports of those days because the dude wasn't an actual priest.

STEPHEN GAMBONE
NORTHBRIDGE

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

For the record? More like a broken record!

To the Editor:

Eight track cassettes, cassette tape, compact discs, MP3's and MP4's all had, and have, something in common; they were trying to replace the bulky yet thin vinyl album. Now if you are fond of your old records that play your favorite music, that is your choice, and there are pros and cons to vinyl. I would like to list a few cons. Vinyl, unless it's Japanese vinyl, scratches easily and can cause the album to skip. Vinyl requires a turntable, and if you are heavy on your feet, you could cause the needle to skip over the song. Most vinyl albums are 12 inches unless you are into 45's, and both can consume a lot of space if you are a music lover. There is a pro to vinyl — music enthusiasts swear they sound better than digital music, but that is their opinion; it is not mine.

Each week in the Tribune, we have our own broken record, and I have coined him, li'l Ricky, a.k.a. Rick Bevilacqua. If you go back into the archives at the Tribune and read week after week, you will start to see how this person is exactly like an old vinyl record

How much do you know about Sam Adams?

To the Editor:

In this, our Semiquincentennial, it is truly time for a Moment in American History.

Students, do you know your Sam Adams? Do you know how our Revolutionary Patriot helped create the greatest nation on earth? He worked and prayed for it.

Sam Adams was born in Boston in 1722. His Dad made his living selling beer maker's malt - an inspiration for today's Samuel Adams Brewery.

Sam was known as an ardent Patriot, more spirited than his cousin, John. In 1777, he rose to the occasion. Things were going badly for the Revolution. It appeared we would lose to the British, and lose very badly. Patriots would hang.

The British held New York City. They had captured Fort Ticonderoga in New York. General Washington had lost the Battle of Brandywine: 200 Patriot soldiers killed, 500 wounded, and 400 captured. France had yet to agree to support us. To add insult to injury, the British had captured Philadelphia in September 1777. John Adams wrote: "The prospect is chilling, on every side: gloomy, dark, melancholy and dispiriting."

Yet Sam Adams had faith. In late September 1777, he gave his fellow members of Congress "a talk of encouragement." [See "Samuel Adams, A Life" by Ira Stoll.]

"If we despond, public confidence is destroyed. The people will no longer yield their support to a hopeless contest, and American liberty is no more," he said.

Sam compared our American revolutionaries to the Israelites who had left Egyptian slavery. "Let us awaken then, and show a spirit of confidence. We have appealed to Heaven for the justice of our cause, and in Heaven we have placed our trust. Numerous have been the manifestations of God's providence in sustaining us...We have been reduced to distress, and the arm of Omnipotence has raised us up. Let us still rely in humble confidence on Him who is mighty to save."

In God, we trust.

Not a month later, on Oct. 17, 1777, American Patriot soldiers defeated the British at Saratoga, New York: 5,800 British soldiers surrendered. It turned the tide of the War. It brought France to our

side as an ally.

How did Sam get to be a great Founding Father? He wrote, he acted, he prayed. In the 1760's, Adams wrote for the Boston Gazette. He used many pen names, including Vindex [the first Roman Senator to revolt against Emperor Nero]. Adams wrote: "There is nothing so fretting and vexatious, nothing so justly terrible to tyrants, and their tools and abettors, as a free press." We have plenty of tyrants, tools, and abettors in our nation today, but our "Free Press" is merely an echo chamber for so-called Progressively Communist policies.

Adams was a key player in the Boston Massacre and the Boston Tea Party. Just days before the 1775 Battles of Lexington and Concord, British soldiers searched the countryside with orders to arrest Adams and John Hancock. Just as British soldiers entered Lexington at dawn on April 19, 1775, Adams and Hancock escaped. If the British had captured them, they would have been transported back to London for a public hanging.

In 1802, Adams wrote his last known correspondence, addressed to Thomas Paine. Sam was "aggrieved" by the news that Paine was to publish a pamphlet critical of faith. Adams wrote: "Do you think that your pen or the pen of any other man can unchristianize the mass of our citizens...?" No, it takes Marxists to do that.

Adams died on Sunday, Oct. 2, 1802. He is buried in Boston at the Granary burial ground near the graves of John Hancock and the Boston Massacre victims. Mercy Otis Warren who wrote the "History of the American Revolution" in 1805, said this of Adams: "Through a long life he exhibited...an example of patriotism, religion, and virtue honorary to the human character." May we all be worthy of such a compliment.

Quiz any school child and ask: who was Sam Adams? They will likely not know his remarkable story of faith, patriotism and bravery. They don't teach it anymore. Next time you raise a tall glass of lager, salute this Patriot, this Christian, this man of courage, Sam Adams.

Signed, in the manner of the 18th century, your most humble servant,

BEV GUDANOWSKI
UXBRIDGE

that is scratched and skips and repeats the same old lines over and over, ad nauseum.

Li'l Ricky never posts anything positive; it's always Trump who did this, and Trump did that. Have you ever noticed that li'l Ricky never expresses concerns that a duly elected President had multiple attempts on his life? Did any of you read Rick's eulogy when Charlie Kirk was assassinated? Was there any concern for the widow and their children of Charlie Kirk? No. When Rush Limbaugh passed away from cancer, liberals were rejoicing. Just imagine the outcry if we conservatives did that to Ruth Bader Ginsberg? During the writing of this letter to the Editor, we had yet another attempt on our President's life, and the details are still being sorted out, and all we know is that he was a man from Maryland who had a history of mental illness, and that that illness was swept under the rug.

Recently, liberals were outraged over a joke that was said during the roast of Kevin Hart, and it went like this: "The Black community is so proud of you... right now, George Floyd is looking up at us all laughing so hard he can't breathe." Liberals are upset at a liberal comedian Tony Hinchcliffe for that joke, but what liberals should really be upset over is the injustice of Derek Chauvin. Chauvin, who was the Minnesota law officer who detained George Floyd and is now incarcerated for the murder of a man who died of a fentanyl overdose and that is a fact. The sad truth is if they let Derek Chauvin walk out of that courthouse on the day of the trial, then Minnesota would have had the cities in that state burned, looted, and rioted. Jurors decided that it was better to send an innocent man to jail despite the toxicology report showing the overdose of George Floyd. This, my friends, is one of the craziest times we endured during Joe Biden's watch, and there was CNN playing it repeatedly, just like a broken record. Is this where li'l Ricky gets his inspiration?

Speaking of Minnesota, the other thing about liberals is their ability to be completely ignorant of current events whilst trying to show the people how smart they are by using a Thesaurus each time they write or open their mouths. Has li'l Ricky brought up the Medicaid fraud perpetrated by his people? Federal and state authorities have uncovered massive fraud in Minnesota, highlighted by recent Department of Justice actions. Federal officials announced criminal charges against 15 defendants targeting over \$90 million in state Medicaid and social service programs, and handed a 42-year prison sentence to Aimee Bock, the ringleader of the \$250+ million "Feeding Our Future" pandemic meal theft case, this report is courtesy of lil' Ricky's favorite hiding spot: CNN.

Li'l Ricky reminded us again for the fifth time that Trump killed 200,000 people with the COVID virus. Here are the facts: 200,000 people did die under President Trump's term due to a virus leaked from a lab in Wuhan, China. In other words, the leak and the spread killed those people, not President Trump. As I mentioned in retort to li'l Ricky's rant, Joseph R. Biden, who was the POTUS from 2021 to 2025, let one million people die from the COVID virus, and that is a fact if we go by the logic that liberals like Bevilacqua use. Whether it is good or bad, or your idea or not, the incumbent POTUS gets cheers or jeers, just for the record. When food and gas prices were out of control during Biden's term, how come li'l Ricky did not complain? I went back into the BVT archives, and I cannot find anything written about it. War is okay, so long as a democrat does it even without the approval of Congress. Inflation is okay, so long as the democrats are doing it because they call it transitory. Gas at \$4 or \$5 a gallon during the Biden and Obama era was perfectly fine too, because they needed to jam renewable energy down our throats and teach us a lesson.

I want to also acknowledge that I was correct in my research that glob...climate change is a hoax and who by chance do we have to thank for that? Lil' Ricky? No. President Trump? No. The EPA? Close, but no. The person responsible for exposing climate change as a hoax is Mr. Inconvenient Truth himself, Al Gore. Our former VEEP and WEF fruit cake now claims that we are heading into an ice age, and li'l Ricky, you can read all about it in the Washington Times. Al Gore is not a scientist, and at best he is a con man like all democrats in power. Al Gore is about to be devoured by the very same people who put him up on that pedestal. Climate change is one of the deepest roots growing in the democrat party and do you really think they are going to let Al Gore interrupt that cash flow? Not in your life. If climate change does go away how will the democrats support their habitats? Will they pander to Hollywood for money to fund their endless agenda? Will they ask Bevilacqua for a bigger donation? Both play from the same book, wash, rinse, and repeat, except with the liberals it's, Trump, white supremacy, and doomsday. Just remember this the next time li'l Ricky goes on a rant. Lil Ricky loves to see his trash talk published each week, and it is the same old garbage that is swayed in favor of a party (democrat) that does not care for the America we know and love.

Special thanks to Phyllis Kuik, who was li'l Ricky's punching bag in the May 1 edition in the op ed page for agreeing on the things I write; I have been busy with a new endeavor, so my apologies for being absent for over a month. I would also like to acknowledge Bev Gudanowski, who also endures bullying week after week from li'l Ricky.

Thanks for reading.

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11TH ANNUAL FAMILY FUN FISHING DAY HELD MAY 16



UXBRIDGE — The 11th Annual Family Fun Fishing Day was held on May 16 where more than 225 participants and their families gathered at River Bend Farm on a gorgeous Saturday. The event is organized by Open Sky Community Services and the Blackstone River Watershed Association in partnership with the Blackstone River National Heritage Corridor Volunteers-in-Parks Program, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation, and the Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife.

In addition to the fishing competition, the day included free raffles, children's activities, face painting, and food from Pizza Box Pizza Truck, Sweet Wise Ice-Cream Truck, and Las Lemonade. This inclusive, free event provides an opportunity for people of all ages and abilities to come together, while learning about and enjoying the beautiful Blackstone River.

Organizers would like to recognize Benjamin Plastering and Bass Pro Shops for their financial support of Family Fun Fishing Day.

For the first time this year, the winners

included three pairs of siblings, Keren and Mauricio Melo, Nathaniel and Jasmine Hazard, and Therese Raymond and John Nordquist. Winners for each age group are listed below:

Adults:

Longest fish — Therese Raymond of Westborough, 20-inch fish

Most fish caught — John Nordquist of Northbridge, 27-inch fish

13-17:

Longest fish — Nathaniel Hazard of Worcester, eight-and-a-half-inch fish

Most fish caught — Keren Melo of Framingham, three-inch fish

9-12:

Longest fish — Mauricio Melo of Framingham, nine-and-a-quarter-inch fish

Most fish caught — Dylan Cote of Uxbridge, eight-inch fish

8 and under:

Longest fish — Nico Skorupa of Hopedale, eight-and-a-half-inch fish

Most fish caught — Jasmine Hazard of Worcester, three-inch fish



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Greater Worcester Community Foundation awards \$1.14 million to strengthen local grassroots nonprofits

WORCESTER — Greater Worcester Community Foundation has awarded \$1,140,000 in Facing Change: Sustainable Pathways grants to 15 community-based organizations in Worcester and surrounding areas, providing multi-year support to strengthen operational infrastructure, build long-term sustainability and position organizations to meet growing demand.

The three-year grants, ranging from \$35,000 to \$120,000, are tailored to each organization's annual budget and stage of development. Most of the grantees are founder-led and volunteer-driven, and many have experienced rapid growth in recent years. These investments will help organizations align their internal capacity with that momentum, often by hiring staff, improving systems and developing diversified funding strategies.

"Facing Change: Sustainable Pathways is about meeting organizations at a pivotal moment," said Pete Dunn, President & CEO of Greater Worcester Community Foundation. "These groups are doing vital work in our community, and many have outgrown their current infrastructure. This support gives them the tools and time to build a stronger foundation so they can sustain and expand their impact at a time of significant funding uncertainty."

In addition to financial support, grantees will participate in a cohort experience offering peer learning, mentorship and opportunities to share best practices. The cohort model is designed to reduce isolation often experienced by small, founder-led organizations and to foster collaboration across the region.

Grantees are advancing a wide range of community-rooted work across Worcester and the region. For example, Project New Hope will receive \$100,000 to support its work with veterans and their families; Community Health Awareness Network Grows Equity (CHANGE) will receive \$90,000 to support its work with African immigrant communities; and Adaptive Recovery Teaching Incorporated (A.R.T. Inc.) will receive \$60,000 to support individuals and families affected by substance use, mental health challenges and trauma.

"This investment will help us stabilize our operations and strengthen our infrastructure to meet demand," said Lovo Koliogo, President & Founder of CHANGE. "Through the Facing Change: Sustainable Pathways program, we hope to develop a diversified funding roadmap and vetted governance structure, ensuring CHANGE remains a resilient pillar of health equity in Worcester."

A full list of grantees is available below.

The Sustainable Pathways grants are part of the Foundation's Facing Change initiative, a \$3 million investment announced last year in response to growing financial pressures and shifting federal priorities impacting Worcester County's nonprofit sector.

The \$3 million commitment includes \$2.5 million from the City of Worcester and \$500,000 in additional support from the Foundation's Community Leadership Fund and other sources. These supplemental resources enabled three nonprofits outside Worcester to receive funding: Our Bright Future and The Wellstorm, Inc. in Southbridge and Centro Celeste in Fitchburg.

To learn more about the Facing Change initiative program, visit greaterworcester.org.

About Greater Worcester Community Foundation

Greater Worcester Community Foundation is central Massachusetts' leading community foundation, employing its expertise and resources to address the region's most urgent needs. Since 1975, it has worked in partnership with donors to build a \$270 million endowment composed of more than 650 named charitable funds and award over \$186 million in grants that have helped transform communities and build a strong and vibrant region. For more information on the Foundation's programs and how to give, please visit www.greaterworcester.org.

Full List of grantees

The Village — \$120,000 — Founded in 2020, The Village is an Afrocentric cultural center in Worcester's Main South neighborhood advancing racial and social justice through learning, creativity, community and healing.

Love Your Labels — \$120,000 — Founded in 2018, Love Your Labels fosters social connection and identity development for LGBTQIA+ youth and community through programs like Threads, a multi-month sewing and fashion design initiative for youth.

Project New Hope — \$100,000 — Founded in 2010, Project New Hope is a military-affiliated resource hub that connects Veterans, service members and their families to wellness resources.

UHAI for Health — \$90,000 — Founded in 2010, UHAI for Health serves African immigrants and refugees with culturally and linguistically appropriate prevention, intervention, education, advocacy and support services.

Community Health Awareness Network Grows Equity (CHANGE) — \$90,000 — Founded in 2018, CHANGE supports African immigrant communities in Greater Worcester by addressing complex integration challenges and empowering individuals to navigate the healthcare system.

508 C.H.E.E.R.S. — \$80,000 — Founded in 2022, 508 C.H.E.E.R.S. is a youth-led Worcester organization providing leadership workshops, advocacy training, community service initiatives and civic engagement opportunities.

Refugees and Immigrants Cultural Empowerment Massachusetts (RICEMA) — \$80,000 — Founded in 2023, RICEMA is a performance arts and education organization that builds community and preserves culture among immigrants and refugees through cultural arts and learning.

Her Way Home — \$80,000 — Founded in 2025, Her Way Home is a survivor-led Worcester nonprofit supporting women healing from the violence of the sex trade, homelessness and substance use disorder.

Adaptive Recovery Teaching Incorporated (A.R.T. Inc.) — \$60,000 — Founded in 2020, A.R.T. Inc. is a Worcester-based grassroots nonprofit supporting individuals and families affected by substance use, mental health challenges and trauma through creative, peer-centered programming.

Guardians of Tradition — \$60,000 — Founded in 2019, Guardians of Tradition is a nonprofit dedicated to preserving cultural heritage and empowering underrepresented communities through arts, education and inclusive programming.

El Salón — \$60,000 — Founded in 2019, El Salón is a nonprofit artist collective creating inclusive spaces that empower BIPOC artists to share skills, build community and create opportunities.

Casita Cultural Latina — \$60,000 — Founded in 2021, Casita Cultural Latina is a collective that hosts cultural and creative activities in inclusive, intergenerational spaces while elevating issues affecting Latino communities.

Our Bright Future — \$60,000 — Founded in 2016, Our Bright Future empowers youth through STEAM-based programming that builds skills, resilience and leadership through hands-on learning opportunities.

The Wellstorm, Inc. — \$45,000 — Founded in 2021, The Wellstorm provides community-rooted support across Worcester County by increasing access to essential resources while centering dignity, equity and lived experience leadership.

Centro Celeste — \$35,000 — Founded in 2021, Centro Celeste is a Fitchburg-based grassroots nonprofit serving Latino families by fostering cultural connection, inclusion and access to community resources across Worcester County.

Nichols College, Anna Maria College announce partnership to support students' degree completion

DUDLEY — Nichols College and Anna Maria College have announced a partnership to transition Anna Maria's respected public safety and administration programs to Nichols, including its signature fire science program. The two institutions have finalized a proposal outlining the terms of the partnership, which will be submitted to the necessary higher education regulatory agencies, and expect formal approval of the plan soon.

"Nichols College is committed to enabling Anna Maria College students enrolled in its fire science and other vital programs to continue on a clear and seamless pathway toward graduation," said Nichols President Bill Pieczynski. "Our proposal is intended to preserve an important regional pipeline for fire and emergency management professionals across New England. We will also fully support Anna Maria students in other majors we already offer such as business administration, criminal justice, psychology and sport management as they transition from their cherished institution to a new home at Nichols. We share a commitment to active, hands-on learning within a small, close-knit community and look forward to welcoming these students to Nichols."

Anna Maria announced on April 23 that it would cease academic operations at the end of the spring 2026 semester after 80 years of operation.

Under the terms of the proposal and subject to securing the necessary regulatory approvals, Anna Maria's in-person Bachelor of

Science (B.S.) programs in fire science and emergency management; online B.S. degree completion programs in fire science and criminal justice; and online Master of Public Administration and Master of Science in criminal justice would transition to Nichols. The Anna Maria B.S. in fire science program is the largest in New England and boasts outstanding certification exam pass rates. Nichols will adopt their existing Fire and Emergency Services Higher Education Initiative (FESHE)-aligned curriculum to ensure that current Anna Maria students remain on track to graduate and that the popular and well-regarded program continues to thrive. Additionally, Nichols intends to bring on several of Anna Maria's dedicated faculty to support the transition and provide continuity for students.

To facilitate quick onboarding, any Anna Maria student in good standing is guaranteed acceptance to Nichols. Further, Nichols' tuition is within 1% of Anna Maria's, and Nichols will match each student's institutional grant up to \$32,000. Housing is available for those students who plan to reside on the College's 200-acre campus in Dudley. Anna Maria alumni are eligible for the same 10% discount that Nichols alumni receive for graduate coursework at Nichols.

"Our responsibility is to ensure that our students are able to move forward and complete their education," said Anna Maria President Sean Ryan. "Nichols has an excellent criminal justice program and is a business school widely respected

for its career preparedness, leadership outcomes and commitment to students. We are confident that this proposal with Nichols College provides a strong and stable path forward for our students."

Anna Maria students seeking information about transferring to Nichols are encouraged to visit: www.nichols.edu/annamaria. The two institutions will share additional information with students, their families and the public as it is available.

About Nichols

Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the longest serving global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educators, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols College transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. www.nichols.edu

About Anna Maria College

Anna Maria College was founded in 1946 by the Sisters of Saint Anne and has operated continuously as a Catholic liberal arts institution in Paxton, Massachusetts, for 80 years. www.annamaria.edu

Open Sky raises \$210,000 for LGBTQIA+ Youth program, honors advocates at Safe Homes Gala

WORCESTER — Open Sky Community Services raised over \$210,000 during its annual Safe Homes Gala to benefit its programming for LGBTQIA+ youth. Six individuals and organizations were honored with People of Courage Awards for their support of equity and justice in Central Massachusetts.

"Safe Homes has been a lifeline for LGBTQIA+ youth in the Central Mass. for over three decades, and we are indebted to the community for its unwavering and generous outpouring of support to make this program possible," said Open Sky President and CEO Ken Bates. "This year's six honorees represent the courageous spirit that drives our work. Their commitment to supporting the region's LGBTQIA+ community and advocating for marginalized groups represents Safe Homes' mission to its core."

The Safe Homes Gala, which was held at Mechanics Hall in Worcester on March 6, supports the program's educational programming, Transgender Resource Center, leadership training, free mental health counseling, weekly drop-ins, food and toiletry pantry, recreational activities, and emergency supports for LGBTQIA+ youth ages 14 to 23. The program operates two sites, Safe Homes Worcester and Safe Homes North, as well as an active online community.

The People of Courage Awards began in 2005 to honor passionate and dedicated individuals and organizations who have demonstrated commitment, courage, and allyship in support of LGBTQIA+ youth and other marginalized groups. This year's honorees are:

Kristine Shaw (she/her) of Worcester, received the Public Service Award for lifelong commitment to the wellbeing of youth of all developmental abilities and advocacy for children in the foster care system as Program Associate at CASA Project Worcester County. Shaw has supported many LGBTQIA+ youth in the foster care system, ensuring their voices and needs are amplified with dignity and integrity, and in doing so, making a lasting impact on individuals and families in the system.

Amanda Dellea-Rheume (she/her) of Auburn, was honored with the Community Champion Award for fostering inclusive spaces for queer adults in her role as a macro social worker, community organizer, President of Queer Scouts, and Executive Director of Queer Scouts Worcester Troop #6. Under her leadership, the nonprofit Queer Scouts empowers authentic



Courtesy

Ken Bates (left), Open Sky President and CEO, and State Senators Michael Moore (from right) and Robyn Kennedy joined the 2026 People of Courage Awardees onstage at Open Sky's Safe Homes Gala in Worcester. Six individuals and organizations were recognized for their outstanding actions in support of equity and justice in Central Massachusetts.

self-expression in the LGBTQIA+ community through substance-free programming for queer adults to build connection, engage in the community, and develop new skills.

Queer Worcester Art Club (QWAC) was awarded with the Inspiration and Innovation Award. The initiative was founded in 2023 by Cypress Provvedini and Ellie Sienkiewicz to welcome LGBTQIA+ artists and makers in the greater Worcester area to socialize, share skills, and inspire one another. The Creative Hub Worcester has provided the Queer Worcester Art Club with a safe, accessible place to gather weekly for over two years.

Worcester Earn-A-Bike was selected by Safe Homes youth participants to receive the People's Choice Award. The nonprofit community bicycle shop provides hands-on bike repair and maintenance training, and tools for community members to repair and earn a donated bike. The shop promotes community health, mobility, and wellbeing, while encouraging an empowering, economical, and accessible alternative to cars.

Nico T. (he/they) was selected by Safe Homes staff to be the recipient of the Youth Award. Nico carries the values of Safe Homes beyond its doors and is an active participant of the program as a peer supporter/mentor. Nico also studies emergency medicine and is involved in grassroots efforts to advocate for marginalized groups, particularly LGBTQIA+.

Tanya Neslusan (she/her) of Sturbridge, was honored with the Social Justice Advocacy and Action Award. She is the Executive Director of MassEquality, a statewide LGBTQIA+ advocacy orga-

nization, and was a founding member of Boston Pride for the People. Neslusan was a Showing Up for Racial Justice Worcester Chapter leader, member of the Massachusetts Women of Color Coalition, and a 2018 Democratic Nominee for State Representative. She was Co-chair of the Bay State Stonewall Democrats and the LGBTQ Outreach Subcommittee of the Mass. Democratic Party.

Open Sky applauds the generous support from its many event sponsors, including VIP reception sponsors Webster Five and 401k Quote. Connor Hayden, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner at Compass Health Network, and Danielle Spring, Co-owner of Femme Bar in Worcester, emceed the Gala.

About Open Sky Community Services

Open Sky Community Services is a 501(c)3 nonprofit agency based in Worcester that has been helping individuals in our community achieve more than they imagined possible for over 50 years. The agency provides a wide range of services throughout Central Massachusetts for children, adults and families with mental health challenges, intellectual and developmental disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness and other complex challenges. Open Sky Community Services has more than 1,300 dedicated employees and nearly 150 programs throughout the region, supporting more than 8,000 individuals annually. Open Sky is committed to equity and belonging and promotes a trauma-informed, whole-person care culture. For more information, please visit www.openskycs.org.



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LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO26P1653PM
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OF OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §§5-304 & §5-405
In the matter of:
Cassian J Lemieux
Of: **Whitinsville, MA**
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Fayth A Wallace of Whitinsville, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Cassian J Lemieux** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Fayth A Wallace of Whitinsville, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with the

court. **You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **06/16/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 21, 2026
Stephanie K. Fattman
June 5, 2026



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SCHOLARSHIPS

continued from page A1

Shawna's cousin whose life was also tragically cut short. This year's recipient is Hunter Douangsavanh, a graduating senior from Uxbridge High School. Hunter is an award-winning student filmmaker whose work earned a Best Editing Finalist distinction at the All American High School Film Festival and a Solo Storyteller award at the Boston/New England Emmy Student Production Awards. He plans to pursue filmmaking at the University of Texas at Austin.

The Shawna E. Shea Nursing Scholarship in Memory of Alana Phoenix, honoring Shawna's sister, a nurse who passed away after battling ALS. This scholarship is awarded to a student accepted to nursing school. This year's recipient is Hailee Lussier, a graduating senior from Uxbridge High School. Hailee has been accepted to nursing school and has pursued a passion for healthcare throughout her high school years, including enrollment in a health services vocational program.

For more information about the Shawna E. Shea Memorial Foundation and its programs, visit www.shawnafoundation.org.

GRANT

continued from page A1

and after dam removal
Plant native wetland species after dam removal
Become a Posse member to guide the development of the Pocket Forest
Join the Friends of the Gray Rock Pocket Forest to receive newsletters and notification of events.

If interested contact David Tapscott at the Board of Health (dtapscott@uxbridge-ma.gov or (508) 278-8600.



331 Main St.
(508) 476-2283
Hours of operation:
Monday through Thursday,
9 a.m.-3 p.m.; Friday 9
a.m.-noon

DAILY ACTIVITIES:
All our daily activities are
free of charge.

Monday: Painting
class 9:45am to 11:45am,
Balance & Strength
Exercise 12pm, Mat yoga
2pm

Tuesday: Walking club
9am, Cribbage 9:00am,
Lunch & Bingo 11:30am,
Technology class 1pm (call
to make an appt.), Line
dancing 2pm

Wednesday: Balance
& strength 10am, Darts
11:30am, Mahjong
12:45pm, Dominoes 1 to
2:30pm

Thursday: Walking club
9am, Pitch 9:00am, Chair
Yoga 9:30am, Tai Chi
10:45am, Hand and Foot
card game 12:30pm

Friday: Balance &
strength 10am, Zumba
11:30am

**GET ME HOME SAFE
PROGRAM:** A new form

is being released for care-takers and family members of dementia patients or developmentally disabled people. All you have to do is fill out this paper and keep it in a safe place. If you have a file of life card that would be the best place to store it on your refrigerator. In the event of an emergency, if your loved one is missing this information will be very helpful to emergency services personnel. If you need assistance filling out the information or attaching a picture we are available to assist you. If you have a loved one that could wander off, become disoriented, or has other health issues please take a moment to fill out the personal information form. This form will be available on the Police, Fire and Adult Social Center websites.

Tuesday & Thursday
lunch club, please call the
Friday before to sign up.
Lunch is \$4.00 per person.
If you would like to attend
we offer free rides to &

from the center and are
willing to waive the lunch
fee is necessary.

June Lunch Menu:
Tuesday 6/2: Shepherd's
pie baked potato, biscuit
& cake

Tuesday 6/9: Hot dog,
tortellini pasta salad & fruit

Tuesday 6/16: Spaghetti
w/ meat sauce, salad, garlic
bread & pudding pie

Thursday 6/18: Taco
salad bar & fruit

Tuesday 6/23: Chicken
salad sandwich, garden
salad & fruit

Tuesday 6/30: BBQ pork
chops, seasoned potatoes,
green beans & ice cream

**Friday Shopping
Schedule:** Please call 48
hours in advance to sched-
ule your ride. Grocery
shopping pick up starts at
9:30.

Hannaford: 6/26
Walmart: 6/5 & 6/19
Price Chopper: 6/12

JUNE EVENTS: The
center will be closed on
Friday June 19th in obser-
vance for Juneteenth.

WELLNESS CLINIC

DATES: Monday June
8th & Tuesday June 23rd.
Clinic is open from 10 am
to 12 pm.

FREE craft day:
Thursday June 11th @
12:00. We will be making
coasters. There are differ-
ent patterns & colors for
you to choose. All suppl-
ies will be supplied for
you. Refreshments will be
served! Sign up by 6/9.

**Bingo & ice cream
night:** Thursday June 11th
@ 6:00. The Sunshine
Club will be having their
night time bingo game.
Starting the night off with
ice cream @ 6, bingo to
follow. Please sign up by
6/10.

Lunch & a movie:
Thursday June 18th @
11:30. We will be enjoy-
ing the movie, "Last Breath."
This movie is about a team
of experienced underwater
explorers face off against
turbulent oceanic forces.
Meanwhile, they strive
to extract their imperiled
teammate from the crush-
ing depths. Their colleague
remains ensnared hundreds
of meters beneath the sur-

face, fighting for survival
in the unforgiving aquatic
realm. Lunch is \$4.00 per
person. Sign up by 6/12.

Collette Travel:
Thursday June 25th @
7:00. This will be a presen-
tation for a trip in October
2027. This trip will be to
the French Riviera. You
will be informed about the
trip, the cost, and travel
dates.

Annual Police BBQ:
Monday June 29th @
12:00. Residents of
Douglas are invited by
the Douglas Police
Department for lunch at
The Grill on Main. Stop
in the center to sign up &
pick your menu choices.
Sign up by 6/20.

**PLEASE CALL (508)
476-2283 TO SIGN UP
FOR PROGRAMS &
CLASSES**

Check our website for
events that may not be list-
ed here

<https://www.douglas-ma.gov/202/AdultSocial-Center-Senior-Center>

PLUMMER PLACE

Home of the Northbridge Senior
Center

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place at Plummer Place, Home
of the Northbridge Senior Center.
We are located at 20 Highland St.
in Whitinsville. Telephone: (508)
234-2002. Northbridge residents
have priority for all programming
and events. Please call the main
office to sign up for special events
and programs, so we can plan
accordingly.

Medical Drivers
We are in need of medi-
cal drivers for out-of-town medi-
cal appointments. This is a very
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selves to their medical appoint-
ments. If you are interested and can
spare any time, it would be most
appreciated. Drivers are reim-
bursed for their mileage. For more
information, please call the main
office.

Regular Programs:
Meditation with Kelly
Every Thursday morning at
9:30am

Book Club:
3rd Wednesday at 10:30am
June 17th: Summer on the
Bluffs by Sunny Hostin
Please call Kelly for more infor-
mation.

Brew Crew:
First Wednesday at 9:30am
Wednesday, June 3rd
Guest Speaker ~ Adam Gaudette,
Northbridge Town Manager

Dull Men's Club:
4th Tuesday at 9:30am
Tuesday, June 23rd State
Representative David Muradian,
Jr.

Scrabble:
First and Third Mondays at
9:30am

June 15th
Women's Collective:
2nd Thursday at 10:00am
June 11th: Eating for Health the
Mediterranean Way
Please call Amy for more infor-

mation.
Writing Your Way
2nd and 4th Thursdays at
2:00pm
Please call Lori for more infor-
mation.

Thursday, June 18th
10am-11am
The Apollo 11 Mission ~
America's Proudest Moment

This program describes the ori-
gins of the space race, rocketry,
the Cold War, the training, the
astronauts and the Mission! It will
also cover the media frenzy and
how America fell in love with the
heroes who were responsible for it.
You won't want to miss this one!
Sign up in the main office.

Wednesday, June 24th
12:30pm-2:00pm The Great
Summer Kickoff Party and
Luncheon
Featuring the Driveway Chicks
Menu: Chicken Salad/Tuna
Salad Sandwiches, Red Bliss
Potato Salad, Cubed Watermelon,

Potato Chips, and Lemon Squares.
\$10 per ticket/2 ticket limit per per-
son. Northbridge Residents have
priority and you must have a ticket
to attend. Tickets are on sale now
in the main office. You must come
to the senior center in person to
purchase your ticket/s. Sponsored
in part by a grant from the North-
bridge Cultural Council, a local
agency which is supported by the
Massachusetts Cultural Council, a
state agency, Unibank, and the
Friends of Northbridge Elders
(FINE).

Thursday, June 25th
1:30pm-3:00pm
Beachy Keen Craft Class
Carol and Ginny will be back
bringing the beach to the craft
table! This relaxed, coastal-in-
spired class blends creativity, con-
versation, and seaside vibes for a
fun, feel-good experience.
\$7 Cash/per person. Payable
on the day of the event. Space is
limited. Northbridge Residents
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Gently used, well maintained RANCH on a cul-de-sac! 1,300 sf +/-, 3 BRs, 2 full baths, gas fireplace, central AC. A comfortable open space w/lots of natural light, private main BR w/California closets, a remodeled Bath w/handicap accessible wide-door roll-in shower. Offers a half acre of land Close to I-84 & Sturbridge. \$459,000

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Webster - 3 Oakwood Dr
Featured New Listing!



Meticulously maintained Colonial, 2,042 sf +/-, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 baths, 2 car garage, conveniently located on a park-like one acre, picturesque views. Kitchen is a culinary enthusiast's delight, elegant formal living/dining rms offer a sophisticated ambiance enhanced by hardwood flrs, crown moldings & custom built-ins. MLS # 73523347 \$589,900

Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12)
Commercial Opportunity!



Corner Lot, 275' +/- Road Frontage, Extremely High Traffic Count, 6,200 SF (75x80) Commercial Building, Currently 2 Units -> Potential for More. Economical, Efficient Natural Gas FHA Heat & Cooling. Its close proximity to Successful National Franchised Businesses generates Significant Commerce at this Location. Convenient Access. List Price: \$615,000

Featured Listing Webster ~ 33 Slater Street
OPEN HOUSE! SUN. 11 - 2



Sprawling fieldstone faced 1 Level Ranch, located on a +/- 0.5-acre level, w/24'x24' 2 car att'd garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces w/pellet stove inserts, FHW BB heat by oil. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom, hardwood & c-tile floors. \$525,000

Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction - Craftsman Style home



Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lake-side beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 2 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bath, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage \$649,900.00

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



Webster Lake Waterfront
22 Union Pt Snug Harbor Villa
OPEN HOUSE 6/7 SUN. 11-2
Waterfront Lake Snug Harbor Villa End Unit!
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Presenting a distinguished condo residence that will provide an exceptional waterfront lifestyle! Offers an expansive 4600 sf +/- featuring 4BRs, 4-1/2 baths, 3 frplcs & more, all designed for relaxation & convenience! Nothing quite compares! Priced to Sell. MLS # 73507605 \$1,050,000.

Webster Lake Waterfront!
On Indian Point # 10



ASTOUNDING Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage. \$900,000.

Webster Lake -
302 Killdeer Island




Lakefront home w/1,700 +/- sq ft. Open kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Full baths. Lower level family room w/ walkout to water. \$775,000


Webster Lake Waterfront -
31 Bayview!!



Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront! \$1,100,000



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55+ COMMUNITY LIVING
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Floor to Ceiling Stone Fireplace * New Flooring
Throughout * New Stainless Steel Appliances* Trex Deck
20 Deer Run \$285,000

OXFORD- 7 ROOM COLONIAL
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*1st Floor Main Bedroom
*10x35 Potential Great Room
*Updates Include:
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DUDLEY NEW CONSTRUCTION
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*8' Center Island w/ Quartz Countertops
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Uxbridge Historical Society plans June events at Farnum House

UXBRIDGE — The Uxbridge Historical Society will welcome the community to the historic Cornet John Farnum House this June for a series of public events celebrating local history, community connection, and the upcoming Uxbridge 300th anniversary. Located at the site of Uxbridge's first Town Meeting in 1727, the Farnum House is one of the town's earliest surviving buildings and a meaningful setting for these special programs.

On Sunday, June 7, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., the Society will present Revolutionary Passport Day, a self-guided historical program inviting participants to visit multiple local sites connected to Uxbridge's Revolutionary-era story. Visitors will receive a passport booklet and collect stamps at each stop while learning about the people and places that shaped the community during the nation's founding. A docent will be stationed at each site to answer questions and provide historical

insight. The Farnum House will serve as the starting and ending location, where guests can also explore exhibits, and participants will receive a commemorative keepsake at the end of their journey.

On Sunday, June 14, from 2 to 4 p.m., the Blackstone Valley Community Concert Band will perform a Flag Day concert on the Farnum House lawn. The outdoor program will feature patriotic selections as part of the ongoing America 250 commemorations. Guests are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets. In the event of rain, the concert will be held on Sunday, June 21, at 2 p.m.

On Saturday, June 27, from 1 to 4 p.m., the Society will host a special open house at the Farnum House before the first Uxbridge 300 kickoff bonfire, which begins at 4 p.m. at the Sutton Street fields. The open house will offer families and community members an opportunity to visit the historic site where Uxbridge was established on June

27, 1727, nearly 300 years ago. Visitors may tour portions of the house, view exhibits, and learn more about the early history of Uxbridge before heading to the town's evening celebration.

"These events are designed to bring history to life and connect the community with Uxbridge's earliest stories," said Society President Jim Beauchamp. "The Farnum House offers a unique setting to experience that history firsthand, especially as Uxbridge prepares to celebrate its 300th anniversary."

All events are open to the public. Donations are appreciated to support the preservation of the Farnum House and the Society's programs, collections, and educational efforts.

For more information, email uxbridge-historicalsociety@gmail.com, or contact Mary Beauchamp at (508) 930-6021.

Whitinsville's Daniel Wickstrom graduates from College of the Holy Cross

WORCESTER — Daniel Wickstrom of Whitinsville received a Bachelor of Arts degree Magna Cum Laude from College of the Holy Cross.

Wickstrom is among 803 bachelor of arts degree recipients Holy Cross celebrated at its 180th Commencement held on Friday, May 22 at the DCU Center in Worcester.

Charlie Baker, president of the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and former governor of Massachusetts, delivered this year's address to the Class of 2026 and received an honorary degree.

In his remarks, Baker emphasized the importance of resilience, personal growth and community, encouraging graduates to embrace life's unexpected turns and define themselves through character.

"Life is a journey, not a destination," said Baker. "The goal is to take the paths that give you the best chance to grow, find meaning in what you do, and become the very best version of yourself. These are the paths that embrace perseverance, build character and define purpose."

In addition to Baker, Holy Cross also awarded an honorary degree to Tim Garvin, president and CEO of the United Way of Central Massachusetts.

About Holy Cross
The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,200 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

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