

## Shepherd Hill debuts 50th anniversary logo

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — As Shepherd Hill Regional High School celebrates its 50th anniversary, plenty of celebrations await and as students, staff and local supporters embrace the festivities they will be greeted by a brand new logo to mark the occasion.

Principal Darren Elwell helped debut the 50th anniversary logo during a meeting of the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee on Feb. 8, alongside senior Sydney Roland, who designed the logo as part of a contest last year.

“We asked that stu-



dents take the opportunity to think about Shepherd Hill’s history and what Shepherd Hill

represents to them and to develop a logo that reflects that,” said Elwell. Sydney Roland’s de-

sign was chosen from 73 entries from visual arts students and beyond with faculty helping

play a role in whittling down the selections.

Elwell said Roland’s design was the over-

whelming winner, commenting “We’re so fortunate to have so many students that have talents across content areas in our extracurricular activities and certainly in our visual and performing arts departments.”

Elwell presented Roland with a special certificate of appreciation for her work before turning things over to Roland to discuss her design. Her goal was to create a logo that looked traditional yet modern, capturing both the past and present of what makes Shepherd Hill so special.

“What I was trying to go with when I was cre-

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## Dudley police arrest suspect after standoff

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Dudley police reported one individual in custody following a disturbance involving a firearm in the late morning hours of Feb. 9.

According to a statement released by the department’s new Chief Marek Karłowicz, officers responded to the area of Chase Avenue at around 11:45 a.m. with dispatchers advising responders that a male suspect had fled the scene brandishing a black gun that a caller had described as a “training gun.” Officers located the suspect’s vehicle on Village Street and initially attempted to stop the vehicle resulting in the suspect fleeing from cruisers.

Police pursued the suspect as the vehicle returned to the area of Chase Avenue, where the male individual eventually exited the vehicle and began shooting the firearm in the air. Reports from area locals on social me-

dia forums also reported an individual shooting a weapon into the air around the time of the incident. According to Chief Karłowicz, officers established a perimeter with assistance from officers of the Webster, Oxford, and Douglas Police Departments and the Massachusetts State Police. The Chief credited officers from Webster with making contact with the male individual, negotiating with him for around half an hour before the individual placed the weapon on the ground and surrendered.

Police confirmed that the weapon was a black 9mm self-loading pas pistol, a Baretta replica, and that four 9mm shell casings were located on scene. The male suspect’s name has been withheld due to a domestic violence mandate which limits what information can be made public according to Karłowicz. As such, details of what might have led to the situation have not been made avail-

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## Auburn receives municipal cybersecurity grants

AUBURN — This week, the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced the 2023 Municipal Cybersecurity Awareness Grant Program award recipients. Administered by the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security and its Office of Municipal and School Technology, this program will provide over 50,000 employees from 177 municipalities and public school districts across the Commonwealth with critical cybersecurity training to better detect and avoid cyber threats. Recipients include the town of Auburn, Auburn Public Schools, and the town of

Westborough.

The 2023 Municipal Cybersecurity Awareness Grant Program, which is funded by \$250,000 in capital funds authorized by the Legislature in the 2022 General Governmental Bond Bill, is designed to support local government efforts to improve overall cybersecurity posture through comprehensive online end-user training, evaluation, and threat simulation. Awarded communities will receive licenses for end-user training, assessment, and phishing simulation procured by the Executive Office of Technology Services and Security (EOTSS). Demonstrated buy-in

from the Chief Executive in the community is a requirement of all program participants.

“At a time when devastating cyber attacks are on the rise, I’m pleased that the Healey-Driscoll administration and EOTSS are using legislature-appropriated funds to improve cybersecurity awareness for employees in our town governments and public schools,” said Sen. Michael Moore (D-Millbury). “While this program is a great step in the right direction, Massachusetts needs to do more to protect our infrastructure, companies, and residents from cyber criminals. I look forward to collaborating with my colleagues and the governor to make our systems more proactive and responsive to the threat of cyber attacks, including through the passage of my legislation establishing a Cybersecurity Control and Review Commission.”

“This grant gives the Town of Westborough the opportunity to train municipal employees in crucial cybersecurity detection to avoid cyber threats, and ultimately keep the municipality safe from devastating and costly cyber-attacks” said Rep. Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury). “Thank you to EOTSS for awarding this grant and congratulations Westborough.”

“I was very pleased to hear that Westborough was included in this program,” Kate Donaghue (D-Westborough) added.

Rep. Paul Frost (R-Auburn) commented, “I am pleased to announce that Auburn is among the recipients of this state grant program for cybersecurity training. The internet is an important and efficient tool used

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## Oxford issues two liquor suspensions

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD — Selectmen gave two local restaurants three-day liquor license suspensions Feb. 7 as a result of the police department’s annual December compliance checks.

Both Day’s End Cabin (Tavern?) and J Anthony’s were ordered to stop serving alcohol from Feb 20-22. According to Chief Anthony Saad and Det Ibrahim, a bartender at each place failed to properly card a young woman the police sent in Dec 30. The detective said she paid for the drink then left it on the counter; each received their violation notice later that evening.

Local businesses have “generally done a great job” about doing that in previous years, with no violations in 2021’s checks, Saad said.

Dennis Lemarche acknowledged suspensions are “tough for the establishment, but in all fairness, it’s for every establishment, so we should stick with the policy.” His board agreed,

Day’s End manager Todd Langway described the incident as “a grave mistake by the bartender,” who had only worked there five shifts and was immediately fired. He said she had been experienced and TIP certified.

Nick Adamopoulos, attorney for J Anthony’s, said the bartender there was also “fired on the spot.” Arguing that they’ve had no violations in “35-40 years,” under previous ownership, and that the bylaw is 10 years old while neighboring towns have “graduated” penalties, he requested a one-day suspension.

The board, however, noted their system is graduated, with Lemarche saying he feels “we should be stricter” on violations today. “In my idea, it’s a long way from being extreme.”

J Anthony’s is in a unique situation: the restaurant premises crosses the Oxford-Auburn town line. Adamopoulos said the management would set up a barrier to prevent any alcohol served in Auburn from

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Courtesy

## CONGRATULATIONS TO DUDLEY TOWN CLERK LORI A. SMITH!

Smith was awarded a CMMC Certificate last week by Barbara LaBombard and Robert Cutler of the Massachusetts Town Clerks’ Association at its 2023 Winter Conference in Devens. The Certified Massachusetts Municipal Clerks Certification recognizes that Ms. Smith has passed a written exam and met all professional and educational standards of the Mass Town Clerks’ Association. The educational and certification program establishes minimum standards of the knowledge of statutory requirements and to enhance the professionalism of the Town Clerk position.



# Patrick Welliver of Oxford named to Springfield College Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD — Springfield College has named Patrick Welliver from Oxford to the dean's list for academic excellence for the 2022 fall semester.

Welliver has a primary major of Sport Management.

The criteria for selection to the Dean's List are as follows: The student must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded coursework for the term, exclusive of "P" grades. The student must not have any incompletes or missing grades in the designated term. The student must have a minimum semester grade average of 3.500 for the term.

Springfield College is an independent, nonprofit, coeducational institution founded in 1885. Approximately 3,500 students, including 2,050 full-time undergraduate students, study at its main campus in Springfield, Mass., and at its regional campuses across the country. Springfield College inspires students through the guiding principles of its Humanities philosophy - educating in spirit, mind, and body for leadership in service to others.



Courtesy

## STUDENTS OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the following students who were selected as December Students of the Month at St. Joseph School: Pre-K 3-year-old (2-Day Program): Parker Perkins; Pre-K 3-year-old (5-Day Program): Mia Romeo; Pre-K 4-year-old: Alara Boyko; Kindergarten: Henryk Kosiorek; Grade 1: Oliver Smith; Grade 2: Xzavier Agosto; Grade 3: Armani Cedeno; Grade 4: Jacob Manzi; Grade 5: Avery Archambault; Grade 6: Simon Kowalczyk; Grade 7: Emily Macko; Grade 8: Leah Boudreau. Students are awarded Student of the Month for their outstanding exemplification of Religion, Respect, and Responsibility. Keep up the great work!

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# Promotions made within Dudley Police Department

DUDLEY — The Dudley Board of Selectmen, on Feb. 6, approved rank promotions within the Police Department.

Officer Keith Remillard was promoted to sergeant. Remillard was hired as a Reserve Officer in 2011 and was promoted to fulltime in 2015. He is a six-year member of the Southern Worcester County Crime and Drug Task Force. He grew up in Dudley and volunteers in many town-sponsored sports. He holds an Associate's degree in Criminal Justice from Anna Maria College and is presently working towards his Bachelor's Degree.

Officer Chandler Boyd was promoted to acting sergeant. Boyd, a Dudley native, was hired as a Reserve Officer in 1998 and was promoted to full-time in 2002. He has been the department's firearms licensing officer for nearly 20 years and the Department Firearm Qualification Officer for more than 10 years. He was a member of the regional SWAT team earlier in his career. Boyd has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Curry College.

Sgt. James Annese was promoted to acting lieutenant. Annese was hired as a Reserve Officer in 1995, he was promoted to full-time in 2002, and promoted to sergeant in 2022. He was a Detective for nearly two years and a School Resource Officer for more than five years. Annese has Master's Degree in Counterterrorism from Nichols College. He grew up in the Webster/Dudley area.

The "acting" promotions are to satisfy a stipulation in the employment contract of Chief Karłowicz that allows him to step down from Chief and resume Lieutenant rank position during his probation period.

## Village Toastmasters Open House:

On Thursday, March 16, 2023, Village Toastmasters will host an Open House from 6:30-8:15pm at Chamber of Commerce South, 46 Hall Road in Sturbridge. We encourage guests to visit and learn how to improve their public speaking skills. Please join us at 6:30pm for refreshments and meet and greet followed by a Toastmasters meeting which will end at 8:15pm. May also visit us at <http://www.villagetoastmasters.org>.

## School District approves new transportation contract

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY/CHARLTON — The Dudley Charlton Regional School District has a new transportation contract in place after rejecting the original bids presented in January.

The Dudley Charlton Regional School Committee, which contracts out its student transportation, received numerous offers during a bidding process at the end of 2022 with the lowest bidder being the district's most recent partner, First Student. However, the Committee decided to reject the initial bid of \$550,000 which was over the district's expected budget for transportation. District Director of Finance and Operations Richard Mathieu was instructed to go back out to bid allowing for the use of older buses to help reduce the cost.

The School Committee was approached again in early February where Mathieu revealed that First Student proved a new offer, this time below the expected Fiscal Year 2024 transportation budget.

"It is good news. It's not the best news that I would have loved to have seen," Mathieu told the School Committee. "The bid result will be an increase to our budget of \$396,373, but our projected budget increase was \$400,000 so they were able to come in just under."

Many of the other bid specifications were the same as the previous bid. Both offers came in at five years with three guaranteed and the final two years optional for the district. However, Superintendent Steven Lamarche reminded committee members that there are some notable alterations that allowed for the decrease in cost.

"We are now accepting an older bus within our contract and also that the following years within the contract were capped at 2 percent - They went from 2 to 4 percent for the following years. There wasn't anything else in the bid that was different. Those were the important items that lowered the cost in this first fiscal year to bring it in to what we projected," said Lamarche.

The School Committee approved the contract unanimously. However, they did discuss examining the number of late buses as a possible cost savings measure. The district utilizes eight late buses at different schools to transport students who stay for after-school activities and programs. Lamarche stated this makes up \$96,000 of the expected price tag. While several members of the committee stressed the importance of providing these buses, Mathieu said he will task First Student to track the number of riders over several weeks to see if there is any potential for cost savings. Mathieu said he will also have extended discussions with First Student on any other cost saving measures available to the district.

# Dudley seeking department cuts for 2024 budget

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — Following a recent roundtable between Charlton and Dudley town officials and the Dudley-Charlton Regional School Committee, Dudley Town Administrator Jonathan Ruda is recommending decreases across the board for town departments in anticipation of a complicated budget season.

Ruda provided two budget memos to selectmen during the Feb. 6 Board of Selectmen meeting, the first indicating that cuts will be anticipated among all departments as the town prepares to seek a Proposition 2 ½ Override to help find Dudley's contribution to the school district spending plan.

"The first memo distributed to all department heads requires a 10 percent decrease in all proposed departmental budgets. That's 10 percent from this year's level funds. As the board is aware, I will be recommending that an override question be placed on a ballot on April 25 to give the residents the ability to vote on the level of municipal and educational services the town will be able to provide beginning in FY 2024," said Ruda.

That memo also specifies a Feb. 9 deadline for departments to present their FY 2024 budget requests with that reduction. A second memo seeks proposed budgets from both the municipal and education sides of the spending plan. Ruda explained that this year's budget process will be a bit different with the town considering budgets taking into consideration the 10 percent decreases from departmental budgets on the municipal side, and the potential override requested for the school budget. The Town Administrator admitted that this will be a complicated budget season for all involved.

"I'm working on a timeline for our extremely important budget hearings and meetings for FY 2024," said Ruda. "This will be a very tough couple of months as we work closely to prepare our spending plan for FY 2024, and I appreciate the Board and the Finance, Appropriations and Advisory Committee and the Capital Improvement Committee's patience and commitment with the number of meetings that may be required in the next month or so."

Ruda indicated during the roundtable on Feb. 1 that the town plans to heavily consider a five-year override plan to help fund the shortfall in the Dudley-Charlton School District. The school budget is shared between the two member towns, but Dudley's estimated contribution would require an override to proceed. The proposal made at the roundtable was for an initial \$1.8 million in FY2024 and \$750,000 each year for the remaining four years of the plan. The town of Dudley will wait for an official proposal from the School Committee before finalizing the ballot question for April 25.

# Western New England University students named to Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University recently named over 660 students to the Fall Semester 2022 Dean's List.

Alayna Karam of Dudley is working toward a BS in Construction Management.

Sadie Smith of Oxford is working toward a BSE in Biomedical Engineering.

Jack Dalton of Webster is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.


Amy Ly of Auburn is working toward a BS in Health Sciences.

Jacob Benoit of Auburn is working toward a BSBA in Sport Management.

Helen Vo of Auburn is working toward a BSE in Biomedical Engineering.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.




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Adult Programming SPICE CLUB – In the lobby A five-month series, each month will feature a new spice, recipes, and cookbooks. Stop by the lobby to grab a sample of that month's spice, then take it home and cook! February's spice is Cacao.

FRIENDS FEATURED AUTHOR BOOK

SALE – Ongoing February is the month of Valentine's and Love!!! Check out these authors of Romance Elizabeth Lowell, Jean Plaidy, Belva Plain, and Danielle Steele!! Still only \$3.00 for a bag of books!!

YOGA WITH JULIE – February, 18th, and 25th at 9:30 AM Join Julie at the Gladys E. Kelly Library for a vinyasa yoga class for all levels. In Sanskrit, Vinyasa yoga translates to the "uniting of movement with breath". A typical class involves a centering of the mind with the breath, aromatherapy, movement of the body to release energetic blockages, and, finally, rest and relaxation. Classes are free. Sponsored by the Friends of the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library.

COMPUTER 101--- COMPUTER

BUILDING CLASS - - - February 21st at 6:00 PM Tools and computer parts will be provided to explore and learn about the inner workings of computers! You will walk away with a computer for you or your family after learning how to build your own. \*\*Attendees under the age of 18 need to be accompanied by an adult. \*\*Registration Required Via our Website! There are 8 spots available for this event

P U Z Z L E EXCHANGE — February 23rd, 6:00 PM Do you have a puzzle or two that you are through with that you are willing to part with? Turn in old puzzles to get new ones! Drop off puzzles starting Monday the 21st and on Thursday the 23rd come at 6:00 to be able to pick up a few new ones!

ADULT BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP — February 27th at 6:30 PM This month's book discussion will be on Monday, February 27th at 6:30 PM in the Library's Community Room. The Group will be discussing This Tender Land by William Kent Krueger. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone at 508-949-3880, or by email to rcoc@cwmmars.org for inquiries.

COOKBOOK CLUB – February 28th at 6:00 PM A book club for

people who like to cook- and eat! Each month will feature a new cookbook. Take home this month's pick, choose a recipe and bring what you make to the next meeting! We welcome all cooking abilities! This month's cookbook is Dessert Person! Swing by the front desk to pick one up!

Children's and Young Adult Programming M A K E R MONDAYS – Mondays from 3:30-4:30 PM Feeling artistic? We will have a variety of craft materials available to put your

creativity to the test! Every month we will rotate our craft material, stop in to see what we're making this month!

MINI STEM-CHALLENGE – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 PM Join us every Tuesday for a self-guided STEM-based building challenge, appropriate for all ages. Younger kids should bring a parent. Instruction sheets will be provided. Contact Andrew at 508-949-3880, or atai@cwmmars.org for more details.

STEM BEGINNINGS

PRE-K CLASS – February 15th, 22nd at 10AM With each class, the children will learn STEM concepts through hands-on activities, engaging stories, music and movement, challenges, and even simple experiments ideal for little hands. Each day will be a fun, learning experience for your little ones!

MUSIC TOGETHER – Every Saturday in January at 11:15 AM Fun, fabulous, uplifting, magical early childhood music class! Sponsored by the Friends of the

Gladys E. Kelly Public Library. BUBBLE SON TABLES --- February 16th 3:30 PM Use straws to blow some bubbly experiments on our tables! ZOOMOBILE ANIMAL ECOLOGY --- February 24th 12:30 PM A ZooMobile is an educational outreach program that involves an educator and some animal ambassadors traveling to the library where they cover a range of topics about animal ecology, behavior, and conservation.

Poets at Large beings 2023 series Feb. 26

WEBSTER — Poets at Large will begin its 2023 series of spoken word/poetry readings on Sunday, Feb. 26 at The Rose Room Café, 4 East Main St., Webster. The reading is free to the public (ages 14 and up) and will be held from 2-4 p.m. Featured readers will be Steve Veilleux, Michael McAfee and Karen Warinsky. There will be an intermission and an open mic after the featured poets. Anyone wishing to participate in the open mic should email Ms. Warinsky at karen.warinsky@gmail.com. Open mic readers will get five minutes each.

Steve Veilleux's poetry has been described as "often irreverent, sometimes playful, always insightful," and he is the author of "Event Horizon" (2022),

from Human Error Publishing. Veilleux, a resident of North Grosvenordale, Connecticut, is an active photographer and both his poetry and photography are often inspired by the beauty of this area.

Michael McAfee is a software engineer from Millis. He is involved with the Post Meridian Radio Players, most recently directing part of the group's 2022 Halloween show and co-writing the upcoming adaptation of the classic movie "Metropolis" for a future production. His book, "Tarot Poems" (2016), is based on the images and symbolism of the Tarot.

Woodstock Connecticut resident and poet Karen Warinsky is coordinator of Poets at Large,

now moving into its fourth year. Warinsky is a former finalist of the Montreal International Poetry Contest. Her work has appeared in several anthologies, books and lit mags/blogs, and she has two collections: "Gold in Autumn" (2020), and "Sunrise Ruby" (2022), both from Human Error Publishing. Her work centers on mid-life, relationships, politics, and the search for spiritual connection through nature. Besides the readings at The Rose Room, poets will also perform again this summer at Roseland Park in Woodstock. Find the Poets at Large 2023 schedule on Facebook.

This year's series at The Rose Room is sponsored in part by Bank Hometown and the Putnam Area Foundation.

Oxford resident named to President's List at Dean College

FRANKLIN — Amanda Shields of Oxford has earned a place on the President's List for the Fall 2022 semester. Students named to the President's List have demonstrated a serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College. Founded in 1865, Dean College is a private, residential college located in Franklin Massachusetts, 45 minutes from Boston, Massachusetts, and Providence, Rhode Island. Dean College offers baccalaureate degrees, associate degree programs, as well as a robust schedule of part-time continuing and professional education credit and certificate programs throughout the calendar year.

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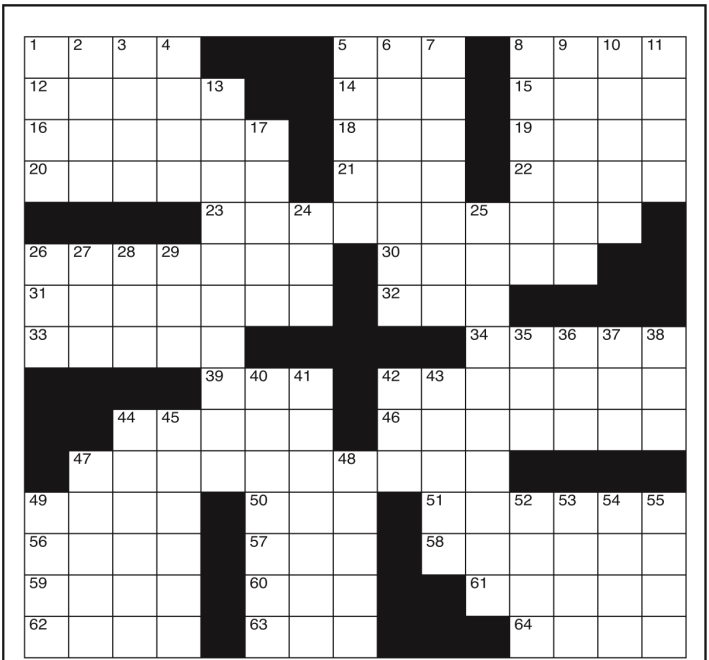
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1. River in Tuscany

5. A way to represent

8. Rocker's guitar

12. Civil Rights group

14. Brew

15. Scratch

16. W. Asian country

18. The Eye Network

19. Clarified butter

20. Part of the Cascade Range

21. Downwind

22. A way to steer

23. Loop

26. Not ingested

30. Swampy coniferous forest

31. Musician

32. Signing

33. Containing iron
34. Part of a theorem or proof

39. Veterans battleground (slang)

42. Of enormous proportions

44. Italian city

46. Come before

47. Balm

49. Undergarments

50. Male parent

51. Ropes

56. Ear part

57. Investment vehicle

58. Dictator

59. Cain and \_\_

60. A type of code

61. Border river along India and Nepal

62. It's what's for dinner

63. Consume

64. Christian \_\_, designer

CLUES DOWN

1. Cuckoos

2. Skin issue

3. City in central Japan

4. Sorrels

5. Twinned diamond

6. Canadian province

7. Monetary units

8. Head honcho

9. Goddess of wisdom

10. Part of a play

11. Get rid of

13. Applicant

17. Bowling alleys have many

24. Explosive

25. "The Say Hey Kid"

26. Ultrahigh frequency

27. No (Scottish)

28. Make a mistake

29. Credit card term
35. Keyboard key

36. Woman (French)

37. In the middle of

38. Score perfectly

40. Coat a metal with an oxide coat

41. Deadly disease

42. A place to dock a boat (abbr.)

43. Belch

44. Member of U.S. Navy

45. "In \_\_": separate from others

47. Examine extensively

48. Adjust

49. Tattle

52. Actor Pitt

53. Gulls

54. Within

55. Exceptionally talented performer

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:

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TO SUBMIT A LETTER

TO THE EDITOR:

E-MAIL: news@stonebridgepress.news

OR send to Webster Times

P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

Stonebridge Press

411 Elm St.

Southbridge, MA 01550

508-923-1818

PUBLISHED BY

STONEBRIDGE PRESS

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THE WEBSTER TIMES (USPS#024-928) and THE AUBURN NEWS (546-680) IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS, INC., 25 ELM ST., SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550. PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID AT SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO WEBSTER TIMES, P.O. BOX 90, SOUTHBRIDGE, MA 01550



# SENIOR CORNER

Webster Senior Center  
5 Church St.  
(508) 949-3845

Open Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Email: SeniorCenter@Webster-MA.gov

## The Chainmail Armor Apron staying home

BY BRO. JIMMY FALZONE  
PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER  
QUINEBAUG MASONIC LODGE

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Jan. 26, members of the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge attended the monthly 24th Masonic District Lodge of Instruction (L.O.I.) class at Solomon Temple Lodge in Uxbridge. These classes are where new candidates receive information about Freemasonry and a guest speaker who talks about the fraternity.

This guest speaker was Brother Michael Jarzebek. He has traveled to lodges throughout the state and beyond if requested to speak about Freemasonry. Brother Jarzebek's topic was about James Naismith who happened to be the inventor of the game of basketball back in 1891 and was a Master Mason. There were candidates and brethren from all 7 lodges that represent the 24th Masonic District at this class. Quinebaug Masonic Lodge brethren were on a mission. First, they wanted to show their support for the newly installed (DDGM) District Deputy Grand Master for the 24th Masonic District Right Worshipful Jonathan Neitz. Second, the brethren from



Courtesy  
Thirteen members of Quinebaug Masonic Lodge, center with gold color jewel around his neck, is our newly elected 24th Masonic DDGM RW, Jonathan Neitz and Wor. Bill Belanger holding the famous Traveling Chainmail Armor Apron staying home at Quinebaug Masonic Lodge for another month.

the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge wanted to keep the Traveling Chainmail Armor Apron that travels with the 24th District monthly L.O.I. classes held at these different lodges. The Traveling Chainmail Armor Attendance Apron began in 2010. It has become a tradition in the 24th District ever since at all the Lodge of Instruction classes. The lodge with the most brethren in attendance gets to bring this beautiful chainmail armor apron back to their lodge home base until the next L.O.I. monthly class.

Let me give you a little history about this Traveling Chainmail Armor Apron. The beautiful heavy chain link apron was made by brother Michael Sgariglia of the Quinebaug

Masonic Lodge with the permission of R.W. Robert Schremser, who was DDGM in 2010. Brother Mike Sgariglia was making chainmail armor as a hobby before he became a Master Mason and was inspired to make this. He got the idea when he was at another Lodge of Instruction class and saw that lodges gave out a prize for attendance and thought of something personal for the 24th District. Brother Sgariglia made it with a pair of pliers in each hand. It took about 30 hours and 3500 rings to make the chainmail armor apron. It consists of silver and blue stainless-steel rings. The apron weighs approximately 5 lbs and can be worn. The brethren from the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge

are proud to exhibit it this apron until the next L.O.I. class. This is why the members of the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge try to attend the L.O.I. classes in large numbers. The highest attendance from each lodge keeps this Chainmail Armor Apron. At this meeting of the L.O.I. the Quinebaug Masonic Lodge had the most brethren in attendance. They were able to keep this Chainmail Armor Apron home where it was made and originated from until the next L.O.I. class. If you would like more information about this great fraternity of freemasonry visit our website [www.massfreemasonry.org](http://www.massfreemasonry.org) and read about this great organization and to find a lodge nearest you.

Like the Webster Senior Center Facebook page to view our photographs, news and announcements. Please stop by to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of activities, upcoming events and our monthly lunch menu. You do not have to be a resident of Webster to participate in our activities and programs. ALL Seniors are welcome!

The Webster Senior Center will be closed on Monday, February 20th in observance of President's Day.

Tri-Valley Lunches are served Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays at 11:30 am. Please call (508) 949-3845 at least 48-hours in advance to reserve or cancel your meal. A \$3.00 donation is appreciated. All meals include milk, bread and fruit or dessert. This week's menu: Tues. 2/21 Spaghetti & Meatballs, green beans. 2/22 Lentil Stew w/cheddar cheese, herbed potatoes, spinach. 2/23 Garlic Herbed Chicken, mashed sweet potatoes, peppers & onions. 2/24 Fish w/Crumb Topping, seasoned rice, vegetables.

New Covid-19 Treatment Hotline: Have you tested positive for Covid-19? Telehealth is a quick and free way to see if you're eligible for Covid-19 treatment. Just call 1-833-273-6330. Clinicians are available every day from 8:00 am to 10:00 pm EST.

A SHINE (Serving the Health Insurance Needs of Everyone) counselor is available at the Senior Center to assist you. Please call (508) 949-3845 for more information.

The Regional Environmental Council has scheduled their Winter Mobile Fresh Produce Markets for Thursdays at the Webster Senior Center, starting Thursday, January 19th from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm. Markets are held every Thursday from January 19th through May 11, 2023.

Life Care Center of Auburn is sponsoring a Chili & Cornbread Social on Monday, February 27th 11:30 am. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Christopher Heights is sponsoring a soup social at the Webster Senior Center on Monday, March 6th at 11:30 am. Please sign up at the Senior Center front desk.

Understanding Medicare – Bill Bjerke from Fallon Health will present an educational workshop designed for you if Medicare is on your to-do list. Don't delay, come to the Webster Senior Center on Friday, March 10th at 9:30 am. You will learn what you need to know or what you need to do as you approach Medicare eligibility age 65. Not a sales meeting, no marketing materials will be available.

Are you interested in playing chess? We now have an informal chess club meeting on Wednesdays at 12:00 pm. All skill levels are welcomed!

The Bomba Beauty Salon at the Webster Senior Center is closed on Mondays. Open Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Walk-ins Are Welcome on Wednesdays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm. Please call (508) 341-8724 to schedule your appointment!

Mondays and Wednesdays: Exercise Classes with Forty Arroyo – Chair Dancing – the perfect workout for any fitness ability! 9:30-10:30 am. Cost: \$3.00 per class.

Mondays: Knitting/Crochet Social 10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Bingo: Every Tuesday, starts promptly at 1:00 pm. Please plan to arrive by 12:30 pm to allow time to buy your bingo sheets. Better yet, sign up for lunch, come early and spend the day!

Do you like to play cribbage? Our weekly cribbage group now meets every Thursday at 1:00 pm – feel free to join us!

Calling card players or interested persons to the Webster Senior Center – come join us for 6-card or 13-card pitch! Six card pitch meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 pm. Thirteen-card pitch meets on Thursdays at 1:00 pm.

Mahjongg group meets every Friday at 1:00 pm – beginners welcome!

Trip 1: Celebrate St. Patrick's Day with Emmet Cahill, star of PBS Celtic Thunder on Wednesday, March 8th. Time is running out – must sign up by Feb. 27th! Trip price of \$119.00 includes transportation, luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity and show ticket. Trip 2: The Amante Experience starring Michael Amante, the Peoples Tenor, at Castleton Conference Center, Windham, NH on Wednesday, April 19th. Trip price of \$109.00 includes transportation, luncheon, meal tax, meal gratuity and show ticket. Our trips sell out quickly so don't wait to reserve your seat! Trip prices do not include bus driver gratuity. Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 for more information.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office House Numbering Program will create a custom wooden sign with your house number free of charge. One sign per senior household. Please contact the Webster Senior Center if you are interested in having a house number sign made for you. (508) 949-3845.

Senior SAFE is a program that supports fire and life safety education for seniors. The Webster Fire Dept. will do a home visit to ensure that you have the correct smoke and CO2 alarms and that they are working properly, at no cost to you! All you have to do is give them a call at (508) 949-3875.

Please call the Senior Center at (508) 949-3845 or stop in to pick up our monthly newsletter for a complete list of additional activities and upcoming events.

REAL ESTATE

AUBURN

\$625,000, 109 Old Common Rd, Raymond Nromand E Est, and Raymond, Kathryn Y, to Wales, Meaghan E, and Wales, Zachary P.  
\$450,000, 190 Leicester St, Silva, Murilo, and Silva, Myllene B, to Morales, Idania.  
\$450,000, 42 Woodland Rd, Deane, Katherine, and Deane, Scott N, to Romeo, Giuseppe, and Romeo, Gilda.  
\$374,500, 851 Oxford St S, Margaret C Wells Irt, and Amsden, James, to Rand, David, and Rand, Nancy.

DUDLEY

\$337,000, 18 Schofield Ave, Shaver, Colleen M, to Bytner, Matthew, and Quicho, Allison.  
\$180,000, 84 Dudley Oxford Rd, Marsh, Herbert E, to Hazelrex LLC.  
\$78,000, 78 Healy Rd, Rutledge, Jane E, to Williams, Brian F, and Williams, Richard G.

OXFORD

\$439,900, 161 Charlton St, Johnson, Robert, to Kuffrey, Nathan, and Grasis, Lindsey.

WEBSTER

\$412,500, 39 Scenic Ave, Golinski, Gustaw, to Crentsil, Tina.  
\$370,000, 17 Grenier Ave, Ofori, Kwame, to Ofori, Thomas.  
\$310,000, 15 Nelson St, Bernier, Candy, to Rodriguez, Jose, and Rodriguez, Carmen.  
\$306,000, 305 Thompson Rd, Snay, Robert R, and Snay, Eunice B, to Cottle, Greg, and Hantman, Leah.  
\$275,000, 118 Worcester Rd, Henault Norma E Est, and Vezina-Jodaitis, Brenda, to Desouza, Fabio V.  
\$190,000, 9 Surrey Ln, Helt, Mitchell, and Helt, Eileen A, to Ekt Investments LLC.

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# Samuel Slater Experience marks first anniversary March 4 with festivities for families

**WEBSTER** — The non-traditional Samuel Slater Experience museum will celebrate its first anniversary in a traditional way, with balloons, raffles, photo stickers, food truck, fun, and free admission for kids 12 and under. The festive event for the public will be held on Saturday, March 4, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 31 Ray St. in Webster.

Samuel Slater Experience opened one year ago to tell the story of Samuel Slater, the beginnings of the American Industrial Revolution, and Slater’s impact on mill towns such as Webster, Massachusetts. Described as “Disney-like,” Samuel Slater Experience employs state-of-the-art 4-D digital technology with immersive video and interactive exhibits to recreate two time periods: the early 1800s and the early 1900s. It creatively blends historical settings with experiential multi-media sight, sound, scents and movement.

In its first year, Samuel Slater Experience hosted hundreds of students on school field trips, many historical societies, special interest groups and organizations, as well as visitors from far beyond the local area.

“To be remembered you have to make an impression, and we’ve certainly accomplished that,” said founder Christopher Robert. “Visitors tell us this is the best museum they’ve ever been to, that it’s amazing, beyond spectacular.”

March 4 event details:

**Raffles:** Raffles for gift cards from local businesses, including Bistro Eighty-Ates, Empire Wok, Big Belly Café, Lake Pizza, Delray Doc’s Fruit & Deli, N & J Donuts, Indian Ranch, Booklovers’ Gourmet, Divine Nails & Hair Spa, Burlap to Boards, and PT Pet Supply. Other prizes are Worcester Bravehearts tickets, gift baskets and Nichols College merchandise. Raffle tickets will be available March 2-5; participants do not have to be present to win.

**Food Truck:** Tony Island Hot Dog Company of Oxford will park onsite from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. with their famous grilled hotdogs. If the weather is bad, diners will be invited to eat inside the museum, whether or not they have purchased tickets.

**Photo stickers:** A local photographer will take pictures of kids on the trolley and make stickers for them to take home.

**Special prices:** Reduced admission prices are \$11 for adults, \$5 for seniors (over 60), \$7 for students 13-17, kids 12 and under free with paid adult admission. Kids 16 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Tickets can be purchased in advance online at <https://samuel Slater Experience.org>.

Where is the Samuel Slater Experience?

Samuel Slater Experience is located in the former National Guard Armory at 31 Ray Street, Webster, Massachusetts, and open to the public year-round. For more information, tickets, or group tours visit [www.samuel Slater Experience.org](http://www.samuel Slater Experience.org).

Year-round Daily Schedule: Fridays & Saturdays: 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday: Noon to 4 p.m. Last entry is at 3 p.m.

## PEARLE L. CRAWFORD LIBRARY

40 Schofield Ave., Dudley  
508-949-8021  
Join us for one of our programs at the Pearle!  
To register go to [www.crawfordlibrary.org](http://www.crawfordlibrary.org) or call 508-949-8021

**PRE-K POWER STORYTIME**  
Tuesdays @ 11:00AM  
Join Miss Lida for Pre-School Story Time! We will be exploring a new letter each week starting with A and ending in the spring with Z.

**TODDLER TIME**  
Wednesdays @ 11:00AM  
Come join us for Toddler Time! We will have a different theme each week with stories and songs! This program is geared for ages 18 months to 3.

**LEARN TO PLAY DUNGEONS & DRAGONS**  
Thursdays @ 6:00PM  
"Are you looking to play a game that contains action, adventure, and drama? We have an experienced Dungeon Master ready to run a new game of Dungeons and Dragons, the world's number one role playing game. We are missing just one thing ... YOU! This is for those that are looking to learn more about playing and do some short adventures!

Open to ages 10+, children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Registration required for this free program.

**KNIT & CROCHET GROUP**  
Thursday 5:30PM – 7:30PM and Friday 10:00AM-12:00PM  
All stitchers are welcome for this informal group

**LEGO CLUB**  
Mondays @4:00PM  
Come join us each week for a different Lego challenge, from writing your name in Legos to making a Lego zipline. Ages 5+

**POKEMON CARD TRADING**  
Tuesdays @ 4:00PM  
Children are invited to bring their Pokemon cards for informal card trading and discussion.

**YOUNG SCIENTISTS**  
Monday, February 13 10:00AM-11:00AM  
Children, ages 3-6, with a parent/caregiver will learn Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) concepts through hands-on activities, story time, challenges and simple experiments in this weekly

STEM series facilitated by STEM Beginnings. Siblings are welcome and must be supervised. Parents/caregivers are encouraged to help their child and join in the fun during each class! Class size is limited to 12 children, ages 3-6, and registration is required each week at [crawfordlibrary.org](http://crawfordlibrary.org).

**VALENTINE’S DROP-IN CRAFT FOR KIDS**  
Monday, February 13 5:00PM-7:00PM  
Drop in and make a Valentine craft that you can give to your Valentine (or your family).

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

**DEB’S SING AND SWING**  
Thursday, February 16 10:30AM-11:15AM  
This is an interactive program featuring singing, guitar music, dancing, rhythm instruments, stories and variety of fun props, including a parachute, beanbags, scarves, and pom poms. These programs are theme-based, and cover everything from holidays and seasons to dinosaurs and bugs!

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

**MINI GOLF IN THE LIBRARY**  
Tuesday, February 21 1:00PM-3:00PM  
Children and their families are invited to drop in and play mini golf in the children’s room!  
Ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

**TOM KNIGHT PUPPET SHOW**  
Wednesday, February 22 1:00PM-1:45PM  
Tom Knight presents “The Library Boogie” musical puppet show at the Library. The show celebrates libraries and reading, the environment, and science with hand-made puppets, funny stories, catchy songs, and a high degree of audience participation.

All children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

**AUTHOR LOUISE CHADBORN**  
Thursday, February 23 1:00PM-1:45PM  
Webster children’s author Louise Chadborn will read her story Granite the Bullmastiff

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

**DRUMMING WITH MIKE LEO**  
Thursday, February 23 4:00PM-5:00PM  
Make some music! Join Mike Leo to drum and sing.

Children 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment

**SUPERFOODS 101**  
Thursday, February 23 6:00PM-7:30PM  
Kim Larkin will lead a workshop celebrating the powerhouses of nutrition. Fun, colorful presentation that highlights the powerful properties of popular Superfoods and how best to incorporate them into your life. Tips, techniques, unique superfood samplings (i.e. cacao protein balls, acai smoothies, goji berries and dark choc.). Handouts and recipes included to insure an informative takeaway.

Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

**DEAR: DUCKIES EXCITED ABOUT READING SOAPS**

Friday, February 24 3:00PM-4:00PM  
This workshop is designed for ages 8-12. Each participant will make their own soapy creation using glycerin based soap and adding colors, glitter and scents. Once the concoction has cooled slightly, we will add cosmetic grade glitter, colors, essential oil (optional), embed the reading rubber duckie toys and decorate the tops with white soap curls, creating waves. At the end of the workshop each participant will take their handmade creation home, it can be removed from the mold the following day and used right away. Soap is approximately 3 oz. with a 2” rubber duckie.

Children MUST be age 8 or older. Due to safety concerns, because the melted soap is hot, a caregiver must be hands-on and actively involved with each child under the age of 12 to help with the project. No exceptions will be made. At the beginning of the workshop an acknowledgement of safety concerns form must be signed by parent/guardian if the participant is under 18 years old. Program starts promptly, no admission is allowed after instructions are given.

Sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment

**WICKED GOOD HENNA**  
Saturday, February 25 11:00AM-1:00PM  
Get your free Henna Tattoo! Drop in anytime between 11AM-1PM.

Children 12 and younger must be accompanied by an adult!

Sponsored by the Friends of the Library

**ADULT BOOK GROUP**  
Monday, February 27 6:00PM-7:00PM

All are welcome to join our adult book group for a discussion of this month’s title, The Zimmerman Telegram.

Copies of the current title are available at the circulation desk one month prior to the meeting.





# Community Connection



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# Webster softball signups now open

WEBSTER – Webster Fastpitch Softball signups are now open.

The organization's youth softball program provides a great opportunity for girls ages five to 18. The program is based at Slater Street Field. You do not need to be a resident of Webster to play.

All experience levels are welcome—from a first-time player to an experienced softball player who is looking for a travel team. Participants will learn the game while building confidence and having fun.

The organization's spring season will start in mid-April. In order to guarantee a spot and have a custom jersey, please sign up by March 1.

For more information about registration, please visit [websterfastpitch.teamsnapsites.com](http://websterfastpitch.teamsnapsites.com).

If you have additional questions about the program, send an email to [websterfastpitch@yahoo.com](mailto:websterfastpitch@yahoo.com).

# Close to 7,000 URI students named to Dean's List

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Fall 2022 Dean's List. Students named to the Dean's List represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries.

They include:

Aaron Iwanski of Dudley  
Nicholas Karalus of Dudley  
Alexandria O'Brien of Dudley  
Jess Rachholz of Dudley  
Nathan Blythe of Webster  
Shannon Bombardier of Webster  
Alexander Jankowski of Webster  
James Kaye of Webster  
Mikayla Landers of Webster  
Carly Leighton of Webster  
Lily Mueller of Webster  
Ashlin Peters of Webster  
Mike Toner of Webster

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

**About the University of Rhode Island**

Founded in 1892, the University of Rhode Island is the principal public flagship research and graduate institution in Rhode Island. Competitive and highly regarded, its more than 14,500 undergraduate students and 2,200 graduate students represent 48 states and 76 countries across the globe. With 203 academic programs, URI offers its undergraduate, graduate, and professional students distinctive educational opportunities designed to meet the global challenges of today's world and the rapidly evolving needs of tomorrow. At URI, you will find some of today's leading innovators, discoverers, and creative problem solvers. To learn more, visit: [uri.edu](http://uri.edu).

# Local 4 Life sponsors annual Worm Moon Walk

DUDLEY — Have you ever wondered why the March moon is called the Worm Moon? Join Local 4 Life to experience the March full moon and learn about the night sky from local astronomers at its Annual Worm Moon Walk on Walnut Lane Farm, 39 Koebke Rd. in Dudley on Saturday, March 4 at 6:30 pm. The rain/snow date is Sunday, March 5.

The walk will take place, in part, on hilly terrain. Farm appropriate footwear and flashlights are recommended. Refreshments will be available, and all ages are welcome. There is no charge for this event.

This event is sponsored by Green Light Baking, the Rose Room, and Webster Aubuchon Hardware.

Since its inception in 2019, Local 4 Life, a non-profit educational organization, has been making a positive impact in the community by cultivating local connections and providing educational outreach opportunities. Its staff and volunteers have offered unique events, such as family outings at local farms, educational children's workshops at local farms and businesses, and contests that promote the importance of supporting local. Local 4 Life provides diverse community outreach and youth education that also promotes local conservation. These programs have spanned six surrounding towns and impacted people of all ages in those communities.

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**FRANK G. CHILINSKI**  
STONEBRIDGE PRESS PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Halftime shows that made history

While it wasn't the most exciting game in Super Bowl history, the Kansas City Chiefs secured the narrow 38-35 win over the Philadelphia Eagles in the final seconds of the game.

There are those who only watch one football game per year, maybe two. What matters most, is the pride that a home team can bring back to their community. Everyone loves to rally around the home team, gather with family and friends, place friendly bets and eat amazing food, so yes, that does matter.

Loyal football fans follow the season very closely, and the Super Bowl is the highlight. Professional football requires a unique skill set that only a rare few possess. This is what pulls many of us in to watch. The same can be said for any sport, but there's something about a good sack that makes this sport more exciting to watch.

Moving on to the halftime show. Every year without fail we have huge expectations for this halftime show. We want something outlandish and unforgettable. Something that can match the adrenaline the game has already given us. 1991 was the first year the halftime show moved from marching bands and drill teams to pop acts, with New Kids on the Block starting the trend.

In 1993, Michael Jackson raised the bar after his performance in Pasadena, California. Jackson appeared on stage through a capsule that shot him up into the sky, then magically he appeared on the stage, still like a statue, taking in the moment to stare out into the crowd before he was ready to shred the stage. Jackson simply turned his head from left to right and the crowd roared. Jackson's performance left no stone unturned. It was big, it took effort, it is unforgettable.

In 2001, 'Aero-Sync,' as they were playfully called, was another one for the books. Aerosmith, N'Sync, Britney Spears and Mary J. Blige performed a collaboration that folks are still talking about today. The halftime show always needs that rock n roll element and Steven Tyler brought it.

U2, Prince, Beyoncé, The Rolling Stones, Lady Gaga and, of course, Janet Jackson also gave brilliant performances that have yet to be matched.

Maroon five was low energy when they performed and sort of erased themselves. While they weren't terrible, they weren't great. While incredibly talented, Adam Levine, lead singer didn't seem enthused to be there. Jamming out to Maroon 5 on your way to work or while you're sitting at the beach catching some rays is never a bad idea, but this band did not belong on the halftime show stage.

Last year's halftime show was a fabulous nineties throw back with Eminem, Snoop Dog and Dr. Dre. It was filled with high energy and excitement. While Rhianna's performance this year showcased her talent, in our humble opinion, the execution fell flat. Now, on to baseball season!

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.

VIEWPOINT

**THE DEADLINE** to submit letters to the editor and commentaries for next week's newspaper is Friday at noon. **SEND ALL ITEMS** to Editor  
Brendan Berube at *THE WEBSTER TIMES* — [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)

Welcoming sinners home

One day Saint Silouan, an early 20th century monk on Mount Athos, had a conversation with a hermit. They both just heard some new horror story of what the communists were doing to innocent clergy and monastics and countless believers in Russia following the Bolshevik revolution. The hermit was quite upset and declared with evident satisfaction, “God will punish all these atheists. They will burn in everlasting fire.” These words disturbed Saint Silouan and he quietly asked the hermit, “Tell me, supposing you went to Paradise and then looked down and saw all these communists burning in Hellfire - would you feel happy?” To which the hermit replied rather smugly, “It can’t be helped. It would be their own fault. They will get what they deserve.” Saint Silouan answered softly with a sorrowful countenance: “Love could not bear that. We must pray for all people, even for the communists.”



BEYOND THE PEWS

By Fr. Luke A. Veronis  
SAINTS  
CONSTANTINE  
AND HELEN  
GREEK  
ORTHODOX  
CHURCH,  
WEBSTER

This beautiful story reveals the spirit of divine love. God's grace and mercy never look to punish anyone but patiently wait for all to open their hearts to repentance, forgiveness, and healing. Think about this in relation to the meaningful story of the Prodigal Son. This is one of the most magnificent stories in the entire Bible because it succinctly summarizes the outrageous love, mercy and grace of God. Divine love knows no bounds and always waits for those who turn away from Him to return. He waits for the dead to come back to life.

Luke the Evangelist puts the story of the Prodigal Son as the last of three examples in chapter 15 of his Gospel. He begins the chapter by saying, “All the tax collectors and sinners drew near to Jesus to hear Him. And the Pharisees and scribes complained say-

ing, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.” The legalistic religious leaders could not understand why Jesus would spend time with despised sinners. It annoyed them that he wouldn't just condemn the sinners and cast them aside instead of sitting with them at table and treating them with respect. Like the hermit, they simply wanted Him to say, “These sinners deserve to go to hell, so let me not bother with them.”

Our Lord, however, responds to their self-righteous hard-heartedness by offering three examples of what God is like. He begins with the image of a shepherd who has 100 sheep, and when one sheep gets lost, the shepherd is ready to leave the other 99 in the wilderness in order to search high and low for the lost sheep. When he eventually finds it, he puts the sheep on his shoulder, rejoicing, “for I found my sheep which was lost.” He then says, “there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 just persons who need no repentance.”

He then tells a similar story of a woman who had 10 coins and loses one. She sweeps her house diligently, carefully searching until she finds the lost coin. Again, he concludes “There is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

This all leads to the culmination of his response to the self-righteous religious leaders who wish to condemn the sinners. He tells the story of the Prodigal Son. In the story, the younger son greatly offends the father by acting in an egocentric manner. “Give me the portion that falls to me,” the audacious son demands of his father. “I'm not interested in you or our relationship. You are dead to me!” He then brashly takes

his inheritance and flees from the father's presence, going off to a faraway, foreign land. He consciously rejects his family, his roots, his heritage, his Father's house and goes off to live an egocentric, prodigal life. This life inevitably leads to a dead end, literally, where the boy loses all his inheritance, loses all his friends, loses all his dignity and ends up in extreme hunger and utter depravity, feeding swine and even ready to eat the pods that the pigs were eating.

The boy is lost. He is alone. He is close to despair. He is utterly shamed. He is basically dead. The hermit in the opening story, or the religious leaders of Jesus' day might say, “Forget about him. He got what he deserved. He has no one to blame but himself. His selfish actions led to his misery. To hell with him!”

Yet, the story doesn't end in the quagmire of the pigs. The boy remembers. He comes to his senses by remembering who he was. He remembers his roots, his family, his father, his home, the place from where he came. He remembers his divine image. His mistakes have taught him an important lesson in humility and he is ready to say, “I have sinned against heaven and before my father. I am no longer worthy to be called a son.” Then, he gets up. He takes action. He makes an effort to begin his long journey home.

The Father, meanwhile, is waiting every day for the return of his son. He respected his son's freedom to leave. He gave the boy his undeserved inheritance. It deeply saddened him to see his son leave but he didn't dwell on whatever pain or hurt or offense the son gave. Instead, he patiently waited day after day for his son's return, never actually knowing whether the boy would decide to return or not. He waited and when he saw the first signs of repentance, while the son was still far off, the Father acted and ran out to welcome back his son. He showed only signs of mercy and compassion, unlimited grace and love. He

offered complete restoration and celebrated in the grandest manner. His son was lost and is found; was dead and is alive!

Even when the older son stands outside the feast confused at his father's incomprehensible mercy, the father once again goes out to the lost older son and pleads with him to understand, “It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.”

There is only joy in the return of a sinner, no matter when it happens in their lifetime. God patiently waits and then rejoices. He has no interest in punishing. He's not giving the sinner what he deserves. He patiently waits, day after day, year after year, with hope that every sinner will come to his senses and turn back toward God. For some it happens at the first hour. Others at the sixth hour. For some at the 9th or even the 11th hour of their life. It doesn't matter when. God waits and hopes that all sinners, no matter what they've done and no matter how lost they may be, He waits and is ready to joyously welcome them back!

The self-righteous religious leaders of his day chose not to understand this mercy. The hermit with Saint Silouan didn't understand such grace. The older son in the story couldn't comprehend the Father's unconditional love. And unfortunately, many of us today hold on to this same self-righteous attitude toward the sinners of the world.

“There will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over 99 just persons who need no repentance... It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.” Adopting the spirit of the father, a spirit full of patient hope and unlimited mercy, is the path we all are called to follow. We don't ever condemn the sinner, but we pray for their repentance and their return home!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Invest in our future as someone once invested in yours

To the Editor:

My name is Harry Kennan, and I have had the distinct pleasure of attending Shepherd Hill Regional High School for the last two and a half years. During that time, the integrity and ingenuity of the teachers in that building has never failed to impress me, inspire me, and even improve me. There is very little that I would not do to repay them for everything they have done.

If we were asking for an override of 3,665,000 in tax dollars for the purposes of financing additional programs, purchasing additional technology, or hiring additional employees, we would understand and even share your skepticism. Were our intentions to secure funding for superfluous or inessential causes, we would be content to throw down our rhetorical weapons without hesitation and let the chips fall where they may.

But these are no such requests. The resources our schools stand to lose should this override fail are nothing less than incontrovertible necessities, and should they lose them a generation of youth will be on the road to receiving a half-realized, half-baked, half-fulfilled education that will be wholly inadequate in meeting their individual needs. We will be responsible for burying their talents and quashing their ambitions. And in my opinion, COVID-19 has been detrimental enough to the education of the current generation of children without this looming reduction of resources rubbing salt in that still-open wound.

But let's examine exactly what is at stake here. Firstly, there is the increase in class sizes to twenty-seven students per classroom, and I

hardly need to tell you why that is unacceptable. Class sizes are already higher than our institutions are capable of supporting, and the students in those classrooms are already suffering as a result. And on top of that, whoever is assigned to fit twenty-seven desks and chairs into a chemistry lab had better be a lot better at Tetris than I am, because I can't see myself figuring that one out. But the only reason that an increase in class sizes would save any money is that it comes hand-in-hand with the elimination of up to sixteen faculty members from across our district.

Earlier in this very address, I used the word “resources” in part to refer to our teachers, and I cannot apologize enough for having done that; the educators in our school system are some of the most hard-working individuals I know, and it is an insult to their profession to reduce them to such a dehumanizing term. So let's all stop hiding behind deceptively verbose language and call “a reduction in 16.0 FTE” what it is—firing teachers. It is, in my opinion, an entirely unconscionable act.

Should the town of Dudley vote against this override, it will result in the overcrowding of classrooms that are already far too overcrowded, the understaffing of an institution that is already woefully understaffed, and the cutting of funds for programs that simply have nowhere left to cut. However, people without children in the school system may wonder why their tax dollars are being sent to causes from which they see no tangible benefit, and honestly? That's totally fair. Especially in today's economy, the government at any level should not be asking its citizens to

finance any projects that are not absolutely necessary. But this is.

And to those of you without children in the school system, I would ask you to look back at a time when you were rising through the grades, and at all the possibilities

and opportunities that were afforded to you.

Because someone invested in your future. And now, we are asking you to invest in ours.

*Thank you,  
Harry Kennan  
Charlton*

We can take steps to curb our use of fossil fuels, even if our leaders won't

To the Editor:

While one cannot attribute a single weather event to climate change, science tells us that use of fossil fuels is responsible for the increase in floods, droughts, fires, as well as the strange winter weather we have locally this Winter. So while the present climate change is of concern to those of us whom missed out on ice activity on our ponds, we know that extreme weather in the future is going to get much worse. It is up to us to decide how bad it will get, how much food shortages, how much immigration, how much loss of species,

how much of loss of our environment we will put up with.

So, while our policy makers have been slow to step up to this problem, we should all collectively do what we can to limit and end our dependence on using fossil fuels. Whenever possible, decarbonize your life by electrifying your appliances such as hot water heaters, home heating appliances, kitchen stove, vehicles. Not only does this enhance our individual and collective healths; such a change is, for the most part, good for our budgets.

*Gerry Frank  
Dudley*

Dudley Democratic Town Committee expanding

To the Editor:

Dudley Democrats are invited to join the Dudley Democratic Town Committee. We are expanding our membership, and hope to broaden our group to include more Democrats who are willing to take up the challenge of working to secure our democracy for generations to follow.

The Dudley Democratic Town Committee will not rest on our laurels and expect good things to hap-

pen. We will work hard to be sure our Country is representative of all its people and benefits every citizen. Please join us to support the American dream and the protection of all our freedoms. Let's work together for the good of our community and our nation. Our new e-mail is as follows: [dudleymadems@gmail.com](mailto:dudleymadems@gmail.com). Please contact us for details

*Dudley Democratic Town Committee*



# Eye-Opening Coffee Facts

Since this column extolled the virtues of tea recently, this week coffee will have equal time. So what's so virtuous about the everyday cup of Joe we sip every morning you might ask? Plenty, according to reliable health studies which show a steaming mug of java may go way beyond a satisfying pick-me-upper.

If your daily dose of caffeine has become nothing more than a breakfast ritual, the following coffee facts may prove to be more of an eye opener than that morning cup of coffee!

**Joe Jogs Memory:** If you love your coffee, you now have another excuse to drink high octane java! Here's the latest buzz on caffeine: A cup of Joe can jog your memory, especially if you're over age 65, say researchers at the University of Arizona. In a study, memory performance declined significantly between morning and afternoon in seniors who didn't drink coffee or drank decaf. Those who had a cup of the high octane stuff showed no such effect.

**Dodge Diabetes:** According to WebMD, one to three cups of coffee per day can reduce risk for diabetes by up to nine percent. Up the cups to six or more daily and men's risk for diabetes is cut by 54%, while woman's is reduced by 30% as compared to non coffee drinkers. While not fully confirmed yet, several studies suggest that it's the chlorogenic acid found in coffee that help stave off Type II Diabetes, which is the non-inherited form of the disease.

**Drink to Think:** A ten year study by the University of Bristol revealed coffee drinkers really may be better thinkers! The report said a cup of coffee can help in the performance of tasks, requiring sustained attention. It further helped enhance a person's ability to perform these tasks, during low alertness situations such as at night or when a person has a cold.

**Buzz Boost:** Did you know a safe caffeine buzz can give your workout a boost? According to the American College of Sports Medicine, consuming caffeine equivalent of between two to six cups of coffee one hour prior to exercise, increased both the endurance and performance of athletes during both prolonged and short-term exercise sessions. If you drink caffeinated beverages, drinking one before your workout may help you run or walk a little farther or cycle a little longer. Studies have shown that moderate caffeine intake about 300 milligrams, the equivalent of three cups of drip coffee, may be safe in most adults. But be sure to drink plenty of water before, during and after your workout to remain adequately hydrated.

**Joy of Java:** Are you aware caffeine can also be an effective antidepressant? Just don't drink more



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than a couple of cups of coffee a day or the effect can be counter-productive.

**Steam Therapy:** Taken in normal doses, caffeine has shown to have several other beneficial effects: Home remedy books advise drinking a cup of hot steaming coffee to suppress an asthma attack while waiting for proper medicine to kick in. The caffeine acts on the bronchial tubes contributing to the expansion of the muscles, thus relieving the severity of the attack in some cases.

**Halt Headaches:** Before you reach for a pain pill, try drinking a cup of strong coffee to combat your migraine or tension headaches. Caffeine has long been used in over the counter pain relief products because it dilates the blood vessels, helping to relieve migraine pain. In addition, coffee is a diuretic, helping to eliminate toxic substances from the body.

**Diet Drink:** Coffee is the perfect diet beverage! It's not only low in calories (skip the cream and sugar, please); it acts as a natural diuretic to help shed water weight. In addition, the caffeine in coffee revs up your metabolism, which helps burn calories.

**Coffee Rx:** Did you know medical data shows coffee is rich in antioxidants? In fact, a well known study from the University of Scranton proclaimed coffee America's number one source of health boosting antioxidants! Here's the scoop: The beneficial "free radical sweepers" are also found in coffee aroma after brewing. According to research carried out in Switzerland by the Lausanne-based Nestle Research Center, consuming coffee up until 20 minutes after brewing will deliver 300 phytochemicals, (antioxidants), and can stay in the human system up to one month.

Prefer your coffee sans the caffeine? You'll reap the same health rewards as decaf has the same antioxidant benefits as regular coffee!

**Reduced Risks:** Several studies indicate that people who drink coffee on a regular basis are up to 80% less likely to develop Parkinson's disease. According to research performed at Vanderbilt University's Institute for Coffee Studies, it's the caffeine that offers the protection. In fact, VU reported based on this evidence drugs to treat Parkinson's, containing a derivative of caffeine are currently being developed.

**Want more?** Additional research reveals compared to not drinking coffee, at least two cups of coffee daily can translate to a 25% reduced risk of colon cancer; a significant drop in liver cirrhosis risk, and nearly half the risk of gallstones!

**The "Buzz" on Coffee:**  
\*Coffee is the second most traded product in the world after petroleum.

\*It takes five years for a coffee tree to reach maturity. The average yield from one tree is the equivalent of one roasted pound of coffee.

\*One shot of espresso uses approximately 45 coffee beans.

\*The expression "a cup of Joe" was coined during WWII, when American servicemen (G.I. Joe) were identified as big coffee drinkers.

\*When coffee became scarce during the Civil War, soldiers who wanted a cup of coffee had to resort to roasting and brewing sweet potato and Indian corn.

\*Out on the range, cowboys brewed coffee by putting grounds into a sock, plunging it in cold water and heating it the over campfire.

\*Research from the University of California found that the steam rising from a freshly brewed cup of coffee contained as many antioxidants as three fresh oranges.

\*In 1657, British ads for coffee claimed that the beverage was a cure for scurvy and gout.

\*"Maxwell House" Coffee got its name from The Maxwell House Hotel, in Nashville, TN, where it was first served in 1886.

\*Teddy Roosevelt was the inspiration of the Maxwell House coffee slogan "good to the last drop." He uttered the phrase after finishing up a particularly tasty cup of coffee, and the rest is history!

**Win Dinner for Two at the Public House**

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Public House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, C/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Public House Inn.

## A legacy that continues to inspire

Born into slavery, Frederick Douglas was driven to seek freedom at an early age and escape the bonds of slavery and find a path to liberation.

He found his path when sent to a new plantation where he learned the criminal act of reading, an action strictly against the law for slaves. The enslaver's wife, who treated Frederick like an adopted child, secretly taught him to read the Bible.

He developed an insatiable thirst for knowledge. He devised clever schemes to access the books he desired. He would trick white school children into letting him glimpse at their school books, and when the opportunity presented itself, he would hide books away, studying in secret.

He was sent to Baltimore to become a laborer, where he learned the trade of ship caulking, working on the boats that came in and out of the harbor.

Despite his limited financial freedom, Frederick could keep some money and saved enough to buy his first book, "The Columbian Orator."

This book, a collection of speeches, would change Frederick's life forever. He did not simply read the book but memorized it from beginning to end, reciting its speeches for hours, pretending to speak in front of large audiences.

Desperate to be free, Frederick devised a plan with his future wife, Anna Murie, to escape to the north. Sailors traveled considerably, and he had papers to certify he worked on the docks. His papers and some money from Anna were all the cover he needed.

Along the way, he married Anna and eventually settled in Massachusetts. Though he was now free, technically, he was only an escaped slave. Continually fearing capture, he found solace in the abolitionist movement and discovered an entire network of abolitionists through a newspaper called "The Liberator."

Frederick was thrilled to attend a meeting held by The American Anti-Slavery Society. As the only escaped slave in attendance, he was asked to share his thoughts with the crowd. It was his first time as a speaker, but he was well-practiced. For two hours, they listened intently, hanging on his every word, energized by the passion and power of his speech.

POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING  
TOBY MOORE

The Anti-Slavery Society recruited him and embarked on a six-month tour of many states, electrifying audiences wherever he went.

Douglas soon learned that his owner knew of his whereabouts and received a tip that slave catchers were searching for him; he fled to England for two years.

During this time, his friends in the United States purchased his freedom. He re-entered the United States as a free man, ready to continue his fight for equality through his powerful speeches and advocacy.

The election of Abraham Lincoln as President, and the subsequent secession of the South, marked a turning point in the fight for freedom.

The Civil War presented new challenges for Frederick, who was not a soldier or a politician, but still one of the most influential figures of his day.

Through Frederick's association with the militant abolitionist John Brown, Frederick became convinced that the only way to unseat the institution of slavery was by force.

Frederick was deeply disappointed that the United States War Department prevented African Americans from serving in the military and was encouraged in 1863 by the Emancipation Proclamation, which allowed African Americans to fight as soldiers, in the Army, for their freedom.

Frederick soon traveled to D.C. and was invited to a mutually respectful meeting with President Abraham Lincoln at the White House, where he was initially critical but learned to embrace Lincoln as the only president that respected the rights of black people.

Determined to help his people become free, Frederick convinced crowds of young black men to join the fight, famously stating, "He who would be free themselves must strike the blow!"

By the war's end, African Americans comprised 10 percent of the Union's fighting force, helping to end the war.

Frederick Douglas' remarkable intelligence and leadership challenged beliefs about the inherent superiority of one race over another. Frederick Douglas always remembered his goal to achieve freedom and equality for all and insisted that the Civil War was about the struggle of a nation to live up to its creed of all being created equal.

His legacy continues to inspire generations to come.

## Garden longer with less muscle strain & fatigue



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
MELINDA  
MYERS

Keep gardening longer with less muscle strain and fatigue with these pain-free gardening techniques. You'll not only keep your garden looking its best but also make it a more enjoyable experience.

Keep tools handy to reduce the number of trips from the garden back to your garage or shed. A garden tool bag or bucket with a wrap-around tool organizer works well for small hand tools. Purchase a mobile garden tool caddy or convert a discarded wheeled golf bag, shopping cart, or wheeled trash bin into a tool caddy for long-handled tools. These make it easier to keep them handy as you move from garden to garden.

Store small tools right in the garden. Install an old mailbox in your garden filled with your favorite small hand tools and gloves. Then add a little paint or cover it with a mailbox planter or vine to make it an attractive and functional part of your landscape.

Keep tools clean and sharp. Regular maintenance will extend their life and improve their efficiency. It can also help reduce the risk of spreading disease.

Invest in ergonomic tools when replacement or new tools are needed. They have



Melinda Myers

**Kneelers with built-in handles make moving up and down easier, protect joints and allow you to garden longer.**

larger and softer handles for easier, less stressful gripping. Many are designed for the proper positioning of your body to reduce joint stress and fatigue. Longer handles extend your reach and help you retain good posture. Consider purchasing ratchet-type pruners designed to give you more cutting power with less effort.

Use wagons, carts, or old snow saucer-type sleds for moving heavy items to the garden. You'll need to make fewer trips, reduce muscle strain, and save energy when moving mulch, potted plants, and other items.

Divide heavy loads into smaller increments. You may need to make more trips, but it will be easier on your back and knees.

## Ice fishing closes on Wallum Lake Feb. 28

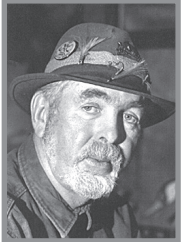


Courtesy

**This week's picture shows Cody & Ethan Cugina with their mom fishing at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club this past Sunday.**

This past weekend provided young and old the opportunity to enjoy the spring-like weather that has continued for many days now, and not many people are complaining except the snow lovers and ice fishermen and women. As promised last week, this writer actually brought my boat up front, from the back yard's winter storage this past Sunday, and if that does not bring in a major snowstorm, nothing will!

Ice fishing continued in the northern parts of Maine last week with a good eight to 10 inches of ice, but it also had a few inches of slush on the top, making walking a bit tough and snowmobiles and all terrain vehicles also were having a hard time navigating through the icy mess. It was not pretty for anyone fishing under those



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
RALPH  
TRUE



Courtesy

**This week's Second picture shows Easton Weed with his first trout of the season at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club this past Sunday.**

conditions. John Meager, Sr. sent along a picture on Facebook this past weekend, while he was fishing a lake near his camp in Maine.

Anglers are reminded that all fishing on Wallum Lake closes on Feb. 28 this year. Rhode Island regulations apply to Wallum Lake. Hopefully, they will stock some trout there this year(?) Anglers from both Massachusetts & Rhode Island can fish the lake with a fishing license from either state. Rhode Island was already stocking trout a couple of weeks ago because of the mild winter, but did not stock any trout into Wallum.

So, you bought a new crossbow in the last couple of years, that you just had to have. It was slimed down, shot a faster arrow, and was

the latest thing on the market. You better get ready for sticker shock when you bring it in for a set of new strings. I am told by Jerry at Jerry's Bait & Tackle & Pro shop, that bows like Raven R500 and Tenpoint Nitro, to mention a couple, have three strings on them that when they need to be replaced, will cost \$150 each, and that does not include labor? Yikes! Do not tell your wife about this latest news!

This year's Mass. deer hunters harvested another record, with a preliminary harvest of 15,853 for 2022. The harvest figures for all seasons were as follows: Youth deer hunt day 114, Paraplegic hunt 7, Archery season 6, 543, Shotgun season 5,823, Primitive arms season 3,366! The archers did it again, and beat out the shotgunners in total deer harvested for 2022.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!







# SPORTS



Nick Ethier

Bartlett's Colby Williams-Phelan fires off a pass down the court.



Nick Ethier

Ethan Minarik of Bartlett soars past a Nipmuc defender and goes in for a left-handed layup.



Nick Ethier

Bartlett's Caiden Steeves eyes the basket before attempting a 3-pointer, as Nipmuc's Brayden Kelly tries to block the shot.

## Bartlett, striving for State Tournament berth, finds identity in win over Nipmuc

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — The Bartlett High boys' varsity basketball team has been battling the .500 barrier all season long. The Indians won a game and followed it up with a loss in their first eight contests. Bartlett then lost two more to drop to 4-6 before embarking on a three-game winning streak. Two more losses put the Indians at 7-8 as they hosted Nipmuc Regional in a Saturday matinee played on Feb. 11.

And, according to head coach Alex Hetherman, Bartlett found its identity in a 74-65 victory over the Warriors.

"I thought today was a big step. We found out a lot of things today about ourselves. We had a lot of young guys

step up. We shared the ball, played like a team and found out our identity today," said Hetherman. "That was a big win for us."

Senior combo guard Ethan Minarik, a recent addition into the 1,000-point club, got his with a game-high 27 points to go with 8 rebounds — and more on him later — but the Indians' complementary cast was exceptional versus Nipmuc. Leading that charge was guard Caiden Steeves, who was making his second consecutive start. Steeves made five 3-pointers and finished with 19 points.

"We had a freshman step up, Caiden Steeves. He played his heart out today," said Hetherman. "He hit big shots, he didn't turn the ball over."

Steeves began the season playing two

quarters of junior varsity ball a game and then joining the varsity squad for limited minutes. Now, he could be a force to be reckoned with.

"He's kind of coming along on the scene," said Hetherman of Steeves.

Another guard, senior Jessiah Medina, scored 10 points on a pair of 3-pointers and a pair of baskets from the inside the arc.

But the Warriors had an interior presence in the form of James McKinney and Alexander Vanasse, both at least 6-foot-5, and Bartlett junior Ayden Carlson and sophomore Kole Sebastianski stepped up to the challenge. The duo combined for 14 points (Carlson had 10) and 17 rebounds (Carlson pulled down 9), but they also held McKinney and Vanasse

in check. McKinney finished with 27 points and 8 rebounds, but he worked for every basket he made. Vanasse had just 3 points and 3 rebounds.

"We're undersized. Ayden Carlson and Kole Sebastianski are 6-foot-1 on a good day, and they were physical in the post. They were boxing out and didn't shy away," said Hetherman.

Minarik hit four 3-pointers, one in each quarter, but his play at the basket was exceptional. He routinely beat Nipmuc defenders off the dribble and finished layups with either hand.

"He's not afraid to go into the giants. He doesn't shy away from contact and took the ball to the hole," Hetherman said. "He did great inside the arc. He controls his body very well in the air."

The effort from every Indian on the court gave Bartlett the win over the Warriors (9-7), as they improved to an even 8-8.

## Brooks helps Rams to Senior Night win over Oakmont *Shepherd Hill has earned top seed in upcoming Clark Tournament*



Nick Ethier

Shepherd Hill's Ryan Brooks elevates to shoot up and over the Oakmont double-team provided by Sam Curtis (1) and Brandon Hulecki.

By Dean P. St. Laurent  
Sports Correspondent

DUDLEY — Senior Night was one to remember for the Shepherd Hill Regional boys' varsity basketball team on Friday, Feb. 10. Oakmont Regional, who lost to the Rams earlier in the year, brought a different energy which resulted in a neck-and-neck, low scoring affair. The score was tied at 39- apiece with under three minutes to play and that is when Shepherd Hill senior forward Ryan Brooks showed why he is one of the best players in the area.

"Ryan Brooks, there are not many players like him in Central Mass. right now and there are not many players like him in the history of Shepherd Hill basketball," praised head coach Michael Rapoza, one of The Hill's best in his own right. "One of the all-time greats here and he showed it in the fourth quarter; he made a lot of tough shots, and he carried us defensively at times. I couldn't be any happier for him."

Brooks scored the go-ahead bucket a couple of ticks under three minutes remaining and also made an emphatic block to get his team going on Oakmont's next possession. The senior capped his scoring display with a tough finish with 33 seconds left in

the game to give the Ram a four-point cushion. Oakmont countered to cut it to two on their next possession, but the Spartans were forced to foul and junior Zachary Wennerberg iced the game with two free throws to give Shepherd Hill a hard-fought 45-41 win.

Brooks scored 10 straight points for the Rams in the fourth and finished with a game-high 24 points, but despite his brilliant performance, the win was a testament to the team as a whole. Shepherd Hill's sparkling 17-1 record doesn't happen because of one player; it is due to a group being dialed in that is led by a great group of senior leadership.

"Just looking at what this senior class has accomplished over the last two years, 36 wins at this point," Rapoza expressed about his five seniors. "Two league championships, a combined record to this point of 36-5. It is really impressive, they're a group of guys who bought into what we are trying to do. I am just really happy they got another win tonight."

Shepherd Hill relied on a couple of runs in the second and fourth quarters to stay in the game and give themselves the chance to pull it out the win late. It wasn't a smooth offensive game for the Rams, but it was the little things



Nick Ethier

Nicholas Veronis of Shepherd Hill slashes through the Oakmont defense and toward the basket for a layup.



Nick Ethier

Shepherd Hill's Luke Poirier bounces a pass into the interior and to teammate Ryan Brooks.

that helped them.

"We knew it wasn't going to be 32 minutes where we were just going to cruise through," Rapoza stated. "It is just answering adversity, re-engaging defensively, and locking in. Turning some defense into offense, which I thought we did a good job especially when the offense started to struggle."

The Rams finished the regular season strong, but their eyes are set on future goals.

"We didn't come in to go 17-1 and be done," Rapoza expressed. "Our goal is to win a Clark championship, goal is to go win a state cham-

pionship and every day we just have to get a little bit better."

The Rams have earned the top seed in the Clark Tournament Large Schools bracket, where they will take on No. 8 Uxbridge High on Saturday, Feb. 18. That game will take place at Grafton High at 6:45 p.m. Potential semifinal (Monday, Feb. 20) and final (Saturday, Feb. 25) contests would be played at Clark University at 7:45 p.m.

Shepherd Hill would then play in the Division 2 State Tournament. As of press time the Rams are ranked No. 4 in the state.

## Webster Little League Baseball Registration Now Open

Webster Little League 2023 Spring Baseball Registration is now open online at [WebsterLittleLeague.com](http://WebsterLittleLeague.com) for boys and girls ages 5-16 (age on Aug. 31). Sign up now for early bird discounts. Multiplayer discounts offered as well. Final day to register is Feb. 28.

Find us on Facebook at Webster Little League and online at [www.WebsterLittleLeague.com](http://www.WebsterLittleLeague.com). Don't forget to sign up for coaching and volunteer opportunities when registering — Especially Tee-Ball and Coach-Pitch parents!

Webster Little League Baseball is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Any questions, please email [websterlittleleague@gmail.com](mailto:websterlittleleague@gmail.com).







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<sup>1</sup>DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 2/28/2023. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get 10% off your entire purchase and 18 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 1/29/2023 and 2/28/2023. Additional \$250 off each window and \$500 off each entry/patio door when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 1/29/2023 and 2/28/2023. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of their respective owners. ©2023 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2023 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. <sup>1</sup>It is the only warranty among top selling window companies that meets all of the following requirements: easy to understand terms, unrestricted transferability, installation coverage, labor coverage, geographically unrestricted, coverage for exterior color, insect screens and hardware, and no maintenance requirement. Visit [renewalbyandersen.com/nationsbest](https://renewalbyandersen.com/nationsbest) for details.



# SPORTS

## Auburn carries recent momentum into another win, this time over Wolverines



Nick Ethier

Auburn's Zeb Baffour breaks away from two Leicester defenders on his way to the basket.



Nick Ethier

Jordan McFadden of Auburn slices through the lane before taking a layup against Leicester.



Nick Ethier

Auburn's Jackson Bolduc sees teammate Malcolm Mason down the court and prepares to fire a pass off his way.

**BY NICK ETHIER**  
*SPORTS EDITOR*

LEICESTER — Sometimes, all it takes is one certain victory to galvanize a group and elevate them into a newer, higher level of play. That recently happened to the Auburn High boys' varsity basketball team who, on Wednesday, Feb. 1 were 4-7 and hosting Grafton High, who were 11-2 at the time.

The Rockets won a 68-65 decision over the Gators. Since then, Auburn has defeated the Advanced Math and Science Academy (72-51 on Monday, Feb. 6) and Leicester High (65-44 on Thursday, Feb. 9), the latter at the old Becker College/new Leicester High gymnasium.

"We've had a little bit of success, so we've

been trying to build off of that," Auburn head coach Dan Koen said of the recent string of wins. "Now that we're 7-7, we hope to keep that going forward. I think the kids are starting to believe, I think they're starting to get a little bit of confidence as we move forward."

"Grafton was a big game coming into it. A lot of people said that we weren't supposed to win, so we came together as a group and got the win," added sophomore Jordan McFadden.

The win against the Wolverines came on Leicester's Senior Night in front of a raucous crowd.

"Any time we can win, we'll take it, especially against a well-coached team like Leicester.

Especially on their Senior Night in a hostile environment," said Koen.

McFadden was a catalyst for the Rockets. He netted six points in the first quarter and another eight in the second as Auburn grabbed a 30-18 halftime lead. But McFadden's play rose even more in the second half to put the game away. He scored 11 points in the third quarter and seven more in the fourth for a game-high total of 32 points.

"He's definitely someone we rely upon to score," said Koen. "He has that quick first step."

That first step helped McFadden get to the basket, where he wasn't making as many layups as he should have over the first two quarters.

"Coach actually told me to go off two feet

because I was missing layups. Coming off two feet really does help," said McFadden, who made six shots from the interior in the second half.

Leicester was always a possession or two away from making a game of it, which has routinely happened to the Wolverines over the course of this season.

"It's the things that have plagued us all season. It's shot making and free throws, small little two-minute stretches where we let it go from 8 to 14 that we can't get back," explained Leicester head coach Mike Lynch, whose team dropped to 0-16.

The Wolverines were 2-for-9 from the foul line, but Lynch was proud of the way his team battled against Auburn.

"I thought we played well tonight. Defensively,

we executed a lot of what we tried to do with Jordan (McFadden). We talked a ton about rallying to the ball. I thought we did that for a good chunk of the game," said Lynch.

In addition to McFadden, Rockets' senior Zeb Baffour had himself a game with double-double totals of 14 points and 10 rebounds. Baffour is a hybrid type player that can play point guard while also guarding bigger forwards.

"With Zeb's improvement, I think Zeb is probably the most important piece that's helped us moving forward," Koen said. "He's so versatile."

Auburn has hopes to carry its momentum into a winning season, which would automatically qualify them into the Division 3 State Tournament.

"That's the goal, and to hopefully make some noise. We'll play anybody anywhere, as long as the season keeps going," said Koen.

The Rockets continued their momentum with a 43-41 nail-biting victory at Worcester Tech on Saturday, Feb. 11, improving to 8-7 in the process.

Leicester, meanwhile, is building toward the future while trying to finish this season with some momentum.

"We're trying to get better and finish the season strong. We want our seniors going out the right way and we want the underclassmen building their expectation for next year," said Lynch.

Senior Sam Witkowski led the Wolverines with 10 points.

# LEGALS

### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 52 Barbara Avenue, Auburn, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Sean Collins to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, as nominee for Paramount Residential Mortgage Group, Inc. its successors and assigns and now held by AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC, said mortgage dated October 17, 2019, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61250, Page 72, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated April 14, 2022, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 67438, Page 174, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated June 8, 2022, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 67722, Page 269, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on March 3, 2023 at 10:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: The land in Auburn, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the north westerly sideline of Barbara Avenue, at the most southerly corner of the lot to be described, said point being N. 55° 50' 17" E., and 382.56 feet from a point of curvature in said sideline; THENCE N. 34° 09' 43" W., along land now or formerly of J.E. Murray, Inc., for a distance of 100.00 feet to a point; THENCE N. 55° 50' 17" E., along land now or formerly of J.E. Murray, Inc., for a distance of 100 feet to a point; THENCE S. 34° 09' 43" E., along land now or formerly of J.E. Murray, Inc., For a distance of 100.00 feet to a point; THENCE S. 55° 50' 17" W., along the northwesterly sideline of Barbara Avenue, for a distance of 100.00 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 10,000 square feet. Being Lot 33 on a plan by Cullinan Engineering Co., Inc., dated August 3, 1972, J.E. Murray, Inc., owner filed in Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 375, Plan 78. BEING the same premises conveyed to the mortgagor(s) by deed dated October 8, 2019 and recorded at the Worcester Registry of Deeds in Book 61250, Page 70.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated October 8, 2019, and recorded in Book 61250, Page 70 with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Marinosci Law Group, P.C.  
275 West Natick Road, Suite 500  
Warwick, RI 02886  
Attorney for AmeriHome Mortgage Company, LLC  
Present Holder of the Mortgage  
Telephone: (401) 234-9200  
MLG File No.: 22-05641  
February 10, 2023  
February 17, 2023  
February 24, 2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts**  
**The Trial Court**  
**Probate and Family Court**  
**Worcester Probate and Family Court**  
**225 Main Street**  
**Worcester, MA 01608**  
**(508) 831-2200**  
**Docket No. WO23C00040A**  
**CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**  
**In the matter of:**  
**Kathleen Teresa Tarkiainen**  
**A Petition to Change Name of Adult**  
has been filed by **Kathleen Teresa Tarkiainen of North Oxford MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:  
**Kathleen Williamson Tarkiainen**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
**Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/28/2023. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.**  
**WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.**  
Date: January 27, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate  
February 17, 2023

### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Matthew J. Bonney and Sheryl A. Bonney, to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for H&R Block Mortgage, dated June 30, 2004, and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 34045, Page 8, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder by assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., to Bank of America, N.A., Successor by Merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP, f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP, dated June 28, 2012, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 49271, Page 345; by assignment from Bank of America, N.A., Successor by Merger to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP, f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing LP to Nationstar Mortgage LLC, dated May 21, 2014, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 52556, Page 210; by assignment from Nationstar Mortgage LLC, to MTGLQ Investors, L.P., dated January 5, 2017, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 56662, Page 27; and by an assignment from MTGLQ Investors, L.P., to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Chalet Series IV Trust, dated August 26, 2019, recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61191, Page 268, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 A.M. on the 10th day of March 2023, at 10 Sullivan Boulevard, Oxford, MA 01540, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, To wit: Property Address: 10 Sullivan Boulevard, Oxford, MA 01540 Tax Assessor's Information: 48 C 01.14

The land in Oxford on the westerly side of Sullivan Boulevard, so called, and shown as Lot 11 on a Plan of Land in Oxford, Massachusetts owned by John D. Sullivan and Margaret A. Sullivan, dated April 3, 1989 and recorded in Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 621, Plan 113, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point at the northeast corner of tract herein described on the westerly sideline of Sullivan Boulevard, at the southeast corner of Lot #10; THENCE: south 02 degrees 41' 48" west along the westerly sideline of said Sullivan Boulevard a distance of twelve and twenty-eight hundredths (12.28) feet to a point;

THENCE: running southerly along the westerly sideline of said Sullivan Boulevard on a curve to the right having a radius of 375.00 feet and a length of 143.99 feet to a point; THENCE: north 76 degrees 49' 25" west along Lot #12 a distance of two hundred fifty-one and ninety hundredths (251.90) feet to a point; THENCE: north 02 degrees 41' 48" east along land now or lately of one Germain, a distance of one hundred fifty-seven and no hundredths (157.00) feet to a point; THENCE: south 76 degrees 59' 11" east along said Lot 10 a distance of two hundred and seventy nine and fifty-two hundredths (279.52) feet to a point; The above described tract contains an area of 41,958 square feet. For our title reference see that deed of Steve Campbell and Nancy Campbell to Nancy A. Campbell, Individually, dated August 19, 1996, and recorded with the Oxford, Worcester (S) County Registry of Deeds on at Book 18192, Page 128.

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

Terms of sale: A deposit of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Demerle Hoeger LLP, 10 City Square, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Boston, MA 02129 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Chalet Series IV Trust,  
Present holder of said mortgage,  
By its Attorneys,  
Demerle Hoeger LLP  
10 City Square, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Boston, MA 02129  
(617) 337-4444

February 17, 2023  
February 24, 2023  
March 3, 2023



LEGALS

CARE AND PROTECTION, TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS, SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION, DOCKET NUMBER: 21CP0360DU, Trial Court of Massachusetts Juvenile Court Department, COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS, Worcester County Juvenile Court, 279 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571 **TO: Father of Ellieannie Nichole Soto:** A petition has been presented to this court by DCF (Whitinsville), seeking, as to the following child, **Ellieannie N Soto** that said child be found in need of care and protection and committed to the Department of Children and Families. The court may dispense the rights of the person(s) named herein to receive notice of or to consent to any legal proceeding affecting the adoption, custody, or guardianship or any other disposition of the child named herein, if it finds that the child is in need of care and protection and that the best interests of the child would be served by said disposition. You are hereby ORDERED to appear in this court, at the court address set forth above, on the following date and time: **03/31/2023 at 09:30 AM Pre Trial Conference (CR/CV)** You may bring an attorney with you. If you have a right to an attorney and if the court determines that you are indigent, the court will appoint an attorney to represent you. **If you fail to appear, the court may proceed on that date and any date thereafter with a trial on the merits of the petition and an adjudication of this matter.** For further information call the Office of the Clerk-Magistrate at 508-949-3070. WITNESS: Hon. Carol A. Erskine, FIRST JUSTICE, Brendan J. Moran, Clerk-Magistrate, DATE ISSUED: 01/20/2023 February 3, 2023 February 10, 2023 February 17, 2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO23P0408EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Rory B. Duquette  
Date of Death: 12/06/2022**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will** has been filed by **Susan E. Duquette of Webster MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Susan E. Duquette of Webster MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/28/2023.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 07, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate February 17, 2023

**LEGAL NOTICE  
MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**  
By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Gloria E. Van Van to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, acting solely as a nominee for Mid-Island Mortgage Corp., dated August 28, 2009 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 44801, Page 64 (the

"Mortgage") of which mortgage AJAX Mortgage Trust I, a Delaware Trust, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Trustee is the present holder by Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Mid-Island Mortgage Corp., its successor and assigns to Mid-Island Mortgage Corporation dated March 19, 2012 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 48707, Page 41, and Assignment from Mid-Island Mortgage Corporation to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development dated May 21, 2012 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 49402, Page 310, and Assignment from Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC dated June 11, 2012 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 49402, Page 313, and Assignment from Bayview Loan Servicing, LLC to Bayview Dispositions IIIA, LLC dated March 18, 2019 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 60179, Page 349, and Assignment from Bayview Dispositions IIIA, LLC to AJAX Mortgage Trust I, a Delaware Trust, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Trustee dated March 18, 2019 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 60179, Page 351, and Assignment from AJAX Mortgage Trust I, a Delaware Trust, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Trustee to Ajax Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-C, Mortgage-Backed Securities, Series 2019-C, by U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee dated July 18, 2019 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 60745, Page 182, and Corrective Assignment from AJAX Mortgage Trust I, a Delaware Trust, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Trustee to U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee on Behalf of and with respect to Ajax Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-C, Mortgage-Backed Securities, Series 2019-C dated March 17, 2020 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 62095, Page 122, and Assignment from U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee on Behalf of and with respects to Ajax Mortgage Loan Trust 2019-C, Mortgage-Backed Securities, Series 2019-C to AJAX Mortgage Trust I, a Delaware Trust, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Trustee dated July 20, 2022 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 67939, Page 88, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 60 Granite Street, Webster, MA 01570 will be sold at a Public Auction at 12:00 PM on March 2, 2023, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain tract or parcel of land with the buildings thereon situated in the town of Webster, Worcester County, Massachusetts and being located at the intersection of the Easterly side of granite Street and the Northerly side of Oak Street and further bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point at the Southwest corner of premises to be conveyed being, the intersection of Oak Street and Granite Street and running THENCE Northerly by the Easterly side of Granite Street 122.5 feet to a point at land of one Tremblay; THENCE South 75° 20' East 62.9 feet to a point at land of one Murawski; THENCE South 7° 04' West by land or said Mirawski 98.7 feet to a point at the Northerly line of Oak Street; THENCE Westerly by the Northerly line of Oak Street 92.75 feet to point of beginning. For title, see Deed recorded in Book 43430, Page 273.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 43430, Page 273.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

graphical error in this publication. Other terms to be announced at the sale. AJAX Mortgage Trust I, a Delaware Trust, Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, Trustee Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Van Van, Gloria E., 20-037588 February 3, 2023 February 10, 2023 February 17, 2023

**LEGAL NOTICE  
MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Shawn W. Cierpich to JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A., dated February 3, 2006 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38497, Page 289 (the "Mortgage"), as affected by a Loan Modification Agreement dated August 28, 2012, and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 50089, Page 62 of which mortgage US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust is the present holder by Assignment from JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage LLC dated February 10, 2015 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 53443, Page 107, and Assignment from Nationstar Mortgage LLC to Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. dated November 19, 2019 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 61450, Page 81, and Assignment from Select Portfolio Servicing, Inc. to US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust dated March 22, 2022 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 67505, Page 389, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 180 Ramshorn Road, Dudley, MA 01571 will be sold at a Public Auction at 3:00 PM on March 8, 2023, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: The land situated in Dudley, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

LOT #4 BEGINNING at an iron pin at the northwest corner of tract herein described on the Easterly side-line of the 1936 Worcester County Highway layout of Ramshorn Road at the Southwest corner of Lot #3; THENCE S 70° 15 minutes 20 seconds E along said Lot 3 a distance of one hundred one and ten hundredths (101.10) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 87° 38 minutes 47 seconds E along said Lot 3 a distance of two hundred fifty and no hundredths (250.00) feet to a drill hole in a stonewall; THENCE S 14° 34 minutes 09 seconds E along a stonewall and land of Charles J. and Annabelle Moninski, now or formerly, a distance of five hundred forty-nine and fifty-seven hundredths (549.57) feet to a point in said stonewall; THENCE S 15° 43 minutes 48 seconds W along a stonewall and said Moninski land a distance of one hundred and ninety-seven hundredths (100.97) feet to an iron pipe in a corner of walls; THENCE S 79° 09 minutes 14 seconds W mostly along a stonewall and said Cierpich land a distance of two hundred forty-nine and seventy-four hundredths (149.74) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE S 78° 14 minutes 58 seconds W mostly along a stonewall and said Cierpich land a distance of two hundred forty-one and forty-one hundredths (241.41) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 17° 20 minutes 48 seconds W along said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred sixty and nineteen hundredths (160.19) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 12° 09 minutes 48 seconds W along said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred eighty-three and thirty-five hundredths (183.35) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 23° 50 minutes 04 seconds W along said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred forty-four and three hundredths (144.03) feet to an iron pipe; THENCE N 83° 25 minutes 32 seconds W along said Cierpich land a distance of one hundred fifty-six and forty-nine hundredths (156.49) feet to a point; THENCE N 26° 52 minutes 29 seconds E along said Cierpich land a distance of sixty and forty-one hundredths (60.41) feet to an iron pipe on the easterly side-line of Ramsborn, Road; THENCE running northerly along the easterly side-line and said Ramshorn Road on a curve to the left having a radius of 530.00 feet and a length of 245.23 feet to the point of beginning. The above described tract contains an area of 6.5734 acres.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County

(Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 23002, Page 127.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

US Bank Trust National Association, Not In Its Individual Capacity But Solely As Owner Trustee For VRMTG Asset Trust Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Cierpich, Shawn W., 16-027448 February 10, 2023 February 17, 2023 February 24, 2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Docket No. WO22P3750GD  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304  
In the matter of:  
Jacob M. Burnside  
Of: Webster, MA  
RESPONDENT**

Alleged Incapacitated Person  
To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Department of Developmental Serv of Worcester, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Jacob M. Burnside** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Lynette Burnside of Webster, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. **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 **03/07/2023** 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: February 03, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate February 17, 2023

**For Legal Advertising Information  
Call 508-909-4127  
email:  
legals@stonebridgepress.news**



LEGALS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

Docket No. 23 SM 000563  
ORDER OF NOTICE  
TO:  
Roland E. Savageau  
Irene A. Savageau  
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. C. 50 §3901 (et seq):  
**Bank of New York Mellon Trust Company, N.A. as Trustee for Mortgage Assets Management Series I Trust** claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in **Oxford, numbered 19 Millbury Road**, given by **Roland E. Savageau and Irene A. Savageau to Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation, a Subsidiary of Indy Mac Bank, F.S.B.**, dated **May 8, 2006**, and recorded in **Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38950, Page 272**, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.  
If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **03/27/23** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act.  
Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on **02/7/23**.  
Attest: Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder  
February 17, 2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO23P0314EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Teresa M Lipnickas  
Date of Death: 08/17/2016**  
To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Kathleen M. Smith of Oxford MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: **Kathleen M. Smith of Oxford MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/07/2023**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.  
**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Kearny, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: February 02, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
February 17, 2023

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING  
TOWN OF DUDLEY WATER SEWER COMMISSIONERS**  
The Board of Water and Sewer Commissioners will be holding a Public Hearing on Wednesday March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, at 6:30pm in Room 315 at the Dudley Town Hall, 71 West Main Street, Dudley MA 01571 to discuss the following:  
Increase of Water and Sewer rates  
Scott Zajkowski, Chairman  
February 17, 2023  
February 24, 2023

**NOTICE OF SALE**  
Pursuant to Mass General Laws Chapter 105A, the contents of the following spaces: D20 & D21 (Diane Wylie) located at 144 Schofield Avenue, Dudley, MA will be sold to satisfy the owners lien of Storage Plus. Sale date is Wednesday, March 1, 2023 @3:30 PM. Inspection between 3:00PM and 3:30PM on March 1, 2023. Sealed bids must be hand delivered by 3:30PM on March 1, 2023. All goods must be purchased by cash as is, including a \$50.00 refundable cash deposit, and must be removed within 48 hours of sale. Owner has the right to bid to protect his lien and to withdraw any unit upon settlement by the obligated party up for sale. For further information call (508)949-8818.  
February 17, 2023  
February 24, 2023

**DUDLEY PLANNING BOARD  
PUBLIC HEARING LEGAL NOTICE  
RE-ADVERTISED**  
In accordance with the provisions of Section 5.04, Site Plan Review, of the Dudley Zoning Bylaw, the Dudley Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, March 8, 2023, at 7:15 pm in the Dudley Municipal Complex, Room 321-A (DMC, Veterans Memorial Hall), 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571, on the application of DMA Holdings MA, LLC, for modification of a previously approved Site Plan at 35-37 Chase Avenue. The property owner is Verde Organica, LLC, 16 Village Street, Dudley, MA. The applicant previously received a special permit for an adult use marijuana establishment, including retail sales, manufacturing, and cultivation. The applicant proposes to modify the current site plan by adding a new utility pad to accommodate the manufacturing component. The site plan was prepared by Dillis & Roy, 1 Main Street, Lunenburg, MA 01462. The site is in an IND 43 district and the Mill Conversion Overlay District. The property is listed as Assessors Map 118, Parcel 37. Copies of the plan and application are on file in the Planning Board Office and the Town Clerk's Office, both of which are located in the Dudley Municipal Complex, 71 West Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571, and may be inspected during regular working hours. The Planning Board will receive public input at the public hearing. Any person interested or wishing to be heard on the proposed plan, should appear at the time and place designated. If you wish to comment but are unable to attend, please submit either an email to [planner1@dudleyma.gov](mailto:planner1@dudleyma.gov), or written comments to the Planning Board Office at 71 West Main Street, Dudley MA 01571, before 4:30 p.m. on March 7, 2023.  
**Guy Horne, Chairman  
Dudley Planning Board**  
February 17, 2023  
February 24, 2023

**MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE**  
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Thomas J. McGee to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Drew Mortgage Associates, Inc., its successors and assigns, dated April 2, 2008 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 42660, Page 73, subsequently assigned to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Drew Mortgage Associates, Inc., its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 53257, Page 345, subsequently assigned to Specialized Loan Servicing, LLC by JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 56832, Page 56, subsequently assigned to Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Trustee for the benefit of the Freddie Mac Seasoned Loans Structured Transaction Trust, Series 2019-1 by Specialized Loan Servicing LLC by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 61723, Page 43 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on February 24, 2023 at 14 Clarence Street, Oxford, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:  
A certain parcel of land located in a subdivision entitled, "Corey Estates". Said parcel being shown as Lot 6R on a plan entitled "Plan of Land Showing Revised Lots 2-8 in Oxford, Massachusetts Owned by Dennis M. Corey, Sr." dated June 17, 1993 and record-

ed in the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 673, Plan 108 and bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the southeasterly corner of the lot to be conveyed at a point on Clarence Drive; THENCE along a curve to the left with a radius of 278.10 feet a distance of 8.88 feet; THENCE proceeding west along a curve to the left with a radius of 825.00 feet a distance of 116.12 feet to a point; THENCE N. 48° 34' 32" W. a distance of 323.69 feet to a point; THENCE N. 6° 23' 41" E. a distance of 57.11 feet to a point; THENCE N. 86° 53' 29" E. a distance of 171.49 feet to a point; THENCE S. 38° 40' 51" E. a distance of 247.45 feet to the point of beginning. RESERVING a drainage easement on the easterly border of the property as described above as is further shown on the plan referred to above. The area of the easement may not be distributed or otherwise altered in any manner that would prevent the flowage of surface water. Further reserving the right to pass and repass over the easement area for maintenance of said easement. BEING the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagor by deed dated March 19, 1996 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 17757, Page 164.  
The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs.  
**TERMS OF SALE:**  
A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.  
Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.  
Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as Trustee for the benefit of the Freddie Mac Seasoned Loans Structured Transaction Trust, Series 2019-1 Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, ORLANDS PC PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 20-003670  
February 3, 2023  
February 10, 2023  
February 17, 2023

**NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE**  
Premises: 8 Freeman Avenue, Webster, MA 01570  
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Michael A. Porter and Christina Thompson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Superior Home Mortgage, and now held by **Bank of America, N.A.**, said mortgage dated October 15, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41965, Page 49, As affected by Judgment Order dated December 11, 2018, and recorded with said Registry in Book 60190, Page 95, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. to Bank of America, N.A. by assignment dated February 27, 2012 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 48631, Page 279; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on March 16, 2023 at 11:00 AM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:  
*The land in Webster, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and bounded and described as follows: The land together with the buildings thereon in said Webster, at Lakeside, so-called, on Lake Chaubunagungamaug, and being known and designated at Lot No. 100*

*on Plan of Lots of Lakeside, Webster, Massachusetts, dated December 1, 1925, drawn by J. R. Kleindienst, Surveyor and recorded in Plan Book 164, Plan 1, said lot being situated on Lakeside Avenue and Freeman Avenue, and also designated on said Plan recorded in Plan Book 149, Plan 44 bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at an iron pin at the northwesterly corner of the premises herein conveyed and at corner of Freeman Avenue and Lakeside Avenue; THENCE southerly by the easterly side of said Freeman Avenue fifty (50) feet to a point at Lot No. 99 on said Plan; THENCE easterly by Lot No. 99 one hundred (100) feet to Lot No. 101 on said Plan; THENCE northerly by Lot No. 101 fifty (50) feet to the south side of Lakeside Avenue; THENCE west one hundred (100) feet by the south side of said Lakeside to the point of beginning. The mortgagor(s) expressly reserve my/our rights of Homestead and do not wish to terminate my/our Homestead by granting the herein conveyance notwithstanding my/our waiver of such homestead in paragraph 24 of the within mortgage. However, the mortgagor(s) herein hereby expressly subordinate any and all such Homestead rights to the foregoing mortgage. The mortgagor(s) expressly reserve my/our rights of Homestead and do not wish to terminate my/our Homestead by granting the within conveyance notwithstanding my/our waiver of such homestead in paragraph 24 of the within mortgage. However, the mortgagor(s) herein hereby expressly subordinate any and all such Homestead rights to the foregoing mortgage. Meaning and intending to convey and hereby conveying the same premises conveyed to me/us by deed recorded with Worcester Registry of Deeds in Book 41965, Page 47.*  
The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.  
For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated October 15, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41965, Page 47.  
**TERMS OF SALE:** Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.  
FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.  
Other terms to be announced at the sale.  
Brock & Scott, PLLC  
1080 Main Street, Suite 200  
Pawtucket, RI 02860  
Attorney for Bank of America, N.A.  
Present Holder of the Mortgage  
(401) 217-8701  
February 3, 2023  
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# SPORTS



Nick Ethier

Oxford's Carly Cornacchioli gets fouled while attempting a shot versus David Prouty.



Nick Ethier

With Carly Cornacchioli calling for the ball, Alexis Steiger of Oxford sends a pass over a David Prouty defender.



Nick Ethier

Oxford's Sarah Arndt drives the ball toward the basket while on the fast break before finishing off a layup.

## Pirates top David Prouty in meeting of teams building toward future

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

OXFORD — Two teams with similar records hoping for improved futures met on Friday, Feb. 10 when the Oxford High girls' varsity basketball team hosted David Prouty Regional. The Pirates also had their Senior Night festivities before tipoff, which celebrated the final season for co-captains Carly Cornacchioli and Alexis Steiger.

"We were just in the locker room before the game, and Senior Night is always a special night. Tonight, I'm just trying to get them to channel that energy and yet still focus. It's emotional for everybody, but I think that we're up for it," Oxford head coach Joe Pietrzak said during warmups.

The Pirates were indeed up for it, as they raced out to a 17-6 lead following the initial eight-minute quarter. Oxford then led at the half, 28-15, and through three quarters, 36-18, before winning a 51-24 decision over the Panthers.

Cornacchioli had a monster game for the Panthers, scoring 22 points and grabbing 22 rebounds for a double-double. Steiger was plagued by foul trouble for much of the contest, but she still mustered 6 points and 6 rebounds.

Oxford, now 4-11, is hoping for a successful end of the season which could, in turn, lead to a promising year in 2023-2024.

"I think for our younger players, this last segment of the season is going to be a real chance to see how much they've grown," explained Pietrzak. "They're going to get more in terms of playing time, they're going to get more opportunities. If we can get a couple of W's down the stretch here, it just helps us build for next year."

The Pirates had regular season games this past week against Millbury High, North Brookfield High and Auburn High to conclude their 18-game slate. Oxford will then play in the Central

Mass. Athletic Directors Association Tournament where they are guaranteed two games, either in an eight-team bracket or in consolation matchups.

David Prouty, meanwhile, dropped to 2-13 as they also build toward the future. The Panthers have just two seniors, twin sisters Emily and Lindsey Soter.

"We have two seniors, one junior and all the other ones are underclassmen, so we're building," said head coach Kathy McCaffrey.

David Prouty played Southbridge

High, North Brookfield High and Leicester High this past week to finish off their 18 games, and then the Panthers will partake in the Rocket Classic Tournament, hosted by Auburn. Prouty will play the Rockets in the first round and will then square off with either Southbridge or Quaboag Regional in their final contest of the season.

McCaffrey is hoping that the team finds victories down the stretch, but the squad has shown positive reinforcement even in the defeats.

"Wins help...(but) even when we've lost, the younger ones, when they score a basket, they have a smile on their face from ear to ear," said McCaffrey. "We're hoping for some more girls to come out and play (next season). We're hoping to build the program and get excited for the future of basketball in Spencer."

Versus Oxford, Marianeliz Murillo led the Panthers with 10 points, while Lindsey Soter added 6 points and 10 rebounds.

## Mohegan Bowl winter leagues, week ending Feb. 12

Monday Men's Business  
Single — Ryan Pelletier 131, Jeff Therrien 124, John Guillotte 121  
Series — Jeff Therrien 348, Ryan Pelletier 343, Sandor Bosci 328  
Series over average — Josh Taft +40

Women's Ten Pin City  
Single — Division 1: Erika LaChance and Marie Piegorsch 184  
Division 2: Jessica Jacques

168  
Series — Division 1: Natalie Wood  
542  
Division 2: Marissa Mink 477



Shirley Smith 176  
Series — Division 1: Bob Hanville 644  
Division 2: Donald Altieri 522

Thursday Morning Coffee  
Single — Nancy Cutler and Donna Lewandowski 107, Priscilla Piekarczyk 103  
Series — Priscilla Piekarczyk 275, Lorraine Brezniak 274, Nancy Cutler 273  
Series over average — Nancy Cutler +45

Thursday Men's Industrial  
Single — Rick Gauvin 136, Ryan Pelletier 132, Jay Bernier 123  
Series — Rick Gauvin 353, Jay Bernier 348, Ryan Pelletier 342  
Series over average — Rick Gauvin +59

Thursday Mixed Tenpin  
Single — Frank Bosma 211, Zach Merchant 174, Chris Wong Kam 167  
Series — Frank Bosma 528, Chris Wong Kam 461, Todd Gaucher 446

Tuesday Chet's Social  
Single — DJ Devish 135, Ryan Pelletier 129, Tom Smith 124, Erin Van Dam 111, Kerry Welsh 99, Diane Levesque and Karen Dupuis 96  
Series — Ryan Pelletier 361, Tom Smith 360, DJ Devish and Matt Bergeron 343, Erin Van Dam 308, Kerry Welsh 264, Dawn Gleason and Diane Levesque 259  
Series over average — Tom Smith +39, Sandy Barrows +25

Wednesday Women's Industrial  
Single — Roberta Zacek and Monique Pierangeli 109, Marie McNally and Noelle Gorski 106  
Series — Monique Pierangeli 311, Roberta Zacek 294, Marie McNally 293  
Series over average — Roberta Zacek +33

Summit Tenpin  
Single — Division 1: Butch Mattson 248  
Division 2: Joe Harvard and



Courtesy

## STANDOUT STUDENTS

Dudley Middle School congratulates its Students of the Month. 5th Grade - Sofia Cabrera, Jasmine Hansen, Olivia Laskowski, & Abigail Frazier 6th Grade - Finley O'Shea, Dennis White, Amelia Donahue, & Emma Hopper; 7th Grade - Madison Boggio, Jiralisse Almanzar, & Mikhail Nemera; 8th Grade - Dom Ignatovich, Travis Breault, & Celia Ares.

## GARDENING

continued from page 9

When shoveling, be sure to stand upright and take small scoops. Remember to pivot your body rather than twisting when emptying the load. Switch sides and take frequent breaks to reduce the risk of muscle strain, and fatigue.

Protect your knees with kneelers or wrap-around kneepads. No matter your age or physical ability you will benefit now and in the future by protecting your joints when gardening. These gardening accessories also reduce the pain

and pressure on your joints. Kneelers with built-in handles make moving up and down easier, allowing you to garden longer.

Include a pair of safety glasses in your tool caddy. It is too easy to end up with a stick in the eye when pruning and working around trees and shrubs.

Take time to warm up before digging in. Gentle backbends and lunges are great ways to engage your muscles. Adjust your gardening activities to the weather. If it's cold, try waiting for the weather to warm. If you are stiff in the morning, try gardening a bit later in the day.

Garden for shorter periods and try

to take breaks every 15 to 20 minutes. Consider adding a few benches to the landscape to encourage you to sit, relax and enjoy your handiwork.

Wear gloves to protect your hands from cuts and bruises. Gloves also keep your hands warm and provide support as you dig, pluck and prune. Find a good-looking comfortable pair that you are likely to wear.

Protect your eyes and skin from sun damage. Wear a hat, sunglasses, and sunscreen. You'll avoid sunburns and protect your skin from long-term damage. Keep yourself hydrated by drinking plenty of water as you garden.

Including these strategies in your

gardening efforts can make gardening even more beneficial and enjoyable.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).





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**WEBSTER - 17 ASSELIN AVENUE**

**WOODSTOCK - 4 BARBER RD**  
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Circa 1800 Vintage 4 bedrooms. Renovations included kitchen & bath, refinished wood flooring, interior painting & more... Barn, large lot.  
**\$495,000**



**SORRY, SOLD**

**DOUGLAS - 7 MOUNT DANIELS WAY**

DOUGLAS - 7 Mount Daniels Way 1st TIME OFFERED! Custom 4 Bedroom Cape with inground Pool. Abutting Douglas State Forest. Stone fireplace. 1st floor bedroom. 2 Car Attached Garage! 2 ACRES! Located on a cul de sac road  
**\$545,000.**



**ON DEPOSIT**

**WEBSTER - 34 EMERALD AVENUE**

This gem is situated on a well maintained corner lot! Beautiful perennial gardens that bloom from spring through fall. The first floor is freshly painted. 2 bedrooms and living room have hardwood floors. 3rd bedroom is located on the second floor. A 4th bedroom or in home office space. Heat Hot Water Baseboard/Oil. Easy maintenance vinyl siding.  
**\$304,000.**

**LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD/PUTNAM**  
WEBSTER LAKE LAND - 22 SOUTH POINT RD Architectural Plans included! **\$315,000.**  
OXFORD - LAND - General Business Zoned! LAND with 4,095 SF Metal Building! 124 SOUTHBRIDGE RD (RTE 20). Town Sewer Project Plans are Approved. 22,884 sq. ft Level Lot. 140 ft of road frontage. **EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES!** **\$795,000**  
OXFORD - LAND - RTE 20 General Business Zoned! Vacant LAND. Level & cleared. 39,549 SF. **\$419,000.**  
PUTNAM - LAND Zoned General Business 29 acre 100' frontage. Water, Sewer, & city gas available 2 street entrances. **\$125,000**  
OXFORD - 2 Merriam Rd 80+/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. **ON DEPOSIT \$329,000**

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**\$785,000**

Webster Lake  
27 South Point Road



**SORRY, SOLD**

OOH! WHAT A VIEW!!! Middle & South Ponds! 80' +/- ft sandy beach! Expansion possibilities! 2 Bedrm, 2 1/2 Bath, Garage,  
**\$811,000.**

Webster Lake  
13 Bates Point Road



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1st Time Offered! Impeccable Home! 6 Room, 3 bedroom 2-1/2 Baths. Master bedroom, Master Bath! Level Lot to the Shoreline. Nicely Landscaped!  
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SUSPENSIONS

continued from page 1

crossing the line for those three days. People eating on the Oxford side will

ARREST

continued from page 1

able. No injuries or property damage were reported from the incident.

The suspect was held at the Dudley Police Department following his arrest. He facings a long list of charges including possession of a firearm with a license to carry, discharging a firearm within 500 feet of a building, assault with a dangerous weapon, threatening to commit a crime, disturbing the peace, disorderly conduct, assault on a family or household member, speeding, marked lane violations, failure to stop or yield violations, and reckless operation of a motor vehicle.

not be served, while those in Auburn will.

That quirk prompted Robert King to say he'd like to get an agreement with Auburn to prevent a similar situation going forward.

The board also granted two permits for expanded fuel storage for the new Cumberland Farms at Main and Fairlawn and for 10 Sterling Way. In both cases, Fire Chief Butch McDonald said the department had no objections, the new tanks will be double-walled and meet other modern standards; they will also need to meet DEP requirements.

LOGO

continued from page 1

ating this design was something that was original that spoke to our school's past but was also kind of brand new at the same time," said Roland. "I wanted to do my research to see what we

have had for our graphic design, our various logos for our sports teams or our show choirs and stuff to see what we've kind of made up in the past and give new life to it that speaks to the school and the district as a whole. That's why I wanted to add our signature

Speaking for Cumberland Farms, Tom Reidy said he didn't know when the project would commence, but it's normally a four-month process. He said the new store is being built on a lot combining those once holding Sunny Farms and a fish market.

A neighbor expressed some concerns about the property's fence needing improvement and said he was never notified of the Zoning and Planning Board public hearings.

Most of the rest of the meeting focused on repealing a long list of police-related policies from the 1970s through 2000. In

most cases, they've been superceded by state standards that are now codified in the department's own rules, Saad and Amy Frick said.

In some cases, King voted against repeal on the grounds that he felt keeping them on the books served as a good guide for what the board expects the department and manager to do. Tim Moriarty joined him on a couple, while others were repealed unanimously.

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BAIL COMMISSIONERS NEEDED

DUDLEY DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION

The Massachusetts Trial Court hereby gives notice of the availability of one or more Bail Commissioner appointments for the Dudley District Court located in Worcester County.

A Bail Commissioner is appointed by the Massachusetts Trial Court to make bail determinations and to release persons arrested when courts are closed (overnights, weekends and holidays.)

This is an appointment only. No salary or benefits are included but fees are collected from the person in custody at the time of release. The base fee is \$40.00.

Travel to the Dudley District Court and the cities and towns in the its jurisdiction is required: Charlton, Dudley, Oxford, Southbridge, Sturbridge and Webster. Proximity to all communities and familiarity with the criminal law and procedures is helpful.If you are interested in being considered for appointment please contact:

CATHERINE M. COUGHLIN, ESQUIRE  
STATE BAIL ADMINISTRATOR  
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE TRIAL COURT  
catherine.coughlin@jud.state.ma.us

The appointing authorities do not discriminate against any applicant because of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, status as a veteran, basis of disability or any other federal, state or local protected class.

PUBLIC NOTICE

BAIL COMMISSIONERS NEEDED

EAST BROOKFIELD DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION

The Massachusetts Trial Court hereby gives notice of the availability of one or more Bail Commissioner appointments for the East Brookfield District Court located in Worcester County.

A Bail Commissioner is appointed by the Massachusetts Trial Court to make bail decisions and release persons arrested when courts are closed (overnights, weekends and holidays.)

PLEASE NOTE: This is an appointment only. No salary or benefits are included but fees may be collected from the person in custody at the time of release. The base fee is \$40.00. Bail Commissioners are required to have reliable transportation in order to travel to the East Brookfield District Court and the police departments located in Barre, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Leicester, New Braintree, Oakham, Paxton, Rutland, Spencer, Warren and West Brookfield. Proximity to the communities listed and familiarity with criminal law and procedures helpful. If you are interested in being considered for appointment please contact:

CATHERINE M. COUGHLIN, ESQUIRE  
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The appointing authorities do not discriminate against any applicant because of race, color, sex, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and/or expression, status as a veteran, basis of disability or any other federal, state or local protected class.



Town of Spencer

Office of the Board of Selectmen & Town Administrator

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Town of Spencer

Office of the Board of Selectmen & Town Administrator

Laborer, Water Department: Town of Spencer Water Department seeks applicants to fill the position of Laborer. This position will work with Water Operators in the daily maintenance of the water supply, treatment, and distribution systems. The ideal candidate will have a High School diploma from a vocational school, have strong math and science skills, and be willing to continue their education in the water industry including obtaining professional licensing as a Water Treatment and Water Distribution Operator. Experience with operating lawn care equipment and hand power tools beneficial. The candidate will be subject to emergency call-ins for water main breaks. This entry level position fits into the succession plan for the department. Pay for this position ranges from \$20.19/hr. to \$24.10/hr. and includes a generous benefits package including clothing allowance, continuing education, and license cost reimbursement.

Submit resume and standard Town application available at [www.spencerma.gov](http://www.spencerma.gov) to Town of Spencer, Town Administrator's Office, 157 Main Street, Spencer MA 01562.

Subject to Union Rules and Regulation, EEO Employer.





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**Berber Carpet**  
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This ultra-thick, beautiful carpet.  
Available in 16 colors  
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Popular 28 oz. Style  
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# UT student Hannah Swenson of Auburn earns Dean's List honors

TAMPA, Fla. — Hannah Swenson, of Auburn, earned dean's list honors at The University of Tampa for the Fall 2022 semester. Swenson is majoring in Marketing BS. Students must maintain a GPA of 3.75 or higher to be eligible for the dean's list.

The University of Tampa is a private, comprehensive university located on 110 acres on the riverfront in downtown Tampa. Known for academic excellence, personal attention and real-world experience in its undergraduate and graduate programs, the University has about 200 programs of study and serves about 11,000 students from 50 states and most of the world's countries.

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