

The Yankee Xpress

CROSTOWN ADS & BUSINESS NEWS

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Boston, MA
Permit No. 55800

Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford, Webster

June 25-July 23, 2021

INSIDE

SILVER HAMMER AWARD
To Samuel Slater Experience
PAGE 3

O'CONNOR INSURANCE
Moves to Webster
PAGE 7

SACRED HEART PARISH
Celebrate 150 years
PAGE 11

MONTE BIANCO RESTAURANTE
Open on Main St., Webster
PAGE 14

PETER'S SPORTS
Dominic Manzi-Knych
PAGE 25



NEW FACILITY NOW OPEN!

★ State of the Art
 ★ All Temperature Controlled
 ★ Reserve today ★

210 Southwest Cutoff, Worcester, MA (508) 304-8808

In-person again! Auburn Chamber welcomes DA Joe Early Jr.

By Rod Lee

There was unmistakable pride in Steve Londregan's voice during the Auburn Chamber of Commerce's 59th annual meeting at J. Anthony's Italian Grill on June 8, as he thanked colleagues for their contributions to all the organization accomplished during his two years as president.

"I hope he's not going to cry," Mr. Londregan's wife Donna said. She was sitting next to guest speaker and Worcester County District

Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. at the head table.

It was a bittersweet moment for Mr. Londregan, who owns Chuck's Steakhouse. As Matteo Gentile of Exit Realty Partners noted in his own remarks on behalf of the Chamber's Nominating Committee, "when Steve took over we met live and now that he's leaving we're meeting live again."

Continued on page 2



Outgoing Auburn Chamber of Commerce President Steve Londregan, right, chats with Matteo Gentile, a director, before the organization's 59th annual meeting at J. Anthony's Italian Grill on June 8.

Samuel Slater Experience hosts first in-person Chamber meeting in Webster

By Barbara Van Reed

It felt like a family reunion of sorts. For dozens of local businesspeople, the first Webster-Dudley-Oxford Chamber of Commerce live networking event in 18 months saw smiles, hugs and handshakes all around.

The occasion was the Chamber's Annual Meeting on June 8, usually held in January, but post-

poned for COVID, like so many other events.

The setting was the soon-to-be-opened Samuel Slater Experience in Webster, giving attendees a preview of the museum's exhibits, which tell the continuous story of Samuel Slater's life from leaving England in 1789 to eventually setting in Webster.

The museum includes a series of immersive experiences that use a variety of cutting-edge digital technologies that make each visitor a realistic witness and participant in the journey.

The business meeting began with a brief speech by Samuel Slater Experience owner Chris Robert,

Continued on page 4



W-D-O Chamber executive board members Chairman Ross Lavoie, Treasurer Brenda Sullivan, Secretary Liz Horgan, and Vice-Chairman Don Bourque.

B. Kind
Cafe & Lounge

8 Davis St., Webster • 508-461-7662

Hours: Wed.-Thurs. 9am-3pm; Fri. & Sat. 9am-11pm
Closed Sat., July 3 through Tues., July 6, reopen July 7
CALL AHEAD FOR TO-GO ORDERS

FRIDAY, JULY 16
8-9 p.m.

Comedy NIGHT

www.bkindcafe.com Full Liquor Service

Reserve your tickets at:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/bkind-and-laugh-comedy-show-tickets-159883797743>

mac's AUTO REPAIR

AND CONVENIENCE STORE

508-943-2068 • Store: 508-949-1019 • Fax: 508-943-2098
77 East Main Street, Webster, MA 01570
Store Hours 5 a.m.-10 p.m. 7 days • Garage Hours Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m.; Sat. 8 a.m.-2 p.m.

MASS INSPECTION STATION FOR CARS AND MOTORCYCLES

O'Reilly AUTO PARTS COMPLETE FULL SERVICE AUTO REPAIR

ASE 24 HOUR TOWING

TOW TRUCK DRIVER WANTED

AAA APPROVED FACILITY

Ambient Glow Salon and Spa

- ✂ Hair Services
- ✂ Facials, Waxing, Lash Services
- ✂ Aesthetic Nurse Injector (Botox, Fillers, Chemical Peels)
- ✂ Laser Hair Removal

Visit us at: ambientglowssalonandspa.com
(508) 755-5675

Larry's Landscape SUPPLIES

Your One Stop Shop for Bark Mulch and Stone



MULCH- Hemlock • Red Cedar • Black and Brown Pine • Certified Kid Safe Mulch

STONES - 7 Different Colors • Brick Sand, Gravel, Loam, Stone Dust & More!

WE WILL SPREAD MULCH THAT WE DELIVER! Please ask for details when ordering

Same Day Delivery Guaranteed

We deliver to Charlton, Southbridge, Sturbridge, Oxford, Rochdale, Spencer, Dudley, Leicester, Webster, Brimfield, Auburn, Brookfields, Holland, Wales, Sutton, Millbury and Worcester.

Next to CVS on Route 20, CHARLTON, MA

We accept all credit cards **508-248-6004** LARRYSLANDSCAPESUPPLY.COM

OPEN 7 Days a Week through Mid-July - Mon.-Sat. 7am-5pm; Sun. 8am-4pm

TAKE **10% OFF**

YOUR NEXT SERVICE VISIT OF \$50 OR MORE.
Must present coupon at write-up.
Valid until 07.31.21

HARBRO
AUTO SALES SERVICE
WHITINSVILLE | WEBSTER
(508) 499-3510
harbroauto.com/service

AUBURN CHAMBER

Continued from page 1

Indeed, the noon-hour get-together was the Auburn Chamber's first in-person sit-down in more than twelve months.

Mr. Gentile extolled Mr. Londregan's leadership, which included advocating for "getting (town) taxes even lower" than they already are, and overseeing the distribution of more than \$15,000 in scholarship money to graduating seniors (at a breakfast on May 21, a hybrid event). The latter was achieved even though the Chamber wasn't able to hold its yearly fundraising golf tournament to benefit students in 2020.

The 26th edition of the Chamber's School/Business Partnership event is a go for 2021; it will be played on September 13, at Blackstone National Golf Club in Sutton.

Mr. Londregan now becomes president ex-officio, as Kerri Cunningham of Fuller Automotive steps in as president. The other officers announced by Mr. Gentile are Roger Robinson of Webster Five, vice president; Ralph D. Marois of Ma-

rois Brothers, treasurer; and Tina Puzo of bankHome-town, secretary/clerk.

Incoming officers and directors were given a round of applause, as was Virginia Murphy, who serves as the Chamber's liaison.

After lunch, Mr. Early spoke on the topic "Opioid Awareness in the Community and Workplace." No one is better qualified to address the subject. Mr. Early formed the Central Mass Opioid Task Force in March of 2015, bringing together government leaders, law enforcement, health-care professionals, educators, substance-abuse experts, families in need of addiction services and others in response to the growing problem of opioid addiction and overdose deaths.

Opioid addiction is obviously something Mr. Early cares deeply about. Accompanied by Casey Shea and Paul Jarvey from his staff, he made available a number of handouts, including one on a laminated card that conveyed the message "it's not a junkie: it's mother, father, sister, brother, aunt, uncle, cousin, niece, nephew. Don't shame. Remove the stigma. Ask 'how can I help?'" This

thought is in keeping with his belief that people suffering from addiction need support—not humiliation. Not rejection.

Another was entitled "The Truth About Your Opioid Prescription" and, on the flip side, "Overdose and the Opioid," with information about how opioid drugs "can stop brain signals that remind your body to breathe. This is very dangerous and can lead to serious harm or death."

Mr. Early had not gotten far into his talk before pointing a finger of blame at pharmaceutical companies and doctors who, he says, have fueled the flames of addiction.

"Purdue Pharma, they knew better than to say Oxycotin is not addictive," he said.

The nation loses more people to opioids than motor vehicle accidents and gun violence, he said.

He recommended that everyone read "Sam Quinones' book Dreamland: The True Tale of America's Opiate Epidemic." It tells "how we got into this mess... pharmaceutical companies and doctors" in part, who prescribe pills that patients

get hooked on and after that they go out on the street for fifty dollar pills "and when they run out of those they turn to heroin and it's sold like a pizza delivery."

Ninety percent of overdose deaths, "people have fentanyl in their systems."

Mr. Early said removing the stigma from addiction is key to battling the epidemic.

He said the Central Mass Opioid Task Force follows guidelines set up the CDC in advocating for practices and steps that can be taken to help people suffering from addiction:

"-Narcan (which saves lives).

"-Access and availability to treatment. Everyone who leaves an ER should do so with a treatment plan.

"-Intervention.

"-Detection of outbreaks.

"But mostly just eliminate the stigma. We have to step out of the silos to achieve success. We need compassion and a little bit of empathy.



Worcester County DA Joseph D. Early Jr. and Donna Londregan listen in as Ms. Londregan's husband welcomes attendees to the Chamber's 59th annual meeting.

"What we do at the DA's office: we show compassion but stay within the law. We get grants. We love comeback stories."

Why should business care?

"Opiate addiction costs business \$100 billion a year," he said.

Mr. Early wasn't able to address the Chamber as planned last year, because of the pandemic.

But his message resonated just as loud and clear, this year.

Contact Rod Lee at rodlee.1963@gmail.com or 774-232-2999.

Mike's Crunchies & Munchies adds flair to Webster's restaurant scene



Mike and Patti Chiler in the middle cutting ribbon.

By Janet Stoica

Their opening weekend was a record-breaker: the lines were long, and the cooks prepped the orders like there was no tomorrow. Mike's Crunchies & Munchies was off the charts with the great crowds of diners awaiting their orders. As fast as the food could be made, it was flying out the door.

It was quite a weekend for owner Mike Chiler and his employees as well as his new customers. "People are happy that we're here," said Mike. "We were certainly overwhelmed and didn't expect to have that many customers. It's obvious to us that there's a taste for this type of food in this area."

Mike and his wife, Patti, are from the Greater Boston area but have lived in Webster for the past 11 years. They began with a food truck, offering the same types of fare they currently serve: butterfly potatoes, whole-belly fried clams, fried shrimp (breaded or coconut style served with pina colada or cocktail sauce), clam fritters, homemade chowder, and garlic knots—and those are just the appetizers.

Chicken wing orders range from 10 pieces to 100 and the

sauce varieties include Memphis sweet, hickory brown, Buffalo, teriyaki, garlic, Caribbean jerk to Nashville hot.

Seafood plates encompass fish & chips, baked haddock, and hot or cold lobster rolls. All their seafood is freshly delivered. Subs are on their menu as well, including the Italian made with capicola, mortadella, salami, and pepperoni, blackened chicken, and Philly cheesesteak.

Smashed burgers of all types (you will have to visit them and find out why they are called "smashed") come with Mike's special sauce and customary condiments. Oh, and don't forget the hand-tossed pizza (tossed by Mike himself). "It's a true Neapolitan-style pizza," he said, "made with our own homemade sauces." Topping choices are cool, from the standard cheese and tomato to white clam as well as The Camille, made with chorizo and poached pears, even chicken bruschetta topped with sliced chicken breast, tomatoes, and balsamic glaze.

Our approach is "we cook fresh food and sometimes there will be a wait," said Mike. "All seafood is fried on the spot.

Nothing is previously frozen; it is all fresh. We were looking to offer a good selection of food for the whole family with modest pricing. Customers at our former location told us what they wanted, and we try to accommodate their requests.

"I often drove by this location, and it always caught my eye. We were searching for a place to bring our business to and felt it was time to open up a brick-and-mortar location that was a family dining establishment. It was always a family dream to bring this type of food to the neighborhood."

There is seating for 64 inside the restaurant with another 30 spots available outside.

Eventually Mike and Patti hope to bring craft beers and local wines into their beverage line.

Their second floor is being spruced up and when done, will serve as a function room for children's birthday parties.

Mike's Crunchies & Munchies, 32 Main Street, Webster. Phone: 508-461-5858. Hours: Wed/Thurs/Sun 11 a.m. – 7 p.m.; Fri/Sat 11 a.m. – 10 p.m. www.mikescrunchies.com

Contact Janet: jstoica@TheYankeeXpress.com

WELCOME!

89 Southbridge St.
Auburn, MA
(across from Sword St.)

VISA, MasterCard, American Express, Discover

Vacuums always 75¢

BIG KAHUNA	\$16
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BIG KAHUNA CARNAUBA WAX • UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER • x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK • HIGH PRESSURE WASH • FOAMING POLISH • SHIELD "HIGH GLOSS TOTAL PROTECTANT" • SPOT FREE RINSE • LASERDRI 	
DELUXE WASH	\$12
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER • x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK • HIGH PRESSURE WASH • FOAMING POLISH • SHIELD "HIGH GLOSS TOTAL PROTECTANT" • SPOT FREE RINSE • LASERDRI 	
SUPER WASH	\$9
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER • x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK • HIGH PRESSURE WASH • SPOT FREE RINSE • LASERDRI 	
BASIC WASH	\$7
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK • HIGH PRESSURE WASH • SPOT FREE RINSE • LASERDRI 	

The Yankee Xpress

Published on 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. Direct mailed to 63,000 unique homes and businesses each month and available on news stands throughout the region.

2nd Friday: Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford and Webster, 1/2 all addresses.
2nd Friday BLACKSTONE VALLEY South: Douglas, Northbridge and Uxbridge.
4th Friday: Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford and Webster, other 1/2.
4th Friday BLACKSTONE VALLEY North: Grafton, Millbury and Sutton.

DIRECTORY

Submit business news and community events to news@TheYankeeXpress.com
Request advertising information: ads@TheYankeeXpress.com

Kathy Benoit, Advertising Director kathybenoit@theyankeeexpress.com
Billing and advertising information Laura Gleim lgleim@TheYankeeXpress.com
Tony Discepolo, Sales (Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford, Webster) tdiscepolo@TheYankeeXpress.com
Bill Cronan, Sales (Blackstone Valley) bcronan@TheYankeeXpress.com

The Newspaper Press, LLC / contents copyright 2020
Sally Patterson, Production Manager Carol Kosth, Graphic Artist
Contributing writers and columnists: Peter Coyle, Tom D'Agostino,
Magda Dakin, Christine Galeone, Rod Lee, Amy Palumbo-Leclaire, Janet Stoica

168 Gore Road, Webster, MA 01570 PHONE: 508-943-8784 FAX: 508-943-8129

Samuel Slater Experience receives a Silver Hammer Award



Pictured at the awards ceremony on May 20 at Peppercorn's Grill & Tavern are Tim Murray, president & CEO of the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, Chris Robert, founder and owner of the Samuel Slater Experience, and Robert D. Cox, Chair of the Chamber Board of Directors and managing partner at Bowditch & Dewey.

Each year, the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce recognizes the special accomplishments of area people and businesses. The Samuel Slater Experience received a 2021 Silver Hammer Award this year, which acknowledges "construction or rehabilitation projects that have an extraordinary visual and aesthetic impact on our physical landscape and have brought new life to some of the region's most historic assets."

ORCHARD PRODUCTS
DAVID W. EDDY
Proprietor
860-935-5610
Custom Sheds & Buildings • Seasonal Produce
Custom Milled Lumber
270 Sand Dam Road • Thompson, CT 06277
www.orchardproducts.net

CAHILL'S TIRE & AUTO SERVICE

33 Sutton Ave., Oxford, MA
(Exit 4B off 395)
508-987-0603

FAMILY OWNED AND OPERATED SINCE 1967

\$25⁰⁰ OFF
AC RECHARGE
With coupon. Expires 7/11/21



**DON'T GET CAUGHT
IN THE HEAT!!**

CAHILLSTIRE.COM



STONE CARE PAVING & MASONRY

ASPHALT PAVING & CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION

Asphalt Driveways
Patios
Walkways
Gravel
Private Roads
Belgian Blocks
Blue Stone
French Drains

Concrete Walkways
Block Walls
Steps
Waterproofing
Parking Lots
Stone Walls
Aprons
Overlays

**...And more
services.
Feel Free
to Ask**



Stone Care is well versed in all areas of asphalt paving and concrete construction.

**FREE
ESTIMATE**

**FREE
Fire Pit**
with any patio purchase

15% Discount on all work when you mention this ad!*

(774) 423-4532

www.stonecarepavingandmasonry.com
stonecarepavingandmasonry@gmail.com
119 Leland St., Framingham, MA 01702

*not to be combined with other offers.





Bob Noll of Boston Productions Inc. (museum video designer) with Scott Ciprari.



Webster Selectman Randy Becker with new Nichols College President Glenn Sulmasy.



Board members Lauri Cashman, Carl Kaliszewski, and Laura Crosetti.



Bev Robert with Webster Selectman Andrew Jolda



SSE Construction Manager Nick Hopkins with Maria Lugo, banquet and special events manager at Samuel Slater's Restaurant.



Dave Laabs chats with Vic and Kathy Waskiewicz of JV Mechanical.

Lake Chargooggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake Gifts

Souvenirs
Sweatshirts & Tees
Postcards • Hats
Jackets • Tervis Tumblers
Etched Glassware
"Images of America, Webster" book

508-943-4900
154 Thompson Rd., Webster, MA behind Wind Tiki in the Sterling Realty Building

shop online at www.websterlakegifts.com



Jeannie Hebert with Dennis and Mary Lou Luukko.

Fred D. Giovaninni
HANDYMAN SERVICE

ALL TYPES OF REPAIRS
IN & OUT
NO JOB IS TOO SMALL

• FREE ESTIMATES
• GENERAL CARPENTRY
• DRY WALL REPAIR
• RENOVATIONS

• ITEMS ASSEMBLED
• INTERIOR PAINTING
• SM LANDSCAPING JOBS
• ETC.

MA# 155844 INSURED
CALL (508) 904-9728 DUDLEY, MA

DJ's Sportscards

Baseball • Football • Hockey
Basketball • MTG • Pokemon
Yu-Gi-Oh • Autos • Supplies

5 Sutton Ave.,
Oxford, MA 01540
Next to RR Tracks
1-508-987-0012
e-mail: djscrds@aol.com
EBAY: DJSCRDS

Hours: Tues., Wed. 12-6 p.m.; Thurs.-Fri. 12-6 p.m.; Sat. 10-2 p.m.



Barbara Van Reed with Webster Selectwoman Lisa Kontoes.

RETAIL METAL SALES

Open To The Public

Mild Steel • Stainless Steel
Aluminum • Abrasion Resistant
Hot Rolled • Cold Rolled

Sheared • Plasma Cut • Bent
Rolled • Saw Cut • Punched
Drilled • Welded • Fabricated

Whether you need 1 piece
or a truck load, we can
accommodate you!

ACCURATE METAL
Sales & Fabrication
A Division of Industrial Transfer & Storage, Inc

508-765-4929
529 Ashland Ave • Southbridge
accuratemetalsales.com
Hours: Mon-Fri 7am-5pm

We're Hiring!
Welders • Fabricators
Riggers • Class A Drivers
send resume to
Info@accuratemetalsales.com

Express Shipping
& Office Supplies

Shipping made easy!

• Packing
• Shipping
• Packaging
Materials
• Fax, Copies & Printing
• Document Scanning
• Mailbox Rental
• Office Supplies

Monday-Friday 10am-5pm
Saturday 9am-1pm • Closed Sunday

626 School St., (Rte. 44), Putnam, CT 06260
860-963-7815
ExpressShippingPutnamCt.com

W-D-O Chamber of Commerce annual meeting at Samuel Slater Experience



Presenters Ross Lavoie, WDO Chamber president, Chris Robert, Samuel Slater Experience owner, Dan Doyle, president of Webster Five, Bernie Aubuchon, board chairman of Aubuchon Hardware.



Chamber Treasurer Brenda Sullivan with Chamber Director John Milas welcome registrants to the Chamber's annual meeting.



Chris Robert leads a tour with Webster Five President Dan Doyle, center, and Anjena Kuzdzal, also with Webster Five.



Board members Laura Crosetti, Laurie Cashman, Candido Diaz, Dennis Luukko, Lisa Prince, Barbara Van Reed, Chad Troyse. In the rear, Carl Kaliszewski. Missing: Mary Ann Fontaine, Nick Adamopolous.



Curator Olivia Spratt in Samuel Slater's office with Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Jeannie Hebert and Liz O'Neil, also of the BVCC. At right, Tina Puzo of bankHometown.

WEBSTER CHAMBER

Continued from page 1

who remarked that when he began restoration of the building, the 17,000 square-foot former National Guard Armory, four years ago, "it had no power, no water, and no heat, but plenty of asbestos everywhere, in the ceiling, the walls and the floor."

The transformation of the space into a "Disney-like" teaching experience will realize Mr. Robert's vision to give students a history lesson that they will

always remember and carry home with them. His goal is to bring students from all around the region to the museum for a day immersed in history, technology, and culture.

Chamber president Ross Lavoie announced the addition of two new programs for Chamber members, each specifically designed for businesses with a small number of employees, one for health insurance benefits and one for retirement benefits.

The Chamber's executive board was unanimously

reelected: President Ross Lavoie of Oxford Insurance, Vice Chairman Donald Bourque of Choice1Graphics, Treasurer Brenda Sullivan of Webster Five, and Secretary Liz Horgan of Nichols College.

The Chamber also announced two new board members, Lisa Prince of Tri-Valley Inc., and Chad Troyse of Cornerstone Bank.

Sponsors for the annual meeting were Webster Five and Aubuchon Hardware. Catering was provided by Samuel Slater's Restaurant.



ART'S SERVICE STATION

ATV and Motorcycle Tires
Front end Alignments
Propane Fill Station

Full Service Repair & Complete Diagnostic Service

All New

AC Recharge Machine

R134A - R1234YF & Hybrids

PROPANE REFILL STATION

Propane Fill Station

STATE INSPECTION STATION

Commercial & Non-Commercial Vehicles
Now offering Motorcycle Inspections & D.O.Ts
Diesel and Heavy Duty

Repairs on Automobiles • Motorcycles • Campers • ATVs
Light Duty, Medium Duty and Heavy Duty Truck Repairs

6 Oxford Ave., Dudley • 508-943-2051

THOMPSON



Landscaping & Construction

- DRAINAGE • POOL FILL-INS
- LAND CLEARING • FULL LAWN INSTALLS
- EXCAVATION • STONE & GRAVEL DRIVEWAYS
- PATIOS • RETAINING WALLS • WALKWAYS
- LAWN CARE • MULCH

Eben Thompson

Millbury, MA • 508-523-7790

Ebthompson36@gmail.com

Free Estimates • Fully Insured

Living well and looking good

Patient history more than just medical facts

By Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: I am 77 years old. When I go to a new doctor, there is always that past history form to fill out. I know to include current medications, including OTC and allergies, but how far back should I go?

Should I include the tonsillectomy when I was in grade school (I don't recall how old I was)? Or the surgery to remove a benign tumor from my right femur in 1955? The miscarriage in 1961? Or that the last of my five children was born over 40 years ago?

I would include the surgery because my right leg is about 3/4 inch shorter than my left. After all these years, it causes a backache after standing too long. -S.B.

ANSWER: In general, doctors want all the information you can give. However, past medical history tends to become less important as people get older. I agree with you that the surgery on your femur is important: Even now, a leg-length discrepancy may still benefit from being addressed. A small (half the discrepancy or less) adjustment to the shoe of your shorter right leg may help reduce your backache.

If I were your new doctor, it would be important to me to know you had a 40-year-old son (and about the rest of your children), but that would be more to know who you are as a person. I also ask my patients to identify someone in their

family who can help make decisions if you are unable to. That should be done formally, through a health care proxy designation, which is complementary to the advance directive that all adults should have.

It's a privilege for me as a primary care doctor to get to know my patients and follow them over years, sometimes many years.

Depression drug

DEAR DR. ROACH: I've read about a new drug for depression that is supposed to work quickly. Is it safe? - N.F.

ANSWER: Ketamine, like many

biological molecules, has two forms that are mirror images of each other. Esketamine, the more active of the two, has recently been approved by the Food and Drug Administration for treatment of depression, and is the first new class of approved depression medication in years.

It is striking how quickly it works. With the intravenous drug, test subjects found their mood improving within hours, as opposed to the weeks it takes most current drugs to work. With the nasal spray form, the kind just approved by the FDA, benefit began within two hours and persisted throughout eight weeks of follow-up. It is not yet clear how long the effect will last and whether

(or more likely, how often) additional doses will be necessary in long-term use. It is approved to be given only in a doctor's office, and only for people who have been resistant to other medications.

There are significant potential harms. Blood pressure goes up after the dose, and people can have sedation and disorganized thinking after treatment. For now, the drug is given only through a restricted distribution system.

I am cautiously optimistic.

Depression is a serious disease with treatments that are not as effective as we would like. Any new type of treatment is a source of hope; however, I have seen potential "miracle drugs" turn out to be only moderately useful.

Dr. Roach regrets that he is unable to answer individual questions, but will incorporate them in the column whenever possible. Readers may email questions to ToYourGoodHealth@med.cornell.edu. (c) 2021 North America Synd., Inc. All Rights Reserved

To your good health



Insist on exceptional.

Post-Acute Rehab • Long-Term Care • Orthopedic Rehab
Wound Care • Pulmonary Care • Cardiac & Stroke Recovery

312 Millbury Ave.
Millbury, MA 01527
www.careonemillbury.com
508.793.0088

CARE ONE
At Millbury

1085292



Erich's

CUTTING EDGE

*We want to wish all our clients a Happy Summer!
We made it a whole year!*

We worked hard to keep our shop clean and our clients safe from the Pandemic. We are proud to say we had **no cases** of the virus in our shop. We're anxious to see our clients who have not been in, waiting to get vaccinated.

We are sending out a **BIG THANK YOU** to all our clients who have been so loyal and helped us survive this past year. We look forward to seeing everyone's face with masks OFF.

304 Main St., Oxford, MA 01540
508-987-1870

HOURS: Mon. 8-5; Tues. 8-5; Wed. 8-1; Thurs. 8-6; Fri. 8-5; Sat. 7-1; Closed Sundays



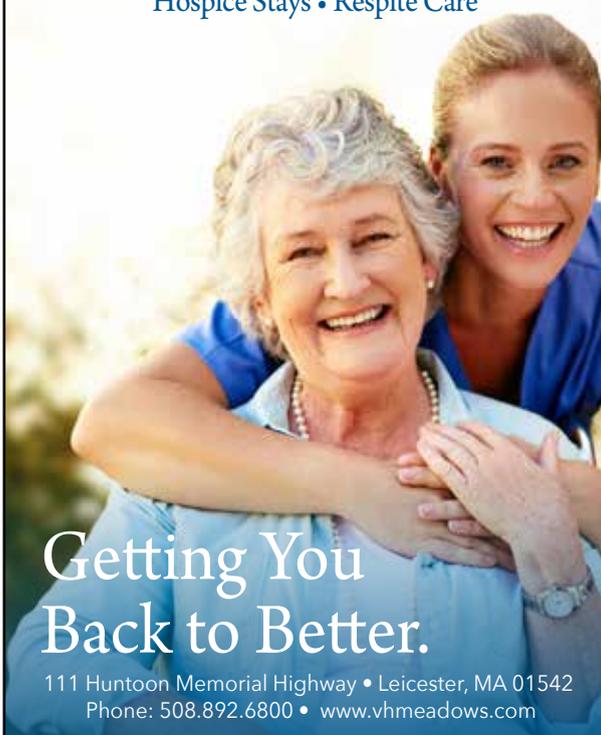
Customer Appreciation Day
Coming Soon!



THE MEADOWS

A Vibra Transitional Care Facility

Short-Term Rehabilitation • Long-Term Care
Hospice Stays • Respite Care



Getting You Back to Better.

111 Huntoon Memorial Highway • Leicester, MA 01542
Phone: 508.892.6800 • www.vhmeadows.com

HEARING AIDS

Only the Best for Your Hearing!




Jim & Ralph - CT Licensed and Board Certified
Hearing Instruments Specialists

Call today to schedule your Hearing Evaluation
and FREE Better Hearing Test Drive.



HEARING CARE CENTERS
800-835-2001 • PUTNAM, CT
Providing hearing solutions to the community since 1981.



www.amplisound.com



Family Hair Care Center

HAIRDRESSERS

Are you traveling out of town to go to work and want to be closer to home?
We have booths available to rent at a busy, spacious, recently updated salon on Main St., Webster.

We have many walk-ins, which is an opportunity to grow your clientele. Wholesome family atmosphere, friendly, helpful co-workers.

Call Jeanne
508-344-0026

244 Main St., Webster, MA • 508-943-0637

O'Connor Insurance is on the move with new offices and a second-generation vision

By Barbara Van Reed

O'Connor & Co. Insurance Agency moved its headquarters from Dudley to Webster last month, one of several changes the company has made in the last year.

Another is that Ryan O'Connor is now heading up the agency that his parents Dan and Karen O'Connor established in 1990.

Dan had a degree in economics from Westfield State and experience as an insurance agent, while Karen had been a real estate appraiser with a psychology background, making for a strong basis to set up the O'Connor & Co. Insurance Agency.

Now, three decades later, Dan and Karen are still actively serving their insurance clients, working remotely, while son Ryan manages the physical office at 135 Thompson

Road. Dan and Karen remain the agency's principals.

Ryan explains that the transition has been a natural for him. "I've been coming to the office with my parents since I was 4 or 5 years old; I grew up in the world of insurance."

He seems confident, ready to manage the future of the O'Connor agency, which includes a deliberate expansion. The company last year acquired the Burnham and Nale Insurance Agency in Southbridge. In addition to Massachusetts, O'Connor Insurance has been licensed in Connecticut for 10 years, and in the last 12 months added licensing for New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Maine, with a vision to grow regionally.

Ryan recognizes the competitive nature of insurance. "You have to be good at sales,



Pictured at the new location of O'Connor & Co. at 135 Thompson Rd., Webster (l to r) Sue Costen, Teresa Bonner, Ryan O'Connor, Iris Bonin, Rosa Galvin, Barbara Zurowski, Renee Alicea and Kelly Coffey.

know what you are talking about. Some insurances, like auto and home, are mandatory, which makes it easier, but we are not just selling our policies, we are selling ourselves."

He notes that customers at his agency can talk with him

and his office staff personally, unlike customers of the direct writers, the national insurers. He does not name names, but it is insurers like GEICO and Progressive.

Agencies like O'Connor represent dozens of insurers and can find the best rates for their clients.

Barbara Zurawski, who joined the agency in 2015 as a representative, handles both personal and commercial lines of insurance. She is quick to mention that O'Connor writes policies for many of the local businesses, including restaurants, landlords, contractors, and pri-

ate schools. She also notes that its agents can speak multiple languages: Spanish, Czech, Russian, Italian, Polish, Portuguese.

O'Connor Insurance had been located at 16 Village Way in Dudley for 20 years when it moved to Webster last month. "We had hired more people and outgrew the space," said Ryan, anticipating more growth.

He concedes, however, that "the most important thing is to grow smart, not just blow up."

The O'Connor family has always had close ties to its communities, involved with local charitable organizations and

business associations. Dan serves on the board of the Boys & Girls Club of Webster-Dudley.

Barbara Zurawski too, exemplifies the community spirit. She became the newest member of the Charlton Board of Selectmen in the May election, and after being a member of the Dudley Woman's Club for many years, is starting up a similar group in Charlton.

Ryan sums up his personal vision for O'Connor with a smile: "I like people, I like our towns, I'm good with numbers. I'm going to perpetuate this for another 30 years."



Pictured (l to r) Sue Costen, Renee Alicea, Theresa Bonner, Ryan O'Connor, Iris Bonin, Barbara Zurowski, Kelly Coffey and Rosa Galvin.



ONLY FULL SERVICE LAB IN THE AREA

Buy One Complete Pair of Eyeglasses get 2nd

1/2 Price*
or **\$40 off**
Complete Pair

*Higher Price Prevails.
Expires 7/15/21



CHARLTON OPTICAL

R.D.O. PETER MALY
DR. RENEE GOMEZ

109-6 Masonic Home Rd.,
Charlton, MA 01507

www.charltonoptical.com

* Eye Glasses * Eye Exams * Contacts

Hours: Mon. 9-6; Tues. 10-6; Wed. 10-5; Thurs. 10-7:00; Fri. 10-5; Sat. 9-2



SAME DAY SERVICE
508-248-1188



Adult Day Health Program serving your community

Family Owned and Operated

Reliable partner assisting families
Offering Skilled Nursing,
Personal Care, Case Management,
Recreation, Nutrition
and Transportation Services.



Homey, Fun, Secure, Safe, Clean

CDC/MA COVID-19 Compliant

Ultraviolet Air Cleaning System



TESTIMONIAL: "When my mother's dementia progressed to the point that she was no longer able to live by herself; I was in desperate need of help and found it with the folks at Accord."
-Marcia T

10 Cudworth Road • Webster, MA 01570
508-949-3598
www.accorddaycenter.com



bankHometown promotes four to AVP/VP; names branch manager

OXFORD — bankHometown recently promoted four of its officers and named a new branch manager for its Main Street, Lancaster office.

Tina M. Puzo, of Dudley, was promoted to vice president, branch officer, of bankHometown's Southbridge St., Auburn, office and has assumed additional responsibility as retail sales coordinator for several of the bank's central Massachusetts offices. Puzo joined bankHometown in 2009 as branch manager of the Webster office and has more than 30 years of banking experience, including having previously served as



Susan Collins

vice president, business development and sales manager at TD Bank. She completed finance coursework at Quinsigamond Community College and earned a certificate from the New England College of



Donna M. Daigle

Business and Finance. Puzo is active in the community, currently serving as secretary of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce, chair of its Programs Committee, and co-chair of its town-wide Clean-up Committee. Additionally, she is manager of bankHometown's United Way campaign and a member of the town of Auburn's Business Roundtable Committee. She previously received the Girl Scouts of Montachusett Council's Women of Distinction award and was previously named one of Worcester Business Journal's 40 Under Forty honorees.

Donna M. Daigle, of Lunenburg, was promoted to vice president, branch officer, of



Erika Heredia

bankHometown's Sack Blvd., Leominster, office, and has assumed additional responsibility as retail sales coordinator for the bank's two Worcester offices and three northern Worcester County locations. Daigle has more than 40 years of banking experience, joining bankHometown in 2014 as branch manager and later promoted to assistant vice president, branch officer. Before that, she was assistant vice president, store manager, with TD Bank. Daigle is also the secretary and treasurer for the Leominster chapter of Business Network International.

Joel Laureano, of Paxton, was promoted to assistant vice president, branch officer, of bankHometown's Grove St., Worcester, office. He joined Millbury Savings Bank in 2015, which merged into bankHometown in 2019, and managed the bank's Millbury Street, Worcester, office before moving over to the Grove Street location when it opened in 2020. He has more than 20 years of banking experience, having also been a branch manager at both Bay State Savings Bank and Citizens Bank and an assistant branch manager at the former Bank of Boston/Fleet Bank. Laureano is a volunteer with the Friends of the Worcester Seniors.

Susan Collins, of Webster, was promoted to assistant vice president, cash management sales officer, and is based in bankHometown's Elm St., Millbury, office. She joined bankHometown in 2000



Joel Laureano

as a teller and over the years has been promoted to assistant branch manager, branch manager, cash management sales officer, and now assistant vice president. Collins will earn her associate degree in business from Bay Path University this spring and previously received a certificate in management, leadership, and building high performance teams from Quinebaug Community College. She is active in the community, having served as treasurer of Friends of All Saints Academy and as the academy's cheer coach as well as secretary and treasurer



Tina M. Puzo

er of the Sturbridge chapter of Business Network International.

Erika Heredia, of Worcester, was named branch manager of the bank's Main Street, Lancaster office. She joined bankHometown in 2017 as a teller and was later promoted to teller supervisor and most recently to assistant branch manager of the bank's Grove Street, Worcester, office. Heredia holds an associate degree from Quinsigamond Community College and is a worship director and youth leader and mentor with the Revival International Center.

RUSMART
AUTO UPHOLSTERY

ANTIQUÉ • CUSTOM MARINE • RV'S Est. 1947

723 MAIN STREET, NORTH OXFORD, MA 01537

Ken & Art Clements (508) 987-1171

Ladies & Gents HAIR HOUSE

We're Open!
Walk-ins Welcome!

Tuesdays...

\$9 Haircuts

895 Southbridge St., Rt. 20, Auburn
Located in the rear of Dunkin Donuts
774-420-6156

Candice Lavoie, Owner/Master Stylist

Brandon Rd. bridge closed

DUDLEY - A recent bridge inspection was conducted in the Town of Dudley by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (Mass DOT). The Town of Dudley Highway Department was notified on or about May 28 of structural issues with one of the bridges spanning the French River on Brandon Road.

For safety purposes, Mass DOT has ordered Brandon Road in Dudley closed until further notice.

Town officials are working with Mass DOT, Senator Fattman and Representative Durant, as well as officials from the Town of Webster to expedite the repair and re-opening of this roadway as soon as possible. In the meantime, detours were placed in effect by Mass DOT as of Monday, June 14. Traffic in the Brandon Road / Chase Avenue area will be directed to South Main Street in Webster and then to School Street. Travelers should be aware of this and seek alternate routes whenever possible. The Town of Dudley apologizes for any inconvenience.

Chief Steven Wojnar, Dudley Police Department

OWS scholarships awarded

Each year the Oxford Woman's Club awards three \$750 scholarships to graduating seniors who reside in Oxford.

This year the club is excited to announce the winners. The Oxford Woman's Club Scholarship goes to Danielle Johnson of Oxford High

School. The Josie Tyler scholarship goes to Hayden Dube of Bay Path Regional High School and The Clara Barton Scholarship goes to Samantha Burdett of Bay Path Regional High School. Congratulations to the winners and to a bright future ahead.

4TH OF JULY SALE

LOWEST PRICES OF THE YEAR

OVER 1,500 BICYCLES IN STOCK - WE REPAIR BICYCLES

<p>MATTRESS SALE!</p> <p>TWIN: Reg. \$299 NOW \$179.99</p> <p>FULL: Reg. \$499 NOW \$259.99</p> <p>QUEEN: Reg. \$599 NOW \$289.99</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">1000s OF APPLIANCES</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">IN STOCK FOR PICKUP OR DELIVERY</p>			
<p>18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$799.99 \$699.99</p>	<p>SIDE BY SIDE STAINLESS STEEL REFRIGERATOR Reg. \$1699.99 \$1299.99</p>	<p>KITCHENAID DISHWASHER Reg. \$999.99 \$849.99</p>	<p>OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE OVEN Reg. \$218.99 \$199.99</p>	<p>GE STAINLESS SMOOTH TOP STOVE Reg. \$649.99 \$599.99</p>
<p>DELUXE ELECTRIC DRYER Reg. \$549.99 \$479.99</p>	<p>1,000s of ACs In Stock!</p>	<p>5 CU FT CHEST FREEZER \$199.99</p>	<p>DELUXE DISHWASHER Reg. \$399.99 \$379.99</p>	<p>GRILL SALE</p>
<p>FAMOUS MAKER GAS OR ELECTRIC RANGE Reg. \$549.99 \$499.99</p>	<p>DELUXE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$499.99 \$479.99</p>	<p>MAYTAG TOP WASHER Reg. \$649.99 \$699.99</p>	<p>GE TOP LOAD WASHER Reg. \$649.99 \$699.99</p>	<p>TV SALE</p> <p>75" LG Reg. \$999.99 \$849.99</p> <p>55" TV Reg. \$399.99 \$369.99</p> <p>65" LG Reg. \$699.99 \$549.99</p> <p>43" LG Reg. \$399.99 \$369.99</p> <p>32" Smart TV Reg. \$169.99 \$139.99</p> <p>50" LG Reg. \$499.99 \$399.99</p> <p>86" LG Reg. \$1999.99 \$1799.99</p>

PRICES GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000

Check www.whitcosales.com for special coupons

WHITCO

Mon-Fri. 10-9; Sat. 9-8; Sun. 12-7
140 Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-9343

Opening the Word Peer Recovery Center, Inc.
174 South Main Street, Webster, MA

A Place to Meet, to be Encouraged, and to Embrace Sober Living

Weekly Schedule of Meetings and Activities

<p>Sunday 9:00-10:00 am Tuesday 5:00-6:30 pm</p>	<p>Gambler's Anonymous Sober Hikes (locations vary weekly—check FB page for details)</p>
<p>Tuesday 7:00-8:00 pm Tuesday 8:15-9:15 pm Wednesday 6:30-8:00 pm Thursday 6:00 pm-6:45 pm</p>	<p>Recovery Bible Study All Recovery Meeting Recovery Yoga Workout with Rachel Adams at Fitforyou Studio Loved Ones Support Group Recovery Art class "Vision of Hope"—NA mtg. Music in Recovery</p>
<p>Thursday 7:00-8:00 pm Friday 6:00-7:00 pm Friday 8:00-9:00 pm Saturday 7:00-8:30 pm</p>	

All of our activities are free of charge. Just need to talk with someone about your recovery or that of a loved one? Call Pastor Janice (PJ) at 508-330-8073. She can meet with you in person or by phone or arrange for you to speak with a peer recovery coach. Never hesitate to reach out!

Like us on Facebook at Opening the Word Webster, and check out our website www.openingthewordwebster.com Email us at pj20openingthewordwebster@gmail.com



Dudley Cultural Council sponsors The Blues Crew

On Saturday, June 5, at 7:00 p.m. the Dudley Cultural Council sponsored the final performance of The Blues Crew as part of the Dudley Grange's summer concert series. The Blues Crew is a family band that has been performing since 2008 and has played at local churches, for fundraisers and community functions. The band performs Blues Brothers tunes (dressed as Blue Brothers), 50s music and country oldies. The program was held on the lawn at the Dudley Grange with many local residents in attendance.



430 Main St., Oxford, MA

We repair all makes and models of Garage Doors and Electric Openers

- Commercial and Residential -

Visit our display by appointment

Sales • Service • Installation

800-605-9030 508-987-8600

www.countrysidedoors.com email: countrysidedoors@aol.com



Renew your home's appeal with a new garage door.

Many new styles and colors to choose from.



A fantastic weekend where you can see some of the American Heritage Museum's tanks including the M4 Sherman and M24 Chaffee operating on our tank driving grounds. Captivating historical narration will bring these amazing machines to life. WWII veterans will be participating in the exhibition! Tank Driving and Tank Rides will be available through the weekend.

All three museums will be open: The American Heritage Museum, The Historic Aviation Hangar and Classic Automobile Barn.

568 Main Street, Hudson, MA
www.AmericanHeritageMuseum.org
(978) 562-9182



SCAN HERE TO ENTER!



WITH OUR GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY!

Explore **TheYankeeXpress.com** and enter to win a \$100 gift card to either



Regisandsons.com

or

Koinonia
School of Sports

240 County Home Road, Thompson, CT

or



139 Upton St., Grafton

One entry per day/per person. Contest ends June 30, 2021 - enter today!

Winners will be chosen at random and posted on facebook.com on July 1.

Auburn Chamber of Commerce Newscaster Kelly Sullivan celebrate scholars

By Rod Lee

After far too long and far too frustrating a hiatus, the Auburn Chamber of Commerce resumed in-person meetings on the morning of May 21, at the Elks Lodge on Southbridge St.

But, as if by way of reminding Steve Londregan, Virginia Murphy, Matteo Gentile and others involved in hosting the event that things are even now not quite back to normal, Guest Speaker Kelly Sullivan of Boston25 News had to participate via Zoom.

The word “hybrid” still applied, therefore, even as attendees went to the buffet line for scrambled eggs, sausage and potatoes—something they hadn’t been able to do for months on end. Indeed a brief conversation at a table occupied by

Kerri Cunningham of Fuller Automotive, Roger Robinson of Webster Five Cent Savings Bank, Mr. Londregan of Chuck’s Steak House and Mr. Gentile of Exit Realty Partners was mostly about hybrid learning, which served as a preface to Mr. Londregan’s own opening remarks in which he said “here in Auburn we’re lucky. All our students had iPads. Hats off to the Auburn school administration for being ahead of the curve.”

The Auburn Chamber may not have been able to hold its School/Business Partnership Golf Tournament in 2020, “but today we are giving out over \$15,000 in scholarships, and we have given out \$330,500 since 1995,” Mr. Londregan said.

Fortunately, this summer’s tournament is a go. It is scheduled for September 13 at Blackstone National Golf Club in Sutton with a shotgun start at 9:00 a.m. All profits from the tournament support the Chamber’s mini-grant and scholarship programs.

One of the first orders of business at the breakfast was announcement of special awards for Police Officer Stephen A. Lukas, who was killed on duty in 1986 when, in responding to an early-morning call, his patrol vehicle skidded off an icy road and struck a utility pole; and Maj. David Brodeur, who died in 2011 while deployed in Afghanistan.

There was understandable enthusiasm for the appearance of Ms. Sullivan, an Auburn girl, Auburn High grad (Class of 2002) and anchor of Boston25 News. Like all of the recipients of this year’s scholarships, which were announced by Carrie Cross of Life Care Centers of Auburn, Ms. Sullivan was awarded an Auburn Chamber scholarship, which she used towards earning her degree in Broadcast Journalism at Syracuse University.

“This is only my second time on Zoom through the entire pandemic!” Ms. Sullivan said, as her image appeared on the screen.

She apologized for not being able to make the trip out, saying, “it’s Nielsen ratings time, we go through it four times a year. I’m in a live truck in Roxbury.”

In asserting that her years at Auburn High were “a huge advantage” in pursuing the career she had charted for herself, she said “I danced, played soccer and basketball and ran track. School was always number one with me. In middle school, I knew I wanted to be in news. Katie Couric inspired me.

“I was on a committee to build the new high school” you are enjoying today, she told scholars.



Scholars gather with Auburn Chamber officers and directors after the presentation of awards at the Elks Lodge on Southbridge St.

“I went above and beyond to get into the school I wanted—Syracuse.”

She offered some advice students may not have been expecting to hear.

“Take other classes in college that you like,” not just the ones linked to your major, she said. “Business, if you want to be an entrepreneur.” Also, she said, “I went through all my money studying abroad but I would do it again in a heartbeat—for the experience.”

Two years ago, she said, “my husband and I got our real estate licenses.”

From her “first job, in Harrisonburg, Virginia (at WHSV), I moved there four days after I graduated,” she was always pointing toward Boston. In Harrisonburg, she covered the graduation of Virginia Tech just months after the tragic shootings on that campus. Other big moments came quickly: President Trump on the campaign trail, Tom Brady returning from the suspension imposed on him, the Patriots’ Super Bowl win in Houston, Washington where she reported along the parade route during the first inauguration of President Barack Obama.

She came to Boston 25 News in June of 2017, from WPRI in Providence.

“Boston was my end goal,” she said. “At each place I learned so much.

I have interviewed Mark Wahlberg and Robert Kraft. You never know who you are going to run into in this business.

“It all started with a good

foundation at Auburn High School.”

Contact Rod Lee at rodlee.1963@gmail.com or 774-232-2999.

Living in the Now, Preparing for the Future

Learn how you can redefine your savings approach toward education and retirement. To learn more, call my office today.

Dennis Antonopoulos
Financial Advisor

5 Albert St
Auburn, MA 01501-1303
508-832-5385

edwardjones.com
Member SIPC

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING



Carrie Cross names the recipients of the Auburn Chamber of Commerce's 2021 scholarship awards.



The Auburn Chamber's Matteo Gentile addresses the May 21 scholarship breakfast meeting.

COMPLETE AUTO GLASS SPECIALISTS

- Chip & Crack Repair
- Windshield Replacement
- FREE Mobile Service

MOBILE AUTO GLASS SPECIALIST
Insurance Company Preferred Shop.

- Certified technicians to your location
- Foreign & domestic auto, truck, bus, motor home, windows & sunroofs
- Construction equipment, heavy duty vehicles
- Fabrication of flat glass
- Vehicles equipped with convertible or vinyl roof
- In-shop service • Free mobile service
- Saturday service
- Free pick-up and delivery within a 10 mile radius
- Quality workmanship guaranteed
- Customer safety and satisfaction is our first priority
- Servicing customers for over 25 years

201 W. Main Street, Dudley, MA 01571
800-479-7697 • 508-949-1327

Monday-Friday 8am to 5pm • Saturday 8am to 12pm

Visit Us at roysautoglass.net

Under New Management

CURRENT HOURS
Monday to Saturday 7am-7pm
Sunday 8am-6pm

NEW ENGLAND CONVENIENCE

Milk, Eggs, Bread, Snacks, ATM, Lottery, Cigarettes, Tobacco, Cigars and Smoking Accessories.

WE HAVE THE CHEAPEST CIGARETTES IN TOWN!!

65 James Street • Worcester, MA 01603 (774) 530-6966

Sacred Heart Parish celebrates 150 years in the community

WEBSTER – Sacred Heart of Jesus celebrated its 150th anniversary as a parish at a special Mass Sunday, June 13. Guests included Bishop Robert McManus of the Worcester Diocese, priests, curates and other members of the religious community as well as state and local dignitaries, and more than 150 parishioners and friends of Sacred Heart.

The liturgical celebration, originally scheduled for June 2020, was postponed due to COVID-19 restrictions. Delaying the commemoration until 2021 gave the parish the opportunity to celebrate two additional milestones: 125th anniversary of the Church building and 25th anniversary of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel.

At the Mass, Representative Joseph McKenna read a state resolution marking the milestone and highlighting the accomplishments of the parish over the past 150 years. State Senator Ryan Fattman,

while holding his toddler son Harrison, followed with brief remarks. He cited Luke 6:46-49 about the man who built his house and laid the foundation deep within a rock so the storms and winds could not shake it. “This speaks volumes to exactly the type of parish that has been built here,” he said. Music for the liturgy featured several musicians and the Church’s pipe organ console that dates to the 1920s.

Sacred Heart Parish traces its roots to French Canadian immigrants living and working in the area who were interested in celebrating Mass in the manner and language to which they accustomed in Canada. The first Church, located on the corner of Slater and East Main streets, was purchased from a Methodist Church and was the home of Sacred Heart from 1870 to 1896 when the current Church was built with materials imported from Canada.

“When the founding mothers and fathers of the Parish came from Canada, they brought very little with them,” said Bishop McManus in his address to the congregation. “Most of them did not bring a word of English. They came with hardly any money and few material goods. But what they did bring was a profoundly deep and unshakable Catholic faith.... With tremendous effort and because of their faith they built this extraordinary magnificent Church for the greater honor and glory of God. What they lacked in finances, they found in faith.”

Reverend Adam Reid, pastor of Sacred Heart, shared the significance of the milestones in a letter to the parish. “We are the living legacy of the efforts of our French-Canadian parish founders’ lived faith,” he said.

“We celebrate our rich history but do not seek to dwell in the past... We now look to enter into the next chapter of our parish history by first re-experiencing and perhaps in some cases discovering for the first time, a profound and life changing relationship with our Jesus Christ.”

This year also marks the 25th anniversary of the Blessed Sacrament Chapel, located in the Emmaus Center across the street from the Church. Opened in 1996, the Chapel serves the region as a spiritual sanctuary of perpetual adoration, operating round the clock, thanks to a legion of volunteers who are scheduled in hourly shifts.

The mission of Sacred Heart is to promote the gospel of Jesus Christ through worship, outreach and education. The



Bishop Robert McManus addresses the congregation.

parish offers some 30 liturgical and social outreach ministries. In addition, Sacred Heart serves the larger community as the hub of operations for the St. Vincent dePaul Society, as

the epicenter of worship at the 24-hour-a-day Emmaus Chapel, and as a partner with St. Louis Parish in instilling Christian values in today’s youth at All Saints Academy.



Father Adam Reid, pastor of Sacred Heart Church, says Mass with Bishop Robert McManus.



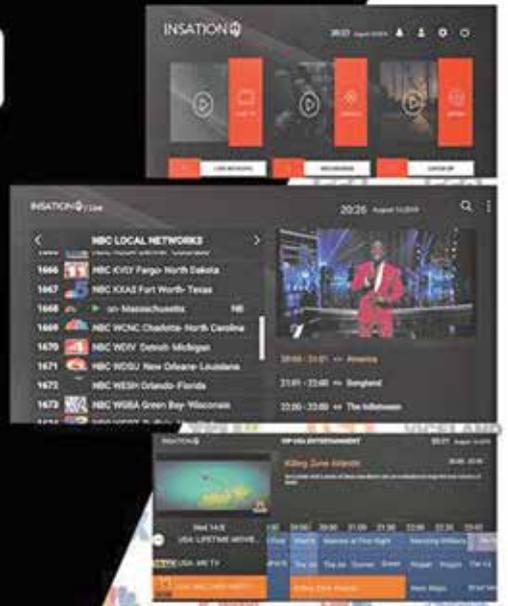
State Senator Ryan Fattman, holding son Harrison, gives brief remarks, which were preceded by the reading of a state resolution by Representative Joseph McKenna.

INSATION TECHNOLOGIES

INSATION STREAM LIVE TV

\$25 /MO

www.InsationTV.com
7000+ CHANNELS



INSTALL ON:

- Fire Stick
- Android Devices
- IOS Devices
- Mobile Devices
- Streaming Devices
- SmartTV
- Computers
- Tablets

No more cable bill!



508.422.0477

31 Thompson Rd., Unit 2, Webster, MA
info@insationtech.com • www.insationtech.com

Mon-Wed
9AM-5PM
Thurs & Fri
9AM-6PM
Sat 9AM-2PM

HADDAD
Auto Detail

The **DEEP**
CLEAN SPECIALISTS



Inside
and Out!

Worcester * Westboro
508-755-5250

THE COUNSELING CENTER
AT MILLBURY, MA

GET THE HELP YOU NEED CLOSE TO HOME

World-Class Substance Abuse & Mental Health Outpatient Treatment

The Counseling Center offers a full range of treatment for adults and adolescents in a serene and comfortable atmosphere with flexible scheduling during day and evening hours.

CALL NOW (508) 785-4990

Chief's corner

Home alarm systems should be registered

**By Chief Steven J. Wojnar
Dudley Police Department**

All home and business burglar and fire alarms currently in use here in the Town of Dudley are required to be registered. Local by-law Article 117 (former Article 36) is the regulation which governs alarm systems. Since the renewal date for providing up to date information is soon upon us, I thought I would take this opportunity to remind everyone about the process.

Police officers and firefighters respond to house alarms quite frequently. Many of these have been activated by accident or they have malfunctioned. It is important to keep current contact information on file with public safety officials in the event of a problem. Article 117 Section 3 outlines the procedure for registering these alarms. It states, "Every alarm user shall submit to the Police Chief the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the user and at least two other persons who can be reached anytime, day or night, and who are authorized to respond to an emergency signal transmitted by an alarm system and who can open the premises wherein the alarm system is installed.

The list of names, addresses and telephone numbers of the responders must be kept current at all times by the alarm user and shall be submitted during the first month of each fiscal year." July first is the beginning of the fiscal year, and this is the date when the information needs to be submitted.

Penalties for violations are covered under Article 117 section 5. It provides for a fine of \$25 for unregistered or late registered false alarms. In addition, \$25.00 can be charged for each month where a homeowner is in non-compliance. This can be costly if not addressed. We hope to avoid doing this and encourage everyone's compliance with this rule. It is important to have current and accurate information for first responders. This helps to protect your property from damage, allows emergency services and family members to be contacted quickly, and limits the police and fire response in the event of a false alarm.

There are several ways to provide this information to us. Forms are available for in person pickup at our station. They can also be download on-line via Facebook ("The Dudley Police Department Massachusetts") or our web

site www.dudleypolice.com. If none of those work, simply provide the necessary information on a sheet of paper and send it to us, either by standard US Mail or via email (either to Sgt. Dean Poplawski dpoplawski@dudleypolice.com or to mine listed below). Whichever way you choose to do this, we thank you in advance for your cooperation for providing us with accurate information.

For those still seeking vaccination information, it can be found at www.dudleyma.gov or by calling 508-949-8036. Please continue moving forward with the "re-opening" of our state in a reasonable manner. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. This has been a challenging year plus for everyone. We, at the Dudley Police Department, greatly appreciate the support we receive from our community.

Thanks again for your questions and comments. Please send them to me at the Dudley Police Department 71 West Main St. Dudley, Ma. 01571 or email at swojnar@dudleypolice.com. Opinions expressed in this weekly column are those of Chief Wojnar only and unless clearly noted, do not reflect the ideas or opinions of any other organization or citizen.

See an Expert in Cosmetic Dentistry

Jason R. Tubo, DMD, MAGD - Master of the Academy of General Dentistry

Advanced Cosmetic Bonding | Minimally Invasive Dentistry
Completely Digital Treatment (**NO impressions!**)
Single-tooth implants | Full-mouth reconstruction
Computer-Guided Surgery | 3D Cone-Beam X-ray
Crowns | Veneers | Advanced Esthetics



Whitinsville
family dentistry

(508) 234-8107

12 Prospect Street
Whitinsville, MA

www.DrTubo.com

Finding yourself a little addicted to Dr. Tubo's Before and Afters?

See them when they're brand new
Follow Dr. Tubo on Instagram:



@dr.jasontubo

Real People. Real Results.

See more of Jen's case and more REAL Before and After cases actually done by Dr. Jason Tubo at

www.DrTubo.com



FOOD AND FUN PULL-OUT SECTION

Save these pages as a guide to area dining and things to do

Grange sponsors summer concert series

DUDLEY – Celebrate summer under the stars this year with the Dudley Grange Summer Concert Series.

July 10 (raindate July 17), the Great Garage Band Reunion brings their self-styled “loud and outrageous” 60s and 70s funk, rock, R&B and blues (with six horns) to Center Road at 6 p.m.

The third show, 7 p.m. August 7 (raindate August 14), will feature music from Art Sandoli leading into a chance to stargaze and watch the Perseids meteor shower. NASA volunteer educator Dino Tata will lead that astronomical exploration if the clouds cooperate; bring your telescope or good binoculars, and we will have some available for use.

All three shows are outdoors, all ages and free admission on the grass at Dudley Grange’s historic location, 139 Center Road (next to Nichols College). Bring lawn chairs or blankets, snacks and drinks (no alcohol allowed) and intent to have some fun in the warmth of a summer evening.

The series is being sponsored by a grant from the Dudley Cultural Council, the local agency of the Massachusetts Cultural Council. For more information on the Grange itself, go to <https://www.facebook.com/DudleyGrange.163/>.



Every Thursday through September 30, from 4-7pm, the Auburn Farmers’ and Cultural Market will take place at the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex, 203.5 Pakachoag Street, Auburn.

Participants include Fay

Mountain Farm/Kettle brook (start July 8); Moosup Valley Farm-fresh cut flowers perennials; Elzire’s Acre Farm-goat milk soap; Lady Love Lamas-makes lama yarn items; BS Maple Syrup; Charlton Honey; Jackson’s Creative handmade

art; Center Bakery-baked breads and more; Crystal Clear Emotions-silver jewelry blue topaz; The Art Lab and Gallery-handmade art; B-Organic-organic bags for produce and more; Mandie C’s Sweetery– assorted cookies; Sarkisian Studios-hand painted art items; American Flag Craft-\$25 pp.

For more information please email Kpappas@town.auburn.ma.us or call 508-755-3291.

YARD SALE **Saturday, June 26**

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

St. Roch’s Church

334 Main St., Route 12, Oxford, MA

1771

Publick House

Historic Inn & Country Lodge



The Publick House is now open for your dining enjoyment. Indoor and Outdoor seating available. Now serving lunch and dinner 7 days a week.

277 Main Street, Sturbridge, MA 01566
508-347-3313 • www.publickhouse.com

Monte Bianco

Restaurante

FINE ITALIAN AND INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

Celebrating our *Grand Opening* at 140 Main St., Webster

Exceptional Italian Cuisine

Dine-in or Take out

140 Main St., Webster, MA • 508-461-5016 • 508-461-5017

Catering available • www.montebiancorestaurant.online

HOURS: Closed Mondays; Tues. & Wed. 11am-8pm; Thurs. & Fri. 11am-9pm; Sat. 3-9pm; Sun. 1-7pm

TABLE 3 RESTAURANT GROUP

Dine in, Take out, and Save!

BOGO FREE Entrée
Wed & Thurs when you dine in at The Duck & Avellino

\$10 off \$50 Take-out
Every day online at The Duck, Avellino, & Cedar Street Grille, use code SAVE10

20% off Take-out
Wed & Sun when you order on-line at Cedar Street Grille and The Duck & Avellino, use code 20OFFSW

FREE Muffin
when you buy a box of muffins (4) at Cedar Street Café, thru July 2

Offers good thru 7.1.21 unless otherwise noted, excluding holidays. Offers cannot be combined. Customer responsible for applicable sales tax.

The Duck & Avellino | 508-347-2321 | theducksturbridge.com | avellinorestaurant.com
Cedar Street Grille | 508-347-5800 | cedarstreetgrille.com
Cedar Street Café | 508-347-6800 | cedarstreetcafesturbridge.com

Mexicali

CANTINA GRILL

Sun-Thurs: 11a-10p
Fri-Sat: 11a-11p

MexicallisFreshMex.com

Dine In & Takeout!

Gift Certificates Available

“We are social distant compliant” for the health of everyone.

Dinner or Lunch

50% off

Buy any lunch or dinner, get 50% off the 2nd lunch or dinner of equal or lesser value with beverages purchased. Dine in only. 1 per table/party. Not combinable with other offers or specials. Offer expires 7-31-21

Outdoor dining now available

Online orders with pickup or delivery

41 Worcester Road, Webster, MA • 508-461-5070

Facebook.com/MexicallisFreshMex Like Us!

Monte Bianco Restaurante tasteful addition to Webster's downtown

By Janet Stoica

Chef Manny Campoverde and his family have reached another milestone in their restaurant's life by moving to a very visible location in Webster at the corner of School Street and Main, specifically, 140 Main Street.

Years ago, this location served as Manzi's Market, a successful mainstay in the area run by the Manzi brothers: George, Jimmy, and Mike. Perhaps the Manzi brothers would be pleased about Monte Bianco's tasteful arrival.

Chef Manny has served up hundreds of delicious and varied dishes at his former Thompson, Conn., restaurant and now he has taken on a new challenge—welcoming new and loyal customers to his new setting at one of the busiest intersections in Webster.

Monte Bianco officially opened in Webster on May 18.

On a recent Tuesday evening, the restaurant catered to a steady stream of diners who appeared to be enjoying their meals while the likes of Frank Sinatra and Tony Bennett crooned their unmistakable tunes in the background.

The chef's lightly fried calamari appetizer was served up on a platter accompanied by a robust and spicy tomato sauce and his hefty portions of chicken parm with pasta is like no other you will ever experience. Likewise the shrimp scampi dish in a light sauce with thin garlic slices. A complimentary bruschetta is unique for the area with finely chopped fresh tomatoes, cucumber, and onions with a drizzle of olive oil on crusty bread.

No room for dessert this time but another visit soon will certainly include Manny's homemade tiramisu. The record of delicious success speaks for itself.

The dining room is simple, clean, and cozy and the menu reflects diners' requests. Manny keeps on smiling as he chops, preps, and cooks for those who love his food. The chef enjoys his craft and appreciates his customers, accommodating their special requests as often as he can. "If I have the ingredients in-house, I will cook to your liking. Your wishes will be accommodated as best as possible. We are happy



On hand to help the Campoverde family celebrate the grand opening of Monte Bianco Restaurante were Webster Town Administrator Doug Willardson, Selectmen Andrew Jolda and Earl Gabor, Rep. Joe McKenna, Assessor Mark Becker, Carole Marchand, Carol Cyr, Tim Bell, Courtney Frieland, Ruth Perry and a host of friends and well-wishers.

that so many diners have found our restaurant and enjoy the meals served here."

As always, Monte Bianco's menu has just the right number of choices from appetiz-

ers to desserts, all made in-house.

Entrees range from eggplant rollatini to seafood like stuffed haddock, chicken or veal völdostana (breaded and topped with prosciutto and melted mozzarella in marsala sauce), stuffed rigatoni and meatballs, and gnocchi to filet mignon and short ribs.

Last but not least, the chef's homemade desserts with flair are tiramisu, flan, cannoli, mini-cheesecakes, and bread pudding. Currently there is a BYOB policy until their spirits license is finalized.

Chef Manny and family also cater for any occasion. Lunch is now served at Monte Bianco from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with lunch-sized portions of their dinner menu according to Pegui Campoverde, Manny's daughter. "We took our time renovating this location," said Pegui, "we wanted it to be just right. My dad is very proud of his new and spotless kitchen and appliances."

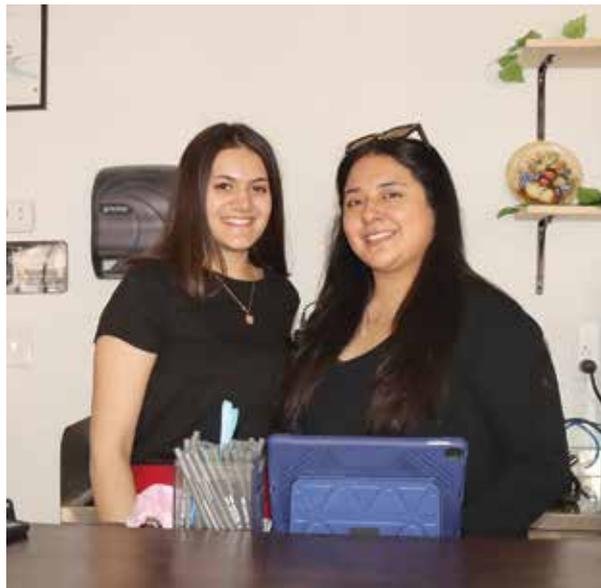
There are 12 dining tables available, spaced conveniently, so reservations are recommended.

Monte Bianco Restaurante is at 140 Main Street, Webster. Phone 508-461-5016, www.montebiancorestaurant.online Current hours: Tues/Wed 11 a.m. – 8 p.m.; Thurs/Fri 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.; Sat/Sun 3 p.m. – 9 p.m.; Sun 1-7 p.m. Major credit cards accepted.

Contact Janet: jstoica@TheYankeeXpress.com



Chef Manny Campoverde prepping one of his delicious creations.



Ready to take your order are Pegai Campoverde and Adriana Aubin.

St. Andrew Bobola resumes drive-thru Polish platter sale

DUDLEY - St. Andrew Bobola Church, 54 West Main St., Dudley will again be holding a monthly Polish Platter drive-thru food sale starting Saturday, June 26, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and also from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Polish Platter meals will be packaged for take-out only. Cost is \$15 per platter which includes kielbasa, kapusta, a golabek (stuffed cabbage), and two homemade pierogi (one cheese, one cabbage). Also offered is frozen food: pierogi, kielbasa, golabki and kapusta. No need to order ahead. Why cook? Swing by on the 26th to pick up and enjoy some fresh Polish food and help support this small church.

CATERING

Full Menu of Hot and Cold Foods for Graduations, Showers, Weddings and all your Special Occasions!

BOOK YOUR COOKOUT HERE

We will come to you and barbecue everything from burgers to a full pig roast!

Started Memorial Day

Chicken or Beef Kabobs

Hot Dogs & Hamburgers

Plus all our regular menu

Boneless BBQ Ribs Sub	\$8.00
Lobster Roll	\$17 ⁹⁹

Imported Ham	\$5.99/lb
Land o Lakes pre-sliced Am. cheese.....	\$5.99/lb
Roast Beef.....	\$8.99/lb
Oven Roasted Turkey.....	\$8.99/lb

JUNE SANDWICH SPECIAL

Corned Beef or Pastrami Reuben

\$9⁹⁹

Delray Docs

FRUIT & DELI

508-943-3303

31 Thompson Rd., Webster

(in the New Nipmuc Plaza)

Open: Tues. thru Fri. 9-5;
Sat. 9-4; Sun. 9-2, Closed Mondays

EBT ACCEPTED NOW!

The fireworks are on - July 3

WEBSTER - Saturday, July 3, grab a blanket and a picnic dinner for the return of fireworks in Webster. The fireworks display will take place at Memorial Beach and will start at 9 p.m. Cost is \$10. The beach will open at 5 p.m. for this event.



Carole Marchand shared this post on Facebook: We want to thank everyone for being patient. It was worth the wait. After watching the trend of COVID guidelines and having different discussions we have decided that Webster will be setting off fireworks this year at the beach. We will be scaling back as far as when the beach will open and not doing the food trucks and music. But we will have fireworks. When we get closer to the date we will have more information on the guidelines. But for now you can mark off July 3 on your calendar.

FANTASTIC FACTS ABOUT FIREWORKS

Cities and towns across the country commemorate special days with various festivities, particularly when warm weather beckons people outdoors. Fireworks long have been a popular way to cap off parades, concerts, sporting events, and national days of celebration. Entire communities come together to watch spectacular shows in which blazing pops of color light up the night sky.

Smithsonian magazine reports that pyrotechnics displays have been astounding audiences all over the world for centuries. As early as 200 B.C. fireworks were developed in China to first scare off mountain men and later evil spirits. However, soon the Chinese incorporated "fire drug," essentially saltpeter, sulfur and charcoal (a recipe for gunpowder), into their cultural celebrations. Early Chinese fireworks consisted of the gunpowder mixture stuffed in bamboo tubes.

Fireworks have evolved since then, but by and large they still

comprise the same main parts: an oxidizer, fuel and chemical mixture to produce desired colors. Fireworks are a wonder to behold when they are part of professional displays, and their history can be interesting as well.

•While the Chinese invented fireworks, Italians helped fine-tune them. Italians are credited with designing aerial shells and figuring out that certain metallic powders could create specific colors.

•The largest consistent fireworks show in the United States is the Macy's show in New York over the Hudson River on July 4th. More than three million people view the show, which includes more than 40,000 shells.

•The Walt Disney Company is the largest consumer of fireworks in the world, according to Business Insider. It also is the second largest purchaser of explosive devices, behind only the U.S. Department of Defense.

•High-energy metal compounds

like copper chloride emit colors like violet and blue in fireworks. Low-energy compounds like strontium chloride produce orange and red.

•The pattern fireworks will produce in the sky is determined by how stars are arranged inside of the shell. Stars are the cubes or spheres that contain the chemicals needed for the firework reaction.

•Mental Floss notes that "daytime fireworks" are made up of colored smoke and can be seen during the day.

•Individuals who are employed in the manufacture of fireworks must wear cotton clothing, including undergarments, as synthetic clothing can create sparks capable of detonating fireworks, according to Alamo Fireworks.

•New Castle, PA is known as the "Fireworks Capital of America" because Zambelli Fireworks Internationale and Pyrotecnico both got their start there in the mid-nineteenth century.

•Scientists are currently working to create more eco-friendly fireworks.

Celebrate Independence Day with the Best Big Breakfast Around!

★★★★★ STARS ON FACEBOOK

Come in and see our new more "cozy" atmosphere

East Main Café

129 E. Main St., Webster • 508-949-0323

The SADDLE SHED

"Everything For Horse & Rider!"

Pets Welcome!

237 Providence Road, Rte. 122, South Grafton, MA 01560

508-839-3016

In business for over 52 years!

English & Western - Farrier Supplies
Western Hats, Boots, Belts, Shirts,
Accessories, Tack, Supplies & Gifts!

www.thesaddleshed.com

Store Hours: Tues., Wed., Fri. 10am to 5pm; Sat. 10am to 4pm; Closed Sun., Mon., & Thurs.
WE WILL BE CLOSED for 4th of July Vacation from July 3rd thru July 12th

MIKE'S SUMMER CONCERT SERIES
INDIAN RANCH
75TH ANNIVERSARY

BADFISH 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY A TRIBUTE TO SODIUM JULY 10 • 1PM	THE RETURN THE MARSHALL TUCKER BAND JULY 11 • 1PM	100 THE ULTIMATE EAGLES TRIBUTE BAND DARK DESERT EAGLES JULY 17 • 1PM
MARTY STUART JULY 31 • 1PM	JAMEY JOHNSON AUGUST 1 • 1PM	Justin Moore AUGUST 7 • 1PM
GRAND FUNK RAILROAD The American Band AUGUST 8 • 1PM	THE CONCERT ABBA THE CONCERT A TRIBUTE TO ABBA AUGUST 13 • 7PM	CHASE RICE AUGUST 14 • 1PM
TOWER OF POWER AUGUST 15 • 1PM	YACHT ROCK REVUE HOT BANDS • TIGHT JEANS AUGUST 21 • 1PM	THE GREATEST HITS OF FOREIGNER AUGUST 26 • 7PM
JULY 24 - SOLD OUT! 2ND SHOW ADDED! GET THE LEAD OUT A CELEBRATION OF "THE MIGHTY ZEP" AUGUST 27 • 7PM	JOSH TURNER AUGUST 28 • 1PM	THE ULTIMATE QUEEN CELEBRATION MARC MARTEL SEPTEMBER 4 • 1PM
MELISSA ETHERIDGE SEPTEMBER 6 • 1PM	2021 SEPTEMBER 11 • 12PM	THE MAVERICKS SEPTEMBER 12 • 1PM
LOS LOBOS SEPTEMBER 18 • 1PM	45 YEARS OF ROCK GEORGE THOROGOOD AND THE DESTROYERS GOOD TO BE BAD SEPTEMBER 19 • 1PM	100 Hairfest 2021 SEPTEMBER 25 • 12PM

ALSO COMING TO INDIAN RANCH

KIP MOORE	SEPTEMBER 26 • 1PM	38 SPECIAL	OCTOBER 9 • 1PM
ZIGGY MARLEY	SEPTEMBER 30 • 7PM	CHRIS JANSON	OCTOBER 10 • 1PM
TRACE ADKINS	OCTOBER 17 • 1PM		

SAMUEL SLATER'S RESTAURANT

RESERVE YOUR SPOT AT THE NEW SLATER'S CONCERT CLUB BEFORE EVERY SHOW.

WWW.SAMUELSLATERS.COM

Lake Tours and Specialty Cruises
INDIAN PRINCESS

PRESENTED BY websterlive

MARGARITAVILLE CRUISE	JUNE 24 • 6:30PM
SUNSET CRUISE	JUNE 25 • 7:30PM
LAKE TOUR	JUNE 26 • 3:30PM
LAKE TOUR	JUNE 27 • 3:30PM
SUNSET CRUISE	JULY 2 • 7:30PM
FIREWORKS CRUISE	JULY 3 • 7:30PM
HOE-DOWN CRUISE	JULY 8 • 6:30PM
LAKE TOUR	JULY 10 • 10:00AM
LAKE TOUR	JULY 11 • 10:00AM
MARGARITAVILLE CRUISE	JULY 15 • 6:30PM
SUNSET CRUISE	JULY 16 • 7:30PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.INDIANRANCH.COM

The Indian Ranch Box Office is open Thursday through Sunday, 10AM - 4PM. Tickets are also available by phone: 1-800-514-ETIX (3849). All events are rain or shine. No refunds. For ticketing and group sales, contact tickets@indianranch.com or call 508.943.3871. For event booking, contact banquets@samuelslaters.com. Indian Ranch is less than an hour's drive from Boston, Providence, Hartford and Springfield. Indian Ranch is located at 200 Gore Road in Webster, MA.

Book your summer with these Hot Reads

Recommended by Debra Horan,
Owner of Booklovers' Gourmet, Webster
Bookloversgourmet.com

Summer has arrived! We are certainly ready for some fun in the sun and relaxation. Why not pick up a great read to keep you company and melt all your cares away? Here are just a few of your overabundant options, all available at your local bookstore or library.

Let's start with the obvious summer themed titles by favorite, can't miss authors. Mary Alice Monroe is back with **The Summer of Lost and Found**, another fast-paced story about a family facing upheaval and change with a dose of humor which ultimately leads to unexpected joys. Jennifer Weiner, bestselling author of **Big Summer**, brings us **That Summer**, another timely, twisty novel of intrigue, secrets and the transformative power of female friendship. Take a virtual trip to the idyllic island of Nantucket with Nancy Thayer's **Family Reunion**, touted by another bestselling author Brenda Novak as "the ideal take-me-away beach read." And we mustn't forget Elin Hilderbrand's latest, **Golden Girl**. The queen of the summer read takes us back to Nantucket where a novelist has one final summer to protect her secrets as her loved ones learn to live without their "golden girl" beside them. Last year, Emily Henry brought us **Beach Read**, a story about two writers who couldn't be more different, both dealing with writer's block. Check out her latest, **People**

We Meet on Vacation, where two best friends, who seem to have nothing in common, take summer trips together every year, until a couple of years ago when they ruined everything. Is this their last chance at true happiness?



For an adventurous trip to the South Pacific, try **Miss Benson's Beetle** by Rachel Joyce, British author of **The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry**. This one follows two women, who would never consider themselves friend material, yet end up going on a life-changing adventure together and discover their best selves in the process. If historical fiction is your thing, **The Rose Code** by Kate Quinn is a tour de force

filled with vibrant characters in a riveting tale about the hidden history of Bletchley Park, involving three female code breakers during World War II.

For something a little different, try **The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires** by Grady Hendrix, one of the most rollicking, addictive novels filled with thrills, chills and more. An obvious pick for book groups too.

Let's not forget reading for the young ones. There are many popular graphic novels out there for middle school ages. **Meet the Hound Heroes** by Todd Goldman, led by fearless Captain Chihuahua, Cyborg Pup Power Pug and others in an adventure involving a backyard spaceship crash that gives them superpowers. For a bit of magic & fantasy, try **Wynd, Book One: The Flight of the Prince**, where a young boy must hide his true identity and is forced to leave his home behind to embark on a dangerous quest. **Shy Ninja**, by Adara and Ricardo Sanchez and Arianna Florean, a thrilling adventure about an eleven-year-old girl who suffers from social anxiety and on a dare enrolls in what she thinks is a "fake-sounding" school for ninjas, but it's no joke. The classic **Baby-Sitters Club** has been updated and reformatted into a graphic novel series too, based on the novels by Ann M. Martin. For even younger readers ages 6-9, **Ella Diaries** is a popular series revolving around school, friends and trust.

There are plenty more great books to choose from so don't wait to get started. Happy summer and happy reading.

REUPHOLSTER IT!

Don't throw that comfortable chair away!

DUMAS

Decorating Center
CARPET • WOOD • VINYL • WALLPAPER • PAINT
www.DumasDecoratingCenter.com

Call Dave Today!

470 Riverside Dr. (Rte 12)
N. Grosvenordale, CT
860-923-9619
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm • Sat 9am-Noon
Evenings by Appointment

Southwick's Zoo to light up New England with all new Festival of Illumination beginning in September

Southwick's Zoo in Mendon is excited to announce its all new "Festival of Illumination" beginning in September. This four-month-long premier Chinese Lantern Festival, presented in partnership with the award-winning Zigong Lantern Group,

will be the largest of its kind to be hosted in New England.

From September to January 3, 2022, Southwick's Zoo will be illuminated by breathtaking custom-built exhibits consisting of hundreds of Chinese lanterns meticulously handcrafted from silk, steel, and environmentally friendly LED lights. The theme of this year's event will be "World of Lights;" in addition to highlighting traditional Chinese culture, this spectacular nighttime display will shine a light on a variety of continents and their traditions. Visitors will travel the globe through the incredible artistry of handcrafted Chinese Lanterns and be immersed

in the magical world of imagination and illumination. The Festival of Illumination will take guests on a trip through the African savannahs, the Amazon rainforest, the Great Barrier Reef, as well as many beautiful and fascinating regions in between. Visitors will also enjoy live entertainment, a typical Asian Night Marketplace and specialty foods. Beginning on November 26, the Southwick's Zoo's traditional Winter Wonderland holiday lights as well as additional holiday themed Chinese Lanterns will be added. Santa will be visiting at his enchanted Village.

The Zigong Lantern Group is the largest Chinese lan-



tern festival group in the world with over 20 years of experience in creating these breathtaking events. Zigong has partnered with locations worldwide including the Dublin Zoo, RZSS Edinburgh Zoo, the Nashville Zoo, UK's Longleat House, and Magnolia Plantation, South Carolina. The group's artisans will handcraft the lantern displays on-site at Southwick's Zoo.

The Festival of Illumination - World of Lights is an evening event, 5:30 -10:00 p.m. September to January 3. Advance ticket purchase is required for this must-see experience. More information please visit www.festivalofillumination.com.

Yard sale

OXFORD - St. Roch's Church, 334 Main St., Route 12, Oxford will hold a yard sale on Saturday, June 26 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Summer yard sales

The Helping Hand summer yard sales schedule has been announced. The time of each sale is 8 am to noon. The dates include July 10 and July 24, August 7 and August 21, and September 11. The yard sales are held at Dodge Chapel, 81 Hammond Hill Road, Charlton. To donate call Deb 508-987-0708, Annette 508-347-7596, or Judy 508-248-5580.

ED STEARNS Dressed Meats Inc.

27 Worcester Road, (Rte. 20)
Charlton, MA * 508-248-7866

**All our meat is freshly cut your way...
Come in and tell us what you want!**

WE HAVE: Fresh Cut Steaks (all kinds)

- Beef or Pork Roasts for the Grill
- Fresh Spareribs Boneless or Racks • Irish Banger Sausage
- Fresh Chicken (all kinds) • Chicken Burgers
- Our Own Italian Sausage Hot or Sweet • Our Own Kielbasa
- Marinated Sirloin Tips (many kinds) • Hickory Smoked Bacon
- Fully Cooked Chicken Wings • Marinated Chicken Breasts
- Smoked Jalapeno Cheddar Sausage • Cooked B-B-Q Ribs
- Our Own Homemade Chili • Chinese Style Spareribs
- Our Own Hamburg Patties Specialty Burgers
- B-B-Q Pulled Pork and B-B-Q Chicken
- Spinach & Garlic Chicken Sausage
- Our own Homemade Corned Beef Hash
- Beef & Chicken Teriyaki Sticks

Deli Salads - Our Own Homemade Potato, Macaroni, Summer Slaw, Chicken and Ham Salad

**\$50 \$75 \$100 PACKAGE DEALS AVAILABLE!
CHECK THEM OUT ON OUR WEBSITE**

FIRST PLACE Ed Stearns Dressed Meats Inc. BEST BUTCHER SHOP

Custom cutting section closes 1 hour before closing time.

We Accept Cash, EBT

Visit our website: www.edstearnsdressedmeats.com

Retail Store Hours
Tues. 9am-5pm
Wed. 9am-5pm
Thurs. 9am-6pm
Fri. 9am-6pm
Sat. 9am-4pm

Full Time Experienced

Breakfast/Lunch COOK

Thursday-Saturday 7am-3pm
Sunday 6am-1:30pm

APPLY IN PERSON
No phone calls please

**578 Main St.,
Oxford, MA**

Programs and events @ the Pearle

DUDLEY - Join The Pearle L. Crawford Library for one of its virtual programs at the Pearle, 40 Schofield Ave., Dudley. To register go to www.crawfordlibrary.org or call 508-949-8021

Storytime on Facebook Live, Wednesdays at noon. Join Miss Lida for a live storytime on Facebook every Wednesday at noon, and then stop by the library for a free take-and-make craft kit. No Facebook account is needed for this free program. Just point your browser to <https://www.facebook.com/crawfordlibrary> to access the video. Can't tune in at noon? Recordings of each week's storytime are available on the Facebook page beginning Wednesday afternoon.

Music and Movement, first Friday of every month at 11 a.m. Join Deb Hudgins on Facebook for Music and Movement, one of our most popular programs. Nothing gets kids on their feet and having fun quite like songs, dance and silly stories, and Miss Deb has been. No Facebook account is needed for this free program. Just point your browser to <https://www.facebook.com/crawfordlibrary> to access the video.

Summer reading kickoff event: Tails and Tales with Jungle Jim Monday, June 21 3 p.m. Join us on Zoom for our Summer Reading kickoff event with returning favorite magician Jungle Jim! Free, but registration is required. Registered participants will receive a link for the Zoom program 24 hours before the event. Sponsored by Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

Lunch time story times: Wednesdays at noon throughout the summer. Story time will be held outside in the lot near the children's wing. There will be a take home craft each week that goes with what we read.

These are geared for ages 0-5. Sessions are limited to 15 families. Be advised we will be in a wooded lot so bug spray and sunscreen is recommended.

6/23 Fish; 6/30 Unicorns; 7/7 Mermaids; 7/14 Dragons; 7/21 Animal Safari; 7/28 Bubble Party. Free; registration required.

Make a bug hotel - Friday, June 25 - multiple sessions. A backyard habitat series for birds and pollinators. This program teaches participants the basics of backyard habitats. We will

be making a bug hotel to hang in your yard. This is for ages 6+. Limited to five participants per session. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free, registration required.

Make a magic wand - Tuesday, June 29 - multiple sessions. Come join us to make a magic wand. This is geared for ages 8-12. Limited to five participants per session. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free, registration required.

Rock painting - Thursday, July 1 - multiple sessions. Join us to paint your own rock. We will have some sample ideas you can copy or make your own idea. Ages 8-14. Limited to five participants per session. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free, registration required.

Playful engineers - Tuesday, July 6, 11 a.m. Jay Mankita leads a Rube Goldberg-inspired romp into the world of building complicated chain reactions to accomplish simple tasks, from our own ordinary stuff. Free, but registration is required. Registered participants will receive a link for the Zoom program 24 hours before the event. Sponsored by the Dudley Cultural Council.

Mermaid keychains - Friday, July 9 - multiple sessions. Join us to make your own mermaid keychain using yarn and beads. Ages 8-14. Limited to five participants per session. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free; registration required.

Dissect an owl pellet - Monday, July 12 - multiple sessions. Join us to dissect an owl pellet and see what bones we find and identify them. Ages 5-12. Limited to five participants per session. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free, registration required.

Paint a birdhouse - Friday, July 16 - multiple sessions. Join us to paint and decorate a pre-built birdhouse to attract birds to your yard. Ages 5-12. Limited to five participants per session. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free; registration required.

Burpee and Records petting zoo - Monday, July 19 - multiple sessions. Register for a 25-minute session to meet and pet a variety of real animals. You will have the ability to purchase small amounts of feed for the animals. The money from the feed

machines will go to help the Friends of the Library. Come meet animals like a llama, alpaca, tortoise, squirrel monkey, goats, and others. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free; registration required.

Animal magnets/pendants - Thursday, July 22 (first half) and Monday, July 26 (second half) - multiple sessions. We will be creating animal magnets or pendants. This is a two part activity. Part one is creating the animal and part two is painting it. (If you cannot come to the second session you can take your creation home to dry.) This is for ages 8-12. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free; registration required.

Stuffed animal sleepover - Thursday, July 29, 2-4 p.m. We are letting your stuffed animals take over the library. Drop in and create a bed for your stuffed animal to sleep in, and then leave them to sleep overnight. We will then make sure they have a fun night at the Library. (We will post their adventures on Facebook and Instagram.) Please register your animal. You can drop them off anytime between 2-4 p.m. Sponsored by the Hugh and Harriet Crawford Endowment. Free; registration required.

Summer reading ends - Friday, July 30, 1-3 p.m. Drop in and get an ice cream sandwich or popcorn for participating in summer reading. Ms. Lida will be outside for your last minute reading tracking to put your tickets in the raffle baskets.

FOR SALE

24 Ft. Lowe Pontoon Boat
Mercury Outboard

Call Ron
(508) 737-4942



Zumba class



Auburn Recreation and Culture is sponsoring Zumba Wednesdays, 5:30- 6:30 p.m. at the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex, 203.5 Pakachoag Street. Drop in \$8. Pre-registration required: please email/call Kpappas@town.auburn.ma.us /508-755-3291

Instructor is Amy LeClaire, who has been teaching Zumba for the town of Auburn (Impact Fitness and Auburn Recreation Department) since 2018. Her classes boast a range of ages and fitness levels, and are marked by numerous years of dance experience (Sally McDermott Dance Studios of Auburn), innovative fitness routines, and extensive education. She holds a Masters of Education in Creative Arts from Lesley University, where she specialized in choreography and Creative Movement. Whether trying Amy's Zumba class as a first-timer or working out as a veteran student, members typically leave class feeling energized, fit, and successful. Amy also works as a professional writer for the Yankee Xpress Publication, where she authors the widespread dog column, Living with Lincoln, along with promotional and human-interest stories. Amy has her BS in Ed-Elementary Education MS in Ed - Curriculum and Instruction: Creative Arts in Learning.

GRAND OPENING

3rd Location: Opened June 1st!

8 Englewood Street, Webster, MA

Full synthetic oil change

\$37.97

One time use. Most cars/light trucks. Oil change includes up to 5 quarts of motor oil and new oil filter. Some vehicles extra. Tax and disposal fee extra. Cannot be combined with any other offers. Must present coupon at check-in. Limited time only.

BONUS BUCKS

\$27 OFF

Any Repair or Service of \$149 or More

\$47 OFF

Any Repair or Service of \$399 or More

\$107 OFF

Any Repair or Service of \$799 or More

Cannot combine with any other offers. Excludes tires and batteries. One time use only. Limited time only. Must present coupon at check in.



Jim Hunt

Jason Rousseau

- Complete Car Care Center
- Same Day Service on Most Repairs
- Foreign & Domestic Models
- Free Digital Inspections with pictures for absolute transparency
- 6 Month Financing Available
- Free Loaner Vehicles Available
- 3 Year/36,000 Mile Warranty

SAME GREAT SERVICE AT ALL THREE LOCATIONS!

SCHEDULE YOUR APPOINTMENT TODAY!

THIRD LOCATION OPENED JUNE 1ST!

DUDLEY

199 Oxford Avenue
Dudley, MA
508-213-3100

WEBSTER

626 South Main Street
Webster, MA
508-213-9553

WEBSTER

8 Englewood Street
Webster, MA
508-731-3322

Visit us online at www.ProAutomotiveMA.com

Memorial Day 2021



On hand at the Webster Court of Honor for the placing of the Merchant Marine memorial were (l to r) Alfred Beland, Mike Esposito, George Bibeau and Ron Prest.

A newly installed monument dedicated to the Merchant Marines was part of the solemn Memorial Day exercises at the Webster Court of Honor.

The monument is flanked by statues depicting the Army and Marines with an anchor placed in the center to complete the scene.

The center stone's inscription reads: "Dedicated to those men who gallantly sailed the seas, the unsung heroes of World War II un-

daunted by the severe losses and unimaginable terror inflicted by air and sea attacks, the convoys fulfilled their mission delivering its cargo of men, munitions and supplies that were essential to achieving ultimate victory."

The saluting Marine's inscription reads: The Merchant Marine played a critical role in every Amphibious Operation in the Pacific Theatre from Guadalcanal to Iwo Jima. Their courage, bravery and dedica-

tion to the mission guaranteed our success." - USMC

The saluting Army soldier's inscription reads: "The United States Maritime Service provided the greatest sealift in history between the production Army at home and our fighting forces in Europe. This supply line was crucial to our victory in World War II." - US ARMY

The addition of a Merchant Marine ship will be placed atop the center monument at a future date.

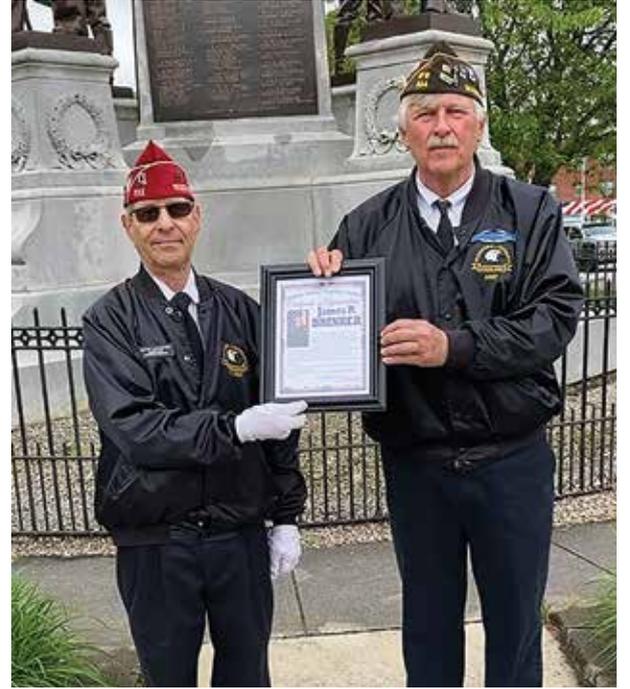
Memorial Day 2021 was again a solemn occasion with local veterans visiting all cemeteries in Webster and Dudley. The traditional parade was canceled due to COVID; however, veterans and local officials gathered at the Webster Court of Honor to place wreaths on the memorials.

Veteran James P. Brinker was honored for his service for many years to the local veterans. Veterans Council Commander Victor Jankowski presented Brinker with a plaque of appreciation for his service. The inscription read:

"On behalf of the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council we wish to express our sincere appreciation and full praise for your many years of dedication to the Webster and Dudley veterans. You have been sincere throughout the years, coordinating the Memorial Day observance, placing of wreaths at each cemetery, organizing the parade and coordinating the ceremony at the Court of Honor. Yours is a dedication to veterans and is greatly appreciated. We, as members of the Webster-Dudley Veterans Council, salute you as you continue to serve our many veterans.

"We, as veterans, encourage you to continue your dedication for years to come as an outstanding veteran.

"Given this 31st day of May, in the year of Our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty One."



Victor Jankowski and James Brinker with plaque.



Veterans Council Commander Victor Jankowski presents the Certificate of Appreciation for veteran James Brinker as Webster Selectmen Earl Gabor and Randy Becker look on.



Class of
2021
Congratulations
May all your futures be picture-perfect.



The Framer's Gallery
567 Southbridge St., Rte. 12, Auburn, MA 01501
508-832-6111
WWW.FRAMEMSGALLERYMA.COM



100s OF ROLLS OF STAIN RESISTANT CARPET

Celebrating 50 Years!

**Carpet Remnants
Pet Proof Carpeting in stock
Bound Area Rugs in stock**

NORTH OXFORD MILLS
Carpet and Flooring
The best values in flooring since 1970

Rte. 12 & Clara Barton Rd., North Oxford • 1-508-987-8521
www.northoxfordmills.com • Open Tues., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 9-5; Wed. 9-8

Vietnam vet continues to serve

War was a long time ago now for Casey Polaski, 72, of Auburn, but the Vietnam veteran, who fought in the conflict with the 101st Airborne ("The Screaming Eagles"), remains active with his brothers on many fronts all these years later, including as a director of the Massachusetts Vietnam Veterans Memorial. Here Mr. Polaski is shown arriving at rain-soaked Elm Park on a soggy Sunday for the city of Worcester's annual Memorial Day Water Ceremony in honor of members of the military whose lives were lost at sea. "Many times here for this event, first time for my dog," he said. In a sense, as the emblems on his jacket attest, he remains on active duty, defending freedom, as he did in helping Journalist Ryan Kern with Mr. Kern's "Finding Faces" project, in which photos of the 58,276 vets who died in Nam were collected.

Photographed by Rod Lee at Elm Park, Worcester, May 30, 2021

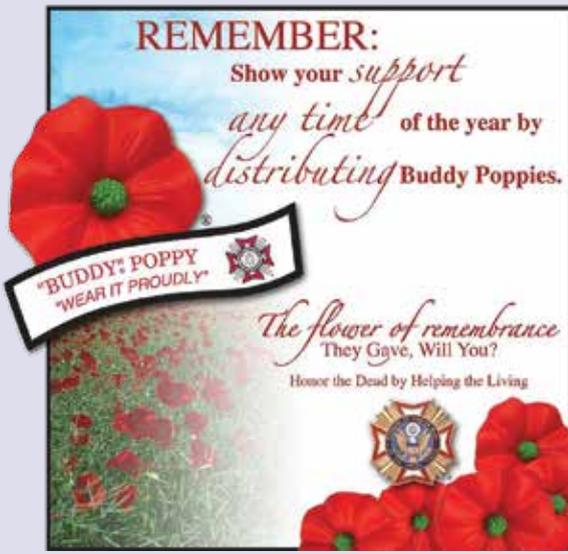


On Saturday, May 29, the VFW Post 654 of Webster/Dudley held a Buddy poppy drive at Park N' Shop, Dippin' Donuts, Nipmuc Liquors and Price Chopper.

Our deepest appreciation to these local businesses for their generous and ongoing support of veterans in our community.

Before Memorial Day in 1922, the VFW conducted our first poppy distribution, becoming the first veterans' organization to organize a nationwide distribution. The poppy soon was adopted as the official memorial flower of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, as it remains today.

During our 1923 encampment, we decided that VFW Buddy® Poppies would be assembled by disabled and needy veterans who would be paid for their work to provide them with financial assistance. The next year, disabled veterans at the



Buddy Poppy factory in Pittsburgh assembled VFW Buddy Poppies. The designation "Buddy Poppy" was adopted at that time.

In February 1924, we registered the name Buddy Poppy with the U.S. Patent Office. A certificate was issued on May 20, 1924, granting our organization all trademark rights

in the name of Buddy under the classification of artificial flowers. We've made that trademark a guarantee that all poppies bearing that name and the VFW label are genuine products of the work of disabled and needy veterans. No other organization, firm or individual can legally use the name Buddy Poppy.

Today, our Buddy Poppies are still assembled by disabled and needy veterans in VA Hospitals.

The VFW Buddy Poppy program provides compensation to the veterans who assemble the poppies, provides financial assistance in maintaining state and national veterans' rehabilitation and service programs and partially supports the VFW National Home for Children. This charity is the main group which the VFW Post 654 of Webster/Dudley has adopted to support annually.

VFW Post 654 Webster/Dudley humbly thanks all who assisted us with this year's drive and especially all those who took the time to say a kind word, give a donation, or share a story of a family member who served.

*Stephen R. Rogerson
Commander,
VFW Post 654*



WE ARE A FACTORY CERTIFIED GENERAC POWERPRO DEALER
AUTHORIZED SALES DEALER • AUTOMATIC STANDBY & PORTABLE GENERATORS

217 Main St • Oxford, MA
508-499-0997
We offer sales and service for all of Generac's Products.



Generac Home Standby Generator

Everything from portable generators to whole home and business automatic standby generators! We have Generac factory trained and certified technicians ready to work on your generator ASAP!

Call us to arrange a complimentary quote for a new installation or upgrade at your home or business today!

\$50 Off!
ANY NEW SERVICE CONTRACT
MUST PRESENT THIS AD. MAY NOT BE COMBINED WITH ANY OTHER OFFERS. EXPIRES 6/30/21 YX

DA Early gives funding to local high schools for graduation celebrations

Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. presented 16 different schools across Worcester County with grants to support fun and safe post-prom and post-graduation activities for students.

This year, Mr. Early's office awarded nearly \$20,000 in grants, including the high schools in Douglas, Grafton, Northbridge, Oxford, Uxbridge and Blackstone-Millville, to support programming that helps keep students from drinking and driving after celebratory events like prom and graduation.

"Students have been dealing with a lot in the last year with the COVID-19 pandemic causing them to miss out on time in school, playing sports and enjoying social activities with friends and family," Mr. Early said. "I am particularly

proud this year to be able to help provide these kids with the fun celebrations they deserve to end the school year safely."

Mr. Early and his Community Outreach Team also offer presentations for teens to promote safety, including the dangers of mixing drugs and alcohol, social host liability awareness for parents, and

distracted driving.

"The hardest part of our job is talking to people in pain. Life can change in the blink of an eye. These programs that our community partners have created help to keep kids safe from unnecessary tragedies caused by combining these celebrations with drinking and driving," Mr. Early said.

The funding for these

grants Mr. Early is providing to high schools across the county is made possible through the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance Drunk Driving Trust Fund, which is a state grant that provides support services and advocacy to victims, witnesses, and their family members of drunk and drugged driving crashes.



Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. presents check to Oxford High School.

Prayer



Jesus

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil (intention), Amen.

If you pray three times a day, three consecutive days, you will receive your intention, no matter how impossible it may seem. Praise and Thanksgiving please the Heart of God.

Believer



Living ON with Lincoln

A visit from Lincoln

By Amy Palumbo-LeClaire
A month has passed since the day I lost Lincoln. I've come to realize that there's no "getting over it" so much as there is finding a way to "get on with it." I know it's what Lincoln wants for me. He had the remarkable ability to allow joy to overcome pain and move forward. Life offers so many unexpected thrills. Why be melancholic when you can stick your head out the car window and watch a movie play out at double speed? Dogs naturally pay attention. They study, learn and appreciate simple pleasures. Consequently, they know stuff before we do. Dogs sense the threat of a storm, a burglar,



a seizure, or even the sorry scent of a non-dog person. "If my dog doesn't like you, there's going to be a problem" is a saying, perhaps, not far from the truth.

Do dogs sense heaven? I believe they do. I believe Lincoln has.

He was about six years old, the hair on his face still a dark blonde. He sensed the Tufts University Dog Park before we arrived. The field! The rolling hills! The parking lot! The routine continued per usual: open car door, jump out, nose to ground, and hustle to the gate. Dogs of all shapes and sizes awaited him with stiff curiosity. "Look at this big guy. He has a ball in his mouth!" Lincoln remained aloof. He preferred humans and there wasn't a thing I could do about it. "Lincoln - look at that dog with the spots!" I built up the Dalmatians. "Look at the dog with the pushed in face! He's ugly-cute!" I complimented the Boxers. But Lincoln, non-compliant, chose to sit at the heels of humans and drop ball after ball by their toes, an unobtrusive suggestion to play. "Toss up a quick one and I'll bring it back!"

I let him participate in a few rounds of fetch before we'd take part in a favorite routine, a hike through a woody trail



located behind the park. The dog-hike, I must confess, is a superior mood elevator, far better than any pill I'm aware of. "Look at this rock! Oh my gosh, do you smell that chipmunk! What's up ahead? Look - a secret cave. Let's explore. You coming?" Dogs are fantastically grateful for simple, un-

expected pleasures.

About a half mile into the hike, a rocky incline led us to the border of the woods, where the dark of the wilderness meets the light of the sky. As though passing from one world to the next, we climbed over a stone wall and entered. A breathtaking green meadow stretched for miles below a clear blue sky. The landscape appeared as bright and crisp as the shiny page of a hardcover fairy tale book. "Go ahead, Lincoln! Go take a run. I'll be right here." I wanted Lincoln to experience the breadth of the green meadow, and take a break from human rules. I wanted him to enjoy some free time.

The problem was, Lincoln knew something.

"Not yet. Not now."

He lifted his chin to the air, absorbed the scene with his

nose, then made an abrupt to decision to turn around and come sit by my side. Heaven. "You don't want to go?" I pet his head. He broke into his easy smile. Not yet. Something stirred in my heart while we sat in the quiet of the meadow that day. Small and humble, we both knew. There was something greater awaiting us.

I have faith, but I'm hu-



as the one needed on the day he was euthanized) around his neck and, together, we weaved through the crowd. Lincoln was leading me to the ocean. I knew it. That's when I woke up, struck by a revelation. An ocean visit had been on our bucket list. It was the one thing I wanted to accomplish with him this summer.

The next dream, which occurred a few days later, had a completely different tone. Lincoln was sleeping with his head on a pillow. His coat was un-groomed and slightly stinky. I knew viscerally that I wasn't supposed to wake him. He needed to sleep. We needed to be apart. But Lincoln knew something more. He sensed me and jostled. Then he nudged my arm with his snout in an affirmative, very deliberate way. He wanted to be close. I kept moving back to let him sleep, but he kept moving closer. Finally, I let him rest his head on my lap. I pet his head softly, just as I had the day he died.

Lincoln may have passed, but we are still together. My dog knows.

Dear Reader - Thank you for your heartfelt condolences during the past month, and for sharing your stories with me via amyleclaire@hotmail.com. Losing a dog is never easy, but having each other to lean on sure does make a difference. Stay tuned for more on Living with Lincoln!



Lincoln always preferred to play with humans.

Missy's Doggy Day Spa
Happy Summer
82 Dresser Hill Rd. Charlton, MA 508-248-0056
WALK-IN NAIL SERVICE
Owner/Groomer Meaghan Lanagan www.missysdoggydayspa.com

We're Cheap
LEBLANC OIL LLC
EST. 2008
508-248-1444
24 HOUR SERVICE

- 24 Hour Emergency Service
- Automatic Delivery
- Fuel Assistance Accepted
- Licensed In House Technicians (NO subcontracting)
- Burner Service
- Oil Tank Installations (Free Estimates)

5¢ OFF PER GALLON OF OIL OF 175 GALLONS OR MORE
Must present coupon. Offer cannot be combined.

DELIVERY AREAS
Auburn, Brimfield, Brookfield, Charlton, Cherry Valley, Dudley, East Brookfield, Fiskdale, Holland, Leicester, North Brookfield, North Oxford, Millbury, Oxford, Rochdale, Spencer, Southbridge, Sturbridge, Sutton & Webster.
Connecticut: N. Grosvenordale, Quinebaug, Thompson & Woodstock.

Monday-Friday 7:30am-5pm
Saturday 9:30-2pm

NEW OFFICE LOCATION IN SOUTHBRIDGE | 34 NEWMAN AVE.

man. Since Lincoln's passing on April 16th, I've prayed for him to show me a sign that he's okay. My husband had already received one, the rare and relentless chirping of a bird (on the night of his death) by the window in our family room where the two used to sit before bed.

"Show me a sign, too, Lincoln," I prayed.

My sign(s) came to me in dreams, both of which reflected the same distinct quality. The dreams were not hazy, scattered, and confusing. Instead, they were crystal clear and made complete sense.

They were so—

Lincoln!

So real.

During the first, I was behind the closed door of a crowded beach resort. People with no voice roamed everywhere. A large concession stand sat at the front of the crowd. I sensed Lincoln on the other side of the door. I just knew he was there waiting, so opened the door. "I knew you were here! I've missed you so much, Lincoln!" I knelt beside him and gave him a hug. He lifted his head as he usually does and smiled. Then I looped a leash (the same style

Library book sale

WEBSTER - The Gladys E. Kelly Library, 2 Lake Street, Webster, is planning a Book Sale. It is summertime and the reading is easy. Come to the Book Sale and pick up your summer read.

Hard copy books \$1.00, paperbacks \$.50, a bag of books \$5.00. The final dates are Friday, June 25, 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.; Saturday, June 26, 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

SH Summer Sports Academy

DUDLEY - The Shepherd Hill Summer Sports Academy is back and accepting applications for all youths grades K through 8. Clinics are held at Shepherd Hill, 68 Dudley Oxford Road, Dudley. The program offers eight weeks of athletics and activities led by coaches, teachers and student athletes.

Week 1 - June 28 to July 1 offering co-ed soccer and arts and crafts.

Week 2 - July 6-9, football, volleyball, backyard games, and Magic.

Week 3 - July 12-15, Boys lacrosse, field hockey, Lego construction.

Week 4 - July 19-22, Baseball, softball, arts and crafts.

Week 5 - July 26-29, Girls lacrosse, speed clinic, Magic.

Week 6 - August 2-5, Co-ed track and field, nature/environmental.

Week 7 - August 9-12, Co-ed basketball, Lego construction.

Week 8 - August 16-19, Co-ed golf, co-ed tennis, backyard games.

Cost is \$99 per weekly clinic and you can pre-register and pay online at <https://bit.ly/3oTuvZx>; Facebook.com/SHSportsAcademy; twitter @SHSportsAcademy.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students inducted into the National Technical Honor Society

CHARLTON - Five Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students were inducted into the National Technical Honor Society (NTHS) on Sunday, May 9 during an in-person ceremony held amidst the apple blossoms at Douglas Orchard and Farms. The outside event marked the 6th annual induction ceremony for the Academy.

Every year, practical nursing students eagerly look forward to this prestigious event, according to Academy Director, Dr. Gretheline Bolandrina, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN. "Making it through nursing school is an

achievement, being inducted into the NTHS is another feather in their cap. The PN students juggle school, work, and family life, it is quite a feat to be inducted to the HTHS," said Bolandrina, who has been organizing the induction ceremony for the last 6 years.

The practical nursing students are eligible for induction based on their grade point average, faculty recommendation, character, and leadership involvement in extracurricular activities, and clubs. These characteristics reflect the seven member attributes of the National Technical Honor Society which are skill,

honesty, service, responsibility, scholarship, citizenship, and leadership.

"It's amazing how kind, wonderful and resilient our practical nursing students are," added Bolandrina. "They navigated the rigorous program through these challenging times and even managed to participate in many volunteer activities to help the community."

PN Class of 2021 NTHS Inductees were Monique Bull, Loise Kamero, Grace Mwangi (all of Worcester), Risper Wanjiru of Webster, and Tianna Welcome of Oxford.



PN Class of 2021 NTHS Inductees Monique Bull, Loise Kamero, Grace Mwangi (all of Worcester), Risper Wanjiru of Webster, and Tianna Welcome of Oxford.



BECOME A SENIOR VOLUNTEER Make Giving Back Your Second Act

Join the Family Services of Central Massachusetts network of AmeriCorps Seniors Volunteers, aged 55 and over, who are sharing their positive outlook and life experiences to make a difference in the lives of others and their communities.

Engage one-on-one with another senior or pursue a cause close to your heart. As an AmeriCorps Seniors Volunteer, you will be living life to the fullest—for others and yourself. Take the first step and call Joy Rehfeld at 508.791.7787, today!



508.791.7787

SCRAP METAL

FREE DROP-OFF!

NO CHARGE FOR DROP-OFF!

ACCEPTING ALL METALS!
Washing Machines • Dryers
Water Heaters • Dishwashers
• Air Conditioners •
Cars & car parts - NO tires
Phone Equipment • Much More!

FARRAR AUTO BODY, INC.

204 Main Street • Oxford, MA
508-987-0022

The Car Doctor

John Paul is AAA Northeast's Car Doctor. He has over 40 years' experience in the automotive business and is an ASE certified master technician. He will answer reader's questions each week. You can find the Car Doctor podcast at www.johnpaul.podbean.com or other popular podcast sites. Email your car questions to jpaul@aaanortheast.com. Follow John on Twitter @johnpaul and friend him on facebook [mrjohnpaul](https://www.facebook.com/mrjohnpaul).



Q. I have a 2013 Kia Sportage and I received a note from my dealer to perform an update to the engine knock sensor. The car runs great, should I have this update performed?

A. There are some Kia and Hyundai engines that have serious engine bearing failure. This update detects a bearing knocking sound and turns on a check engine light to prevent further damage and possible breakdown. I would certainly have the update performed. In addition to detecting the possible engine failure, a portion of the engine warranty is extended to 150,000 miles.

Q. This isn't a car question but more of a driving question. I have a traditional style GPS with a 12-volt power cord. Where is the safest place to mount the GPS on the windshield? I do have a map app on my phone, but I like my Garmin better.

A. It is a bit of a personal choice and to some extent depends on the car. I prefer to mount my GPS in the center of the windshield as low as possible out of my normal line of sight. Some drivers will put the GPS to the far left of the windshield. I find this position adds to a blind spot caused by the windshield pillar and the side view mirror. The far left position can also present problems with routing the power cord. Be aware, in some parts of the country, driving with anything attached to your windshield and blocking your view is considered a traffic violation.

Q. My Ford Explorer with adaptive cruise control is acting very odd. After driving for a while, sometimes in as little as 20 minutes, sometimes over an hour, I get a message that the adaptive cruise control has failed - and it has. The next time I start the car it works again, until it fails. If I switch to regular cruise control after the failure, that always works. My Ford dealer drove the car and says it's fine; of course, they didn't drive it far. What's up? I had to change jobs due to COVID and now have a 2-hour drive to work and really appreciate the adaptive feature of my cruise control.

A. Since the cruise control works in conventional mode, that helps eliminate several items that are working. Ford has a very specific procedure for testing the adaptive cruise control function. This includes inspecting the cruise control module for dirt, proper alignment and diagnostic trouble codes. Now if the issue is the cruise control doesn't function in rain or snow, this is typical of most advanced cruise control systems. The most common repair that I have found is replacing the cruise control module.

Q. I have a 2013 Hyundai Santa Fe and my mechanic is suggesting I replace the transmission fluid, brake fluid and power steering fluid. I've been warned that dirty transmission fluid can cause excessive wear and possibly failure of the transmission. The brake fluid is contaminated with copper and moisture and can cause multiple brake and ABS component failures. The dirty power steering fluid can cause failure of hoses, seals and other components. It all sounds very dire, and I'm wondering what your thoughts are and if I need to get this work done. It can be very expensive.

A. Certainly, replacing dirty fluids always makes sense. The question is how dirty is dirty and contaminated. New fluid can look dirty in as little as 30 days. Power steering and brake fluid, according to Hyundai, have no specific replacement interval and just require inspection every 30,000 miles. Certainly, as power steering fluid ages it will become discolored but the color on its own is not enough reason to replace it. Brake fluid many times will get replaced as brake work is being performed. The transmission fluid has a specific recommendation of replacement at 105,000 miles. At this point I would just

get a second opinion and look at your car's records and see if some of this work has already been performed.

Q. I'm curious, do you think all of these advanced safety features that we see in some newer cars will reduce "tailgating" and the increase driver distraction because drivers are not paying enough attention? I believe if everyone drove a stick shift car, we would have less testing and car crashes, because drivers would pay more attention.

A. There are many features that can help with crashes. Smart cruise control can prevent tailgating since the following driver sets a predetermined distance between their car and vehicles in front of them. Automatic emergency braking can help slow or stop a vehicle following another vehicle when the driver is not paying attention. Stability control can also help with vehicle control that may prevent rollovers. All of these systems are designed to work with a fully engaged driver, not replace them. Although I do like your idea of all stick-shift vehicles, but I fear that people would still be on their phones.

Ron Moscoffian
Appr. #9537

M&M Auto Body
7 Industrial Park West, Bldg. 2
Oxford, MA 01540
508-987-7070
mm.auto@verizon.net

Scott Milner
R.S. #3926

"Guaranteed Fast Service, No Matter How Long It Takes"

The Yankee Xpress

Your source for business and community news and advertising.
ads@theyankeeexpress.com • news@theyankeeexpress.com

GENERAL TIRE
Continental TIRE
FALKEN TIRES

Most brands not in stock can usually be ordered in one day

DICK'S TIRE BARN

We Buy Used Tires

SPECIALIZING IN NEW AND USED TIRES

TPMS Sales & Service

508-248-4811
1 Horne Homestead Rd. (Rt. 20), Charlton, MA 01507
Hours: Monday thru Friday 8:30 to 5:00 / Saturday 8:30 to 2:00
Website: dickstirebarn.com • Email: dickstire03@aol.com

WeatherTech
Authorized Diamond Dealer

BUY HERE PAY HERE

Payments as low as **\$50 per week**
Come Pick Out Your Car!

Bad Credit
No Credit
No Problem
WE FINANCE EVERYONE!

Come Check Out Our Prices!

FARRAR AUTO BODY, INC.
204 Main Street • Oxford, MA
508-987-0022

VISA MasterCard

AMERICAN RENT-ALL LLC
and American Self Storage

- Self Storage
- Climate Controlled Areas
- Honda Generators/Mowers
- Moving Supplies
- Propane

HONDA Power Equipment

SALES & SERVICE

www.AmericanRentAll.com

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm • Saturday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

Inquire within or call for details.
Route 131, Thompson, CT 06277
860-923-2155 • 860-923-9100 • 860-923-2626

PLYWOOD PLUS
The PLUS is so much more...

Kitchen Design • Kitchen Cabinets • Pine Molding • Doors
Windows • Hardwood Floors • Custom Orders • Hardware

Family Owned and Operated
#1 Merrilatt Dealer in Worcester County
Builder's Premium Supplier

Free Kitchen Design
Delivery Available
Personalized Customer Care

600 Park Ave, Worcester • 508.831.9900 • www.plywoodplus.com

Merrilatt
THERMA TRU
WOODS

Best Buddies Friendship car parade



Volunteers cheer on Best Buddies parade participants.

Best Buddies students and their families participated in its Friendship Car Parade at the MAPFRE Insurance campus on Gore Road in Webster recently. Dozens of MAPFRE employees volunteered to help with logistics and provide overall support. Best Buddies works to enrich the lives of youths and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through their Friendship program, Jobs program and Leadership Development program.



Pictured l-r: Chad Stawiecki, Kathleen Mazurek, Jane Herrion, Jose Luis Bernal, Carmen Gargallo, CEO Jamie Tamayo, Sue Gryb, COO Jose Corral.

Dudley COA during the pandemic year

Throughout the pandemic, the Dudley COA has been actively working behind the scenes, from zoom meetings, conference calls, webinar meetings, all communications have been quite frequent, crucial and sometimes overwhelming. Senior outreach has never been more important, as seniors were taking the brunt of the COVID-19 in illnesses and fatalities. Many remained in lockdown for months on end giving rise to possible emotional/mental health concerns, as well as recognized setbacks for those who have dementia, Alzheimer's, or other cognitive issues.

The COA is considered by the State of Massachusetts to be an essential service, and we have remained active and vigilant, throughout the pandemic even though our usual office setting had been closed since March 2020. We have been working with Tri Valley Elders Inc. for Elder Nutrition, emotional support, and crisis support throughout these many months. It's been an ongoing challenge for everyone in finding new and creative ways to reach to out our seniors, as many aren't online and many don't want to be. It has also been challenging reaching out and staying in contact with our professional support systems, our colleagues, who kept us in focus of our direction in helping seniors get through this dark and unprecedented time. It felt dark and ominous to me at times too, but the se-

niors gave me hope, if they could persevere so could I. Special thanks to MCOA and The Office of Elder Affairs as they have never lost sight or waived support in direction of our community members, our questions, concerns, solutions, or even bright, workable ideas to share amongst other COAs. Their clear focus being always on our Massachusetts Senior Population and helping navigate the ever changing

foggy terrain, week to week at our many meetings we attended. MDPH and Gov. Baker also kept us up to date with regular meetings, about virus transmission, masking, social distancing, schools, contact tracing, vaccine sign ups and clinics. COAs were always invited to leave questions we wanted answers to before any meetings.

*Margaret Bussiere,
Director Dudley COA*



WDO Chamber scholarships

The Webster-Dudley-Oxford Chamber of Commerce scholarship program has been in place dating back to the mid 90s, awarding over \$125,000 in scholarships. The funds are generated primarily from the Chamber's annual scholarship golf tournament from the generous support of sponsors and golfers who play in the annual event.

The scholarships (\$1500.00) are awarded to students from Bartlett High School, Shepherd Hill, Oxford High School, Bay Path and a WDO member.

The 2021 recipients are: Gabriela Piwowarczyk from Bartlett High School; Panayiota Veronis from Shepherd Hill Regional High School; Joseph Szela from Oxford High School; Ryan Steiner from Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School; and Tyler McKay, the Philip L. Hopkins Memorial.

Morse Lumber Co., Inc.

994 North Woodstock Road, Southbridge, MA (Rt. 169) - 1/2 mile from CT line
www.morse-lumber.com



"Quality at a Savings"

Building Materials and Supplies

K.D. Framing • Pressure Treated Lumber & Ties • Composite Decking • Trusses & Engineered Lumber • Pine • Cedar • Plywood • Roofing • Siding • Windows • Doors • Insulation • Mouldings • Drywall • Ceilings • Flooring • Hardware • Cements • Split Rail Fencing • Septic Pipe • Fabric • Gutters • Replacement windows

Sawmill Products: • Rough Sawn Dimension Lumber • Boards • Timbers • Industrial Lumber • Wood Chips • Grade Stakes • Softwood and Hardwood

508-764-3231

"Quality Materials and Service Since 1951"

Fully Insured & Licensed in MA
RI Reg #: 41975
HIC #: 190392



• Roofing
• Chimney

• Gutters
• Siding

Working with you every step of the way!

SHINE
CONSTRUCTION INC

CALL FOR A FREE ESTIMATE TODAY

508-278-3300

• SERVING ALL OF NEW ENGLAND •

www.shineconstructioninc.com

SMALL LOAD CONCRETE

SERVING WORCESTER COUNTY



WHY SMALL LOAD CONCRETE?

- Buy ONLY what you need
- Flexibility - according to your schedule
- Custom Mix / Pour on the job...no "Hot-Loads"
- Less Expensive than bagged and large mixers
- No Minimum Quantity to purchase
- Cost Effective • No Waste
- Environmentally Friendly
- No job too small

CONCRETE APPLICATIONS

Homeowners

- Patios
- Steps
- Fence Posts
- Decks
- Retaining Walls
- Pool Decks

Contractors

- Gas Stations
- Road Work
- Footings
- Curbing
- Sidewalks
- Pre-Cast

Custom-Concrete: Buy only the quantity you need.

NO LOAD TOO SMALL!

Sidewalk & curb repair - concrete finishing services available
Also available for delivery on **SATURDAYS...**



34 Providence Road, Sutton, MA
508-770-1200 • www.smallloadconcrete.com

Tales from beyond

The Colonial Inn in Concord

By Thomas D'Agostino

Welcome to the Colonial Inn in Concord. This story details the history and haunts of one of New England's most haunted inns.

The Colonial Inn in Concord, Massachusetts sits in the heart of American history. Concord is where the "shot heard 'round the world" was fired on April 19, 1775, signaling the official start of the American Revolution.

The Colonial Inn also hosts several ghosts who still remain from the time when the first shots of the war rang out, and perhaps before.

The original portion of the inn was built by Captain James Minot in 1716. He left the building to his son, James

Jr., a lieutenant in the French and Indian Wars, Justice of the Peace and a member of the Royal Governor's Council. A descendant, Dr. Timothy Minot owned the home at the time of the famous aforementioned skirmish.

In 1789, the building was owned by Deacon John White, where the central portion was used as a variety store and the rest as private residences. In 1799, John Thoreau purchased a portion of the inn that now houses the office and sitting room for use as a private residence. It was in these rooms young Henry David Thoreau stayed from 1835 to 1837 while attending Harvard.

In 1839, Daniel Shattuck purchased the building. He had already been running the general store for 18 years previous. At that point he turned the store into a dwelling. By 1885 the structure was a boarding house and finally, in 1889, it became a hotel known as the Thoreau House, named in honor of Henry's aunts who were once dedicated assistants in the daily chores of the place.

In 1900, Mr. and Mrs. Abrams named it Concord's Colonial Inn, the name that has graced its signs ever since. There is much history to the three buildings that occasionally come to life with the spirits of the past.

During the Battle of Lexington, Dr. Timothy Minot used present day Room 24 as an operating room. The Liberty Room was a field hospital and Room 27 was the morgue. Room 27 still reverberates with the horror and sorrow of that infamous day in 1775. Guests have witnessed the ghosts of colonial soldiers in the room or have heard desperate disembodied voices.



Sobbing is also heard along with faint whispers as if someone is consoling a person in mourning.

The Liberty Room is now a dining room but to those of yesteryear, it is still an active field hospital. Guests have witnessed people dressed in colonial attire sitting in the room. Upon commenting to the staff their approval of the people dressed in period garments, they are met with the grim truth that there are no such persons employed at the inn.

Items are known to fall off shelves or vanish for weeks, only to turn up in a most conspicuous place. Guests and staff hear voices directly behind them. When they turn to see who is speaking to them, there is no one there. One patron entered the room and saw a man in colonial dress sitting

at the table. He turned quickly to alert his friends of the "actor" but when he turned back, the man was gone.

A newlywed couple stayed in Room 24. During the night, the woman awoke to the sight of a greyish glowing figure standing near the foot of the bed. The figure stood there for a few moments, then turned and vanished into the fireplace. Some believe it is Dr. Minot checking on his patients. Others have seen the ghost of a nurse or have felt someone touch them while in the room. One person felt someone touch his shoulder. He then heard a voice say, "Don't worry, your shoulder will be alright."

It just so happens that he had recently sustained a shoulder injury and was recovering from it. Another guest of Room 24 complained that the light in the closet went on and shadows could be seen pacing to and fro from under the door.

The Sitting Room is another spot where ghosts like to visit. The ghost of an elderly woman and a tall slim gentleman with a top hat are often seen reclining in the chairs. No one is sure who the woman is but many seem to think the man is none other than Henry David Thoreau paying an otherworldly visit to his former home.

The ghosts of the Colonial Inn are not confined strictly to rooms. One cannot pass through the halls without feeling someone, or something is walking with or behind them. The ghost of a young woman in a bonnet is seen near the front desk and gift shop. The ghost of a nurse, called Rosemary by the staff, is also witnessed meandering through the halls. The shuffling of feet is sometimes heard yet there is no visible being causing the phenomena. Several guests strolling through the hallways have been brushed by an invisible being as if they were passing in the opposite direction. Other guests have seen the shadows of feet under their door. When they open it, no one is there.

Of all the areas in the inn, Room 24 seems to get the most attention. This was the room used by Dr. Timothy Minot as an operating room during

the April 19, 1775, skirmish. Some of the wounded brought there did not make it through surgery and their spirits still linger. Lights are known to flicker, or turn on suddenly, along with the television. Voices are heard in the room and sometimes from the closet. Guests have seen the shadow of feet moving about in the closet. When opened, it is obviously vacant. Doors in the room open and shut on their own as if someone is moving through the area. A woman tucks in visitors and the hall nurse ghost, Rosemary, also appears in the room.

In 1966, Mr. M.P. and Judith Fellenz occupied the room for a night Mrs. Fellenz would never forget. She later wrote a letter to the inn stating that she was disturbed from her slumber by something at the foot of the bed. It was a grayish figure standing there looking at her. The figure then slowly moved toward the fireplace and melted away. When she brought the incident up to her husband, he merely commented that the ghost was included with the price of the room.

A paranormal investigative group recently held a vigil in Room 24. When they reviewed the video, the misty form of a person kneeling by the bed could be seen. Was it someone praying for a wounded loved one? Perhaps. The ghosts of the Colonial are harmless, yet very much part of the history of the inn that perennially houses famous moments and people. In fact, the Concord's Colonial Inn is rated by one magazine the sixth most haunted inn in New England while another rates it number three, just behind its sister hotel, The Hawthorne in Salem, Massachusetts. Historic Hotels of America puts it in their top 25 for its ghosts. Stay a night and enjoy an amazing piece of history, both living and otherwise.

Thomas D'Agostino and his wife Arlene Nicholson are seasoned paranormal investigators, authors, and co-organizers of Paranormal United Research Society. You can find out more about them by visiting www.tomdagostino.com. www.diningwiththedead1031.com



The Liberty Room, now a dining room, was once and still is an active field hospital.



JEFF D. HELGERSON EXCAVATING, INC.
"HELGERSON'S"

79 Bay Path Road, Charlton, MA 01507
 508.248.7242 • Fax 508.248.4654
www.helgersonexcavating.com

**** NOW HIRING ****

Helgerson's is taking applications for the following positions:

- **Class A CDL Drivers**
- **Class B CDL Drivers**
- **Laborer**

Benefits Include:

- 100% paid Medical Insurance premiums
- STD & Life Insurance
- Simple IRA, with matched contribution
- Paid Time Off
- Paid Uniforms
- On-Call Incentive Pay
- Annual Bonus (based on Company performance)

Laborer must be 18. Pay is based on experience.
 Visit our Website at
www.helgersonexcavating.com
 Interested applicants may direct questions and application requests to
Jessica Pinto-Boniface at 508.248.7242

QUALITY BUILDING MATERIALS

FOR ALL YOUR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND REMODELING NEEDS!

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE • FREE DELIVERY • ESTIMATING

Lumber & Plywood • Windows • Doors • Millwork • Roofing • Insulation • Decking

Rail Systems • Siding • Hardwood • Fasteners • and Much More!



Family Owned And Operated Since 1952.

124 Main St., Millbury

cslumberco.com • 508-865-4822

Mon. - Fri. 7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. • Sat. 7:30 a.m. - Noon

VISIT US FOR YOUR NEXT PROJECT!

HOMEOWNERS WELCOME!

The Yankee Xpress

Your source for business and community news and advertising.

ads@theyankeeexpress.com

news@theyankeeexpress.com

Pete's Sports



Peter Coyle



Sponsored by Oxford Ins. Agency
300 Main St., Oxford
508-987-0333
pcoyle@oxfordinsurance.com

Dominic Manzi-Knych has caught a break in his young life and congratulations to him as he enters into the Division One college basketball world at UMASS Amherst as an assistant coach for head coach Matt McCall who will be en-

Dominic Manzi-Knych named UMASS assistant basketball coach

tering his fifth season on the UMASS campus.

UMASS is in the ultra competitive Atlantic 10 conference and Manzi-Knych is grateful and excited for such an opportunity at a very young age.

Manzi-Knych just graduated from UMASS in May with a bachelor of science degree in sport management. He graduated from Bartlett High School in 2017 and was part of the Indians 2017 Clark Tournament and District championship team.

As an undergrad at UMASS Dominic worked his way up to the assistant position by be-

ing a tireless student manager during his freshman and sophomore years and then got promoted to senior manager his junior and senior years on the UMASS basketball team under the watchful eye of Coach McCall.

Hard work always pays off and in this situation for Manzi-Knych it was all worth it. "I love Coach McCall and UMASS basketball and when the job opened up recently, my first thought was I must be dreaming," said Manzi-Knych. McCall must have seen what we all know in these parts, that Dominic is a tireless worker and his loyalty goes on forever, but his staple quality is his humility.

McCall offered the title of video coordinator to Manzi-Knych last week and the dream has come true for the local kid. His mother Luanne Manzi and his father John Knych are glowing with the news of their son landing such a position right away in a national setting of college basketball.

The video position on the college and professional sports levels is the recapturing of what happened in practices and games using video editing software to compile breakdowns of specific plays or techniques.

The Atlantic 10 conference has the likes of Dayton, St. Louis, URI, Fordham, St. Bo-

naventure, George Mason, and Richmond to name a few. Manzi-Knych said, "there are no nights off in the A10. All the schools in the A10 have great facilities and atmosphere to play in. It is a very competitive conference. The goal is to compete and get to the NCAA tournament every year."

The Minutemen ended their 2020-21 season in the A10 quarter finals where they were beat by St. Louis. However, it was the farthest they advanced since 2014.

The outlook is bright at UMASS and McCall's coaching resume started with Billy Donavan at Florida as an assistant and then a two year head coaching stint at Chattanooga before landing at UMASS in 2017. McCall has put the foundation in for the Minutemen to be successful this season and make a run at the NCAA tournament. There has been a lot of movement on their roster to make that expectation a reality.

Manzi-Knych has a huge task in front of him at such an early age and relishes the fact that he is in a big time atmosphere in a program that is at the cusp of achieving the ultimate goals of an NCAA division one bonafide program where the lights are the brightest and the bands are the loudest.

It doesn't get any better for Dominic Manzi-Knych from



Dominic Manzi-Knych on the job at UMASS.

Webster. The kid put his head down and worked his way up the ladder the old school way. He is a valuable cog in the UMASS basketball wheel and he has prepared himself to embrace the opportunity.

Good Luck to Manzi-Knych and UMASS. Webster has a young son at a tender age in the big show of college basketball by way of his humil-

ity, perseverance, and hard work. His day-to-day responsibilities are demanding and crucial to Head Coach Matt McCall and the entire UMASS basketball program. Dominic is chomping at the bit for this opportunity. The opportunity couldn't have happened to a better kid. A great lesson of preparation meeting opportunity.



Dominic Manzi-Knych on his way to a career in coaching.

Al's

RUBBISH & CONTAINER

77 Providence Rd., Sutton, MA 01590

Phone: (508) 865-4193

Website: www.alsrubbish.com

E-Mail: alsrubbish@gmail.com



Al's Rubbish Provides

- Dumpster Rental Services 7 Days
- All Rentals Include Drop Off and Pick Up
- No Hidden Fees
- Estate Clean Outs
- Furniture/Appliance
- We Recycle

Dumpster Rental Special

SUTTON, MILLBURY and CRAFTON

10 yard	\$300
15 yard	\$350
20 yard	\$475

3 DAY RENTAL ONLY !!

Serving the Blackstone Valley and the Surrounding Towns in Worcester County

Support Local Small Business



FREE DROP OFF AND PICK UP!

508-865-4193 • WWW.ALSRUBBISH.COM

Tips on financial planning



Dennis Antonopoulos

A generation or so ago, people didn't just retire from work – many of them also withdrew from a whole range of social and communal activities. But now, it's different: The large Baby Boom cohort, and no doubt future ones, are insisting on an active lifestyle and continued involvement in their communities and world. So, what should you know about this “new retirement?”

How can you prepare for the “new retirement?”

And how can you prepare for it?

For starters, consider what it means to be a retiree today. The 2020 Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study has identified these four interrelated, key ingredients, along with the connected statistics, for living well in the new retirement:

- **Health** – While physical health may decline with age, emotional intelligence – the ability to use emotions in positive ways – actually improves, according to a well-known study from the University of California, among others. However, not surprisingly, retirees fear Alzheimer's and other types of dementia more than any physical ailment, including cancer or infectious dis-

eases, according to the “Four Pillars” study.

- **Family** – Retirees get their greatest emotional nourishment from family relationships – and they'll do anything it takes to help support those family members, even if it means sacrificing their own financial security. Conversely, retirees lacking close connections with family and friends are at risk for all the negative consequences resulting from physical and social isolation.

- **Purpose** – Nearly 90% of Americans feel that there should be more ways for retirees to use their talents and knowledge for the benefit of their communities and society at large. Retirees want to spend their time in useful, rewarding ways – and they're

well capable of doing so, given their decades of life experience. Retirees with a strong sense of purpose have happier, healthier lives and report a higher quality of life.

- **Finances** – Retirees are less interested in accumulating more wealth than they are in having sufficient resources to achieve the freedom to live their lives as they choose. Yet, retirees frequently find that managing money in retirement can be even more challenging than saving for it. And the “unknowns” can be scary: Almost 70% of those who plan to retire in the next 10 years say they have no idea what their health-care and long-term care costs will be in retirement.

So, if you're getting close to retirement, and you're consid-

ering these factors, how can you best integrate them into a fulfilling, meaningful way of life? You'll want to take a “holistic” approach by asking yourself some key questions: What do you want to be able to do with your time and money? Are you building the resources necessary to enjoy the lifestyle you've envisioned? Are you prepared for the increasing costs of health care as you age? Have you taken the steps to maintain your financial independence, and avoid burdening your family, in case you need some type of long-term care? Have you created the estate plans necessary to leave the type of legacy you desire?

By addressing these and other issues, possibly with the

help of a financial professional, you can set yourself on the path toward the type of retirement that's not really a retirement at all – but rather a new, invigorating chapter of your life.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Dennis Antonopoulos, your local Edward Jones Advisor at 5 Albert Street, Auburn, MA 01501 Tel: 508-832-5385 or dennis.antonopoulos@edwardjones.com. Edward Jones Member SIPC. Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your estate-planning attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

Resource directory

ads@TheYankeeXpress.com

home

CAPITOL SIDING & HOME IMPROVEMENT COMPANY, INC.

Custom Exteriors • Vinyl Siding Replacement Windows Roofing • Seamless Gutters

MARK SARKISIAN, JR.
markjr@capitolsiding.com
www.capitolsiding.com

30 Auburn Street
Auburn, MA 01501
Tel 508-832-5981
Fax (508) 832-0464

70 YEARS OF SERVICE

automotive

**WE WILL BUY YOUR VEHICLE
CAR - TRUCK - SUV
AT THE BEST PRICE!!**

2010 - 2019 MODELS

Perro's ASK FOR JOHN or MICHAEL
508-641-8195
508-641-8197

PRE-OWNED AUTOS Since 1965

772 Southbridge St., Rt. 12, Auburn, MA 01501
www.PerroAuto.com

home

A.P. Mandella Landscaping

**STUMP GRINDING
Chip Removal
LOAM & SEED
Small Backhoe services**

Call Anthony @ 508-340-1640
Auburn, MA

**Fully Insured
Free Estimates**

CLEAN OUTS
DONE BY
MrCleanest.com

WE DO EVERYTHING!!
“Better than the rest” - VERY REASONABLE PRICES TOO!

Estate / Cellar / Attic / Garage
Carpets / Floors / Upholstery
RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL SNOW PLOWING

508-740-1883 DOUGLAS MASS.

290 Providence Rd.
S. Grafton, MA

Kris Sutton
kris@streetcarsolutions.com

STREET CAR SOLUTIONS

StreetCarSolutions.com
508-839-7071

SOCHIA'S OIL & GAS INC.

13 Cook Street
E. Douglas, MA
508-476-2278
www.SochiasOil.com

FUEL OIL - PROPANE - KEROSENE
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION

Serving: WHITINSVILLE, UXBRIDGE, DOUGLAS, SUTTON, MILLVILLE, MENDON, UPTON, MILLBURY, WEBSTER, GRAFTON, OXFORD, DUDLEY, HOPEDALE

Heating - Air Conditioning
24 Hour Burner Service

Economy Canvas & Awning Co.

Retractable & Stationary Awnings
Boat & Truck Covers and Related Products

Pool Cover Repairs
Over 34 years of service in the community

- Full Awning Service - Installation, Removal & Cleaning
- Manufacture & Repair All Canvas Products

115 Hamilton St., Southbridge, MA
508-765-5921
www.EconomyCanvasAndAwning.com

THINKING ABOUT PAINTING YOUR CABINETS?
More affordable, less disruptive than you may think

WITH **AMAZING** RESULTS

Fine Interior Finishes

econnor117@gmail.com
207.779.7142

WORCESTER COUNTY LAWNMOWER

**ALWAYS THE BEST SERVICE
AT THE LOWEST PRICE**

Lawn Mowers, Tractor Service, Tune-Ups & Repairs Pickup & Delivery, Lawnmower Repair

508-987-2775
492 Main St., Oxford, MA 01540
WWW.WORCESTERCOUNTYLAWNMOVER.COM

John the Roofer Co.

★★★★ 70 Years Strong! ★★★★★

Shingles ~ Rubber ~ Metal
Vinyl Siding ~ Replacement Windows

“Hire the Best Because you Live Under That Roof!”

866-906-ROOF (7663)
www.johntheroofer.com

MA HIC #111318 MA CSL #97139

RIVERS EDGE

HEAVY TOWING
& Truck Trailer Repair
508-278-9924

TEACHERS NEEDED

Use your skills to help families solve their financial problems!
You can start part-time and set your own hours.
Earn what you're worth!

Call Victoria Julian-Hughes at Primerica office:
508-987-2800 cell: 401-787-6488

PRIMERICA

RE: Real Estate



Mark Marzeotti

89 percent of sellers list their home with a real estate agent. The sellers surveyed listed trustworthiness, responsiveness, local market knowledge, a good reputation in the community, and a strong sales track record as the most important attributes in a top-notch agent.

A great real estate agent can make a huge difference in many aspects of your selling experience, from your stress level to your profits. I want to share the many benefits of selling with a local agent, and share with you what it will cost you.

What is the standard commission for a real estate agent?

Real estate agents work on a commission basis, making a percentage of the sale or purchase price of the home their client is buying or selling. Typically, as a seller, you'll pay 6 percent of the sale price, with half of the total serving as the buyer's agent's commission.

Keep in mind that the commission may be negotiable up front, depending on local market factors or your own situation. For example, if you're going to be using the same agent to help you sell your house and also to buy your new home, you may be able to negotiate a lower rate since they'll be getting two commissions.

Why use a real estate agent to sell your home?

What is the difference between a listing agent and a buyers agent?

The listing agent, also known as a sellers agent, works for the seller to help them sell their house, from listing to closing. The buyers agent works for the buyer, guiding them through the process of finding a home they love, into negotiations, and all the way through closing.

Benefits of using a listing agent

You might ask yourself, "Why use a real estate agent to sell my home?" There are a number of services and plenty of expertise a real estate agent can provide, so it's important for each seller to take a look at the list of benefits and decide if an agent is worth the expense.

1. Real estate agents provide local housing market expertise

- We have access to a comprehensive list of comparable homes and understand the value of homes in your area.

- Taking into consideration the current market conditions, we can strategize ways to craft the optimal selling approach, with the goal of earning the highest possible return on your home.

- We can guide you to setting the right price for your home, one that will allow you to both pocket as much money as you can while selling in a timely manner.

- We understand local housing codes and can point out any red flags on your property that buyers (and their home inspectors) will find.

- We can recommend the specific home improvements that matter most to buyers in your area.

2. Real estate agents market your listing

- We can provide recommendations for staging your home.

- We can hire a professional photographer to take great listing photos including drone pictures. Common practice for Marzeotti group.

- Creating an enticing listing description of a property is an art form, and a skilled agent can call out features local buyers are looking for.

- We list your property on the MLS and online real estate sites like Zillow. In fact, agents have access to many more listing outlets than sellers who are listing on their own.

- We host open houses and showings, physically showing your home to buyers.

- We serve as a buffer between you and all potential buyers, fielding calls, answering questions, and scheduling showings.

3. Real estate agents network with other agents to increase buyer interest

- We may show your home to

an agent-only crowd to increase buzz and spread the word.

- We talk to other agents about your home, positioning it as a match for their buyers.

- Homes sold by agents are typically more appealing to buyers agents, as they know they'll get a commission on the sale.

4. Real estate agents handle your negotiations

- We vet all potential buyers, identifying the serious offers.

- We skillfully work with the buyer's agent to get you an offer that meets your needs in terms of price, timing, and repairs.

- We help you make smart decisions on negotiating counteroffers.

5. Real estate agents ease the selling process

- Selling a home comes with a lot of paperwork, and your real estate agent will handle it all.

- Professional real estate agents keep an eye out for deal loopholes and unusual requests, and read all the fine print.

- In a multiple-offer situation,

they'll help you identify the pros and cons of each offer, making your decision easier.

- We'll recommend when you should counteroffer and when you should accept the deal.

How do I hire a real estate agent?

There are lots of ways to find a great local real estate agent. A great way is to ask friends and family members for referrals and searching online. Sometimes it is clear who you should

choose based on local newspapers and other advertising media.

You'll also want to pay attention to the duration of your agent's contract. If you're working with an agent you haven't worked with before, you may want to go with a short contract term, so that if your house doesn't sell quickly, you can pivot to an agent who better fits your needs.

Sandi Grzyb *"I look forward to serving you in all of your real estate ventures!"*

has joined
EXIT Beacon Pointe Realty!

- Buying
- Selling
- Investing

CONTACT INFO:
774-230-3500 | 508-943-6960
sandigrzyb@aol.com

EXIT Beacon Pointe Realty - 435 Shrewsbury St., Worcester, MA 01604

Lake Realty

Maureen Cimoch
Real Estate Consultant
Cell 508.769.9211

111 East Main Street, Webster
www.LakeRealty.net
www.WebsterLake.com or .net

SMART

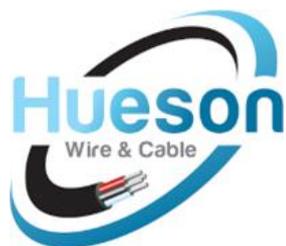
Maribeth Marzeotti
Broker Associate/GRI/SRES

RE/MAX
ADVANTAGE 1

25 Union Street, 4th Floor
Worcester, MA 01608

508-864-8163
MBMarzeotti@gmail.com
www.MarzeottiGroup.com

MLS



NOW HIRING

Hueson Corporation

134 Ferry Street

South Grafton, MA 01560

\$1,500 Sign-on Bonus

If you enjoy learning by doing, finding ways to move forward, even in challenging situations, or possess a keen desire to "see it through" to the end, please review our current employment opportunities below along with some of our great company benefits.

Full-time positions available for:

- Spooling and Packaging
- Primary and Jacket Extrusion

Benefits:

- Aggressive Starting Pay
- 401(k) Match
- BC/BS Health & Vision Insurance
- Company-paid Life Insurance
- Tuition Assistance
- Referral Bonus

Learn more by visiting www.huesonwire.com emailing careers@huesonwire.com or calling the office at 508-234-6372

Bark Mulch • Screened Loam • Stone Dust • Colored Stone • Compost • Sand • Gravel • Fill

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
7am-5pm

Charlton

LANDSCAPING & NURSERY SUPPLY, LLC

Since 1994 in the round building on Route 20



BARK MULCH

Certified 1 Yard Bucket

Hemlock.....	\$36
Red Dyed Cedar.....	\$36
Pine, Hemlock.....	\$35
Black Pine.....	\$35
Certified Kids Safe Playground Chips..	\$36
Contractor Grade Mulch Brown or Black.....	\$30
Colored Stone: 10 different colors	\$30

PANSIES \$1.50
per 6 Pack

AMISH PATIO FURNITURE
with 20 year warranty



Hanging Baskets



PRIMITIVE FARMHOUSE DECOR



40lb. Pelletized Lime
Only \$3.75
(with mulch purchase, limit 3 bags/yard)
Reg. Price \$4.75/Bag
(without mulch purchase)
15 Bag Maximum. While supplies last.

STEP 1
Fertilizer with Crabgrass Control
15,000 Sq. Ft. Coverage
ONLY \$34⁹⁹ per bag
While supplies last.

259 Worcester Road/Rt. 20, Charlton, MA 01507
www.CharltonLandscapeSupply.com • WE DELIVER 7 DAYS A WEEK **508-248-9003**

FOR ALL YOUR FUEL NEEDS

NEW BOILER INSTALLS

- Crown Boilers
- Williamson Furnaces
- Oil Tank Installs

ALL NEW INSTALLS COME WITH A 3 YEAR PARTS AND LABOR WARRANTY, AS WELL AS THE MANUFACTURERS WARRANTY.

We do NOT Sell Biofuel!

Which will help prevent less system breakdowns.

Central air conditioning and ductless mini splits

LMT Oil, Inc.
Keeping You Warm & Comfortable
508.434.1335

A Full Service Oil Company
24-Hour Emergency Service

WWW.LMTOIL.COM • WE DO ONLINE ORDERING



Don't spend another summer sweating!

Choose Morrissette & Son as your installer, and receive:

- Upgraded Diamond Dealer Parts & Compressor Warranty for 12-years (from standard 5 years parts/7 years compressor)
- Financing through the MassSave HeatLoan
- Rebates through MassSave, with processing on your behalf
- Extended Labor Warranty Available
- Highly trained technicians with Installation & Service
- Maintenance Contracts Available

In the ceiling, on the wall, ductwork or no ductwork. We provide energy-efficient heating & air conditioning.

Morrissette & Son
Electrical Contractors, INC.
ELECTRICAL • HVAC • GENERATORS
508-476-9879
MorrissetteElectrical.com




© 2021 Mitsubishi Electric Trane HVAC US LLC. All rights reserved.