

# The YankeeXpress

CROSTOWN ADS & BUSINESS NEWS

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

Auburn, Charlton, Dudley, Oxford, Webster

December 17, 2021 - January 21, 2022

## McKenna touts Stevens Linen Mill redevelopment as boon project

By Rod Lee

More than a few ears perked up over one revelation offered by Rep. Joseph D. McKenna during a Webster-Dudley-Oxford Chamber of Commerce legislative breakfast at Samuel Slater's Restaurant in Webster the morning of November 6th.

Rep. McKenna had hardly finished telling those in attendance that with redistricting "my district doesn't change one bit" when he added the news that the long-dormant Stevens Linen Mill property on the Dudley-Webster town line is finally going to be the object of "a major redevelopment."

That Rep. McKenna's announcement came weeks ahead of official confirmation of the initiative in the media made it that much more startling—and welcome.

After years of speculation about what would happen to the Stevens Linen Mill site coupled with interest from prospective developers and a subsequent determination by most of them that investment in reviving the complex was "too risky," residents of the Webster-Dudley area can look forward to a project that will turn the handful of remaining structures, which



Part of the Stevens Linen Mill in Dudley, with one of its two distinctive towers.

are now in a state of dilapidation, into "housing, meeting space" and a venue for "weddings" and other functions, Rep. McKenna said.

"It will help revitalize that waterfront," he said. "We need housing to support people coming in for work."

William "Bill" Scanlan, acting town planner in Dudley, agreed. Asked on December 2 if he expects Atlanta-based Camden Management Partners' revitalization efforts to earn Dudley Planning Board and public approval, Mr. Scanlan said

Continued on page 2

## INSIDE

**MIRRORED BEAUTY**  
Reflects customer loyalty  
PAGE 10

**CORNERSTONE AWARD**  
To Chris Robert  
PAGE 11

**PETE'S SPORTS**  
Thanksgiving glory days  
PAGE 23



## It's the Serra Club

By Janet Stoica

Not to be confused with the Sierra Club, an environmental organization which defends our natural resources and nature, the Serra Club of Southern Worcester County is a dedicated group seeking to keep our faith in Christianity by promoting religious vocations of the Catholic Church.

Roland Malboeuf and John Hickey are men on a mission for the Serra organization in this area. They have successfully sought to rejuvenate and add members to the local chapter of the Serra Club of Worcester County whose motto is Always Forward, Never Back. The Serra Club is an organization that was founded in 1935 in the state of Washington and named after Father Junipero Serra,

a Spanish saint born in the 1700s who was instrumental in establishing California's Catholic missions. The Serra Club's mission today is to promote vocations of religious life. Currently, there are more than 700 clubs in 40 countries. Members meet monthly to attend Mass, socialize, and have dinner together with the goal of supporting vocations.

Mr. Malboeuf, president, previously served as treasurer of the local Serra chapter and when membership dwindled, he made the decision along with Mr. Hickey to personally advocate for new members and with recent meeting

Continued on page 12



Serra members preparing wreath distribution.

**B. Kind** 8 Davis St., Webster • 508-461-7662  
HOURS: Wed.-Thurs. 9am-3pm; Fri. & Sat. 9am-11pm  
CALL AHEAD FOR TO-GO ORDERS  
www.bkindcafe.com Full Liquor Service

Home or Office Delivery Available  
See website for details.

**PIES - PIES - PIES!**  
For Christmas!  
Order early for pick-up.

Your one stop for **WEEPIN' WILLIE'S** Fresh Produce, Meat & Much more

160 Boston Tpke. Shrewsbury, MA 508-797-9455  
64 Auburn St., Auburn, MA 508-832-9455

Let us Cater your Holiday Party  
Visit our Website [www.weepinwillies.com](http://www.weepinwillies.com)

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**  
FROM YOUR LOCAL AUTOMOTIVE SALES & SERVICE CENTER  
Since 1923

**PLACE MOTOR Inc.**  
19 Thompson Rd. Webster, Ma.  
508-943-8012 [placemotor.com](http://placemotor.com)

**hazard MARINE** SINCE 1960  
A DIVISION OF LIMITED INDUSTRIES INC

**WE HAVE THE TRAILER FOR YOU!!**

**WE OFFER 5 BRANDS:**

- Diamond Cargo Enclosed Trailers
- SureTrac Utility / Car Hauler & Dump Trailers
- EZ Hauler Aluminum Enclosed Trailers
- Floe Utility Trailers
- Master Tow Dollies

All brands offer different sizes and assorted options.

**January 2022 - Call for boat or trailer sales.**  
4 Town Forest Rd., Webster, MA 01570 • 508-943-7531  
Regular hours in February.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year  
Thank you for your support all year

TAKE **10% OFF**

YOUR NEXT SERVICE VISIT OF \$50 OR MORE.  
Must present coupon at write-up.  
Valid until 1.31.2022

**HARBRO** auto sales service  
WHITINSVILLE | WEBSTER  
(508) 499-3510  
[harbroauto.com/service](http://harbroauto.com/service)



## STEVENS LINEN

Continued from page 1

"yes on both counts. This is something town officials are behind." Planning Board public hearings about to ensue will take up such matters as



Rep. Joe McKenna says Camden Management Partners' redevelopment of the Stevens Linen Mill property will transform the French River waterfront for the better.

"traffic, access and neighborhood concerns," Mr. Scanlan said, but by next summer "these should be wrapped up" and the project should be able to proceed.

A one-story building that was added to the complex "will be taken down," Mr.

Scanlan said. The other stone buildings "are worth saving."

At the legislative breakfast, Mr. McKenna had previously addressed what he described as "the hiring crisis" in the Commonwealth by asserting that Amazon has plans to set up operations in the towns of Charlton and Uxbridge, "small communities that don't need a thousand new jobs, which makes for an interesting paradox." Amazon coming into South County and the Blackstone Valley "will have good and bad impacts. We are watching that closely," Rep. McKenna said.

He also conveyed word at Samuel Slater's Restaurant in regard to American Rescue Plan funding the state has obtained that "it's good to finally get this money out the door, small amounts for companies that didn't qualify for PPE. Some businesses that started up during the pandemic" weren't eligible for dollars at that time, either, he noted.

The Legislature is not

ignoring a crisis that has arisen involving unemployment, he said. "Some families received a ton of money and are now getting letters saying 'you owe thousands.' We are looking at a waiver" as a corrective step to their predicament, he said.

Meanwhile, Camden Management Partners' intention of transforming the 6.95 acres that the Stevens Linen Mill occupied for more than a century, including from 1850 to 1950 in its heyday, is seen as a positive not only by Rep. McKenna but by municipal leaders and members of the Dudley Historical Commission.

In Dudley and Webster, the name "Stevens" rivals that of "Draper" in Hopedale, "Slater" in Webster and "Whitin" in Northbridge, thanks to Henry Hale Stevens, who constructed the Stevens Linen Mill complex during the Civil War and imported machinery and workers from Scotland for the production of linen and flax fabric. His U-shaped complex, molded from granite and standing five stories high, actually consisted of ten structures in all, and



Henry Hale Stevens, 1818-1901; his Stevens Linen Mill in the town of Dudley manufactured linen products, a rarity at the time with a concentration on wool and cotton.

featured two seven-story-tall towers, a mill pond and a dam.

Stevens Linen Mill's buildings comprised a total 267,000 square feet.

The mill was added to the National Historic Register in 2010. This means "tax credits" will come into play in the redevelopment, Bill Scanlan said.

"Ten percent of the one hundred fifty-six units of housing are required to be affordable," he said.

In a YouTube video, Dudley Town Clerk Lori Smith described the Stevens Linen Mill buildings as "our community's foremost historic structure" and "the only remaining example of linen manufacturing in the U.S." She praised the complex's "lasting physical integrity." The Stevens Linen Mill is, Ms. Smith said, "our symbol of home." Unfortunately, "it deteriorates more as each day passes."

Now, with Camden Management Partners ready to undertake a \$40 million redevelopment, hope springs anew for the Stevens Linen Mill to be preserved in some context.

Contact Rod Lee at [rodlee.1963@gmail.com](mailto:rodlee.1963@gmail.com) or 774-232-2999.

**WELCOME!**

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

VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

**Vacuums always 75¢**

BIG KAHUNA	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BIG KAHUNA CARNAUBA WAX</li> <li>UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER</li> <li>x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK</li> <li>HIGH PRESSURE WASH</li> <li>FOAMING POLISH</li> <li>SHIELD "HIGH GLOSS TOTAL PROTECTANT"</li> <li>SPOT FREE RINSE</li> <li>LASERDRI</li> </ul>	<b>\$18</b>
DELUXE WASH	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER</li> <li>x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK</li> <li>HIGH PRESSURE WASH</li> <li>FOAMING POLISH</li> <li>SHIELD "HIGH GLOSS TOTAL PROTECTANT"</li> <li>SPOT FREE RINSE</li> <li>LASERDRI</li> </ul>	<b>\$14</b>
SUPER WASH	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UNDERCARRIAGE WASH W/ ROCKER BLASTER</li> <li>x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK</li> <li>HIGH PRESSURE WASH</li> <li>SPOT FREE RINSE</li> <li>LASERDRI</li> </ul>	<b>\$10</b>
BASIC WASH	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>x2 PASS FOAMING PRESOAK</li> <li>HIGH PRESSURE WASH</li> <li>SPOT FREE RINSE</li> <li>LASERDRI</li> </ul>	<b>\$8</b>

## REUPHOLSTER IT!

**Don't throw that comfortable chair away!**

### DUMAS Decorating Center

CARPET • WOOD • VINYL • WALLPAPER • PAINT

[www.DumasDecoratingCenter.com](http://www.DumasDecoratingCenter.com)

470 Riverside Dr. (Rte 12)  
N. Grosvenordale, CT  
**860-923-9619**

Mon-Fri 9am-5pm • Sat 9am-Noon  
Evenings by Appointment

**Call Dave Today!**

## RUSMART

**AUTO UPHOLSTERY**

**ANTIQUE • CUSTOM MARINE • RVs**

Est. 1947

723 MAIN STREET, NORTH OXFORD, MA 01537

Ken & Art Clements **(508) 987-1171**

# 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](mailto:news@TheYankeeXpress.com)  
Request advertising information: [ads@TheYankeeXpress.com](mailto:ads@TheYankeeXpress.com)

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

The Newspaper Press, LLC / contents copyright 2020  
Sally Patterson, Production Manager Carol Koth, 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

### 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](http://roysautoglass.net)**



**"Bringing your ideas to life"**



**Sprucedale  
Gardens**  
Nursery and Greenhouse

*Enjoy  
Nature this  
Christmas!*



Living Christmas Trees (for planting)  
Locally Grown Cut Trees  
Wreaths, Swags, Kissing Balls  
Evergreen Arrangements and  
Bunched Greens  
Holiday Gift Certificates

20 E. Quasset Rd, Woodstock, CT  
f (860) 974-0045  
OPEN Tues-Sat 9-4, Sunday Noon-2  
sprucedalegardens.com

*We wish you a happy, healthy and safe holiday season!*



**Ace  
AUTO COLLISION  
Center**



If you're celebrating CHRISTmas for the reason...  
don't forget the birthday cake! His name is JESUS.



See our website at: [www.acecollisionwebster.com](http://www.acecollisionwebster.com)

580 SOUTH MAIN STREET • WEBSTER, MA 01570  
508-461-6546 FAX: 508-461-6547

ASE I-CAR  
ASE & I-CAR  
Certified  
Technicians

Towing Available  
Rentals Arranged

# Chuck's STEAK HOUSE

**PURCHASE \$100  
WORTH OF  
GIFT CARDS GET  
A \$20 GIFT CARD  
FOR YOURSELF!**

\* Must purchase on premises.  
Offer good December only.

**SUPPORT ALL LOCALLY OWNED  
FAMILY RUN BUSINESSES**

The Lounge opens at 4 Tue - Fri.  
We start seating for dinner:  
Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday @ 4:30  
Friday @ 4 • Saturday & Sunday @ 2.  
On Monday we golf.

**10 Prospect Street  
Auburn, Mass.  
508-832-2553**

[www.chucks.com](http://www.chucks.com)



# Ice Cream Pharm

**YOUR ICE CREAM PRESCRIPTION**

**Winter Hours**  
Friday-Sunday  
3 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**10% off**  
with this ad on  
Fridays!

**Dairy Free Options  
Available!**



*YOU deserve an ice cream treat! Come and try the Pharm's every day treats and remember how ice cream used to taste when you were a kid! Our Hand-Made and Churned delights are made with the freshest ingredients in small batches. The cream is heavenly, the flavors and drinks are unique!*

**HOT TODDIES** are here!  
made with tea or coffee adding in your favorite liquor as well as your choice of lemon, ginger, cloves, or honey. Hot Buttered Rum is here too and made with rum and a pat of butter. It'll cure whatever ails you.

**Also offering**  
Macha Tea Ice Cream, Egg Nog, Gingerbread, Candy Cane Cheesecake, Cranberry Orange Walnut. Also try our Strawberry Shortcake!



Featuring  
Artisan Gingerbread  
Flavored Cones!

**Gift Certificates  
for your Stocking**  
Come and get your Holiday Ice Cream Pies and Cakes or an Ice Cream Cake for any occasion.





**Santa says.... Make it easy for me this year, give gift cards.**



Since 1994 in the round building on Route 20

**Charlton LANDSCAPING & NURSERY SUPPLY, LLC**

Open Weekends in December for great gift ideas! Weather permitting

AMISH PATIO FURNITURE WITH 20 YEAR WARRANTY

PRIMITIVE FARMHOUSE DECOR

Gift Cards Available!

259 Worcester Road/Rt. 20, Charlton, MA • 508-248-9003

The Tastiest Gift You'll Receive All Season!

**J. Anthony's ITALIAN GRILL**

Private room for 30 to 260 people

Rts. 12/20, 917 Southbridge St., Auburn, MA  
508-832-9705 • janthonysgrill.com

**HADDAD Auto Detail .com**

Henry says give a

**DEEP CLEAN**

**GIFT CARD**

Worcester, MA 508-755-5250  
Westboro, MA 508-366-6260

**ART'S SERVICE STATION**

6 Oxford Ave., Dudley  
508-943-2051

Full Service Repair & Complete Diagnostic Service  
ATV and Motorcycle Tires • Front end Alignments • Propane Fill Station

Propane REFILL Station

We Fill Campers too!

**FULL INSPECTION STATION**  
Commercial & Non-Commercial Vehicles • Motorcycle Inspections  
D.O.T.'s and MA Inspections  
Diesel and Heavy Duty

Gift certificates available

**Economy Canvas & Awning Co.**

Retractable & Stationary Awnings  
Boat & Truck Covers and Related Products

Pool Cover Repairs  
Over 38 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

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY!

BUY A \$100 **HARBRO** GIFT CARD AND GET A \$10 ONE FOR YOURSELF.

Gift card must be purchased before December 23, 2021 to qualify for offer.

**HARBRO** AUTO SALES SERVICE (508) 234-6767  
WWW.HARBROAUTO.COM

**THE SHACK VARIETY STORE SMOKE SHOP**

COFFEE-SNACKS-TOBACCO-LOTTERY

Gift Certificates available in any amount

Candy • Snacks • Energy Drinks • Sodas • Soft Serve Ice Cream

We accept all major debit and credit cards

152 Gore Rd. (Rt. 16), Webster, MA • 508-943-1002

**Mexicali FRESH MEX GRILL**

Authentic Mexican Cuisine From our family to yours!

41 Worcester Road  
Webster, MA  
508-461-5070

Sunday-Thursday 11-9  
Friday & Saturday 11-10

MexicalisFreshMex.com  
Facebook.com/MexicalisFreshMex

**Our Gift to You!**

Purchase a \$25 Gift Card  
Get a \$5 Gift Card FREE!

Purchase a \$50 Gift Card  
Get a \$10 Gift Card FREE!

Purchase a \$100 Gift Card  
Get a \$20 Gift Card FREE!

Sundays 50¢ Wings All Day!

**Give the Gift of Golf**

Every \$25 gift card you purchase, You will receive a \$5 Bonus Card! Promo Starts on Friday Nov. 26th. Cards can be used for Indoor Simulators, Golf Course, Pro Shop & Restaurant (Offer Expires on 12/23/2021)

Pine Ridge Country Club  
28 Pleasant St.  
North Oxford, MA 01537  
P: 508-892-9188



It's the season for giving the perfect gift.....

*Gift Cards  
and  
Gift Certificates*




**mac's** **AUTO REPAIR**

**CONVENIENCE STORE**

508-943-2068 • Store: 508-949-1019 • Fax: 508-943-2098  
77 East Main Street, Webster, MA 01570

**Gift Certificates for any parts or services**

*Happy Holidays from Mac's*

www.macsautorepairwebster.com

Feeders • Seeds  
• Bird Baths  
and More....

*Gift Cards - Bring a Little  
Nature into your Life!*

Available in store  
and online at  
shop.thebirdstoreandmore.com

**OPEN**  
Mon-Sat 10-6



**The Bird Store**  
*and more...*

*We have loads of products that are proudly made in the USA!*

4 Cedar Street  
Sturbridge, MA  
**508-347-BIRD**

www.TheBirdStoreandMore.com  
follow us: 

**Loads of Gifts for Your Holiday Shopping!**



**GENERATIONS**

*A place to nourish your body, mind & spirit*

**Herbal Apothecary & Gift Shop**

**Enjoy stress-free shopping this holiday season  
as you browse our eclectic collection of gifts**

Native American Goods ♦ Art ♦ Pottery ♦ Jewelry ♦ Crystals  
Handblown Glass ♦ Singing Bowls ♦ Malas ♦ Essential Oils  
Organic Herbs, Teas & Honey ♦ Gift Certificates and more

**East Main Plaza - 129 East Main Street - Webster MA 01570**  
508-987-3310 [www.generationshealingcenter.com](http://www.generationshealingcenter.com)



**Uncle Ronnie's**  
**Gift Certificates**  
**available in any  
denomination**

**Uncle Ronnie's**  
Fine Food  
& Spirits *Restaurant & Red Tavern*

Kitchen hours:  
Wed. & Thurs. 4-9pm  
Fri. 2-9pm  
Sat. & Sun. 11:30am-9pm

2692 Victory Highway, Burrillville, RI • 401-568-6243  
[UncleRonniesRedTavern.com](http://UncleRonniesRedTavern.com)



**Gibson's**   
**Natural Pet**  
**Resort**

**Lodging ~ Daycare ~ Grooming  
Training ~ Pet Supplies**

Hours:  
Mon.-Thurs. 6:30am to 6pm  
Fri. 9:30am to 4pm  
Sat. 8am to Noon  
Sun. 5pm to 6pm only

**139 Upton St. (Rte. 140)  
Grafton, MA • 508-839-1757**  
[Grafton@GibsonsNaturalPet.com](mailto:Grafton@GibsonsNaturalPet.com)  
[www.GibsonsNaturalPet.com](http://www.GibsonsNaturalPet.com)

**Gift Cards  
in any  
amount  
for the  
Holidays!**




**DJ's Sportscards**

Baseball • Football • Hockey • Basketball MTG  
• Pokemon • Yu-gi-oh • Autos • Supplies

*Gift Certificates  
Available*

5 Sutton Ave., Oxford, MA 01540 • Next to RR Tracks  
1-508-987-0012 • e-mail: [djsrds@aol.com](mailto:djsrds@aol.com)  
EBAY: DJSCRDS

Hours: Tues.-Fri. 12-6 p.m. - Sat. 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



*Happy Holidays and warm wishes for the New Year*



**Gift Certificates  
sold in any  
denomination**

*Please call or visit us!*

info@anniesbooksworcester.com



**ANNIE'S BOOK STOP**  
TODAY'S BOOKS-YESTERDAY'S PRICES

65 James St.,  
Worcester, MA 01603  
(508) 796-5613  
[anniesbooksworcester.com](http://anniesbooksworcester.com)



**SCHULTZ'S PLACE**

Breakfast & Lunch

**Gift Certificates**

Available In Any  
Denomination

Hours  
Mon.-Sat.  
5:30am-2pm  
Sundays  
6:30am to 2pm

**Winner of Worcester's  
Hot Dog Safari's Golden Hot Dog**

3 Boston Road (Heritage Plaza) Sutton, MA • (508) 865-6777



**ANGELO'S AUTOS**

**SALES & SERVICE**

823 Southbridge St., Auburn, MA  
**508-832-2866**

2014 Nissan Altima      2012 GMC Acadia      2012 Subaru Forester

**PAYMENTS AS LOW AS \$45 PER WEEK**  
[www.angelosautos.com](http://www.angelosautos.com)

like us on  
facebook 





**ROBBINS**  
**GARDEN CENTER**  
**& Stove Shop**

508-987-2700 • 508-987-2897  
Mon.-Fri. 8 to 4; Sat. 8 to 2; Sun. 9 to 2  
www.robbsgarden.com • www.woodpelletexperts.com  
28 Sutton Avenue • Oxford, MA • Rte. 395 • Exit 7B

Santa says...  
Gift Cards  
are the perfect  
present.

- ★ Bird Feeders
- ★ Bird Food
- ★ Bird Baths
- ★ Holiday Decor
- ★ Garden Starting Gifts

studio  
20/20

Erica O'Brien, L.O.  
371 Main Street  
Sturbridge, MA 01566  
774-241-0718  
www.studiotwentytwenty.com

Gift cards available for purchase  
in-store, online, or over the phone.

Frame choices from  
Independent Companies

Sunglasses • Computer Glasses  
Blue Light Protection Glasses  
Safety Eyewear  
Cycling Motorcycle Enthusiast  
Golf & Performance Glasses

Jewelry and Accessories for all crafted by local artisans.

All eyewear is available in prescription and  
non-prescription. *Stop in to see the unique selection!*

**Quaker Tavern**

466 Quaker Highway • Rte. 146A Uxbridge, MA

Gift Certificates  
Make Great  
Gifts  
Ask About our  
Cash Deal

TUESDAYS  
TRIVIA  
NIGHT  
in the  
Lounge  
Reservations  
Recommended

LIVE  
MUSIC  
Saturday  
Nights  
in the  
Lounge

OPEN  
Tuesday  
through  
Saturday  
Noon to  
9pm

**(508) 779-0901**  
WE ARE CLOSED 12/24 to 12/27

# The Vacuum Store

59 East Main St., Webster, MA 01570  
508-461-5300  
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00am-6:00pm Sat. 9:00am-3:00pm; Sun. Closed

Austin Air Purifier Reg. \$479 <b>Sale Price \$249</b>	Hoover Drive WaySweeper Reg. \$239 <b>Sale Price \$79.99</b>	Power Flight Vac Reg. \$229.99 <b>Sale Price \$89.99</b>	Nellie Wow Mops (rechargeable) Reg. \$250 <b>Sale Price \$150</b>
--	--	--	---

**THEVACUUMSTORES.COM**

**The Tole Booth**  
Treasures for the Home from the Heart

Dips  
Prints  
Angels  
Snowmen  
Ornaments  
Gift Certificates  
Battery Candles  
Candles & Potpourri  
Trees, Wreaths & Garlands  
Complimentary Gift Bag Wrap! & so much more!

**Gift Certificates**  
may be purchased in  
ANY DENOMINATION

129 Main St. (Rte. 122) Blackstone, MA • (508) 876-8900  
Wed.-Sat. 10-5 • Sun 12-5 • Please call for extended hours in December. Closed Dec. 25-28

**K.A.R. JEWELERS AND ANNEX**

Hours: 192 Providence St., Putnam, CT • 860-928-2851  
Tues. - Fri. 10am - 3pm  
Sat. in December 10am - 2pm

14K Jewelry & Sterling

We do jewelry repairs and clock repairs. We also do engraving.  
~ FAST TURNAROUND ~

**Happy Holidays!**

*We have Something Special for your Special Someone.*

**We have something for everyone in the Annex**  
Toy's, Tools, Games, Cards, Baseball Hats and much MORE!

## Ladies and Gents Hair House

\$9 haircuts every Tuesday all year long!

**The Holiday is near, don't forget your hair!**

*Gift Certificates Available*

Candice Lavoie,  
Owner/Master Stylist

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

**MOOSE**  
UTILITY DIVISION

**METZGER MOTO WORX**  
— PARTS - SALES - SERVICE —

Motorcycles • ATVs • Gear • Tires and Accessories....  
**WE HAVE GIFT CERTIFICATES IN ANY DENOMINATION!**

Veteran owned and operated www.metzmotoworx.com  
ROUTE 44 - PUTNAM, CT • 860-928-7565  
"Merry Christmas from our Military Family to Yours."

100%

**The Gypsy Rose**  
Floral Boutique  
250 Main Street, Oxford, MA  
508-987-2220

Flower Shop and Gift Shop

Set up automatic deliveries for Birthdays, Anniversaries or Holidays And Receive **10% OFF**

**Christmas Gift Certificates Available**

Give the Gift of a Group Class in the Owls Nest Studio and receive 10% off  
GROUP WORKSHOPS & CLASSES • PRIVATE CLASSES • GIRLS' NIGHT OUT  
www.flowersbythegypsyrose.com





*Santa delivering the gift cards*

*Merry Christmas to all  
and to all a good night!*

**Galliford's**  
RESTAURANT & TAVERN

www.gallifords.com

WITH EACH \$100.00  
GALLIFORD'S  
RESTAURANT **GIFT CARD**  
PURCHASED, RECEIVE ONE  
FREE \$20.00 GIFT CARD  
OFFER ENDS DECEMBER 24, 2021

**GIVE JOY**  
508.928.0928  
2 Southwick St. Mendon, MA

**Scales**  
SEAFOOD & MORE

Stop by this Holiday Season for a Gift Certificate for that special someone. Available in any denomination, bought in store.

**SPECIAL OFFER:** Every gift certificate purchase of \$25 receive a **\$5 gift certificate FREE.**

**\$5.00 off** Any purchase of \$30 or more. Exp. 12/31/21

45 River St., Millbury, MA  
(508) 865-3377  
www.scalesseafood.com

**Gift Certificates Available in Any Denomination!**

**New England Steak & Seafood**  
11 Uxbridge Road • Route 16 • Mendon, MA 01756

*Casual Elegant Dining & Banquets*

Tel. (508) 473-5079 • (508) 478-0871

Find us on **Facebook**

email: nesteakhouse@aol.com  
www.nesteakandseafood.com

**Give The Gift That Shines!**

**10% OFF All Gift Cards**  
With this coupon

*"Your destination for all things clean"*

85 WORCESTER STREET, NO. GRAFTON, MA  
**508-839-5250**  
www.fitzyscarwash.com

**Car Trouble? We Fix Everything!**

**OUR BENEFITS FOR YOU**

- FREE Loaner Cars Available
- FREE Rides to Work/Home
- FREE Vehicle Pickup & Delivery
- 6 Month Financing Available
- 3 Years/36k Mile Warranty
- Same Day Service on Most Repairs
- Free Digital Inspections with pictures for absolute transparency

**OIL CHANGE SPECIAL + FREE Check Up**

**\$37.97** synthetic oil change

For faster service, please call ahead for an appointment. Most cars/trucks. One time use. One per customer. Most cars/light trucks. Oil change includes up to 5 qts. of motor oil and new oil filter. Some vehicles extra. Tax and disposal fee extra. Cannot combine with any other offers. Must present coupon at check-in. Limited time only.

**PRO Automotive**

**DUDLEY**  
199 Oxford Ave.  
Dudley, MA  
508.461.6591

**WEBSTER**  
626 South Main St.  
Webster, MA  
508.461.5535

**WEBSTER**  
8 Englewood St.  
Webster, MA  
508.504.9337  
508.506.9629

www.ProAutomotiveMA.com

*Happy Holidays from....* **Erich's CUTTING EDGE**   
WALK-IN BARBER SHOP

*Gift Certificates Available*

**Walk-ins Welcomed**

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

*Products for stocking stuffers*

**Primitive Goods**  
146 Mendon Street  
Uxbridge, MA  
(508) 278-2700

**Customer Appreciation Day Sat., Dec. 18th ALL DAY**

• Outdoor Items • Garden & Patriotic • Furniture  
• Antiques to Farmhouse • Village Paint  
• Primitive & Country • Candles • Handmade

Hours: Thurs.-Sun. 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

**Look for more specials throughout the month and January**

**Gift Cards Are Always A Great Idea!!**

**YAMA FUJI**   
**Japanese Hibachi Steakhouse**  
900 Victory Hwy., Suite 3, North Smithfield, RI  
**401-597-0885 • www.yamafujiri.com**

**Gift Card Special**  
**\$300 for just \$250 • \$100 for just \$85**  
**\$50 for just \$45**  
Exp. 12/31/21. Not to be combined with other offers. With this ad.



*It's the season for giving the perfect gift.....*

*Gift Cards*  
*and*  
*Gift Certificates*





**140 Gore Rd.  
Webster  
508-949-2433**



**TOY DRIVE**  
Sponsored by UNDIVIDED MC  
Unwrapped toy can be dropped off at Big Belly anytime until Dec. 19th.  
Cash Donations Accepted.  
All donations will benefit local charities.  
Mon., Tues., Thurs. 8am-2pm Fri. 8am-7pm; Sat. & Sun. 8am-1pm  
**www.BigBellyCafe.com**



**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**



**GARIERI JEWELERS**  
*Fine Jewelers Since 1946*



**Bedrock Plaza  
139 Main Street  
Sturbridge, MA 01566  
508-357-9934  
GARIERI.COM**

**We buy Gold and Diamonds**  
*Gift Cards Available  
20% off Diamond Jewelry*



**SHREWSBURY  
Marble & Granite, Inc**

**GIVE THE GIFT THAT LASTS!**

**\$39<sup>99</sup> Installed**  
Minimum 40 square feet

**Biggest selection of  
marble, granite and quartz.**  
*ALL MARBLE & GRANITE SLABS ON SITE*

620 Boston Turnpike (Rt. 9), Shrewsbury  
1/4 Miles East of Home Depot. (BIG BLUE BUILDING)  
**508-842-9800**

Mon.-Thurs. 8-4; Fri.-Sat. 9-4; other times by appt.  
**WWW.SHREWSBURYMARBLEANDGRANITE.COM**

## Rep. McKenna named to Autism Commission

BOSTON – House Minority Leader Bradley H. Jones, Jr. (R-North Reading) is pleased to announce his appointment of State Representative Joseph D. McKenna (R-Webster) to the state Autism Commission.

Established by the Massachusetts Legislature in 2014, the Autism Commission is charged with making recommendations on policies impacting individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), including Asperger's syndrome and Smith-Magenis syndrome. The Commission is responsible for investigating the services and supports that are available to individuals with ASD and recommending improvements when necessary.

This includes public and post-secondary education, job attainment and employment, housing and independent living, social and recreational opportunities, and behavioral and mental health services among others.

As part of its duties, the Autism Commission files an annual report with the Governor, the Joint Committee on Children, Families and Persons with Disabilities, and the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing. This report details the services, supports and treatment available to the state's autism population, along with recommendations for legislative and regulatory actions needed to improve these services and address any unmet needs.

"I am so excited to deepen the work I can do to help individuals with autism and their families in Massachusetts," said Representative McKenna. "I have developed many relationships and friendships throughout the ASD community, so I have learned a great deal already about the challenges, big and small, of day-to-day life. I look forward to this opportunity to further the great work that has already been done in MA to break down those challenges and to increase access to all necessary care and services for everyone in this wonderful community."

"Joe understands the difficulties that individuals with autism and their families often face when trying to access services, and he has been an advocate for breaking down those barriers," said Representative Jones. "As a member of the Autism Commission, I am confident he will do

everything he can to ensure that Massachusetts fulfills its commitment to providing the ASD community with access to comprehensive support services that allow individuals with autism to achieve their full potential."

Representative McKenna is currently co-sponsoring House Bill 1203, which would expand health care options for individuals with autism by allowing them to remain covered under their parents' health insurance beyond the age of 26. He also previously co-sponsored legislation requiring training for law enforcement and correction officers on how to engage in appropriate interactions with persons on the autism spectrum who are victims or witnesses to a crime or are suspected or convicted of a crime.

A member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, McKenna also serves as the Ranking Minority Member of the Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure, and is a member of the House Committee on Steering, Policy and Scheduling, the Joint Committee on Revenue, and the Joint Committee on Community Development and Small Businesses.

McKenna was first elected to the House of Representatives in 2014. He represents the 18th Worcester District, which consists of Webster, Douglas, Sutton, precincts 1 and 4 in Oxford, and precinct 1 in Uxbridge. He also serves on the Board of Directors for The Last Green Valley, Inc. the non-profit stewardship organization serving the Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor in MA and CT.



**American  
Heritage  
Museum**

**"WOW"**

**1944  
CLASH OF STEEL**

**Museum Open  
Wed. - Sun.  
10 AM - 5 PM**



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



*Santa says.... Make it easy for me this year, give gift cards.*



**VARO'S**  **~FINE~ JEWELRY**  
CUSTOM DESIGNS  
QUALITY DIAMONDS & GOLD  
EST 1996

**20% OFF**  
**STORE-WIDE**  
For the Holiday Season



129 E. Main Street • Webster, MA (East Main Plaza) • 508.943.3150



**Zorba's**  
TAVERNA  
Restaurant and Bar

97 Stafford Street, Worcester, MA  
508-796-5828

WE CAN CATER YOUR OFFICE PARTY  
Our van can cater right to your door!

Zorba's Gift Cards make Great Gifts!

Book your New Years Party

Hours: Tuesday- Friday 4-9, Saturday 12-9

**OPEN YEAR ROUND for your Dining Pleasure!**

Dogs  
Combos  
and other  
stuff!!



**The Dog Truck**

**NEW HOURS**  
Tues.-Sat.  
11am-2pm

91 Gore Road, Webster  
at Fish & Game



Check our Facebook page for specials



Give **Webster Lake Gifts** for the Holidays!  
*The little store with a big variety of Lake Chargoggagogg Gift Ideas*

**Gift Certificates available**

Souvenirs • Postcards  
Sweatshirts & Tees • 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](http://www.websterlakegifts.com)

**Snack & Smoke Convenience Store**

Chips • Soda • Gatorade  
Monster Energy • Red Bull  
Milk • Juice • Ramen Noodles  
Cigarettes • Smoking Accessories  
And Much, Much More!

**Gift Certificates Available**

268 Main St., Webster  
508-461-6102  
Mon.-Sat. 8am-1pm • Sun. 9am-1pm

Follow us on Instagram @snack\_smoke20  
Follow us on Facebook @SnackandSmoke20

**Orbit REALTY**

169 Thompson Rd., Webster, MA 01570  
Office: 508-943-3005 • Fax: 508-630-9494

**Jennifer M. Burlingame Broker/Owner**

Cell: 1-508-353-4935  
[www.MyOrbitRealty.com](http://www.MyOrbitRealty.com) Jenn@MyOrbitRealty.com

**Webster**  
PLATE GLASS, INC.

30 THOMPSON ROAD  
WEBSTER, MA 01570  
508.943.0811 • 508.943-0822 fax  
[websterplateglass.com](http://websterplateglass.com)

**GNC**

**Gingerbread Man Protein Shake**  
1 C. Almond Milk  
2 Scoops GNC Vanilla Protein  
1/4 tsp. Cinnamon  
1/4 tsp. Ground Ginger (to taste)  
1/2 tsp. Butter Extract  
1/2 tsp. Vanilla Extract  
1-2 Packets of Truvia/Stevia Based Sweetener

Add all ingredients to blender, blend and drink!

**20% OFF ANY ONE GNC ITEM**

One-time use only. No cash value. Void where prohibited, taxed or restricted by law. One coupon per person. Not valid with any other offer, discount or coupon. Does not include bars, snacks, drinks, Optimum nutrition, Dymatize, and BSN proteins. Valid only at GNC Webster. Expires 12/30/21

**WEBSTER • East Village Plaza • 2 Worcester Rd. • 508-943-4825**

**COLONY FARMS**  
OCEAN FRESH SEAFOOD  
(508) 832-2561

- Maine Steamers
- Scallops
- Shrimp
- Tuna
- Fresh Swordfish
- Mahi Mahi
- Salmon

**Live Lobsters Steamed Free!**

Since 1994 OPEN 7 DAYS 9-6

508-832-2561  
718 Southbridge St., Rte. 12  
Auburn, Mass. 01501



# Mirrored Beauty reflects experience and customer loyalty

By Janet Stoica

Who really knows how partnerships and true success begin, but co-owners Jess Recko and Jessica Stoddard of Mirrored Beauty Salon in the Friendly's Plaza in Webster are surely a testament to true teamwork, resiliency, and tenacity.

Their acquaintance began eight years ago when both began working at the former Fusion Salon at this same location. When COVID reared its ugly head last year, Fusion was forced to close, and the

owner decided not to re-open when health restrictions were lifted.

When Jess and Jessica were notified of the closure, they immediately set their sights on re-opening as partners in the stylin' business. Besides, who wants to relocate if you've had faithful clients coming to the same location for eight years? The spot has plenty of accessible parking with one-step up and you're inside the salon.

The partners began their

new venture as Mirrored Beauty in June 2020. Their salon is bright, airy, and full of life, welcoming new and existing customers. These two ladies know their business and what their clients' wants and needs are.

Their salon services include specialized coloring, haircuts, foiling, manicures and pedicures, professional spray tanning with a Glo Body expert, and esthetician services for facials and body waxing. Featured product lines include

L'anza, Verb, Joico, Redken, and Pulp Riot.

Newcomers are always welcome. They prefer to work by appointment to make life easier for their clients and themselves and to accommodate customers as needed.

"In high school I worked on lots of my friends' hairstyles," said Jess. "On the morning of our high school's Victory Dance, I was working on 10 other friends' hairstyles before getting myself ready. I've always enjoyed creating the styles that look good on my clients." Jessica also honed her hair designing skills in high school. "It's all about making people feel good about themselves. When they leave our shop, it's always with a smile," Jessica said.

"Once we rebranded our salon (the name derives from Jess' sister's suggestion that since the partners' first names were the same, they "mirrored" each other), it was all about the best sanitation we could provide for our customers and ourselves," Jessica stated. "We were closed for 10 weeks last year and opened two weeks after Memorial Day once our licenses were approved, our shop was inspected, and new supplies were brought in.

"We were very diligent about cleanliness and still are," noted Jessica. "We kept our door locked between appointments and took only one client at a time. We will



Jessica Recko and Jessica Stoddard, owners of Mirrored Beauty.

always be grateful to our loyal clients who stayed with us through this pandemic. We and our clients used face masks and we wiped down everything around us after each client to prepare for the next. It made our days longer as we couldn't do haircuts on one client while another was having a color application so it was one color app instead of two every two hours. It was quite an experience and has made us experts in sanitation."

Salon customers come from every age group, from five-year olds to an eminent 93-year-old who enjoys a wash, set, and style weekly.

The services repertoire

includes perms, with the latest ask being side shaves and permed curls on top of their crowns. Other requests include buzz cuts on the sides of their head with longer styles on top, Mohawks, and wolf cuts, which is a modern-day layered look (think shag) for young ladies.

Some of the fluorescent hair color requests include pink for Breast Cancer Awareness month (October), blue, and green, as well as splashes of three or four different colors. "Our young lady clients like to keep up with the trends," says Jessica. "Whatever's on the internet is what they request!"

Now that fall is here many of their clients are looking for changes to their hair color. "They're asking us to darken their blondes, reds, and mahoganies" said Jessica, "a bit of darker shade for the fall. Some of the new shades are really beautiful."

Mirrored Beauty, 131 East Main Street (Friendly's Plaza), Webster. Hours are Tuesday - Saturday by appointment. Phone: (508) 461-6109.

Contact Janet: jstoica@TheYankeeXpress.com

## Samuel Slater EXPERIENCE



## Samuel Slater Experience open during the holidays

Come get a preview of the Samuel Slater Experience during the holidays. The museum will be open to the public for tours on Monday, December 20, and Monday, December 27.

Museum hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and tickets may be purchased at the box office or on the website at [samuelslaterexperience.org](http://samuelslaterexperience.org). Tickets are \$16 for adults, \$10 for seniors, \$7 for kids.

The gift shop will also be open.

Museum memberships are available.

Samuel Slater Experience brings to life the travels and technology of Samuel Slater, known as the father of the American Industrial Revolution and the founder of the thriving mill community of Webster. It's all brought to you with 4-D digital media to create an immersive experience.

For more information go to [samuelslaterexperience.org](http://samuelslaterexperience.org) or email [admin@samuelslaterexperience.org](mailto:admin@samuelslaterexperience.org).

### 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



GENERAL TIRE

Continental TIRE

Firestone

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



SPECIALIZING IN NEW AND USED TIRES

BEAT THE RUSH! SNOW WILL BE HERE SOON!  
GET YOUR SNOW TIRES NOW!

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 3:00

Website: [dickstirebarn.com](http://dickstirebarn.com) • Email: [dickstire03@aol.com](mailto:dickstire03@aol.com)

WeatherTech

Authorized Diamond Dealer

**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](http://www.northoxfordmills.com) • Open Tues., Thurs., Fri. & Sat. 9-5; Wed. 9-8





"I wanted to create a fun, immersive, historical experience" for visitors to the museum dedicated to the life and work of Samuel Slater, Chris Robert tells the 43rd annual meeting of the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce after accepting the Chamber's Cornerstone Award.

#### By Rod Lee

Not just anyone could undertake the formidable task of creating a museum—"an experience"—dedicated to the achievements of Samuel Slater.

Only an individual with the same kind of visionary spirit as that possessed by the father of the American Industrial Revolution would be able to tackle such a project.

Enter Christopher Robert.

By founding Webster Museums, Inc., a nonprofit, and seeing through to completion his concept for an interactive tribute to Samuel Slater's life and work, Mr. Robert was presented with the Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce's Cornerstone Award at the organization's 43rd annual meeting at Pleasant Valley Country Club in Sutton on November 17.

The highlight of the meeting was a keynote address by Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker, who shared his personal thoughts on the extraordinary and successful measures his administration in collaboration with the State Legis-

lature initiated to usher the Commonwealth through the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Samuel Slater Experience, which will celebrate a grand opening at the former National Guard Armory in the town of Webster tentatively in March, is just the latest example of the foresight that has defined Chris Robert's approach to doing business in the Blackstone River Valley of Central Massachusetts—emulating Samuel Slater's.

It would be hard to imagine anything less than his best effort from a "serial entrepreneur" who has already given the region Indian Ranch, the Samuel Slater Restaurant and the Indian Princess paddleboat.

Fittingly, Mr. Robert was saluted on the same morning that his daughter Suzette Raun Coppola stepped forward to accept recognition for Indian Ranch on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

Anticipation for the unveiling of the Samuel Slater Experience to the public is running high for good rea-

## And the Cornerstone Award goes to Chris Robert and the Samuel Slater Experience

son. When it was pointed out during remarks offered on Mr. Robert's behalf that he had invested \$2.5 million of his own money to outfit the property and to hire professional museum designers to create the exhibits, he received a standing ovation from those in attendance in the ballroom at PVCC.

In accepting the award, Mr. Robert acknowledged that his main objective in establishing the Samuel Slater Experience was to create a place with a "Disneyesque" touch and that would offer students of all ages the chance to experience history and technology in a way they would remember.

The Samuel Slater Experience represents something of a coup for the town of Webster — an appropriate location for the museum. Samuel Slater established thirteen mills powered by Lake Chaubunagungamaug (Webster Lake) and the French River. He carved an area from Oxford to Dudley to form the town of Webster, naming it after his friend, Sen. Daniel Webster.

Samuel Slater is buried in Webster.

When in partnership with the Chamber no suitable building could be found to house the museum—including any of the former Samuel Slater mills—the town of Webster asked Mr. Robert to consider the armory. Built in 1935 on land once owned by Samuel Slater, it was deeded to the town in 2005 and used by the Webster fire and police departments to store their vehicles and equipment. Town of Webster officials fully supported Mr. Robert's plan and leased the building to him for thirty years at one dollar a year.

Renovation and restoration of the 17,000-square-

foot building was not easy. Though structurally sound, there was an abundance of asbestos. The wiring, plumbing and heating dated back to the 1930s. The roof leaked. The windows were unsealed and broken.

Local contractors were employed in bringing the building back.

Members of the Webster Dudley Business Alliance got a sneak peek of the new Samuel Slater Experience at their 15th annual meeting on October 26. That evening, Mr. Robert offered a brief synopsis of what inspired him to pursue his dream of honoring Samuel Slater and the town of Webster in its heyday.

At that meeting, the following officers and directors were elected: Lucas Perzan of Insation Technologies, president; Carl Kaliszewski of 511 Financial, vice president; Kim Labbe of The Smart Shopper, treasurer; Mark Marzeotti of The Marzeotti Group, secretary; and Deb Horan of Booklovers' Gourmet, Halina Jachimczyk of Webster First Federal Credit Union, Erica LaBonte of B Kind Café, Jessica Sabine of The Rose Room, Tamara Taft of The Smart Shopper directors.

Nancy Healy of the Citadel Company was elected an alternate director.

Exiting board members Caryl Savard of Caryl's Studio & Creative Design, Deborah Keefe of DAK Property Management and Bill Sabine of The Rose Room were acknowledged and thanked for their service.

Afterwards, attendees were treated to a grand tour of the museum, which features a replica ship and water wheel, mill housing and machinery, artifacts, holographic displays with

full audio-visual effects and a full-size streetscape of "Boomtown Webster."

Mr. Robert had some words of advice for BV Chamber of Commerce members and guests as he accepted the Cornerstone Award.

"If they ever offer you another building, take the asbestos out first!" he said.

Contact Rod Lee at [rodlee.1963@gmail.com](mailto:rodlee.1963@gmail.com) or 774-232-2999.



Suzette Raun Coppola was recognized for Indian Ranch on the occasion of its 75th anniversary. She is pictured with Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce President and CEO Jeannie Hebert.



A recreated full-scale working water wheel powers pulleys and machinery at the Samuel Slater Experience in Webster, part of an array of exhibits and videos visitors will be able to enjoy when the museum opens in March.

## Christmas

Stop in and see our Christmas display with our unique owls and gift ideas!

Trees • Wreaths • Roping Swags • Kissing Balls  
Ornaments for your Trees!



**ROBBINS**  
GARDEN CENTER  
& Stove Shop

508-987-2700 • 508-987-2897

Mon.-Fri. 8 to 4  
Sat. 8 to 2; Sun. 9 to 2

[www.robbsingarden.com](http://www.robbsingarden.com)  
[www.woodpelletexperts.com](http://www.woodpelletexperts.com)

Stock up on winter supplies  
Snow Shovels • Rock Salt • Ice Melt • Bagged Sand  
Tubed Sand • Sand-Salt Mix • Roof Rakes

## BIRD SALE 10% OFF

BIRD FEEDERS  
Suet Cakes & Blocks  
Bird Food  
5 lb. to 50 lb.



Cemetery Boxes

Gift Certificates

♥ Thank you for shopping local small business! ♥

28 Sutton Avenue • Oxford, MA • Rte. 395 • Exit 7B



## SERRA CLUB

Continued from page 1

observations, their objective appears to be well on its way to great success. At a recent meeting held at Point Breeze, there were 26 attendees enjoying camaraderie along with refreshments and dinner. The evening's speaker was Reverend Daniel Moreno, administrator of St. Anthony's parish of Dudley. Reverend Moreno stated "I attribute my vocation to my grandparents who were devout. I have no regrets. We are channels of God's words." Originally from South America, Reverend Moreno said, "Having lived here for many years I do miss seeing my parents. It's not easy seeing them age via computer images but I am here to support my faith and

parishioners. We should not idolize priests or other clergy. We need your prayers, support, and companionship. The Serra organization is a valuable resource."

John Hickey, vice president, commented that "the beginning stages of getting the club back to its former strength of helping seminarians and being there for them was a worthy mission. Being Christian will not get easier as the years go on. It will become more challenging. We are here to support our clergy and to promote those who are the backbone of our values."

Half of the club's funds raised is to support newly ordained seminarians and/or those who have chosen the religious life, women and men. In current times, however, most of those who



Serra Club members at a recent meeting.

choose these types of vocations are men but the group has supported women who have chosen a devout lifestyle as well. The remaining monies raised through dues, donations, and fundraisers are used for operating expenses. The group is positive, uplifting, and devoted to the future of those who will lead the local parishes. Their mission is strong and focused. A recently held

Christmas fundraiser offering wreaths and garlands was a great success.

Officers are: Roland Malboeuf, president; John Hickey, vice president; JoAnne Canty, treasurer; and Cynthia Rawson, treasurer. Father Michael Roy of St. Roch's parish in Oxford is the Serra chaplain. Publicity coordinator is Lee Gendron, who is also their photographer. This year's theme was

Journey to the Priesthood with many of the club's speakers being priests from the local parishes describing how they came to be part of the priesthood. All ages are encouraged to become members. To join, you may contact your church's priest who will put you in touch with the group. They are also on Facebook: Serra Club SWC. "Give us a year once you decide to

join us," said John Hickey, "you can then see how our group supports the goals of our and your faith." The Serra Club of Southern Worcester County will be holding its next meeting on January 6, 2022, with an introduction of current seminarians of the Diocese of Worcester.

Contact Janet: [jstoica@TheYankeeXpress.com](mailto:jstoica@TheYankeeXpress.com)



Wreaths ready for distribution.

## Lt. Karłowicz appointment

On Monday, November 22, The Dudley Board of Selectmen appointed Sergeant Marek Karłowicz to be the next Dudley Police Department Lieutenant. Pending successful completion of the employment conditions package, the new lieutenant will assume his duties on January 7.

In addition to Sergeant Karłowicz, three other members of the department, Sergeants Dean Poplawski and Paul Ceppetelli, and Detective James Annese, completed a written examination and participated in a day long promotional Assessment Center. The process included several real-life exercises designed to challenge them and determine their ability to perform in this management position. All four successfully passed and Chief Wojnar congratulates them all and recognizes this significant accomplishment.



**Pictured: new Lieutenant Marek Karłowicz (front center) along with his wife Krystyna and members of his family at the Board of Selectmen's meeting on Monday, November 22.**

Marek Karłowicz has been a Dudley resident for most of his life, after emigrating here

with his family from Poland. He has been a member of the Dudley Police Department for 21 years. He was appointed as a reserve officer in November of 2000. He became full time in November of 2002 and was appointed to sergeant in July of 2019. He serves in several roles within the department, including as a firearms

instructor. He will make a fine lieutenant with the department. This position has been vacant for over sixteen years.

Chief Wojnar thanks the Board of Selectmen and Administrator Jonathan Ruda for supporting this position and the further advancement of the police department.

**Prestige**  
A Wellness Salon and Spa

**Give the gift of FOOT CARE this holiday.**

We offer safe, sanitary holistic services by advanced nail care technicians  
Autoclave sterilization,  
Clean air certified salon

SCAN ME

**Customized care plans:**

- Toenail trims
- Callous reduction
- Universal nail correction system for ingrown and curved toenails
- Nail Restoration for damaged nails
- Clinical Strength Foot Foam Products

<https://squareup.com/gift/7GX01MKSS3RZT/order>

**16 NEGUS ST., WEBSTER MA**  
**508-671-0069**

# 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.**

**amplisound**

HEARING CARE CENTERS

**800-835-2001 • PUTNAM, CT**

Providing hearing solutions to the community since 1981.

[www.amplisound.com](http://www.amplisound.com)

## Meat raffle

CHARLTON - The Charlton Lions are hosting its famous Meat Raffle on Saturday, January 8, at the Heritage Golf Course, 85 Sampson Road, Charlton.

There will be six tables of beef, pork and poultry to be won. The raffle begins at noon with earlybird tickets available to those who arrive before 1 p.m. Heritage will have their bar open for beverage service and will provide a small pub style menu during the meat raffle. So come share a great afternoon of fun and fill your freezer

For more information, email [thecharltonlions@gmail.com](mailto:thecharltonlions@gmail.com), and remember 100% of what we raise goes back to the community. The Charlton Lions thanks you for your continued support.

Please mark your calendar for the next Meat Raffles on February 5 and March 5.

## Holiday dinner

WHITINSVILLE - Parishioners and volunteers from the Blackstone Valley United Methodist Church would like to cordially invite the community to a traditional turkey dinner with all the usual holiday meal favorites: potatoes, vegetables, squash, stuffing, and cranberry sauce. This year's meal will be served on Saturday, Dec. 25, from 12 noon to 2 p.m. at the church, 61 Linwood Avenue, Whitinsville. The dinner is open to everyone free of charge. We ask that you wear masks while you are not eating and maintain social distance where possible. Please come join us for a joyous Christmas celebration that will include holiday fun, food, and fellowship with many from the community. For more information, call the church office at 508-234-2275.



# bankHometown elects new board chairman, vice chairman

OXFORD — At its recent meeting, the bankHometown board of directors elected Brian E. Galonek as its chairman and David E. Surprenant as vice chairman.

Galonek was first appointed to the bankHometown board in 2008 and chaired the Audit/Budget Committee and the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) Committee before serving three years as vice chairman. He is president and owner of All Star Incentive Marketing in Sturbridge, a leading national provider of employee engagement programs, and holds the designation of Cer-

tified Professional of Incentive Management (CPIM). Galonek earned a bachelor's degree in Marketing from the UMass Amherst Isenberg School of Management, and is active in the community, having served as a board member of both the Tantasqua Education Foundation and Tantasqua American Youth Football, and as president of Sturbridge Little League. Over the past 15 years, he has helped raise more than \$1.5 million for The Jimmy Fund and the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute through his membership on the board of the Cohasse Jimmy Fund Clas-

sic charity golf tournament as well as his participation in 10 Pan-Mass Challenge bike-athons. Galonek and his family live in Sturbridge.

Surprenant was first appointed to the board of trustees of Millbury Savings Bank in 2013 and joined the bankHometown board of directors when the two banks merged in 2019. He is an attorney and managing partner of the Worcester-based law firm, Mirick O'Connell. Surprenant is a graduate of Boston College with a bachelor's degree in accounting and received his juris doctor from Boston College Law

School. He is a member of the board of directors and Audit & Finance Committee of the Worcester Business Development Corporation and continues to serve as a trustee of the United Way of Central Massachusetts, having previously served as the chairman of that board. He has been a corporator of Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Worcester for more than 30 years, previously serving on the board of directors and as board president. Surprenant also is a member of the Catholic Schools Stewards Foundation and previously served



David E. Surprenant

as chairman of the Charter and Bylaw Review Committee and chairman of the



Brian E. Galonek

Finance Committee for the Town of Sutton. He and his family reside in Sutton.

## Explore The Last Green Valley photo contest winners announced

The Last Green Valley, Inc. (TLGV) announces the 13 winning photos gracing its 2022 calendar. TLGV's "Explore the Last Green Valley" calendar for 2022 features magnificent photos of The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor.

The coveted cover shot was taken by Sandee Harraden of Woodstock, CT and is called "Ruby-throated Hummingbird." The photo is a beautiful image of a hummingbird drinking nectar as it twists its body to get the perfect angle for the nectar.

This is the second TLGV calendar cover Harraden has won since 2015.

"I've always been interested in birds," Harraden said. "But I also enjoy watching the bird behavior. Learning photography, I can stop the moment and get all the details to understand what I am seeing."

Harraden fell in love with photography 11 years ago. She is always trying to learn more about photography while hoping to inspire others to love nature through photography. In addition to the cover photo, Harraden's "Northern Cardi-

nal with His Fledgling" is the April photo. Harraden's images are the results of hours of watching the birds with her camera at the ready and positioning herself as the light moves.

"I think The Last Green Valley is a wonderful organization and it also inspires people to enjoy the outdoors and brings awareness and helps people to connect to nature. I think that's really important for people to have that inspiration."

The other winning photos are: "A Sparkling Day," by Ulla Britt Roemer of Pomfret,

CT; "Ponemah," by Nick Velles of Franklin, CT; "Chasing Waterfalls," "Sometimes You Feel Like a Nut..." and "Let it Go," by Sarah L. Hamby of Danielson, CT; "Calves on a Sunny Day," by Joseph Orefice of Union, CT; "European Praying Mantis at Lavender Farm," and "Monarch with Sunflowers," by Heather Brunelle of Lebanon, CT; "Sunset at Blue Slope," by Susan Trapp of North Stonington, CT; "Fall from Above," by Ryan Heilemann of Brooklyn, CT; and "Ready to go Kayaking at Hopeville Pond" by Gail Miller of North Franklin, CT.

The more than 65 entries went through a blind review of the photos by a committee which chose the winners. Additional smaller photos are used throughout the calendar. The 2022 calendar is also filled with interesting tidbits about the natural and cultural history of the National Heritage Corridor.

"This year the entries were very high quality," said Lois Bruinooge, executive director of TLGV. "It was difficult to choose only 13. We're excited by the stunning photos in the 2022 calendar."

The calendar is on sale for

\$15. You can order one in the gift shop at TheLastGreenValley.org or call the TLGV Office at 860-774-3300 to order a copy. All proceeds support The Last Green Valley's programs to protect our natural and historic resources. TLGV is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

The Last Green Valley National Heritage Corridor is the last stretch of dark night sky in the coastal sprawl between Boston and Washington, D.C. The Last Green Valley, Inc. works for you in the National Heritage Corridor. Together we can care for it, enjoy it and pass it on!



# Happy Holidays



**websterfive**  
We're different. We're better. Believe it.



SUM

WEBSTER | DUDLEY | OXFORD  
AUBURN | WORCESTER | SHREWSBURY



EQUAL  
HOUSING  
LENDER  
MEMBER FDIC  
MEMBER OF

www.web5.com | 800.696.9401



## Living well and looking good

# You're never too old for HPV infection

By Keith Roach, M.D.

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** I read your recent column stating that the HPV vaccine is recommended up to age 45. Are people older than 45 years no longer susceptible to HPV? Asking for a 52-year-old friend (who thinks he's Wolverine). – C.F.

**ANSWER:** The comic character Wolverine has a mutant healing ability (that's how he was able to survive having his bones replaced with adamantium), so he has nothing to worry about. However, non-mutants do have to worry about HPV, which can come from any kind of skin-to-skin contact with a person who has HPV.

Having the virus often means having warts, but sometimes people can have contagious HPV without having any visible lesion. It's been estimated that 90% of people with HPV don't know they have it.

People of any age are susceptible to HPV. Most people have been exposed by age 45, which is why the recommendations are the way they are now, but vaccination might make sense in some situations. The clearest example is someone who has had very few sexual partners and is about to become more sexually active (for example,

a person recently divorced or widowed).

Although the vaccine is not indicated by the Food and Drug Administration in this situation and the person is likely going to have to pay out of pocket, it might still be worth it to get the vaccine to reduce the risk of acquiring a new sexually transmitted HPV infection. I received several letters from people who acquired new genital warts in just this situation who were

upset that their doctor did not offer the vaccine.

If people have already been exposed to HPV, the vaccine will not harm them. In fact, there is some anecdotal evidence that the vaccine might help people with difficult-to-treat warts by boosting the immune system specifically for HPV.

### Choosing not to treat prostate cancer

**DEAR DR. ROACH:** Every year, I used to get a physical, which included a prostate exam as well as blood tests with PSA. When my doctor retired, I had a hard time finding a new one I liked. It has been three or four years since my prostate was checked, but my new doctor doesn't do the prostate exams (I am 63). He says that recent studies do not recommend them, and I have seen news reports about the unreli-

ability of the PSA test. How do you find out if you have prostate cancer if you don't look for it? My brother-in-law found out he had it at 52, and it was successfully treated. I don't really want to wait until I am showing symptoms, and there is no history in my direct family. What do you think about this? – T.D.

**ANSWER:** Prostate cancer isn't really one disease. It can be very aggressive – both with local invasion and spreading to bones quickly – but it also can be very indolent, hardly growing at all over years. Yearly prostate cancer screening with PSA is more likely to find the slower-growing cancers, since they are around for a long time. The goal of screening is to find aggressive cancers, the fast-growing ones that can go from undetectable to too-late-to-do-anything-about in a very short time.

But a downside is that screening may lead to un-

necessary treatment of the more-indolent cancers, most of which can be carefully monitored and will not need surgery or radiation, at least not for years.

If a man elects to undergo prostate cancer screening, he should understand the benefits (finding prostate cancer early enough it can be cured) and the risks (treatment for prostate cancer causes complications frequently; these can include incontinence and loss of sexual function). Not treating low-risk prostate cancer reduces the risks.

Low-risk prostate cancer is defined by a PSA below 10, a very small or non-detectable tumor by palpation or imaging and a low Gleason score, which is based on how the tissue looks to the pathologist. Six or less is low risk. Most men in this situation do not need immediate treatment. Some men have difficulty NOT treating cancer, but treatment does not appear to improve the already good prognosis. Choosing not to treat is hard for some men.

*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

## Dudley Historic Signs placed



The Dudley Historical Commission is pleased to announce that signs have been placed at the northern and southern limits of the recently designated Dudley Hill National Historic District. The DHC wish to thank the Janet Malser Humanities Trust for funding the signs, which were fabricated by Graphics Unlimited of Dudley and erected by the Dudley Highway Department. "Walking tour" brochures of the district are available at the Dudley municipal building, the Pearle L. Crawford library, and also on the porch of the Black Tavern on Dudley hill.

## Alzheimer's Support group

The Alzheimer's Support Group sponsored by the Alzheimer's Support Network of South Central MA meets the second Monday of the month at St. Denis Church in Douglas, at 23 Manchaug Road, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. The meetings were formerly held at Webster Manor.

Caregivers and family members not only obtain information

about Alzheimer's Disease, but also learn many helpful techniques in caring for a person with dementia at all stages.

New caregivers can learn from experienced caregivers and support group leaders so they leave each meeting feeling more supported.

We welcome you to join.

Frank S. Yacino

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**

**We have a variety of readymade frames, prints, pottery and wooden bowls from local artists.**

**Browse our selection of framed prints.**

**Shop Local**

**HOURS**  
Monday-Thursday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm  
Friday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Saturday by appointment

**www.framersgalleryma.com**  
Visit us on Facebook & Instagram

**The Framer's Gallery**  
567 Southbridge St., Rte. 12 • Auburn, MA • 508-832-6111

**Monte Bianco**  
**Restaurante**  
FINE ITALIAN AND INTERNATIONAL CUISINE

*Exceptional Italian Cuisine*

**Taking Reservations for Christmas Eve & New Year's Eve Day!**  
New Years Eve Day Seatings: 12-2, 2-4, 4-6, 6-8, and 8-10  
Come Celebrate with us!! Book your party while space is available!

**NO PARTY TOO BIG OR TOO SMALL!**  
CATERING FOR ALL EVENTS - VISIT OUR WEBSITE FOR DETAILS  
• Dinner parties • Corporate Functions • School Functions  
• Engagements • Showers • Weddings • Anniversaries

**Take-out Buffet Coming Soon**

**140 Main St., Webster, MA • 508-461-5016 • 508-461-5017 • 860-923-0202**  
• Dine in or Take out • Catering available • [www.montebiancorestaurant.online](http://www.montebiancorestaurant.online)

HOURS: Closed Mondays; Tues. & Wed. 3-9pm; Thurs. & Fri. 12-9pm; Sat. 3-9pm; Sun. 1-7pm

**Gift Certificates Available**



# FOOD AND FUN PULL-OUT SECTION

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

PULL OUT  
SECTION

## Paintings on display at Booklovers' Gourmet

Paintings by Anne M. Tisdell will be on display and for sale December 1-31 at Booklovers' Gourmet, 72 East Main Street, Webster. Hours for viewing the show are Tuesday-Saturday 10-5, Wednesdays 10-6, Sunday, December 19 12-4, Monday, December 20, 10-5.

Artist's statement: I have dabbled in art all my life with sketching and drawing. I grew up in Swampscott, an oceanside community north of Boston. Professionally, I have worked as an RN and a Women's Health Nurse Practitioner for 45 years. I had a few courses in art as a teen and took 2 courses at Montserrat School of Art in Beverly, in pastels and watercolors with artist/teacher Mimi Johnson. Retiring in 2016, I had the time to pursue interests in art, music, dance and photography.

Many of the paintings that I create are based on my photographs or the photographs by friends with their permission. Artist, Elaine Griffith taught classes at Holden Senior Center in acrylic painting which I started in October 2017. Since then, I have exhibited in various places in Central MA. I started Art Classes with Bill Griffiths at the Worcester Art Museum in 2018, which brought me to a new level as

an artist. He has taught in all mediums and students work in the medium of their choosing. I have exhibited at the Museum's Adult Student Art Exhibit and at Arts Worcester. In 2018, I started watercolor classes with Charlie Grey in Rutland, a local well-known artist who has been instrumental in improving my watercolor technique. In July 2021, I participated in an intense workshop under the direction of Art-

ists Mimi Johnson and Mark Hayden in multiple art forms. I am also a musician and singer and have sung in choruses and churches in Greater Boston. I studied voice with the late Pauline Maher of Lynn. The Pandemic in 2020 cut into my exhibition time. Booklovers Gourmet was my first exhibit of 2020. I am happy to return December of 2021 with a mix of landscapes, birds, animals and flowers for all to enjoy.





**Rom's** *All Your Old Favorites!*

**Holiday Catering**  
*Call in your catering order for pick-up only.*

**Rom's Italian Market**  
139 Main St., Sturbridge • 508-347-1440 - 508-347-1441  
romsitalianmarket.com David Roscioli & Family

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

Downtown Holiday Dining in a Warm, Contemporary Atmosphere

# 85 main





Dine-in or enjoy delicious take-away meals!

This holiday season treat the ones you love with

## Gift Cards

available in any denomination

Join us for Happy Hour 4-6pm  
Wednesday Nights - Bar Only



American Fusion Cuisine with Fresh, Local, Organic Ingredients

enjoy our raw bar, sushi, lunch, dinner, or late night bar menu served daily 11:30am to 11:00pm

ZAGAT RATED 2016  
★★★★★

Best Seafood, Best Wine List,  
Best Mixed Drinks, Best Bartender  
— Norwich Bulletin

2016 City Beat Customer  
Satisfaction Award!  
★★★★★







85 Main St. Putnam CT • www.85main.com • 860.928.1660

## Get Ready for Christmas!

Now taking orders for Roasts, Hams, Kielbasa and Pierogis.

★ GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE



**Order your Holiday Baked Goods Now!**  
**Pies, Strudels Babkas** (poppyseed, walnut) **and Bulkies!**

**Year Round Hot Meal Specials!**  
*All meals come with potato & vegetable*

<p><b>TUESDAY</b> Baked Meatloaf Pot Roast Baked Stuffed Cabbage</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY</b> Spaghetti &amp; Meatball or Sausage Baked Stuffed Peppers Shepherd's Pie</p>	<p><b>THURSDAY</b> Sweet &amp; Sour Chicken Corned Beef &amp; Cabbage American Chop Suey</p>
<p><b>FRIDAY</b> Baked Haddock Baked Meatloaf American Chop Suey</p>	<p><b>SATURDAY &amp; SUNDAY</b> Roast Turkey Dinner Pot Roast 14 oz. Prime Rib \$16.99 Sat. &amp; Sun. Dinners Served All Day</p>	<p><b>LUNCH PORTION</b> (not available on weekends) <b>\$10.99 +TAX</b></p> <p><b>DINNER PORTION</b> <b>\$13.99 +TAX</b></p>

# 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



Large Selection of Homemade Soups

**Everyday**  
Chili (Chili cookoff winner) and Beef Stew or Soup of the Day

**Fridays Only**  
Clam Chowder





*for books, unique gifts & cards,  
coffee, sweets & more!*

*Gift Cards  
are a  
Perfect Fit!*



**Booklovers' Gourmet**  
Books • Coffee • Gifts

72 East Main Street, Webster (near CAP Auto & The Flower Garden)  
www.bookloversgourmet.com • 508-949-6232  
Shop online: bookshop.org/shop/bookloversgourmet

Open every day till Christmas  
Monday-Saturday 10-5; Wed. till 6; Sun. 12-4

## Open house

OXFORD - An Open House will be held at the Oxford Community Center, 4 Maple Rd., on December 23, from 1 to 4 p.m. sponsored by the Smolenski/Millette Charitable trust.

Stop by for hot chocolate, make some reindeer feed, color a picture to leave for Santa, and make an ornament to hang on the tree or window. All ages welcome.



**HOLIDAY PIES**

Order your  
**Holiday Pies**  
by December 20  
for Pick-up Christmas  
Eve by 11 a.m.

**Breakfast - Lunch -Catering**  
**Full Menu available for Take-out**  
**578 Main Street, Oxford, MA**  
**508-731-0744**  
**www.halfbakedfullyroasted.com**  
Monday-Saturday 5 a.m. - 2 p.m. • Accepting all major credit cards

**Prime Rib Dinner**  
*Includes Potato and Vegetable*  
6-7 lb. Average Prime Rib  
\$379 - Pick-up by 11 a.m. Christmas Day

**Turkey Dinner**  
*Includes Potato and Vegetable*  
14-16 lb. Average Turkey  
\$329 - Pick-up by 11 a.m. Christmas Day

**Open Christmas Eve & Christmas Day for Breakfast & Pick-up until 11 a.m.**

**VERY MERRY**

**Holiday Special**



**\$5 OFF**  
**Two Entrées**

Not to be combined with any other discounts.  
Must present ad. Expires 12/31/21.

**BENTLEY Pub**

602 Southbridge St.  
Auburn, MA  
508.407.8880

**Book Your Christmas Party**

*Now Taking Reservations for 1-75 people and in-home catering*

- Lamb
- Braises (of the week)
- Seafood • Chicken
- Steaks • Pasta
- Award Winning
- Chowders
- Homemade Desserts



**FIN & TALE**  
AT 858 MAIN STREET

*We can cater your Christmas party*

**Gift Certificates always available any amount**

*We're serious about great food. And that's no tale.*

**858 Main Street, Southbridge**  
**508-764-3349**  
**finsandtales858.com**

Tues.-Sat. Bar opens at 4 p.m. Serving Dinner at 5 p.m.  
Closed Sunday & Monday (except for private functions).



• PIZZAS • CALZONES • GRINDERS  
• WRAPS • SALAD • FISH  
• CHICKEN and MORE....

**MON.-TUES.-WED. SPECIALS**

2 Lg. Cheese Pizzas  
**\$17.99** +tax

1 Lg. Cheese  
1 Lg. Pepperoni Pizza  
**\$18.99** +tax

2 Lg. Pepperoni Pizzas  
**\$19.99** +tax

29 Main Street, Webster, MA  
www.northeastpizzawebster.com  
**508.949.3409**  
Fax: 508.949.0693

**HOLIDAY HOURS**  
Closing Christmas Eve 7 p.m.  
Closing New Years Eve 7 p.m.  
Closed Christmas day & New Years day

**Gift Certificates Available!**

**NOW Serving Beer & Wine**





**HARVEST MOON HEALTH FOODS LLC**  
Rt. 21 • Unit #4 • Colonial Plaza • Putnam, CT  
www.harvestmoonhealthfoods.net

Hours: Mon.-Wed. 10am-6pm • Thurs.-Sat. 10am-5pm • Sun. 11am-3pm

Offering a wide variety of allergen free products, gluten free, dairy free and soy free foods.

- Homeopathic and Herbal Supplements
- Local Bee Pollen Honey
- Assorted Nuts & Dried Fruits
- Raw Local Milk

*Lots of unique gift ideas!*

**For all your baking needs, we carry over 75 herbs and spices**

**CBD Lines**

Check us out on **facebook**  
We accept all major credit cards

**860-928-2352**



TABLE 3 RESTAURANT GROUP

*a Gift for you*

SAVE ON

# Online Gift Cards

Starting Nov 26<sup>th</sup>, through the end of the year,  
**ENJOY A \$10 BONUS CARD  
FOR EVERY \$50 PURCHASED**  
Visit [table3restaurantgroup.com/gift-cards](https://table3restaurantgroup.com/gift-cards)

Avellino & The Duck | (508) 347-2321 | 502 Main Street  
[avellinorestaurant.com](https://avellinorestaurant.com) | [theducksturbridge.com](https://theducksturbridge.com)

Cedar Street Grille | (508) 347-5800 | 12 Cedar Street | [cedarstreetgrille.com](https://cedarstreetgrille.com)

Cedar Street Café | (508) 347-6800 | 420 Main Street | [cedarstreetcafesturbridge.com](https://cedarstreetcafesturbridge.com)

TABLE 3 RESTAURANT GROUP

[TABLE3RESTAURANTGROUP.COM](https://TABLE3RESTAURANTGROUP.COM)



## Dudley Womans Club 2022 calendar raffle

The Dudley Womans Club is at [dudleywomansclub.org](http://dudleywomansclub.org), sponsoring a January 2022 proceeds will support the Calendar raffle. On sale now



**DUDLEY WOMAN'S CLUB**

**January 2022**

Sun	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1 1/2 Hour Massage GC \$100
2 Pasta's Nails GC \$25	3 Bistro 88's GC \$25	4 Burlap in Boards GC \$50	5 Coach Winchell	6 Hair Care Basket	7 Fins and Tails GC \$100	8 Ultra Beauty GC \$25
9 TJ Maxx GC \$50	10 Master Beauty GC \$25	11 Marken Barber GC \$50	12 Coach Bag	13 1 Dozen Votives + Lantern	14 Golden Greens GC \$50	15 Farmers Centre, Bunker St \$15 and Bakery's
16 Bistro 88's GC \$25	17 Amazon GC \$50	18 Longhorn GC \$25	19 Green House Car Wash GC \$25	20 Sephora GC \$50	21 Under the Vineyard at \$100	22 Tree House GC \$25
23 Golden Greens GC \$50	24 Bistro 88's GC \$25	25 Base All Day Basket	26 Del Ray Dr's GC \$25	27 Mike's Munchies & Crunchies GC \$25	28 Be Kind Cafe GC \$25	29 North Coast Seafood GC \$100
30 Patricia Nails Winchell	31 Taco Time Winchell at \$25					

annual scholarship program and the other charities that the DWC support. Tickets are \$10 each for 31 chances to win. Every ticket is eligible for all prizes. Daily drawings will be held at 7 p.m. and winners will be notified daily. Tickets will be sold through December 30 and are available at [Dudleywomansclub.org](http://Dudleywomansclub.org).

Heartfelt "Thank You" to the sponsors: B. Kind Cafe, Bistro 88's, C+C Building & Remodeling, Golden Greek Restaurant, Greenhouse Carwash, Home Depot, Mike's Munchies & Crunchies, North Coast Seafood, Paula's Nails Designs & Sonya Casey licensed massage therapist.

Go online or contact a member to sign up to purchase a ticket or two to help support our local giving projects.

# Mexicali

## CANTINA GRILL

Sun-Thurs: 11a-9p  
Fri-Sat: 11a-10p

[MexicaliFreshMex.com](http://MexicaliFreshMex.com)

Dine In & Takeout!

Gift Certificates Available



**Dinner**

# 50% off

Buy any 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 12-31-21

**Online orders with pickup or delivery**

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

Facebook.com/MexicaliFreshMex

Like Us! 



# The Last Green Valley™

National Heritage Corridor

## Open All Winter

Come explore our wide open spaces and New England downtowns & villages  
Visit [TheLastGreenValley.org](http://TheLastGreenValley.org)  
or call 860-774-3300



Buffy and Spike are spreading Merry Christmas wishes all over Massachusetts. They are proudly owned by Monika and Jonathan Kujawski. You can follow Buffy and Spike at [www.facebook.com/buffythedalmation](http://www.facebook.com/buffythedalmation).

EDSTEARNSDRESSEDMEATS.COM

## ED STEARNS DRESSED MEATS

27 Worcester Rd. (Rt. 20) • Charlton, MA (next to Ted's)  
508-248-7866

### Cooking for the Holidays?



**WE HAVE WHAT YOU NEED!**

- PRIME RIB BONE IN & BONELESS • DUCKS
- TURKEYS • GOOSE • SPOON ROAST
- STUFFED PORK ROAST • CROWN ROAST
- HICKORY SMOKED HAMS • SIRLOIN ROAST

**CALL IN YOUR ORDER TODAY! 508-248-7866**

*Shopping for those hard to buy for?*

Why not fill their freezer with Steaks, Chicken, Pork Chops, Marinated Tips, Hamburger, Marinated Chicken Breast, Macaroni & Cheese, Steve's Cowboy Beans, Smoked Bacon, Sausages, or let them choose their own with a Gift Certificate!

**GIFT CERTIFICATE BASKETS**





**HOLIDAY WEEK**

Tues. 12/21	9am-5pm
Wed. 12/22	9am-5pm
Thurs. 12/23	9am-6pm
Fri. 12/24	9am-noon
Sat.	Closed Christmas & New Years
Sun.-Mon.	closed

Custom cutting closes 1 hour before closing time.

EDSTEARNSDRESSEDMEATS.COM





## Living ON with Lincoln

### Who needs Santa?

By Amy LeClaire

Lincoln was a socialite. He loved the old and young, the plump and thin, the dark and light, the tall and small. He loved unconditionally and unabashedly. "You are the coolest person ever! Let's celebrate you! Allow me to play with your gloves!" He would gallop around our front lawn with a new friend's gear, thoroughly pleased with his sudden luck. A person had arrived! A typical Golden, Lincoln was social by nature—but there was one exception.

He didn't care for Santa Claus. The discovery announced itself, rather darkly, at PETCO in Auburn, a public pet store created for all things doggie. December Christmas shopping, I had thought, would be even more fun this year. "Lincoln can come, too!" I spoke his language and he responded with a wiggle and search for the closest ball available, just as he had on the final day of his life. Like a leopard's spots, joy was a part of who Lincoln was. A tumor, tragedy, or illness would fail to take this quality from him. He found a way to concentrate on all that was good in his life. He wore rose colored glasses and, in doing so, kept pain at bay. Amongst all that I admire about Lincoln, his ability to choose joy over pain is what I'll treasure the most.

"You have to be easy." I put the car in park and reviewed the shopping rules. He stared

out the window at the store front then shot a glance back to me, as though needing more detail. "We're going to see the other doggies." A dirty towel hung from his mouth like an oversized mustache while he celebrated his good fortune and did the math. A parking lot, a store front, dogs. Life couldn't get any better than this.

"Santa!" Somehow, it got worse.

"Look, Lincoln – it's Santa!" Lincoln did not want to look at Santa, let alone take a picture with him. "Let's just get one picture for Daddy." Lincoln's Daddy, my husband, had never cared about dog pictures with Santa. Yet I found myself clinging to empty promises like a frayed mother with a toddler. "You look so handsome." I pulled him towards a hired Santa whom, I must confess, was not overly gleeful. He sat stiff and angular, coupons resting upon his lap while Lincoln hid his face between my legs. I pulled him forward. His head flattened like a deflated tire while he stiffened in protest and tried to free himself from a loose collar.

"Let's just get one picture, Lincoln." He turned his head away from me. "Dislike." I can't recall exactly how I managed to pull my largest male of the litter to Santa's side, but I'm thinking junk food may have been involved. "Say – Happy Holidays!" The photographer stayed the course and did his job. By virtue of being a dog (they smile when nervous) Lincoln cooperated and smiled with a tongue hanging out. The camera's flash captured the odd couple that became us, Anxious Dog and Proud Mom. "One more in portrait mode?"

My mind conjured the image of a confident Lincoln pictured within the perimeter of an 8 x 10 frame, a twinkle in his eye while he looked down



Joyful to be with Daddy

on us from the fireplace mantel. I pet his head softly. My pedigree was so handsome. He lifted his chin, looked up at me, and revealed a harsher truth. "I'll be joyful, but I cannot stand this man."

I needed to get Lincoln out of there, and fast. An 8 x 10 portrait for only \$7.99 felt suddenly selfish. "Thank you so much but we're going to pass." Had Lincoln sensed a phoniness in Santa that kids, drawn to the prospect of presents alone, had failed to discern? Or was it a beard that sagged a few inches shy of reality that turned him off?

"You're such a good boy, Lincoln." In any event, the incident became a distant memory as we found ourselves immersed in his favorite aisle. I laid out a colorful row of balls, all different shapes and sizes. He sniffed. He browsed. He perked.

An extra-large neon-bright tennis ball captured his attention. He nuzzled it with cautious curiosity, as though a bird may have been nestled inside the ball. "I don't think

I've ever seen a ball this big." He pawed it, rolled it forward, then covered it with big paws, as though protecting a baby.

I knew before I knew. The neon ball was cheap and hollow. Given Lincoln's fierce grip on the ball's flimsy shell, this one would not stand a chance. He'd crack it open like an egg, just as he had so many others. I picked it up. His gaze followed my hands. "What are you going to do with that ball?" Entranced, his eyes followed my hands. "I promise this time I'll protect the ball. I'll just hold it. I won't break it. I'll just hold it. I'll go easy. Can I just play with that ball, please?"

"Do you have a card with us?" The cashier wore a festive Santa's hat with bells. "That will be eight dollars and seventy-five cents."

She bagged the ball while Lincoln sat charmingly patient. (He adored cashiers).

"Is that the dog in the paper? Here you go, Lincoln!" His status earned him a few extra treats. He gulped and chewed while I ripped the tags off of



the ball so that he could play in the car. He trotted by my side and followed the ball's journey. We settled in. I started the car and handed him an early Christmas gift. He wedged it between his paws, looked up

at me and broke into his typical joyful smile, a gift to me. Who needs Santa?

Tell me your Christmas dog story. Write me at [amyleclaire@hotmail.com](mailto:amyleclaire@hotmail.com)



Joyful about going to sleep

82 Dresser Hill Rd.,  
Charlton, MA  
508-248-0056

Owner/Groomer  
Meaghan Lanagan

**WALK-IN NAIL SERVICE**  
[www.missysdoggydayspa.com](http://www.missysdoggydayspa.com)

## THOMPSON Landscaping & Construction



### COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL SNOW PLOWING

- Leaf Clean-Ups • Lawn Mowing & Yard Work
- Tree Work • Excavations

Eben Thompson

Millbury, MA • 508-523-7790

[Ebthompson36@gmail.com](mailto:Ebthompson36@gmail.com)

Free Estimates • Fully Insured

## 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!

**C&S  
LUMBER**  
CO., INC.

Family Owned And Operated Since 1952.

124 Main St., Millbury

[cslumberco.com](http://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!





# Erich's

## CUTTING EDGE

MAKE YOUR HOLIDAY APPOINTMENTS. WALK-INS WELCOME. APPOINTMENTS GUARANTEED.

# Happy Holidays

Thank you to all our clients, friends and family.  
Congratulations to all our winners of our raffle.

COMMUNITY

## BUZZ OFF

FOR KIDS WITH CANCER

TO BENEFIT

## m

ONE mission

A heartfelt Thank You to everyone who donated to our fund raiser

**DONORS**

Whitco - a bike  
Cahill Tire - gift cert.  
Subway - gift cert.  
J. Anthony's - gift cert.  
Hebert Bee - products  
Robbins Garden Ctr. - gift cert.  
Lady Bug Florist - rock garden  
Whistle Stop - gift cert.  
Dave Derie - solar light

Stephen Doucette Law Office - estate planning pkg.  
Maelee Bertrand - gift basket  
Don Faford - rocking horse  
**CHECK DONATIONS**  
Ken Pruniere, IPG  
Bob Martin  
Ralph Scola  
Tom Candito

It was a great success in spite of the Pandemic.

We raised \$3800.00!

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



The Discerning Kaleidoscope is an online curator of beautiful art produced by local artisans. Each piece is handcrafted by talented creators, using a variety of media. TDK provides you with a wonderful opportunity to support local artists/businesses while shopping from the comfort/safety of your own home. We have 13 different collections with many choices just clicks away.

LOSE YOURSELF IN THE EXTRAORDINARY!

(508) 276-9761

thediscerningkaleidoscope.com

# CHRISTMAS TREES

FRESH CUT OR  
CUT YOUR OWN  
FROM OUR  
TREE FARM

Balsam, Fraser,  
Grand and  
Concolor Firs  
Blue, White and  
Black Hills Spruce



Open  
8 am-6 pm  
7 Days

## Morse Lumber Co., Inc.

990 North Woodstock Road, Southbridge, MA (Rt. 169) - 1/2 mile from CT line  
[www.morse-lumber.com](http://www.morse-lumber.com)  
**Toll Free 1-800-764-3231 or 508-764-3231**

# Happy Holidays

Many thanks to our all our advertisers, who make print a part of your marketing strategy. Warm wishes for a healthy 2022 to all our faithful readers, who keep us on deadline.

From our staff



## The YankeeXpress

BLACKSTONE VALLEY

## Xpress



Living well and looking good

The problem with playing pharmacist

By Keith Roach, M.D.

DEAR DR. ROACH: My wife has been diagnosed with atrial fibrillation. Doctors tried an electrical cardioversion, but it came back after a few days. She is taking metoprolol and Eliquis. We have read about the supplements red clover, turmeric, omega-3 and hawthorn. Should she discontinue the pharmaceuticals and take supplements instead? – J.C.

ANSWER: Please don't do that, and let me explain why. Atrial fibrillation is an abnormal heart rhythm. The goal of treating it is first to relieve symptoms, such as fast heart rate and dizziness, and second, to reduce the risk of stroke. Blood clots can form inside the heart when the atria are fibrillating (a chaotic, non-coordinated muscle movement). Those clots can break off and go into the blood vessels of the brain, causing cell death and loss of function in that part of the brain. That's a stroke.

Your wife is taking metoprolol to slow the heart rate. Atrial fibrillation causes the ventricles to go too fast, causing a sensation of fast heart rate and palpitations. Metoprolol, a beta blocker, protects the heart from damage from a too-fast heart rate, in addition to relieving symptoms. Apixaban (Eliquis) is a powerful anticoagulant, reducing the risk of clot formation.

Red clover is usually used in herbal medicine for its estrogen-like activities. Unfortunately,

estrogens INCREASE clot risk, so this herbal medicine absolutely should not be used by someone at risk for clots. Sweet clover hay is the source of warfarin (Coumadin), another often-used anticoagulant in people with atrial fibrillation: This may be the source of confusion. However, warfarin needs to be dosed precisely, with frequent blood-level checks.

Turmeric is an antioxidant that does have some mild anticoagulant properties. However, it is not remotely powerful enough to do the job of protecting your wife adequately from stroke.

Omega-3 fish oils were once

thought to reduce risk of atrial fibrillation; unfortunately, a 2013 study showed no benefit.

Hawthorn has two potential benefits: To a slight extent, it acts as a beta blocker (like metoprolol) as well as an anticoagulant. However, no trials have proven its effectiveness. It may interfere with both her medicines. The metoprolol and Eliquis have much more safety data.

DR. ROACH WRITES: In a recent column, a reader noted she had a history of irritable bowel syndrome and described intermittent sharp rec-

tal pain. My answer discussed control of her IBS. When I saw the column printed in the newspaper, weeks after I wrote it, I realized instantly that the diagnosis was probably proctalgia fugax, which is a spasm of the muscles of the anus. It is thought to be related to nerve compression.

I learned from my predecessor of this column, Dr. Paul Donohue, that sitting on a baseball or tennis ball can sometimes stop the pain instantly, and that creams and sometimes oral or inhaled

medications can be effective in harder-to-treat cases.

I also want to point out that I fell victim to something called an anchoring heuristic error. I read about my reader's irritable bowel and became "anchored" to that diagnosis. Admitting an error and trying to understand why it happened are critical to reducing the like-

lihood of making the same error again. Anyone can make a mistake; it's important to learn from them.

*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

Are you looking for a comfortable place to live?

Our private home is now accepting tenants who need assistance caring for themselves. At **Golden Life**, we maintain personalized service and sanitary conditions.

We provide home made meals, a relaxed atmosphere, and 24 hour daily care

*Let our home become your home become your home!*



Call Elizabeth to schedule a visit  
**508-943-7411**  
www.goldenlifeenhancedcareliving.com  
15 Aldrich St., Webster, MA 01570  
The facility is fully licensed by the Town of Webster, MA & Worcester County

**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

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



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



@dr.jasontubo

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

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



**Whitinsville family dentistry**  
**(508) 234-8107**  
12 Prospect Street  
Whitinsville, MA  
www.DrTubo.com



## Dudley Womans Club November meeting

The DWC held its November meeting at the Dudley Municipal Complex. Lesa Patrock from the YOU Inc. Adopt-a-Child for Christmas program discussed their purpose and procedure for providing holiday gifts to local children. Many club members donated tape and wrapping paper as well as sponsoring a child or two, and the club made a generous donation to her program. In addition, Lynn McDonough and Alex Smith shared their favorite holiday appetizer recipes with the group.

### Franks and Beans dinner

WEBSTER - The United Church of Christ, Fed., 2 Church St., is offering homemade baked beans and franks dinner with brown bread on New Year's Day 2022. \$11.00 per dinner, pre-order, pre-pay only. Order deadline: December 29. For more information on how to purchase tickets go to: uccfedwebster.org or call United Church of Christ, Fed. at 508-943-0061.



DWC President Andrea Kane and Lesa Patrock



DWC members



Lynn McDonough and Alex Smith



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

**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.**

**5¢ OFF**  
**PER GALLON**  
**OF OIL**  
**OF 175 GALLONS**  
**OR MORE**

*Must present coupon.*  
*Offer cannot be combined.*



**Colin's Property Maintenance**

- Tree Removal
- Tree Trimming
- Bobcat Work
- Storm Damage
- Clean Outs
- Trash Removal

Fully Insured **774-230-9080** Free Estimates  
CHARLTON, MA  
~ Servicing Worcester County ~



**Blackstone Valley Cannabis**

**Best. Gift. Ever.**

We'll help you up your holiday game

79 River Road in Uxbridge, MA

bvcannabis.com

**Please Consume Responsibly.** This product has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). There is limited information on the side effects of using this product, and there may be associated health risks. Marijuana use during pregnancy and breast-feeding may pose potential harms. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. The impairment effects of edible marijuana may be delayed by two hours or more. In case of accidental ingestion, contact poison control hotline 1-800-222-1222 or 9-1-1. This product may be illegal outside of MA.



## Pete's Sports



By  
Peter  
Coyle

# Remember the glory days of Thanksgiving

Hope your Thanksgiving holiday was a memorable time with family and loved ones. Mother Nature certainly gave us perfect weather on Thanksgiving Day, one for the ages for sure and "glory days" celebrated another year. Took advantage of the great 52 degree weather and attended the Southbridge at Bartlett football game in Webster. The Veterans Memorial Field was in excellent condition on upper Ray Street and all things being equal, one couldn't ask for a more spectacular setting. The "glory days" fans who anticipated this longtime tradition between Webster and Southbridge couldn't have scripted the 9:45 a.m. arrival time any better.

The Bartlett green uniforms and the Southbridge red were a magnificent backdrop to the blue sky above. One for the ages for sure. To the players who suited up for this 100-plus year traditional battle, this space gives you credit for keeping this tradition alive and hopes of a game next year. The player product was thin in roster numbers on both sides, but to those who put the uniform on this past Thanksgiving, your courage to do so should be commended. And you gave the fans an exciting game.

Times have changed for sure over the years and this year's Bartlett-Southbridge game has taken on a whole new meaning to Thanksgiving Day schoolboy football. Despite the perfect weather conditions, attendance was sparse and limited. My contemporaries will tell me I am

generous in estimating the number of fans at 200.

The real tragic numbers are that both the Bartlett and Southbridge roster numbers were between 20-25. The dwindling rosters in both schools have been spiraling downward over the past five years. The Thanksgiving rivalry between the Indians and Pioneers has lost its appeal over the past five years as well.

Bryce Patterson of Bartlett was the talk around the Webster faithful for his passionate and desirable play on Thanksgiving morning. It was the productive Patterson, in true Patterson family bloodline, who scored all of Bartlett's 12 points and had 101 yards rushing on six carries. That's almost 17 yards a carry. He should have carried the pigskin every time. Like Noel Lefebvre did for Bartlett in 1972 and 1973, Patterson could have done like Lefebvre did with no problem. Ride the Patterson horse on the last game of the year. Southbridge led at halftime 16-14 and eventually pulled away to a 28-14 victory.

Both teams entered this rivalry in 2021 winless at 0-8. The truth is both of these traditions took their pre-game warm-ups on life support. Southbridge had to forfeit twice because of safety issues and Bartlett banded their way through this 2021 season.

We are not going to survive this sport of high school football in towns like Webster and Southbridge in 2022 unless we up those roster numbers to 35 per team. Seeing this on Thanksgiving morning is no fun for anyone. Bringing back a tradition nowadays is tough. The cookie is already crumbled, kids don't like football anymore and this Thanksgiving morning wasn't a good look. Is building up the rosters to 35 and bringing back a solid junior varsity only wishful thinking?



Bryce Patterson sails into the endzone untouched in the first quarter of the game.



Brothers #12 Ben and #11 Michael Karontang travel down field with blocking from #35 Bryce Patterson.



Kick by Sean Baca with blocking from Dylan Greenwood.



Ben Karontang on the interception for the Indians.

## Andy's is back

On a great positive note, Andy's is back. Let's welcome back Andy's, a longtime all time favorite in Webster after a 40 year hiatus.

Yes, one of the all time favorite restaurants is coming back and keeping it in the family as Jessie and Bill Sabine relocate behind the Webster Post office as Andy's.

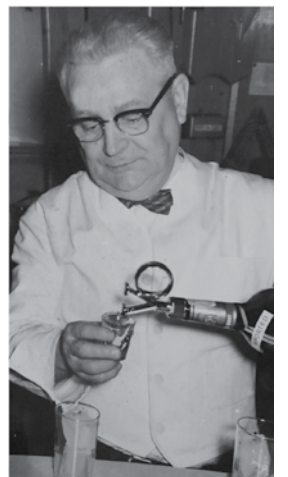
Jessie is a 4th generation Stefanik who is the daughter of Babe Stefanik, who is the son of John Stefanik, who brought his family up on top of Andy's back in the

50s, 60s and 70s on East Main Street in Webster. Great memories always of John's family's hospitality.

Jessie and Bill invite everybody down to the new Andy's to enjoy the new atmosphere and new look.

Good luck to Andy's and here's hoping for another Andy's softball team in the making.

Finally, a special Christmas thanks to Cookie Pizzetti who delivered another fine rendition of Christmas carols that he mastered of all his own singing. Cookie, your singing talents are appreciated and



they make the holiday spirit enjoyable. Thank you and enjoy the Christmas spirit.



Pictures from the past of Andy's on East Main Street, Webster.



# SENIOR FRAUD HELPLINE

## 800.297.9760



Recognize  
Resist  
Report

Family Services  
OF CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS  
An Affiliate of Seven Hills Foundation

Central Massachusetts  
Agency on Aging, Inc.



# Programs and events at the Pearle

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

**Knit and crochet group** Thursday 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. and Friday 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. All stitchers are welcome for this informal group, meeting weekly in the Fels Room.

**Toddler time**, Wednesdays 11:00 a.m. Come join us for Toddler Time. We will have a different theme each week with stories and songs. This is geared for ages 18 months to 3.

**Baby time**, Fridays, 11:30 a.m. Join us for a Baby Time story time. We will be doing songs, fingerplays, and reading to our babies. This is geared for babies 0-15 months.

**Pre-K power storytime** Tuesdays 11:00 a.m. Join Miss Lida for Pre-School Story Time. We will be exploring a new letter each week starting with A and ending in the spring with Z.

**Dungeons and Dragons group** Mondays 5:00 p.m. Have you ever wanted to learn to play D&D or are you a player looking to join a group? We have an experienced DM starting a group on Monday Nights at the pearle. If you have a Player's Handbook or dice bring them with you. We will have extras for anyone who needs them. Free; registration required.

**Pokemon Club**, Tuesdays 3:30 p.m. Calling all Pokemon fans! Children ages 7 to 14 are invited to join our club. This meeting will be a great opportunity to meet other players and share ideas. Please make sure you bring your trading cards and anything else you would like to share and discuss.

**Lego challenge** Wednesdays 3:30 p.m. Come join us each week for a different Lego challenge, from writing your name in Legos to making a Lego zipline. Ages 5+

**Adult book group**, third Thursday, 6:00-7:30 p.m. beginning January 20. The adult book group meets for an informal discussion of the month's title, which is available at the circulation desk a month prior to the meeting. For more information contact Kathryn Ward at 508-949-0819.

**Wiggles and giggles**, Friday, December 17, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Music, songs, and movement designed for ages 3-6. Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment

**Holiday music with the Shepherd Hill Show Choir**, Saturday, December 18, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Members of the award-winning Shepherd Hill Show Choir will sing old favorites and new tunes in this family-friendly free concert. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult.

**Youth Advisory Council**, Monday, January 3, 5:00-6:00 p.m. All tweens and teens in grades 6-12 are invited to join. You will gain valuable leadership skills. You can meet new people. You can earn volunteer hours (please bring your form). Pizza and drinks will be served. Free; sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

**Yoga with Julie**, Saturday, January 8, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All ages are welcome at this beginner-friendly yoga class led by Julie St.Francis. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

**Lego Master builder Dan Steininger**, Monday, January 10, 6:00-7:00 p.m. Dan Steininger is one of only eight official LEGO Master Builders in the entire world and he wants to share what it's like to have his dream job. He uses humor, great storytelling, and hands on building to entertain and inspire. Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

**Reducing pain naturally**, Thursday, January 13, 6:00 -7:45 p.m. Do you find yourself thinking: when will this pain end? Why do I still have this pain? or how can I get rid of this pain? Brad and Pamela Thompson will introduce some of the most recent breakthroughs in our understanding of pain and introduce a powerful and natural pain-reducing technique. Sponsored by the Hugh W and Harriet K Crawford Endowment.

**Jewelry Jam with Kim Larkin**, Thursday, February 3, 6:00-7:45 p.m. Make a gift for your Valentine at this jewelry-making workshop for teens and adults and create a mixed-media necklace on colorful cord using a decoupage technique with scrapbook paper or text. Kim will bring an assortment of materials

## Gladys E. Kelly Public Library calendar

The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library in Webster. 2 Lake St., Webster, 508-949-3880, has listed the following calendar of events. All programs are scheduled to be held outside on the Library lawn (unless otherwise noted), weather permitting.

The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library is using this new year to renew their commitment to community-building. Sondra Murphy, Library Director, spoke to the Library's desire to foster community connections: "Throughout the pandemic, we have all been separated from each other, from our communities. By branding our year-long slate of programs 'What Unites Us,' we are focusing our energy on community, building relationships, exploring our similarities, and celebrating our differences. We will have programs and events, Covid-allowing, that bring us together to create, learn, and explore the world around us." Patrons can expect to see crafty and maker-type programs, deep dives into history, inquiries into the natural world, and series of programs that allow for full exploration of a topic.

### Adult Programming

**Book Discussion Group** – The Gladys E. Kelly Public Library Adult Book Discussion Group meets at 6:30 pm. New members are always welcome! Next month's book discussion will be on

to inspire your creativity. Free, but space is limited: registration required. Sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

**Yoga with Julie**, Saturday, February 5, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. All ages are welcome at this beginner-friendly yoga class led by Julie St. Francis. Children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

**Youth Advisory Council**, Monday, February 7, 5:00-6:00 p.m. All tweens and teens in grades 6-12 are invited to join. You will gain valuable leadership skills. You can meet new people. You can earn volunteer hours (please bring your form). Pizza and drinks will be served. Free, sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

**Valentine craft for kids**, Thursday, February 10, 4:00-5:00 p.m. Come and create a Valentine craft. Ages 5+, please. Space is limited; registration required.

**House plants 101**, Thursday, February 2 6:30-7:45 p.m. Join the master gardeners from Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens to learn everything you need to know to successfully grow houseplants. Learn about several kinds of houseplants, and how to identify common plant-growing problems, so you can beautify your home and purify the air you breathe. Free; children under 12 must be accompanied by an adult. Sponsored by the Hugh W. and Harriet K. Crawford Endowment.

Monday, November 15, at 6:30 p.m. the meeting will take place via Zoom, and will be about the book *The Other Einstein* by Marie Benedict. Stop by the library, or reach out by phone to 508-949-3880, or by email to [ehale@cwmmars.org](mailto:ehale@cwmmars.org) for inquiries.

### Children's and young adult programming

**Fall into Reading** at the Gladys E. Kelly Public Library – through December 20 sign up at: [gladyskellylibrary.beanstack.org](http://gladyskellylibrary.beanstack.org), or download the Beanstack app on iOS or Android. Join this fun reading program for kids 0-12. Earn digital badges as you log reading, earn digital badges for attending library events, earn book prizes by reading! Read 10 hours to complete the program. This new online reading platform has an app that is easy to download and use. Along with the web, you can also ask for a paper version. Questions? Contact Andrew at [atai@cwmmars.org](mailto:atai@cwmmars.org).

**Songs and Stories Storytime** – Wednesdays at 10 a.m. Join Miss Emily Wednesday mornings at 10 am to read books, sing songs, and do rhyme games. Meet other children and caregivers at this community event. After stories, catch up with other community members over a simple craft. This Storytime is best for children 0-5, but all ages are welcome. Masks are required for everyone in the children's room over the age of 2 years. Disposable masks will be available.

**LEGO Club** – Thursdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. LEGO Club is back, and we're so excited to have you build with us again. Stop by the storytime room every Tuesday at 3:30 to freeplay with our bucketloads of LEGOs or try out our weekly challenge. Masks are required for everyone in the Children's Room over the age of 2 years. Disposable masks will be available.

**Drop-in Paint Hour** – Tuesdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. It's time to break out the paintbrushes. With a variety of paints and paper available, bring your artist of any age to join in the fun. Masks are required for everyone in the Children's Room over the age of 2 years. Disposable masks will be available.

**STEAM Kids** – Thursdays, 3:30-4:30 p.m. Join Miss Emily in a weekly STEAM event. That is Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics. Each week there will be a new project to tackle from slime making and catapult challenges, to board game development and bath bombs. Every week contains some take home element. These events are best for children 7-12, but siblings are always welcome. Some events may have a limited number of places, in this case children between 7-12 will have preference. Caregivers must remain for the duration of the event. Masks are required for everyone in the children's room over the age of 2 years. Disposable masks will be available.

## DAR presented Quilts of Valor

Captain Job Knapp Chapter of the DAR recently held its annual Veterans Day reception for three veterans who served during the Vietnam War. Each Veteran was given a handmade quilt designed and made by Louise Zygmuntowicz. They also received a certificate of appreciation for their service to the United States. Quilts were given to Ronald J. Fournier, US Air Force, Nicola J. Trifone, Air Force, and John Croall, Marines.

The Captain Job Knapp Chapter meets in Douglas at the First Congregational Church. Women belong from

Douglas, Webster, Dudley, Northbridge, and Uxbridge as well as from Rhode Island and Connecticut. The National Society Daughters of the American Revolution was founded in 1890 to preserve the memory and spirit of those who contributed to securing American independence. Any woman 18 years or older, regardless of race, religion, or ethnic background, who can prove lineal descent from a patriot of the American Revolution is eligible for membership. DAR is one of the world's largest and most active service organizations with nearly 180,000



members in approximately 3,000 chapters worldwide. These members passionately carry out the timeless mission of promoting historic pres-

ervation, education and patriotism. To learn more about the work of today's DAR, visit [www.dar.org](http://www.dar.org).



**AMERICAN RENT-ALL LLC**  
and American Self Storage

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



**SALES & SERVICE**





Inquire within or call for details.  
Route 131, Thompson, CT 06277  
860-923-2155 • 860-923-9100 • 860-923-2626  
[www.AmericanRentAll.com](http://www.AmericanRentAll.com)  
Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm • Saturday: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

**FREE COFFEE**  
from  
6 am to 7 am

**HOURS**  
Monday to Friday 6am-8pm  
Saturday 8am-8pm • Sunday 9am-5pm

**NEW ENGLAND CONVENIENCE**

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

**NOW SELLING BEER, WINE AND ICE!!!**

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





Hot cocoa by the fire.



Ms. and Thunder Claus



Students chill with Thunder by the tree.



Thunder wishes all a Happy Hanukkah

## Nichols College rings in the season of joy and giving with Light up the Hill

DUDLEY – The Nichols College campus and local communities gathered for the first Light up the Hill on Thursday, December 2, to celebrate the holidays with a new tradition.

Nichols President Glenn Sulmasy and his wife Marla led hundreds of students, faculty, staff, family members and neighbors in singing carols at the college green wearing Nichols beanie caps. The group then paraded to Copper Quad, where they counted down the seconds on a tree and menorah lighting, enjoyed hot cocoa, made photo ornaments, and warmed up near firepits. The Nichols bison mascot, Thunder, was on hand to spread holiday cheer.

The event was also an opportunity to support the Blessed Backpack Brigade, an organization based in the Dudley/Webster area that assists the homeless, unemployed, elderly, impoverished, veterans, and others. Collection bins were filled with much-needed items such as winter coats, gloves, hats, socks, hand warmers, toiletries, and non-perishable food items. The donations will be distributed locally among the needy.

Kate Joseph, vice president of Blessed Backpack Brigade,

was amazed at the turnout. “We are beyond grateful to President Sulmasy, First Lady Marla Sulmasy, graduate assistant Cari Cyr, and the entire Nichols community for the opportunity to be a part of the inaugural Light up the Hill event,” she said. “We had a wonderful time caroling, enjoying hot cocoa, and taking photos in front of the tree with Thunder. We were truly taken aback by the generosity that we witnessed – because of our Bison friends, we will now be able to provide many clients with crucial wish list items to help them brave the cold winter months. It means a great deal to us, and even more to those we will help because of you. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts!”



Nichols President Sulmasy Marla and Callum on an ornament



A little help in reading the songbook.

## 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



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



## Chief's corner

# That four letter word: snow

By Chief Steven J. Wojnar

Dudley Police Department The four-letter word snow will be arriving in full force soon. It brings with it several changes associated with the winter season. One of importance is the removal of excess snow from your vehicles prior to operating. This topic is always brought up to me at this time of the year and I wanted to remind people of the importance of taking this one additional safety step.

A few laws on the books can address this situation. Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90 Section 13 is the law which addresses "impeded" operation. Drivers are not allowed to have anything on or about their vehicle which may interfere with its safe operation. This can directly pertain to the removal of snow and ice from windshields. However, even though it is not specifically stated in this law, there may be circumstances where it can apply to snow on vehicle hoods, roof tops, or trunks. Massachusetts General Laws

Chapter 85 Section 36 addresses the subject of unsecured or unsafe loads transported on the roadways. Flying snow or debris from a vehicle traveling down the road may apply under these circumstances. Both laws carry civil fines and decisions will be made by an officer on a case-by-case basis. As another reminder, your vehicle's license plates must also be clearly visible and free of snow and debris. It is a separate violation of the law to have an obstructed number plate.

The danger lies in not removing this snow in a prompt manner. If it is left in place, it tends to melt and re-freeze which creates an ice sheet. When traveling at higher speeds, such as on a highway, the wind can move under this ice and send it flying off the vehicle. It could then land on or around another vehicle traveling along the road.

The results of this can be very serious. Despite the damage this may cause to another vehicle, it could have even

greater consequences should this land on another vehicle's windshield. The driver may not be able to see, and this could result in an accident. If there is a crash involved, the fact that the snow/ice was not removed prior to the trip, could be considered as a negligent act on the part of that driver. Therefore, this person may bear some responsibility for the accident. Please take a few extra minutes to completely remove the snow from your vehicle. This simple act could prevent an accident and possibly save a life (even your own).

Our department is in the process of collecting Christmas gift donations for local families in need. New and unwrapped toys and clothing can be brought to the Dudley Police Department at 71 West Main Street. Of need in the past were gifts for children between the ages of 10 – 17 years old. Monetary donations are also accepted. Checks should be made payable to the "Dud-

ley Police Association" with a special note for the Holiday Drive. All contributions are for Dudley families, and anything left over is given to local charities, such as Webster-Dudley Food Share. The Dudley Police thank everyone in advance for their continued generosity. Anything you can give will help bring some happiness to those who would otherwise go without during this holiday season.

#### Disability plate info

I recently received a question regarding disability plates or placards issued by the Registry. I was asked to explain the process for obtaining one. I was also asked for my recommendation on which one should a person should seek when applying?

Disability placards and plates are described in 540CMR17.00. Disability plates are issued to a vehicle owned by a qualified individual. Placards are special permits issued by the Registry to a specific person. Someone in-

terested in obtaining one of these permits must complete an application and submit it to the Registry. It also must be filled out and signed by a qualified physician outlining the reason for the disability. The application is free of charge and may be issued on a temporary (Generally up to 24 month) or a permanent basis. Temporary permits apply to individuals who have possibly suffered injuries but are expected to recover. Permanent applications will renew automatically, which is the reason why the state is looking at this to prevent abuse. The start to finish process for this will take at minimum, 30 days, however, in these COVID times, it can be much longer.

Generally, only one (plate or placard) is issued to people whose conditions warrant this privilege. The main purpose is to limit misuse opportunities of these items. The rule under 540CMR17.03 does allow for the Registrar to "issue both a plate and placard upon application and for good cause shown by the applicant." This is totally discretionary on the part of the Registry of Motor Vehicles and they in turn will determine what is "good cause" for issuance. If you have a condition that makes you eligible for a disability plate or placard, you should take the opportunity and apply. If you are only choosing one type, my recommendation would be to seek the placard. This is issued to you directly and can be used in

any vehicle. If you ride with a friend or family members, you can still use this for the proper parking privilege. If you have a plate, only that vehicle is authorized to park in designated places, limiting your access.

It is equally as important to remember to not misuse one of these permits. The fines and penalties are serious. The person who is issued the placard or plate must be present with the vehicle when it is used. Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 90 Section 2 calls for a first offense civil infraction of \$500 for misusing a disability plate or placard. The second and subsequent offense penalty is \$1,000. In addition, the person who owns the placard or plate may have it taken away. These spaces are in their designated locations for the convenient use of facilities for those with limited mobility. Remember to observe the laws carefully and show consideration for those individuals who need this assistance.

Please check us out at our new Facebook link at <https://www.facebook.com/dudleypolice>.

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](mailto: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.

## Shop Local for Quality Cards and Gifts!



This holiday season, order your cards from a trusted, local vendor. Our Town Publishing now offers holiday cards, prints, photos gifts and more!

Go to  
**ourtownpublishing.com**  
to get started today!

**Our Town** PUBLISHING

74 Main St., Suite 16 • Medway, MA 02053  
508-533-NEWS (6397) • [ourtownpublishing.com](http://ourtownpublishing.com)



**NOW OPEN**

**CAPITAL CANNABIS**  
COMMUNITY DISPENSARY

**EXTENSIVE PRODUCT MENU ONLINE AT**  
**CAPITAL-CANNABIS.CO**

774-302-WEED (9333) • 93 DAVIS STREET, DOUGLAS, MA 01516

**Cornerstone Creations**  
**HOME & GARDEN CONCRETE ART**

71 Main St., Sturbridge, MA • 508-347-0888

- ♦ Benches ♦ Birdbaths ♦ Statuary ♦ Wall Hangings ♦ Gargoyles
- ♦ Stepping Stones ♦ Memorial Stones & Markers ♦ Books ♦ Angels
- ♦ Fairies & Fairie Doors ♦ Dragons ♦ Gnomes ♦ Incense & Holders
- ♦ Buddhas ♦ Greenmen & Greenwomen ♦ Goddesses ♦ Toads & Frogs
- ♦ Celtic Crosses ♦ Suns & Moons.....Plus so much more!

Visit our **NEW LOCATION**  
**71 Main St.,**  
**Sturbridge, MA**

Open Thurs. & Fri. 10am-6pm; Sat. & Sun. 10am-5pm



## 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.johnfpaul.podbean.com](http://www.johnfpaul.podbean.com) or other popular podcast sites. Email your car questions to [jpaul@aaanortheast.com](mailto:jpaul@aaanortheast.com). Follow John on Twitter @johnfpaul and friend him on facebook [mrjohnfpaul](https://www.facebook.com/mrjohnfpaul)



**Q.** With the recent cold weather, both of our family cars had the low tire lights come on. I'm pretty good at checking the air pressure. Why does this happen.

**A.** Air pressure changes with temperature. As a rule, for every 10 degree drop in air temperature your car's tires will lose about one pound of air pressure. As an example (this happened to me), the last time I checked my car's tires it was an unseasonably warm 70-degree day and then that weekend it dropped to 26 degrees. With normal air loss and the drop in temperature the tires which normally have 31 PSI of air had 26 pounds of inflation and that was enough to turn on the low tire warning light.

**Q.** I read your column recently and enjoy it and there was a question about a spilled dinner soaking into the seats. I'm retired from the industry, and we would use brake cleaner to wash away oil and grease. Perhaps this would work to remove Alfredo sauce? The chemical was very similar to what is found in dry-cleaning solution. Perhaps try this and of course, check for color fastness first.

**A.** Yes, I have also used brake cleaner to clean off grease and oil stains. The major chemical is tetrachloroethylene which is somewhat dangerous when used as directed but can be very dangerous when heated. When tetrachloroethylene is heated or burned during combustion it can turn into phosgene gas. Phosgene gas was used as a weapon during World War I. Now manufacturers have developed non-chlorinated brake cleaners which work well for brake cleaning but I'm not sure about Alfredo sauce.

**Q.** I have a 2013 Nissan that I like and want to keep maintained without having to pay someone to do it for me. I'm learning to fix my car on my own, but some things are hard to identify. For instance, my car is kind of rough on the road and I'm not sure why. I have great tires on it and everything seems to be in order. But it's kind of rocky and sometimes when I brake, I hear a clicking noise. Any thoughts?

**A.** The best place to start is to fully check the steering and suspension system. At nearly nine years old it is possible that there are worn struts, strut mounts, stabilizer bushings, ball joints or tie-rods. At his point, have a professional shop evaluate the vehicle. Once you know what is wrong then you may be able to repair it yourself. You might even see if your local high school or community college has a basic auto repair course. Having access to a lift, proper tools and an experienced instructor can make the repairs much easier.

**Q.** Almost 17 years ago we purchased a Toyota RAV4; it has a four-cylinder engine and currently has only 109,000 miles on it. I use an independent service shop now that the car is old. I took it in for an oil change and tire rotation and I had them check for a whining noise. They checked everything and agreed they heard it but couldn't find anything wrong. They checked the car from top to bottom and didn't find anything mechanical and there are no lights on the instrument panel. The noise happens at low speeds, and it may

**Ron Moscoffian**  
Appr. #9537



**Scott Milner**

**M&M Auto Body**  
7 Industrial Park West, Bldg. 2  
Oxford, MA 01540  
**508-987-7070**  
[mm.auto@verizon.net](mailto:mm.auto@verizon.net)

**R.S. #3926**

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

be there driving faster but the road noise is a little loud. The noise is driving me nuts, any ideas?

**A.** I would start by removing the serpentine drive belt and see if the noise goes away. I suspect the issue is a noisy idler pulley. Over the years Toyota has come up with a new design pulley and mounting bolts and washers.

**Almac Motors Inc.**  
173 Thompson Rd.  
Webster, MA  
508-943-5566  
Dave 774-230-2185  
Ted 860-942-6371



**Almac's says Happy Holidays**

<b>2002 JEEP WRANGLER</b> Auto, 6 cyl. 4x4 .....	<b>\$8,950</b>
<b>2004 JEEP WRANGLER</b> Auto, 6 cyl., 4x4 .....	<b>\$10,500</b>
<b>2008 JEEP WRANGLER</b> Stick, V6, 4x4 .....	<b>\$11,200</b>
<b>2001 CHEVY SILVERADO</b> X-Cab, 4x4, V8, low miles .....	<b>\$6,200</b>
<b>2007 GMC SIERRA</b> X cab, V8, 4x4 .....	<b>\$9,900</b>
<b>2011 CHEVY SILVERADO</b> V8, X-cab, 4x4 .....	<b>\$10,900</b>

All of these vehicles have been properly sanitized for your protection.  
**Go Pats! Go Bruins! Go Celtics!**

**Thanks for another Good Year**  
**Dave & Ted**



**Season's Greetings**  
During this holiday season, we wish you all the best.



**Dennis Antonopoulos**  
Financial Advisor  
5 Albert St  
Auburn, MA 01501-1303  
508-832-5385

[edwardjones.com](http://edwardjones.com)  
Member SIPC

**Edward Jones**  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

**Countryside Garage Doors**  
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



*Renew your home's appeal with a new garage door.*  
Many new styles and colors to choose from.

Sales • Service • Installation

**800-605-9030** **508-987-8600**

[www.countrysidedoors.com](http://www.countrysidedoors.com) email: [countrysidedoors@aol.com](mailto:countrysidedoors@aol.com)

**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**





**Ariens**

**City Power Equipment**  
Sales, Service and Parts Since 1978  
Rt. 20 Charlton City, MA  
**508-248-7464**





## VFW Post 654 celebrated 100th anniversary

The 100th anniversary of VFW Post 654 Webster/Dudley was recently celebrated at the VFW District 8 monthly meeting with a presentation from VFW National Commander Matthew "Fritz" Mihelcic. Past Massachusetts State Commander Russell Jobe awarded the citation and congratulations in person to VFW Post Commander, Stephen P. Rogerson. VFW Post 654 celebrated its 100th Anniversary in late March 2021. To gain an award for 100 continuous years of service to veterans of Webster and Dudley is an amazing accomplishment.

The Post is named after the late Charles R. Guenther of Webster who was killed in the

performance of his duty during World War I with the US Army in the Field Artillery. He was awarded the Army Cross along with many other medals for his outstanding dedication to our country.

The VFW can trace their roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service. Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves. In their grief and suffering, some of these veterans banded together and

later formed organizations that would eventually become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. Today, membership stands at more than 1.5 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliary.

Today, the VFW has many programs and services that work to support veterans, service members and their families, as well as communities nationwide. Please feel free to contact the VFW Post 654 in Webster for more information or if you may be interested in joining the ranks of the VFW. The VFW Post is

located in the Veterans Home, 4 Veterans Way, Webster, adjacent to St. Louis Church on Lake Street. The VFW Post also holds monthly meetings at 6:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month and veterans are welcome to participate in meetings. You can also contact the Commander, Stephen Rogerson, by email at [vfwpost654@vfwma.org](mailto:vfwpost654@vfwma.org). The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States is a non-profit veterans service organization comprising veterans and military service members from the active, guard and reserve forces.

*Stephen P. Rogerson  
Director of Veterans' Services  
Veterans' Services Officer*



Pictured (l to r) Stephen Rogerson, VFW Post 654 Commander of Webster/Dudley and Russell Jobe, Past Massachusetts VFW State Commander.

## Thanksgiving Turkey Baskets for veterans

On Thursday, November 18, American Legion Post 184, under the direction of Commander Ron Handelson, delivered many turkey baskets to the Dudley Veterans Office. The donated turkeys and fixings came from the generous sup-

port of the American Legion members along with Webster Price Chopper who is always eager to support veterans in our Community.

Volunteers from the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 654 of Webster and Dud-

ley assisted Dudley Veterans Services Officer Stephen Rogerson in distributing the Thanksgiving baskets to those veterans and families needing a little extra at this time.

As this is a time of giving thanks, please remember the

veterans who have served and those who are serving still. Keep in mind that the communities of Webster and Dudley have a very large veteran population for which we should be proud and grateful.

*Stephen Rogerson, VSO, Dudley*



L-R: Stephen Rogerson, Scott Bennett.

### Remote Car Starters Car Stereos

SALES / SERVICE / INSTALLATION  
Owner Operated - Remote Starters Our Specialty Since 2001

**Jay Morse**  
508.765.3836

**405 East Main Street  
Southbridge, MA 01550**



L-R: Dick Norton, VFW Post Vice Commander; Stephen Rogerson, VFW Post Commander; Jim Brinker, Post Surgeon.

# Al's RUBBISH & CONTAINER

77 Providence Rd., Sutton, MA 01590  
Phone: (508) 865-4193  
Website: [www.alsrubbish.com](http://www.alsrubbish.com)  
E-Mail: [alsrubbish@gmail.com](mailto:alsrubbish@gmail.com)

Blackstone Valley Chamber of Commerce

## 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

## Holiday Special

SUTTON, MILLBURY and GRAFTON

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

3 DAY RENTAL ONLY !!

**FREE DROP OFF AND PICK UP**

**Support Local Small Business**

508-865-4193 • [WWW.ALSRUBBISH.COM](http://WWW.ALSRUBBISH.COM)

Serving the Blackstone Valley and the Surrounding Towns in Worcester County





## Tales from beyond

## The unfortunate Hannah Robinson

By Thomas D'Agostino

The story of Hannah Robinson is one of love, tragedy and a haunting. It is one of New England's most famous and endearing legends. To this day a small park, tower, ledge and rock bear the name of the young unfortunate Hannah Robinson.

Rowland Robinson, born in 1719, was the oldest son of Governor William Robinson. A wealthy farmer and member of the local government. Robinson, though portly, stood tall and erect, with a clear blonde complexion and light hair. He was known to be fair in temper and manners, having the disposition of an old country gentleman.

On December 3, 1741, Rowland married Anstis Gardiner. They had three children: Hannah, born in 1746; Mary, born in 1752; and William R., born in 1759. Mary and Hannah grew to be exceedingly beautiful, especially Hannah, who stood above medium height possessing a clear complexion, with a delicate tint of rose that only served to complement her dark hazel eyes. Her auburn hair fell in ringlets about her, and her speech, manner and carriage made her all the more irresistible to the gentry both near and far.

In her youth, Hannah found a place where she could sit and contemplate, or just enjoy the scenery of the Narragansett Bay. The area, known as McSparran Hill, was steep and bore forth a rock ledge that admitted a clear view of the bay. Hannah spent many hours looking out over the beautiful scenery the ledge afforded her.

The Robinson family spared no cost in the education of their children. Hannah was placed in the care of her aunt in Newport, where she attended the finishing school of Madame Osborne, a well-respected and widely known instructor of politeness and grace for young ladies. It was during her studies with Madame Osborne that Hannah

met M. Pierre (Peter) Simons, a young tutor under the employ of Osborne. From the moment they met, a certain affection ripened between them and before long, they were in love.

Both were well aware that a person of his station in life would certainly not meet the expectations of her father as a proper suitor. Two books—*Recollections of Olden Times*, by Thomas Robinson Hazard and Willis Pope Hazard from 1879, and *The Robinsons and Their Kin Folk*, by the Robinson Family Genealogical Association, written in 1906—tell the tale with very little variance. The 1906 version reads:

"Fortune seemed to favor the young people. Hannah's uncle, Col. William Gardiner, educated his children at home, and in looking about for a private tutor, engaged Pierre Simons to go with him to his Narragansett home and occupy that position in his family. The lovers enjoyed many opportunities of seeing each other, especially as Col. Gardiner, who was of a kind and easy disposition, on becoming aware of the love which existed between his beautiful niece and her former tutor, sought rather to promote opportunities for interviews between the lovers than otherwise.

The mother's suspicions were aroused, and Hannah confided to her the secret of her love.

After trying for months, in vain, to persuade her child to discourage her affianced lover, and finding that nothing would induce her to dismiss him, Mrs. Robinson forbore further opposition.

Thus encouraged by the mother's tacit consent, if not approval of his suit, it was mutually arranged by the lovers that Pierre should occasionally walk over from Col. Gardiner's of an evening, and upon the appearance of a signal light in Hannah's window approach the house and secrete himself in a large

lilac bush which grew beneath it, where love messages might be easily passed. In fact, so emboldened did the lovers become by the unbroken success that attended their stratagem, that they finally arranged for occasional meetings in Hannah's room; her mother lending her presence and countenance to the dangerous adventure, rendered all the more critical because of its being the undeviating practice of Hannah's father to bid her "good night" before he retired, even if it required his going to her own room or elsewhere. It was necessary to have a convenient place in which Hannah's lover might retreat on untoward occasions such a place—a cupboard—was in the room."

One evening, Rowland happened to step outside the home and saw Hannah reaching out her window to the young Simons. He recognized the man right away as the music teacher employed by his brother-in-law, William Gardiner. He gave chase to Simons, flailing his cane at him, but was unable to catch the fleet-footed young wooer. From that moment on, Hannah's every move was watched—if she walked, she walked with spying eyes. When she rode, a servant accompanied her. Her father became obsessive in keeping her under his watch at every waking moment. It became the whisper around town that many would like to see the young woman be with her love and began to prepare for an elopement, especially her mother and aunt, Mrs. Ludowick Updike, sister of Rowland.

A great ball was planned at the Updike home, now known as Smith's Castle. It was arranged that the two sisters, Mary and Hannah, would attend the ball and stay overnight with the Updikes. Rowland had no idea it was a plot to bring his daughter into the arms of Simons.

Hannah went about her way in a composed manner until it was time to leave for the ball. The Robinsons and their Kin Folk notes:

"On Ridge Hill, a thickly wooded spot, Hannah and her companions encountered the lover with a closed carriage, into which the affianced bride hastily stepped and was driven rapidly away, on the road to Providence, in spite of the frantic appeals of Prince, the attendant. Miss Simons—Pierre's sister—assisted Hannah with a necessary wardrobe, and with the aid of the pastoral services of a minister of the Episcopal Church, the lovers were married."

When Mr. Robinson learned of his daughter's elopement, he became angry beyond comprehension. He offered a reward to anyone who would come forth with any information on those who assisted in her escapade. Much to his disappointment, no one ever came forth.

Simons and his bride moved to Providence. From that point, the story takes on two separate lives. One version paints Simons as a greedy money grabber. As time passed, Simons began to realize that Hannah would

never see a penny of her family's fortune. This caused him to become passionless to his wife's affections. He began to have affairs, became reckless in his habit and eventually turned a complete cold shoulder to her.

Hannah, already unstable in spirit, took a turn for the worst. She became gaunt, pale and her beauty began to fade.

Her father, upon hearing of her rapid decline in health, rode to Providence in the hopes of bringing her home, but under his terms. If Hannah would tell him who was responsible for her elopement, she could come back to the warmth and care of her family home. Hannah was honorable but also possessed the same stubborn streak as her father. Hannah refused his wishes, causing Mr. Robinson ride away in a huff.

Then came the day that Mr. Robinson finally agreed to let Hannah come home. When he entered her chamber he beheld his daughter, frail, white, and almost lifeless. He began to cry like a baby and completely dismissed the thought of asking Hannah to divulge the accomplices of that fateful evening. Instead, he held her cold, bony hand

and promised to take her home. Mr. Robinson had Hannah placed in a carriage carried by hand called a litter for safe travel back to Narragansett.

The carriers, called "chairmen," lifted the litter with Hannah inside and set out for home. When they reached Old Ridge Hill, where Hannah had met with her lover that fateful night, she covered her eyes and cried. As they passed McSparran Hill, Hannah begged for them to stop so she could see the ocean once more. There on the ledge, just past a great square boulder, Hannah rested, staring out at the bay just as she did many times in her youth. The chairmen rotated the litter so that she could get a glimpse of every angle afforded to her from her traveling bed. A servant plucked some flowers growing alongside the great rock and handed them to Hannah, who held them close to her breast.

*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](http://www.tomdagostino.com).*

**Choice100**  
508-949-2024  
**Graphics**

**YOUR #1 CHOICE FOR CUSTOM:**

**T-Shirts  
Banners  
Lawn Signs  
Coffee Mugs  
Embroidery  
Business Cards  
Canvas Prints  
And MORE!**



**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 Merillat Dealer in Worcester County  
Builder's Premium Supplier

Free Kitchen Design  
Delivery Available  
Personalized Customer Care

Merillat  
THERMA TRU  
600 Park Ave, Worcester • 508.831.9900 • [www.plywoodplus.com](http://www.plywoodplus.com)

**505 S. Main St, Webster, MA**  
**Info@Choice1Graphics.com**  
**[www.Choice1Graphics.com](http://www.Choice1Graphics.com)**



## Tips on financial planning



**Dennis Antonopoulos**

As you know, 2021 was full of challenges. We were still feeling the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic when supply chains shut down and inflation heated up. So, if you're like many people, you might not be sorry to see the year come to a close. But now it's time to look ahead to a brighter 2022. And on a personal level, you may want

## What are your financial resolutions for 2022?

to set some New Year's resolutions. You might resolve to improve your health and diet, and possibly learn some new skills, but why not make some financial resolutions, too?

Here are a few ideas to consider:

- Prepare for the unexpected. If you haven't already created an emergency fund, now may be a good time to start. Ideally, you'd like to have three to six months' worth of living expenses in this fund, with the money kept in a low-risk, liquid account. (If you're retired, you may want your emergency fund to contain up to a year's worth of living expenses.) Once you've got this fund established, you may be able to

avoid dipping into long-term investments to pay for short-term needs, such as costly home or auto repairs or large medical bills.

- Boost your retirement savings. The pandemic caused many us to reevaluate our ability to eventually enjoy the retirement lifestyles we've envisioned. In fact, 33% of those planning to retire soon said they started to contribute even more to their retirement savings during the pandemic, according to a study from Age Wave and Edward Jones. This year, if you can afford it, increase your contributions to your IRA and your 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.

- Reduce your debt load. The less debt you carry, the more money you'll have available to support your lifestyle today and save and invest for tomorrow. So, this year, resolve to cut down on your existing debts and avoid taking on new ones whenever possible. You can motivate yourself by measuring your progress – at the beginning of 2022, record your total debts and then compare this figure to your debt load at the start of 2023. If the numbers have dropped, you'll know you were making the right moves.
- Don't overreact to the headlines. A lot can happen during a year. Consider inflation – it shot up in 2021, but it may well subside in 2022.

If you changed your investment strategy last year to accommodate the rise in inflation, would you then have to modify it again when prices fall? And inflation is just one event. What about changes in interest rates? How about new legislation coming out of Washington? And don't forget extreme weather events, such as wildfires and floods. Any or all of these occurrences can affect the financial markets in the short term, but it just doesn't make sense for you to keep changing the way you invest in response to the news of the day. Instead, stick with a strategy that's appropriate for your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. You may

need to adjust this strategy over time, in response to changes in your own life, but don't let your decisions be dictated by external events.

These aren't the only financial resolutions you can make – but following them may help you develop positive habits that can help you face the future with confidence.

*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*

## 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

### automotive

290 Providence Rd.  
S. Grafton, MA

Kris Sutton  
kris@streetcarsolutions.com

**STREET CAR SOLUTIONS**

StreetCarSolutions.com  
**508-839-7071**

### GI Joe Figures & Vehicles Wanted

From the  
1980s and  
1990s

**Please call 860-933-5549**

**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

**RIVERS EDGE**

**HEAVY TOWING**  
& Truck Trailer Repair

**508-278-9924**

**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

**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.

**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.WORCESTERCOUNTYLAWNMOWER.COM

*Gift Certificates available in any denomination make great Christmas gifts.*

**Professional Car Cleaning  
Motorcycles & Boats**

Owner: Vic Catacchio Since 1983

218 Worcester St.  
N. Grafton, MA 01536  
774-272-0815  
shineitup2@yahoo.com

**catacchio**

**AUTO  
DETAIL**

*A.P. Mandella Landscaping*

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

Call Anthony @ 508-340-1640  
Auburn, MA

**Fully Insured  
Free Estimates**

**COUNTRY LIVING REALTY**

Cliff Van Reed  
Owner/Broker

Cell: 508-864-0520  
cliffvanreed@realtor.com

306 Main St., PO Box 538, Douglas, MA 01516  
Cell: 508-864-0520 • Fax: 508-476-1766  
www.countrylivingdouglass.com

**The Yankee Xpress**

Promoting businesses every month.  
Let us help your business grow.  
Contact: ads@theyankeeexpress.com



## RE: Real Estate



Mark Marzeotti

Buyers are already struggling to buy existing homes, so it's a problem if new ones become even more expensive.

There are plenty of good reasons to buy a new-construction home. For example, you'll have fewer repairs to make early on, and if the home is being built from the ground up, you can customize that space to suit your specific needs. But there's one key reason new construction may increasingly move out of reach: The cost of materials needed to build homes keeps going up.

Lumber, for example, now costs on some items more than twice as much as it normally would at this time of the year. Crude oil, which is used for roofing and flooring materials, has risen over 80%. And

## Homes are costing more to build – and buyers might struggle to keep up

copper, which is commonly used for piping and electrical work, now costs roughly one-third more than it did back in the spring.

All of this is making homes more expensive to construct – a cost that's likely to be passed along to buyers. And given the state of the housing market today, the timing couldn't be worse.

Buyers are running out of options.

Existing homes are hardly a bargain. Quite the contrary – an uptick in buyer demand has inflated home prices. In fact, buyers are routinely getting priced out of the market, especially in places where many of the available homes not only cost more, but also need extensive work.

New construction solves the latter problem. In fact, despite new construction's higher price tag, it can often end up being more cost-effective than buying an existing home when you consider the absence of near-term renovations and repairs. But as the cost of building materials skyrockets, it may cease to

become an option for the average homebuyer.

The need for large down payments can make the problem worse. There are situations where buyers can sign a mortgage and put down less than 20% of a home's purchase price at closing. However, mortgage lenders tend to be stricter when it comes to new construction – especially homes that allow buyers to customize certain features. As such, buyers who seek out new construction should generally plan on making a 20% down payment – which could become exceedingly difficult if home prices shoot upward.

Buyer beware.


Another issue to consider is that builders are notorious for cutting corners and using sub-par materials in new construction properties to boost their profits. Just look up “builder grade homes” on the internet. As the cost of common materials rises, builders may seek to substitute even lower quality materials – and that's something buyers will need to be wary of.

In fact, given the way material costs are climbing, buyers of new construction need to be extra thorough when spelling out the terms of their purchase agreements (or hire

good lawyers to take care of that for them). If buyers specify the materials that are to be used, it could help them avoid getting stuck with sub-par

homes with hefty price tags.

The Marzeotti Group wishes everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. Happy New Year.





**Diane Luong**  
CBR, SRES, MBA  
774-239-2937

**JoAnn Szymczak**  
GRI, SRES, CBR  
774-230-5044

**Together, We're Working For You!**

**Reviewing your Situation**  
Diane & JoAnn are specialists in the Senior Housing Market. There may come a time when you consider selling and moving on—we can help. Call for a FREE consultation.

Looking for friendly, responsive, easy to talk to Realtors? You found us!



**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


Mark Marzeotti  
Realtor



**RE/MAX**  
ADVANTAGE 1

25 Union Street, 4th Floor  
Worcester, MA 01608

617-519-1871  
MLMarzeotti@gmail.com  
www.MarzeottiGroup.com



## Prayer

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**

# HOLIDAY SALE

## BEST DEALS OF THE YEAR!

### 1000s OF DEALS

LG • SAMSUNG • MAYTAG • WHIRLPOOL • FRIGIDAIRE • GE

<b>BUY 4 LG APPLIANCES AND GET 10% OFF</b> <b>BUY ONLINE REBATE PLUS A \$200 BONUS</b>	<b>Amana Dishwasher</b> <small>ADB1400AGS</small> <b>\$399<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$499.99</small>	<b>Maytag Dishwasher</b> <small>MDB465SKZ</small> <b>\$699<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$759.99</small>	<b>Amana Dryer</b> <small>NED465SEW</small> <b>\$479<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$599.99</small>	<b>Maytag Dryer</b> <small>MEDC46SHW</small> <b>\$699<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$749.99</small>	 <b>BEST LOCAL APPLIANCE STORE</b>
	<b>LG Washer</b> <small>WT7700HBA</small> <b>\$1199<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$1399.99</small>	<b>LG Front Load Washer</b> <small>WM3400CW</small> <b>\$799<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$899.99</small>	<b>GE Front Load Washer</b> <small>GFWS50SSNWW</small> <b>\$899<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$999.99</small>	<b>GE Dryer</b> <small>GSY2EASJW</small> <b>\$599<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$699.99</small>	

## 0%

FINANCING

Open a Whitco Charge and Get 12 months No Interest

## 100s OF FREEZERS IN STOCK

ALL SIZES

<b>Midea Refrigerator</b> <small>Stainless Steel, Bottom Freezer, 19 CU FT</small> <b>\$999<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$1199.99</small>	<b>Frigidaire Refrigerator</b> <small>Stainless Steel, Top Freezer, 21 CU FT</small> <b>\$749<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$999.99</small>	<b>Frigidaire Refrigerator</b> <small>Stainless Steel, Top Freezer, 18 CU FT</small> <b>\$699<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$899.99</small>	<b>GE Microwave</b> <small>JYM3160RFS</small> <b>\$249<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$269.99</small>
<b>Whirlpool Refrigerator</b> <small>WRQ59CNKZ • Counter Depth</small> <b>\$1999<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$2199.99</small>	<b>Amana Gas Range</b> <small>AGR330BAS • Stainless Steel</small> <b>\$549<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$649.99</small>	<b>Whirlpool Electric Stove</b> <small>WFE33SOLS • With Air Fry</small> <b>\$849<sup>99</sup></b> <small>Was \$999.99</small>	<b>OPEN</b> <b>DEC. 23 - 8-10</b> <b>DEC. 24 - 8-8</b>

BUY 4 GE APPLIANCES AND GET A \$200 REBATE

BUY 3 GET \$100

BUY 2 GET \$50

BUY 4 WHIRLPOOL APPLIANCES AND GET A \$200 ONLINE REBATE

BUY 3 GET \$100

BUY 2 GET \$50

## MORE APPLIANCES

• Toys • TVs • Bikes in stock

## 20% OFF

## ALL LEGOS

100s in stock

## MATTRESS SALE!

TWIN: Reg. \$299  
**NOW \$179<sup>99</sup>**

FULL: Reg. \$499  
**NOW \$269<sup>99</sup>**

QUEEN: Reg. \$599  
**NOW \$299<sup>99</sup>**

## ALL SAMSUNG & LG

## TVs ON SALE

## 10% OFF

## ALL TOYS

With this coupon  
Expires 12/20/21 - EXCLUDES LEGOS

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

Check www.whitcosales.com for special coupons






# WHITCO

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



# LONG SUBARU

R.H. LONG MOTOR SALES Since 1927



**LONG SUBARU**  
7 SUTTON ROAD  
WEBSTER, MA 01570  
P: 508.943.7070  
LONGSUBARU.COM



**SUBARU**

WE'RE COMMITTED TO SUPPORTING OUR COMMUNITY BY HELPING ORGANIZATIONS LIKE:

**\$250**  
CHARITABLE  
DONATION\*

SUBARU

Make-A-Wish.

**ASPCA**  
WE ARE THEIR VOICE

**Meals on Wheels**

**National Park Foundation**



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUB**  
OF WEBSTER - DUDLEY

Purchase or lease a new Subaru, Subaru will donate \$250 to your choice of charities\*. Long Subaru will also donate an additional \$50 to Boys & Girls Club of Webster-Dudley here in our community for each sold or leased vehicle. November 18 through January 3.

*Wishing you a*  
**WONDERFUL**  
**HOLIDAY**  
**SEASON**



COMPLIMENTARY  
Battery Check and  
Cooling System (Antifreeze) Inspection  
WITH COUPON

\*Offer available December 1-31, 2021. Must present coupon at time of write-up. Cannot be combined with any other special. Service will be completed per model specifications. Subaru vehicles only.

Service your vehicle and support a great cause. For every routine Subaru vehicle service visit during the Subaru Share the Love Event, Long Subaru will donate \$5 to our Hometown Charity.

\*Each customer who has purchased or leased a new Subaru (2021-2022) Nov 18, 2021-Jan 3, 2022 can either designate one charity to receive the \$250 donation or split it among any number of the participating charities. Only one donation (of \$250) is made per vehicle sale or lease. Visit longsubaru.com for additional details.

## 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  
system breakdowns.

**Central air conditioning  
and ductless mini splits**

#### HELP WANTED -

**Class B CDL driver with air brake, tanker and hazmat  
endorsements. Must have DOT Medical Card.**



**A Full Service Oil Company**  
24-Hour Emergency Service

**WWW.LMTOIL.COM • WE DO ONLINE ORDERING**

**Any Room, Any  
Home, Anywhere**



**Morrisette & Son**  
**Electrical Contractors,**  
INC.  
ELECTRICAL • HVAC • GENERATORS  
**508-476-9879**  
[MorrisetteElectrical.com](http://MorrisetteElectrical.com)



Choose Morrisette & Son as your installer, and receive:

- Upgraded Diamond Dealer Parts & Compressor Warranty to 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