

Uxbridge Youth Soccer League hosts 5th annual RC Air Show

The Uxbridge Youth Soccer League will host its 5th Annual RC Airshow on Sunday, October 18, from 12:00-4:00 p.m. at the Sutton Street Fields (285 Sutton Street, Uxbridge). The popular, family-friendly event brings together some of the region's top award-winning RC pilots for an afternoon of spectacular stunts and a few surprises.

This year's event features several famous area food trucks, including Anzios Brick Oven Pizza, Big Daddy's Bites, Big T's BBQ, Twisted Beveragez, and Wickid Weiners. The show also includes more than a dozen sought-after vendors selling crafts, food items, and other gifts.

The RC Air Show offers fun for the whole family, including

yard games, kids' activities, crafts, Touch-a-Truck, and more. You'll also have a chance to press your

luck with a variety of raffle prizes. Celebrity guests will be announced soon.

All proceeds from the RC Air Show go to fund programs, equipment, and opportunities for local youth athletes. Last year's Air Show raised enough funds to aerate the Sutton Street fields, allowing the league to use them all season long. This year, the league is looking to raise enough funds to install an irrigation system.

Bring the whole family for an afternoon of thrills. Entry is \$3 per person or \$10 per family. Visit the "5th Annual UYSL RC Air Show" Facebook page for the latest updates and for a list of this year's generous sponsors. For questions or to sponsor the show, email info@uxbridge-youthsoccer.com.



Northbridge Fire Department recognizes officers at promotional ceremony

The Northbridge Fire Department held a special Promotional Officer Ceremony on September 25 to recognize its officers' dedication, leadership, and commitment.

The ceremony provided an opportunity to formally recognize several officers who have served in their new positions for the past couple of years but had not yet had a promotional ceremony. The department also recognized two newly promoted officers as they begin their next chapter of leadership within the department.

While the ceremonies may have taken a little longer to happen for some, the significance of these promotions has never been lost. Each of these officers has earned the trust of their fellow firefighters and taken on the responsibility of leading the department and serving the Northbridge community.

The department congratulated all of the promoted officers and expressed appreciation for the leadership and service they provide each day.

Photo: Northbridge Fire Department's promoted officers

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Mark D.
Barsamian, DO



Letter to the Editor

On Tuesday, October 27, Uxbridge voters will consider Article 23 at Fall Town Meeting. While framed as a routine land conveyance, this citizen petition bypasses municipal procedure, state law, and taxpayer interests. Article 23 asks the Town to

authorize selling “Parcel A,” a town-owned strip abutting the Acorn Drive cul-de-sac, to provide access for a private subdivision off Chestnut Street. Voters should know the documented facts:

First, the developer holds no deeded rights to Parcel A. Town Counsel confirmed in writing that the applicant has no legal claim to this municipal parcel. Yet without title, the developer has already clear-cut, regraded, and placed fill on this public land without lawful town authorization or mandatory Tree Warden approval. Selling dedicated public land to retroactively cure unauthorized disturbance rewards unlawful activity and sidesteps statutory safeguards under M.G.L. c. 82.

Second, the developer’s yield plan reveals this access is sought solely to harvest lots cut off by natural wetlands. The project does not create a connected municipal road; it punches through town property to build an isolated dead-end turnaround behind an existing cul-de-sac.

Third, our taxpayers must be protected. The applicant has sought waivers from town standards, including requests to bypass full granite curbing along steep grades and to leave large, deep stormwater basins unfenced next to proposed family homes. These design compromises shift long-term maintenance costs and safety liabilities onto Uxbridge taxpayers once streets are accepted.

When private land has physical constraints, our bylaws require developers to reduce density to what the site supports—not demand the disposal of public property.

The integrity of our bylaws and public land protections requires consistent enforcement, not warrant petitions designed to cure unpermitted work.

I urge Uxbridge residents to protect our public land and vote NO (or vote to Indefinitely Postpone) on Article 23 on October 27.

Respectfully,

Daniel Soucy
Uxbridge, MA

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3rd Annual Douglas Common Scarecrow Contest starts October 10th



BY LYNN PARESKY,
DOUGLAS COMMON
PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Scarecrows will be arriving at the Douglas Common on October 10th and 11th this Fall and will remain on display for the public to enjoy until November 1st as the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. holds its 3rd Annual Douglas Common Scarecrow Contest. Make sure you visit the Common to enjoy a large collection of pretty amazing scarecrows – there is a lot of talent in the community and it will be on display.

Are YOU ready for a little Fall fun – and the chance to win one of three prizes for “Favorite Scarecrow”? If you live in Douglas or any of the surrounding towns, you are invited to enter the contest and

bring your creativity and talent to share with the community. Contest details, entry form and guidelines are available on the Douglas Common Preservation Society, Inc. Facebook page and on several local Group FB pages, including We Are Dynamic Douglas. If you aren't on Facebook, you can request your paperwork by emailing douglascommonpreservation@gmail.com or pick up a flyer at various local businesses or scan the QR Code on the banner at the Common.

Registration to enter this free, popular event is starting now! To be part of the contest, your entry must be received by September 30th at the latest. Enter early to reserve a free commemorative gift. Our Sponsor, One by One, awarded us a \$500 grant to help ensure that the first 65 participants will receive a gift to be handed out

on the day of scarecrow setup. Last year there were 54 entries in the Contest, with participants creating and displaying their own original scarecrows. Visiting the display was a very popular community activity. This year we're hoping for even more entries.

No contest is complete without prizes, and our Sponsors have made sure that there will be prizes awarded to the three “Favorite Scarecrows” selected by a panel of respected, unbiased judges from the community. Judges will look at originality of design/theme, creativity, attention to detail, quality of workmanship, does it evoke an emotional response, does it stand out, is it memorable, and additional props like lights for night display or music/sound effects. First Place will receive a \$250 Amazon Gift Card; Second Place will receive a \$150 Amazon Gift Card; and Third Place will receive a \$100 Amazon Gift Card! Winners will be announced and prizes presented at the Awards Ceremony to be held on October 31st at 1 pm at the Common. Winners will be notified if not present and arrangements will be made for them to pick up their prizes.

This year's Scarecrow Contest sponsors are: Gold Sponsors – Ben's Container and Rubbish, FJ Cunningham Plastering & Renovation, Guaranteed Builders & Developers, Inc., One by One

– 4Imprint, and UniBank; Silver Sponsors – Bob Clark's Dog Training & Dog Day Care, East Douglas Insurance, and Jared's Auto, Inc.; Bronze Sponsors – Graffiti Works, Gregory's Restaurant & Pizzeria,

In-Gear, McGoldrick Property Services, LLC and The Sokol Club. We thank each of them for making this fantastic Fall event possible with their generous support.



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October 2026 Interpretive Programs at Blackstone River Greenway Visitor Center at Worcester

All programs are free and open to the public. Registration is not required. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather and wear appropriate footwear. Meet at the Visitor Center unless otherwise stated. Programming is subject to change or cancellation. For the most up to date programming information, call (508) 373-7056

Reasonable accommodations available upon advance notice. To make a request, please contact Moneesha Dasgupta at (617) 645-0358 or moneesha.dasgupta2@mass.gov.

The Blackstone River Greenway Visitor Center at Worcester is located at 3 Paul Clancy Way, Worcester MA 01607.

VISITOR CENTER EXHIBIT TOUR
Saturdays, 11 – 11:30 a.m.
Join us on a tour of the Heritage Center’s exhibit hall! Learn how the Blackstone Canal helped transform Worcester from a sleepy county seat to a thriving industrial city and hub for immigration and innovation. Appropriate for ages 6 and up.

WOODLANDS AND WATERWAYS
Saturdays, October 10 and 31, 2 – 3 p.m.
Walk along the banks of the Blackstone River and learn about the life that it supports. We’ll look for signs of wildlife as we discuss the ways we can keep our watershed clean! Appropriate for ages 12 and up. The walk is ~1 mile over a paved surface with slight inclines. Meet 205 North Main Street, Millbury, MA. Bathrooms and water are not available at this site.

BIKE THE BLACKSTONE
Saturday, October 17, 2 – 3 p.m.
Come with us on a bike ride on the Blackstone River Greenway. Enjoy the scenery and look out for wildlife as we ride along the river. Appropriate for ages 12 and up. The ride is ~6 miles on a paved surface with slight inclines and declines. Meet at 205 North Main Street, Millbury, MA. Riders under 16 must wear a helmet. Bathrooms and water are available at the midpoint of the trip.

MILL TO MEADOW
Saturday, October 24, 2 – 3 p.m.
The land on which the Visitor Center stands was once the largest factory complex in Worcester — and now not a single building remains! In this short walk, find out about “brownfield” reclamation on site and how it fits into the Blackstone Valley’s environmental renaissance. Appropriate for ages 12 and up. About ¼ mile over paved surfaces.

BLACKSTONE VALLEY Xpress

Published on the 2nd and 4th Fridays of the month. Direct mailed to nearly 65,000 homes and businesses each month and available on news stands in the region.

2nd Friday: The YankeeXpress South: Charlton, Dudley, Webster
2nd Friday: Blackstone Valley South: Douglas, Northbridge & Uxbridge
4th Friday: The YankeeXpress North: Auburn, Oxford
4th Friday: Blackstone Valley North: Grafton, Millbury & Sutton

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Blackstone Valley Xpress/©2026
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Sustainable investing means investing with purpose



Mark Freeman, CEPA

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When you think about investing, you probably want your money to grow. But maybe you also want it to make a positive difference in the world while you continue pursuing your financial goals. That's the foundation of sustainable investing — an approach that considers environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors alongside traditional financial analysis.

Sustainable investing allows you to support better business practices through your investment choices. It looks at how companies address issues ranging from climate change to worker well-being to corporate ethics. At its core, it's about aligning investments with personal values while still focusing on long-term financial outcomes.

Here are the three main areas of sustainable investing:

- **Environmental considerations** include how companies respond to climate change, use natural resources and manage pollution.
- **Social factors** address workforce well-being, product safety and efforts to reduce social inequities.
- **Governance** focuses on corporate behavior, ethics policies and financial transparency.

You may wonder whether investing sustainably means

sacrificing returns. Research suggests it doesn't. New York University's Stern Center for Sustainable Business reviewed more than 1,000 studies from 2015–20 and found that incorporating ESG factors does not inherently diminish returns, and in many cases is associated with improved financial performance. As with any investment approach, it's important to focus on high quality investments that help support more consistent long term returns.

Sustainable investing can take several forms:

- **ESG intentional strategies** spread out your investments and have clear goals for choosing companies that follow strong environmental, social and governance practices.
- **Sustainable thematic strategies** focus on specific issues, such as clean energy or water conservation.
- **Impact investments** go a step further, targeting measurable environmental or social

outcomes. Because they prioritize more narrow, specific objectives, they may carry higher volatility and potentially lower returns.

One concern you may hear about is "greenwashing," which happens when companies or funds exaggerate their environmental efforts. To help prevent this, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission created a rule in 2023 that requires any fund with "ESG" in its name to keep at least 80% of its assets in ESG aligned investments.

Another challenge is data consistency. Today, 99% of S&P 500 companies report ESG metrics, according to the Center for Audit Quality, but different rating providers still use different methods. Looking at relative rankings can help you compare companies and mutual funds in a more consistent way.

Deciding whether to include sustainable investments in your portfolio really depends on your

values and financial goals. You can build a well diversified portfolio with or without them. A qualified financial advisor can help you understand whether adding sustainable investments fits your overall strategy and makes sense for your situation.

As more companies disclose ESG data and more funds offer sustainable options, investors have increasing opportunities to align their portfolios with their values — without sacrificing their financial objectives.

Contact Mark today to discuss this topic or any of your financial goals.

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Family-run Affordable Junk Removal takes the stress out of cleanups

Whether it's one old fridge in the garage or an entire home of unwanted goods, the team at Affordable Junk Removal offers a cost-efficient, stress-free approach to waste management. "You don't lift a finger," says owner Jason Schadler, who started the company along with his wife Christine in 2005.

The business offers same-day service for both residential and commercial clients across

eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island. In addition to junk removal, the company rents 15-yard dumpsters.

As a family-owned and operated company, Schadler says Affordable Junk Removal has lower overhead costs and is more accessible than national competitors. "I answer my phone 24 hours a day," he says. "I was on vacation in Italy and Portugal,



and I was still answering my phone on the beach. When you call us, you get me — not an automated machine!"

Schadler says the company takes an environmentally responsible approach to disposal, recycling whenever possible and properly handling non-recyclable materials. "With four kids, sustainability is especially important to us," he says.

During the business's early days, Schadler provided junk removal on nights and weekends when he wasn't busy working at a machine shop. Eventually, the business grew into a full-time endeavor, and the Schadlers re-invested into the company with new equipment and techniques. "When I first started, for example, we didn't have any tarps. I'm driving around and things are flying out of my truck," Schadler laughs. "I'm like, 'Oh my god, I need a tarp.'"

Schadler says his wife Christine "was equally as involved" in getting the business off the ground. "She handled the back end while I did the heavy lift-



Christine and Jason Schadler, shown here with their children, started Affordable Junk Removal in 2005.

ing, all while she was working at EMC," he says. "Fast forward 21 years, and we both work full time, managing the company as well as other endeavors. Business is doing great; it has grown tremendously to include a fleet of trucks and dumpsters, and we've also been able to buy a pizza place, The Corner Market in Holliston."

In addition to delivering an in-demand service to the community, Schadler is appreciative that Affordable Junk Removal has helped provide a work-life balance that suits his family. "It allows me to be able to do what I like doing and spend time with my kids," he says. "I'm home to see my babies play softball and be involved in their activities. We're also able to give back to

the communities we serve."

As for Sutton, Millbury and Grafton in particular, Schadler says they are proud to have many repeat customers and friends in the area.

One of the best parts of his job, Schadler says, is meeting and getting to know new people and developing relationships with returning customers. "We are really grateful for the repeat business and the chance to form connections with residents across the Central and MetroWest area," he says.

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Ken Gamache on the history and evolution of Cranston Print Works

The Samuel Slater Experience will host a special presentation by Ken Gamache, president and CEO of Cranston Print Works (CPW), doing business today as QT Fabrics, on Sunday, October 25, at 1 p.m.

Gamache will share the history of CPW, reflect on his decades in the textile industry, and discuss how the company has evolved since the 2009 closure of its Webster plant. The program offers former CPW employees and members of the community an opportunity to reconnect, reminisce, and learn about the company's transformation.

The face of CPW today is vastly different from the bustling manufacturing operation that once ran three shifts a day. Under

Gamache's leadership, QT Fabrics operates with employees working remotely across the country, focusing primarily on high-end quilting fabrics sold through independent specialty fabric stores throughout the United States.

A graduate of Bartlett High School, Gamache earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Nichols College and an MBA from Anna Maria College. He began his career with CPW in 1978, working third shift in the print room. Over the years, he held a variety of positions, gaining firsthand knowledge of the textile industry before ultimately becoming president and CEO.

CPW operated manufacturing facilities in Cranston, RI;

Fletcher, NC; and Webster, with the Webster mill being the last to close.

Ken and his wife Carol (Trepianer) Gamache have been married for 42 years and now reside in their circa 1773 home in Durham.

The presentation is free, but advance registration is required. To register, visit samuelslaterexperience.org, call 508-461-2955 or email admin@samuelslaterexperience.org. The Samuel Slater Experience is located at 31 Ray St. in Webster and free parking is available. Join Gamache to hear the remarkable story of Cranston Print Works and discover what has become of one of New England's historic textile companies.

Nine ballot questions to appear on November ballots

Published by the Secretary of the Commonwealth William F. Galvin's Election Division of- fice, the official 2026 Information for Voters book (also known as the Red Book) was recently mailed to each voter's residential address as well as public locations throughout the state.

The Red Book contains information on each of the nine statewide

questions that will appear on the November 3, 2026, State Election ballot. These nine binding questions are the most that voters have ever been asked to consider. Included in the publication is a summary of each proposal, the full text of the proposed/existing law, statements describing the effect of a yes or a no vote, and brief arguments for and

against each question.

Limited additional copies of the Red Book may be available at city and town halls, at some libraries, or by calling Galvin's Elections Division at 800.462.8683 or Citizen Information Service at 800.392.6090.

Question 1: Expanding the Public Records Law

Question 2: Collective Bargaining for CPCS Employees

Question 3: State Primary Elections

Question 4: Election Day Registration

Question 5: State Revenue Limit & Rebate

Question 6: Natural Resource Conservation Fund

Question 7: Single Family Homes

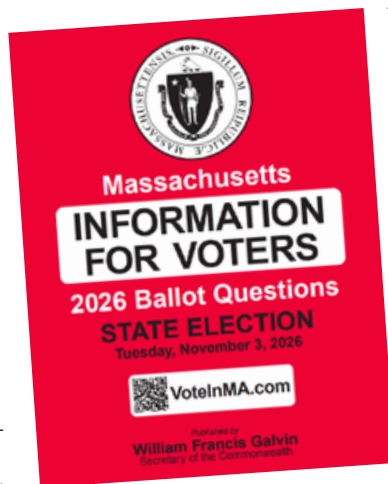
Question 8: Prohibit Retail Sale of Adult Recreational Use Marijuana

Question 9: Firearms Regulation

With so many questions, ballots in most communities are expected to be two to three pages long. The length of each community's ballot will depend on the number of offices and candidates running in that community, whether the ballot must be printed in more than one language, and any local questions that may be added to the ballot by the city or town. Because of the complexity of the questions, Galvin encourages voters to take notes in the Red Book and bring it with them when they go to the polls.

Be informed. Take time to read each question and understand its

impact. And then go vote on Tuesday, November 3.



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Fueling students for success

BVT named one of America's Healthiest Schools for 2026

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) has been named one of America's Healthiest Schools for 2026 by the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, a national nonprofit dedicated to advancing equitable whole-child health by creating healthier school environments.

Supported by Del Monte Foods, Kaiser Permanente, and Kohl's Cares, this annual awards program recognizes schools for implementing evidence-based policies and practices that support academic success and

lifelong well-being. Schools are recognized in nine health-related areas.

BVT was recognized for its work to improve nutrition and food access, including conducting student taste tests in the cafeteria, collaborating with the food services team during the school's annual Multicultural Festival, and developing other partnerships and activities that promote healthy food choices and access.

A special lunch menu celebrating the Multicultural Festival featured coconut burfi brownie bites, a dessert infused with rich

Indian flavors. These tasting activities and specialty items were well received by students and provided opportunities to introduce them to new foods and flavors.

"It is an honor to be recognized as one of America's Healthiest Schools," said BVT Superintendent-Director Anthony E. Steele II. "Our staff and students understand the importance of maintaining a healthy and active lifestyle, and I am proud of the policies and programs that have helped make health and wellness a priority at BVT."

The Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter is gearing up for their Festival of Trees!

Blackstone Valley Festival of Trees supports the Blackstone Valley Emergency Shelter

and could really use your help.

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TALES FROM BEYOND

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Southern Vermont College's ghostly tenants

BY THOMAS D'AGOSTINO

Southern Vermont College's main architectural attraction, the Everett Mansion, has some very interesting and historical ghosts roaming its vast halls; namely Edward Everett himself. Edward Everett was born on May 18, 1851. He began his career as a bottle salesman for his stepfather, but soon became

shareholder, then owner of the American Bottle Company. His company would later merge with another perennial glass manufacturer called Corning. This later became the Owens-Corning Fiberglass Company.

In 1910, Everett purchased 500 acres along the slopes of Mount Anthony and began construction on his summer villa. From 1911 to 1914, work crews meticulously

toiled under the architectural direction of George Totten, one of the Gilded Age's most skilled architects.

The 27-room mansion was furnished in lavish Victorian décor with parquet floors of various beautiful designs in different wood. No expense was spared in creating this beautiful manor where the Everett family could spend their summers overlooking the Green Mountains. The house cost \$2 million to construct. Not a lot of money when you figure Mr. Everett's wealth was somewhere between \$40 and \$50 million.

He called his home "Orchard House," as it was surrounded by one of the largest apple orchards in the country. About 75,000 apple trees, along with 3,000 plum trees and 2,000 quince trees were planted by Mr. Everett's workers. Edward, his wife Amy and their three daughters moved into the house in 1915. In 1917, his wife tragically died after a prolonged illness.

He later met Grace Burnap who was 30 years younger than him. They married in 1920 and had two daughters together. Edward died in April, 1929 at the age of 77. Grace lived in the mansion until 1952 before selling it to the Order of the Holy Cross. The order subsequently exchanged properties with Southern Vermont College, which was at the time named St. Joseph's College.

The mansion now houses the administrative offices, library, bookstore, café, art gallery, mail room, dark room, and a classroom. It also houses a few lingering ghosts who do not mind making their presence known. Everett's second wife Grace is seen gliding through the halls and rooms of the estate. Some claim that the spirit of Everett's first wife also resides within the stone edifice. She is known as the "Lady in White" because she is seen wearing a white robe while floating through the manor. Edward's ghost has also been frequently reported in the house.

Other strange occurrences at the Everett estate comprise of wisps of smoke appearing out of nowhere, doorknobs turning, lights turning on and off by themselves, and doors that were previously locked mysteriously flying open. Shadows are seen crossing the halls and footsteps echo in the otherwise empty building.

The shade of a monk in a black robe has been witnessed floating around the perimeter of the campus. The property was a seminary once, so the presence of such a spirit would not be out of the ordinary. Many legends abound of the hooded figure as he roams the grounds, only to vanish before anyone can get close to him.

The old carriage house became a computer lab. This is where a man in period clothing is seen wandering. Doors also lock by themselves and computers turn off suddenly. The carriage house

TALES

continued on page 9

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UniBank announces launch of nonprofit resource center

UniBank, the largest mutually-owned Community Bank headquartered in Central Massachusetts, is proud to highlight the launch of its Nonprofit Resource Center, a dedicated initiative designed to help nonprofit organizations strengthen their operations, expand their reach, and maximize their impact throughout Central Massachusetts and beyond.

As community needs continue to evolve, nonprofit organizations face increasing challenges related to funding, leadership development, strategic planning, and operational efficiency. UniBank's Nonprofit Resource Center serves as a trusted hub where nonprofit leaders can access educational resources, networking opportunities, industry expertise, and professional development programs tailored to their unique needs.

The Nonprofit Resource Center reflects UniBank's longstanding commitment to community investment and nonprofit partnership. Through workshops, training sessions, collaborative events, and access to subject matter experts, the Center equips nonprofit professionals with practical tools to help their organizations grow sustainably and serve their communities more effectively.

"Nonprofits are at the heart of our communities," said Ed Augustus, CEO of UniBank. "They address some of our region's most pressing challenges, from housing and education to health care, food security, and economic opportunity. Through UniBank's Nonprofit Resource Center, we are commit-

ted to providing organizations with the knowledge, connections, and resources they need to grow their capacity and deepen their impact. When nonprofits succeed, our entire community benefits."

The Nonprofit Resource Center offers programming that supports organizations at every stage of development, from emerging nonprofits seeking foundational guidance to established organizations focused on long-term growth and sustainability. Topics will include board governance, fundraising strategies, financial management, leadership development, marketing, volunteer engagement, and organizational planning.

In addition to educational programming, the Nonprofit Resource Center creates opportunities for nonprofit leaders to connect with peers, share best practices, and build collaborative relationships. These connections often lead to innovative solutions and partnerships that help organizations address community needs more effectively.

UniBank's commitment to the nonprofit sector is deeply rooted in its mission as a community-focused financial institution. The bank has a long history of supporting local organizations through charitable giving, sponsorships, volunteerism, and community engagement initiatives.

By combining financial expertise with a genuine understanding of community challenges, UniBank continues to be more than a banking partner. The Nonprofit Resource Center exemplifies the

institution's belief that strong nonprofits are essential to creating vibrant, resilient communities.

"As we look to the future, UniBank remains committed to strengthening the nonprofit ecosystem throughout our region," Augustus added. "Our goal is to help organizations become stronger, more sustainable, and better equipped to fulfill their missions for years to come."

Nonprofit leaders interested in learning more about the Nonprofit Resource Center and upcoming programs are encouraged to visit UniBank's website at www.uni-bank.com/banking-for-nonprofits

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TALES

continued from page 8

used to accommodate the Everett's Rolls Royce automobiles and served as living quarters for the coachmen.

Arlene and I visited the college on a beautiful May afternoon. The manor looked much like it did in its heyday: the ornate woodwork, grand oak staircase, patios and stunning views of the surrounding area. The semester had ended and the empty halls and rooms afforded us an opportunity to take some photographs and record some audio. Although we did not capture any paranormal activity on camera or recorder, we did get an opportunity to chat with a few living people who were still on campus. They were gracious in sharing

the stories of the college and its array of haunts. With the diverse array of ghostly activities, it must be a very exciting school both the living and otherwise.

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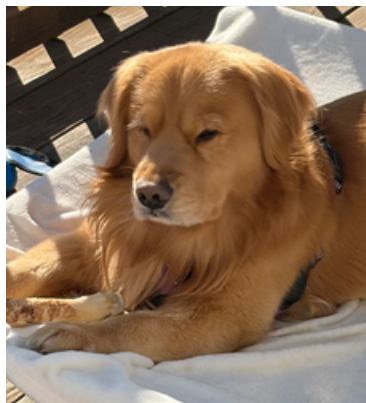
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LIVING WITH LUKE

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Home renovation, according to Luke

BY AMY PALUMBO-LECLAIRE

The kitchen renovation began with a sense of optimism. A new floor, new cabinets, and granite countertops promised our home the refresh it desperately needed. Boxes appeared. Furniture shifted. The familiar became unfamiliar.

Luke was not impressed.

He sniffed the dusty boxes, surveyed the commotion, and then looked at me as if to say, Are you going to box me up, too?

My dog readers know this about me: I don't like to leave my dog home alone. If there's a way to take Luke along, I'll gladly do it—even if it means bending a rule or two.

But this was Indian summer, the kind of warm September day when leaving a dog in a car, even with the windows cracked, is simply not an option. I looked at the boxes, then down at Luke, and could practically hear the question in his head.

You're leaving?

I knew I had to soften the blow. "Hold on, Luke. Mummy has a surprise for you. You've been

such a good boy."

I grabbed his shin bone and raced back into the kitchen, with Luke trotting close behind. Among the handful of things that had escaped the packing boxes was a jar of peanut butter.

Suddenly, my departure was ancient history.

Luke's eyes locked onto the glorious picture of my hand frosting his shin bone with a generous smear of peanut butter. His focus was laser sharp. He tracked every move, trotting beside me as I hurried to place the gooey treasure on a towel.

His excitement over something as simple as peanut butter felt contagious. I happily shut the door behind me and left for work. Mission accomplished. I was about to (later) learn that food isn't the only motivator to keep my dog happy.

I'm soooooo happy you came to see me!!!! Wonderful people, minted with fresh new smells — and who rang the doorbell all day long — poured into our home.

Ding Dong. Ding Dong. Luke never tired of a sound that meant one thing. Guests were coming over! He grabbed a sneaker, wiggled, did a tap dance, and greeted each contractor with a dog in need of training. Made ya' look. He put down the sneaker to steal the oily rag that spilled from the plumber's back pocket. *I'm*



Luke! You can read about me in the paper, too! He made his presence obvious.

"What's her name?" the plumber asked.

"It's Luke," I stated. But the background sound of my neighbor's tree cutter muffled the sound of my voice.

"Hi Lou!" The plumber rubbed the ears of what he thought was a female dog and accepted a forgiv-



ing paw. Neither of us had the heart to correct a man who was about to clean up our mess.

Want to see my upside-down kitchen? Lou led the plumber to a room that had become a tale of two kitchens, old and new.

Weeks passed, and Luke came to realize there are worse things than a torn-apart kitchen. For one thing, given all the helping hands coming through our door, he was rarely alone.

Not only had my dog learned to make lemonade from lemons, but he had also discovered that renovations came with their own special perks.

Mom, have you seen that new piece of plywood? It smells just like a tree!

He was learning, too, to accept the differences in the world

LUKE

continued on page 11

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ETIQUETTE EXPRESS: Making everyday interactions better

Can we talk about that?

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BY LEE-ANN BARKHOUSE

As we settle into the fall season, calendars start filling up with family dinners, community events, and holiday plans. Just a reminder that we've all heard the advice to avoid politics, religion, and money in polite conversation. Of course, those subjects still come up, especially with people we know well. Most of us have been asked a question we'd rather not answer or drawn into a debate we didn't intend to have. Here are a few ways to handle those moments graciously.

Q. Are politics, religion, and money still considered off limits?

A. Not always. A thoughtful conversation with a friend is different from putting someone on the spot at a dinner party. Pay attention to the setting and the people involved. If someone seems reluctant to join in, move on.

Q. A family member often asks what I paid for things or how much money I make. They start with, "If you don't mind me asking," but later make comments about my spending or income. How can I respond tactfully?

A. It's okay to say that you do mind. Try, "I'd rather not get into the price, and I'm happy with my purchase." If they ask about your income, you can say, "I prefer to keep that private." Say it

pleasantly, then move the conversation along. If they keep asking, you don't need a new explanation. "I'd rather not discuss it" is enough.

Q. How do I disagree with someone without sounding disrespectful?

A. Let them finish before you respond and make sure you understand what they mean. You might say, "I can see why you feel strongly about that. I see it differently." Then share your view without assuming you know their reasons or trying to win them over. A question such as "What led you to that opinion?" can keep the conversation going. "How could you believe that?" usually shuts it down. And if neither of you changes your mind, it's perfectly fine to agree to disagree.

Q. What if someone won't drop a subject I don't want to discuss?

A. Be a little more direct: "I know this matters to you, but I prefer to not discuss." Then change the subject. If they bring it up again, it's fine to excuse yourself.

ETIQUETTE TIP OF THE MONTH

"If you don't mind me asking" can be a warning that a personal question is coming. If you're on the receiving end, take a moment before answering. It's perfectly fine to say, "Actually, I'd rather keep that

private," and move on. You don't owe anyone a reason.

If you're the one asking, be prepared to hear no. Accept the answer with a warm "Of course," and change the subject. Respecting someone's privacy helps them feel at ease with you, even when the conversation takes an unexpected turn.

Until next month, be kind, be thoughtful, and remember that the smallest acts of consideration often leave the greatest impression.

Warm regards,
Lee-Ann

Have a situation you'd like help with? Write in or email (info@investinuma.com) and your question may be featured in a future column. Let's build a kinder, more respectful world, one interaction at a time.

Lee-Ann Barkhouse is the founder of Invest in U, where she helps individuals and organizations build confidence, professionalism, and meaningful connections. She is a certified etiquette trainer, board-certified health & wellness coach, and workshop facilitator who inspires people to communicate with confidence, strengthen relation-

ships, and show up as their best selves. Learn more at www.investinuma.com

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LUKE

continued from page 10

around him. The familiar sounds of our home had been replaced by drills, hammers, saws, and industrial fans. The kitchen he knew had disappeared, only to be replaced by a strange new landscape filled with ladders, lumber, tools – and an endless parade of people to greet.

For Luke, it turned out, home renovation wasn't about losing his familiar world.

It was about discovering a new one.

And if you ask Luke, every good renovation should come with peanut butter, a few new friends, and plenty of opportunities to say:

"Ding Dong! Another guest to greet!" *

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THE CAR DOCTOR

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A new small SUV, fuel-system cleaners, battery maintainer use, a hot soak issue, and a sticky dashboard

Q. I have a 2014 Honda Accord with only 75,000 miles, but I think it may be time for a new car. At age 65, I'm finding the Accord a little low to get in and out of. I looked at the Honda HR-V and liked the higher seating position. I also enjoy gardening and frequently haul mulch and compost. I like the Ford Maverick, and my husband and I have also looked at the Kia Seltos. Which would you recommend?

A. All three are good choices, but each has a different strength. The Ford Maverick is the most versatile. If you're regularly hauling mulch, compost, or garden supplies, the pickup bed is hard to beat. My only concern is that reliability has been somewhat less consistent than Honda's. The Honda HR-V is a solid choice for long-term ownership. It is easy to get in and out of, has a good reputation for reliability, and generally holds its value well. The Kia Seltos

good fuel economy, and provides a lot of features for the money. Kia has come a long way and now builds very competitive vehicles. Based on your needs, I would lean toward a small SUV. The higher seating position makes entry and exit easier and provides a better view of the road. My advice: drive all three. Usually, after a long test drive, the right vehicle becomes pretty obvious.

Q. How effective are fuel injector cleaners that you add to your gas? I have seen you mention Techron. Not that I doubt you, but are they a sponsor?

A. No, Techron is not a sponsor. In fact, I don't have any sponsors or financial relationships with automotive chemical companies. A couple of times a year I add Techron fuel system cleaner to my family's vehicles, and when possible, I use Top Tier gasoline, which contains additional detergent additives to help keep fuel injectors clean. I recommend

Techron because I have found it to be one of the more effective fuel system cleaners on the market. If I am spending my own money on a fuel-system cleaner, Techron is usually what I buy.

Q. I recently purchased a 2025 Hyundai Sonata Hybrid. I head to Florida for five or six months every winter and was planning to connect a battery maintainer to keep the 12-volt battery charged while I am away. The problem is that I keep finding conflicting information about where the 12-volt battery is located. Some sources say it is in the trunk, others say it is under the rear seat, and some claim there is no separate 12-volt battery at all. What is the correct answer?

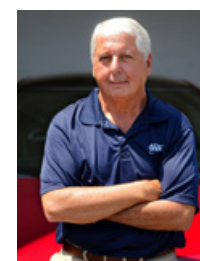
A. Hyundai has taken a different approach with the Sonata Hybrid. Rather than a conventional 12-volt battery, it uses an integrated lithium-ion battery that is part of the hybrid battery system. As a result, there is no traditional battery in the trunk or under the hood that can be connected to a battery maintainer. The good news is that Hyundai designed the system to tolerate extended storage. Before leaving, I would make sure the hybrid battery is roughly 50 percent to 75 percent charged. If the vehicle does not power up after several months, Hyundai provides a 12-volt battery reset feature that uses energy from the hybrid battery to restore the 12-volt system.

There are also jump-start terminals under the hood if needed. If the vehicle is stored in a secure garage, I would leave it unlocked. If the 12-volt system becomes completely discharged, you may need to use the mechanical key hidden inside the key fob to gain access.

Q. I have a 2012 Toyota Corolla with 226,500 miles on it and overall it is in great shape. The problem I'm having is that if it sits for about two hours after being driven, it takes longer to start than normal. It starts right up when cold and even after sitting overnight. My mechanic checked things over and didn't find any obvious issues, and there are no trouble codes. This only happens after about a two-hour soak. Any ideas?

A. The fact that the problem occurs only after a specific hot-soak period is an important clue. One possibility is an EVAP system issue. On these Corollas, a leaking purge valve can allow fuel vapors into the intake manifold, creating an overly rich mixture and causing a hard start.

CAR DOCTOR
continued on page 13



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REAL ESTATE

Why so many sellers are cutting their price right now

Price cuts are turning up everywhere right now, and they read very differently depending on which side of the deal you're on. Sellers tend to worry a cut means walking away with less than they hoped. Sometimes that's true, but more often it just means the market moved faster than the listing did.



BY MARK MARZEOTTI

Buyers, for their part, often assume a cut means something's wrong with the house. Most of the time, that's not the case. This is what's actually driving all those price cuts, and why it matters regardless of which side of the deal you're on.

Forty-two percent of homes for sale are now carrying a price cut. The share of sellers cutting their asking price has climbed every month for seven straight months. Today, more than four in 10 active listings have had at least one price cut, and the typical seller is cutting about \$17,560 off their original

number.

It's happening because with rates still elevated and with more homes to choose from, buyers can afford to wait for the right home in their budget. So, sellers who price at the higher end of market value end up adjusting down quite quickly.

What does that mean for you? If you're selling, this isn't a red flag. But it is a sign that pricing it right from day one is your best bet. Just know that the market's been shifting fast enough this year that sometimes even a well-priced house can fall behind within a matter of weeks. If that happens to you, dropping your price to catch up to where pricing actually stands today tends to bring in more buyers and helps you sell closer to true market value.

If you're buying, it's easy to assume a price cut means something's wrong with the house. But with cuts happening on more than four in 10 homes right now, the reality is, sellers are just catching up to where the market already is. And with affordability still tight, that's exactly the kind of opening you need to get a better deal.

But why are sellers adjusting faster than before? Data shows that list prices are trending down nationally. That's often a sign that

sellers are pricing more realistically from the start instead of listing high and getting stuck cutting later. List prices have fallen about \$26,000 from last year's peak. Some of that decline is seasonal since list prices typically soften each winter before rebounding in the spring. So, expect asking prices to keep drifting a little lower before turning back around.

That is good news for buyers, who are seeing lower asking prices and more room to negotiate. With rates still elevated, buyers can only stretch so far. Sellers who meet them where they are instead of holding out for unrealistic prices are the ones getting to closing and doing that up front is always better than chasing the market later.

Buyers, you've got room to negotiate again. At the same time, data shows sellers now outnumber buyers by about 58 percent, the widest gap on record. That changes the power of who controls the market – and impacts how homeowners should price their house. Nationally, about seven in 10 markets now favor buyers or are trending that way. For sellers, that means standing out matters as much as pricing. With more homes to choose from, buyers are comparing you directly against the competition. So, a little

flexibility, like covering closing costs or being open on timing, can be what gets your house picked over another.

For buyers, it means more room to ask for a lower price, help with closing costs, repairs after inspection, or some combination of all three. That's especially true for homes that have already sat for weeks, where sellers are often the most willing to talk.

Price cuts are a normal part of today's housing market, and both buyers and sellers can use them to their advantage. Connect with a member of The Marzeotti Group or a trusted real estate professional to look at what's actually happening with prices in your neighborhood, so you know exactly where you stand before you list or make an offer.

CAR DOCTOR

continued from page 12

A simple test is to disconnect and plug the hose between the purge valve and intake manifold, then let the car sit for its usual two-hour period. If the engine starts normally, you've likely found the problem. I would also look at live coolant-temperature data. A sensor that is drifting out of calibration can provide inaccurate temperature information during a hot soak and affect fuel delivery. If neither test reveals anything, the next step is checking fuel pressure after shutdown.

Q I have a problem with the dashboard of my 15-year-old car. It has become sticky to the touch. I have tried different cleaners, but nothing seems to help. Any suggestions?

A. This is a common issue on older vehicles. Heat and sunlight can cause the dashboard's soft-touch coating to break down, leaving a sticky surface. I would start by cleaning the dash with isopropyl alcohol and a lint-free cloth. If several cleanings don't improve

the condition, the coating has likely deteriorated beyond repair. At that point, the most practical and affordable solution is a custom-fit dash cover. They install easily, hide the sticky surface, and can also reduce windshield glare. Replacing the dashboard is usually

too expensive to make sense on a 15-year-old vehicle, so a quality dash cover is often the best fix.

*Do you have a car question?
Email the Car Doctor for a personal
reply at jpaul@aaanortheast.com*

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NOTE: Community bulletin board-type

items are welcome for inclusion in the Happenings! section of the Xpress newspapers. Please allow enough lead time for publication. Email your calendar or event notice to news@theyankeeexpress.com.

STARTING MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

• The Uxbridge Senior Center is proud to present a live 8-week session of Chair Yoga

Exercise classes for Seniors. This class is a safe, gentle form of exercise that builds strength, improves balance, and enhances flexibility using a stable chair for support. The benefits of chair yoga include better balance, pain relief, and flexibility. The program will begin Monday, September 28 from 10:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m. at the Uxbridge Senior Center Satellite Site which is located at the McCloskey School at 62 Capron Street. The class will run for one hour, one day a week, on Mondays, for an 8-week time frame. The schedule will vary and is not consecutive Mondays, due to the availability of the gym. This program is free for Uxbridge residents. There is a requested donation of \$25.00 for out-of-town residents. Interested individuals should call or stop by the Uxbridge Senior Center at 508-278-8622 for more information and receive their enrollment form, the schedule, and waiver forms prior to the start of the program. The Center is located at 36 South Main Street in Uxbridge and is open Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• The Uxbridge Senior Center is proud to present a live 8-week session of Low Impact Exercise classes for Seniors. This class is a fitness program that utilizes light weights, and some Tai Chi moves to help with balance. The benefits of this program include improved balance, range of motion and coordination. This exercise is a lightweight strength circuit with gentle movements to improve flexibility. Most exercises will be seated with a focus on improving muscle strength especially around the knee area which is crucial for balance and walking and hopefully avoiding falls. This program focuses on light cardio, strength, and fun activities to train the body for real life movements and activities. Some poses can also be done standing using a chair

for support. The program will begin Monday, September 28 from 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. at the Uxbridge Senior Center Satellite Site which is located at the McCloskey School at 62 Capron Street. The class will run for one hour, one day a week, on Mondays, for an 8-week time frame. The schedule will vary and is not consecutive Mondays, due to the availability of the gym. This program is free for Uxbridge residents. There is a requested donation of \$25.00 for out-of-town residents. The class would be open to all in the community, including those outside the Town of Uxbridge. Interested individuals should call or stop by the Uxbridge Senior Center at 508-278-8622 for more information and receive their enrollment form, the schedule, and waiver forms prior to the start of the program. The Center is located at 36 South Main Street in Uxbridge and is open Monday thru Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 18

• Grafton Recreation Presents: Fall Festival Music, food, and games, Pumpkin painting, Scarecrow building and more Come decorate a pumpkin while supplies last and build a scarecrow (bring your own supplies) Nelson Park, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Presented by: Grafton's Children's Daycare and Preschool, Country Bank Sponsored by: Jackie Crawford Ross, Realtor • The Uxbridge Youth Soccer League will host its 5th Annual RC Airshow from 12-4 p.m. at the Sutton Street Fields (285 Sutton St., Uxbridge). The popular, family-friendly event brings together some of the region's top award-winning RC pilots for an afternoon of spectacular stunts. The event will feature food trucks, local vendors, kids' activities, raffles, and special guests. Admission is \$3 per person or \$10 per family. • Join Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf volunteers and others on Sunday, October 18, for the annual Crop Hunger Walk. The walk begins at the First Congregational Church, 355 Main St., Oxford, at 1 p.m. Please arrive at 12:30 to sign in and gather to walk an easy

3.5 miles through Oxford together. A small monetary donation is suggested. To participate, visit: events.crop hungerwalk.org/chw/event/oxfordma — or just show up on the 18th. Volunteers will be at the church to help you get started. For more information, check the Oxford Food Shelf page on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/OxfordMA-FoodShelf>) or call 508-987-1062.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

Grafton Recreation Presents: Friendly Trick or Treat, 3-4 p.m. at the Grafton Municipal Center. Designed for ages 5 and under. All are welcome. Costumes encouraged. Start at the Senior Center Gym for a bag and a map! Sponsored by the Town of Grafton

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

• The Blackstone Valley Crop Hunger Walk will be held on Saturday, October 24, 2026. The walk will start at 9 am at the Village Congregational Church in Whitinsville with registration at 8:30 am. For more information, contact Barbara Fortin at 508-234-2137. • Home Baked Ham & Bean Supper, October 24th, 2026 at 5:00 pm in the Community House, 8 Court St, Uxbridge located behind the Uxbridge Town Common. Sponsored by the Uxbridge Congregational Church. Menu includes baked ham, home baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, brown bread, beverages & dessert. Donation of \$15.00 per adult, children under 6 free. Raffles will also be available. For reservations call 818-430-3732. Limited tickets will be sold at door. Come enjoy great food and fellowship.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

• Pawtoberfest: 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Uxbridge Dog Park, 375 Sutton St, Uxbridge

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7

St. Peter's Parish will hold its Annual Holi-

HAPPENINGS!

continued on page 15



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UPCOMING EVENTS AT SAMUEL SLATER'S HALL

10/16	COMEDY NIGHT WITH PAUL D'ANGELO, MAYA MANION, AND DAN MILLER	11/14	PETTY LARCENY: A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF TOM PETTY
10/23	BLOOD, SWEAT & KEYS HALLOWEEN DUELING PIANOS	11/18	HOLIDAY CUSTOM SWAG WORKSHOP FROM BEMIS FARMS NURSERY
10/24	A WONDERFUL WIZARD OF OZ MURDER MYSTERY DINNER	11/21	LITTLE LIES: A TRIBUTE TO FLEETWOOD MAC
10/31	HALLOWEEN PARTY WITH XS DANCE BAN \$500 GRAND PRIZE FOR BEST COSTUME PLUS PRIZES FOR 'FUNNIEST', 'SCARIEST', AND MOST 'CREATIVE/UNIQUE' COSTUMES!	11/27	AFFINITY: A TRIBUTE TO THE MUSIC OF JOURNEY
11/7	BEST OF TIMES: THE MUSIC OF STYX, FOREIGNER & REO SPEEDWAGON	12/5	THE FOOLS
11/13	COMEDY NIGHT WITH COREY RODRIGUES, STEVE BJORK, AND BRIAN WAYNE	12/11	COMEDY NIGHT WITH KELLY MACFARLAND, KENDRA CUNNINGHAM, AND GARRETT FINN
		1/8	VIVA LAS ELVIS: ELVIS PRESLEY'S 92 ND BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION WITH AWARD-WINNING TRIBUTE ARTIST DAN FONTAINE

FOR RESERVATIONS, EVENT TICKETS, AND MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WWW.SAMUELSLATERS.COM

Samuel Slater's Restaurant is open Wednesday-Friday (4-9pm), Saturday (12-9pm), and Sunday (12-8pm) for lunch and dinner.





Armenian Church of Whitinsville

Fall FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 22 - DOORS OPEN AT 10:30

Dinners Served starting at 11 A.M.

Children's Activities from 12:30 - 2:30
Face Painting, Turkey Decorating, and more!

Baked Goods, Market Place, Dessert Table, Vendors, Silent Auction and Yes... the North Pole Post Office is Back!

Pleasant St. Christian Reformed Church
25 Cross St.
Whitinsville, MA

HAPPENINGS!*continued from page 14*

day Fair on Saturday, November 7th, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the parish hall at 39 Church Avenue, Northbridge.

The community is invited to come out with family and friends for a fun-filled day featuring tables, raffles, food, and holiday shopping. Visitors can browse the popular White Elephant, Baked Goods, Holiday, and Craft Tables, with the Craft Table featuring beautiful handmade items and quilts. The fair will also offer numerous opportunities to try your luck, including raffle tables, a scratch ticket raffle, a quilt raffle, and a gift basket raffle. With a wide selection of raffle items, attendees never know what they might discover. Food will also be available throughout the day. St. Peter's Parish welcomes everyone from the Northbridge community and surrounding area to come enjoy the Annual Holiday Fair and help support the parish. For more information, contact the St. Peter's Parish Office at 508-234-2156 or email parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

• Pasta and Meatball Dinner & Music Concert: Join us at Saint Peter's Parish in Northbridge for a wonderful evening of delicious food and music. A Pasta & Meatball Dinner & Music Concert on Saturday, November 14th, starting at 5:30 pm in the parish hall. Tickets are \$20 per person for the dinner & concert. All orders must be purchased in advance

by Tuesday, November 10th. Come enjoy a great evening while supporting the care and maintenance of our parish organ! Please call 508-234-2156 or email the parish office: parishoffice@stpeterrockdale.org for tickets.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21

• The Armenian Church of Whitinsville, Soorp Asdvadzadzin Armenian Apostolic Church, will celebrate the season with its annual Fall Festival on Saturday, November 21, bringing together friends, families and members of the community for a day of Armenian food, shopping, fellowship and fun. The festival will be held at the Christian Reformed Church Hall on Cross Street in Whitinsville. Doors open at 10:30 a.m., with food service beginning at 11 a.m. Visitors will find something for everyone, including: Ladies Guild Food Table featuring homemade Armenian specialties; Dessert Table with an assortment of sweet treats; Armenian Vendor offering Armenian-inspired gifts and merchandise; Craft Table featuring handmade items; Silent Auction with a variety of items to bid on; White Elephant Table with gently used treasures and surprises; Post Office: purchase a shipping box filled with surprise items. The Fall Festival offers an opportunity to experience Armenian culture and hospitality while supporting the Armenian Church of Whitinsville's activities and programs. The public is warmly invited to attend. Come hungry, browse the tables, discover something special, and enjoy a day of community and Armenian hospitality.



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Saturday, October 10, 2026
October's theme:
Creature Double Feature

Saturday, November 14, 2026
November's theme:
Harvest Harmonies



Sign ups begin @ 5:30pm
Singh Performance Center, 60 Douglas Rd., Whitinsville, MA
Hosted by Open Sky's Community Membership Dept.
Questions? Michelle.Benjamin@openskycs.org or visit openskycs.org/openmic



**BLACK
FRIDAY**

November 27th
(Paid in Full Only)

ONLY 300
tickets
Available!

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8:00am-10:00am
30%, 40%, 50%
or 75% OFF!**

Scratch to reveal your discount!
30%, 40%, 50% or 75% OFF Membership,
in addition to NO Joining Fee!

One lucky winner will win a FREE Membership!
Everyone is guaranteed at least 30% OFF!

NOTE: Black Friday membership promotion listed above is for NEW or existing paid in full memberships only. Offer valid IN PERSON ONLY on Black Friday, November 27, 2026. One Scratch Card per person. Scratch tickets available from 8:00am-10:00am at the Whitin Community Center, while supplies last. If we run out of scratch tickets, you will be guaranteed 30% OFF membership. Scratch card must be redeemed upon receipt. Scratch cards can be used towards one membership only, and membership start dates cannot be deferred. Must pay in full at time of purchase. Cannot be used in combination with any other discounts, promotions, gift certificates/cards or insurance discounts. No refunds or cancellations. Non-transferable. Other exclusions & rules may apply.

www.WhitinCommunityCenter.com



**CYBER
MONDAY**

November 30th

ONLINE ONLY 30% OFF!
All NEW Memberships will receive 30%
OFF the 2026 rates & NO Joining Fee!

IN PERSON ONLY 30% OFF!
All RENEWAL Memberships will receive
30% OFF the 2026 rates & NO Joining
Fee!

NOTE: Cyber Monday membership promotion
listed above is for NEW & renewal paid in full
or automatic withdrawal memberships. Offer
valid ONLINE ONLY on Cyber Monday, for NEW
memberships on Monday, November 30, 2026,
and IN PERSON receive 30% off for NEW and
RENEWAL memberships. Monthly promotional
membership price is valid for 12 draft payments
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