

 Free by request to residents of East Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield, Brookfield, Leicester and Spencer

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 Friday, January 14, 2022



Local residents stand in support of democracy on the Brookfield Town Common on Jan. 6.

# Community vigils commemorate Capitol attacks

### BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD – On the one-year anniversary of the attack on the U.S. Capitol, local residents gathered to celebrate democracy and remember a day that they believe will forever scar the nation's history.

On Jan. 6—exactly one year after hundreds of rioters supporting former President Donald Trump stormed the Capitol—local residents celebrated the triumph of democracy by attending a candlelight vigil on the Town Common. Several similar events were ed fellow Americans. In many cases, military veterans and ex-law enforcement officers attacked Capitol Police officers.

During the Jan. 6 attack, Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick was sprayed with a chemical substance by rioters. He subsequently suffered strokes and died the following day.

Four rioters died during the attack. In the days and months following the insurrection, four officers who responded to the assault on the Capitol died by suicide.

Hundreds of people were injured during

# New Town Administrator brings a wealth of experience

### BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – A career in municipal leadership has taken Jeffrey Bridges across the continent and back again, but hardly any travel was required for him to secure his most recent position.

After serving as Sturbridge's town administrator from 2019-21, Bridges made the 15-minute drive north to become Spencer's next full-time administrator. He completed his first full week of service in late December.

In addition to his position in Sturbridge, Bridges served as interimcity manager in Seward, Alaska, from September 2018 to March 2019. Prior to that, he was the town manager in Wethersfield, Conn., from 2009-2018.

When asked what drew him to the position in Spencer, Bridges answered, "An opportunity to do meaningful work with a collaborative Board who wants to do what is best for the Spencer community."

Selectmen were impressed by Bridges' credentials and experience in municipal management. He replaces Thomas Gregory, who left this past spring after three years on the job.

"I think Mr. Bridges has both the leadership and technical skills to help Spencer excel," said Selectman Jared Grigg. "He is a well-rounded individ-



Photo Courtesy Jeffrey Bridges recently started as Spencer's next Town Administrator.

Recognizing the importance of their decision on the next full-time administrator, officials took their time to make sure they found a candidate who combined experience with leadership skills. A comprehensive process was undertaken by the Town Administrator Search Committee, resulting in a strong pool of candidates from which Bridges emerged.

"Mr. Bridges is a very well experienced Town Administrator who brings a wealth of skillsets that should help to lead Spencer forward in the 21st century," said Selectman Ralph Hicks.

In his first few weeks on the

held throughout the area to reaffirm democracy and remember those who lost their lives or were wounded as a result of the attack on Jan. 6, 2021.

In Brookfield, demonstrators brought candles and signs to the Common for an evening of remembrance. They then proceeded to the intersection of Routes 9 and 148 in a show of solidarity, as well as a reminder to never forget.

"As I watched the mayhem on Jan. 6, 2021, I was struck with deep feelings of consternation, horror, and fear," said Regina Edmonds, who helped lead the Brookfield vigil. "I feared for the lives of everyone involved—the people inside the Capitol Building, members of law enforcement trying to control the mob, and even for the protesters themselves, many of whom may have been caught up in the chaos inadvertently. As the day progressed, a profound sense of sadness and loss overcame me, similar to what I had felt as a much younger person upon the assassinations of John Kennedy and Martin Luther King. And it is those feelings of sadness and loss that remain with me.'

Some of the guests at the Brookfield vigil were young people. Many local parents have struggled to find ways to explain to children how, one year ago, scenes of violence erupted in the nation's capital as Americans assaultthe riot. One year later, local residents want to make sure the events of that day are never forgotten.

"Because of the extraordinary impact of Jan. 6, 2021, upon me, I felt the need to memorialize the lives lost and people injured on that day, and the heroic efforts of many courageous people to save our democracy," Edmonds said. "When I learned of the national movement calling for Vigils for Democracy and a Jan. 6th Day of Remembrance and Action, I knew I would attend and I was especially glad when several people stepped up to organize an event at a location near me."

Guests who attended the Brookfield vigil said remembrance of the events of Jan. 6, 2021, should not be marked with political division but instead healing among all Americans.

"Democracy survived a year ago and continues to survive. We want to build bridges with citizens of all persuasions to keep our democracy strong, despite differences in opinion," said Sherry Zitter, who helped organize the Brookfield vigil.

More Photos on page XXX

Turn To **XXXX** page **A1** 

### ual that has the professional traits to see Spencer's projects and goals through to completion with innovative solutions. His leadership style and years of experience as a town administrator really set him apart from the pack for me."

job in Spencer, Bridges has already established several bonds in the community.

"Board members, town staff, residents, business owners, and state officials I have met have all *Turn To* **BRIDGES** *page* **A15** 

# Leicester Superintendent announces retirement

### BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Amid multiple controversies miring the school department, embattled Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Marilyn Tencza announced that she will retire at the end of the school year.

The announcement follows a turbulent year that saw the school district embroiled in numerous incidents. These include at least six Open Meeting Law complaints made against the School Committee; two claims of wrongful termination made by former school district employees; and continued questions surrounding the costly March 31, 2021 oil spill at the elementary school.

In a Jan. 4 letter to the district's faculty and staff obtained by the New Leader, Tencza informed personnel of her plans to retire. According to the document, she submitted her letter of retirement during executive session of the Jan. 3 School Committee meeting.

Tencza plans to retire on June 30.

"I want to thank you all for your support throughout my tenure in the Leicester Public Schools," the Superintendent wrote to faculty and staff. "I came to Leicester as the Director of Curriculum in March, 2012, and I made some wonderful connections with the faculty and staff that built the foundation of our work together when I became Superintendent. It has been an honor and privilege to work with such a talented and dedicated team of professionals."

Added Tencza in the Jan. 4 letter, "As I mentioned to the School Committee last night, I wanted to plan my departure at a time when we were well positioned for this transition. By March, Leicester Public Schools will have a new District Improvement Plan, a new mission and vision statement that was created by a wide range of stakeholders who contributed to its development to move the district forward into the future. It is also an opportune time for a new superintendent to work through the myriad of details associated with the Becker move."

Tencza and School Committee Chairman Tom Lauder have faced heavy backlash for several controversies and mishaps impacting the district over the last year. In November, the Board of Selectmen submitted a letter to school leaders seeking explanations to multiple questions selectmen have received from concerned residents.

Among the most controver-Turn To **TENCZA** page **A15** 

# Bicentennial celebration starts this month in East Brookfield

### BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD – Two extra years may not seem like a long time when talking about a centennial celebration, but don't tell that to residents who've been waiting to party since 2020.

East Brookfield's centennial festivities were postponed each of the last two years due to COVID-19 concerns. Finally, with the calendar changing to 2022, the yearlong celebration is set to begin this month.

"The committee is so excited to restart this celebration. We planned for five years, only to have one event before postponing," said 100th Anniversary Committee member Heather Gablaski. "The silver lining is that we have everything planned and supplies purchased. This should make it a little easier for us."

The fun begins on Jan. 22 at Timberyard Brewery, which will host a 1920's Night at the Brewery. Beginning at 6 p.m., the event will feature themed music and drinks. Admission is free.

On Feb. 5, an ice harvesting presentation will be held at 2:30 p.m., followed by ice skating on Lake Lashaway at 3:30 p.m.

March 12 will feature the

long-awaited Roarin' Twenties Dinner Dance at Spencer Country Inn. Starting at 6 p.m., the event cost is \$35 per person.

Additional events in March and April include a re-enactment of the signing of the town bill; an unveiling of the town's anniversary quilt; a Hodgkins Bell dedication ceremony; a historical talk from author Ed Londergan at Town Hall; and a town-wide cleanup day.

"It's great to take part in the 100th anniversary celebration for East Brookfield," said

Turn To BICENTENNIAL page A17



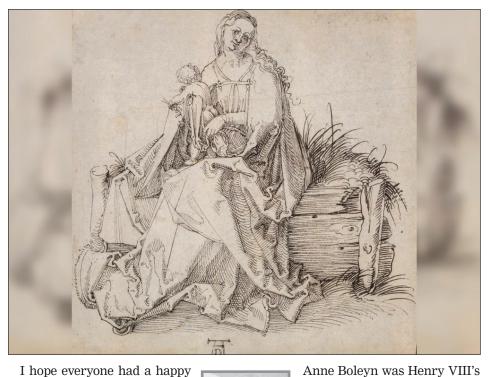
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# Latest antique news



I hope everyone had a happy holiday season and a great start to the new year. It's been several weeks since my last antique news update and there is much to report on.

There was big news out of England at the end of 2021, when research found that a United Kingdom-based antiques dealer's 2019 auction purchase was actually a very valuable historic relic. Dealer Paul Fitzsimmons spotted a gilded oak bird at an English auction. Although it was covered in soot, he "instantly realized that it WAYNE TUISKULA was a valuable object," according to Smithsonian Magazine.

Although he didn't then know that the bird was the badge of Anne Boleyn, he "knew that it had some sort of royal connection because it had the crown and scepter, and it was a royal bird."



ANTIQUES, **COLLECTIBLES** & ESTATES

second wife, whom he beheaded in 1536. Boleyn had begun to use the falcon and roses badge around the time she married Henry VIII. It's believed that the falcon and roses were part of the palace's decorative scheme at the time. After her death, Henry VIII tried to remove all traces of Boleyn, including the falcon and rose badges. It's believed that the wooden falcon was in Boleyn's private quarters and had been stashed away by one of her supporters. Fitzsimmons paid \$101 for it at that 2019 auc-

tion. It's estimated to be worth \$270,000. He plans to offer it on longterm loan to Hampton Court Palace.

Elsewhere, a Massachusetts estate sale find is also making news in England. "The Art Newspaper" report-

using a QR code. Simply use your smart

phone camera to scan the QR code,

which will provide you with the link to

ed that an Albrecht Dürer sketch was purchased from a Concord, MA estate in 2016. They write that "The Virgin and Child with a Flower on a Grassy Bank" was in the collection of architect Jean-Paul Carlhian. A man who wishes to remain anonymous purchased the sketch for \$30 from Carlhian's daughters at an estate sale of his belongings. The buyer and seller didn't believe that it was an original work, and the buyer stored it in his home. Clifford Schorer of Agnews Gallery in London heard of the sketch when visiting Boston in 2019 and arranged to see it. Schorer told "The Art Newspaper" that when he first saw the piece he thought, "it was either the greatest forgery I have ever seen-or a masterpiece." Experts have examined the piece more carefully and found that there are two attributes that seem to prove it is in fact authentic. His signature (initials) and the ink used match those that appear in more than 200 of his other sketches. It is believed that the sketch may be worth \$50 million. Now that's a stroke of good luck.

Our fifth online auction session of model railroad, die-cast cars, and models will begin next week. We are still accepting consignments for our next online multi-estate auction. It will feature coin collections from multiple estates, gold estate jewelry, a large sports card collection and a wide range of other items. Contact us by email or phone if you have items you'd like to include. Please see our Web site https:// centralmassauctions.com to join our email list and keep up to date on auctions and other events.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com



# ACCURACY WATCH

The Spencer New Leader is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4106 or email news@stonebridgepress. news during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call or email.



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COI

# Leicester to offer vaccination clinics

sign up for a clinic.

you wish to attend.

able at each clinic.

# **BY KEVIN FLANDERS**

STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER - If you're looking for a first, second, or booster dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, the Leicester Regional Public Health Coalition has opportunities available this winter.

Supporting residents of Leicester, Barre, Hardwick, Holden, New Braintree, and North Brookfield, the coalition is offering multiple vaccine clinics.

Only Pfizer doses will be available at the clinics. First, second, and booster doses will be available for individuals ages 12-plus.

Only the first and second doses of the Pfizer vaccine will be available for pediatric patients ages five to 11.

Children under the age of five are not currently eligible to receive the vaccine.

LeicesterMA.org.

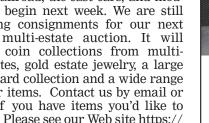
No proof of residency is required closed to the public through at least Feb. to attend the clinics. Residents of 7. Employees are still working and can Leicester, Barre, Hardwick, Holden, be reached by phone or email as listed New Braintree, North Brookfield, and on the town website: www.leicesterma. org. You can also call 508-892-7000 and beyond are welcome to attend a clinic. You may sign up for a given clinic use the automated directory.

Appointments can be made at Town Hall if required. Masks are required to enter Town Hall.

"Meetings will be held remotely whenever possi-

MLS

Please scan the QR code for the date ble," read a state-When signing up, please be sure to ment released by select "Pfizer" as your preferred vac-cine, as it will be the only vaccine availtown officials. apologize "We for any inconve-If you need assistance with the pronience this may cess, or if you would like more inforcause and appremation about signing up for the clinciate your underics, contact Amy McInernev at 508standing as we 892-7008, or by email at McinerneyA@ work to keep our employees safe so operations can continue."



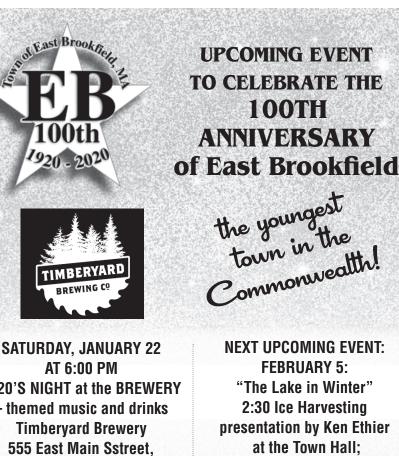
Clinics will be held on Jan. 11, Feb. 1, Feb. 22, and March 15. All clinics will take place from 4-7 p.m. at the Borger Auditorium on the former Becker College campus (9 Washburn Square, Leicester).

In other town news, due to the surge in COVID-19 cases resulting from the holiday season and the new Omicron variant, the Leicester Town Hall, Library, and Senior Center will be

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1920'S NIGHT at the BREWERY - themed music and drinks 555 East Main Sstreet, East Brookfield, MA FREE ADMISSION ALL WELCOME

NEXT UPCOMING EVENT: "The Lake in Winter" 2:30 Ice Harvesting presentation by Ken Ethier 3:30 pm Ice Skating, **Bonfire & Music, Lake** Lashaway Town Beach

See Facebook @EB100th or tinyurl.com/EB100th for details on all events!



# \* \* Friday's Child



Christopher Age: 13

# I love to build things!

Christopher "Chris" is a twelve year-old boy of bi-racial descent who loves to be active and is described as playful. Christopher has many positive relationships with the peers and adults in his life. He is very active and enjoys climbing, building, playing outdoors, and going on outings in the community. Christopher also loves playing video games and building Legos and can entertain himself with them for hours.

Chris is in the 6th grade and continues to make good progress at school. He loves his school and has many positive relationships with his school staff. Chris continues to receive educational support and would do well with a family who can

continue to advocate for his needs at school.

Legally freed for adoption, Christopher has a great relationship with his younger brother who he sees at least monthly. A family will need to be open to continued visits with his sibling. He also has an uncle that participates in these visits and is a support to him and would like to remain involved in his life. Christopher has reported that he<sup>,</sup>d like to live in a house with a mom, a dad, and some pets. He would do best in a flexible, playful home. A family could have no children or significantly older children than Christopher. While Chris, social worker is ultimately seeking a permanent family for him, Chris would also benefit from forming relationships with other caring adults and would benefit from a Visiting Resource. Anyone interested in this opportunity should inquire about Chris.

### Who Can Adopt?

Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LG-BTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.



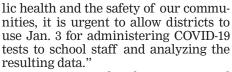
# State officials hold firm against school closure requests

### **BY KEVIN FLANDERS** STAFF WRITER

REGION - Despite pleas from the Massachusetts Teachers Association, state officials have remained firm in their decision to keep schools open fulltime coming out of the holiday break.

Prior to schools reopening on the first Monday of the new year, Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA) President Merrie Najimy issued an urgent request to state leaders.

"After consulting with our Environmental Health and Safety Committee and public health experts, the Massachusetts Teachers Association is calling on state Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley to keep all schools closed on Monday [Jan. 3], except for staff COVID-19 testing," Najimy said. "To protect the pub-



Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley and Gov. Charlie Baker were in agreement to hold classes statewide on Jan. 3, with no days off for testing. Even with the surge of Omicron cases resulting from the holidays, state officials said they are not considering a return to remote learning. Both Riley and Baker emphasized the importance in-person learning plays in students' educational and emotional wellbeing.

'Kids need to be in school-school is safe," Baker said. "There's an overwhelming amount of evidence out there that keeping kids out of school, keeping them away from one another, keeping them away from trained and caring adults, did terrible damage to kids all over the country. It's not going to happen in Massachusetts."

State officials said the combination of vaccine availability, mask mandates in schools, and other safety protocols should be enough to ensure that students are safe in class without needing to return to remote learning.

But the MTA and thousands of educators and school staff members across the state contend that schools are not currently safe with COVID-19 cases surging.

The MTA has long demanded greater access to COVID-19 tests, officials said. Earlier this month, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education announced the arrival of 200,000 tests for school staff, but MTA leaders said that number isn't nearly enough for continued testing.

As of last week, the nation was averaging over 500,000 new COVID-19 cases per day. Reports have widely suggested the Omicron variant may be less severe than previous variants, but daily COVID deaths in the U.S. have frequently exceeded 2,000 since the start of January.

On multiple days last week, new daily cases surpassed 700,000 nationwide. In Massachusetts, the surge has caused thousands of teachers and other school staff members to be out of work due to positive tests.

MTA officials said they agree with state leaders that in-person education is vital, but they said more needs to be done to ensure it happens safely for students, staff, and visitors.

"The MTA is committed to making sure that in-person learning continues as long as it is safe—and that students, school staff, families, and communities are protected as the new year begins to unfold," Najimy said.



# Interns have partnered with the Friends of the Town House

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The Friends of the North Brookfield Town House were fortunate to have college interns on staff during 2021. Kelley Carlisle of Arlington, Va. and Nathan Gershman of North Brookfield were kept busy updating the Friends' social media.

Carlisle is a WPI student entering her senior year double majoring in business and eco-

nomics. With her expertise, she was called on to lead

to help others.

**Paul Gleason of Spencer** 

help those less fortunate. He uses a loom to help with his

arthritis. He has twice made hundreds of knitted hats for

the homeless in Worcester at Jeremiah's House and once for

new immigrants at a Worcester elementary school. Recently

during the Spencer Toys for Kids campaign he volunteered

to make Pom Poms for dozens of donated hats that came

without them. Thank you, Paul, for using your knitting talents

If you would like to nominate someone or a group of

people for 2022, please email your suggestion to June at

jsima@stonebridgepress.news. Thank you.

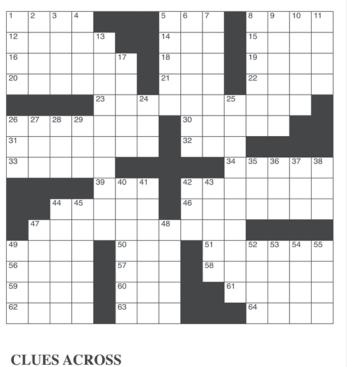
- Submitted by Todd Civin

Paul Gleason is being nominated for using his talents to

several meetings, sharing with the executive team useful information concerning branding and managing a nonprofit fundraising plan. She performed web engine optimization, discussed redesigns for the Web page based on user experience feedback, and updated information on the Friends' website.

Gershman returned to Roger Williams University in Rhode Island as a junior majoring in cryptography. He the Friends could follow through with a grant from the Local Cultural Council to call attention to our region's wealth of artists, craftsmen, and performers and their work. He will continue to be a consultant for the Friends as we create virtual ROAR programs designed to bring people together for a common artistic or cultural purpose.

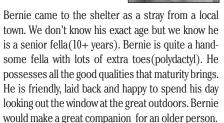
The Friends were pleased to be able to work with these exceptional young people and plan to keep in touch with them as valuable resources. We wish them all the best as they continue their studies.



# applied his knowledge of the internet and experience with local access television to set up a YouTube channel so that **P.A.L. of the Week** Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC Name: Bernie

Breed: DSH Sex: Male Age: Senior





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5. Calendar month 8. Invests in little enterprises 12. Bird sound 14. S. American plant cultivated for tubers 15. Car 16. Bullfighter 18. Hill (Celtic) 19. Strong criticism 20. Detector 21. When you hope to get there 22. Having the skill to do something 23. Legendary MLB broadcaster 26. Vulcanite 30. C. Asian mountain range 31. In a way, healed

34. Greene, "Bonanza" actor 39. A place to bathe 42. Postal worker accessory 44. Classical music 46. A way of wrecking 47. Terminator 49. You eat three a day 50. Pointed end of a pen 51. NATO official (abbr.) 56. Genus of clams 57. Boxing's "G.O.A.T." 58. A colorless, odorless gas used as fuel 59. Covered thinly with gold paint 60. Bachelor of Laws 61. Red fluorescent dye 62. Engineering group 63. Female sibling 64. Adjacent

Small appendages of insects

# **CLUES DOWN**

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32. Midway between east and

1. What a thespian does 2. Footwear 35. Not young 3. Adjust spacing between 36. Baseball stat 4. Witnesses 5. Who shows excessive fondness 38. Breakfast food 6. Distinct form of a plant 7. National capital 8. Hunting expedition 42. NY ballplayer 9. Related to medulla oblongata 43. Got up 10. European country 44. Prophet 11. Cola 13. Excluded from use or mention 47. Unnatural 17. Speak 24. Bloodshot 25. Make better 26. Keyboard key 27. Type of degree 28. Paddle

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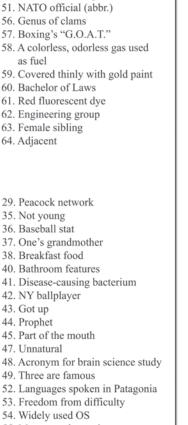
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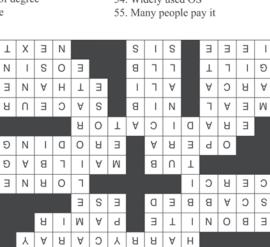
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Spencer Police Department K9 Unit dog, Curtis, recently received a new protective vest.

### **BY KEVIN FLANDERS** STAFF WRITER

SPENCER - The Spencer Police Department's K9 Unit dog, Curtis, has received new body armor thanks to the generosity of a nonprofit organization. Curtis recently received a bullet-

and-stab protective vest donated by Vested Interest in K9s, Inc. The vest was embroidered with the sentiment: "This gift of protection provided by Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.

Established in 2009, the organization's mission is to donate protective vests and

# **Spencer K9 receives** new body armor

other equipment to law enforcement K9s with expired vests are also eligible dogs throughout the United States. The gear is custom fitted and NIJ certified.

Members of the SPD are thrilled to receive the donation, which will be used in tandem with another vest donated by the Hayden Masonic Lodge and the Spencer Firefighters Association. This past fall, both organizations donated \$792.50 to purchase the vest for Curtis. Now, with the Vested Interest in K9s,

Inc., donation, Curtis will have augmented protection in all situations.

This is the second vest for Curtis - the first donated by the Masons and Fire Association was a lighter model for everyday use," said SPD Chief David Darrin. "This vest from VIK9's will be used for more tactical situations. Both are essential equipment items for Curtis. The donations are appreciated and make implementing a very expensive program possible."

Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s, Inc., has provided over 4.481 vests to K9s in all 50 states at a value of \$6.9 million. Each donation is made possible by both private and corporate donations.

The Vested Interest in K9s. Inc., donation program is open to U.S. dogs that are at least 20 months old and are actively employed and certified with law enforcement or related agencies.

# Local DAV chapter helps feed veterans during the holidays

REGION – Disabled American Veterans (DAV) Chapter 59 helped feed veterans during the holidays by teaming up with Project New Hope.

A donation of \$500 in food products was made to the veterans' food bank.

Project New Hope, Inc., is a New England-based organization that delivers wellness resources needed by veterans, service members, and their families.

To learn more about the organization, visit www.ProjectNewHopeMA.org.

### Photo Courtesy

From left, Lee Boss, Disabled American Veterans Chapter 59 Commander Roland Langlois, and Project New Hope Director Bill Moore.



SPENCER ALMANAC **REAL ESTATE** BROOKFIELD \$\$399,900, 9 Gay Rd, Krans, Joseph A, and Krans, Susan R, to Hopkins, Damon J, and Sweet, Christine E.

There are an estimated 30,000 law

If you are interested in supporting

enforcement K9 unit dogs throughout

the program, Vested Interest in K9s,

Inc., accepts tax-deductible contribu-

tions in any amount. Each vest has a

value of \$1,744-\$2,283, weighs an average of five pounds, and comes with a

For more information about the

program, or to learn about volunteer

opportunities with the organization,

call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s,

Inc., also provides information, lists events, and accepts donations at its Web

If you would like to mail a donation

to the organization, send your contri-

bution to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA

\$369,900, 1 Pine Ln, Norton, Leslie H, and Norton, Tammy S, to Bean, Brionne C.

### **LEICESTER**

\$605,000, 9 Homestead Ln, Goddard, William H, and Goddard, Aimee D, to Mann, Danyelle M, and Mann, Jaime L.

\$300,000, 9 Sabina Cir, Loverme, Justin C, and Loverme, Tori D, to Loverme, Jason.

SPENCER

\$410,000, 34 Ash St, Martin, Carleen M, to Yaines, Gaige, and Caci, Joseph.

\$325,000, 173 Paxton Rd, Cutler, Steven J, and Cutler, Danielle A, to Cutler, Michael A, and Cutler, Pamela J.

\$306,000, 6 Condon Dr, Beers, Matthew M, and Beers, Rebecca, to Burdette, Troy G, and Piccirillo, Laura L.

\$15,000, Holmes St (off), Lacroix, Joseph W, and Lacroix, Susan M, to Bernier, Robert, and Bernier, Heather A.

WARREN

\$285,000, 114 Burbank Ave, Fountain& Sons Const Co, to Bostock, Lauren.

# WEST BROOKFIELD

\$315,000, 29 Moorings Way, Porter-Donahue, Carol, and Donahue, Kevin M, to Fiske, Anna R.



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> FRANK G. CHILINSKI PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE** Editor



Newsflash: it's cold. Our little neck of the woods here has finally hit frigid sub-zero temperatures. Folks may be running low on fuel, or even running empty, causing frozen pipes to burst. Fuel companies are scheduled two weeks out in some cases, and several customers are feeling stressed due to the financial burden this cold weather brings. Our only advice is to hold on tight and think about how toasty things will be when temperatures soar into the teens and low 20s again.

The winter solstice on Dec. 21 has passed. and the days are getting longer...and, we hope, sunnier. One perk to this post-New Year's time is that, well, the holidays are over. The hustle and bustle starts in late November and doesn't calm down until the week following New Year's. Is it overrated? Maybe. We hope you are all able to relax in the days ahead.

When weather hits sub-zero, it's hard to remember why we live here. We live in New England because winter, for the most part, is fun and manageable. We love our snow sports, the smell of wood stoves cranking and the beauty of the snow-capped mountains.

Some of you may think of our ancestors who had to cut chords of wood by hand all year long just to prepare for the harsh New England winters. Houses way back when had no insulation or the walls were stuffed with straw and mud. Common houses were much smaller, therefore easier to keep heated with one wood stove. The fireplace was the focal point of a colonial home and was the place where family members would talk and work on small projects during the evening. The average size of a house according to today's standards is about 2,600 square feet. A home of that size hundreds of years ago was often occupied by the wealthy, who were able to afford to put a wood stove in each room of the house. Children often slept in lofts where the heat would rise and often shared a bed with siblings, using body heat to keep warm.

In days of old, people used thick curtains and down comforters to keep the heat in. Before bedtime, many would use a bed warmer, which was a brass pan with a long handle that was filled with hot rocks. Foot warmers were popular as well. These lancy contraptions were made of a wood framed tin box also with heated rocks that would be placed by the feet under the comforter. This heating method was used for trips in the horse and buggy as well. Church goers would bring their own boxes of heat and blankets to keep warm during a Sunday service. Important to note is the fact that over the vears humans have increasingly adapted to warmer weather as a result of modern technology. Our ancestors were able to withstand much colder temperatures and remain more comfortable in colder temperatures than we do today. All of that aside, we are pretty lucky to have the conveniences we do during these cold blasts. Since winter is not nearly over, here are a few tips with regard to winter survival. Avoid frost bite and frost nip at all costs. When the water molecules in your skin cells freeze, they die. Once this happens, they can cause damage to your muscular and nervous systems. Exposed skin can develop frostbite within 30 minutes with winds of 10 mph and a temperature of -5 degrees. If you are outside and find your hands freezing, the warmest place for them to go is under your armpits, the warmest part of your body. Another culprit is hypothermia. When your body hits 95 degrees you're entering the danger zone. When your organs start to drop in temperature they begin to shut down. If you notice yourself shivering or lacking coordination, it's time to get warm fast. Other more severe symptoms include low energy, difficulty speaking, a weak pulse and the cessation of the shivers. It's important to stay well nourished during any time spent outside, as your body needs that energy to stay warm. Always have a Snickers bar or something similar handy just in case. Staying hydrated is a must as you need water to keep your nervous system running properly. One rule of thumb is to never eat snow while trying to survive in frigid temperatures. Your body will be forced to warm it from the inside which wastes energy and can cause hypoglycemia. Try to keep your heart rate up as cold temperatures cause your heart rate to decrease. A higher heart rate will generate heat within your body however be sure not to do so much that you start to sweat, cold and sweat are never a good combination. We hope none of you ever find yourselves in a situation where you need to implement any of the information above, however knowledge is power. Stay warm, summertime is just about six months away, where we will of course crank the air conditioning and complain about the heat and humidity.



# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Thank you for supporting Spencer's Mitten Tree

To the Editor:

We wish to extend our heartfelt thanks to the residents of Spencer for their generous donations to the Town Hall "Mitten Tree." Donations of hats, scarves, and warm mittens and gloves were collected during the holiday season and hung on our "Mitten Tree" in the rotunda of the Town Hall.

After the holiday season was done,

# Lying Biden

To the Editor:

We are seeing in our government what happens when you elect truly incompetent people. Instead of accepting the blame, they play the politics of deflection and deception. Blame big business, blame the last administration, and finally, blame the people themselves. Remember his campaign slogan "Truth over Lies?" We see now that practically everything out of this dummy is a lie.

Take, for example, the attack on the meat processing industry. Biden blames it on "price gouging" at the meat packers. Who is he trying to fool? When you force an industry to increase wages, pay their workers to stay home instead of work, impose higher levels of regulation, and increase their energy costs, what do you think they're going to do? They are going to increase the price of the product. This doddering fool gets trotted out by his socialist handlers and rails against the industry he has attacked economically. I think every thinking American knows the truth, except some of his brainwashed sheep.

Another example is the oil industry. Our high costs are directly related to his aggressive war on our oil industry. He claims that to fight climate change, we must get of fossil fuels. What he doesn't tell you is that by us using less oil, it will have zero impact. That's because of the deals China Joe and his handlers had made with their friend China. China is building a massive increase in electrical power plants fueled by dirty coal. These plants will increase the carbon monoxide two to three times todays levels. They will use this electricity to power their manufacturing plants to build poorly made solar panels that our government will force you to buy. Biden and Obama gave \$535 million of your tax money to a solar panel startup called Solyndra that promptly moved to China. Google it! Do you see any news investigations by the Washington Post

the donations are sorted and brought to the Spencer schools for the nurses to distribute. Although we did not count the donations, a minimum of 30 hats, 30 scarves and 30 mittens and gloves were collected. Thank you for all you do for the Town of Spencer

> TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE Spencer

or CNN on this? Of course not. Is anyone investigating if Obama or Biden's family are getting money? Of course not. That's how Democratic politics work. Enrichment at the expense of the people. So as China gets richer and pumps the air with pollutants, this dope of a president will rail at you and the companies.

The problem is, we have people with limited economic ability agreeing with this dope. Take brother Kimball. He claims that the oil industry workers are few and the Keystone pipeline a farce. He should go into the communities out there where these workers did their jobs. With their high paying jobs, their increased wealth from hard work was spread put. Restaurant workers fed them. Hotels and motels were at full capacity housing them. They paid taxes in these communities to hire teachers and police. Too bad socialists like brother Kimball don't see that government is not the solution. Governments are populated by lawyers and idealist radicals intent on seizing power and dominion over you. The smaller, the better.

And the biggest lie of all: "We will eradicate the virus." They all knew this was impossible, but it was a lie that could be used to control the uneducated voters. Any doctor or educated person knows we have never eliminated the flu or common colds. A virus can relocate and mutate faster than anything our big pharma can make. The only way forward is to live with it. Those with the strength and functioning immune systems will survive and pass this trait onward in their children. That, my friend, is the real science, and it's called "natural selection." An old guy named Charles Darwin taught us about it. He probably is cancelled out in our schools due to "Wokeism" because he was white and Christian.

# **Snow Facts** and Trivia



THE HINT KAREN TRAINOR

The Old Farmer's Almanac predicts frigid temperatures and overall average snow for the region this winter. However, the tried-and-true guide warns of more storms and snowfalls this month, and perhaps a big post Valentine's Day storm in February.

But this should come as no surprise to hardy New Englanders who have had plenty of practice battling Old Man Winter through the years. Hot on the heels of last week's snowstorm, this column will feature a roundup of informative and interesting snow facts and trivia: **Timeless "Snowisms"** 

Snow has always been a common topic of conversation for New Englanders, and in 1896 Hadley, MA native Clifton Johnson of nearby Hadley, MA, put together a volume of collected proverbs titled, "What They Say in New England - A Book of

Signs, Sayings and Superstitions." Read on for his entertaining musings on snow: \*If the breast-bones of the Thanksgiving chickens are light in color, there will be a

good deal of snow in the winter following. If the color is dark, there will be little snow.

\*If the snow on the roof melts off, the next storm will be rain. If it blows off, you can calculate on snow.

\*The day of the month on which the first snowstorm comes gives the number of storms you can expect in the following winter.

\*If the ice on the trees melts and runs off, the next storm will be rain. If it is cracked off by the wind, the storm that comes next will be snow.

\*Snow that comes in the old of the moon is apt to last. Snow that comes in the new of the moon is apt to melt quickly.

\*When it begins to snow, notice the size of the flakes. If they are very fine, the storm will be a long one; if large, the storm will soon be over.

### Snow or No?

Old New Englanders often used nature to predict whether or not a winter will be particularly snowy. Here are some exam

MARK ROBILLARD Spencer

# Have you lost the ability to listen?

### To the Editor:

A few weeks ago, the Leicester School Committee Chair finally decided to say something in response to the litany of problems and questions surrounding how the new assistant superintendent was hired, and how that process went. But instead of answering questions in a committee meeting, or even answering questions for a reporter who was asking them, his response came in the form of a letter to the Editor after he told a reporter for this paper 'no comment.' And instead of trying to address the clear public concerns regarding the process, let alone the questions surrounding the candidate at this point, his response seems to instead boil down to saying everyone is wrong and he's right.

I'm sorry, but when there is a lack of any seriously substantive information regarding the process, the school department continuing to stonewall on releasing records relating to this process, and the statements made by Matt Joseph that frankly make this whole process look incredibly dirty, then there's a reason that the public thinks that there's something wrong with the schools. And frankly, the few pittance documents that have been released so far do nothing to support Tom's statements in his letter, but helps undermine the assertions that this was all done the right way.

In files released to me for a request for records filed Sept. 18, 2021, there was an email from July 28, 2021 that frankly raise serious questions. Answers to which do short work of making the selection process look like a joke. How do you go about running through a selection committee meeting with no conversation during the meeting at all? And evidently, the only documentation that was passed around were index cards that some comments could be written on, and from where I sit jotting some notes on a piece of paper doesn't equate to

any sort of selection process. That's taking notes so you can refer to them later.

This issue and the others that are boiling right now frankly require answers. But the continued silence and obstruction on the part of the school are doing nothing to help, and only will end up making the inevitable backlash worse. Which brings me to another point. I was a student at Leicester High when Tom was the principal there, graduating in 2013. Admittedly, on a student level, you're not going to see every little thing, especially when you're just concerned with everything else. But up until I got involved, the only notable personal interaction I had with Tom Lauder was a good one. It may go back a way, but I'm going to assume Tom will read this. When you and Ms. Whitney were tossing around what to do for AP student t-shirts (I honestly can't even remember what year at this point), and I threw out "there's an app for that," frankly trying to be funny. But through me trying to get a laugh, I gave you both a good idea. That got put on the t-shirts that year, and I got one as a thank you. You are obviously capable of listening to people, so what happened to that? Was it just a useful suggestion you took advantage of, or did you somehow lose the ability to listen to the world around you and think critically between then and now?

I guess that when people don't know what you're doing, they can't either voice concern or oppose the actions you take. That's what all these questions and issues come back to. I'd say start doing more than giving lip service to the idea of transparency and honesty, but I'm not holding my breath given the track record. Right now, the obscurity is the only defense available in face of public pressure, but even that can't last forever.

> DYLAN LAMBERT LEICESTER

ples that are signs snow will be abundant:

Squirrels begin gathering food in September

\*Black bugs crawl about in the fall.

\*Hogs gather sticks, straw, to make a bed.

\*Birds eat up all the berries early

\*Birds huddle on the ground

\*Muskrat houses are built big.

\*Beaver lodges have more logs and the north side of a beaver dam is more covered with sticks.

\*Squirrels' tails grow bushier

\*Fur or hair on animals such as horses, sheep, mules, cows, and dogs is thicker than usual

\*Squirrels build nest low in trees.

\*An ant builds its hill high

\*Hornets and yellow jacket nests heavier

\*More than usual amount of caterpillars

\*Caterpillars have heavy coats

\*You see a caterpillar crawling before the first frost

\*Crows gather together

Know Your Snow: Are we having a storm? Maybe a squall? Perhaps a flurry? Here's help on ID-ing the white stuff:

Snowstorm: When large amounts of snow falls.

Flurry: Snow that falls for short durations and with varying intensity; flurries usually produce little accumulation.

Squall: A brief, but intense snowfall that greatly reduces visibility and which is often accompanied by strong winds.

Snowburst: Very intense shower of snow, often of short duration, that greatly restricts visibility and produces periods of rapid snow accumulation.

Blowing Snow: Airborne snow particles raised by the wind to moderate or great heights above the ground; the horizontal visibility at eye level is generally very poor.

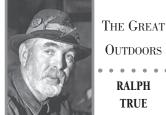
Drifting Snow: Snow on the ground that is blown by the wind to a height of less than 1.5 to 2 meters (5 to 6.5 feet) above the surface.

### **Resources**

\*The Weather Channel \*National Snow & Data Center

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House – Contest has resumed!

Your tips can win you a great three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be



OUTDOORS RALPH TRUE

### Man Winter arrived Old this past week, and made a lot of anglers very happy with the first safe ice of the season. Extreme caution needs to be practiced on the first ice of the season, as not all areas on a pond or lake are safe, or have the same thickness as others. It is best to check first ice with a chisel cutting a small hole in the ice as you navigate the pond or lake you are fishing to

ensure it is safe. Jig fishing is the most productive way to catch fish especially yellow perch. Cutting a few holes with an ice auger is a

# Old Man Winter brings safe ice

lot easier way to fish than chopping holes with an ice chisel.

Back in my younger days, very few anglers had a power auger to cut holes, and we had to chop holes in the ice before fishing. There were more anglers jigging through the ice than people using ice fishing tilts. There were many Swedish people from Worcester that only used homemade jig sticks and lures to catch fish.

The homemade fishing rods were called dead sticks, as no reel was attached to the stick. When a large fish was encountered, they would ask their fellow fishing buddy to cut the hole larger in order to land the fish. The fish was held with a small gaff under the ice until the hole was cut larger, enabling the fish to be brought threw the hole.

Because the fishermen would sometimes cut more than 100 holes a day, they would cut the holes very small, just large enough to bring a perch through. The Swedish fishermen also made their own fishing lures which were often made out of brass and lead. They were extremely well made and lasted for years if they were not lost to a big fish. The Meadow Pond in Whitinsville was a favorite pond to fish for perch, and anglers could catch as many as eight or ten perch from one hole. When the action stopped another hole was cut in an effort to stay with the school of perch. Cutting holes every few minutes kept the fishing hot. The Meadow pond is still a great pond to ice fish today providing an abundance of four- and five-pound bass annually, but fishermen need to keep the ice free of junk. If you bring it in, be sure to bring it out. More on ice fishing next week!

This past week, the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club lost a longtime member & friend Wilhelm Huber. "Willie," as most of us knew him by, was kitchen chairman for many years, but also worked daily to keep the club clean. The late Joan St. Andre, former board of health chairman, stated that the kitchen was the cleanest and most up to date that she had inspected annually, during Willie's tenure. The coffee pot

was always full with fresh hot coffee for members that attended the daily conversations at the club, as Willie often was the first to open the club at 4 a.m.! He loved the club and the members, and often made soup or some other form of food for members to eat. Because of failing health, his annual chicken soup was not available this year for deer hunter to enjoy after daily hunts . He will be sadly missed by all that knew him. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his family and friends. Funeral services will be private!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

# Make gardening your New Year's resolution



MOMENTS MELINDA **MYERS** 

GARDEN

The New Year is filled with resolutions that usually involve dieting and exercise. Gardening is a great way to help accomplish these two resolutions, while also improving your mood, reducing blood pressure, maintaining flexibility, burning calories and much more.

Resolve to grow your own vegetables and eat healthier in the New Year. Get your family and friends involved in planning ways to include gardening into your lives.

Explore ways to incorporate vegetables and herbs into your landscape. Vegetable gardens are not the only option. Tucking vegetables into flowerbeds, mixed borders and container gardens can expand your planting space. Look for new compact and colorful vegetable varieties that fit nicely into small spaces, planters, and ornamental gardens.

Take an inventory of any leftover seeds and make a list of those seeds and any plants you need to purchase. The earlier you order, the more likely you are to obtain the items on your list.

Don't wait to start your year of healthful gardening and eating habits. Start by growing microgreens in January. They are quick, easy and require no special equipment. Plus, recent research found that many contain as much as 25 times more nutrients than the leaves of the full-grown plant.

Organize a seed swap with family and friends in winter. It is a great way to extend your plant budget and experiment with new seeds. Turn old seeds that are no longer viable into artwork with sheets of paper or small pieces of wood, glue, and some creativity.

Start vegetable, herb, and flower seeds indoors in late winter through mid spring. Check the seed packet for timing and planting directions. Create a seed starting chart or mark planting dates on your calendar to ensure seeds get planted at the recommended time.

Monitor the weather and follow the recommended planting dates for sowing seeds directly in the garden and moving seedlings outdoors. Use homemade or DIY cloches, floating row covers and cold frames to jump start the season. These capture warmth near the plants for an earlier start in the garden. They can also be used to extend the end of the growing season.

Start removing weeds as soon they appear throughout the season. These unwanted plants compete with desirable plants for water and nutrients, and many are host to disease and insect pests. Pulling weeds is also a great way to reduce stress while improving the health and beauty of your garden beds.

Harvest flowers to enjoy in summer bouquets and arrangements. Pick a few extras to share with friends. Research has found immediate and long-lasting benefits generated from the gift of fresh flowers.

Pick vegetables regularly when they are at their peak for maximum productivity, flavor, and nutritional value. Share extra produce with family.



Photo Melinda Myers

Compact vegetable varieties can be tucked into ornamental container gardens if space is an issue.

friends, and the food insecure - many of which are children - in your community. Contact your local food bank, food pantry or Feeding America to donate garden fresh produce.

Cap off your efforts with a garden party. Invite fellow gardeners to bring a dish to share that incorporates homegrown vegetables. Share recipes, garden success stories, and begin planning for the season ahead.

For the recommended timing to do these and other gardening projects, check my monthly gardening checklists.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www. melindamvers.com.

# What should you know about investment risk?

When you invest, you incur risk there's no avoiding it. But the concept of "risk" may be more expansive than you realized. And by understanding the different types of investment risk and how these risks can be addressed, you can improve your skills as an investor.

The most common perception of investment risk is simply the risk of losing money. When you invest in stocks and stock-based vehicles, such as mutual funds, there are no guarantees that your principal – your initial investment amount - will be preserved. Generally speaking, if you hold stocks or mutual funds over a period of years, and even decades, you can reduce the likelihood of sustaining losses that could send your investments' value to zero. Hopefully, the value of your investments will rise over time. And it's worth noting that, since the Great Depression, U.S. stocks have averaged 9.59 percent annual returns, according to Morningstar Direct. an investment research service. However, past performance can't guarantee future results.

In any case, this type of risk is real, and it's a factor to consider when making your investment decisions. But you can't avoid all risk by avoiding stocks and putting your money into other types of investments.

Consider bonds, for example. When you purchase a bond, you typically receive regular interest payments and you get back your initial investment when the bond matures, provided the issuer doesn't default. But if interest rates go up and you want to sell your bond before it matures, you'll have to offer it at a "discount," because no one will pay the full price for your bond when they can buy new ones at a higher rate.

You can help manage this type of interest rate risk by owning a variety of bonds with different maturities. When interest rates are rising, you can reinvest your short-term bonds at the new, higher rates. And in a falling-rate envi-

ronment, you can still benefit from your longer-term FINANCIAL bonds, which typically pay Focus higher interest rates. Foreign or international TREVOR

NIELSON

investments also contain specific risks. When you purchase foreign stocks, you'll find that fluctua-

tions in the value of currencies relative to the U.S. dollar can affect your returns. Also, international investments may carry political risk, since some foreign governments and political systems may change in ways that work against businesses in those countries. To contain these types of risk, you'll want to maintain an appropriate allocation of international holdings and diversify across regions.

Ultimately, your most broad-based defense against all types of risk is to build a diversified portfolio containing U.S. stocks, international stocks, corporate bonds, mutual funds, government securities and other investments.

Diversification works because it helps reduce the impact that market volatility can have on your portfolio if you only own one type of asset, such as domestic stocks. (However, diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses.) And you'll also want your portfolio to reflect your individual tolerance for risk.

By being aware of the different types of risk, and taking steps to mitigate them, you can create a strategy that offers the potential to help you achieve your important goals, such as a comfortable retirement. And by doing so, you'll avoid the greatest risk of all: not investing for your future.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielsen, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielsen@edwardjones.com.



I spent the New Year celebrating with my girlfriend in a beautiful, small, old town in northwestern Illinois named Galena. We had a wonderful time.

Our dinner reservations were at the very historic Desoto Hotel, and to our surprise, nobody was there! People celebrated in the hotel outside of the restaurant, but the restaurant itself was empty. I asked the waitress, "where is everybody?", she responded, "A big winter storm is coming!"

After dinner, we walked down Main Street and commented on how calm the weather was. There wasn't a storm.

New Year's Day was

SPEAKING TOBY

sunny and cold. The weather was nice, so we decided to stay longer and visit some shops we hadn't seen. By mid-afternoon, the clouds rolled in, accompanied by heavy snowfall.

tioned us from driving home; we thanked her and explained how we had to get back home and go through the blizzard.

Ι felt confident; I'd driven through many snowstorms all over the nation. Ι

figured we could make it home in seven hours, moving slow. From the start, many times, I almost went off the road. Carefully, I pressed forward; every mile seemed to be more dangerous. I said to myself, "they will put salt on the roads; there will be snowplows..." But I saw no sign of a snowplow.

Suddenly I felt the car being pulled to the right. I turned to the left to steer the vehicle back on course, but I drove into a ditch four to six feet deep. The snow piled so high in the ditch, it appeared even with the road, and looked as if there was no ditch at all. Within a couple of seconds, my car was deep in a pile of snow.

My girlfriend was understandably upset. "It's no big deal!" I reassured her as I called AAA roadside assistance. To our surprise, the weather was so bad they shut down service for this part of the country; nobody was coming to save us.

The roads were empty. We were in the middle of nowhere with nothing but the heavy snow on a dark winter's night.

It's been such a mild winter this year, I didn't bring the proper clothes with me. I didn't have a

pair of gloves, a winter jacket, a stocking cap let alone a shovel. It was about 17 degrees, and there wasn't much I could do. I tried to calm my panicked girlfriend.

About 30 minutes later, we noticed a light in the distance. The light became brighter and brighter, and it turned out

Turn To MOORE page A17



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# **OBITUARIES**

# Jane L. Frew, 93

West Brookfield – Jane L. Frew, 93, of West Brookfield died peacefully on Wednesday, January 5, 2022 at Quaboag



Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center after a long battle with Alzheimer's. Jane's family would like to express their gratitude to Brookhaven Hospice for their support.

She leaves her son,

Michael H. Frew and his wife Betty of West Brookfield, her granddaughter, Monica L. Frew, her grandson, Gregory M. Frew and his wife Tanya; her sisters, Margaret Larson, Marion Moriarty and Bertha Nolan, as well as many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her husband of 70 years, Herbert A. Frew, Jr. in 2020, and also by her sisters, Catherine Miller and Eva Benson. Jane was born on September 19, 1928, daughter of the late John and Bertha (Gendron) Stone.

Jane was a bank teller for Worcester County National Bank/Shawmut Bank for over 20 years before retiring. She enjoyed spend-

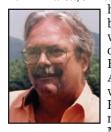
ing time with her grandchildren. Jane was a member

of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish.

A Funeral Mass for Jane was held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 11AM at Sacred Heart Church in West Brookfield. Calling hours were held prior to Mass from 9:30 to 10:30AM in Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 West Main Street in West Brookfield. Burial will be in the Spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish, P.O. Box 563, West Brookfield, MA 01585.

# Michael J. Fimian, 69

Michael J. Fimian, 69, formerly of Brookfield, MA passed away December 28 in Tulsa.OK after falling ill during



his cross-country RV bucket list trek. He was the oldest son of the late Walter J. Fimian, Jr. and Phyllis A. (Smith) Fimian. He was born in South Bend, Indiana and moved to Watertown, Mass as a young boy.

He was educated post high school at Boston College where he was awarded "Scholar of the College" upon graduation. He pursued a degree in Special Education and earned a Doctorate from University of Connecticut. He became interested in the computer world and taught himself all facets and eventually obtained a Doctorate in Instructional Technology in 1999, from Utah State University, in Logan Utah. His love of computers in education carried him into the field as a teacher and mentor to many. He worked at various universities and businesses in the field including Appalachian State University in Boone,NC; Becker College in Worcester, MA; and of late, Boston University, remotely while on the road.

In his younger years he enjoyed many happy times with his parents and brothers at their cottage in Manomet, on Cape Cod. Michael was an avid photographer and when not taking pictures of landscapes could most often be found at his son's sports events, camera in hand. Passing that love on to all of his children. He also enjoyed all sci-fi, spending many a movie night with daughter Kara. Michael loved his animals - many a cat trekked cross country in a U-Haul by his side when the weather too warm or cold to fly them. Also, the family dog Pook either curled up by him in the home office or on the couch in the evening. This love of animals shared by all the family, especially daughter Lauren.

Michael is survived by a son, Jesse M. Fimian, a Cadet at the Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO: daughter Kara C. Fimian, a teacher in Busan South Korea and daughter Lauren A. Fimian, a student in Radiology in Tulsa, OK; as well as his former wife Donna Fimian, of Brookfield, MA. Michael was predeceased by his sister-in-law, Cynthia J. Fimian. He also leaves his brothers, Paul F. Fimian and wife Carmella of Rockland, MA; Mark Fimian and wife Peggy of Hartfield, VA; John Fimian and wife Paula of Ansonia, CT and James Fimian and wife Linda of Watertown, MA as well as many wonderful nieces and nephews.

Thanks also goes to Interim Hospice of Tulsa, OK and especially "Tobi" Lylian Snoddy, who helped carry us the last mile.

Bless all. Your comforting words and remembrances have helped so much in this difficult time.

Family plans for a "Celebration of Life" Spring/Summer of 2022 due to covid, travel restrictions of those far away and the safety of all, to take place in Massachusetts.

# Janet Faye Boucher, 99

It is with great sadness we announce the passing of Janet Faye Boucher, beloved wife of the late Victor J.



Boucher Sr. of West Brookfield MA in her 99th year. Born in Sturbridge to Homer T. and Viola F. Smith on November 28, 1922. Behind her twinkling eyes was a vibrant woman full of class and wit. She

never forgot a birthday, anniversary or special occasion and took the time to write a personal note in each card, including this past Christmas. Janet was the loving mother of Sandra F. Coutu (Donald) and Victor E. Boucher (Brenda). Welcoming her in Heaven are her daughter, Lee Elaine Ryan 2013, and infant son Victor J. Boucher Jr. 1942. She was also predeceased by her sisters Helen Christiansen, Mary Smith, and brother Maurice Smith. To carry on the legacy of our beloved Matriarch and leader of our 5 generations are her granddaughters, Debra St. Laurent (Jerry), Nancy Pecore (Kenneth), and Tracey Abusamra , (John), and Kim Osborne (Paul). Great grandmother of Emilee and Sarah St.Laurent, Kelsey and Nicholas Pecore, Mikayla St.Germain (Timothy), Angela McGeary (Ryan), Jerrica Savoie, Ashley Padula, Lindsey Browning and Justin Savoie, who predeceased her. Great great grandmother of Elliot Savoie , Tyler McGeary, Adelaide Padula, Callon Browning and soon to arrive, Lucas St.Germain, who she would have met this upcoming March. Janet also leaves the Boucher clan, with many nieces, nephews, cousins and numerous loved ones. VictorandJanetweremarriedNewYear's Eve in 1941 at the Parsonage on Maple Street in Brookfield and would have celebrated their 80th anniversary last week. Janet was a long-time employee at Gavitt Wire and American Optical. For many years Vic and Janet were snowbirds in Florida and enjoyed many seasons camping in the Mohawk Trail region. Another great past time was at "The Camp" on Leadmine Road with the famous saying "Hold your tomatoes" When one loses their elder, a library is lost and volumes of wisdom and knowledge are gone. A special thanks to the amazing staff at Quaboag Nursing Home for the loving and compassionate care they showed Janet every day. Calling hours will be January 17, 2022 from 12-2pm at the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School Street Webster, MA. A graveside service will be held on Tuesday January 18, 2022, 11am at North Cemetery Maple Street, Sturbridge MA. on Covid-19 precautions are to be observed. Maskandhandsanitationwillberequired A guest book is available at www. shaw-majercik.com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Janet.

# Paul D. Lindsey, 76

Spencer- Paul D. Lindsey, 76, of Laliberte Lane, passed away on Wednesday, Jan. 5th, in UMass Memorial, Harrington, after a brief illness.



He leaves his beloved best friend and partner of 43 years, Alice Derosier; a son, David M. Brosnan of Leicester; two daughters, Kristen K. Lindsey of Brookfield and Kim E. Lindsey of Spencer; a

sister, Sandra Mathieu of Exeter, NH; Michael Derosier of Spencer who was like a son to him; his seven grandchildren, Eriq, Gavin, Emmett, Alex, Ethan, Amelia and Wyatt; and three great grandchildren. Paul was predeceased by two brothers, Jamie Lindsey and Thomas Lindsey; and two sisters, Linda Bouregard and Velma Lindsey.

He was born in Portsmouth, OH the

son of Louis and Betty (Hill) Lindsey. Paul graduated from Leicester high school and enlisted in the United States Air Force serving honorably during the Vietnam War. He worked as a distribu-



tion supervisor for the Telegram and Gazette for 25 years prior to retiring. Paul was a proud member of the NRA and the Wounded Warrior Project. He was a family man who loved spending time with his children and us with wis children and

grandchildren. He will be dearly missed. A graveside service and burial for

Paul in the Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton will be private and held at a later date. There are no calling hours.

Daniel T. Morrill Funeral Home, 130 Hamilton St., Southbridge is directing the arrangements.

www.morrillfuneralhome.com

# LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Service Provider Directory Contact June at 508-909-4062 Jsima@stonebridgepress.news



# www.StonebridgePress.com

To:

# **LEGALS**

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

Premises: 12 North Brookfield Road, Spencer, Massachusetts

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by John R Sherman Jr to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS), its successors and assigns, as nominee for Santander Bank, N. A., said mortgage dated September 5, 2014, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 52783 at Page 13 and now held by U.S. Bank Trust N.A., as Trustee of the Dwelling Series IV Trust by virtue of an assignment from U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Lodge Series IV Trust to U.S. Bank Trust N.A., as Trustee of the Dwelling Series IV Trust dated October 23, 2020 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 63794, Page 167, previously assigned by Santander Bank, N.A., to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, as Trustee of the Lodge Series IV Trust dated February 4, 2020 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 62095, Page 20, previously assigned by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. (MERS), its successors and assigns, as nominee for Santander Bank, N.A., its successors and assigns, to Santander Bank, N.A., dated January 16, 2015 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 53301, Page 11 for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, will be sold at Public Auction on February 9, 2022 at 11:00 AM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in said Spencer, with the buildings thereon, on the Northerly side of North Brookfield Road and being shown on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land in Spencer, Massachusetts owned by Joseph R. and Susan C. Foley, surveyed by John & Francis Dowgielewicz," dated November 1972, John W. Dowgielewicz, R.L.S., said plan being recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 379 Plan 35 bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point at an iron pin in the Northerly line of North Brookfield Road, said point being the Southeast corner of the tract herein described, as shown on said plan;

THENCE N. 81 degrees 22' W., 262.3 feet along the Northerly line of North Brookfield Road, partly along a stone wall, to a point;

THENCE N. 70 degrees 00' W., 296.9 feet still along the Northerly line of North Brookfield Road and partly along a stone wall, to a point at other land of the grantors;

THENCE N. 20 degrees 00' E., 76.7 feet along said other land of the granters to a point at an iron pin at a stone wall; THENCE N. 70 degrees 00' W., 87.9 feet along said wall along other land of the grantors to a point at an iron pin; THENCE N. 20 degrees 00' E., 633.0 feet partly along other land of the grantors to a point at an iron pin at a stone wall: THENCE S. 84 degrees 00' E., 242.0 feet along said stone wall to a point at a corner of walls; THENCE S. 5 degrees 03' W., 659.5 feet along said stone wall to a point at an iron pin at a corner of walls;

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT 21 SM 001127 ORDER OF NOTICE

Matthew LaBaire; Stacey Carmichael and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq): MidFirst Bank,

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Spencer, numbered 41 School Street, given by Matthew LaBaire and Stacey Carmichael to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Envoy Mortgage, LTD, its successors and assigns, dated October 14, 2016, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 58134, Page 148, and now held by plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of Servicemembers Civil Relief the Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before February 7, 2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on December 21, 2021. Attest: Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder

20-003269

January 14, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court

Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 Docket No. WO21P4211PM CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L.c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405 In the matter of:

Mildred Joan Rose Of: West Brookfield, MA RESPONDENT

(Person to be Protected/Minor) To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled C of West Brookfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Mildred Joan Rose is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Lisa Judkins of Sutton, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court. You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 01/25/2022. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITAT-ED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L.c. 190B, §5-304 In the matter of: Mildred Joan Rose Of: West Brookfield, MA RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled of West Brookfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Mildred Joan Rose is in need of a Guardian requesting that Lisa Judkins of Sutton, MA, (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that a protective order or appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 01/25/2022. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The abovenamed person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the abovenamed person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 27, 2021 Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate January 14, 2022

### THE TOWN OF EAST BROOKFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held Monday, January 24, 2022 at 7:15 p.m. in the Memorial Town Complex-Meeting Room, on the request from Andre Cormier for a permit to remove sand, loam and gravel from Rice Road and West Sturbridge Road in the Town of East Brookfield.

Land is owned by Escape Estates, Inc. All interested parties are invited to attend this meeting Board of Selectmen January 14, 2022

cer, Massachusetts on the Westerly side of the Paxton and Spencer Road and on the Southerly side of Marshall Street bounded and described as follows to wit: BEGINNING at the Southeasterly corner of the within described premises in the said Westerly line of Paxton and Spencer Road at land formerly of Maurice Barsky and now of Nelson Bros; THENCE N. 7 Degrees 30' E. fifty-six (56) feet to a point; THENCE N. 7 Degrees 30'W. sixty (60) feet to a point; THENCE N. 43 Degrees W one hundred forty (140) feet to corner of stone walls; the last three courses being along the said Westerly line of Paxton Spencer Road and on the said Southerly side of said Marshall Street; THENCE S 45 Degrees W. by other land of Maurice Barsky two hundred ninety (290) feet, more or less, to land of said Nelson Bros at a pine tree; THENCE S 87 Degrees E. by land of said Nelson Bros., three hundred ten (310) feet, more or less, to the point of beginning. Containing an area of one (1) acre, more or less, and being Lot #16 as shown on a revised plan dated September 2, 1952, made by Joseph Swartz, Civil Engineer. For title see deed in B. 17765, P. 153.

Subject to and with the benefit of easements, reservation, restrictions, and taking of record, if any, insofar as the same are now in force and applicable. In the event of any typographical error set forth herein in the legal description of the premises, the description as set forth and contained in the mortgage shall control by reference. Together with all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property and all easements, rights, appurtenances, rents, royalties, mineral, oil and gas rights and profits, water rights and stock and all fixtures now or hereafter a part of the property. All replacements and additions shall also be covered by this sale.

Terms of Sale: Said premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and assessments, tax sales, tax titles and other municipal liens and water or sewer liens and State or County transfer fees, if any there are, and TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) in cashier's or certified check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of the sale as a deposit and the balance in cashier's or certified check will be due in thirty (30) days, at the offices of Doonan, Graves & Longoria, LLC ("DG&L"), time being of the essence. The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale-date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The premises is to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, leases, tenancies, and rights of possession, building and zoning laws, encumbrances, condominium liens, if any and all other claim in the nature of liens, if any there be. In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by foreclosure deed to the second highest bidder, providing that said second highest bidder shall deposit with the Mortgagee's attorneys, the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein. If the second highest bidder declines to purchase the within described property, the Mortgagee reserves the right to purchase the within described property at the amount bid by the second highest bidder. The foreclosure deed and the consideration paid by the successful bidder shall be held in escrow by DG&L, (hereinafter called the "Escrow Agent") until the deed shall be released from escrow to the successful bidder at the same time as the consideration is released to the Mortgagee, whereupon all obligations of the Escrow Agent shall be deemed to have been properly fulfilled and the Escrow Agent shall be discharged. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale. U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Trustee of LSF10 Master Participation Trust By its Attorney DOONAN, GRAVES & LONGORIA, LLC, 100 Cummings Center, Suite 303C, Beverly, MA 01915 921-2670 www.dgandl.com (978) 55346 (RIEDLE) January 14, 2022 January 21, 2022 January 28, 2022

THENCE S. 83 degrees 46' E., 216.3 feet along said wall to a point at a corner of walls;

THENCE S. 8 degrees 23'W., 135.5 feet along said wall to the point of beginning. The description of the property that appears in the mortgage to be foreclosed shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. For Mortgagors' Title see deed dated August 26, 2014, and recorded in Book 52783 at Page 10 with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds.

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

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within sixty (60) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

BENDETT & MCHUGH, PC 270 Farmington Avenue Farmington, CT 06032 Attorney for U.S. Bank Trust N.A., as Trustee of the Dwelling Series IV Trust Present Holder of the Mortgage (860) 677-2868

January 7, 2022 January 14, 2022 January 21, 2022

### **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The abovenamed person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the abovenamed person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice

December 27, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate

January 14, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 Docket No. WO21P4210GD CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF

### Notice of Public Hearing Spencer, MA

Notice is hereby given under MGL Chapter 148, Section 13 that the Spencer Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on January 24, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. in the McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, on the application of Rajendrakumar Patel for the underground storage of 24,000 gallons of gasoline and diesel at 353 E. Main Street. Gary E. Woodbury – Chairman January 14, 2022

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

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Frank Riedle and Aline G. Riedle to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Countrywide Bank, FSB dated March 21, 2008, recorded at the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 42607, Page 288; said mortgage was then assigned to BAC Home Loans Servicing, LP f/k/a Countrywide Home Loans Servicing, LP by virtue of an assignment dated March 29, 2011, and recorded in Book 47288, Page 344; and further assigned to Green Tree Servicing, LLC by virtue of an assignment dated June 18, 2013, and recorded in Book 51147, Page 140; and further assigned to

U.S. Bank Trust, N.A., as Trustee for LSF10 Master Participation Trust by virtue of an assignment dated December 5, 2018, and recorded in Book 59879, Page 8; of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION at 12:00 PM on February 10, 2022, on the mortgaged premises. This property has the address of 76 Thompson Pond Road, Spencer, MA 01562. The entire mortgaged premises, all and singular, the premises as described in said mortgage:

A certain tract of land situated in Spen-

### Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, MGL c. 131, s. 40 and the Spencer Wetlands By-Law:

Robert Dirsa has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission for *Turn To* **LEGALS** page **A11** 

# News Briefs

# **Emily Caplette of East** Brookfield earns part time academic honors at SUNY

# Canton

CANTON, N.Y. - SUNY Canton recognizes Emily L. Caplette of East Brookfield for earning Part Time Honors during the fall 2021 Semester. Caplette is a SUNY Canton Graphic and Multimedia Design major.

The college created this award to recognize students who earned at least a 3.25 GPA in 6 to 11 credits of course work. It stands alongside the college's Dean's List and President's List as one of the top awards given for academic success at the college.

A complete list of all honor students also runs on www.canton.edu.

About SUNY Canton

As Northern New York's premier college for career-driven bachelor's and associate degrees, SUNY Canton delivers quality hands-on programs in engineering technology, management, and healthcare fields. It is home to the Center for Criminal Justice, Intelligence and Cybersecurity. Faculty members are noted for their professional real-world experience in addition to outstanding academic credentials. As SUNY's leader in online education, SUNY Canton OnLine offers hundreds of flexible and convenient courses as well as 23 online degree programs. The SUNY Canton Kangaroos 15 traditional athletic teams compete at the NCAA Division III level as part of the North Atlantic Conference. SUNY Canton also features varsity esports and cheerleading.

# Local students named to Stonehill Dean's List

EASTON - To qualify for the Dean'sList, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have completed successfully all courses for which they were registered. The following students have met these requirements for the Fall semester of 2021

Katheryn Stapel of Leicester Shelby Wessell of Rochdale About Stonehill College

Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 384-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for more than 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

# Charley Blair named to President's List at Plymouth **State University**

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire -Charley Blair of Leicester has been named to the Plymouth State University President's List for the Fall 2021 semester. To be named to the President's List. a student must achieve a grade point average of 3.7 or better for the Fall 2021 semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Blair is a Environmental Science & Policy major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learning produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development,

technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

# Alexander Demarski earns spot on Dean's List at Coastal **Carolina University**

CONWAY, S.C. - Nearly 2,500 undergraduate students at Coastal Carolina University were named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2021 semester, including Alexander Demarski, a Recreation and Sport Management major from East Brookfield.

Coastal Carolina University is a dynamic, public comprehensive liberal arts institution located in Conway, located just minutes from the resort area of Myrtle Beach, S.C.

CCU offers baccalaureate degrees in 95 major fields of study. Among the University's graduate-level programs are 27 master's degrees, two educational specialist degrees, and the doctorates in education and in marine science: coastal and marine systems science. CCU boasts a growing array of internship, research, and international opportunities for students, as well as numerous online programs through Coastal Online.

More than 10,400 students from across the country and around the world interact with a world-class faculty, and enjoy a nationally competitive NCAA I athletic program, an inspiring cultural calendar, and a tradition of community interaction that is fueled by more than 180 student clubs and organizations.

# Students named to University of Vermont Dean's List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — To be named to the dean's list, students must have a grade-point average of 3.0 or better and rank in the top 20 percent of their class in their respective college or school.

Nathan Norrie of North Brookfield (Biology major, College of Arts and Sciences)

of Shayna Minsk Spencer (Psychological Science major, College of Arts and Sciences)

About UVM

Since 1791, the University of Vermont has worked to move humankind forward. Committed to both research and teaching, UVM professors -- world-class researchers, scholars, and artists -bring their discoveries into the classroom and their students into the field. Located in Burlington, Vermont, one of the nation's most vibrant small cities and top college towns, UVM is a Public Ivy and top 100 national research university educating 10,700 undergraduate students, 1,627 graduate students, 776 certificate and non-degree students, and 478 M.D. students in the Larner College of Medicine.

# Mikayla Bokis of Spencer named to Lasell University dean's list

NEWTON — Mikayla Bokis, a Lasell University student from Spencer, was named to the dean's list for their academic performance in the fall 2021 semester.

Students who receive this honor have completed at least 12 credits as a full-time student and have achieved a semester GPA of 3.5 or higher.

For more information contact: Samantha Mocle, assistant director of communications at smocle@lasell. edu or at 617-243-2386.







- Full bar & full liquor license at our Leicester Location -~ Serving Beer & Wine at our West Brookfield Location ~ www.northeastpizza.com

the knot

BEST OF WEDDINGS

HALL OF FAME

\* 1. . . . .

Come on in for a

delicious meal!

Call For Reservations

TAKEOUT is available!

# LEGALS

continued from page A10

Aquatic plant management located at Burncoat Pond, Spencer, MA.

William Gribbons has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove a tree at 79 Wilson Avenue, Spencer, MA.

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held Spencer Conservation by the Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, January 26, 2022 at which time all persons having an interest may be present or call in remotely to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 6:15 p.m. Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman January 14, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court** Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608

LEGALS (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO21C0584CA **CITATION ON PETITION TO** CHANGE NAME In the matter of:

**Torey Lynn Downer** A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Torey Lynn Downer of Brookfield MA

requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Torey Lynn Mundell** 

# **IMPORTANT NOTICE**

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/25/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 28, 2021 Stephanie K. Fattman

January 14, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court** Worcester Probate and Family

Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO22P0010EA **CITATION ON PETITION FOR** FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate of: David E. Young Date of Death: 07/30/2021 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Adjudication of

Intestacy and Appointment of Public Administrator has been filed by Vincent A. Vilkas of Shrewsbury MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that Vincent A. Vilkas of Shrewsbury MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With Personal Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE** You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/01/2022.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

### UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

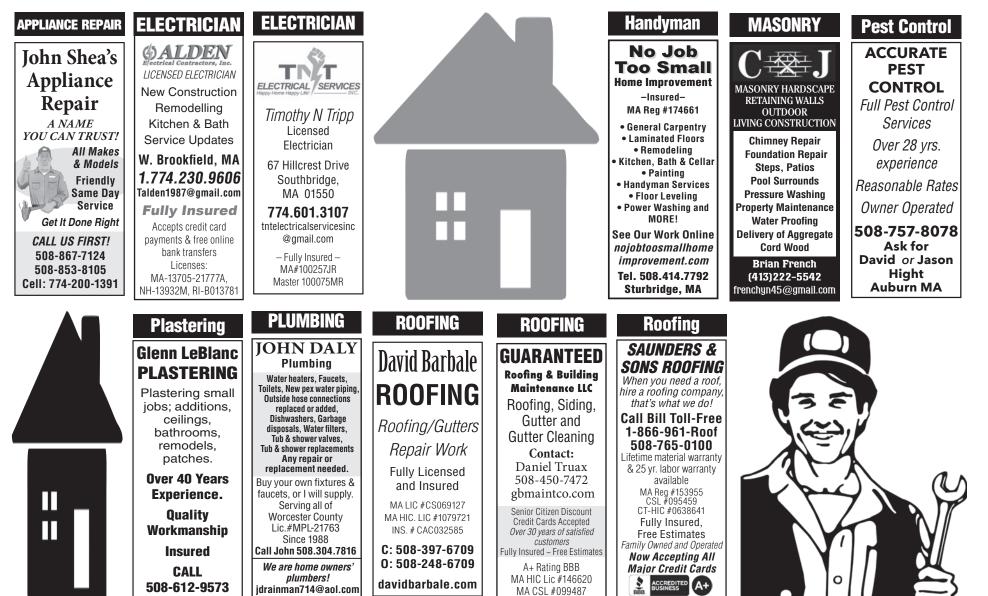
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

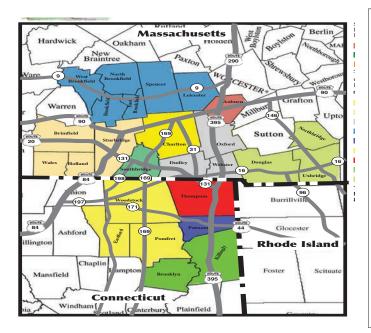
Date: January 05, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate January 14, 2022



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# POLICE REPORTS

# Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

12:16 a.m.: accident (Hebert Road), report taken; 12:32 a.m.: animal complaint (Lake Whittemore Drive), dead fox; 1:08 a.m.: parking viola-tion (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 1:40 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), father OOC; 2:06 a.m.: medical/general (Wilson Avenue); 7:36 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 7:47 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Maple Street), accidental; 8:50 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 10:29 a.m.: entire incident redacted from police log; 11:08 a.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), loose dog; 1:33 p.m.: suspicious mv (Greenville Street), investigated; 1:37 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), req. welfare check; 2:53 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Lake Whittemore Drive), services rendered; 3:33 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), misdial; 3:39 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 5:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Lambs Grove), req. escort/ retrieve belongings; 5:41 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 6:51 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:21-8:27 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:17 p.m.: disturbance (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 9:39 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops - 3).

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

12:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:19 a.m.: parking violation (Cherry Street), ticket issued; 12:23-12:27 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:55 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 1:03-2:21 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:23 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: retrieve belongings: 8:19 a.m.: parking complaint (Chestnut Street), services rendered; 9:07 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Ware PD bolo re: shooting; 9:13 a.m.: suspicious persons (Donnelly Road), mailboxes opened; 10:03 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: scam call; 10:53 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 11:15 a.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 11:38 a.m.: citizen complaint (Mechanic Street), chairs in parking spaces; 11:56 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: stolen truck; 1:02 p.m.: odor of gas (Holmes Street), referred; 3:14 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), services rendered; 3:53 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 4:19 p.m.: mv stop (Mechanic Street), Matthew J. Shemeth, 49, 137 Main Street, Spencer, OUI liquor, negligent operation, failure to yield, speeding, marked lanes violation, not in possession of license, arrest; 5:16 p.m.: accident (Route 9/49), report taken; 5:46 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), kids on bikes in lot; 7:43 p.m.: juvenile matter (Mechanic Street), kids harassing mvs; 8:26 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dogs; 9:16 p.m.: disturbance (McCormick Road),

checked, secure; 2:24 a.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), fight; 4:18 a.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 4:39 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 5:19 a.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), wrong-way driver; 6:56 a.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), noise complaint; 9:30 a.m.: mutual aid (Pleasant Street), Millbury PD req. check at residence; 9:35 a.m.: 911 call (Buteau Road), no contact; 9:46 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:22 a.m.: medical/ general (Maple Street); 12:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), trash container removed; 2:26 p.m.: officer wanted (Elm Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 5:33 p.m.: threats (Main Street), Danielle Mariam Wis, 31, 121 Main Street, Spencer, threatening to commit a crime, warrant, arrest; 6:00 p.m.: officer wanted (Lambs Grove), req. escort/retrieve paperwork; 7:28 p.m.: suspicious persons (Chestnut Street), investigated; 7:55 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), tailgating; 9:17 p.m.: officer wanted (Point Eastalee Drive), spoken to; (Total daily mv stops – 3).

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

12:22-12:59 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:08 a.m.: assault (Clark Street), male punched; 1:11 a.m.: RV complaint (Mechanic Street), investigated; 4:07-4:15 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:46 a.m.: residential alarm (Bemis Road), services rendered; 9:06 a.m.: suspicious persons (Maple Street), Alec J. Ramsey, 25, 27 Elm Street, Spencer, warrant/3, arrest; 9:09 a.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), loose dog; 9:24 a.m.: animal complaint (Meadow Road), dead animal: 10:24 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 12:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Lambs Grove), spoken to; 2:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), male exposed self/urinated on lawn; 2:27 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 2:28 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: landlord/neighbor issues; 3:41 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Charlton PD bolo; 3:46 p.m.: medical/general (Robin Road); 4:02 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 4:09 p.m.: accident (East Charlton Road), report taken; 3:56 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), b&e mv, watch missing; 6:06 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: watch purchased; 6:07 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 7:02 p.m.: harassing calls (Pleasant Street), multiple calls/upset customer; 8:07 p.m.: 911 call (Bay Path Road), services rendered; 8:35 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), info taken; 9:22 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 9:56 p.m.: mutual aid (Main Street), East Brookfield PD req. meet at residence; 10:18 p.m.: medical/ general (Mechanic Street); 10:53 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; (Total daily mv stops -0).

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

12:02-12:35 a.m.: buildings checked, secure: 1:02 a.m.: my stop (West Main Street), Cameron Vance-Panarelli, 28, 4 Winter Haven Drive, Webster, OUI negligent operation, marked liquor, lanes violation, arrest; 1:24 a.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), investigated; 3:16 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 5:21 a.m.: disturbance (Ash Street), domestic issue; 6:08 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:35 a.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 8:58 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), info taken; 9:45 a.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), family problem;

10:36 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 12:56 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 1:37 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 2:20 p.m.: restraining order service (Lake Whittemore Road); 2:32 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 3:07 p.m.: mutual aid (Town House Court), req. welfare check; 3:07 p.m.: threats (Cranberry Meadow Road), rep. hate crime; 3:11 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), student left school grounds; 3:37 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 5:39 p.m.: medical/ general (Main Street); 6:37 p.m.: 911 call (McCormick Road), accidental; 7:57 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 8:20 p.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), handicap violation; 9:33-9:34 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:38 p.m.: disturbance (High Street), son OOC/destroying things; 10:22 p.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 11:05 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; (Total daily mv stops - 2).

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

12:32 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), investigated; 12:50 a.m.: parking violation (Pleasant Street), warning issued: 1:03-1:11 a.m.: parking violations/3 (Mechanic, Church streets), tickets issued; 1:13 a.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), locked out by bf; 2:21-2:22 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:38 a.m.: medical/general (Pearl Street); 3:04 a.m.: building checked, secure; 3:06 a.m.: transportation (West Main Street), courtesy ride; 7:30 a.m.: residential fire (Lincoln Street), referred: 8:14 a.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), mv on sidewalk; 8:59 a.m.: medical/general (Jones Street); 9:40 a.m.: parking complaint (Casey Street), mv parked illegally; 9:49 a.m.: juvenile matter (Laliberte Lane), poss. wallet stolen; 10:13 a.m.: mv lockout (McDonald Street), assisted; 10:40 a.m.: 911 call (Howe Village), open line; 10:44 a.m.: sex offender registration information (West Main Street), req. list; 10:53 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), squirrels in wall; 11:15 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no dialysis at St. V 'til further notice; 11:19 a.m.: animal complaint (Cottage Street), charge by pit bull; 11:35 a.m.: animal complaint (Prospect Street), injured squirrel; 11:36 a.m.: medical/ general (Laliberte Lane); 1:25 p.m.: medical/general (Whittemore Court); 2:12 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet lost; 2:58 p.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), re: mv purchase; 3:03 p.m.: suspicious persons (Collier Circle), investigated; 3:14 p.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), no action required; 4:16 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), info taken; 4:33 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:59 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 5:23 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Irving Street), accidental; 6:39 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accident/mv vs deer; 7:48 p.m.: identity theft (Main Street), locked out of accounts; 8:28buildings chec 9:00 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), inquiry re: charges; 9:22 p.m.: officer wanted (Grove Street), req. welfare check; 10:09 p.m.: suspicious mv (Woodland Lane), investigated; 10:36 p.m.: suspicious mv (Wilson Avenue), spoken to; (Total daily mv stops - 4).

# Leicester Police THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

12:10 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), no action required; 12:19 a.m.: mv stop (McNeil Highway), verbal warning; 1:31 a.m.: ambulance (West Street), transported; 1:53 a.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 2:22 a.m.: suspicious person (Stafford Street), resolved; 2:32 a.m.: domestic disturbance (Towtaid Street), report taken; 8:37 a.m.: threats (Lake Avenue), resolved; 9:34 a.m.: disturbance (Lake Avenue), report taken: 9:52 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), referred; 11:39 a.m.: restraining order service (Marlboro Drive), unable to serve; 1:14 p.m.: domestic disturbance (Deer Pond Road), transported to hospital; 2:19 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 5:03 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), no action required; 5:15 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:47 p.m.: ambulance (Apricot Street, Worcester), transported; 5:56 p.m.: fraud (Breezy Green Road), report taken; 7:55 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 9:04 p.m.: investigation (Whipple Street, Worcester), services rendered; 10:19 p.m.: restraining order service (Marlboro Drive), served.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

1:11 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), transported to hospital; 9:18 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 10:03 a.m.: abandoned mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 10:26 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:36 a.m.: debris in road (Main Street), services rendered; 12:40 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:45 p.m.: suspicious activity (Soojians Drive), no action required; 12:45 p.m.: ambulance (Henshaw Street), transported; 12:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), no action required; 1:14 p.m.: fraud (Laurelwood Avenue), report taken; 1:25 p.m.: debris in road (Main Street), referred; 2:43 p.m.: malicious mischief (Gleason Way), report taken; 3:34 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:20 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 7:00 p.m.: ambulance (Rawson Street), transported; 7:43 p.m.: ambulance (Henshaw Street), transported; 7:53 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 11:49 p.m.: ambulance (Bottomly Avenue), transported.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

1:24 a.m.: ambulance (Mayflower Circle). transported: 2:27 a.m.: mutual aid (Mechanic Street, Spencer), resolved; 4:55 a.m.: mutual aid (Mechanic Street, Spencer), transported; 8:45 a.m.: ambulance (Howard Terrace), transported; 11:06 a.m.: suspicious person (Mannville Street), resolved; 11:34 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 11:42 a.m.: trespassing (Lake Avenue), spoken to; 4:20 p.m.: suspicious person (Paxton Street), services rendered; 4:40 p.m.: ambulance (Lakewood Street, Worcester), transported; 4:45 p.m.: open door/window (Winslow Avenue), investigated; 4:59 p.m.: debris in road (Main Street), services rendered; 5:50 p.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), transported to hospital; 6:02 p.m.: ambulance (South Main Street), transported; 6:58 p.m.: suspicious person (Huntoon Memorial Highway),

unwanted party: 10:03 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops -2)

### FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

1:09-1:49 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:56 a.m.: parking violation (Church Street), ticket issued; 1:57 a.m.: medical/general (Spring Street); 1:59-2:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:37 a.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), door open; 3:42-4:00 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:36 a.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), mv vs deer; 6:56 a.m.: 911 call (Buteau Road), no contact; 8:11 a.m.: medical/general (High Street); 9:41 a.m.: vandalism (McCormick Road), fields damaged; 9:51 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 10:39 a.m.: animal complaint (Valley Street), re: cat spaying; 11:04 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 11:29 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:07 p.m.: medical/ general (Laliberte Lane); 12:32 p.m.: fraud (Sullivan Street), re: funds taken; 12:34 p.m.: animal complaint (Route 49), injured eagle; 12:41 p.m.: disturbance (Kittredge Road), threats; 12:58 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), re: social media posts; 1:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), gas drive-off; 1:43 p.m.: officer wanted (High Street), req. welfare check; 2:10 p.m.: mv theft (Main Street), mv behind Country Inn; 2:18 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Greenville Street), referred; 3:01 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), re: harassment; 4:06 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 4:18 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), services rendered; 5:40 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), misdial; 6:03 p.m.: building checked, secure; 7:38 p.m.: 911 call (Bell Street), misdial; 8:01 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:22 p.m.: suspicious persons (Old East Charlton Road), investigated; 9:48-10:01 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

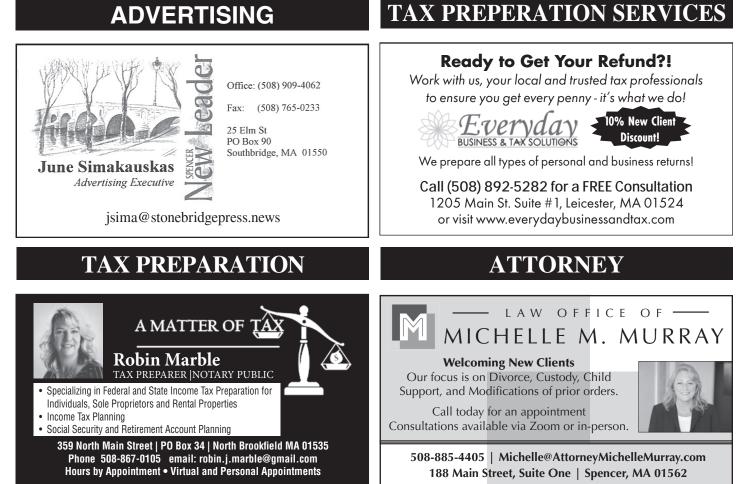
### SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

12:04 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:06 a.m.: fireworks complaint (Ash Street), neighbors; 12:21 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:22 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 12:31-12:38 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:41 a.m.: medical/ general (School Street); 12:44-1:21 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:36 a.m.: residential alarm (Garrette Lane), services rendered; 2:13 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:17 a.m.: suspicious persons (Chestnut Street), investigated; 2:21 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 2:21 a.m.: building ###

Turn To POLICE page A16

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place. Septic (2019), replacement windows, family and dining room, fresh paint throughout! Generator hook up, and updated Buderus boiler with holding tank. Garage



DEEP LOT. 14.875 SF/0.34 ACRE. 9 Rooms. 4 Bedrooms. 2 Baths

FHW/OIL. Garage! Lot is currently private with a mature tree line i

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Killdeer Circle! Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! \$650.000.



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nation! 3-Season Porch. 2nd Flr - 3 BRs. Reshingled Roof, Replacement

# WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



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6 Units: (1) bedroom units, Sided, Updated roof & electrical, Large storage barn, Town services 227 School St ~ \$525,000

# SZYMCZK SELLS



Dudley: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage, gas heat 17 Nelco Avenue ~ \$345.000

# Community vigils commemorate Capitol attacks



West Brookfield's Bill Pelletier attends the vigil.





Local children hold candles during the vigil.

# TENCZA

## continued from page A1

sial topics, residents continue to question why the assistant superintendent position was created this past summer by the school district immediately after eliminating its director of curriculum role. The final occupant of the latter position was Matthew Joseph, who told the New Leader he received conflicting messages from school leaders over the summer regarding his employment in Leicester.

Joseph is one of two former school employees who recently filed wrongful termination complaints against the district. Joseph also lodged an Open Meeting Law complaint against

the School Committee by Joel Hart, Tammy Tebo, and Dylan Lambert.

Residents have also called out school officials for their handling of the March 31 oil spill at the elementary school. An estimated 750 gallons of oil leaked during the incident. As of Sept. 30, the estimated cost of the incident is \$891,437.70, with an insurance coverage limit of \$500,000. The balance must be paid by the school department.

Several residents have accused school officials of lacking transparency when answering questions related to the oil incident. In their November letter, selectmen questioned school leaders on the matter.

Additionally, an online peti-

that school officials have focused **BRIDGES** on transparency in all matters. She referred residents to a number of documents posted online for answers to questions, including an FAQ document and the Superintendent's blog.

"The facts are out there. We answered the [Select Board's] questions so we would be transparent," said Superintendent Tencza in a previous interview.

In her Jan. 4 letter, the Superintendent informed faculty and staff that Lauder will be reaching out to administrators, educators, parents, and students to convey the qualities and qualifications that will be sought in the next superintendent.

able soon," Tencza wrote. "I look grip of COVID-19 is a major forward to continuing our work together through the end of the 2021-2022 school year."

# Local residents remember the tragic events of Jan. 6, 2021.

### continued from page A1

been welcoming and enthusiastic about the community," Bridges told the New Leader.

The most immediate project Bridges will focus on is the town budget, which will set the direction on many items over the next year. He also looks forward to meeting more residents and officials to learn about issues of importance.

"The other big thing is just listening to everyone and being a good partner in proj-ects," Bridges added.

Looking farther ahead, the "Further details will be avail-lengthy emergence from the emphasis for officials in every town. Bridges embraces the challenges of working

with fellow officials to provide leadership through challenging times.

Bridges is also committed to using ARPA funds effectively, as well as working with the school department, sewer department, selectmen, and other town staff members and elected officials to address their projects and goals.

"Coordination and focus will be key," Bridges said.

Outside of work, Bridges enjoys spending time with his family, riding motorcycles, kavaking, and playing golf.

Spencer officials thank William Ross, who stepped in again this past year to serve as Spencer's interim administrator for the second time in less than five years. Ross worked with Bridges to help facilitate his transition.

the School Committee. Additional Open Meeting Law complaints were filed against

tion was signed by 145 individuals expressing a no-confidence vote for Superintendent Tencza. The Superintendent maintains



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# SPORTS

# With game on the line, Wolverines persevere to beat Bartlett

### BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — Seeking their first game-playing win of the season, the Leicester High girls' varsity basketball team had the opportunity when playing at Bartlett High on Thursday, Jan. 6. With the game on the line, the Wolverines led the Indians by a score of 38-33 as play headed to the fourth and final quarter.

Leicester had close encounters leading up to the game with Bartlett, losing to Millbury High, Grafton High, Northbridge High and Blackstone Valley Tech by a combined 19 points, or less than five a game.

"Last time, we played BVT. We were up by 12 at half and lost by seven. That was an opportunity where we didn't know how to win yet, so it was nice going into halftime and fourth quarter with the lead...and we pulled it out," said first-year head coach Chris Barry, whose Wolverines took the fourth quarter by storm, outscoring the Indians 16-4 to take a 54-37 decision.

The Wolverines are actually 3-4, as they picked up technical victories over Southbridge High and Murdock High since those two schools cancelled their seasons. But this win meant a lot to Leicester, especially since they weren't equipped with their full roster.

"We've got a couple of girls out due to COVID, some of our starters, so we didn't really know what to expect coming into the day," explained Barry. "The girls who should do the good job did it. Ayva Connor stepped up in the fourth quarter, Sarah [O'Connor] made some shots, Jahmaira Pye played well [and] Sarah Brouillard played well at the end. It was really nice."

Connor tallied a team-high 14 points, scoring seven of those in the fourth quarter. O'Connor had 11 points, Pye 10, and Brouillard produced 9 points and a game-high 12 rebounds.

"We don't really have a go-to scorer.

# 

Nick Ethier photos

Leicester's Sarah O'Connor reaches up to haul in a pass thrown her way.

We have a lot of girls that can score 10 to 12 if they hit their shots and we move the ball, which we did a great job of doing tonight," said Barry.

Bartlett, meanwhile, is 4-3. Head coach Kashawn Hampton liked the way his team battled back in the second and third quarters after trailing 19-10 after the initial eight minutes. They won the second period, 9-8, and the third frame, 14-11, to make a game of it.

"We started to play aggressive defense. I think communication improved. I think that once we started to get into



Ayva Connor of Leicester launches a deep jump shot.

our groove we started to accomplish our plays," he explained.

Hampton noted that the Indians hadn't played in a couple of weeks and in the downtime have added new plays.

"We implemented some new stuff and I think that once we get that down I think we're going to be good," he said.

11:02 p.m.: mv alarm (Towtaid Street), services rendered. 11:31 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning.

TUESDAY, JANAURY 4

12:11 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Edwin Acosta, 22, 29 Cutler Street, #2, Worcester, failure to appear upon recognizance. arrest: 6:20 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:59 a.m.: accident (Laflash Lane), report taken; 9:46 a.m.: assist citizen (Main resolved; 12:58 p.m.: welfare Street), check (Cricklewood Drive), services rendered; 1:58 p.m.: animal complaint (Wendy Place), referred; 2:05 p.m.: ambulance (Henshaw Street), transported; 3:16 p.m.: larceny (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 4:08 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 5:06 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 5:18 p.m.: ambulance (Crestwood Road), transported; 5:26 p.m.: restraining order service (Shelter Ridge Road), unable to serve; 7:16 p.m.: restraining order service (Shelter Ridge Road), served; 7:19 p.m.: welfare check (Marshall Street), resolved; 9:09 p.m.: mutual aid (Park Avenue, Worcester), transported; 11:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:55 p.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), spoken to.



Leicester's Molly Ledbetter releases a pass across the court.

Tiffany Salazar led Bartlett with 19 points, including five 3-pointers, while Camden Heenan chipped in 9 points.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

12:12 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), my towed: 1:05 a.m.: my stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:35 a.m.: ambulance (Burncoat Lane), transported; 6:43 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 7:38 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken: 9:02 a.m.: disabled my (Bond Street), services rendered; 9:18 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), services rendered; 9:21 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street, Oxford), transport ed: 9:36 a.m.: welfare check (Oakwood Lane), services rendered; 10:14 a.m.: ambulance (Pine Avenue), transported; 10:48 a.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), resolved; 12:22 p.m.: summons service (Henshaw Street), unable to serve; 12:53 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 2:34 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 4:36 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning: 5:39 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 6:25 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 7:12 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 7:15 p.m.: ambulance (Crestwood Road), transported; 7:43 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), report taken; 8:11 p.m.: harass-

# POLICE

### continued from page A13

unable to locate; 7:50 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:33 p.m.: welfare check (South Street Extension), services rendered; 8:55 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street, Worcester), Jose Anibal Perez-Delgado, 38, 2 Preston Street, #3, Worcester, op w/suspended license, straight warrant, mv towed, lance (Fruit Street, Worcester), transported; 8:45 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), no action required; 10:26 p.m.: ambulance (Mechanic Street, Spencer), transported.

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

1:54 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), no action required; 2:56 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 3:32 a.m.: ambulance (Lake Avenue), transported; 3:51 a.m.: assist citizen (Carleton Road), resolved; 4:13 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 4:49 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:23 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:42 a.m.: ambulance (Deer Pond Road), transported; 11:05 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street, Worcester), transported; 12:31 p.m.: ambulance (Hammond Street), transported; 12:53 p.m.: assist citizen (Lake Avenue); 2:26 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 3:15 p.m.: welfare check (Mayflower Circle), resolved; 3:22 p.m.: disturbance (Soojians Drive), resolved; 5:56 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:59 p.m.: ambulance (Young Street, Worcester), transported; 8:06 p.m.: ambulance (Waite Street), transported; 10:23 p.m.: suspicious person (Peter Salem Road), unable to locate;

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

12:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:33 a.m.: property found (Stafford Street), resolved; 1:56 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:02 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:22 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 2:24 a.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), resolved; 9:52 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), services rendered; 11:25 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unfounded; 12:03 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 3:26 p.m.: welfare check (Charlton, no street address recorded in police log), no action required; 5:24 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 5:42 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 5:53 p.m.: disturbance (South Main Street), resolved; 6:25 p.m.: ambu-

ment (Mannville Street), spoken to. # # #



# SPORTS Entire roster contributes for Warriors, who upend Auburn

### BY NICK ETHIER SPORTS EDITOR

STURBRIDGE — Just by looking at the game day rosters, one could tell that the Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity basketball team had more depth than Auburn High when the two met on Monday, Jan. 3. The Warriors were equipped with 15 players, while the Rockets dressed 10.

And that depth showed from the opening tip until the final buzzer, as 12 Tantasqua players scored at least one basket, whereas Auburn was limited to five players scoring. The Warriors continued to wear the Rockets down and won a 57-29 decision.

"That's one of our weapons, is that we have 10 kids that can play," said Tantasqua head coach Tony Giuggio. "So, we just keep running numbers at people. That's why we press and run."

The Warriors' full-court press was particularly effective in the second quarter. After winning the first frame by a 16-12 count, Tantasqua pulled away by taking the second quarter 18-4 to lead by 18 points (34-16) at the half. A certain sequence saw Auburn inbound the ball, the Warriors create a turnover on the press, and Gabby Scanlon can a 3-pointer. Another press and turnover immediately followed, and Dayna Lorenz finished off a floater. In fact, Tantasqua went on a 13-0 run until 2:38 remained in the quarter when Hanorah Murphy of the Rockets made a free throw.

"In the second quarter we switched our press. We had a little bit more energy, we turned them over and we got easier baskets," Giuggio explained.

Auburn head coach Nicole Pingitore was pleased with her team's first quarter performance before things went downhill.

"I was happy with how we played in the first quarter. I told them to be excited for themselves," she said. "I feel like we were handling [the Tantasqua press] in the first quarter and then all of a sudden I'm not really sure what changed. In



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua's Dayna Lorenz surveys the court and looks for a teammate to pass the ball to.

the second quarter we got more nervous with the ball in our hands.

"What was hardest to take was they were getting layups," Pingitore continued. "They were getting easy buckets underneath. And that's something defensively we've got to work on."

Giuggio liked how his team's offensive possessions usually saw all five players on the court touching the ball until a teammate became open.

"We have eight or nine kids that can score, so we don't want one person handling the ball. We want to move the ball and get open shots," he said.

The Warriors then limited Auburn to 13 points in the second half. They also limited the scoring of Murphy, who finished with a game-high 19 but saw 10 of those points drop in the opening eight minutes.

"Our whole thing was don't let her score. If she gives up the ball, don't let her get it Tantasqua's Sophie Law dishes a pass up and over the reach of an Auburn defender.

back," said Giuggio, whose team improved to 4-0.

With Murphy scoring 66 percent of the Rockets' points, Pingitore is hoping for more optimism from the remaining players when clutching the basketball.

"It comes from a place of confidence. [Murphy's] such an unselfish player even though she's our leading scorer. Her teammates constantly look to her to score. And I want them to have confidence that [Murphy] believes in them that they can score if she passes the ball to them," said Pingitore.

Auburn, now 2-3, saw Isabella Doyle score 4 points and add a game-high 12 rebounds.

Sophie Law (11), Lorenz (9) and Nicole Vejack (7) were Tantasqua's leading point producers.



Lizzy Thompson of Tantasqua stops in the paint and releases a jump shot.



# MOORE continued from page A7

to be a big white pickup truck. The driver slowly pulled up and shouted, "Do you need help?" My girlfriend noticed I was playing it cool, so before I could answer, she was yelling, "Yes! Help us, please!"

After about 15 minutes of shoveling and clearing snow out from under my car, he found where he could hook a chain and try to pull us out. Within 30 seconds, my car was pulled right out of the snow and back on the road.

My girlfriend jumped out of the car, and we both thanked him profusely. I didn't have any cash on me; all I had was

# TRAINOR

continued from page A6

entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best a bottle of wine leftover from the New Year celebration. I insisted he take it; we also offered to send him cash through an online app, but he refused. He helped us simply because we needed help.

As we drove home, my girlfriend cried tears of joy. We were blown away by his kind nature and how willing he was to help. We talked about it the whole way home.

Last week, I wrote about how one of my new year resolutions was to help people more. This man who helped us left a significant impact on me. People need help sometimes. It meant so much to us that he took the time to help while his family waited patiently in the car. I want to say thank you again, kind stranger.

## helpful hints!

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

# BICENTENNIAL

continued from page **A1** 

Londergan, who will present on April 16 at 9:30 a.m. at Town Hall. "While it is the youngest town in the state, there's an incredible amount of history in the area which people genuinely value and appreciate. Being able to present a couple of those aspects of history is great, and I look forward to sharing the information."

Families will want to mark May 14 on their calendars, as Timberyard Brewery will host a 7K Run and Fun Walk. The event will begin at 10 a.m. The cost is \$30 for adults and \$15 for kids. On June 4, a History and Dessert program will take place at Podunk Chapel. Seatings will be held at 2 and 3:30 p.m. The cost is \$5 per person.

The summer months will be filled with outdoor activities, additional historical talks, and several musical events. Officials are also looking forward to the return of the town's Independence Day celebration on July 9

A parade and family fun event will take place on Sept. 17 at Connie Mack Field. The free program is set for 9:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. The rain date is Sept. 18. tion will conclude in December with several programs, including the Light the Town celebration; a decorating contest; and the town tree lighting.

Residents are reminded that the East Brookfield Historical Museum and the Quaboag Valley Railroaders' Display are open on the second Saturday of each month from noon to 2 p.m. in the Hodgkins Building.

A full schedule of event dates, times, and venues will be posted in several locations, including the New Leader. Keep an eye out for activities of interest to you and your family.

The yearlong celebra-



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