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Sen. Anne Gobi celebrates with the RapsCALLION Brewery team.

Photos Kevin Flanders

RapsCALLION Brewery celebrates relocation

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Relocation has been a long journey filled with challenges, but the RapsCALLION Brewery team recently celebrated the end of the process by showing off its Meadow Road facility to the community.

At the first ever Brew Day in its new home, the RapsCALLION team welcomed guests on July 2 to its newly renovated 8 Meadow Rd. brewery and taproom. Guests included Sen. Anne Gobi, State Representatives Peter Durant

and Donald Berthiaume, Selectman Tony Pepe, and several other community members.

Cedric Daniel, who co-owns the business, was thrilled to welcome guests and meet community members. The brewery and taproom relocated to Spencer in December after a lengthy run in Sturbridge.

“It’s a huge day for us,” said Daniel, the brewery’s fourth owner, who accepted proclamations from the State House celebrating his business.

The new location, a former garage and equipment office,

allows the brewery to expand its operations and business model.

“We wanted to have a production facility that we owned,” said Jonas Noble, the head brewer and operations manager with RapsCALLION, in a previous interview.

The process of brewing signature products is far more involved and time-consuming than many might assume. The fermentation process can last between a week and 14 days, and the finished product takes

Please Read **RAPSCALLION**, page **A15**

Brookfield residents file suit against planning board

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD – In a recently filed lawsuit, multiple residents are accusing the Planning Board of rigging a special permit vote during executive session in April.

The complaint was filed after the Planning Board’s April 29 decision to grant a special permit to Jeff Tasse, of TCP Realty, LLC. The permit allows Tasse to install bulk propane tanks and build a pellet storage facility and truck depot at 14 Post Rd.

The property is located at the town center, approximately 400 feet from the elementary school. The property is within 100 feet of some residences.

Plaintiffs in the suit include Patricia and John Washburn; Roland and Diane Blais; and Donald Parker. Defendants include Planning Board members Sharon Mahoney, Kevin Erkkila, Adam Jolicoeur, John David Holdcraft, Russell Phaneuf, and Jeffrey King.

Defendants Mahoney, Erkkila, Jolicoeur, Holdcraft, Phaneuf, and King were members of the Planning Board during the April 29 decision. Jolicoeur has since become a selectman in addition to his role on the Planning Board.

Tasse and the Town of Brookfield Planning Board are also listed as defendants.

Tasse was initially denied a special permit by the Planning Board in May 2020. Tasse appealed the denial to Land Court on June 3, 2020.

In the following months, Tasse and the Planning Board negotiated a settlement that allowed another open hearing and vote on the special permit to take place. On Feb. 25, the board voted 3-0 in favor of the special permit, with one abstention and one recusal. However, four affirmative votes were needed to secure the permit, which was denied again for this reason.

Tasse appealed the second denial of the special permit to Land Court. After reaching another settlement with the Planning Board, a third hearing and vote were scheduled.

A vote occurred on April 29 after another public hearing on the special permit. This time, the four affirmative votes needed to secure the permit were received, but plaintiffs allege the process was fraught with collusion and conflicts of interest.

“The Town of Brookfield

Please Read **LAWSUIT**, page **A11**

North Brookfield school officials continue to study regionalization

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – School officials continue to evaluate the possibility of regionalization, but they recognize the next steps in the process will be lengthy and complex.

To assist with its evaluation process, the district received a \$32,890 state grant for consultant work and studies. North Brookfield’s Regionalization Study Committee began meeting in Feb. 2020. The committee includes Superintendent Richard Lind, School Committee members, school staff members, parents, community members, Selectman Jason Petraitis, and Finance Committee members.

Over the last year-plus, the Study Committee met with the superintendents of

area school districts to begin the regionalization evaluation process. Some districts were quickly eliminated as potential partners, while others were identified for further analysis. The Study Committee also hired The Management Solution as the consultant to assist with the project.

“They worked with us to gather the information we needed, and ultimately they produced a final report,” read a statement released by the committee.

The report looked at five major areas, including academics; quality of programs and services; technology; physical venue; and fiscal issues. The Study Committee and the consultants used sur-

Please Read **NB SCHOOLS**, page **A11**

LITTLE LEAGUE GRATEFUL FOR SUPPORT



Photo Courtesy

The Spencer East Brookfield Little League would like to thank Webster First Federal Credit Union for coming to the aid and funding the repairs to our concession stand. Without their help, the league would have had a very difficult time recovering in time for the start of our season. A little league season without the smell of popcorn and hot dogs in the stands would have been a disappointment for the 180 kids and parents that attend our games. From the Spencer East Brookfield Board of Directors: Thank you for helping to support our Little League!

Spencer police warn seniors against scams

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Police deal with scams on a daily basis, but in recent years, they’ve noticed an increase in the complexity and scope of scam efforts.

One of the most recent scams brought to the SPD’s attention involves Medicare. Police continue to warn residents about the deceptive practices scammers are using to ensnare

victims, especially seniors.

“To say these types of calls are commonplace would be an understatement,” read a statement released by the SPD. “Prosecution of the perpetrators who make these calls range from very difficult to impossible, as most of these originate from outside the country or well outside the Spencer Police Department’s jurisdiction.”

The best way to help residents combat scammers is

through education, police said. The SPD recently posted on social media a list of current scams in our area. These scams also appear on the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners Web site: www.acfe.com.

According to research conducted by the Stanford Center on Longevity and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority’s Investor Education Foundation, individuals over the age of 65 are most likely to

lose money due to a financial scam.

“To help the elderly avoid becoming victims of fraud scams, it is important to understand why they are targets, what schemes and tactics are commonly used against them, and how these schemes affect them,” read the statement released by the SPD.

Most fraud schemes used to be limited to the phone and door-to-door advertisements,

but over the last decade scammers have employed increasingly convincing emails and texts to deceive victims. Several scams entice victims by mentioning credit cards, sweepstakes or contests, charities, health products, magazines, home improvements, equity skimming, investments, banking or wire transfers, and insurance.

Please Read **SCAMS**, page **A15**

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Nichols names IWL after Engelkemeyer

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY – The Institute for Women’s Leadership at Nichols College will have a familiar name forever attached to it with the announcement by the college’s Board of Trustees that the IWL will be named in honor of now-retired Nichols president Susan Engelkemeyer.

The college made the announcement on June 28 also announcing \$400,000 contributed to the endowment for the Institute by the trustees. Engelkemeyer, who joined Nichols College in 2011, was a driving force in the creating of the IWL in 2013 after reading an article about the gender wage gap in the workforce. Today the Institute helps foster career opportunities for women in business and, with the help of Professor Jean Beaupre, produces the Massachusetts Women’s Leadership Index every two years.

“The Institute for Women’s Leadership is an integral part of the Nichols College mission to develop prepared, confident and ethical leaders of tomorrow,” said President Engelkemeyer in a statement released by the college. “Our students –

both female and male – benefit from the Institute’s efforts to foster awareness of gender inequality and to affect change at the personal and institutional levels. I am proud that my name will continue to be associated with this important work and truly thank the Board of Trustees for this honor.”

Board of Trustees Chair John H. Davis said that President Engelkemeyer was part of a decade of growth and improvement for the school. Naming the IWL in her honor was a special way for the Board to cement her legacy on campus and beyond.

“Nichols has come a long way in the past 10 years with Susan’s steady hand at the helm. She has navigated the college through tough waters and positioned us for even greater success,” said Davis in a statement. “Susan has been a model leader and an inspiration to our students. We are excited that the IWL, one of her crowning achievements, will reflect and honor that legacy.”

Under Engelkemeyer’s presidency, Nichols college saw growth in enrollment, student retention, graduation rates, endowments, and the largest fundraising campaign in the colleges



Susan Engelkemeyer

200-year history with the Bicentennial Campaign topping off at over \$66 million. Engelkemeyer oversaw her final graduation in May before officially retiring from the school.

Spencer to elect delegates to Democratic state convention

SPENCER — Registered Democrats in Spencer will hold a caucus on July 15 at 7 p.m. via Zoom to elect Delegates and Alternates to the 2021 Massachusetts Democratic State Convention. The caucus will take place virtually. Democrats

who wish to participate virtually may register at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82865796289?pwd=bGJxNy9DRm8zSnVqd3o1b05xNmduMjU0>.

This year’s state convention will be held on September 25th in Lowell,

where Democrats from across the state will come together to adopt a Party platform, discuss Party business and celebrate our successes as we prepare for upcoming elections. The event will take place in-line with all federal, state and local health guidelines and will include a virtual option for participation.

The caucus is open to all registered and pre-registered Democrats in Spencer. Pre-registered Democrats who will be 16 by June 15 will be allowed to participate and run as a Delegate or Alternate. Spencer can elect four Delegates and four Alternates to the Convention.

Youth, minorities, people with disabilities, and LGBTQ+ individuals who are not elected as a Delegate or Alternate may apply to be an Add-on Delegate at the caucus or at www.mass-dems.org by Aug. 6.

Those interested in getting involved with the Spencer Democratic Town Committee should contact William Shemeth at (508) 885-2485 or visit our Web site at www.spencer-democrats.org.

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DA’s CIMS program generates encouraging results

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., and his team continue to see encouraging local response metrics in the opioid crisis. Launched in March 2020, the DA’s Critical Incident Management System (CIMS) was used by police departments in all 60 Worcester County cities and towns over the last year to collect overdose data and offer services to overdose victims. Response visits made to victims were performed by a plainclothes police officer and a recovery coach, usually within 48 hours of an overdose incident. In the last year, more than half of all residents who were offered services following an overdose accepted treatment as part of the CIMS program. “These are encouraging numbers,” Early said. “It was a challenging year to launch this program with the roadblocks presented by the COVID-19 pandemic.

These numbers are a promising start. Any time we can help even one person get access to treatment is a life that is being saved.” The District Attorney’s Office purchased the CIMS software for \$40,000, using drug forfeiture funds in 2019. The implementation of CIMS represented a partnership between the District Attorney’s Office, local police departments, and municipalities. The CIMS software works by collecting and processing data on overdose victims to enable officials to better provide assistance. The goal is to help people recover, not prosecute them, officials said. “By getting the names of the folks who’ve had the non-fatal overdoses, and by giving the opportunity for the follow-up – what you’ve done is open the door,” said Worcester City Manager Edward Augustus, Jr. “You’ve made the connection. You’ve provided an opportunity for that person when they’re ready to take advantage of the

treatment options that are available to them.” CIMS also allows police departments to share information. That way, when a person overdoses outside of their hometown, they are still able to receive a follow-up visit. “Addiction has no jurisdictional boundaries,” said Fitchburg Police Chief Ernest Martineau, the former president of the Central Mass. Chiefs of Police Association. “When there’s no boundary for that, there can be no boundary for helping people. And that’s what this does. It connects 60 cities’ and towns’ police departments in responding and helping.” Added Webster Police Chief Michael Shaw, “The beauty of CIMS coming on board is now we have a centralized database that’s tracking, and we get an alert when we have to go offer up services. And the other thing that we were missing was when people were outside of Webster having an overdose, we never knew. Now, with CIMS, we

can follow up with them. It’s a really integral part of getting these people the help they need.” Webster’s responses to those in need has been assisted by a partnership with Opening the Word Recovery Center, run by Rev. Janice Ford. Opened in June 2020, the facility has served more than 2,000 people. The Spencer Police Department has also enjoyed its experience with the CIMS program. “We are tracking these individuals who would have fallen through the cracks in the past,” said Spencer PD Chief David Darrin. Although the CIMS response data is pointed in the right direction, officials know there is much more work to be done. In the fall of 2020, the District Attorney’s office was awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance to fund recovery coaches that will respond with police to follow up and offer services after an overdose.

Richard Sugden Library announces July programming for adults & teens

SPENCER — The Richard Sugden Library invites adults to join us Monday July 12 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. for a free concert: Great Songs from Great Movies with David Polansky. This trumpet concert is a musical journey made up of many of America’s favorite Broadway hits over an almost sixty-year period from 1921 to 1978. To be held at the First

Congregational Church of Spencer (207 Main St.). The church has plenty of space to social distance and has exceptional acoustics. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, the Richard Sugden Library

(Spencer), and the First Congregational Church of Spencer.

Easy Listening with Dan Kerouac on keyboard is being presented by the Richard Sugden Library. Adults are invited to join us Thursday, July 15 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. This free concert will include familiar singalong songs (1959 - 1974). The concert will be held at the Isaac L. Prouty Memorial Park (Main Street, Spencer), located next to the Congregational Church. Rain venue: Congregational Church (207 Main St.).

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, the Richard Sugden Library (Spencer), and the Spencer Fish & Game. Questions? Contact the Library at 508-885-7513 or rslibraryma@gmail.com.

Wing Masters: North American Live Birds of Prey is being held Monday, July 19. The Richard Sugden Library, Spencer, invites Teens and Adults from 7 - 8 p.m. The program will be held at the Spencer Fish & Game Pavilion (155 Mechanic St.).

This program is supported in part by a grant from Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, the Richard Sugden Library (Spencer), and the Spencer Fish & Game. Questions? Contact the Library at 508-885-7513 or rslibraryma@gmail.com.

The Promise is Hope with Ash & Eric Esperance are performing a free concert. The Richard Sugden Library, Spencer, invites adults to attend Monday, July 26 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. This folk duo will entertain us with acoustic guitars, beautiful harmonies,

and more. The concert will be held at the Isaac L. Prouty Memorial Park (Main Street). Rain: Congregational Church.

This program is supported in part by a grant from Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, the Richard Sugden Library (Spencer), and the First Congregational Church of Spencer.

Sip & Paint with the Richard Sugden Library. Adults are invited to a Slate Painting Class, Thursday, July 29 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Create a beautiful painting on a slate roof tile. Bring your own design/stencil, be spontaneous, or use Leslie’s stencils. Each participant will receive a nine and a half by 16 inch slate with 2 pre-drilled holes for hanging vertically. The program will be held at the Gaudette-Kirk Post 138 American Legion (175 Main St., Spencer). Cash only bar. Signup is required. To register sign up online at www.spencerpubliclibrary.org or visit or call the library at (508) 885-7513, ext. 1.

This program is supported in part by a grant from Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, the Richard Sugden Library (Spencer), and the Gaudette-Kirk Post 138 American Legion Spencer.

“Tails and Tales”, the Statewide Summer Library Program, is sponsored by your local library, the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins, the MA Board of Library Commissioners and the Institute of Museum and Library Services with support from the National Women’s Hockey League Team Boston Pride.

LEICESTER POLICE SUPPORT LOCAL GIRL WITH LEUKEMIA



Photo Courtesy

Last week, Leicester Police Officer Ruth presented Leicester resident Angela Jailliet with a donation from Cops for Kids with Cancer, Inc. Jailliet’s daughter, Jaden, was recently diagnosed with leukemia, and has been going through treatments at UMass Memorial Medical Center. “The entire LPD is behind you, Jaden!” read a statement released by the department.

P.A.L. of the Week

Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

Name: Buddy

Breed: DSH

Sex: Neutered Male

Age: Young Adult



My name is Buddy and I am one handsome young feline. I came to the shelter as a stray from a local town. I was very scared initially but not anymore. I am friendly with anyone who comes into the shelter. My favorite activity is mealtime (especially when that delicious wet or canned food is served). I missed a lot of meals when I was out there on my own. I can be vocal at times (especially at mealtimes). I appear to be very compatible with other felines. I was just recently neutered so I can get over stimulated if you pet me too much. I really am a nice boy who will respond to kindness (and time to adjust to a new home).



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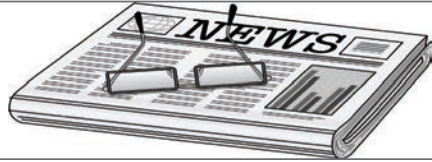
SPENCER NEW LEADER

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.com. 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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READING
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Local non-profit CMDART seeks board members

East Brookfield concert series kicks off July 15

REGION — The Central Massachusetts Disaster Animal Response Team, Inc. (CMDART) is currently seeking additional volunteer Board members to aid the administration of our non-profit 501C3 charitable organization that helps animals and pet owners facing man-made or natural disasters. Since 2003, CMDART has aided local communities with public safety and prevention education where it involves pets and the people who love them. A new addition of Board members will help support our forward progress, assist a manageable distribution of tasks, and assist the establishment of strategic short and long-range goals. Central

Mass residency required. Candidates for the Board will hopefully have some knowledge of the workings of a non-profit organization, fund-raising, and group task/committee work. As a board member, you will gain some knowledge and experience in planning, finance and emergency management; enhance and challenge your organizational and leadership skills; increase your professional network, help to improve the safety and welfare of pet owners and animals, contribute to a humanitarian cause that can prevent, respond to, and reduce suffering for pet owners and their animals. During this year of Covid-19, the team has distributed per-

sonal protective equipment to hospitals, senior facilities and animal control, assisted local emergency planning to include efforts to help pet owners, has volunteered at local vaccine clinics, produced an on-line program about assistance animals, held a couple of fun yard sales, assisted local fire recovery sites, and distributed pet food to some local food pantries. For more information and to submit a letter of interest to our organization, contact cmdart-membership@gmail.com or call 508-803-1989 and go to our Web site, www.cmdart.org, for more information.

EAST BROOKFIELD — Effective July 1, the East Brookfield Senior Center at 110 Pleasant St will be now open 4 days a week from 9-3. The new days are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Stop on down for coffee and fun. We have board games, card games, writing and exercise clubs and much more. Come check us out. You won't be disappointed.a

Local residents make Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology

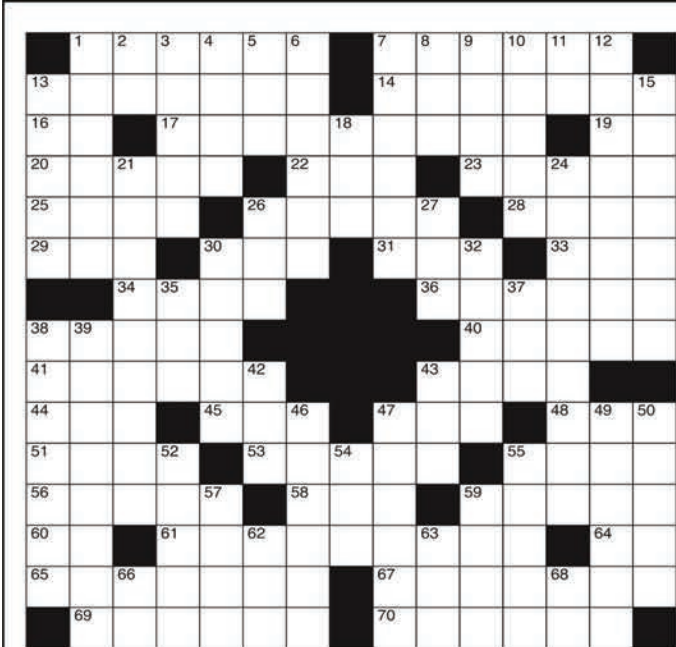
- BOSTON — The following local students have made the Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the Spring 2021 semester.
- * Riley Daniel Beauregard of Auburn
 - * Jason Paul Cronin of Auburn
 - * David Lee Mejorado of Auburn
 - * Anna Mei Pyche of Auburn
 - * Kalie Mari Bourassa of Leicester
 - * Adrianna T Rocheleau of Oxford

* Alec J Barber of Spencer
* Karina LeBlanc of Sutton
* Jordan William Blackadar of Worcester
* Yasmina Habchi of Worcester
Wentworth Institute of Technology Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology is a nationally ranked university offering career-focused education through bachelor's and graduate degree programs in areas including engineering, architecture, computer and data

science, life sciences, management, and design. Its 31 acres are situated in the Fenway neighborhood of Boston, Mass., within walking distance of leading several cultural, educational, sports, and medical hubs. Wentworth is known for its emphasis on career preparation for students through its leading co-op programs, hands-on learning approach, and alignment with 21st-century workforce needs.

Summer concerts return to Leicester Common July 14

LEICESTER – Now in its 31st year, the Leicester Concerts on the Common series is the perfect opportunity for families to get out and enjoy some live music. Concerts take place on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Don't miss the following performances on the Common this summer: Taste of Honey (July 14); Abraxas (July 21); Beatles for Sale (July 28); Cactus (Aug. 4); Changes in Latitude (Aug. 11); and The Otters (Aug. 18). The concerts are supported, in part, by a grant from the Leicester Arts Council. Sponsors also include the Leicester Savings Bank Fund and The Fontaine Fund of the Greater Worcester Community Foundation. Rain dates are in place for each event, usually the following night. For postponement information, visit www.leicesterma.org. Information about specific bands and musical genres is also listed online.



- CLUES ACROSS
1. Plant of the mint family

7. Hand tool

13. Made of the color of gold

14. A volume of several novels

16. Type of degree

17. Good job!

19. Seventh tone in major scale

20. Fevers

22. One's mother

23. Fertile desert spots

25. Large integers

26. Plate for Eucharist

28. Tennis matches have them

29. Peyton's little brother

30. Monetary unit of N. Korea

31. Head movement

33. Twelve

34. Renaissance musical instrument

36. Behavior showing high moral standards

38. Letter of the Hebrew alphabet

40. Notes to be sung

41. Women's garment

43. Coarsely ground corn

44. One point south of due east

45. A way to deplete

47. Rough, prickly covering of a seed

48. LA hoopster, but not a Laker

51. Headquarters

53. Franz van __, German diplomat

55. Liquid body substances

56. Rhythmic patterns

58. A beaver might build one

59. Police officer's tool

60. Indicates who you are

61. Pinwheel

64. Exist

65. Ornamental molding

67. Closes again

69. Verses

70. Come into view

- CLUES DOWN
1. Short stick used as a weapon

2. An alternative

3. Laws

4. Sense organs

5. One from Utah

6. Mariner

7. People in charge of cattle

8. Health insurance organization

9. Ornamental box

10. Forest-dwelling deer

11. One quintillion bytes (abbr.)

12. Atomic #71

13. Become less intense

15. Cowards

18. Body ornament (slang)

21. Applicable to all cases

24. Multiplied by 6

26. Afghanistan monetary unit

27. Calendar month

30. Cena and Lennon are two

32. Monetary unit of Serbia

35. First time on the market

37. Georgia rockers

38. Free from contamination

39. Coastal region of Canada

42. Clothing retailer

43. It rises and sets

46. Fathers

47. Stain with mud

49. Suitable for crops

50. Feels concern for

52. Orange-brown

54. Buddy

55. Late sportscaster Craig

57. Used to align parts

59. Wake up

62. Solid water

63. Semiprecious stone

66. Atomic #45

68. Top lawyer

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	E	G	R	E	M	E		S	E	M	A	H	R	
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Area residents named to dean's list at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Conn. — Aliya Zubi of Brookfield and Evan Chen of East Brookfield were named to the dean's list for the Spring 2021 semester at Quinnipiac University. To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been

graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester. About Quinnipiac University Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational, nonsectarian institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 9,715 students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business,

Communications, Education, Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac is recognized by U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review's "The Best 386 Colleges." For more information, please visit qu.edu. Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook and follow Quinnipiac on Twitter @QuinnipiacU.

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BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news
OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DINICOLA
508-764-6102
jim@stonebridgepress.news
EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4106
news@stonebridgepress.news
PRODUCTION MANAGER
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860-928-1818, EXT. 305
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\$495,000, 126 Rice Corner Rd, Galuska, Charles B, to Perro, Deena, and Perro, Jeffrey.
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LEICESTER
\$430,000, 80 Rawson St, Kopytko, Robert A, to Buckley, Leon, and Buckley, Rochanna.
\$325,000, 145 Clark St, Davis, Randy L, and Davis, Sharron M, to Cardinal Storage Inc.
\$300,000, 46 Rawson St, Haskins, Gregory, to Perry, Timothy.
\$270,000, 4 Crestwood Rd, Stephens Matthew T Tr, and Stephens, Donald N, to Margadonna, Jessica L.
\$230,000, 44 Howard Ter, Positive Spin RE Inv Inc, to Libera, Vanessa L.
\$142,500, 25 Pleasant St, Oxford Deleading Inc, to Ayers& Digioia LLC.

NORTH BROOKFIELD
\$340,000, 23 Town Farm Rd, Cro, David, and Cro, Nicol, to Wright, Zachary.
\$320,000, 12 Cushing St, J Dion Properties LLC, to Criollo-Chica, Fabian R.
\$155,000, 6 Mad Brook Rd, Kimball, Joan M, and Redekas, Jean M, to Bowlin, Jonathan C.

SPENCER
\$344,000, 19 Wilson St, Trifone, Lauren A, to Suro-Santiago, Juan L, and Cumba-Matos, Erick J.

WARREN
\$339,900, 100 Burbank Ave, Long, Mark A, and Long, Lisa A, to Dunn, James W, and Dunn, Laurie B.
\$49,000, 169 Southbridge Rd, Giordano, David A, to Start, Daniel B, and Mathison-Start, Amy L.

Hanover Insurance Group Foundation awards scholarships to 52 students

WORCESTER — The Hanover Insurance Group Foundation recently awarded 52 college scholarships to high school and college students to support higher education learning.

Students were recognized with scholarships based on their local community involvement and commitments to academic excellence. This marks the 17th year The Hanover Insurance Group Foundation has awarded college scholarships to help students accomplish their academic goals.

“We are proud of the commitment shown by this year’s scholarship recipients at a time when there was so much uncertainty in the world,” said Kimberly M. Salmon, assistant vice president of The Hanover Insurance Group, Inc.’s community relations team. “These scholars overcame obstacles created by the COVID-19 pandemic and focused their energy on education and community to continue on their journeys toward successful futures. We are honored to support their education and continue our mission of helping youth realize their full potential.”

About The Hanover Insurance Group Foundation

The Hanover Insurance Group Foundation, Inc. is the charitable giving arm of The Hanover Insurance

Group. The foundation’s mission is to enact meaningful and positive change in the lives of underserved children and youth – and empower the difference makers who support them. The Hanover Insurance Group Foundation provides program grants to nonprofit organizations that work collaboratively in their communities, offering new and innovative programs that address the barriers preventing children and youth from realizing their full future potential.

For more information about The Hanover’s community relations or giving efforts please visit The Hanover Foundation.

About The Hanover
The Hanover Insurance Group, Inc. is the holding company for several property and casualty insurance companies, which together constitute one of the largest insurance businesses in the United States. The company provides exceptional insurance solutions through a select group of independent agents and brokers. Together with its agent partners, The Hanover offers standard and specialized insurance protection for small and mid-sized businesses, as well as for homes, automobiles, and other personal items. For more information, please visit hanover.com.

Greater Worcester community scholarship recipients are:

Abdulkadir Abdullahi	North High School, Worcester, Mass.
Alwaleed Alhabeeb	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Leona Antwi	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Samantha Anusauskas	Auburn Senior High School, Auburn, Mass.
Ananda Boateng	Abby Kelley Foster Charter School, Worcester, Mass.
Michaela Cluett	Shepherd Hill Regional High School, Dudley, Mass.
Gabriella Correa	Burncoat Senior High School, Worcester, Mass.
Alysha Creelman	Auburn Senior High School, Auburn, Mass.
Ashley Figueroa	Shepherd Hill Regional High School, Dudley, Mass.
Maxwell Fyfe	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Keegan Gleason	Millbury Memorial Jr./ Sr. High School, Millbury, Mass.
Aracely Herrera	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Truong-Thinh Huynh	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Kathryn James	Bartlett High School, Webster, Mass.
Juliana Kallio	Grafton Memorial Senior High School, Grafton, Mass.
Victoria Lemieux	Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, Upton, Mass.
Kaitlyn Manzi	Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School, Upton, Mass.
Loise Obeng	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Nancy Phan	South High Community School, Worcester, Mass.
Michaela Rickards	Worcester Technical High School, Worcester, Mass.
Thomas Short	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Kasey Simmons	Auburn Senior High School, Auburn, Mass.
Jenna Soden	Leicester High School, Leicester, Mass.
Erisa Sote	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Ryan Spitz	Bartlett High School, Webster, Mass.
Victoria Torkornoo	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Isabella Vangos	Auburn Senior High School, Auburn, Mass.
Dayanara Velazquez	Burncoat Senior High School, Worcester, Mass.
Duong Vo	Doherty High School, Worcester, Mass.
Henry Weiland	Shepherd Hill Regional High School, Dudley, Mass.



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Your guide to local businesses and events! To join us, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news.

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Laurie C – Brookfield, MA
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Area students receive degrees as Western New England University celebrates Commencement

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University’s undergraduate commencement was held on Saturday, May 15. More than 480 students received degrees. The top five fields of study for undergraduates in 2021 were Mechanical Engineering, Pharmacy Studies, Accounting, Criminal Justice, and Psychology.

In his remarks, President Robert E. Johnson charged the Class of 2021 to go out as global citizens and transform the world.

“This journey that took place over the course of the last year has prepared you for that next stage and step in your life as you leave Golden Bear country and go out into the world,” he said congratulating the graduates as they join the more than 48,000 alumni of the University. “There were times where we could not necessarily see the end, but we made it. Each and every one of you hung in there. You are now prepared for the next step in your life. You

are prepared for the journey.”

Graduating senior Autumn Kelly (Communication) gave the Undergraduate Class of 2021 student address, reminding her fellow graduates that “this journey has been long and hard, harder than we could have ever imagined, and yet here we are standing. Although each of our paths were different, we all landed here at the same destination, graduation day. Our journeys do not end today. New targets are in view like graduate school, the military, or joining the workforce and, like the strongest Native American warrior, it is time once again to take back that bow string, aim our crooked arrows, and reach our next target.”

The graduating class hailed from 27 states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Georgia, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oregon,

Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, and Wisconsin. Graduates were also from Canada, China, and India.

Western New England University congratulates the following students:

Jacob H. Glass of Brookfield graduated Cum Laude with a BA in Communication/Media Theory & Production Concentration.

Abigail Ann Gershman of East Brookfield graduated Cum Laude with a BS in Forensic Chemistry.

Shaylah D. Dorman of West Brookfield graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BS in Health Sciences.

Andrew C. Fountain of West Brookfield graduated Cum Laude with a BSBA in Business Analytics & Information Management.

Derrick O. Mensah of East Brookfield graduated with a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

View the Western New England University 2021 Commencement

Ceremonies at <https://www1.wne.edu/commencement/index>.

A model for the “New Traditional University,” Western New England University (WNE) is among just 13 percent of private (5,000 students or less) institutions ranked among US News and World Report “National Universities” and a “Top 100 Engineering Program.” Known for its supportive environment and picturesque campus in Springfield, WNE enrolls 3,690 students, including 2,552 full-time undergraduate, in bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degrees at its Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy & Health Sciences, and School of Law. A WNE education provides career-span agility through a curriculum grounded in professional/experiential studies, enhanced by the liberal arts, and enriched by mentored research that equips graduates to adapt and succeed in the workplace of the future.

Spencer’s Elizabeth Cabana named to Dean’s List at Boston College

CHESTNUT HILL — Elizabeth Cabana, daughter of James and Kathrine Cabana of Spencer, received academic honors at Boston College by making the University’s Dean’s List for the Spring semester 2021. A freshman at Boston College, Cabana is majoring in Computer Science in the University’s Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences. She is also a member of The Boston College Marching Band. Boston College was founded in 1863 by the Society of Jesus. Today, it is one of the foremost universities in the nation, with a coeducational enrollment of some 14,500 undergraduate and graduate students drawn from all 50 states and 80 countries. Its faculty of eminent scholars is dedicated to teaching, both at the undergraduate level and in its graduate programs in education, law, management, nursing, social work, and theology and ministry. Boston College is guided by its founding Jesuit mission to offer students a transforming educational experience; to help them develop both their intellect and their character, and to encourage them to lead lives of faith, integrity and service to others.



Elizabeth Cabana

Curry College honors Class of 2021 in historic Commencement event

MILTON — On Sunday, May 23, Curry College honored 687 graduates from the Class of 2021 in its 141st Commencement celebration. The ceremony was live-streamed from the Walter M. Katz field to approximately 2,300 family members, friends, alumni, faculty and staff, among other Curry community members.

Brandon Clay of Leicester, majoring in Communication earned a Bachelor of Arts degree

Sydney Bolivar of

Leicester, majoring in Nursing earned a Bachelor of Science degree

About Curry College

Curry College, founded in Boston in 1879, is a private, co-educational, liberal arts-based institution located on 131 acres in Milton. The College extends its educational programs to a continuing education branch campus in Plymouth. The College offers 22 undergraduate majors in specialized and liberal arts programs, as well as graduate degrees

in accounting, business, education, criminal justice, and nursing to a combined enrollment of nearly 2,500 students. The student body consists of 1,700 traditional students and nearly 800 continuing education and graduate students. The College offers a wide array of co-curricular activities ranging from 15 NCAA Division III athletic teams to an outstanding theatre and fine arts program. Visit us on the Web at www.curry.edu.

Local golf results

Quail Hollow Country Club
Pit’s Crew
First place: Gary Hurl, Doug Perkins, Tim Hickey and Paul Thompson (-9)
Second place: Dennis Cooney, Al Judkins, Graham Entwistle and Dick Lapierre (-8)
Third place: Roger Beland, Bruce Smebakken, Dennis King and Fran Elliot (-8)

Yoo Hoo Open
First place: Nick Guerin, Stein Berthiaume, Kris Houston and Craig Nussy (30)

Second place: Marty Leach, Lex Varney, Paul Wyman and George Fisk (33)
Third place: Jim Laney, John Horgan, Dale Houma and Nick Hatstal (33)

Kettle Brook Golf Club
Kettle One League Week 10
First place: George Kiritsy and Steve Thebodo, +7
Second place: Butch Thibault and Dan Henderson, +6
High individual: Fred Wozniak, +8
Closest to the Pin on No. 12: Dave Lussier

Friday’s Child



Dominic
Age 15

Hi! My name is Dominic and I would love to have a pet dog!

Dominic is a caring, creative, and funny boy of Caucasian descent. Whether is caring for them or just playing with them, Dominic loves every chance he gets to spend time with animals! When Dominic gets older, he’d love to become a veterinarian. Dominic is described as a kind and funny young man. In his spare time, Dominic also likes drawing and coloring. He is curious boy who has been known to take apart toys to figure out how they work and then put them back together. He loves cars as well. Dominic has been doing well in his current placement, and is hopeful to transition to his forever family. Dominic continues to work on his social growth and peer relationships.

Legally freed for adoption, a two-parent household would best support Dominic’s everyday needs. A family would need to be open to services entering their home to work with Dominic on a regular basis. Dominic’s three siblings also have a goal of adoption, so continued contact would be beneficial.

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; LGBTQ 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.mare-inc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.



GOOD NEWS LEGALS

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Cos Tello
A Petition to Change Name of Adult
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WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 24, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman
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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The hidden history behind the Fourth

One of our favorite holidays to write about is Independence Day. We all know the stories of our forefathers, John Adams, Sam Adams, George Washington, Paul Revere, James Madison, Benjamin Franklin and Alexander Hamilton, to name a few. However, the history is endless. We thought we would shine a light on aspects surrounding Independence Day that are not commonly known.

The famous painting that depicts the signing of the Declaration of Independence isn't exactly an accurate portrayal. All of the delegates were never together at the same time in Philadelphia. The final signing took place roughly a month later, on Aug. 2. The Declaration was formally dated and adopted by Congress on July 4; however, Congress voted for independence on July 2.

Celebrating their new independence, soldiers along with civilians tore down a statue of King George III and melted it into bullets. In Georgia, people burnt the King in effigy and even held a faux funeral service. In Philadelphia, the King's coat of arms was burned in a bonfire. Massachusetts was the first state to recognize July 4th as a holiday in 1781.

In 1777, fireworks could be seen in the sky and the ringing of bells rang through the night in Philadelphia. Ships were decorated and lined the coast and streamers could be seen flying in celebration everywhere. The oldest annual parade takes place in Bristol, R.I. 2020 will be the town's 235th consecutive celebration, it's start in 1785.

In New England, dining on salmon became tradition. The story behind the popular cuisine, is due to the influx of salmon that summer. Along with the salmon, people had peas and turtle soup.

One curious fact is that Thomas Jefferson and John Adams both died on July 4, 1826. James Monroe also died on the fourth of July in 1831. President Calvin Coolidge was born July 4, 1872.

Left out of mainstream history was the story of Crispus Attucks, the first to die in the patriot cause. Attucks was a black/native American patriot who was shot, and the first to fall during the 1770 Boston Massacre. Attucks was a runaway slave who was a rope maker and sailor. History says he was shot by two musket balls to the chest. In 1778, it became legal in Rhode Island for free and enslaved blacks to serve the cause, with freedom as part of their payment. Educated by her owners, Phillis Wheatley was a well known poet during those times. Wheatley was kidnapped in West Africa and brought to America. At the age of 20, in 1773, she became the first African American and third female to publish a book of poetry. She eventually became free. She also advocated for independence, writing in support for George Washington's Revolutionary War in her poem, "To His Excellency, General Washington." Washington, impressed by her talent invited her to a meeting.

In 1958, when Alaska and Hawaii were on deck to become states, a history teacher assigned his class to design a flag, depicting the two new states. 16 year old Robert Heft, received a B- on the project. Unhappy with the mark, Heft sent the flag to Dwight D. Eisenhower. After the flag was chosen, Heft had his grade changed to an A.

Another fun fact is that Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration on what was referred to as a laptop. A writing desk that could fit over a person's lap.

In 1778, Washington ordered a double ration of rum for soldiers to celebrate with.

In 1776, there were roughly 2.5 million people living in America. The current population is now 325.7 million.

Wearing an American flag, whether it be on a tee-shirt, headband, towel or shorts is in violation of the Flag Code. The code says that you are in violation if you sell, display any "article of merchandise, upon which shall have been printed, painted, attached, or otherwise placed a representation of [the flag... in order to] advertise, call attention to, decorate, mark, or distinguish the article or substance on which so placed." The code, however, is not enforceable.

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Decisions define you

To the Editor:

The decisions you make in your life define you. America was formed on this principle. It was the dream of the founders to enshrine the freedom to make your own choices and chart your own course of your life. This individual freedom was enshrined in the Constitution, with the right to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It saddens me to see those who say we must rally around a leader or administration who, with their progressive ideology and agendas, are attacking the very fabric that this free country was formed around. They imply that we must accept this and come into their fold. They suggest that to do otherwise is unpatriotic and harmful to our country. They want you to roll over and accept the consequences.

You, as a free American, have the right to dissent. You have the right to have your voice heard. You have the right to live free from fears of social shaming or of losing your job for your political views. You have the right to assemble, either in person or in groups on line, and demonstrate against those in power you do not agree with.

Each day, the progressives and their media machine try to chip away at your rights. They claim the rights in the Constitution can be changed. They applaud laws that are passed with race as the deciding factor. When struck down by the courts, they talk about court packing. The teachers' union and progressive are trying to force their teachings of race hate in schools. Your rights won't be gone in one big bang. They will slowly chip away over time until one day you realize they are gone.

To the media, pundits, people and groups that try to take these rights. I proudly give my one finger rocket salute. My thoughts, my freedoms, and my choices are mine and mine alone. That goes for every American. You can think any way you want. You can like or dislike anything or anyone. These are the choices in life that define you and make you who you are. These are rights and liberties that America was created to protect and encourage in a free people. God Bless America and your freedom to be your own person.

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

The precious present

To the Editor:

I am sharing with you a story I read many years ago that has made a difference in my life today about a young boy and an old man and the present.

There was this young boy who liked listening to this old man. This old man had wisdom and was teaching the boy how important it was to live in the present, the precious present.

The precious present is a gift the old man explained, and it is precious because anyone who receives such a present is happy forever. Wow! The boy exclaimed I hope someone gives me the precious present. Maybe I'll get it for Christmas, "and the boy ran off to play, and the old man smiled, happy to see the boy happy. The old man like to watch the little boy play. It brought joy to the old man to see the smile on the young boy's face and hearing him laughing as he was swinging from a nearby tree, The old man saw the boy was happy and it was a joy to see the happy boy.

The old man also liked to watch the boy work; he even rose early on Saturday mornings to watch the little boy mowing the lawn across the street. The little actually whistled while he worked. The boy seemed happy no matter what he was doing it was indeed a joy to watch.

Then there were times when the boy thought about what the old man had said about the precious present, the began to wonder, the boy thought

he understood, the boy thought he knew about presents, like the bicycle he got for his birthday and the gifts he got under the tree on Christmas morning, but as the boy thought more about it he began to feel uneasy, "what then" he wondered, is the precious present that keeps him happy? As the boy thought more about it he knew the joy of toys never last forever and the boy began to feel uneasy. "What then," he wondered, is the precious present? What could possibly make me happy forever? The boy found it difficult to even imagine the answer. So, the boy returned to ask the old man. As long as the boy was in the present of the old man he was happy. When he started imagining he was confused and lost his peace, happiness. The boy asked the old man " is the present a magical ring? One that I might put on my finger and make all my wishes come true? "No," the old man said; the precious present has nothing to do with wishing.

As the boy grew older he continued to wonder, again, he went to the old man. Is the precious present a flying carpet? One that I could get on and go any place that I liked? "No," the old man quietly replied, and said to the boy, when you have the precious present you will be perfectly content to be where you are.

To be continued!

ROLAND BLAIS
BROOKFIELD

Tips to Combat the Jump at the Pump

With the recent jump in gas prices, it's more important than ever to conserve energy use. Thanks to good old fashioned Yankee ingenuity, trimming costs doesn't necessarily translate into sacrifice. From reviewing classic moneysaving tactics to revealing new strategies, the following information is geared toward cutting the cost of fuel this season and beyond.

**

Price Tools: Your gasoline-saving strategies start even before you fuel up. Gas comparison sites and phone applications offer consumers instant prices that add up to optimum savings.

GasBuddy.com lists gas stations near you and their current gas prices. The tool is engineered by a community of users working together to update local gas costs.

The app offers online price comparison, and you can download it for free.

Mapquest.com also offers a user friendly tool that has a map format and visual pinpoints to post real time prices of gas stations in your area or destination.

**

Pump up the Savings: Some careful thought at the pump pays off in savings and that begins with gassing up:

Experts advise downgrading to upgrade gas efficiency. Motorist can cut costs without sacrificing efficiency by buying the lowest grade of octane that is appropriate for the vehicle. Check with your mechanic or car dealer to see if it's safe for you to switch to a lower grade. This



TAKE THE HINT

KAREN TRAINOR

money saving method alone can save hundreds of dollars a year.

**

Auto advisers also recommend buying gasoline during coolest time of day, such as early morning or late evening. During these times gasoline is densest. Gas pumps measure volumes of gasoline, so it's a better deal to buy it at its densest fuel concentration. And don't top off the gas tank as gasoline as may seep out from expansion

**

Also, be sure your gas tank fits nice and snug. If not, buy a new one. According to the experts, gas can easily evaporate from the tank through loose caps.

**

Proper Maintenance = Fuel Efficiency: Performing periodic vehicle "checkups" is a cost effective way to keep from wasting gas.

It's no secret a well-tuned engine burns less gas. Routine maintenance is your best insurance against gas guzzling.

**

Also, worn spark plugs can cause your engine to use more gasoline. A dirty spark plug causes misfiring, which wastes fuel. Spark plugs need to be replaced as recommended by the manufacturer.

**

And be sure to check your air filter each time you have your oil changed. Clogged air filters cause engines to work overtime which eats up more gas. Replacing a clogged air filter can improve gas mileage by as much as 10 percent, saving about

Keep working toward lifetime goals

As the years go by, many of your short-term plans may change. But you'll always need to focus on three lifetime goals: planning for retirement, preparing for the unexpected and creating an estate plan. What steps should you take to meet these goals?

Let's start with retirement. Throughout your career, you'll need to put away money for a retirement that could last two or three decades. So, you'll want to contribute enough to your IRA and 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan to provide for your income needs in retirement. And you'll want to fund these accounts with a reasonable percentage of growth-oriented investments, based on your comfort with risk and how long you have to invest.

But planning for retirement involves more than just a general commitment to save and invest. You'll also need to envision your retirement lifestyle. Will you travel extensively or stay close to home, pursuing your hobbies? Or are you thinking about relocating or spending part of the year in a vacation home? Your retirement aspirations will help determine how much money you'll ultimately need to live the lifestyle you desire.

And finally, once you are retired, you'll have to ensure you don't outlive your resources. Consequently, as you begin taking money from your retirement accounts and investment portfolio, you'll want to establish a sustainable withdrawal rate – one that lets you enjoy your retirement while accommodating the inevitable ups and downs of the financial markets.

Now, let's move to the second lifetime goal: planning for the unexpected. Even if you budget carefully, you may not always be prepared for unplanned costs, such as a needed home improvement. If your cash flow can't meet these expenses, you might be forced to dip into your long-term investments, possibly leading to taxes, penalties and fewer funds left for retirement. That's why it's a good idea to maintain an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money held in a liquid, low-risk account.

Of course, more serious unexpected events can also occur. If something were to happen to you, could your family members maintain their lifestyle? Could the mortgage still be paid? Could your children continue with their higher education plans? It's essential that you maintain sufficient life insurance to meet these needs.

The last lifetime goal – creating an estate plan – is meant to achieve multiple aims. For example, you may want to name someone to make financial and medical decisions on your behalf should you become incapacitated. If you have children, it is important to name a guardian should something happen to you. It's also necessary to keep your beneficiary designations up to date. And you may want to leave something to charitable groups.

To meet all these objectives, and possibly even more, you'll need to work with a legal professional to create the necessary documents and arrangements, such as a durable power of attorney, a will, a living trust and so on. You may also need the help of your financial advisor to review your beneficiaries and to balance your estate and legacy goals with your other financial objectives.

Life is full of twists and turns, and you may change your own course along the way. But no matter which roads you follow, you'll still need to achieve the three lifetime goals we've discussed – so keep working toward them.



FINANCIAL FOCUS

JEFF BURDICK

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Jeff Burdick, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com.

20 cents a gallon. And avoid reusable air filters, as a good paper filter does a better job, according to the experts.

**

Periodic wheel alignments and keeping tires inflated to the maximum recommended pressure really does improve your gas mileage, according to experts. When tires aren't inflated properly it's like driving with the parking brake on and can cost a mile or two per gallon. Don't ignore the low tire pressure alerts

Concrete failures in Florida hit close to home

GUEST COMMENTARY

SEN. ANNE GOBI
AND
REP. BRIAN ASHE

The sudden collapse of the Champlain Towers condominium in Surfside, Fla. last week has left more than 150 people unaccounted for, sixteen dead, and countless affected at the time of this writing. Structural problems first noted during a 2018 inspection are being scrutinized as a potential cause for the destruction but at this time the focus remains on clearing the rubble and identifying both victims and survivors. The investigation into the collapse is likely to take months and may find no single definitive cause.

As we've watched the situation unfold, and more information about the available warning signs has come to light, we are reminded of the concrete infrastructure failures that remain in place here in the northeast where thousands of homes are deteriorating as a result of a rare iron sulfide

mineral, pyrrhotite, in the concrete aggregate. When exposed to water and oxygen the mineral expands, causing the concrete to crack in a web pattern until it degrades and fails. While the mineral is rare it is estimated that as many as 2,000 homes in central and Western Massachusetts have been built with this material, and Connecticut has documented and started the repair process on more than 1,600 affected homes dating back to last year. Massachusetts currently has a foundation testing reimbursement program in place, refunding visual and core sample inspections by licensed engineers, but no mechanism for funding the actual repairs necessary to keep these homes livable. The most proven solution currently to remedy the problem is to lift the home off of the existing foundation and replace it with an unaffected one- at a cost of \$150,000 to \$250,000 per house.

The Champlain Towers collapse was an issue that could have been remediated if the necessary funds were dedicated and repairs made. The structural problems identified in 2018 went unresolved and unchecked until they reached a

literal breaking point, a deadly occurrence that it is impossible to put a price tag on in hindsight. In this case, they had one, however: \$16.2 million for the total repair and restoration at a cost to homeowners ranging from \$80,000 for a one-bedroom unit to more than \$300,000 for the penthouse suite. High costs, of course, particularly for individuals who had purchased the units without knowing the underlying structural issues at hand or the devastation that might occur if left unchecked.

Much like the process with pyrrhotite, this was a slow-moving disaster where the natural elements exposed issues in the building's construction until the materials inevitably failed. While the science surrounding the type of decay is different the outcome is the same- the concrete deteriorates, people are displaced, and lives are changed forever.

With nearly \$5 billion in American Rescue Plan Act stimulus funding available to the state we are in a unique position where we may be able to address monetary shortfalls in rapid fashion, and direct funding towards projects that yield immediate dividends to

our constituents. Set into a fund to be appropriated by the legislature this money could become available in the near future and make an enormous impact in our communities.

Given this influx of funding it is imperative that we look at problems effecting homeowners that haven't been addressed, and we feel that the deteriorating homes in our state demand attention. We should not shy away from acting on this issue because of the price tag- the large upfront cost of each individual repair- particularly at a time when the state is awash with cash. Instead of continuing to debate the merits of spending the money to help affected families, discussing who should be responsible for footing the bill after the courts have ruled that the neither the contractors, insurance companies, nor bankrupt concrete supplier can be held liable, we can dedicate money from this pool of federal funding to help them directly. This is not an unheard of thought; as mentioned before the state of Connecticut has established a reimbursement program for the exact same issue, from the same supplier and led by spending over \$120

million for repairs. It simply requires attention and action from the leaders in our state, at a time where inaction would be immoral.

House and Senate leaders plan to hold public hearings and gather input on how to spend the funding in the future, and we urge our colleagues to advocate for these families in Massachusetts who have been dealt a hand directly countering the American dream of owning a home that you can call your own. These people did everything right, followed every step they needed to along the path towards home ownership which many consider their primary asset in life. Failure to come to their aid would be akin to letting the results of a natural disaster impact an area without state or federal help- a tornado path that tears up Main Street and is never repaired while home values plummet and the town suffers. By appropriating this money for reimbursement in the future, we allow these individuals to move forward, safely, towards remediating their homes and give them the stability they need without waiting for a tragic collapse in our own state to spur action.

The ups and downs of saltwater fishing

I promise I will not discuss the outrageous fishing regulations of stripers and fluke again this month. Saltwater fishing has had its ups and downs this past week, but if you were there when the bass were feeding, you had a great day of fishing, although little was legal to bring home for the dinner table. Bass fishing was fantastic at the canal one day and not so good the next. Boat captains of six pack boats are also frustrated with the bass regulations, and it is costing them big money!

The haddock and cod bite on the North Shore has been relatively very good, although only one cod can be retained per angler per day! Jig fishing and anglers using bait, are catching their limits of haddock. Wolf fish are still illegal to keep, and need to be sent back to the sea. This great eating fish is being protected because of their dwindling populations, like most saltwater species in Massachusetts & Rhode Island. Rhode Island cod fishery continues to give up some nice market size cod with a daily bag limit of 10 fish in that state. Anglers may want to consider a charter boat trip to fish for cod in Rhode Island.

Seabass fishing opened June 24 in Rhode Island, but the fishing was slow. This writer and my fishing buddy Matt Fountain, only managed to land a couple of nice seabass and one legal size fluke. Reports of a lot better action out at Block Island was good news. We fished in front of the Five Cottages area, and the Charlestown Breachway, where



THE GREAT OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH TRUE

we were surrounded by a few draggers that seemed to have a lot better luck than us! I was told to fish around the Newport Bridge area if I wanted to have better luck fishing away from the draggers.

Jerry Gareri, his son John, and a couple of other anglers, chartered a boat called the "Natural Nine" with Captain Dan Smith on Father's Day, and landed more than 40 seabass among the four fishermen, retaining their legal limit of 20 seabass. They fished in the Buzzard Bay area, that provide anglers with some great fishing during the month of June for seabass and super-size scaup. Captain Smith is now concentrating his fishing business on the South Shore specializing in catching numerous ground fish. He will also be targeting stripers in the weeks ahead. Give him a call at 1-401-402-1963 for your next fishing trip.

Local fresh water anglers are still catching some impressive largemouth bass in local waters. Shiners and plastics are the most popular baits among bass anglers, but some anglers are doing well on stick baits and surface poppers.

The Uncle Josh pork strips have no longer being manufactured for a number of years now, but have been replaced by another product called "Fat Cow" jig strips and come in a few colors. They are great for fishing both fresh and saltwater. The new strips are not made out of pig skin, but are a product of man-made material, and work just as well. They are a favorite for fishing for fluke and other ground fish.

With the recent continued hot weath-



Photo Courtesy

This week's picture shows a well-trained Yellow Lab waiting patiently for his owner to finish some fishing at a recent fishing derby.

er during the month of June with no end in sight, pets need to be brought into a cool place, and given plenty of water. This week's picture shows a yellow Lab patiently waiting for the fall hunting season, and he will not need to wait long. Thinking of purchasing a dog for the upcoming hunting season 2021? Do your homework, and be sure you are purchasing a good one! Find a good breeder and be sure to see the parents of the dog. Ask for references and bring along someone that knows dogs. It does not cost any more money to raise a good

dog or a great one that you will be proud of. It is a 10 to 15 year commitment. The cost of buying a good pedigree dog can run from \$1,000 and up! Be sure you have the time, money and energy to raise your new dog! When you decide to purchase a dog for you and your family, you will be rewarded with years of love & companionship, both at home and in the field.

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending.

Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

Do you have a 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 Public House Inn.

TRAINOR

continued from page A8

on the dashboard! It is important to keep an eye on the tire pressure because under-inflated tires consume more fuel. According to SGI, you waste 1% fuel for every 10 lb per square inch of under inflation. Low air pressure does not only impact your mileage, but it also reduces the lifetime of your tires.

Heads Up: And keep in mind tires need special attention during winter. Cold temperatures decreased the air pressure in tires which just adds to the rolling resistance caused by snow and slush. Check tire pressure regularly, especially after there has been a sharp drop in temperature.

Driving Down Gas Usage: You can literally drive down gas waste with some careful strategies that won't cost you an extra dime!

This column has reviewed similar driving tips in the past, but with fuel economy in mind, the bear repeating:

The faster you drive the more gas you use. In fact, lowering driving speed from 65 to 55 mph can improve fuel economy by an impressive two miles per gallon.

Also, traveling at fast rates in low gears can consume up to 45% more fuel than is needed. . Using cruise control will save 5% to 10% of a gallon of gas on long trips. And don't forget to use the overdrive shift as soon as your speed is high enough. It also acts as a fuel saver.

Keeping a steady foot on the pedal also prevents gas waste. Tests show jerky starts and hard breaking reduces travel time by only four percent, but fuel consumption is increased by nearly 40 percent.

Do you love the feel the wind in your hair? If so, it could cost you! Driving with

your windows all the way down at higher speeds, will waste 10% more gallons of gasoline than driving with them closed. The drag will cost you more in fuel, so delay opening windows wide until you've slowed down a bit (unless you want to literally throw money out the window!)

And opt for driving on smooth roads whenever possible. Rough roads with dirt or gravel rob you of up to 30% of your gas mileage. On the highway, closed windows decrease air resistance, so it's efficient to run the air conditioner in hot weather.

Quick tip: In stop-and-go traffic, shut-

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OBITUARIES

Germaine E. Delevo, 97

WEST BROOKFIELD - Germaine E. (LePage) Delevo, 97, of West Brookfield, died on Tuesday, June 29, 2021, at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center.

She leaves her daughter, Donna L. Gay of West Brookfield; two grandchildren, Lincoln Gay and his wife Sarah of Warren, and Bretton Gay of West Brookfield, as well as four great-grandchildren, Alec, Lauren, Gabrielle, and Taylor. She was predeceased by her husband, Pasquale G. Delevo in 2000. She was born in Holyoke, daughter of the late Yvon J. and Grace E. (DeBien) LePage. She grew up in Feeding Hills, and later became a long-time resident of West Brookfield.

Germaine worked as a Customer Service Representative at Valley Bank & Trust Company in Springfield for several years.

She was active in the West Warren Senior Center and was a former member of the Sacred Heart of Jesus Parish in West Brookfield. She had strong faith, and credited her long and well fulfilled life to God as well as her loving family. Germaine's family would like to thank the nurses and staff at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care for their devotion to her care.

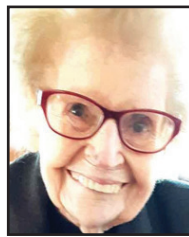
At her request, a private graveside service will be held in St. Michael's Cemetery in Springfield. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or at st.jude.org.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Bertha Evelyn LeBlanc, 101

NORTH BROOKFIELD - Bertha E. (Hibbard) LeBlanc, 101, of North Brookfield died on Saturday, June 26, 2021 at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center.



She leaves her sons, Robert T. Evans of Linden, NJ, and Steven M. Regula of Cromwell, CT; her nine grandchildren; her five great-grandchildren; three great-grandchildren; her sisters, Rachel

L. Savoy of Wilbraham and Grace Hadlock of Ware as well as many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her daughter, Carol Willard, her son, James Evans, and her siblings, Richard Hibbard, Everett Hibbard, Bertram Hibbard, Jr., Eleanor Roche, Alice Mercure and Florence Goulant. She was born in Ware, daughter of the late Bertram and Lila (Sibley) Hibbard.

Bertha was a devoted mother, sister, aunt and friend. She had an inspiring never quit positive attitude and cherished her independence including 32 years at Hillside Meadows Apartments in North Brookfield beginning at age 69. She loved going to Walmart, Hannaford's, Charlie's, Howard's and Klem's. She drove her car well into her 90s before getting pulled over at the Ware intersection near the old movie theater. Upon seeing the date of birth

on Bertha's license, the officer referred her for an age-related driving test. She refused to give up and practiced for several weeks before taking the driving test in Southbridge. Though she didn't pass, she gave it one heck of a try, and maintained that her failure was solely due to age bias. She made delicious apple pies which caused her children to plead with her to never mess with the recipe. She always had a good meal on the table for her family. Her hobbies included crossword puzzles, feeding the birds, watching the Red Sox and listening to polka music. She enjoyed simple values instilled in her in the 1920s and 30s on the family farm in New Braintree where she lived with her mother, father, and 8 siblings, and helped milk the cows and tend to other chores. She attended school in a one room schoolhouse. Though primarily a homemaker, Bertha also worked for many years at Wright's and the former Belchertown State School.

A Graveside Service for Bertha will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Hospice of Western Massachusetts, 1325 Springfield St., Suite 12, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in W. Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements. An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com.

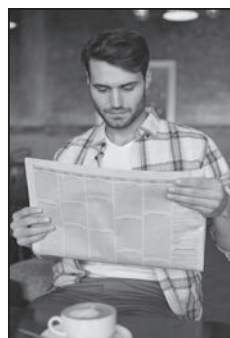
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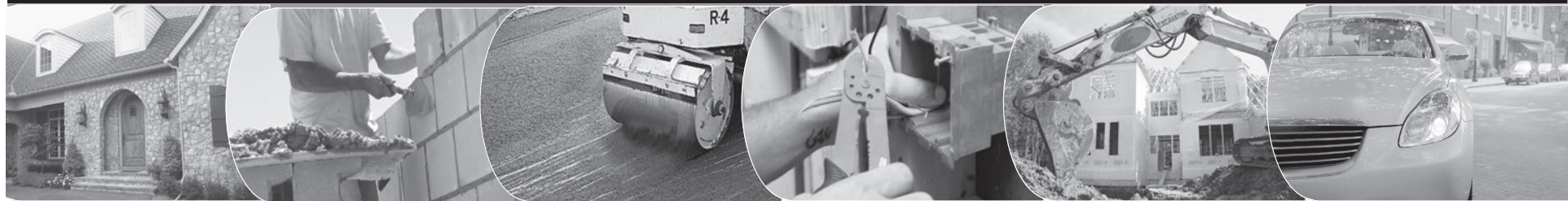


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NB SCHOOLS

continued from page A1

veys, focus groups, documents, facilities tours, and meetings to help compile the report.

A demographic study also took place ahead of the final report. In recent years, budget challenges and reductions in staffing and programming have led to several students leaving North Brookfield through school choice. Additionally, the school department decided to cut the high school principal position last year amid tight budgetary constraints. Following the brief installment of an interim principal, Superintendent Lind and

Assistant Superintendent Jeanne Powers are serving as co-principals this year.

The demographic study helped give North Brookfield officials a better idea of student enrollment projections for future years. North Brookfield is losing 116 students to school choice this year, which will result in a loss of approximately \$689,000 for the district.

"An important step in understanding how to proceed was to understand where we are – and where we are going to be – as a town and school department," the Study Committee statement read. "The consensus of the group was that Quaboag Regional School District is the best fit for our community

moving forward."

Quabbin Regional School District was also closely reviewed by the Study Committee as a potential partner, but members ultimately decided Quaboag would be the best choice. Members were particularly impressed with the programming offered by Quaboag, a district that includes students from Warren and West Brookfield.

Even though a regionalization partnership with the QRSD would not likely result in financial savings for North Brookfield, the Study Committee determined that students would benefit from improved programming and services.

"Quaboag is more like North Brookfield than Quabbin," read the Study Committee's statement. "In addition, School Committee representation is equal for all member towns, the member towns are similar to North Brookfield, and the Jr/Sr High School is closer in proximity to North Brookfield."

Looking ahead, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, and Warren must each vote to form a Regional School District Planning Committee in a Special Town Meeting. If all three towns have a successful vote, the moderator of each town will appoint the three members of the committee. The planning committee from each town would then come together to form the Regional School District Planning Board.

Most recently, North Brookfield formed a planning committee made up of three members who were selected by the Town Moderator.

Meanwhile, school and town officials in Warren and West Brookfield continue to acquire more information about the regionalization opportunity.

"I am excited that the North Brookfield Regionalization Committee chose Quaboag as a potential partner," said Brett Kustigian, Superintendent of the QRSD. "It validates the quality of the Quaboag Regional School District, and I look forward to a more in-depth study. Our three communities are very similar, and I believe that all school systems should constantly explore ways to provide better opportunities for all students."

Over the next year, QRSD officials will further explore the benefits and challenges of a potential regionalization.

"My primary concern is that we continue to provide the best education possible for all students," Kustigian added.

LAWSUIT

continued from page A1

Board of Selectmen, with the Planning Board, met in Executive Session on or about April 9, 2021, and specifically discussed appointing a temporary member for the Planning Board who would provide the needed fourth vote to grant the special permit," read a statement released by Ehrhard & Associates, a Worcester-based firm which is representing the plaintiffs. "The BOS, with the Planning Board, discussed in Executive Session that they would not appoint a candidate running for the Planning Board in the upcoming Town Election because they believed he was a no-vote on the special permit. Beyond the shocking fact that the BOS would inappropriately involve itself in a twice-denied special permit request, the fact it occurred in an Executive Session outside

of public view is disturbing."

On April 20, selectmen appointed Jeffrey King as an associate member of the Planning Board, nine days before the third vote was set to take place on Tasse's special permit request. Plaintiffs said King and two Select Board members are users of Tasse's services. For this reason, plaintiffs allege that King was appointed for the sole purpose of voting in favor of the permit.

"The town election was scheduled to occur on May 3, 2021, which would have provided new members to the Planning Board. Yet the BOS still appointed a temporary member, Jeffrey King, for the single vote on the Tasse special permit thirteen days before the election," the Ehrhard & Associates statement read.

Plaintiffs also allege that King was not in attendance during any of the previous

hearings on the special permit.

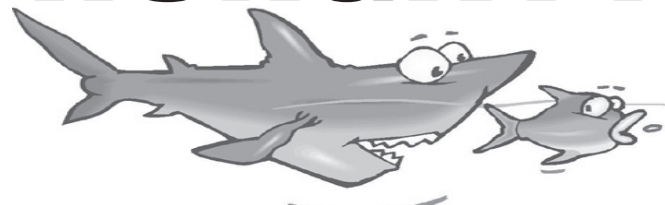
Selectman Jolicoeur, who ran unopposed for the Select Board and earned a seat, declined to comment on the lawsuit. The other Planning Board members either declined to comment or could not be reached for comment.

Beyond the alleged collusion that took place, residents have several concerns about the safety of the proposed installation of bulk propane tanks, as well as the proximity of the site to homes and Brookfield Elementary School.

"Our house is within 100 feet of where they want to put it," said plaintiff Patricia Washburn. "It's also in a school zone. If there was ever an incident, the whole town center village could be jeopardized."

The remaining two Select Board members could not be reached for comment on the lawsuit by press time.

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THIS FRUIT HAS A WATER CONTENT OF 92 PERCENT.

ANSWER: WATERMELON

Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-10.
The numbers in each row add up to the totals to the right.
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

10		0	11
	6		19
2	7		12
16	14	12	

3	7	2
6	6	4
0	1	10
Solution		

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1834: FOUR NIGHTS OF RIOTING AGAINST ABOLITIONISTS BEGIN IN NEW YORK CITY.
- 1954: ELVIS PRESLEY MAKES HIS RADIO WHEN HIS RECORDING OF "THAT'S ALL RIGHT" AIRS ON WHBQ MEMPHIS.
- 2019: THE UNITED STATES WOMEN'S NAT'L SOCCER TEAM WINS THE WORLD CUP IN LYON, FRANCE.

Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

ESDEELSS LEMNO

Answer: Seedless Melon



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serving to
reinvigorate
someone

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Fruit

SPANISH: Fruta

ITALIAN: Frutto

FRENCH: Fruit

GERMAN: Frucht

Did You Know?

THERE ARE MORE THAN 1,200 VARIETIES OF WATERMELON. WATERMELON IS CONSIDERED A FRUIT, BUT BECAUSE IT IS IN THE GOURD FAMILY, SOME CLASSIFY IT AS A VEGETABLE, TOO.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: WATERMELON

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to dog days of summer. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 14 = M)

A. 5 17 14 20 24 20 6 8

Clue: Moisture in air

B. 4 18 22 14 6 5

Clue: State of being warm

C. 14 15 22 1 17 22 8

Clue: Metal in thermometers

D. 5 15 18 6

Clue: High temperature

Answers: A. humidity B. warmth C. mercury D. heat

SUDOKU

1	4			7				3
					9			
		5					8	4
			7					
	3			9	8			6
		8	2				3	
	6	9		3	7			1
3				5		8		
			6					

Level: intermediate

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

6	4	3	2	8	9	1	7	5
7	9	8	1	5	6	4	2	3
1	5	2	7	3	4	6	9	8
5	3	7	4	9	2	8	1	6
9	1	4	8	6	5	7	3	2
8	2	6	3	1	7	9	5	4
4	8	1	9	2	3	5	6	7
2	3	1	4	9	5	7	8	6
3	6	9	5	7	8	2	4	1

ANSWER:

POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 23
12:30-1:35 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:36 a.m.: medical/general (Kingsbury Road); 8:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Donnelly Road), req. assist w/evac drill; 9:31 a.m.: accident (Elm Street), report taken; 9:45 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dog; 9:49 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 11:07 a.m.: 911 call (Crestview Drive), misdial; 11:52 a.m.: animal complaint (Briarcliff Lane), barking dog; 12:42 p.m.: animal complaint (Blueberry Hill Road), c/o neighbor's chickens; 1:13 p.m.: RV complaint (Rustic Lane), kids/dirt bikes; 3:33 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 3:38 p.m.: disturbance (South Street), roommate issues; 3:59 p.m.: disabled mv (McCormick Road), services rendered; 4:01 p.m.: suspicious mv (East Charlton Road), investigated; 7:14 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 9:22 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Westland Drive), open line; 9:27 p.m.: medical/general (I. Capen Road); 11:49 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:55 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), neighbors/fight; (Total daily mv stops - 5).

THURSDAY, JUNE 24
8:22 a.m.: DPW call (Roys Drive),
blown fuse/utility pole; 8:42 a.m.: mv
complaint (Cherry Street), speeding;
2:01 p.m.: accident (North Spencer
Road), report taken; 2:42 p.m.: medical/
general (Main Street); 3:08 p.m.: mv
complaint (North Spencer Road), mvs
not stopping at sign; 4:51 p.m.: mutual
aid (Cranberry Meadow Road), welfare
check; 5:04 p.m.: school alarm (Main
Street), services rendered; 5:05 p.m.:
animal complaint (Marble Road), miss-
ing dog; 5:20 p.m.: mv complaint (Main
Street), erratic operator; 7:06 p.m.: RV
complaint (Chestnut Street), ATVs in
road; 8:06 p.m.: medical/general (Howe
Village); sometime between 8:06-10:06
p.m.: entire incident, including time,
redacted from police log; 10:06 p.m.:
disturbance (Temple Street), noise
complaint; 10:23 p.m.: mutual aid
(Charlton Road), rep. erratic operator;
(Total daily mv stops - 2).

FRIDAY, JUNE 25
12:06 a.m.: animal complaint (Donnelly Road), barking dog; 3:18 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), intoxicated fem.; 5:42 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 6:55 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 8:25 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 8:57 a.m.: DPW call (Church Street), loud pop/power out; 10:48 a.m.: officer wanted (Lyford Road), TT at bridge; 11:10 a.m.: citizen complaint (Paxton Road), dumpster in road; 11:53 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 12:32 p.m.: medical/general (Thompson Pond Road), lift assist; 12:37 p.m.: DPW call (Chickering Road), wire down; 2:43 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 2:47 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), debit card found; 2:56 p.m.: larceny (West Main Street), stolen check; 3:01 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), unauth. use/mv; 3:13 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), license plate found; 3:38 p.m.: officer wanted (Elm Street), services rendered; 4:28 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:16 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operator; 7:36 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 8:42 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:58 p.m.: medical/general (Thompson Pond Road); 8:59 p.m.: suspicious persons (Charlton Road), investigated; 9:08 p.m.: mv complaint (Greenville Street), erratic operator; 9:32 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), custody issue; sometime between 9:32-9:38 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 9:47 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Smithville Road), open line; 10:17 p.m.: disturbance (Temple Street), noise complaint; 10:45 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Chestnut Street), accidental; 11:15 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 11:29 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), req. interpreter svcs.; (Total daily mv stops - 4).

SATURDAY, JUNE 26
12:44-12:53 a.m.: buildings checked,
secure; 4:38 a.m.: fire alarm (Bixby
Road), referred; 6:41 a.m.: medical/gen-
eral (Lincoln Street); 6:55 a.m.: animal
complaint (Donnelly Road), barking
dog; 7:35 a.m.: bad checks (Ash Street).

check stolen/cashed; 8:16 a.m.: animal complaint (Howe Village), poss. sick raccoon; 9:36 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 10:23 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 10:40 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Temple Street), no contact; 11:06 a.m.: mv complaint (South Spencer Road), speeding; 11:47 a.m.: lost/found (Temple Street), wallet found; 11:56 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), assist funeral procession; 11:57 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 12:14 p.m.: accident (Pope Street), report taken; 12:23 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 1:04 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 1:04 p.m.: animal complaint (Lyford Road), loose dog; 2:29 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 3:09 p.m.: lost/found (Main Street), wallet found; 3:16 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC changed of address/2; 4:27 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 5:49 p.m.: RV complaint (McCormick Road), dangerous jet ski op; 6:12 p.m.: RV complaint (Dustin Street), dirt bike/erratic op; 6:57 p.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), snapping turtle under mv; 7:14 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 7:20 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), inquiry re: firearm reg; 7:50 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:03 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:10 p.m.: disturbance (Lyford Road), noise complaint; 10:54 p.m.: suspicious persons (Lincoln Street), info taken; (Total daily mv stops - 7).

SUNDAY, JUNE 27
1:18 a.m.: medical/general (South
Brookfield Road); 1:31 a.m.: 911 call
(West Main Street), services ren-
dered; 7:59 a.m.: disturbance (Chestnut
Street), noise complaint; 9:55 a.m.: offi-
cer wanted (Church Street), cell phone
taken; 12:27 p.m.: 911 call (West Main
Street), open line; 12:45 p.m.: aban-
doned 911 call (Hastings Road), no con-
tact; 1:05 p.m.: medical/general (Wall
Street); 3:08 p.m.: animal complaint
(Main Street), dog left in mv; 3:12 p.m.:
RV accident (Northwest Road), juve-
nile crashed 4 whlr; 4:46 p.m.: distur-
bance (Bixby Road), noise complaint;
5:13 p.m.: RV complaint (Chickering
Road), c/o dirt bikes; 5:25 p.m.: build-
ing checked, secure; 5:54 p.m.: mutual
aid (West Main Street), Hubbardston
PD bolo; 6:49 p.m.: medical/general
(Chestnut Street); 7:11 p.m.: juvenile
matter (Holmes Street), req. assis-
tance; 8:26 p.m.: RV complaint (Lamb
Grove), ATVs in roadway; 9:07 p.m.:
officer wanted (Chestnut Street), noise
in trunk; 9:18 p.m.: building checked,
secure; 9:28 p.m.: mv complaint (Main
Street), erratic operator; 9:29 p.m.: lost/
found (Smithville Road), wallet found.

MONDAY, JUNE 28
12:56-1:51 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:05 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 7:25 a.m.: animal complaint (Old Farm Road), duck not moving; 8:07 a.m.: lost/found (Main Street), license plate found; 8:58 a.m.: animal complaint (Briarcliff Lane), barking dog; 9:02 a.m.: parking complaint (Cherry Street), truck blocking access; 10:37 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Valley Street), accidental; 10:52 a.m.: suspicious mv (Maple Street), investigated; 11:40 a.m.: DPW call (Clark Road), low-hanging wire; 11:42 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 11:49 a.m.: fraud (Main Street), scam call; 1:04 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Jolicoeur Road), accidental; 1:15 p.m.: elderly matter (Church Street), services rendered; 2:14 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 3:02 p.m.: DPW call (South Spencer Road), low-hanging wire; 4:21 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), req. welfare check; 5:05 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 5:17 p.m.: 911 call (South Spencer Road), child w/phone; 5:53 p.m.: animal complaint (Chickering Road), dead deer in water; 6:29 p.m.: fire alarm (Church Street), referred; 6:32 p.m.: juvenile matter (Sullivan Street), unruly teen; 6:40 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), neighbor issue; 6:50 p.m.: disturbance (Northwest Road), neighbor issue; 7:02 p.m.: fire alarm (Crestview Drive), referred; 7:09 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 9:03 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:29 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Mechanic Street), fourth consecutive night; 10:21 p.m.: suspicious persons (Chestnut Street), re: earlier visitors; (Total daily mv stops -6).

TUESDAY, JUNE 29
2:15 a.m.: officer wanted (Roys Drive), hears rushing water; 8:26 a.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), dead raccoons; 9:00 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), open line; 10:21 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), c/o harassment; 10:31 a.m.: animal complaint (Lakeshore Drive), cat missing; 10:53 a.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), loose dog; 11:04 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 11:06 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), poss. abandoned bicycle; 12:04 p.m.: officer wanted (Chickering Road), info taken; 12:30 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), bird in house; 1:31 p.m.: animal complaint (Park Street), lifeguards rep. barking dog tied to fence; 2:11 p.m.: disabled mv (Pleasant Street), assisted; 2:17 p.m.: 911 call (Leon Drive), accidental; 3:06 p.m.: 911 call (Roberta Bay), misdiagnosed; 3:33 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/6 (West Main Street), assisted; 3:56 p.m.: medical/general (Briarcliff Lane); 4:22 p.m.: restraining order service (Temple Street); 5:21 p.m.: disabled mv (Route 49), services rendered; 5:49 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), unwanted party; 5:58 p.m.: animal complaint (Debbie Drive), bear in neighborhood; 7:04 p.m.: fraud (Hastings Road), scam call/PCH; 7:11 p.m.: fire alarms (Grove Street), referred; 8:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), barking dog; 10:25 p.m.: DPW call (Irving Street), lg. branch on wires; 11:09 p.m.: medical/general (Woodland Lane); 11:30 p.m.: medical/general (Candlewood Drive); (Total daily mv stops - 4).

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Leicester Police

THURSDAY, JUNE 24
12:00 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log), unlicensed operation, mv towed; 2:27 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), investigated; 3:27 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Sylvia D. Nelson, 49, 338 Main Street, #1, Cherry Valley, op w/ suspended license/subsequent offense, possession Class B drug, arrest; Jason M. Jarmulowicz, 40 Brooks Pond Road, Spencer, warrant, arrest; 8:36 a.m.: investigation (Ferncroft Road), services rendered; 9:31 a.m.: suspicious person (Marshall Street), gone on arrival; 9:46 a.m.: investigation (Midstate Drive, Auburn), services rendered; 10:10 a.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 3:33 p.m.: disturbance (Rawson Street), peace restored; 4:46 p.m.: assist other PD (McCarthy Avenue), services rendered; 8:01 p.m.: assist other PD (Mulberry Street), report taken; 11:30 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning.

FRIDAY, JUNE 25
12:46 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street),
verbal warning; 1:00 a.m.: mv stop
(Main Street), citation issued; 2:11
a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), writ-
ten warning; 2:23 a.m.: mv stop (Mill
Street), verbal warning; 2:32 a.m.: dis-
abled mv (Pleasant Street), spoken
to; 3:40 a.m.: mv stop (South Main
Street), verbal warning; 1:25 p.m.: wel-
fare check (Lillian Avenue), assisted;
2:43 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Wendy
Place), spoken to; 3:48 p.m.: welfare
check (Main Street), services ren-
dered; 7:47 p.m.: breaking/entering
(Boyd Street), investigated; 8:22 p.m.:
suspicious mv (Wasilla Drive), unable
to locate; 11:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main
Street), written warning.

SATURDAY, JUNE 26
12:11 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street),
verbal warning; 12:57 a.m.: mv stop
(Main Street), verbal warning; 1:00
a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal
warning; 1:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main
Street), verbal warning; 1:44 a.m.:
noise complaint (Charles Street), ser-
vices rendered; 1:57 a.m.: suspicious
mv (Oakwood Lane), services ren-
dered; 2:14 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon
Memorial Highway), verbal warn-
ing; 2:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street),
spoken to; 3:00 a.m.: mv stop (Main
Street), verbal warning; 3:26 a.m.: mv
stop (Main Street), written warning;
3:36 a.m.: open door/window (Main
Street), services rendered; 3:59 a.m.:
mv stop (Main Street), citation issued;
4:22 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal
warning; 6:56 a.m.: ambulance (Main

Street), transported; 10:05 a.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), unfounded; 10:14 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unfounded; 1:30 p.m.: ambulance (Charlton Street), transported; 4:00 p.m.: welfare check (Soojians Drive), gone on arrival; 4:48 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:00 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 5:05 p.m.: assist other agency (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 11:51 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 11:59 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning.

SUNDAY, JUNE 27
12:25 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:36 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 12:56 a.m.: mv stop (Mulberry Street), spoken to; 1:54 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:33 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 2:42 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 2:54 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 3:33 a.m.: disturbance (Town Beach Road), peace restored; 8:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:59 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 11:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 11:26 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:40 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 1:46 p.m.: mv stop (Huntton Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 3:51 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:58 p.m.: malicious mischief (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 8:25 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), spoken to; 9:02 p.m.: erratic operator (Paxton Street), no action required; 9:27 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), no action required; 9:33 p.m.: erratic operator (Whittemore Street), unable to locate; 9:55 p.m.: investigation (Westminster Street), spoken to; 11:11 p.m.: harassment (Green Street), spoken to; 11:42 p.m.: welfare check (Market Street), peace restored.

MONDAY, JUNE 28
12:38 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 8:31 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 8:41 a.m.: vandalism (Stafford Street), report taken; 8:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 9:03 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 9:17 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:32 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 10:00 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:07 a.m.: welfare check (Mulberry Street), gone on arrival; 10:17 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 11:06 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 2:00 p.m.: fraud (Stafford Street), report taken; 2:24 p.m.: fraud (Main Street), report taken; 4:20 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 4:49 p.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), no action required; 5:35 p.m.: assist citizen (Siani Road), report taken; 6:37 p.m.: larceny (Soojians Drive), report taken; 8:21 p.m.: open door/window (Main Street), no action required; 11:36 p.m.: suspicious vehicle (Auburn Street), spoken to.

TUESDAY, JUNE 29
5:05 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street),
citation issued; 6:39 a.m.: assist other
agency (Stafford Street), spoken to;
12:38 p.m.: investigation (Stafford
Street), services rendered; 4:08 p.m.:
summons service (Lexington Avenue),
unable to serve; 4:59 p.m.: summons
service (Lexington Avenue), served;
9:49 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street),
unfounded.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30
12:39 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street),
written warning; 12:53 a.m.: suspicious
mv (Main Street), spoken to; 1:15 a.m.:
welfare check (Main Street), assist-
ed party; 8:55 a.m.: summons service
(Main Street), unable to serve; 9:16
a.m.: assist citizen (Ferncroft Road);
10:09 a.m.: accident (Main Street),
report taken; 11:55 a.m.: investigation
(South Main Street), services rendered;
2:27 p.m.: investigation (out of town, no
destination recorded on police log),
services rendered; 2:48 p.m.: animal
complaint (Stafford Street), no action
required; 5:36 p.m.: erratic operator
(Stafford Street), investigated; 5:37
p.m.: mv stop (River Street), spoken
to; 6:18 p.m.: welfare check (Watch
Street), investigated; 7:17 p.m.: harass-
ment (Pleasant Street), report taken.

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DUDLEY WATERFRONT! 14 Elizabeth St! Sought After Merino Pond, AKA High Pond! Full Recreational - All Water Sports and Activities! Your Kids will Love the Sandy Beach! 7 Rm Colonial! First Floor Features a Spacious Eat-in Country Kitchen w/Tons of Cabinet Space, Plenty of Room for a Huge Dining Table, Island w/Lunch Counter, Laundry Closet, Pantry Closet & Entry Closet! Comfortable 13 X 26' Living Rm! Possible Office or Bedroom off the Kitchen! Full Tile Bathroom! Second Floor w/4 Possible Bedrooms, 2 w/Water Views! Convenient Second Full Bathroom! Full Storage Basement! 2 Zone Oil Baseboard Heat! Town Services! **\$379,900.00**

SUTTON - 30 Jones Rd! 9 Room 2,156' Colonial! 5.31 Acres of Privacy! Long Circular Drive! New Granite Kitchen! Dining, Living & Fireplaced Family Rooms w/Hardwood Floors! Year Round Sunroom w/2 Skylights! 3 Bedrooms! 24' Master w/ Master Bath! 2.5 Bathrooms Total! 12x24 3 Season Porch w/3 Skylights! Expandable Attic! Wraparound Deck! 2 Car Garage! Central Air! Super Easy Access to Rte 146! **\$549,900.00**



ON DEPOSIT



ON DEPOSIT



ON DEPOSIT

DUDLEY - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/ Guest Closet! SS Appliance Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Chair Rail! Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6X27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Flr Laundry! The 2nd Floor w/4 Bdrms! Spacious Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner - Pride of Ownership! **\$509,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/ Cherry Hardwoods! Lake Facing Living Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hardwoods! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bedroom w/Full Bath, Cherry Hardwoods & Walk-in Closet! Fireplaced Lower Level Family Rm! 1st & 2nd Floor Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$979,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 504 Treasure Island! 6 Room Townhouse Overlooking the Pool! 1,874 Sq Ft! Stainless Steel Appliance Granite Kitchen! Open Floor Plan! Dining Room - Full Mirrored Wall - Sliders to the Trex Deck! 2 Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Fireplaced Family Room! Garage! Central Air! Gas Heat! CVac! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Sandy Beach! Complex Recent Siding & Roof! **\$389,900.00**

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Heritage Pines Condo Town House - Everything one would expect and then more! 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, all Hardwood floors, granite, stainless steel appliances, central air, 2 decks, 2800 sq ft +/- of finished living area., and so much more! **\$319,900.**

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WATERFRONT THOMPSON - BECOLA RD



ON DEPOSIT

5+ Acre Waterfront Land On "Little Pond/ Schoolhouse Pond. Private Setting. Open Field. 250+ feet Waterfrontage. Dead end road! **\$179,900**

FEATURED NEW LISTING - WEBSTER - 22 ELAINE STREET



Bonnett Acres - Beautiful Residential Neighborhood! 3 bedroom Ranch, Hardwoods, cabinet packed kitchen! Tile bath, partially finished lower level! 20' X 12' deck! Garage! all on a nice level lot. Private well plus town water & sewer! A must see. **\$255,000.**

FEATURED NEW LISTING - WEBSTER - 135 LAKE STREET



2 THUMBS UP! A RARE FIND! A TRULY ABOVE AVERAGE-TOP NOTCH-HIGH QUALITY-TWO FAMILY! SPACIOUS, CLEAN, UPDATED & EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Apt# 2 - 1,536 SF +/- & 3 BRs on the 2nd Flr. Apt# 1 - 1,290 SF +/- & 2 BRs on the 1st floor. Perfect setup for the INLAWS or MORTGAGE HELPERS. 1st Flr. HWBB By Oil, 2nd Flr apt. HWBB by natural gas. Spacious Rooms, High Ceilings, impeccable hardwood flrs & solid doors, granite tops, laundry hookups in ea. unit. Incredible Common Areas to Enjoy like the L-Shaped Covered Farmers Porch! Level Lot! **\$399,900.**

LAND

WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Webster- Douglas Rd (Rte. 16) 26 ACRES on Sugar-loaf Hill. 1000+/- ft of road frontage

SORRY SOLD! \$200,000

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **\$89,900**

Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. **\$115,000.**

Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **ON DEPOSIT! Each \$24,500.**

WEBSTER - 99 UPPER GORE ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Location! Scenic Upper Gore! "BIRDS EYE VIEW" of Webster Lake! Spacious Tr-Level. 2,279 sq. ft., 4 BRS, 1 full Bath, 2 half baths. Inground pool. 2 Car Garage **\$275,000.**

STAMFORD CT - 57 BARHOLM AVENUE



SORRY, SOLD!

Beautiful Stone faced. 8 room Colonial, 4 bedroom, 3 Full baths, one Half bath. Stone fireplace. 2236 Sq. Ft. living area. Walk up attic. 2 car garage. Heated by Natural Gas, Town Water, assisted sale **\$660,000.**

SHREWSBURY * 15 ABBEY LN UNIT 15



SORRY, SOLD!

Detached Condo Brand Spankin New - 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, all Hardwood Flrs, Granite C-tops Throughout. Crown Mouldings Raised panels, Chair rails PictureFrame Mouldings. Central air/Vac. High end Appliances Packed! assisted sale **\$480,000.**

WORCESTER - 28-L BOSTON AVE



SORRY, SOLD!

Very nicely maintained 5 room, 2 bedroom home. Open concept kitchen/living room. Many recent updates, including wall to wall carpeting! Easy commuter location! assisted sale **\$230,000.**

WEBSTER * 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET



SORRY, SOLD!

large 3 Family- a rare find! 1st Floor spacious 2 bedroom apartment. 2 - 2nd floor, 3 bedroom apartments Walkout basement to off street parking. **\$289,900.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



SORRY, SOLD!

WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind, Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180' +/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining, formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! **Re-member, Timing Is Everything!** **\$1,075,000.**



Webster - 401 Treasure Island Condo

WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 end unit. Year round enjoyment! Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms Appliance Kitchen. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area. Hardwood Floor & Carpet. Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets, Master Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Central Air! Central Vac! Very efficient natural gas heat & hot Water! 2 Boat Slips D10 & D11 in the Private Marina. Heated Pool! Natural Sandy Beach! **\$439,000.**

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JUNE'S SINGLE FAMILY HOMES REAL ESTATE MARKET

DUDLEY

	June 2020	June 2021	Trend
Median Price	\$288,200	\$456,550	▲
Market Volume	\$4,059,700	\$6,370,061	▲
# of Homes Sold	14	14	►
Avg Days on Market	60	48	▼
Month Supply Inv.	1.63	1.89	▲

WEBSTER

	June 2020	June 2021	Trend
Median Price	\$284,00	\$310,000	▲
Market Volume	\$2,269,000	\$5,556,211	▲
# of Homes Sold	7	16	▲
Avg Days on Market	68	19	▼
Month Supply Inv.	1.58	.41	▼

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Market Analysis

RAPSCALLION

continued from page A1

about 20 days.

On July 2, guests took a tour through the brewery and learned about the process from start to finish. With an extensive array of equipment at its Spencer production facility, the Rapscallion team has everything it needs to create and ship high-quality products.

The newly acquired facility also enables area residents, customers, and brewing aficionados to visit and learn about the process. Moreover, the recently opened taproom allows guests to sample products on site.

It took a major effort for the Rapscallion team to convert the facility. Trench drains were installed, the floors were painted, a bar was added to the taproom, and a moving company was hired to transport all of the equipment from Sturbridge – all during a pandemic that caused delays and complicated planning phases.

Mug Members are thrilled to be part of the new Rapscallion Brewery location in Spencer.

New hours for the taproom are 2-9 every day. The business is starting a home brew club, and staff members will also support renovation efforts at Luther Hill Park and other local projects. The goal is to be active and involved in the community, Daniel said.

The brewery also operates restaurants in Concord and Acton. Beer produced at the Spencer facility will be shipped to those locations.

To learn more about the latest developments at the brewery, visit www.DrinkRapscallion.com. Guests are reminded to continue bringing their own food to the taproom, but brewery leaders are hoping to work with local food vendors in the future.

The brewery also celebrates its newly minted Mug Members, with 20 members already joining the new Spencer location.



State Representatives Peter Durant, left, and Donald Berthiaume, right, celebrate with Rapscallion Brewery officials Cedric Daniel, second right, and Jonas Noble.



Local officials celebrate with the Rapscallion Brewery team.

SCAMS

continued from page A1

Police warn residents that fraudsters can often seem friendly and sympathetic, or they may use fear and intimidation tactics. Scammers often attempt to get victims to click on links in emails or texts; sometimes they even disguise themselves as local numbers or contacts.

“In scams involving Medicare, fraudsters pose as Medicare representatives to get seniors to give them their personal information, such as their Medicare identification number,” read the statement released by the SPD. “The fraudster uses this information to bill Medicare for fraudulent services and then pockets the money.”

Counterfeit prescription drugs have also become a major problem in recent years. As prices for prescription drugs increase, seniors often look to the internet to find cheaper prices for their medications. Fraudsters are well aware of this and set up websites that advertise cheap prescription drugs, which are

usually counterfeit, police said.

Funeral schemes are also gaining in popularity, with scammers using obituaries to gain information about the deceased. They later use this information when contacting family members in an attempt to extort money. Some scammers even claim the decedent has an outstanding debt that must be paid immediately.

“Those close to the deceased are usually in a vulnerable state and are more likely to pay the fraudulent debt,” read the statement released by the SPD.

Email scams are particularly dangerous for seniors. Victims are often tricked into downloading fake anti-virus software that allows scammers access to personal information on their computers. Seniors might also respond to phishing emails sent by scammers asking them to update their bank or credit card information on a phony website.


Even with the rise of email and texting scams, phone scams remain the most common practice used against the elderly. Scammers often try to convince seniors to wire money by claiming to be

a family member who is in trouble and needs money. They might also solicit money from the elderly by posing as a fake charity, especially after a natural disaster. Some scammers might simply ask seniors if they wish to support a local organization or police department.

Scams related to investments, mortgages, and sweepstakes are also common. The grandparent scam is also on the rise, with scammers calling an older person and pretending to be their grandchild.

“The scammer tells the grandparent that they are in some sort of financial bind and asks if they can send money using Western Union or MoneyGram to help them out,” read the SPD-released statement. “The scammer asks the grandparent not to tell anyone about their situation. Once the scammer receives the money, he continues to contact the grandparent and asks them to send more money.”

A number of helpful links related to avoiding scams are available on the SPD social media page.



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Spencer – Wire Village Rd – New construction! Split Entry, 3 bdrm, 2.5 ba. 2 acre lot, vaulted ceilings, hardwood flooring in livingroom & kitchen, granite, cherry cabinetry, deck off the kitchen! Front to back Mastersuite w/ large walk-in closet. Bonus room & 1/2 bath on the lower level. **CENTRAL AIR! \$489,900.**



Sturbridge – Main St – Quick occupancy – Duplex style. Town water & sewer. Main roof was updated last year, new hot water tank (apt A), paved driveway, new gas furnace (apt B). Investment for 1st time homebuyer looking for a mortgage helper. **\$314,900**



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