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# SPENCER NEW LEADER

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# Depleted Wolverines hold their own against Grafton



Leicester's Lily Peterson, left, makes a play on the ball versus Grafton.



Leicester's Jordan Clarke catches a pass in stride with her right foot.



Abigail Johnson of Leicester runs forward to gain momentum before throwing the ball in.



Maura Granville of Leicester gets in front of a Grafton player and heads the ball down the field.

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

LEICESTER — Only 14 varsity players were on hand for Leicester High's girls' soccer team on Friday, Sept. 10 at Community Field when they played host to Grafton High. And, over the course of the contest, two of those players unfortunately went down with injuries, depleting an already thin Wolverines' roster down to 12 and thus leaving the bench with one substitute

at a time.

Leicester battled nonetheless and kept the game competitive throughout, ultimately falling by a 5-0 score.

"I think we played really well. In the first half we were super strong. We definitely had injuries," said Wolverines' head coach Autumn Connor. "I think everybody left it on the field."

Connor added that even the healthy players in her lineup are battling various injuries, including the senior class.

"We have seven seniors, six that played today, and unfortunately they

Turn To **SOCCER**, page **A4**

## Stormy weather delays completion of Town Common upgrades

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Officials always factor potential weather delays into construction schedules, but no one could have imagined just how much of an impact Mother Nature would have on the Town Common improvement project this summer.

After significant rainfall throughout the summer delayed the Complete Streets Town Common upgrades, selectmen recently voted on alterations to the Harvest Fair setup. The board decided to move the portion of the fair that typically takes place on the Common to the former Becker property across the street.

"The weather has been complicating

Turn To **COMMON**, page **A4**

## SOFTBALL TOURNNEY



Photo Courtesy

Last weekend, members of the Leicester Police Department played in the fifth annual Officer Ronald Tarentino, Jr. Softball Tournament. The department thanks all sponsors who covered the entry fee and uniforms.

## Public input sought on school building project

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – As the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District continues to evaluate options for a future building project, community input is requested for the next step.

"Our local School Building Committee has been hard at work throughout the pandemic," read a statement released by SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey. "As a result of our collaborative efforts with the Massachusetts School Building Authority, we are currently in the work of module three, the feasibility study. As part of the feasibility study, we are asking for your input and feedback on our high school building project."

Turn To **PROJECT**, page **A19**

# Planning Board finalizes revisions to solar facility bylaws

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – With the town's large-scale solar moratorium set to expire in November, selectmen are expecting to soon receive proposed bylaw revisions from the Planning Board.

Final Planning Board hearings took place this month, culminating with members' approval of the proposed revisions last week. The recommended changes to the bylaw are scheduled to be sent to selectmen in time to be placed on a Fall Town Meeting warrant.

"This is the most potent bylaw revision that we can have," said Town Planner Todd Miller. "We are confident that it will make it through the Attorney General's office."

The proposed changes to the bylaw, which were also approved by Town Counsel, must now receive a two-thirds majority vote at Town Meeting to take effect. The revisions would then need to be approved by the Attorney General's office.

At a Special Town Meeting in November of last year, residents voted to impose a one-year moratorium on the use of land or structures for large-scale, ground-mounted solar installations.

During the moratorium period, the Planning Board has reviewed zoning bylaw language pertaining to large-scale solar projects. Assistance was provided by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC).

"The town had asked us to do some research and recommend possible solar bylaw changes," said CMRPC spokesman Andrew Loew. "A memo was sent their way in March outlining recommendations on site setbacks, ownership changes, permit caps, and mitigation of visual impacts."

Spencer has received at least 17 large-scale solar proposals in recent years, with seven projects advancing through the permitting phases and becoming operational.

With the moratorium soon to expire, Planning Board members knew the importance of meeting their deadlines

Turn To **SOLAR**, page **A14**



# West Brookfield residents pay tribute to victims of 9/11

WEST BROOKFIELD – Area residents took part in several remembrance events last weekend to honor the victims and responders of Sept. 11, 2001.

In West Brookfield, a service included multiple religious officials and first responders. Held at First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, the Sept. 11 memorial service included prayers, reflections, and other comments from

officials. Speakers included Rev. Ann M. Rogers Brigham, Minister of First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC; Pastor Sandy Dam, of the George Whitefield United Methodist Church; and Rev. Joseph Rice, Pastor of the Roman Catholic communities of Mary Oratory in Brookfield and Sacred Heart of Jesus Church in West Brookfield.

“The words ‘never forget’ have remained etched in our collective memory in the years since Sept. 11. We all remember where we were that day,” said Rev. Rogers Brigham. “We never forget the lives lost on Sept. 11, and on the days following the attack.”

The event also included comments from Dan McCall, the Chief of EMS and President of the West Brookfield Rescue

Squad. Meanwhile, trumpeter Mike Spencer delivered a special memorial performance.

A moment of silence was held, and guests were then invited to express their appreciation for local first responders and those who responded on Sept. 11, 2001. Residents wrote several messages of thanks that were given to first responders.



Photos Kevin Flanders

Memorial remarks are made by Rev. Ann M. Rogers Brigham, Minister of First Congregational Church of West Brookfield.



First responders look on during the memorial service.



Prayers and words of remembrance were offered by several local religious leaders.



Responders salute during a performance from trumpeter Mike Spencer.

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## Save money so you can reach your goals!

WARE — Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation (QVDC), is offering a 12-month matched savings program for low-income residents of the Quaboag Region and Southern Worcester County. The program is called the Harrison and Diane Quirk Financial Fitness Club.

QVDC's Harrison and Diane Quirk Financial Fitness Club is a financial capability-building and matched savings program offered with the MIDAS Collaborative and Monson Savings Bank. Its purpose is to assist low-income residents who live in the Quaboag Region and Southern Worcester County with putting money aside for one specific goal: purchasing an appliance, purchasing business equipment, making a down payment on a house, paying for household repairs, pursuing post-secondary education, renting an apartment, or buying a vehicle. Harrison and Diane Quirk Financial Fitness Club participants will open a savings account at the program start. QVDC will match every dollar saved in that account during the course of the program, up to a capped amount. This program is made possible

thanks to a generous donation by the late Harrison and Diane Quirk; as well as funding from Baystate Health's Better Together Grant, The Health Foundation of Central Massachusetts' Activation Fund, and the Massachusetts Division of Banks's pilot program, Innovative Financial Literacy Initiatives & Debt Resolution Education.

QVDC will help program participants choose one of the savings goals above and create a deposit schedule accordingly. Each participant is required to attend monthly Financial Fitness classes to learn more about budgeting, saving, banking and credit repair. Meetings will be held from 5-7 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month from October 2021 to September 2022. Participants must have income, be motivated to save money, and be willing to attend Financial Fitness classes. Information sessions about the Harrison and Diane Quirk Financial Fitness Club will be held on Sept. 21 and 24 over Zoom. Call or email Mary at 413-497-4407 or [Marys@qvc.org](mailto:Marys@qvc.org) for more details or to sign up for an information session.

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## HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

**Aug. 31**

East Longmeadow 166, Tantasqua 177 — The Tantasqua Warrior varsity golf team played their first match of the season at Hemlock Ridge. They faced Western Mass. rival, the East Longmeadow Spartans. Medalist honors go to Kyle Fisk of East Longmeadow with a 38 on the par 36 layout. Low Warriors were Nathan Wright and Drew Howard who both shot 43.

**Sept. 8**

Tantasqua 179, Northbridge 200 — The Warriors' varsity golf team faced off against the Rams at Shining Rock Country Club. Medalist honors go to Northbridge's Will Pielt, who shot a 42 on the par-36 layout along with

junior Aubyn Phillips, who shot a 42 for Tantasqua. Phillips made an eagle 3 on the par-5 ninth hole to cap off his round. Tantasqua is now 1-1.

Tantasqua 7, Northbridge 1 — The JV soccer team handled the Rams, with Owen Stattenfield notching a hat trick. Ethan Parker, Daelan Ahearn, Emile Escobar and a header goal by Levi Shepard were the other scorers. Assisting on the goals were Joseph Chidster, Alex Kenney, Parker and Stattenfield. In goal splitting the duties were Ahearn and Brandon Phillips. The JV team is now 1-0-0.

**Sept. 10**

Tantasqua 173, Uxbridge 190 — The Warriors' golf team hosted the Spartans

at Hemlock Ridge, with Tantasqua winning the match. Medalist honors go to junior Aubyn Phillips, who shot a 41 on the par-36 layout. Tantasqua is now 2-1.

North Brookfield 4, Worcester Tech 0 — Junior Ty Babineau had two goals to lead the host Indians past Worcester Tech in field hockey. Sophomore Angie Fritze had a goal and assisted on a goal scored by senior Eve Tonks. Tyler Warner had the shutout with 15 saves as North Brookfield improved to 2-0.

Marlborough 27, Tantasqua 0 — The Warriors' football team opened its season hosting the Panthers, but they were unfortunately shut out on the scoreboard. Marlborough scored a touchdown in each quarter to slowly pull away from Tantasqua.

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. news during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call or email.

## Paxton Senior Center offers trip to New Hampshire's Lakes Region

PAXTON — After a very successful trip to the Isles of Shoals, area Seniors are traveling again on this foliage train ride through central New Hampshire.

Our day consists of a train ride on a special round-trip train excursion which departs from Meredith and heads north towards the White Mountains for an approximately a two-hour train ride each way. This route is only traveled during fall foliage season, so sit back in their comfy coaches and enjoy the fall scenery. You will pass Lake Waukewan and Lake Winona, follow along and over the Pemigewasset River from Ashland to Plymouth with station stops along the way.

Then get off the train at the Common Man Inn in Plymouth, where we will be served a hot buffet lunch consisting of homemade vegetable soup, rolls & butter, homemade meat lasagna & vegetable lasagna, roast turkey with sage stuffing, gravy & cranberry sauce, gar-

lic mashed potatoes with seasonal vegetable. For dessert, be delighted with cookies, brownies & assorted mini pastries. Everything is served with soda, coffee & tea.

On the return train ride, a stop in Ashland Station at the gateway to Squam Lake, better known as On Golden Pond. Please note that this tour is not wheelchair accessible and there is some walking, consisting of getting on & off the train on several occasions.

Our Bus trip will depart from the Paxton Senior Center, 17 West St., Paxton, at 7:30 a.m. with expectation of returning to Paxton by 6:30 p.m. Reservations need to be made and paid by Monday, Oct. 4. Checks should be payable to Wilson Bus Lines and mailed to Robert Wilby at 11 Tanglewood Rd., Paxton, MA 01612.

The cost of day on the bus, rails and lunch is \$120 per person.

Masks are required on the bus.

For more details or questions, email Bob at [rwilby@charter.net](mailto:rwilby@charter.net) or 508-792-4662.



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## Volunteers sought for Brookfield committees

BROOKFIELD – Resident volunteers are being sought to fill several vacancies on town committees.

Openings are available on the following town committees:

Advisory Committee (three); Bylaw Committee (five); Capital Improvements Planning Committee (four); Brookfield Commission on Disability (five); Local Public Access Committee (five); CDBG Advisory Committee (one); Personnel Board (two); and Zoning Board of Appeals, alternate members (three).

The town is also seeking an ADA coordinator.

Officials in most local towns have seen declining interest in municipal participation over the last five years. COVID-19 has exacerbated the problem, especially for older volunteers, and officials are hoping to see younger individuals step up and get involved in their town government.

"These open posts provide residents with an opportunity to literally have a seat at the meeting table when it comes to discussing, debating, and brainstorming town strategies," read a statement released by the town. "For those who have ideas to contribute, becoming a member of a municipal committee offers a valuable network to have their voices heard. In addition, joining a local group affords the chance to meet and connect with neighbors."

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on a town committee,

please email a letter of interest to: [selectmen@brookfieldma.us](mailto:selectmen@brookfieldma.us). You can also mail your letter to the Brookfield Select Board, 6 Central St., Brookfield, MA, 01506.

### A DAY AT THE FAIR



Photo Courtesy

**Jacob and Jayce Harvey from North Brookfield try their hand at a farm animal puzzle while visiting the Spencer Fair.**

### P.A.L. of the Week

Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

**Name:** Shilo

**Breed:** DSH

**Sex:** Female

**Age:** Kitten



Shilo is one of the "three musketeers." She came to the shelter with her brothers Opie and Bailey. Shilo is a little shy with new people but she is a very sweet natured kitten. Besides mealtime, her favorite activity is playing. She loves the other kittens and we would love her to be adopted with one of her brothers.



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The feeling of fall is in the air! My two dogs also feel the cooler temperatures, and are running around like a couple of puppies. My Yellow Lab TWIG knows what the cool temperatures mean. Hunting! The Massachusetts pheasant season opens on Oct. 16 in the Central District. Mass. Fish & Wildlife no longer raises pheasant, and shut down their pheasant raising pens years ago. It is a lot cheaper to buy them during the season from New York & Vermont, and stock them throughout the pheasant season. Unfortunately, the valley area has lost a couple of prime hunting covers over the years, which prompted the state to reduce the number of birds, that are stocked in our area.

Some local hunters are not happy with the situation, but take numerous trips to the Brookfield area to hunt birds with their dogs. They have found a few great spots to hunt birds and often find their limit of two birds on each trip. Unfortunately, the grouse population continues to dwindle in the valley area, and reports from sportsmen north & west of the valley are reporting the same situation. The loss of prime habitat is the main reason, and is also affecting



Photos Courtesy

The first picture shows a large black bear ,and the second shows a file photo from Fat Nancy’s Tackle shop in Pulaski, N.Y. of a young lady with a nice salmon caught a few years ago on the Salmon River.



the woodcock populations in our area. Ground nesting birds have a lot more predators to contend with also.

A report from a resident that lives on Henry Street in Uxbridge last week, about the possible siting of four bears that were spotted in his yard, was the first report of multiple sightings in Uxbridge. He was not too sure about what he had actually seen until he observed a number of large foot prints on his lawn. He showed me the picture of one print that was no question, made by a black bear.

Upstate New York salmon

fishing is improving every day on the Salmon River. If you want to watch anglers fishing on the Salmon River on live cam, log onto Fat Nancy’s Web page and click on their 24 hours live cam, showing anglers fishing the Salmon River. You can also get there daily hour by hour fishing report and water temperature in the river. If you are planning a trip to Upstate New York, the time is quickly approaching. On the 16th of this month, anglers fishing the Salmon River reported a large school of coho salmon working their way upstream. There

were also some kings mixed in.

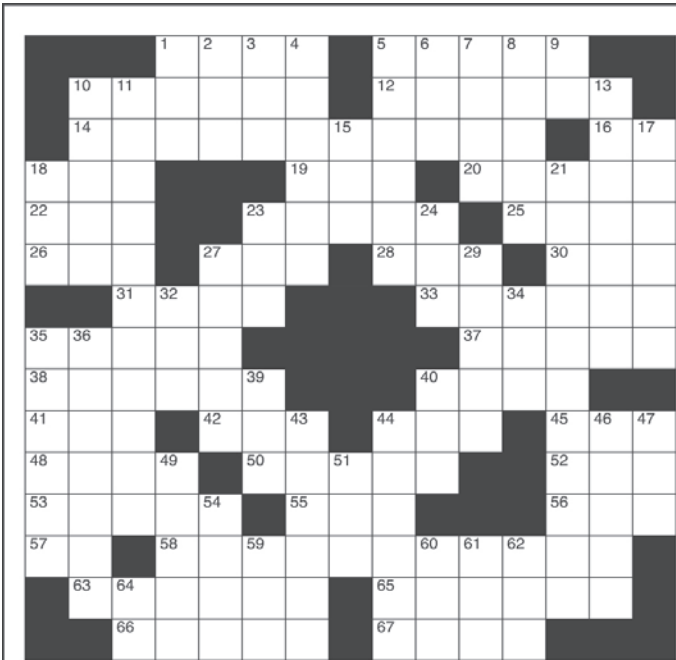
The tackle shop was quick to say that the big push of salmon has not started, but do expect it to start any day now. Get your rods and gear ready, and tell the boss you are going fishing. The Salmon River is only five hours away from the valley. This week’s picture shows an angler with a nice salmon from the Salmon River, and the fishing is only going to get better.

Goose hunting has been slow because of standing corn in most fields. Hunters that have

a golf course to hunt on, or a grassy field that has been cut are harvesting a few geese locally.

Do not forget the Whitinsville Fish & Game Clubs annual field day this Saturday, Sept. 18, at their club headquarters on White Court in Douglas. Fun and games, along with shooting on all ranges, and great food will be available all day. The grounds open at 11 a.m. with plenty of free parking.

*Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!*

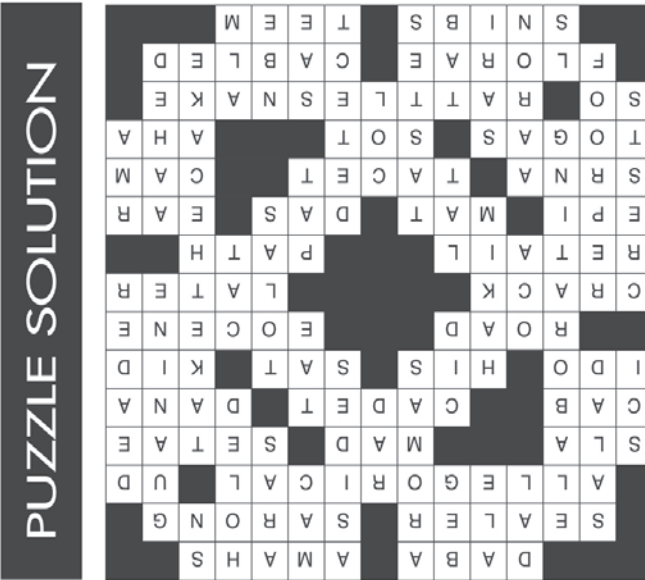


CLUES ACROSS

1. Religion native to some in China
5. Nursemaids
10. Coats a porous surface
12. Garment of long cloth
14. Containing a broader message
16. University of Dayton
18. Patti Hearst’s captors
19. Insane
20. Bristlelike structures in invertebrates
22. Taxi
23. Trainee
25. Comedian Carvey
26. Some couples say it
27. Belong to he
28. High schoolers’ test
30. Young goat
31. You drive on one
33. Denotes a time long ago
35. Space between two surfaces
37. By and by
38. A way to sell
40. A line left by the passage of something
41. Indicates near
42. Where wrestlers compete
44. Prosecutors
45. Body part
48. Soluble ribonucleic acid
50. Indicates silence
52. NFL’s Newton
53. Ancient Roman garments
55. Drunkard
56. Expression of satisfaction
57. Thus
58. Noisy viper
63. Plants of a particular region
65. Communicated with
66. Latches a window
67. Swarm with

CLUES DOWN

1. Split pulses
2. Brew
3. Ask humbly
4. Distinctive smells
5. Digressions
6. Partner to cheese
7. Father of Araethyrea
8. Made a cavity
9. Tin
10. Appetizer
11. Presenting in detail
13. Compound in guano and fish scales
15. Cool!
17. “ \_\_ than a doornail”
18. Popular literary form \_\_ fi
21. Be the most remarkable
23. “Final Fantasy” universe character
24. Buffer solution
27. Muslim physician using traditional remedies
29. Fantastical planet
32. S. American plant
34. Domesticated animal
35. The tops of mountains
36. Expression of disapproval
39. Skeletal muscle
40. Game show host Sajak
43. One’s interests
44. Identify the existence of
46. Partner to “oohed”
47. Does not accept medical help (abbr.)
49. Hammerin’ Hank
51. Lowest point of a ridge between two peaks
54. Elaborately draped garment
59. Check
60. Car mechanics group
61. One point east (clockwise) of due north
62. Austrian river
64. A command to list files



COMMON

continued from page A1

matters. We want to make sure that the fair is successful and the people have fun, so the Becker campus will fit the bill for that,” said Town Administrator David Genereux.

The project contractor, P.J. Keating, is still expecting to get the Common ready in time for the Harvest Fair. But officials didn’t want to take any chances with a popular fall-time event that usually draws thousands of guests to the Common.

The improvement project was funded through a grant from Complete Streets, a program that enables communities throughout the state to upgrade streets, sidewalks, and other public ways.

The Leicester project included road widening and reconstruction at Washburn Square, as well as sidewalk reconstruction and replacement curbs. A wheelchair-accessible viewing ramp was also installed, facing the bandstand.

SOCCER

continued from page A1

didn’t get a [true] season last year. Even though a few of them have injuries, they’re trying but they’re not able to give what they want,” she said.

Connor put the entire season, and the past year and a half, in perspective to her players.

“I said, ‘ladies, end of the day we’re out here playing soccer. There’s a lot of teams not playing at all,’” she noted.

After losing to perennial power Millbury High in the season opener on Wednesday, Sept. 8, Connor implemented a new defensive scheme. With only Sept. 9 to work on it through practice, she was pleased with her team’s defensive output versus Grafton.

“They did an excellent job today adapting to the new

Sidewalk construction focused on the east side of Paxton Street, from Main Street to Winslow Avenue. Meanwhile, new sections of curb were added on the south side of Winslow Avenue, from Paxton Street to the school crossing.

The project also featured the installation of high-visibility crosswalks; the application of thermoplastic pavement markings for new curb sections; and the installation of a new catch basin on Winslow Avenue, with a connection to existing drainage systems.

Construction took place throughout the summer. The Common was still available for use during the Concerts on the Common series, but because the Harvest Fair requires use of the entire Common, officials voted on the change in location.

Despite the delays, officials are pleased with the results of the project.

“This project will address long-standing safety and accessibility issues, as well as provide a needed renovation to the pavement

defense,” she said. “Our first game was Wednesday and we learned that we had to adjust.”

Sophia Kling got the scoring started for the Gators. In the 28th minute, she took a feed from Bridget Kennedy and shot past sprawling keeper Annie Hunt, who nearly came away with a beautiful save.

Moments later, Kling struck again, this time in the 30th minute to give Grafton a 2-0 halftime lead.

Kling finished off a hat trick with her third goal, scoring in the game’s 56th minute. Tori Paulaskis (71st minute) and Lola Follanshee (77th minute) put the finishing touches on the victory with late second-half strikes.

This wasn’t a total one-sided effort, though. Leicester had its chances. In the first half, Grace Bujak fed a pass over to Maura Granville. From there,

areas around the Common,” read a statement released by the town.

Looking ahead, new benches will soon be installed on the Common. They were funded through a separate grant program.

The 21st annual Leicester Harvest Fair will be held on Saturday, Sept. 18, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Harvest Fair brochures are available at the Town Hall, Senior Center, Leicester Public Library, and at local businesses.

In addition to dozens of vendors, the event will include exhibits featuring garden vegetables and flowers; canned and baked goods; homebrew; photography; and fiber crafts.

Additionally, skilled artisans will demonstrate historic crafts, and local crafters will sell their wares. Traditional folk music performances will take place at the bandstand. Meanwhile, activities for children will entertain families and fairgoers of all ages.

To learn more about the event, visit [www.leicesterma.org](http://www.leicesterma.org).

Granville put a nice shot on net, which was ultimately saved. Rian Fadden then took a free kick shortly thereafter, which was punched aside.

That trio then struck for a near goal in the second half when Granville found Bujak, who then passed to her right to a streaking Fadden. Fadden’s blast was a hard shot on net that seemed destined to find the back of the net. Unfortunately, though, it was saved.

The Wolverines finished with seven shots on net and generated five corner kicks.

“It’s there. We’ve just got to fine-tune,” Connor said. “We have a lot of talented players. It’s just getting it all together.”

Despite the 0-2 start, Connor is confident in her team and believes that anyone who sees the Wolverines play later in the season will be pleasantly surprised with the team improvement.

“We’re going to come back strong and people are not going to recognize us for how we started our season,” Connor concluded.

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# Help for weather-stressed lawns



GARDEN  
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The extreme heat and drought of 2021 across much of the country has turned many lawns brown. Damaged lawns may be thin, contain dead patches or are overrun with weeds.

Fall is a good time to improve the health and appearance of a weather-worn lawn. Start the process by evaluating the damage. Then plan a course of action and be prepared to follow through as needed with proper care.

Fall fertilization can help improve thin lawns and those with numerous small dead patches the size of a baseball or smaller. Apply fertilizer in early September to help lawns recover from summer stress while encouraging denser growth and deeper, more drought tolerant roots. Those in warmer climates growing grasses like centipede, Bermuda and zoysia should make sure the last fall application is at least one month prior to the average first killing frost. Use a low nitrogen, slow-release fertilizer that won't harm stressed lawns and young seedlings if repairing or overseeding the lawn.

Continue to mow high as long as the grass continues to grow. Taller grass

produces deeper, more drought tolerant roots. Mow often, removing only a third of the total height. This is less stressful on the lawn and results in shorter clippings that can be left on the lawn. The clippings return moisture, nutrients, and organic matter to the soil.

Use a sharp blade for a cleaner cut that closes more quickly, reducing water consumption and risk of insects and disease while leaving the lawn looking its best. You'll also save time as sharp blades cut more efficiently and reduce fuel consumption by as much as 22 percent.

Improving a lawn's growing conditions will help it recover more quickly and equip it to better manage environmental stress. Core aerate lawns that have more than one half an inch of thatch, those growing in compacted soils, or before overseeding. By removing plugs of soil, you will break through the thatch and create channels for water and fertilizer to reach the grass roots. For best results, core aerate the lawn when its actively growing; fall for cool season grasses and spring or early summer for warm season grasses.

Hand removal of weeds is the most environmentally friendly option. Organic broadleaf weedkillers with the active ingredient Fehedta or Hedta is another option. Spot treat problem areas to minimize the use of chemicals and reduce the stress on already stressed lawns. As always, read and follow label directions carefully wheth-

er using traditional, natural or organic chemicals.

Repair dead and bare patches in cool season lawns that are the size of a soccer ball or larger as needed. Those growing warm season grasses will have the best results when seeding in spring through early summer. Rake away dead grass and debris roughening and exposing the soil below. Spread grass seed over the area and lightly rake to ensure seed-to-soil contact. Or mix a handful of grass seed in a bucket of compost or potting mix. The organic matter helps conserve moisture and promotes seed sprouting. Spread the mix over the soil surface. Water these areas often enough to keep the soil surface moist until the grass seed sprouts. As grass begins to grow, water more deeply and less often to encourage a robust drought tolerant root system.

Proper maintenance and a bit of cooperation from nature will help transform your lawn from a disappointment to an asset in your landscape.

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

## Local golf results

Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club

Pit's Crew  
First place (-9): Tony Negger, George Lawton, Al Judkins, Carl Ahonen  
Second place (-6): Gary Herl, Rich Ferguson, Paul Sokol, Steve Lundergan  
Third place (-5): Rich Ford, Paul Boulette, Ray Dupell

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Photo Melinda Myers

Fall is a good time to improve the health and appearance of a stressed lawn.

## Rochdale VFW Post 7556 celebrates 75th anniversary!

ROCHDALE — The Rochdale VFW Post 7556 celebrated its founding this month. The post was established and awarded its charter on June 6, 1946 with 28 charter members (veterans).

In recognition of the Post's anniversary the post was honored to have Massachusetts VFW State Commanders, Doug Wood (2021-2022) and Russell Jobe (2020-2021), along with Massachusetts VFW District 8 Commander, Joseph McMahan in attendance for the September monthly business meeting and award ceremony.

During the business meeting State Commander, Russell Jobe, presented Post 7556 Commander, Bill LeBeau, with the Diamond Jubilee Award 75th Anniversary, issued by VFW Commander in Chief, Hal Roesch II (2020-2021).

The officers and members of Rochdale VFW Post 7556 would like to thank the State Commanders, Doug Wood, Russell Jobe and District Commander for coming to Rochdale and celebrating the post's Anniversary.

## Friday's Child



Photo by Kathryn Morgan

Nacari and Nikira  
Age 14 and 15

Hi! Our names are Nacari and Nikira and we want to be adopted together!

Nikira and Nacari are siblings of African-American descent who are looking forward to finding their forever home together! Nikira is a likable and friendly girl who gets along well with both adults and her peers. Her favorite activities include yoga, cooking, singing, dancing, and painting. She also enjoys going to church and loves being a part of her Girl Scouts troop. When she grows up, Nikira would like to be a teacher because she enjoys reading on her own and to others. Nikira is on the Autism spectrum, and her teachers describe her as intelligent, talkative, and able to follow directions and form relationships with others.

Nacari describes himself as shy, quiet, likable and well-behaved. Others describe him as a sweet, smart

and loving boy. His favorite activities include playing basketball and video games. Nacari is on the Autism spectrum and interacts well with his peers. Nacari does well in class with extra supports and loves going to school.

Nikira and Nacari will do best in a loving but strong family that is able to provide the siblings with support and set appropriate limits and boundaries. Their social worker is open to exploring homes with a mother and a father, two mothers, or a single mother. The siblings will do best in a home where they can be the youngest or only children. Nikira and Nacari are legally freed for adoption.

### 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.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.



### PERSON of the WEEK

**PASTOR STEPHEN DERICK, & THE PARISHIONERS OF THE GREENVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH, Rochdale, MA**

Pastor Stephen & the parishioners of the Greenville Baptist Church are our Person of the Week for their generous spirit and concern for the Leicester Public Schools. Pastor Stephen reached out to the LPS teachers and asked them what they needed this school year so that they wouldn't have to buy things out of pocket. Under his guidance, the folks of the Greenville Baptist Church came through and provided EVERY item the teachers asked for.

Thank you, Pastor Stephen and the parishioners of the Greenville Baptist Church, for your generosity in helping the LPS teachers and students.

— submitted by Linda Monahan

If you would like to nominate a PERSON OF THE WEEK, please email your suggestion to [jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jsima@stonebridgepress.news). Thank you.

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SNHU announces  
Summer 2021 President's List

SNHU  
announces Summer  
2021 Dean's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the summer 2021 President's List.

Full-time students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 & EW2,

EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6.

Michael King of Brookfield  
Sarah Risotti of North Brookfield  
Lauren Wilcox of West Brookfield  
Denis Leo of Spencer  
Nicole Nichols of West Brookfield  
Kimberly Walker of West Brookfield  
Thomas Bolduc of Spencer

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of educating traditional-aged students and work-

ing adults. Now serving more than 150,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at [www.snhu.edu](http://www.snhu.edu).

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the summer 2021 Dean's List.

Full-time students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 & EW2, EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6.

Catherine Robert of Spencer  
Alana Bertch of West Brookfield

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 150,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at [www.snhu.edu](http://www.snhu.edu).

SPENCER SUMMER  
CONCERT SERIES EXTENDED



Photo Courtesy

The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission's 2021 Summer Concert Series has been extended again with a performance by Chuck & Mud and The Hole in the Dam Band from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 19 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and Meadow Roads, Spencer. Chuck & Mud and The Hole in the Dam Band is a fun six piece band fronted by

Spencer's own Chuck and Mud Demers and featuring Walter Crockett, Peter Allard and others. The concert series is proudly sponsored by Cornerstone Bank. Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving the residents, businesses, and communities throughout Central Massachusetts from offices in Charlton, Holden, Leicester, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster and Worcester.

## Class of 2025 enrolls at Nichols College

DUDLEY — Nichols College has welcomed the newest members of our herd, the class of 2025.

John Nichols of Leicester  
Nicole Olson of Spencer  
Jack Segatore of W Brookfield

About Nichols College  
Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.



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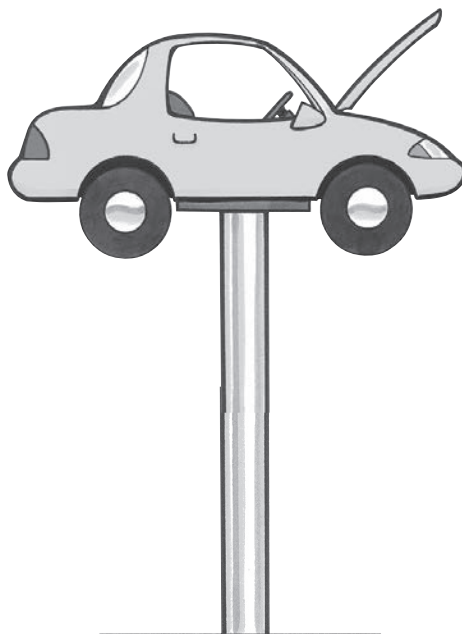


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FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE  
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

There is more  
to the labor  
shortage than  
laziness

All around the country, we’ve seen businesses reducing hours, restaurants reducing menu items and help wanted signs everywhere. “People just don’t want to work!” is the excuse we here uttered by anyone who hasn’t done their homework.

While it’s true there are some who don’t want to work, this certainly has not caused the labor shortage. Please note that since the dawn of history, there have always been those who don’t want to work. At the end of the day, if someone is able bodied enough to work and isn’t independently wealthy for some reason, and chooses not to work, well they end up unfortunately facing their own issues.


According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, job openings are at 9.3 million. Extended unemployment benefits have run out, so that argument is no more. In fact, only 3 percent of unemployed people earned enough with the extended benefits country wide to warrant not returning to work. Only 14 percent were earning more than they did prior to the extended benefits. The cessation of those benefits will send some people back to work, but not enough to make a dent. Experts say worker’s rights could have more to do with it.

Low pay is one reason for the shortage. In 1968, the federal minimum wage was \$1.60 per hour. Factoring in the rate of inflation since, that would be the equivalent to \$12.38 per hour in 2021; however, the federal minimum wage is just \$7.25 per hour in 2021. Walmart is now starting employees at \$17/hour, and McDonald’s restaurants in many New England states start their employees at \$15/hour. Lowes has just advertised to start paying \$18/hour. This is not good news for smaller local businesses who don’t have the backing of being a corporation.

Employees are also seeking better working conditions. Those in the restaurant business who rely on tips are sexually harassed at a much higher rate, and because of mask mandates, those workers are often asked to police rude and belligerent people who refuse to comply for either personal or political reasons.

The COVID lockdown has allowed many to re-evaluate what is really important and meaningful, and working a job where you’re harassed and underpaid just isn’t worth it. Flexibility that provides work life balance is what many are looking for. Remote work has allowed this to become more of a reality. Remote work has also allowed many companies to function with less employees. Workers without digital skills are out of luck as far as remote work goes until more training is available. There are some companies who do offer such training such as Google and Amazon.

Many Americans are also in a position where they need to stay home to care for vulnerable individuals including young children. While many schools and day-cares are open, many have closed due to COVID outbreaks, leaving parents without childcare. The opening and closing is unpredictable, and will remain that way until the pandemic is under control.



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# VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

McCallister’s words will fall on deaf ears

To the Editor:  
Mr. McCalister, you are wrong! You are a wordsmith. Your letter was brilliantly composed. Less is more, but I understand why you did go on a bit. It was succinct and, in the end, definitely “to the point.”

Your words will, however, fall on deaf ears. Some writers prefer to use important sounding words and long, rambling sentences to impress.

I look forward to any letters you write.

Respectfully,

SUE FOLEY  
SPENCER

Building a solid foundation

To the Editor:  
Just a very important reminder to parents, residents, and concerned citizens: The North Brookfield School Committee will be meeting on Sept. 20, at 7 p.m. in room 23A to discuss the all important subject of curriculum for the students.

Please do your best to be involved in this critical aspect of education of our young minds.

Thank You,

MATTHEW DEFOSSE  
SPENCER

A friend who proved to be a true life saver

To the Editor:  
I am writing to tell you about a wonderful lady who is the Director of the East Brookfield Senior Center. Her name is Cheryl Brodak.

Not only does she make each one of us feel special and important; she knows what to do in times of emergency. She provide it one day about three weeks ago, while we were having lunch at our senior center.

I was enjoying my lunch when suddenly, a piece of ham became caught in my throat and I couldn’t breathe. I was panic stricken! I had been a CPR instructor for two years, so I knew I should not leave my seat and I should stand up to show people I needed help

and I needed it right then! I was wheezing, trying hard to breathe, but it wasn’t working. Cheryl came running to me, stood behind me, wrapped her arms around me and performed the Heimlich Maneuver. First attempt didn’t work, but the second one dislodged the piece of meat and I could breathe again.

This is why I wanted to pay tribute to this wonderful friend. She had taken a CPR course taught by an East Brookfield firefighter. She learned her lesson well! She did not hesitate to help me! She saved my life! She is my hero!

Thank you, Cheryl!

EVELYN GREGSON  
STURBRIDGE

The Ancient Greeks and how North Brookfield and Texas seem alike

To the Editor:  
The ancient Greeks were “wise guys” in the best sense of the words. Even though they thought, talked, and wrote more than 2,000 years ago, their words still ring true. This letter makes use of two their phrases:

- “Pyrrhic victory,” meaning a battle won, but where the costs is higher than the benefit and
- “Trojan Horse,” meaning something that appears to be one thing, but is actually used to disguise something else.

Two weeks ago, letters in the New Leader indicated that a re-structured North Brookfield school committee decided to;

- return to using the word “Indians” as the nickname of its’ school’s sports teams,
- ensure that Critical Race Theory etc. is not planned or taught in its’ schools (as if it ever was), and
- that Covid masking was optional.

In Texas;

Covid masking, at best, is optional, the state legislature recently passed a law that allows for paying a “bounty” of \$10,000 to anyone “caught” planning or performing an abortion six weeks after conception (The use of bounties was a common way during slavery to return African-American escapees to their slave owners)., and

the legislature passed a law that will suppress the votes of people not colored white etc. - the reason given to protect against voting fraud which evidence indicates hardly exists.

First, the “wise guys” and the North Brookfield school decisions.

The population of the town over the decade has been essentially stagnant, even as that of the county and the state have grown. It is possible that, as a result of the above decisions and “victories fewer thoughtful parents will choose to stay in or to move North Brookfield, making the “victory” Pyrrhic.

Now the “Trojan Horse.” A number of New Leader letters latched onto these North Brookfield school issues. It is likely that the letters’ primary interest lays with the town’s school children or with larger reactionary (defined as looking backwards) a political agenda. A Trojan Horse.

A suggested possibly better approach follows This rural town’s school system is small and is not well financed.

This underfinancing of rural school systems exists throughout Massachusetts. In fact, the “2019 Rural Schools Report” indicates that our state is among the worst when it comes to the difference in funding levels between rural schools and suburban and urban schools. Want to “battle” for a better North Brookfield rural school systems? Then avoid Pyrrhic victories and Trojan Horses and find

ways, to make our terrible (including both parties) state lower house legislature approve enough funding for better rural school systems.

In Texas, the situation seems the same, but worse, as (Republican) politicians degrade the state as they try not to be “out reactionary right-winged” in a primary. No matter if it means people/children sffering/dying from Covid. No matter if thoughtful middle class families moving out or not moving in. Pyrrhic Victories and Trojan Horses gone crazy.

Related reflections and a correction.

Another New Leader letter praised and compared North Brookfield women supposedly battling (essentially non-existent) Critical Race Theory to Abigail Adams and Cara Barton.

Since not only Abigail but husband and President John and son and President John Quincy were very prominent advocates of ending the ultimate American racism, the slavery of African- Americans, this seems a strange and strained comparison.

The same with Clara Barton. Such a strong advocate of freeing African Americans, her 1860s opponents called her a “Black” Republican. Born in Oxford, what a role model for girls and women struggling to find themselves! According to Wikipedia, she an excellent athlete, founder and fund raiser for public schools and the Red Cross, and a committed feminist 100 years before the movement even existed.

Rather as model, one might consider Boston School Committee member and for a short time, an elected member of Congress Louise Day Hicks. She had very major faults, including segregationist and separate and unequal schools for African Americans views . However, she did have two excellent insights.

First, the Boston school busing plan would not work. It didn’t, a number of reasons. Second, if well-off people in the suburbs wanted school integrated, their children should be bussed into Boston and Boston’s bussed into the suburbs. (Much evidence exists, that when children not colored white are bussed into good schools, they perform very well).

So again if you want better schools in North Brookfield , focus on getting funding that makes then as good as suburban schools.

Correction.

In my last letter, I said that despite the chaos in Afghanistan, fleeing Afghans were being well vetted - my source, US based national security and immigration experts. Later on-the-ground evidence indicated otherwise. In worse chaos, it included some poorly vetted.

KEVIN KANE  
SPENCER

Prepare yourself  
financially  
for illness ...  
just in case

All of us hope to live long, healthy lives, so we do what we can to take care of ourselves through proper diet, exercise and avoiding unhealthy activities. However, none of us can predict our future, so it pays to be prepared for anything – including a serious physical illness or the onset of some type of mental incapacity, such as Alzheimer’s disease.

Of course, you may never face these infirmities, but you should be aware that they could upset your long-term financial strategy and place considerable stress on your loved ones. What steps can you take to head off these threats?



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First, make sure you know what your health insurance covers and how much you might have to pay out of pocket for treatment of illnesses such as cancer or kidney ailments. If you’re on Medicare (supplemented with Medigap) or Medicare Advantage (Medicare Part C), you’ll want to know all about deductibles, copayments and coinsurance. However, if Alzheimer’s or another type of dementia is involved, Medicare may not cover the costs that could be incurred in an assisted living facility, so you may want to consult with a financial advisor, who can suggest ways of protecting yourself from long-term care costs, which can be quite high.

Your next move is to make sure you have adequate liquidity. It’s hard to predict how many out-of-pocket costs you could incur when coping with a serious illness, but it’s a good idea to have enough cash readily available, rather than dipping into your 401(k) or other retirement accounts. So, if you’re retired, you might want to keep up to a year’s worth of living expenses in a liquid, low-risk account.

Here’s another important step: Update your estate plan. Hopefully, if you have a serious illness, you’ll be able to recover. But it’s still a good idea to review your estate plan to ensure everything is in order, such as your will and your living trust, if you’ve created one. If you’ve kept up your life insurance, you’ll also want to ensure your premiums are still being paid. And don’t forget to review your beneficiary designations on your 401(k), insurance policies and other financial documents, since these designations can supersede the instructions in your will.

As part of your estate planning, you may want to include a durable power of attorney for finances, which allows you to name someone to manage your financial affairs if you become incapacitated, and a durable power of attorney for health care, which lets you name someone to make medical decisions for you if you’re unable to do so yourself. You may also create a health care directive or living will to express your wishes if you don’t have a power of attorney for health care, or the person named in a power of attorney for health care can’t be reached in an emergency. And since estate planning can be complex, you’ll certainly want to work with a legal professional, and possibly your tax and financial advisors, as well.

You might think it’s somewhat grim to prepare yourself financially in case you become seriously ill or if your life is touched by Alzheimer’s or another mental infirmity. But it’s a positive move – you’re protecting yourself and your loved ones from whatever life may throw at you.

*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.*



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

General Lee, down but not out

To the Editor:

Being no fan of “Big Government,” I’ve often pondered what I would have done 160 years ago as a young, working class boy in Massachusetts when it came time to join the Union Army (surely the enforcement arm of the side in the dispute with all the insuperable advantages: money, men, arms, railroads, telegraph lines, etc.) If I had seen it as an unfair fight where one side sought to invoke the spirit of the Declaration of Independence in which the Sage of Monticello claimed the right of separation for any people or region who no longer consented to be governed by what they had come to view as tyrants, it wouldn’t really have mattered; our family wouldn’t have had the \$300 to hire someone else to go in my place. Today, that would be \$10,000, and I still couldn’t buy my or anyone else’s way out of serving.

But, relax, you liberals, it doesn’t take more than a moment or two for me to conclude that, of course, like 150,000 other Massachusetts boys and men (14,000 of whom died while in service) I, too, would’ve found myself in an insufferably hot, itchy, woolen blue uniform traveling south to engage the Rebels. Being close to Boston, the epicenter of Abolitionism, and reading the likes of William Lloyd Garrison and his broadside sheet “The Liberator”; Sen. Charles Sumner (caned nearly to death on the floor of the Senate by an outraged South Carolina Congressman); Frederick Douglas, the escaped slave become eloquent spokesman for manumission; the fanatical John Brown of the failed yet infamous raid on Harper’s Ferry, 1859 (the real cause of the Civil War), and a host of others, there is no doubt the question of slavery would have been the impetus, I would hope, that would have found me bivouacked around “...the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps...” and singing “...His truth goes marching on...etc.,” lyrics composed on Beacon Hill by Julia Ward Howe in her anthem of the Union Army, “The Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

But, willing to serve and do my duty, does not mean my heart would’ve been filled with hatred for the enemy who, after all, were my fellow Americans fighting for what they had come to believe was their country, culturally and aspirationally different than the one of which they had been a part for 87 years.

And, most definitely, I would have respected their fighting abilities, determination, and raw battlefield courage. Despite being usually outnumbered two-to-one, and sometimes by even more lopsided numbers, poorly fed, often disarmed, with primitive medical facilities, and limited ammunition and armaments, they prevailed, at least in the first years of the war, in set piece battles where their superior generalship—many West Pointers like Lee, Jeb Stewart, Armistead, Stonewall Jackson, P.G.T. Beauregard, Longstreet, Wheeler and others among them—often overcame shortages in men and materiel and achieved stunning victories.

Indeed, more than 300 West Pointers served as officers in the Army of the Confederate States of America, the most renowned of them, of course, being Robert E. Lee, who, during his tenure as an officer in the United States Army, also served from 1852 to 1855 as Superintendent of West Point where he, like thousands of others of the “Long Gray Line,” grew to love the institution and its traditions.

It wasn’t until this low and disgusting moral and cultural age, this fetid pippen of cheap, common and vulgar social degeneracy in which we now wallow, that the name of “Lee” was one of the great icons of American history.

In 1914, a study was done to determine how many possible reasons there were for a cadet to receive a demerit at the Academy. Answer: 18,000. Cadet R.E. Lee did not receive one. This is on the order of the great Ozzie Smith of the St. Louis Cardinals having had 18,000 hard hit groundballs to his right and left and never blowing one. Or Larry Bird nailing every one of 18,000 free throws. Beyond the realm of the possible, but Lee, ever the perfectionist as a young man, accomplished the impossible.

Lee, as those who study his life know, served with great courage and daring during the Mexican War, along with many other officers who would, a decade later, find themselves on opposite sides for four agonizing years of the cataclysm known as The War Between the States, or, simply, the Civil War (despite being the most uncivil time in our history). It was General Winfield Scott (“Old Fuss ‘n Feathers”) who, having observed Lee’s brilliance as an officer in the Army Corps of Engineers while in Mexico, declared him to be the “...very best soldier I have ever seen in the field.”

When everything fell apart in 1859-1860—following the Fugitive Slave Act of 1850, “Bleeding Kansas” from 1855 to 1859, the Dred Scott decision in 1857, the raid at Harpers Ferry in 1859, and the fall of Fort Sumter—Lincoln offered the command of the Union Army to the great Virginian aristocrat, Colonel R. E. Lee. Despite having served over 30 years as one of the top officers in the Army, an institution which he loved and to which he had devoted his life, the

Colonel asked for a little time to think it over. His response, delivered, I’m certain, in a tone of sad resignation, was that he “...could not raise my hand against Virginia...nor against my children or my family.” He immediately resigned his commission and headed back into Virginia to take his part in what he had to know would become “The Lost Cause.” Moderns, such as ourselves, cannot comprehend there was such a time when Americans generally felt a stronger pull of affection and loyalty to their state than to the central government.

Lee was an exceptionally intelligent and perceptive man; he had to know the odds were astronomically against any chance of success for the seceded states. The other side had all the advantages in terms of men and supplies. For every Confederate soldier who would fall in battle, there would be none to take his place in the line, while the enemy would have four replacements waiting to fill the vacancy left by a dead or wounded soldier. But Lee, one of whose famous quotes was that “Duty is the sublimest word in the language; you can never do more than your duty; you shall never wish to do less”, did his duty as he saw it to be.

Lee’s legendary accomplishments during the tragedy of the Civil War probably reached their zenith when, outnumbered by 40,000 Union troops under “Fighting Joe” Hooker (of Hadley, Mass.), at Chancellorsville, Va. in April-May 1863, he split his forces and, under the ferocious leadership of Stonewall Jackson and his “Foot Cavalry,” inflicted a catastrophic defeat on the Army of the Potomac. With the sweet, though, came the bitter: the great and indispensable Jackson was shot in the arm mistakenly by a Rebel picket, and would die of pneumonia a week later. Lee, even before T.J.’s death and sensing the magnitude of the loss, wrote “Jackson has lost his left arm, but I have lost my right.”

In April of 1865, realizing all hope was lost, Lee dismissed proposals that the army retreat to the mountains and fight on as a guerrilla campaign. Treated with the utmost respect and decency by his fellow West Pointer, General Ulysses S. Grant, at Appomattox, Lee asked for and was granted liberal terms for the officers and men of his shattered army whose defeated members stood weeping as they furled their battle flags outside the home where the surrender documents were signed.

Despite a life lived under the constraints of phenomenal discipline and self control—he once wrote: “I like whiskey. I always did. That’s why I never touch it.”—the great man would live only five more years, his health broken by too many sleepless nights, poor camp food, and a broken heart. But, for what was left, he still lived each day to its fullest, serving as President of Washington College in Lexington, Virginia (known ever since as Washington and Lee University).

Now, it is all the rage to denigrate great personalities of the past, especially those who were sons of the South like Washington, Jefferson, Madison, the Lee’s, and others who were men of their time just as we are men and women of our own time. It matters not to the critics that the leading lights of the past lived under very different circumstances, mores, traditions, and beliefs than those of a later time having lived in an evolved culture where those things have changed.

Regarding the question of slavery, and with the advantage of hindsight, we can all agree it was a horrible stain on the honor of the United States, and there can be no rationalizing it away. It needs to be said, however, that the “Peculiar Institution,” as the plantation class euphemistically called slavery, had been around since the dawn of time—in every culture, in every epoch. No one had clean hands, not white southerners (only 10 percent of whom ever owned slaves), not Europeans, not Asians, not American Indians, not

Turn To **MCRAE** page **A14**

Electric cars & those other deaths

To the Editor:

With the crisp morning air, it’s back to school, back to fall, back to politics, and I know I’m looking for some new topics to write about. Despite his efforts, Trump is fading into irrelevance, and it isn’t an election year, so we have to dig deep for new content.

Zavier Morales - thanks for writing it, it’s always a pleasure to see new names! By the context of your letter (not having a first car yet) you sound surprisingly young for printed media.

It’s beyond obvious that the carbon human society is pumping into the atmosphere is a huge problem for the planet and the future of humanity. I’m sure I’ll be defending that statement in excruciating and condescending detail in future letters...

Regarding electric cars, it’s important to understand it’s not all rainbows and sunshine. Yes, burning gasoline and releasing 5 metric tons of CO2 per car per year per car into the atmosphere is a huge problem, it’s naïve to think that electric cars solve that. The issue isn’t even with the cobalt or the nickel – rare earth minerals such as cobalt actually make the cars more efficient, Ford and others are looking at using nickel because it’s cheaper.

The real issue with electric cars that nobody seems to be addressing is the entire life cycle, the environmental impact of the manufacturing and eventual disposal of the batteries for example. Nobody seems to understand that electricity doesn’t magically come out of the wall – it needs to be generated and distributed. Electric cars are advertised as “MPG equivalent” which is a bogus measurement comparing electric cars to a gasoline engine 100 percent Carnot efficiency, ignores distribution losses in the grid, ignores generation efficiencies, ignores what it takes to move fuel to electric power plants, etc.

“Plug-in hybrids” are a great example of this BS measurement because a plug-in is an electric car that happens to have an on-board generator. Plugs run on electricity 100 percent of the time, although sometimes the electricity is generated on-board. A Prius Prime is listed as 54MPG with gas but 133MPGe on electric. News flash – A Prius Prime has the exact same efficiency regardless of where its electricity comes from (grid or gas generator). That 133MPGe would be accurate only if electricity magically appeared at your wall socket. This super-high MPGe is calculation dreamt up by lobbyists to sell cars and buy Toyota a higher CAFE (Corporate Average Fleet Economy) number, which they can then sell credits to other companies that produce gas guzzlers... Lovely.

Tesla isn’t actually profitable by selling cars. They raked in billions of dollars last year in regulatory offsets from other car companies that needed a certain percentage of “zero emissions vehicles” and they paid Tesla to claim credit for some of the vehicles. Tesla is only profitable so that they can help carbon belchers look OK, and how does that help the environment?

In the United States, 20 percent of our electricity is still generated by burning coal, and it’s 2021. Natural gas represents another 20 percent, nuclear 20 percent, and renewables only 20 percent. Fully 60 percent of our electricity comes from burning fossil fuels and belching carbon into the atmosphere. The obvious answer is to tax carbon, make burning fossil fuels more expensive than renewables. With a carbon tax we would see utility scale solar, wind, tidal, etc. as well as more conservation with more expensive energy. In some parts of the country a majority of electricity is produced from coal. If we rapidly shifted our cars from gas to electric, coal is the only place we could rapidly scale up electric generation.

The issue isn’t whether carbon is emitted from the car sitting in your driveway or at a coal fired power plant hidden away somewhere – the issue is how much carbon is being emitted in total. The way to address this is a carbon tax – a tax on something we would like there to be less of. This would make gasoline more expensive, incentivizing people to use less. This would make electricity more

expensive, incentivizing people to use less. It should be much more attractive to drive a Nissan LEAF or Chevy Bolt compared to a Tesla Cybertruck – the fact that they’re all electric doesn’t change the fact that the Tesla uses twice as much electricity and thus twice as much carbon as the Nissan.

In a quest to address a clear and present danger while avoiding the boogey man that a tax would be we have all sorts of stupid policies... We have CAFE standards where car companies trade regulatory credits in a backroom marketplace, we have tax rebates on electric cars but only the first 200,000 units a company sell which means Teslas can’t get rebates, but the new Electric Hummers can, and furthermore when somebody comes out with an electric monster truck it will get tax rebates while Nissan Leafs don’t? We don’t tax carbon based power plants but we mandate electric companies get a certain percentage of their energy from renewables which leads to homeowners installing solar panels for themselves but selling the offset credits to carbon belching power plants so they can claim energy they never generated. If I install double the solar panels on my property that I need and literally waste the electricity I can make money by selling the SREC (Solar Renewable Energy Credit) to a local carbon belcher so they can belch more carbon.

We want individuals, companies, and utilities to belch less carbon. The obvious solution is to tax the carbon and then let the free market sort it out.

Electric cars are honestly likely the future, and I’m considering a Tesla Model 3 myself. It’s important to note, however, that electric cars aren’t a panacea. We need to look at the entire carbon footprint through the life cycle, and we need to tax it so people stop using so much.

To respond briefly to Mr. McRae... The loss of 13 U.S. service members was tragic, but it’s important to put the Aug. 26 bombing in perspective. First, 182 people were killed, not 13. In addition to 13 U.S. service members 169 Afghan civilians were killed. Our service members volunteered to enlist and put their lives on the line, the Afghan civilians were trying to flee a country destabilized by the United States.

Donald Trump signed an instrument of surrender with the Taliban, the authority that harbored and allowed Al-Qaeda and Osama bin Laden to operate. The Taliban are a 15th century medieval theocratic governing authority who was in a symbiotic relationship with the folks responsible for 9/11. President Bush in 2001 demanded that the Taliban deliver to the U.S. all leaders of Al-Qaeda, release all foreign nationals unjustly imprisoned, protect foreign journalists, diplomats, and aid workers. Bush demanded that they close all terrorist training camps, hand over terrorists to authorities, and to give the United States full access to terrorist training camps for inspection. The Taliban refused. The United States invaded, overthrew them, and installed a democratic government. Donald Trump signed an instrument of surrender. President Biden foolishly followed through with it.

Not to forget COVID-19, but the pandemic is ramping up yet again with the delta variant... The U.S. has seen daily cases grow 13.6x since July 4 and the deaths have jumped 7x. The week of July 4, we had 90,000 people get sick, last week we had 1.12 million. The epicenter of the crisis is currently in the South in the least vaccinated counties, and not coincidentally Trump’s best counties. Last week 1.12 million Americans got sick and 11,634 died of COVID-19. While we remember and mourn Americans lost on Sept. 11, 2001, we now have a 9/11 death toll every 2 days - more Americans died of COVID-19 on Sept. 10 & 11, 2021.

So far, 659,720 Americans have died from this disease, the same disease only 1,091 Australians died from. The same disease 27 New Zealanders died from. The same disease 4,848 Chinese people died from.

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# Tips to Plant Fall Bulbs



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Following a long New England winter, few signs of spring are more welcome than the first sprouts of green popping up in a barren garden. The promise of a season of beautiful blooms, the tiny shoots are the gardeners reward of a past autumn spent preparing and planting. Experts agree fall offers ideal conditions to plant perennials. In fact, this season is the preferred time to plant spring blooming bulbs. The following are tips to preparing, planning and planting bulbs now for a flourish of flowers come spring.

Planting time varies depending on location, but here in the northeast it ranges from September until as long as the soil can be worked, usually around the end of October.

Prepare your bed by making sure the soil is properly fertilized. Be sure to dig out the soil to the proper depth. Loosen the soil and if you choose, add a bulb booster to the soil. Bulbs should be planted with pointed side up. Place them firmly, yet gently, into the ground. Cover the bulbs loosely with soil, water lightly and add a layer of mulch. Typically, bulbs should be planted three times as deep as the bulb is wide. In sandy soils, you can plant a little deeper, and in heavy soils you can dig a slightly shallower hole. Bulbs should be spaced approximately a width twice the diameter of the bulb. Note: Tulips should be planted one inch or so deeper as deep rooting can prolong the effective life of the tulip bulb.

If you are selecting bulbs in bulk, such as loose bulbs offered at discount garden centers, it's important to follow a few rules of thumb. Typically, big bulbs produce the largest blooms and may yield more flowers, therefore, it may be worth the cost to pay a bit more for good sized, healthy bulbs. However, if you are on a budget and have the time to wait, smaller bulbs will eventually increase in size and bloom each year.

When choosing a bulb, look for those that are firm and plump. Hold them in your palm and select bulbs that feel heavy for their size. Avoid bulbs with bruises, spots or signs of mold. And steer clear of soft, mushy and light-weight bulbs. Sprouting bulbs may indicate a bulb that has been in storage for a long time.

A little thought and preparation go a long way in reaping the benefits of a successful spring and summer flower garden. The planning you take time for in the fall will be apparent when the flower garden plantings burst with color and texture next year. Know your flowers before you plan to plant. While most bulbs require an area where there is full sun, other varieties such as the iris and crocus enjoy some shade after blooming. For best results select a location in full sun or sun with morning shade only. Well drained soil is a requisite for flower bulbs. If you have poor soil, raised flower beds may be an effective alternative.

For best results, design your garden with pen and paper first, mapping out the size of the beds and the flowers to scale. Keep in mind color, texture and fragrance are all important factors when deciding on a particular flower garden plan.

Plotting a garden plan is an excit-

ing chore, and there are some basic rules that ensure a pleasant mix of color for a showy display. Notice how a clump of daffodils and tulips are much more charming than a tidy row of the springtime flowers? The eye is drawn toward the burst of color when these flowers are situated in generous groups of plantings.

Be sure to take an accurate bulb count of such large splashes of plantings. Your layout plan should also include using flower bulbs as accents in perennial beds, or to fill in rock gardens or as an interesting border to greenery. Be sure to plan for extra bulbs to fill in areas or to add as landscape accents.

For an interesting mix, merge short plants with tall specimens to give variety and depth as well as differing textures. And don't underestimate the power of fragrance! Nothing is more delightful than a pathway of floral scents welcoming visitors to your door.

Scaling plants to the bed is another important factor when plotting your plan. A simple rule to follow is to keep in mind the tallest plant in an island flower bed should have a mature height that is equal to about half the width of the bed. Place these plants in the center, so they can be viewed from all sides. Also remember to take into account plants that grow and expand quickly.

Color is another major consideration when planting your bulbs. If you want your garden to be a showcase all season, select a variety of bulbs that flower during early, middle and late spring and summer for a continuous burst of color.

Just as in the home, in the garden bed cool colors seem to recede and warm colors appear to come forward.

To make a small garden area appear larger and more spacious, plant flowers in cool, light colors. As a general rule white goes a long way in a garden bed, but if you use a lot of white flowers in an area, consider adding a dramatic splash of bright red or bright pink or purple for visual contrast.

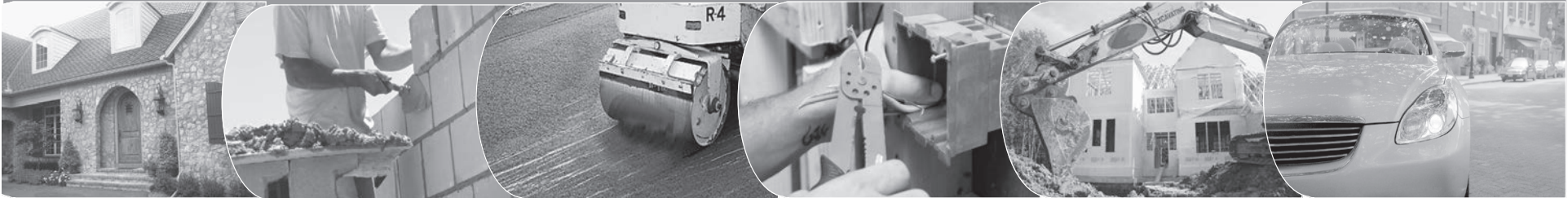
Dreading the long, cold winter ahead? Forcing bulbs indoors allows the impatient gardener to enjoy springtime blooms during the winter season! Certain bulbs, such as the narcissus and hyacinth lend themselves to forced budding. To do: Drop a bulb into a glass jar and fill with water and small pebbles until the water level reaches the base of the bulb. Position the jar in a sunny window. Water must remain at the same level, so add moisture as needed. To prevent mold, change the water periodically.

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

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

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# Tantasqua shows second-half improvement in loss to Spartans



Jess Ertsgard of Tantasqua pushes the ball up and away from an Uxbridge defender.

UXBRIDGE — Although the first half of play for Tantasqua Regional’s varsity field hockey team versus Uxbridge High was a little shaky, the Warriors performed at a much higher level once the second half started in a game played last Thursday, Sept. 9.

Tantasqua head coach Shelby Green used the five-minute halftime break to provide motivation for the team, and it seemed to have worked.

“I think we played much better in the second half. I think the girls were able to connect a little bit better,” she explained. “I think that there’s definitely some things we need to work on, but I’m hopeful for our team this year.”

The Warriors trailed at the half, 5-0, and were outscored by a smaller margin of 3-1 in the second half to make the final score 8-1 in the Spartans’ favor.

Uxbridge’s Chloe Kaeller and Julianna Casucci scored in the first quarter, and then Meghan Smith, Kaeller and Ellie Bouchard provided second-quarter tallies to make it 5-0.

Smith then scored early in the third quarter for the Spartans, and Kaeller Grace Boisvert added their final two goals in the fourth for an 8-0 lead.

Undeterred, Tantasqua continued to show fight and eventually was rewarded with a goal with 8:05 to play. Senior co-captain Hope Noonan sent the ball toward Uxbridge’s goal with a hard shot, and junior Brooke Cadarette was in the right place at the right time as she tipped it in past goalie Julia Okenquist.



Tantasqua’s Kiana Barnes plays the ball and moves it down the field.

“It got us on the scoreboard. You never want to be shut out, so that’s a big deal,” said Green. “She’s a great forward — we have a lot of really good, talented people up top — and I think connecting those tips is what it comes down to.”

Cadarette nearly scored in the third quarter when she — again — was in the right place at the right time and collected a rebound in front of the net. But her shot sailed just wide.

The Warriors’ goalies were off the charts, as senior co-captain Sophia



Samantha Naples of Tantasqua tries to keep the ball away from an Uxbridge defender.



Tantasqua’s Hope Noonan winds up before delivering a big strike of the ball down the field.

Cadavid and junior Ella Grant both saw time. Cadavid played in the first half, plus the fourth quarter, while Grant manned the cage in the third quarter.

“Both of them made a ton of great saves. They both played really well

today,” Green said.

After winning the season-opener versus Northbridge High, Tantasqua is now 1-1 as they embark on the second week of play.



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# Film project aims to collect memories of the pandemic

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – As part of a grant-funded library film project, residents are invited to share how they have dealt with the challenges of the pandemic.

Have you worked from home? Were you laid off or furloughed? Did you have to oversee your kids' schoolwork while the schools were closed? And what about your adjustments to life with face masks?

"As part of our Preserving Our Memories grant project, the library is making a video record of the ways that North Brookfield citizens have been coping with changes brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic," read a statement released by the library.

Funding for the project was provided by the CARES Act, administered through

the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. The funds allowed the library to purchase a video camera and lighting equipment for the creation of videos.

Haston Public Library Director Dawn Thistle has been behind the camera, asking questions that are used to create the short videos. The videos will be archived, and a highlights video will also be created using excerpts from the individual videos.

All North Brookfield residents are invited to participate in the project.

"Naturally, we would like to involve as broad and diverse a group as possible: different ages, ethnic groups, family and work situations, as well as different roles within the North Brookfield community," the library statement read. "The

interviews held so far have illuminated a variety of coping methods and attitudes toward the changes of the past year and a half."

If you would like to share your experiences on video, call the library at 508-867-0208.

In other library news, officials thank everyone who came together to make this year's summer reading program a major success. The program wrapped up last month with a fun-filled party featuring several games and crafts. At the end of the party, winners were chosen for summer reading prizes, which included Barnes and Noble e-gift cards, a Brookfield Orchards voucher, an Old Sturbridge Village pass, and Subway vouchers.

This year's winners included Lily Nydam, Penelope Piazza, Ryker Hubacz, Emma Holmes, Penny Ouimette, Marley Shea, Henry Howarth, Gracey

Dufresne, and Sofia Carreiro.

"We truly have some reading superstars in our midst," the library statement read. "Thirty-six children signed up for the program, with twenty regularly visiting the library with their book logs."

In total, more than 200 books were read by summer reading participants. And even though summer reading is over, story time is sticking around. Local youngsters are invited to visit the Children's Room every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. for a story and a craft.

This month, the Haston Library Book Group is reading "Educated" by Tara Westover. The book will be discussed by group members on Sept. 28 at 7 p.m. in the library and via Zoom. Copies are available in the library; call 508-867-0208 for more information about the program, or to access the Zoom link.

Meanwhile, on Sept. 21, Julie Stepanek will return to the library at 7 p.m. with her collection of ukuleles to teach guests how to play. Participants will learn how to tune, strum, and read chords. After a short lesson, you'll be able to play songs. No experience is necessary; bring your own ukulele or borrow one at the event. Registration is required.

Finally, the Friends of the Haston Free Public Library thank all guests and volunteers for a great book sale last month.

"It was quite a day thanks to the helpers and everyone who stopped by to browse and buy books," the library statement read. "If you missed it, the book sale continues on the lower level of the library for the next few weeks."

## New book collects inspirational stories from local contributors

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION – In one of his most inspirational projects yet, author Todd Civin teamed up with several contributors to create a book about the power of kindness.

Set for release later this fall, "Pulling Each Other Along" is co-authored by Civin and Doug Cornfield. The book features chapters written by 31 inspiring authors, chronicling their stories while acknowledging the people who pulled them along through adversity.

"We are beyond excited to release 'Pulling Each Other Along,' as it has been several years in the making," said Civin, who grew up in Spencer. "A compilation book of this type has been a long-term goal of mine. In my writing career, the goal is always to share the voice of the underdog."

Added Civin, "When I connected with my co-author, Doug Cornfield, our similar goals made it a perfect marriage. We reached out to dozens of potential authors, and the stories poured in. We selected the first 31, though we have so many incredible stories in the vault that 'Pulling Each Other Along' is likely to become a series in the mode of 'Chicken Soup for the Soul.'"

The book features a special foreword written by former NFL star and TV broadcaster Terry Bradshaw.

Readers are looking forward to the latest title from Civin, who has authored several other books with inspirational stories over the years. This time around, it was especially meaningful for Civin to work with Bradshaw and the other contributors.

"Working with Terry Bradshaw on the foreword was incredible. He is hilarious, extremely inspiring, and a legend in sports and TV," Civin said.

The book also contains stories by Rocky Bleier, a Pittsburgh Steelers legend who was severely injured in the Vietnam War and likely would have died if not for the efforts of a stranger who carried him to safety. Also featured is Chris Nikic, the first person with Down syndrome to complete an Ironman event. Additionally, the book features a story about the mission of Zappos Adaptive Clothing to assist people with disabilities.

"Each story is guaranteed to inspire, motivate, and make each of us eager to acknowledge our pulling-along guardian angel," Civin added. "The vision is to share inspiring stories while acknowledging the person, people, or ideas that pulled that person along to

their level of relative greatness."

From Civin's first book with local legends Dick and Rick Hoyt, to his more recent release featuring a paralyzed hockey player from Norwood, the author is always eager to take part in projects that compel and inspire. As the director of his own publishing company, he is able to take control of his creative vision and also empower the voices of other authors seeking to share their stories.

After publishing 30 books, Civin took some time recently to reflect on where it all began. He traces his passion for writing and storytelling back to Spencer, specifically David Prouty High School, where he graduated in 1979. As a freshman, he wrote a sports column for the New Leader.

In the years since, he has continued to be inspired by stories of underdogs and everyday people overcoming obstacles, many of them athletes. Civin's passion for highlighting triumph over tribulation is especially evident in his latest work.

"There are so many stories of this type that the thought of gathering them together to form a loud and clear voice was inspiring to me," Civin said. "We all have these seemingly simple moments in our lives that serve as

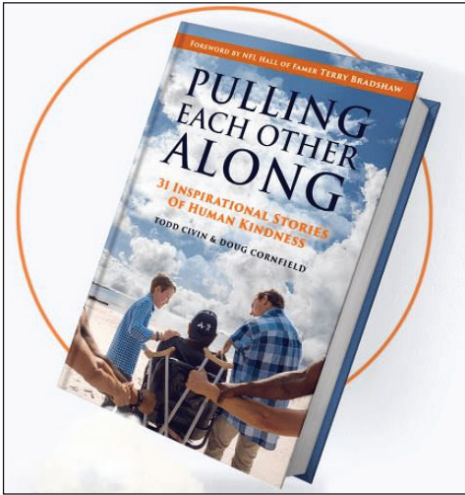


Photo Courtesy

Soon to be released, this book features several inspirational stories.

incredible turning points that help to make us who we ultimately become. Be it a stranger, a friend, or a teacher, we all have experienced pulling-each-other-along moments that mold our personal ball of clay."

The book is scheduled for release in November.

## LEGALS

### Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit for Kara Banosian, Trustee of the AE-RIE Trust, for the property located at 6 Hillside Drive, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to demolish the existing house and rebuild a new house in the Neighborhood Residential District. This requires a special permit as per section, -1.52 Nonconformity: §1.52 (a) Nonconforming Structures (a) (et al). The public is invited to attend.

Renee Adams White  
Clerk

September 10, 2021  
September 17, 2021

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO19P1353EA Estate of: Martin P Donahue Date of Death: 01/29/2019 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Steve F Goyette** of **Wallingford VT** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, First and Final and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/28/2021.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection

followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court  
August 25, 2021  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
September 17, 2021

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO21P2822EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate of: Robert L Giggey Date of Death: 04/29/2021

To all interested persons:  
Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Dana A Makie** of **Leicester MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Dana A Makie** of **Leicester MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

#### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/28/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken with-

out further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: August 27, 2021  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

September 17, 2021

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. WO21P2929EA Estate of: Marie Skiffington Also Known As: Marie C. Skiffington Date of Death: August 15, 2021 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Susan Martin** of **Amelia Island FL**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate  
**Susan Martin** of **Amelia Island FL** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and

expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
September 17, 2021

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO20P1260EA Estate of: George J. Rusiecki, Jr. Date of Death: 02/24/2020 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Barbara Toupin** of **Oakham MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, First and Final and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition. **IMPORTANT NOTICE** You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/28/2021.**

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

Witness, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court  
August 25, 2021  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
September 17, 2021







# POLICE REPORTS

## SPENCER POLICE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1  
1:04 a.m.: open door (Main Street), secured; 1:31 a.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 1:36-2:04 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:26 a.m.: lost/ found (West Main Street), wallet lost; 7:16 a.m.: 911 call (Williams Drive), accidental; 8:32 a.m.: medical/general (Powers Street); 8:51 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), open line; 9:48 a.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operator; 10:03 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 10:05 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 10:41 a.m.: officer wanted (Laliberte Lance), re: unwanted texts; 11:04 a.m.: officer wanted (Howe Road), inquiry re: Covid test; 11:51 a.m.: suspicious persons (Paxton Road), investigated; 12:13 p.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 12:15 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 12:19 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 12:38 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pope Street), investigated; 12:59 p.m.: medical/general (Valley View Drive); 1:36 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 2:48 p.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), welfare check; 2:54 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:11 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (West Main Street); 3:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Lincoln Street), missing cat; 4:18 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: letter of good conduct; 5:35 p.m.: DPW call (Lake Avenue), cable line snapped; 6:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), phone not working; 7:26 p.m.: fire alarm (Woodland Lane), referred; 7:49 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator/Leicester; 8:17 p.m.: medical/general (Borkum Road); 8:42 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), mv w/no lights; 10:19 p.m.: disabled mv (Route 49), services rendered; 10:30 p.m.: medical/general (Oakland Drive); 11:38 p.m.: DPW call (McCormick Road), tree across road; (Total daily mv stops – 1).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2  
2:08-2:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:25 a.m.: DPW call (North Spencer Road), water in road; 4:04 a.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), rep. of alarm; 5:18 a.m.: medical/general (Bacon Hill Road); 7:34 a.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), loose dogs; 8:12 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Chestnut Street), Tanya M. Angers, 35, 86 Chestnut Street, Spencer, warrant, arrest; 9:35 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 9:45 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 10:29 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 12:16 p.m.: fire alarm (South Spencer Road), referred; 12:57 p.m.: animal complaint (South Spencer Road), re: two dogs/no tags; 1:38 p.m.: suspicious mv (Bixby Road), services rendered; 3:19 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Wm. Casey Road), illegal burn; 4:00 p.m.: accident (Meadow Road), report taken; 4:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), barking dog; 5:14 p.m.: illegal dumping (Main Street), bag in roadway/removed; 5:37 p.m.: 911 call (Howe Village), misdial; 6:17 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), poss. scam; 6:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dogs; 6:35 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), open line/fairgrounds; 6:46 p.m.: animal complaint (Thornberry Circle), fax/rep. wound/unknown origin; 7:20 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), open line/fairgrounds; 7:51 p.m.: accident (Mechanic Street), info taken; 8:04 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), services rendered/fairgrounds; 8:17 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 9:58 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:05 p.m.: suspicious persons (Cherry Street), re: harassment prevention order; 10:26 p.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), unruly 14 yo male; (Total daily mv stops – 4).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3  
12:32-12:37 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:39 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Leicester PD bolo; 12:46-1:17 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:19 a.m.: suspicious persons (Chestnut Street), spoken to; 1:41 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:08 a.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), re: retrieve belongings; 2:12 a.m.: building checked, secure; 3:12 a.m.: fire alarm (Mechanic Street), referred; 8:06 a.m.: suspicious persons (South Spencer Road), investigated; 8:08 a.m.: animal complaint (Summit Street), skunk in trap; 8:51 a.m.: fraud (Fairview Drive), unemployment scam; 9:18 a.m.: chemical/fuel spill (North Spencer Road), spill in roadway; 10:06 a.m.: disabled mv (Charlton Road), assisted; 10:57 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), threats of violence; 11:12 a.m.: mv disabled (Main Street), mv blocking intersection; 11:39 a.m.: fire alarm (Collier Circle), referred; 11:52 a.m.: medical/general (Laurel Lane); 12:04 p.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), rep. previous crash; 12:07 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; 12:20 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:50 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), re: water in lot; 2:13 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 2:47 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 3:24 p.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 4:21 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; 4:25 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Charlton PD bolo; 4:26 p.m.: information/criminal (West Main Street), info from Ware PD; 5:27 p.m.: 911 call (Salem Street), accidental; 5:58 p.m.:

animal complaint (Kingsbury Road), loose cows; 6:13 p.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), accidental; 7:03 p.m.: accident (Smithville Road), report taken; 7:30 p.m.: mv repossessed (Lakeshore Drive), info taken; 7:34 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Pleasant Street), flooded basement; 8:20 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), mv broken into; 8:24 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Pleasant Street), accidental; 9:26 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), accidental; 9:44 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), rep. unlicensed operator; 10:08 p.m.: disabled mv (Chestnut Street), services rendered; 10:40 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Wire Village Road), accidental; 11:17 p.m.: 911 call (Chestnut Street), services rendered; (Total daily mv stops – 2).

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4  
12:00-12:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:41 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), courtesy transport; 1:00 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Worcester PD bolo; 1:45 a.m.: mv lockout (Meadow Road), assisted; 1:49 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:16 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), unwanted party; 2:45 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:50 a.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 2:54-2:55 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:12 a.m.: juvenile matter (North Brookfield Road), young teen feds out walking; 3:41-3:42 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:31 a.m.: animal complaint (Pine Acres), loose dog; 6:43 a.m.: animal complaint (Mechanic Street), sick cat; 7:46 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), North Brookfield PD req. K-9 unit; 8:24 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), open line; 10:21 a.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 12:05 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 12:09 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 1:10 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), services rendered; 1:18 p.m.: juvenile matter (Hastings Road), teen fem left w/o permission; 2:03 p.m.: mutual aid (Willow Lane), Worcester PD message delivered; 2:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), re: custody matter; 2:48 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 3:11 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 3:35 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Smithville Road), spoken to; 4:10 p.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), open line; 4:49 p.m.: mv complaint (Meadow Road), re: fair traffic; 4:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: trade for mc; 5:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), improper/illegal parking; 5:55 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), open line; 6:32 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 6:43 p.m.: medical/general (High Street); 8:05 p.m.: animal complaint (Wm. Casey Road), barking dogs; 8:09 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), can't find parked car; 8:35 p.m.: medical/general (Lloyd Dyer Drive); 8:41 p.m.: disorderly conduct (Smithville Road), Zachary W. Johnson, 32, 250 Belmont Street, Worcester, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, arrest; 9:04 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), open line; 9:09 p.m.: medical/general (Franklin Street); 10:15 p.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), rep. assault; 11:27 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), debit car found; 11:30 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet found; (Total daily mv stops – 2).

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5  
12:50-1:45 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:20 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 8:51 a.m.: parking complaint (Elm Street), neighbor issue; 8:53 a.m.: mv lockout (Smithville Road), assisted; 10:11 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 10:55 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 11:56 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:35 p.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 12:35 p.m.: accident (Chestnut Street), info taken; 12:47 p.m.: suspicious persons (Mechanic Street), intoxicated male; 12:57 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 2:59 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 4:36 p.m.: DPW call (Sunset Lane), sewer backed up; 4:41 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), stray cat; 6:59 p.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), lost phone/credit cards; 7:18 p.m.: suspicious persons (Greenville Street), investigated; 8:01 p.m.: suspicious persons (Lloyd Dyer Drive), investigated; 8:05 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 8:26 p.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), accidental; 8:33 p.m.: disturbance (Smithville Road), gunshots heard; 9:04 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 10:23 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), speeding; 10:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), c/o motorist w/canceled plates and no license; 11:29 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), paintballs/pellets shot at house; 11:35 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; (Total daily mv stops – 0).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6  
12:06 a.m.: suspicious mv (Smithville Cross Road), investigated; 12:10 a.m.: medical/general (Wall Street), lift assist; 12:22 a.m.: accident (North Brookfield Road), report taken; 3:34 a.m.: medical/general (Wall Street), lift assist; 6:53 a.m.: medical/general (High Street); 8:19 a.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 9:04 a.m.: medical/general (Thompson Pond Road); 10:51 a.m.: officer wanted (Browning Pond Road), re: restraining order; 11:25 a.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), aggressive motorist; 11:39 a.m.: abandoned 911 call

(Smithville Road), accidental; 12:04 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 12:15 p.m.: threats (Woodside Road), pty threatened w/death; 12:43 p.m.: intelligence/criminal (Main Street), info taken; 12:51 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 1:04 p.m.: DPW call (Smithville Road), water issue; 1:22 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Jones Street), heavy smoke in area; 1:29 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 1:34 p.m.: animal complaint (Spring Street), loose dog; 2:12 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 2:31 p.m.: officer wanted (Brooks Pond Road), thinks ex at residence; 3:12 p.m.: medical/sudden death (Meadow Road); 3:27 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 4:29 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Smithville Road), no contact; 4:37 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (McDonald Street), no action required; 4:50 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:50 p.m.: FID issued (West Main Street), assisted; 5:43 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 7:56 p.m.: disturbance (Donnelly Cross Road), gunshots heard; 8:28 p.m.: RV complaint (Bixby Road), c/o 4-wheeler; 8:42 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:23 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dog; (Total daily mv stops – 1).

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7  
12:25-12:58 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:41 a.m.: mv repossessed (Mechanic Street), info taken; 2:43 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:06 a.m.: medical/general (Langevin Street); 7:57 a.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 8:14 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), kitten found; 8:54 a.m.: fire alarm (Paxton Road), student pulled alarm; 9:48 a.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 10:35 a.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 10:57 a.m.: fire alarm (West Main Street), referred; 11:44 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 12:05 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: file a report; 12:11 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), East Brookfield issue; 1:03 p.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), spoken to; 1:34 p.m.: parking complaint (Elm Street), services rendered; 1:37 p.m.: residential fire (Prospect Street), referred; 1:40 p.m.: parking complaint (Maple Street), mvs in 'no parking' area; 1:46 p.m.: officer wanted (Grove Street), re: phone call rec'd; 1:56 p.m.: officer wanted (Woodside Road), wants daughter in custody; 2:11 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 3:00 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), programming phone; 3:34 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), problem w/debit card; 4:03 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:33 p.m.: disturbance (Charlton Road), verbal dispute; 4:35 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:52 p.m.: suspicious mv (Meadow Road), mc blocking vacuum; 5:45 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), daughter rec'd threats; 5:52 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), skateboard in traffic; 5:58 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:05 p.m.: fraud (Ash Street), SS scam call; 6:41 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Old Farm Road), poss. illegal burn; 7:06 p.m.: lost/found (Howe Village), lost key to mv; 8:21 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), 8:59 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:42 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:46 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Holden PD bolo; 11:21 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops – 5).

###

## LEICESTER POLICE

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2  
9:43 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:01 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:46 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:48 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv towed; 5:12 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 5:47 p.m.: fraud (South Main Street), referred; 8:05 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 9:22 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:35 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv towed.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 3  
12:24 a.m.: b&e/residential (Chestnut Street), Michael A. Mendoza, 27, 51 Goddard Street, #3, Southbridge, b&e in the nighttime to commit a felony, trespassing, arrest; 12:52 a.m.: ambulance (Henshaw Street), transported; 4:25 a.m.: ambulance (Whittemore Street), transported; 7:45 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), spoken to; 7:53 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 7:57 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 7:58 a.m.: mv stop (Auburn Street), spoken to; 8:13 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street)m, spoken to; 8:40 a.m.: mv stop (Clark Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv towed; 9:34 a.m.: lost/found (Pleasant Street), gone on arrival; 10:57 a.m.: investigation (Ferncroft Road), services rendered; 11:16 a.m.: harassment (Orland Street), spoken to; 11:47 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 1:23 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 4:11 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 4:18 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 5:10 p.m.: mv stop (Auburn Street), verbal warning;

7:51 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), investigated; 8:20 p.m.: investigation (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 11:44 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4  
9:23 a.m.: suspicious person (South Street), gone on arrival; 10:16 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:57 a.m.: disturbance (Watson Street), unfounded; 11:44 a.m.: residential alarm (Hankey Street), false alarm; 12:33 p.m.: mutual aid (Pleasant Street, Oxford), services rendered; 12:57 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), peace restored; 2:44 p.m.: welfare check (Hyland Avenue), transported to hospital; 3:56 p.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 5:20 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:23 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), mv towed; 10:24 p.m.: disturbance (Marshall Street), unable to locate.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5  
2:25 a.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 8:33 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 8:59 a.m.: parking complaint (Marshall Street), citation issued; 9:32 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 9:42 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), written warning; 12:28 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), Matthew W. Supernor, 31, 81A Jolicoeur Avenue, Spencer, straight warrant, arrest; 12:33 p.m.: parking complaint (Whittemore Street), services rendered; 5:20 p.m.: assist other PD (Charlton PD, no location recorded in police log), services rendered; 6:11 p.m.: disabled mv (Stafford Street), assisted; 6:36 p.m.: runaway (Main Street), report taken.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 6  
7:45 a.m.: erratic operator (South Main Street), unfounded; 8:44 a.m.: investigation (Breezy Green Road), names and addresses of four suspects redacted from police log, each charged with identity fraud, larceny under \$250 from person over 60/disabled; attempting to commit a crime/larceny of mv 2 counts; conspiracy, investigated; 1:47 p.m.: mutual aid (Howard Hurley Road, Spencer), transported to hospital; 4:12 p.m.: mv stop (Charles Street), citation issued; 4:35 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 8:07 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 8:39 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), no action required; 8:59 p.m.: assist other PD (Rural Drive), message delivered.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7  
7:14 a.m.: family problem (Mannville Street), report taken; 12:29 p.m.: accident (Auburn Street), spoken to; 1:04 p.m.: assist citizen (Lillian Avenue), advised civil action; 1:24 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unfounded; 2:49 p.m.: family problem (Mannville Street), report taken; 4:33 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), spoken to; 5:13 p.m.: threats (Maple Street), services rendered; 5:19 p.m.: malicious mischief (Main Street), unfounded; 5:34 p.m.: restraining order service (Newfield Street), served; 6:01 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pine Street), spoken to; 7:28 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street), served; 7:53 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), transported to hospital.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8  
12:45 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:43 a.m.: trespassing (Main Street), spoken to; 9:03 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unfounded; 11:35 p.m.: welfare check (Westminster Street), spoken to; 11:51 a.m.: domestic disturbance (Victoria Lane), report taken; 12:58 p.m.: shoplifting (Main Street), report taken; 3:45 p.m.: assist citizen (Brickyard Road), services rendered; 3:47 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 4:32 p.m.: welfare check (Brickyard Road), spoken to; 4:44 p.m.: disabled mv (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 5:36 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 6:50 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), no action required; 6:59 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:03 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, criminal application issued; 9:44 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 10:09 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), spoken to; 10:40 p.m.: suspicious activity (Waite Street), spoken to; 11:55 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to.

###



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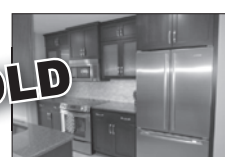
## Listings Always Needed – We're Always Busy Selling!



**WEBSTER LAKE** – 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bedroom with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet! Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage! Full House Generator! Slate Roof! All Decks & Railings Brazilian Ipe Hardwood! Copper Gutters & Downspouts! It's Time to Reward Yourself! **\$1,749,900.00**

**STURBRIDGE** Big Alum Lake! 243 Big Alum Rd! 6.58 Acres of Privacy! Sub-Dividable! West Expo – Beautiful Sunsets! 3,313' 10+ Rm Cape w/3 - 4 Bdrms & 4 Baths! Features Applianced Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar & Tile Flr! Frplcd Din Area! Din Rm w/3 Walls of Glass & French Dr to the Deck! Cathedral Ceiling Fam Rm w/Hearth & Wood Stove & Wall of Picture Windows! Spacious Liv Rm w/Pine Flr! Office! Full Bath w/Laundry Closet! 1st Flr Master w/Slider to the Inground Pool, Walk-in Closet, Marble Bathrm w/Separate Tub & Shower & Dble Vanities! 2nd Flr w/2 Spacious Bdrms, Lots of Closet Space & Pine Flrs! Full Hall Bath! Lower Level w/Game Rm, Wine/Root Cellars! Utility & Storage! 2 Car Attached Garage w/Office/In-Law Suite Above! New Driveway Access needs to be Installed! Cosmetic Repairs Needed! **\$679,900.00**

**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**



**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 Applianced 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! 13,632' 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! **\$570,000.00**

**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 Applianced 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** – 305 Beacon Park! Lake View 1,280' 5 Rm Townhouse - 10 Acres Park Like Grounds w/Panoramic Lake Views! Yr Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Move-in Condition! Applianced Kit! Din Rm w/Slider to the Composite Deck! Frplcd Liv Rm w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & French Dr to the Deck! Updated Half Bath! Spacious Master w/Wall of Closets & Full Bath w/Recent Sky Light! 2nd Bedroom w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & Full Bath just outside its Door! 2 Bdrms & 2.5 Updated Baths! Garage w/Opener! Lakeside Heated Pool & One of the Best Sandy Beaches on the Lake! Canoe Rack! Rented Boat Dock through 2022, Longer Possible! Great Fireworks Viewing! **\$335,000.00**

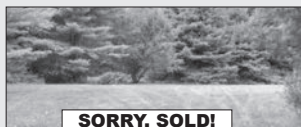
**WEBSTER LAKE** – 504 Treasure Island! 6 Room Townhouse Overlooking the Pool! 1,874 Sq Ft! Stainless Steel Applianced Granite Kitchen! Open Floor Plan! Dining Room - Full Mirrored Wall - Sliders to the Trex Deck! 2 Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Fireplaced Family Room! Garage! Central Air! Gas Heat! C/Vac! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Sandy Beach! Complex Recent Siding & Roof! **\$400,000.00**

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SORRY, SOLD!

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

### WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



ON DEPOSIT

Extraordinary Find! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. Grand Front Entry! 3,012 SF +/- living area. 12 rooms, 6 bedrooms, 2 updated Baths. 2nd Flr - Granite Countertops! High ceilings & Hardwood Floors, Modern Kitchens. Manicured 13,525 SF Lot with a Hip roof 3 car garage!  
**\$439,900**

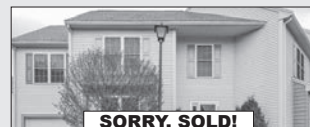
### WEBSTER - 135 LAKE STREET



SORRY SOLD!

A RARE FIND! A TRULY ABOVE AVERAGE-TOP NOTCH-HIGH QUALITY-TWO FAMILY! SPACIOUS, CLEAN, UPDATED! Apt# 2 - 1,536 SF+ & 3 BRs, 2nd Flr. Apt# 1 - 1,290 SF+ & 2 BRs - 1st floor. Oil & Natural Gas Heat. Hardwood flrs! granite tops. Enjoy the L-Shaped Covered Farmers Porch! Level Lot!  
**\$399,900.**

### PUTNAM CT - 89 PERRY ST UNIT# 250



SORRY, SOLD!

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.**

### WOODSTOCK CT - 110 JOY RD



ON DEPOSIT

WELCOME TO MIDNIGHT FARM! 1876 Antique Colonial. Included separate Building - Studio/Store both situated on 2.5 Acres Professionally Landscaped 5 Bedroom, Lg Living room, Fireplaced Dining room, Library, Master Bdrm, Renovated Kitchent 3 Stall Garaget Picturesque Location!  
**\$455,000.**

### Featured Island Listing! Webster Lake - 22 Long Island



ON DEPOSIT

Once in a lifetime opportunity to own a Webster Lake Waterfront Cottage on Long Island! Properly named the "Grand View". Sandy beach, boat house! Antique Cottage w/5 Rms, 3 BRs, a stone fireplaced w/pellet stove, eat-in kitchen w/modern appliances, full bath! washer/dryer. Screened porches. Included, 25% ownership share in a main land waterfront lot at 38 Point Pleasant Rd, in sheltered Mumford Cove! land provides boat slip & winter storage. A FAR AWAY PLACE NEAR BY!  
**\$389,900.**

### WEBSTER • 22 EASTERN AVE



ON DEPOSIT

LOOKING FOR AN AFFORDABLE, HUMBLE ABODE, THAT WON'T BREAK THE BANK? Convenient Location, corner lot! 1288 SF+ - 4 BRs w/1st Flr Mstr BR, Half Bath! Eat-In Kitchen, Dining/Living Room Combination 3-Season Porch. 2nd Flr - 3 BRs. Resting/Relax Room, Replacement Windows, Updated Electric, Burdenus Boiler. Part finished walk-out basement Garage!  
**\$215,000**

### LAND

**WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS**  
Webster - Douglas Rd (Rte. 16) 26 ACRES on Sugarloaf Hill. 1000+/- ft of road frontage

SORRY SOLD! \$200,000

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided!  
**\$39,900**

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 • 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



ON DEPOSIT



### Webster Lake - 300 Killdeer Island

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! A WEBSTER LAKE waterfront property on Killdeer Circle, you won't want to miss! Offers a prime waterfront location! 64' of water frontage and a gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear, sandy bottomed shoreline. Everyday is a new day at the Lake! Nicely arranged floor plan. 5 rooms 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walk out lowerlevel to nice size patio! Garage.  
**\$650,000.**

### WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO



SORRY, SOLD!

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**\$439,000.**



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**ATHOL:** Waterfront own your own Island! Escape to your own New England Paradise Island, 2.6 Acres, 1.5 baths, 2 bedrooms  
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**PAXTON:** Privacy,  
3 Bedroom, 1.5 Baths,  
2 Fireplaces, 3 Car Garage  
4 Boynton Pkwy ~ **\$449,000**



**DUDLEY:** Foundation ready to build your own Ranch, Town services available  
44 Alton Dr ~ **\$139,900**



**WEBSTER:** Condo, 2 Bedroom, 1194 sq.ft., Corner unit, Maple Cabinet Kitch w/ granite counters  
160 Freemont St ~ **\$249,900**



# How to clean and sanitize a backpack

Backpacks are useful tools for students and adults alike. From hiking supplies to school books to sports equipment, backpacks can store just about anything. As veritable workhorses, they're bound to get dirty and can benefit from periodic cleaning.

While it may be tempting to simply throw a backpack into the washing machine, it is important to check the care instructions first. Some canvas, nylon and fabric backpacks can go in the wash, but those made of leather or those with intricate details should not. Backpack manufacturers also advise against putting backpacks in a dryer.

Here are steps to cleaning a backpack.

1. To get started, begin by removing any items from the backpack, including all of the pockets. If necessary, use a vacuum to get crumbs out of the backpack.

2. Check the care label to see if there are washing instructions. This will determine if you should wash it by hand or

if it can be put in the machine.

3. If the bag can be machine-washed, turn it inside out first or place it in a pillowcase so that the straps and zippers will not be caught. Then wash it on a gentle setting with a mild detergent and lukewarm water. If the bag should be hand-washed, use lukewarm water and a soft sponge or a gentle bristle brush. The outdoor retailer REI says you do not want to harm any protective coatings on the pack.

4. Zippers need occasional cleaning to remove dirt, sand or crumbs. Many zippers have water-resistant coatings so do not scrub them. Use a lubricant made for zippers to help them slide smoothly.

5. Hang the bag to air dry upside down. It likely will dry more quickly outdoors, but avoid direct sunlight, which can compromise the integrity of the fabric or discolor the backpack.

6. Do not store or use the backpack until it is completely dry.

7. Sometimes a backpack



may need to be disinfected to prevent the growth of fungus or bacteria. Athlete's foot fungus can easily transfer from socks and shoes to the backpack if gym clothes are left in the

bag. The Spruce says to skip chlorine bleach and use a pine oil or phenolic disinfectant or a disinfectant wipe, such as Pine Sol or Spic-n-Span. Lysol brand disinfectant also can be used and is available in liquid formula or spray.

If a backpack is waterproof,

only wash it once or twice per year; otherwise, you may reduce the pack's ability to repel water. Use cleansing wipes to spot clean when necessary.

Backpacks can get grimy quickly. Routine washing can freshen them right up.

## Strategies to spend less time on your smartphone

Smartphones are a significant part of life in the 21st century. According to the technology, data and analytics experts at Zenith, in 2019 the average American adult spent three hours and 30 minutes using mobile internet every day, with estimates suggesting that number could increase to more than four hours per day by 2021.

It's no secret that many people struggle when it comes to putting down their smartphones. The secret lies in learning how to unplug from smartphones, especially for the millions of people who are spending untold hours on such devices every day. A strong will to put smartphones down can help people do just that, and some additional strategies might make it easier to unplug as well.

• Keep your phone in another room. Many people are drawn to their smartphones by a seemingly endless stream of notifications. The addictive nature of notifications is debatable, but blaming notifications and merely turning them off may not be as effective a means to reducing smartphone reliance as you think. A 2020 study by researchers at the London School of Economics and Political Science found that 89 percent of interactions with phones were unprompted. That suggests people are simply picking up their phones even when notifications or incoming calls aren't making them do so. Keeping a phone in another room when dining, reading a book, engaging with family members, or participating in other activities can help people avoid that familiar urge to pick up their phone.

• Utilize apps to curtail your usage. Various apps allow users to block their own access to other apps and websites. These apps, which include Flipd and Freedom, are designed to help smartphone users regain productivity they might have lost due to their smartphone usage. The apps can be utilized in various ways, and one such way is to restrict access to games and websites during the workday. They also can be used to restrict access during family time or other hours of the day when people don't want to be distracted by the internet.

• Set up auto reply. Many professionals set up out-of-office messages to notify colleagues and clients when they're on vacation or engaging in projects that will prevent them from answering emails. The same principle can be applied to text messages. According to a 2019 survey from CTIA, which has tracked the evolution of the United States wireless industry since 1985, two trillion text messages were exchanged in 2019. That's a lot of messages, and texting is a significant reason why so many people have problems putting down their phones. An automatic response informing friends, family and colleagues that you're away from your phone can be a great way to spend less time texting.

Smartphone usage is on the rise, even among people who want to put their phones down more often. Such users can try various approaches to spend less time on their phones.

## Brookfield Orchards spotlights local authors

NORTH BROOKFIELD – If you're looking for the next great fall-time read, Brookfield Orchards will showcase several books and the local authors who wrote them.

A longtime supporter of area writers and creators, Brookfield Orchards will present its first ever Local Authors Fair this month. Set for Saturday, Sept. 25, the event will take place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The fair will provide exposure to authors of several genres. Readers will be able to purchase signed copies from authors, many of whom were unable to sell their books or hold readings during the pandemic.

"I have been supporting local authors for years now," said event organizer Diana Nydam. "I've been approached a few times to hold something on the property for local authors, and so after I planned all my main events, I took the time to figure out what date I could do."

The event will also include apple picking; a beer and wine vendor; and craft vendors.

If you are an author who is inter-

ested in taking part in the event, call Brookfield Orchards at 508-867-6858. The business is located at 12 Lincoln Rd. in North Brookfield.

The rain date for the event is Sunday, Sept. 26, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

### MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE AT PUBLIC AUCTION

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**TERMS:** Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder. No CASH. No personal checks will be accepted. Cashier/certified checks should be made out to whomever is going to bid at the auction. The balance to be paid within thirty (30) days at the law offices of Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851, Attorney for the Mortgagee.

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# SCIENCE FACT!

THESE STORMS ARE CHARACTERIZED BY ESPECIALLY STRONG, OFTEN DANGEROUS WINDS.

ANSWER: HURRICANES

## Crossword Puzzle

1				2				
							3	
			4					
5								
			6					
7								

- ### ACROSS

  - Passed easily or gently through
  - Gradually lessen
  - Orderly, tidy
  - Former U.S. President
  - Weather events
- ### DOWN

  - Statements telling of potential problems
  - Tattoo artist
  - Plan ahead for something

## THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

• **1787:** THE UNITED STATES CONSTITUTION IS SIGNED BY A MAJORITY OF DELEGATES IN PHILADELPHIA.

• **1920:** THE AMERICAN PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION IS FORMED. IT LATER BECOMES THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE.

• **2011:** THE OCCUPY WALL STREET MOVEMENT BEGINS IN NEW YORK CITY.

## New Word

# STORM

a disturbance of the atmosphere

## How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Prepare

**SPANISH:** Preparar

**ITALIAN:** Preparare

**FRENCH:** Préparer

**GERMAN:** Vorbereiten

## Did You Know?

PEOPLE SHOULD PAY ATTENTION TO STORM WARNINGS AND WATCHES. THEY OFTEN INCLUDE IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT ONCOMING STORMS.

## GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: HURRICANE

## CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to the wilderness. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 14 = E)

**A. 5 19 11 25 5 7 15**  
Clue: Outdoor creatures

**B. 8 2 9 14 15 1**  
Clue: Woods

**C. 19 5 1 23 9 14**  
Clue: Plants, animals and landscape

**D. 14 24 20 7 2 9 14**  
Clue: Look around

Answers: A. animals B. forest C. nature D. explore

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

**Fun By The Numbers**

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

**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!

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

ANSWER:



PROJECT  
continued from page A1

ect.”  
The DPHS School Building Committee is developing a vision for the update of David Prouty High School. Options include different levels of renovation, addition, or new construction. The committee is also exploring program goals that would allow DPHS to serve the community more effectively in the coming years.  
An online survey currently available to the community asks respondents about several topics. These include the interest that has been expressed in moving the district’s pre-K program

to the new or renovated David Prouty High School, thus allowing the program to be centrally located and supported by the DPHS early education vocational program.  
The survey also asks respondents about the MSBA’s suggestion that the district explore inclusion of an eighth grade academy at DPHS in order to expand enrollment to 410 students. Respondents are asked whether they support moving the eighth grade from Knox Trail Middle School to DPHS.  
If you would like to complete the short online survey, visit [www.sebrsd.org](http://www.sebrsd.org) and click on the “News” tab. Officials are hoping to secure as much community feedback as possible.

“This aspect of the feasibility study is vital to the future of David Prouty High School and the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District,” Superintendent Haughey added.  
Built in the 1960s, DPHS is the oldest of the district’s schools. Students and staff have long struggled with the building’s limitations, structural problems, and outdated equipment. If a new school project is supported by the community, highlights would include improved teaching spaces and labs; an improved gymnasium; enhanced site circulation and parking; a new track and bleachers; and flexible classrooms that support modern programming. The new building would also be more

energy efficient and feature better IT infrastructure.  
At the conclusion of the study phase of the project, the communities will vote on whether to approve financing for the final schematic design. These votes could take place as early as Nov. 2022, officials said.  
If approved, the project would advance to the construction phase in 2024, with completion scheduled for August 2027.  
It is estimated that at least half of the total project cost will be reimbursed by the MSBA.  
To view preliminary design options and FAQs, visit [www.sebrsd.org](http://www.sebrsd.org).

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