

# SPENCER NEW LEADER

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

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO [NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS](mailto:NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS) Friday, December 3, 2021

## Community rallies to salvage holiday for displaced residents



Local volunteers and officials recently teamed up to assist Leicester residents displaced by an apartment fire.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Devastated by an apartment fire just two days before Thanksgiving, dozens of residents salvaged the holiday with help from the community.

More than 40 residents of Sunset Gardens—a Leicester Housing Authority building—were displaced by the Nov. 23 blaze. No injuries were reported in the two-alarm fire that began around 3:30 a.m., but officials said damage to the roof of the building is extensive.

Red Cross officials are working with local leaders to ensure that residents have temporary housing while the building is repaired. Meanwhile, with victims scrambling to find alternate Thanksgiving plans last week, the community rallied together in support.

The Senior Center opened at 7 a.m.

on Thanksgiving morning, and staff members teamed up with local volunteers to prepare and deliver turkey dinners to displaced residents, many of them seniors.

“As Leicester normally does, our town stepped up and decided to cook a wonderful turkey dinner early Thursday morning,” said Senior Center Director Rachelle Cloutier. “[Former selectman] Harry Brooks, his family, and others came forward to make sure that all of those affected by this devastating fire would have a fresh turkey dinner on Thanksgiving Day.”

Officials thank Boy Scout Troop 125 and their leaders for playing an instrumental role in the meal preparation and delivery. Members worked hard to pack 35 meals consisting of turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy,

Please Read **THANKSGIVING**, page **A14**

## Spencer voters approve revisions to solar bylaw

Special Town Meeting voters recently tightened the solar bylaw by approving multiple revisions.

With the town’s large-scale solar moratorium set to expire at the end of this month, the approved revisions will take effect pending authorization from the Attorney General’s office.

After a yearlong review process led by the Solar Bylaw Advisory Committee, proposed revisions were sent to the Planning Board for approval before the Select Board added them to the Town Meeting warrant.

Significant discussion on the proposed revisions took place during the Nov. 17 Fall Special Town Meeting. Ultimately, the changes passed by a wide margin.

“A lot of people are concerned about the number of solar installations in town and what will happen when it’s time for them to be decommissioned,” said Selectman Ralph Hicks. “It’s a very loosely regulated industry, and there needs to be more controls in place.”

In a previous interview with the New Leader, Town Planner Todd Miller praised the revisions and their likelihood of securing final approval.

“We are confident that it will make it through the Attorney General’s office,” Miller said.

The bylaw changes, which were also approved by Town Counsel, include a requirement that all new large-scale solar installations be set back 300 feet from the road. Additional revisions were also approved, and the Solar Bylaw Advisory Committee is likely to meet over the winter to discuss further recommendations for tighter restrictions.

“I’m optimistic they will come back with more stringent recommendations [in advance of the Annual Town Meeting in May],” Selectman Hicks said.

Added Selectman Jared Grigg, “The solar bylaw passing was a great first step considering the moratorium.”

Please Read **SOLAR**, page **A15**



AA Transportation Co., Inc., recently supported local families with its annual Stuff the Bus campaign.

Photo Courtesy

## Stuff the Bus event makes the season bright for local families

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Area residents recently teamed up with AA Transportation Co., Inc., to help brighten the holiday season for local families.

Held on Nov. 27, AA’s annual

Stuff the Bus campaign was once again a major success, despite a cold day and slippery conditions from a minor snow event the previous night.

Toy collection buses were set up by AA drivers in

Spencer, Leicester, and North Brookfield—and residents stepped up to show their support with toy donations.

“Loads of toys were donated at each of our three locations. We want to thank

Turn To **BUS** page **A14**

## David Prouty football beats Martha’s Vineyard, finishes with winning season

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

Upon completing a 4-4 regular season and a 1-1 non-playoff schedule, the David Prouty Regional varsity football team was an even 5-5 heading into the season finale. Having lost their traditional Thanksgiving Day rival in Leicester High—the Wolverines have started a new rivalry with Auburn High—the Panthers went searching for an opponent. Martha’s Vineyard Regional stepped in, and the Vineyarders headed to Spencer for a

clash on Saturday, Nov. 20.

“We kind of treated it like a Bowl game,” said fifth-year Prouty head coach Pat Rossi via telephone on Nov. 22. “We got really excited for it. The kids really bought in.”

With fewer than 25 players on the roster, the Division 8 Panthers had to go all out against Martha’s Vineyard, an Eastern Mass. Division 5 school.

“We have a small team and everyone plays a critical role. Overall, the team chemistry was the best I’ve

seen it in five years,” said Rossi.

Prouty was able to persevere through it all and produce a 30-24 victory, ensuring a winning season in the process.

“We went through so many things that were problematic from injuries to suspensions to COVID scares to I almost lost my daughter to illness. We went through the ringer and the kids battled tough,” Rossi said of how proud he was of the team. “We had a different offensive line start nine of the 11

Please Read **FOOTBALL**, page **A20**

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# Auburn tops Leicester for Tarentino Cup

BY DEAN P. ST. LAURENT  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

LEICESTER — The inaugural Tarentino Cup Thanksgiving Day football game was one for the books.

The clash between Auburn and Leicester High, two top high school football programs in Central Mass., did not disappoint. The newfound holiday tradition set a high bar for meetings to come in the future.

The contest went back and forth and offense was not at a premium. The outcome was not decided until the last play of the game. With just 10 ticks left on the game clock, Leicester's offense set up for one last play at Auburn's 46-yard line.

Senior quarterback Mike Mero corralled the shotgun snap, rolled to the right avoiding pressure, and launched a catchable ball into the end zone intended for fellow senior Luke Clay. Unfortunately for the Wolverines, opposing Auburn senior Mike Nadeau played it perfectly and caught his second interception of the game to clinch the 34-31 win for the Rockets.

"Ten seconds left, I knew Mike Mero, I knew him growing up. I know he has a strong arm," expressed Nadeau. "I cheated backward and I saw it, went up for the ball, and landed into the end zone. The clock hit zero and it just felt amazing."

Nadeau also caught the game-winning touchdown for the Rockets midway through the fourth quarter on a crucial fourth-and-8 play from Leicester's 14-yard line. The Rockets were able to start with great field position trailing 31-28 following a Leicester touchdown drive early in the fourth quarter due to a big kick return by senior running back Nate Jette.

The Rockets set up from the Wolverine 42-yard line and put the pressure on right away with a strong run game. Five plays later Auburn had first-and-10 from the opposing 16-yard line. In what looked like an easy scoring drive, the Leicester defense stepped up and played swarming defense letting up just two yards on three plays forcing the fourth-and-8.

Despite three straight plays that got stuffed, the Auburn offense stayed poised, led by quarterback Brendan Crowley. Crowley received the fourth down snap, dropped back and read the field. When nothing seemed to be open, the senior signal-caller rolled to the left off-script and threw to the back pylon in the left side of the end zone where Nadeau made a great catch for his third receiving touchdown of the game. A blocked point after attempt gave them a three-point lead 34-31.

"I thought Brendan [Crowley] started a little sluggish, but when Dillon [Brian Dillon] went down and we needed somebody, he [Crowley] stepped up and put a seed in there," expressed Auburn head coach Jeff Cormier. "Again, Mike [Nadeau] was being Mike and Crowley did great under pressure and our offensive line gave him plenty



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, markseliger.smugmug.com

Auburn's Mike Nadeau hauls in a pass versus Leicester.



Brian Dillon (23) and JB Whittemore (12) of Auburn attempt to block a kick taken by Leicester's Mike Mero.

of time to see that. That was an 11-person play, just like they all are, but that one in particular. It wasn't necessarily the pattern we called, I think Mike broke off and immediately Brendan was looking for him elsewhere and had to relocate him. It was just great athletes making a play."

Leicester had a chance to counter the scoring drive midway through the fourth quarter, and how the game was going it is what most expected, but Auburn's defense was able to get off the field without giving up their lead.

The Wolverines were able to drive down the field, though, and got themselves in Rocket territory, finding a fourth-and-12 following a screen pass from Mero to Xavien Rosario that was tackled for no gain at the Rockets' 17-yard line. Instead of going for it on fourth down, the Wolverine coaching staff decided to go for the field goal to attempt to tie the game. Unfortunately Mero, who did everything for Leicester the whole game, was unable to hit his second field goal.

Mero concluded his last high school game with three rushing touchdowns on 93 yards rushing, a passing touchdown, and a 34-yard field goal. He was awarded offensive MVP honors and the Robert F. Grady award.

"The last four years have been great," Mero stated. "My sophomore year went to

Gillette. I had a great mentor in Dan [Mero] backing him up. He is really good to look up to and he helped me with my game a lot. As a team, we did well."

Other awards given out following the Thanksgiving matchup included, for Auburn Mike Nadeau (Offensive MVP), Owen Fitzgerald (Defensive MVP), Brendan Crowley (Doug Flink Trophy) and J.B. Whittemore (12th Man Award) and for Leicester Nikolaos Dagostino (Defensive MVP) and James Mercier (12th Man Award).



With a large "Tarentino" sign hanging in the background, the Police Honor Guard takes the field before Auburn and Leicester met in the inaugural Tarentino Cup Thanksgiving Day game.

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**SPENCER NEW LEADER**

## ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

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# Fast start leads Tantasqua to Thanksgiving Eve win over Shepherd Hill

BY JASON BLEAU  
CORRESPONDENT

STURBRIDGE — The Tantasqua Warriors and Shepherd Hill Rams faced off once again in their annual Thanksgiving matchup, bringing back their rivalry after the 2020 pandemic prevented players from taking the field during the fall season. Tantasqua hosted the event on Thanksgiving Eve and dominated the game from the kickoff to claim their second victory since 2017 by a score of 20-16. It was the lowest combined scoring Thanksgiving game between the teams since 2014.

Despite Shepherd Hill's dominance in Thanksgiving matchups, Tantasqua was determined to take home the victory by starting off strong and never looking back. The Warriors put up eight points in the first drive of the game thanks to a touchdown run by junior tailback Abner Colon-Martinez, who would go on to be named the Offensive Player of the Game. After a successful two-point conversion pass to senior Aidan Filler from senior quarterback Caleb Thompson, the Warriors attempted an onside kick and successfully recovered the ball.

Tantasqua drove down the field once more and Thompson converted a QB sneak into another six points. After a failed two-point conversion attempt the Warriors found

themselves 14 points ahead after the first quarter without the Shepherd Hill offense having the opportunity to score.

"We wanted to be aggressive. We've gotten a few onside kicks this year, so we felt confident in our special teams. We wanted the ball right off the get-go and knew if we could go down and score points, we'd have a good opportunity," Tantasqua head coach Jon Hargis said. "We've had good opportunities to score points on our first drives all season, but we've had turnovers and things like that and penalties that stopped drives. I don't think our record speaks for how much these seniors and everyone else has battled the entire year."

Tantasqua held off Shepherd Hill to take their 14-0 lead into the second half. The Rams didn't back down, however, scoring their first points of the game in the fourth quarter on a run-in touchdown by senior quarterback Nolan Lagere before a successful two-point conversion by junior Romeo Holland made it a one-score game. Tantasqua responded when Colon-Martinez completed a 12-yard touchdown run to make the score 20-8 after a failed two-point conversion. Shepherd Hill would score one more time in the fourth quarter courtesy of another Legere keeper touchdown and a converted two-point conversion by Holland, but the Rams were



Photos Jason Bleau  
Tantasqua's varsity football team claimed victory in their annual Thanksgiving matchup with Shepherd Hill, 20-16.



Quarterback Caleb Thompson of Tantasqua is crowded by Shepherd Hill defenders as he pushes through a pile.  
The Shepherd Hill offense and Tantasqua defense line up for a play in their annual Thanksgiving rivalry showdown on Nov. 24.

unable to drive down the field one more time to complete the comeback, giving the Warrior a 20-16 victory in the 47th meeting of the teams.

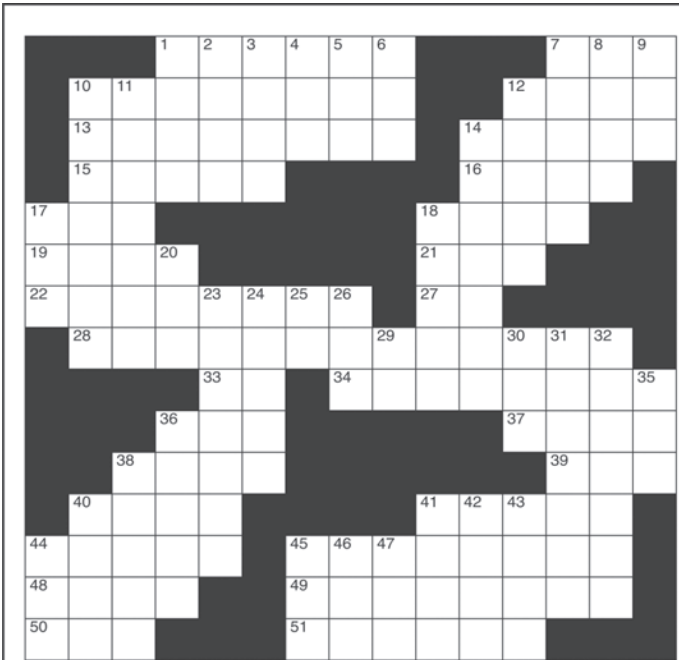
Shepherd Hill head coach Dave Buchanan commended his team's comeback attempt in the second half, but acknowledged that Tantasqua's quick two-score lead was too much to overcome.

"Unfortunately, we just ran out of time. Ultimately at the end of the day you can't let a

team jump out 14-0 and then try to battle back. It's too hard at times for us to be able to do that so we have to start faster," Buchanan said. "It's a rivalry game for a reason and you're always going to get their best shot. It's a credit to Tantasqua. We've got a lot of tough kids and that's who we are, and tough kids never quit. That's a testament to all those kids who played tonight, and they played hard. I'm so proud of them. I absolutely love this

group. It's tough for us to not send the seniors out with a win like we wanted, but at the same time the seniors responded and that's a testament to their mental toughness and how hard they worked."

Tantasqua's win brings the Thanksgiving record between the two teams to 37-9-1 in favor of Shepherd Hill. The Warriors finished the season 2-8, while the Rams went 4-7.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Topsides  
7. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)  
10. A Sultan's court  
12. Maine city  
13. Largest living land animal  
14. Appetizer  
15. Encounters  
16. Leader  
17. The source of bacon  
18. Nuclear near reach weapon (abbr.)  
19. Celery (Spanish)  
21. Pie \_\_\_ mode  
22. Eye disease  
27. Hello (slang)  
28. Those in their 80s
33. Law enforcement agency (abbr.)  
34. Business organizations  
36. Mimic  
37. For indicating speed of rotation (abbr.)  
38. Feeling  
39. Visual way to interact with computers (abbr.)  
40. "Let It Snow!" songwriter  
41. Essential oil used as perfume  
44. Norwegian composer  
45. Coast  
48. \_\_\_ lang syne, good old days  
49. Gland behind the stomach  
50. Tooth caregiver  
51. King of Camelot

CLUES DOWN

1. N. American indigenous people  
2. Fascinated by  
3. Root of out  
4. Patti Hearst's captors  
5. Atomic #50  
6. Habitual drunkard  
7. Arabic for "peace"  
8. Trickery  
9. One's physique (slang)  
10. Not quite there  
11. Wistfully mournful  
12. Popular dance  
14. Cut of meat  
17. A way to stand  
18. "Gunga Din" screenwriter  
20. 10th month of the year (abbr.)  
23. A way of jumping  
24. Utah town
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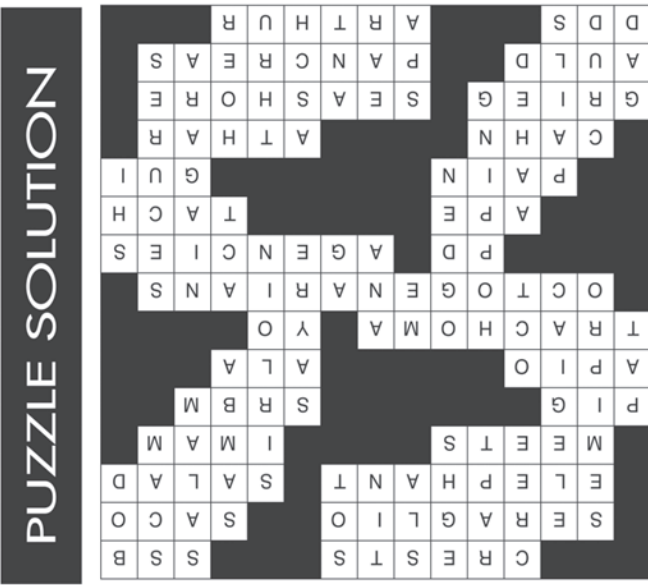
SPENCER NEW LEADER  
PUBLISHED BY  
STONEBRIDGE PRESS  
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER  
FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
860-928-1818 EXT. 103  
[frank@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:frank@stonebridgepress.news)  
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860-928-1818, EXT. 305  
[julie@villagenewspapers.com](mailto:julie@villagenewspapers.com)

The Spencer New Leader (USPS#024-927) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, Inc., 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical Postage paid at Southbridge, MA 01550. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

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# Seniors go out strong for Quaboag football

BY DEAN P. ST. LAURENT  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

WARREN — Coming into their annual Thanksgiving Eve matchup against rival Ware High, the Quaboag Regional varsity football team had lost two straight games after finishing the regular season with an undefeated 8-0 record. And, in the holiday rivalry, the Cougars had also lost the last three meetings that started over a decade ago.

To put it lightly, Quaboag was due and they showed it on Wednesday night with a strong defensive performance. The Cougars adjusted to all the different looks the Indians’ offense threw at them all game long, holding Ware to just one scoring drive late in the third quarter. Offensively, the Cougars were able to use their balanced attack and take advantage of the defensive stops to defeat the Indians, 22-7, and finish 9-2.

“Awesome,” Quaboag head coach Dave Shepherd stated about winning for the seniors. “For these seniors to go out with a win that was our goal tonight after losing our last two. I didn’t want to see them go out losing three in a row. So, tonight a win for the seniors was incredible.

“We have a pretty diverse team, we can throw and we can run. So, depending on what you’re going to give us for a look, we combat that and that is big,”

added Shepherd. “We are not a one-dimensional team. I think that was the difference tonight, they were a pretty one-dimensional team in terms of their offense.”

The Ware offense came out in a basic I-formation some drives, multiple wild-cat formations to get their playmakers going, and shotgun at times. The Cougars had the Indians digging deep into their playbook, but it was clear Ware wanted to run the ball.

“We were able to adjust on the fly very well,” Shepherd stated about his defense. “The game plan was to stuff the box, they haven’t been a passing team all year and they didn’t pass a lot until they went down. So, our game plan was to stop the run and we had the scouting report of when one guy in and what they’re going to run, opposed to another play. I think we did a good job of preparing for the game.”

The offensives for both teams started slow. The contest was scoreless after the first quarter and the first two possessions of the game ended in interceptions. Derrick Shepherd corralled the interception on Ware’s first offensive drive. The senior quarterback/defensive back ended the game with two picks. Then the momentum shifted and the Cougars were able to put together two consecutive scoring drives in the

second quarter.

First was a long grit and grind drive that was sparked by a 20-yard senior connection from Derrek Shepherd to Alex Worthington on a third and long, deep in their territory after the defense forced a turnover on downs in the red zone. The 12-play drive was capped by junior Brendan Burke rushing in from 2 yards out.

The second scoring drive came after another defensive stop in the red zone. Yes, Quaboag put a personal twist on the Patriots’ bend-but-don’t-break style of defense. The Cougars carried their momentum and capped their second consecutive scoring drive with a Shepherd to Worthington touchdown connection from 18 yards out. After a successful two-point conversion, Quaboag led 14-0 at halftime.

Coming out of the half, the offenses started just like they did to begin the game, but late in the third quarter Ware got some life and was able to put together a scoring drive that took just a couple plays and was capped by a 6-yard rushing touchdown.

The drive late in the third was the Indians’ only scoring drive, as Quaboag was able to shut them down for the rest of the game, along with getting back into the scoring column to clinch the victory. Midway through the fourth,

Burke scored again from 5 yards out.

The Cougars’ three stars stood out on Wednesday. Burke ended the night with two scores and 137 yards rushing. Worthington caught the ball for 128 yards and broke Quaboag’s single-season receiving record, and Derrick Shepherd recorded a touchdown pass.

“This year Burke set the season record for rushing, my son Derrick Shepherd got it in passing and now he’s [Alex Worthington] it in receiving,” stated Dave Shepherd. “That is the type of offense we had this year and it shows. They all work extremely hard, so it is great to see them. Worthington is a great athlete, Derrick has been throwing him the ball since fifth grade, and they have a connection. Then, Burke, you see him, he is a big strong kid.”

Although Quaboag is going to have to find players to fill the shoes of Shepherd and Worthington, they still have a good core coming back next year. Be on the lookout for another run for the Quaboag football team.

“He [Burke] is only going to get bigger and stronger, and we have three out of five linemen next year, so we are going to be in good shape next year,” Dave Shepherd concluded.

# Oxford’s offense explodes to beat Bay Path in Thanksgiving Day Battle for Buffums

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

OXFORD — Well, that’s more like it.

sFive days after scoring just six points in a bitterly disappointing loss in a Division 8 state semifinal, the high-voltage Oxford High varsity football team’s offense was back to being its old self, scoring five of the Pirates’ six touchdowns in a 41-14 Thanksgiving Day win over Bay Path Regional in the eighth annual Thanksgiving Day Battle for Buffums, held at Cmdr. Michael C. Masley Jr. Memorial Field.

For Oxford, which finished the season 9-3 — its first nine-win season since 1999 — the win was its fourth straight turkey day victory, knotting the overall series at four wins each. The Pirates have actually won five straight games against Bay Path, prevailing in a matchup between the schools in the spring during the Fall II season, 28-21.

Senior Antoine LaCourt-Ramos — the Snyder Award winner, given to the outstanding player of the game — staked Oxford to a 7-0 first-quarter lead, scoring on a 15-yard interception return. LaCourt-Ramos has returned an interception for a touchdown in each of his four high school seasons.

“That’s not normal,” seventh-year Oxford head coach Jeff Clarkson said about LaCourt-Ramos’ career feat. “I

think it’s a testament to how athletic and talented Antoine is.”

Junior Lucas Lambert, who scored a pair of rushing touchdowns and was the game’s Offensive MVP, pushed the Pirates’ lead to 14-0 when he scurried into the end zone from eight yards out in the second quarter. Lambert’s scoring run capped a 99-1/2-yard, 13-play drive.

“We got pinned deep in our own territory. We thought Bay Path was going to attempt a fake punt, so we didn’t have anyone back to field the punt. They ended up punting the ball, got a great roll, and downed it on our half-yard line,” Clarkson explained. “It was nice to see the boys go out and put together that scoring drive. That was the offensive team we’ve been all year. Offensively we moved the ball well all year.”

In the third quarter the Pirates quickly increased its lead to 21-0, Lambert scoring on a 10-yard quarterback keeper. T h e k e y

moment in the three-play drive was a 33-yard completion from Lambert to senior Steve Fisher, which came on the play before the touchdown.

“Lucas is a very good runner,” said Clarkson, who said Lambert began playing for him in youth football as a fourth-grader. He’s just as good running the ball inside between the tackles as he is outside in the open field.”

LaCourt-Ramos pushed the Oxford lead to 28-0 later in the quarter, scoring his first career rushing touchdown when he plowed in from a yard out.

Bay Path (4-7) got on the board in the third period, Gabe Espinosa recovering a Pirates’ fumble in the Oxford end zone to make the score 28-7. At the end of the high-scoring third quarter Oxford took a 35-7 lead, Lambert hitting junior Jordan DeLeon with a 52-yard scoring strike.

In the fourth quarter Bay Path receiver Jonathan Nussey (six catches, 117 yards) made it

a 35-14 game when he gathered in a 23-yard touchdown pass from Anthony Catino. Pirates’ senior Darius Richardson — who was named the Defensive MVP of the game — closed out the scoring with a 15-yard run late, which accounted for the 41-14 final.

“We made a lot of mistakes. Oxford is a good football team, so they took advantage of those mistakes,” second-year Bay Path head coach Cody Giampa said. “Offensively they drove down the field on us and defensively they did a lot of good things in terms of bringing pressure, and we didn’t do a good job of handling that pressure. They kept us pretty much out of our rhythm all game.

“We’re excited about the team moving forward,” Giampa continued. “We’re losing some good seniors, but we’re excited about the team moving forward. We knew in the spring we were mostly sophomores, and we were going to take our lumps, but we had a really good

JV team this year and we have a great freshman class, so we’re looking forward to the future of this program.”

Oxford, which loses six seniors — Richardson, LaCourt-Ramos, Fisher, Robert Cheney, Angel Roman and Chris Ballah — should be strong again next year because several starters will be returning.

“Juniors and sophomores made up the bulk of our team this year,” Clarkson said. “Next year they’ll be seniors and juniors.”

Key juniors on this year’s team include Lambert, Jadan Morales, Zak Parmenter, Quinn Clarkson (coach Clarkson’s son), Travis Benoit and Sam Boucher.

“All those guys should start next year,” Coach Clarkson said. “We also have a lot of sophomores I expect to be key contributors next year as well, including Jordan DeLeon, Connor Fantasia and Robbie Fisher.”

## Community forum planned on DPHS renovations

SPENCER – The David Prouty High School Building Committee invites residents to attend a community forum next week.

Set for Tuesday, Dec. 7, the event will take place at 6 p.m. at Wire Village School. The program will include a general presentation from the committee, followed by an open discussion about the high school renovation project.

All members of the community are welcome to attend.

## LHS Pep Band hosting holiday craft fair

LEICESTER – The Leicester High School Wolverine Pep Band invites guests to bring their holiday shopping lists to tomorrow’s craft fair.

Set for Saturday, Dec. 4, the event will take place at the school from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. More than 50 local crafters will take part in the fair—the perfect opportunity for you to shop local while finishing up your holiday purchases.

The event is free to the public. Face masks are required inside the school.





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# Residents raise questions about hiring of new Leicester superintendent

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Residents are frustrated by what they describe as a lack of transparency from school officials on the hiring process used to acquire new Assistant Superintendent Richard Lind.

Hired in July after previously serving as the superintendent of North Brookfield Public Schools, Lind's arrival in Leicester is the subject of several concerns and complaints. Foremost, residents have sought to understand why the assistant superintendent position was created this past summer by the district immediately after eliminating its director of curriculum role. The final occupant of the latter position was Matthew Joseph, who told the New Leader he received several conflicting messages over the summer regarding his employment in Leicester.

On June 29, Joseph received a letter from Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Marilyn Tencza announcing that he would receive a 1.5 percent salary increase, effective July 1 to June 30 of next year. Additionally, Joseph described meeting with the superintendent in June to establish goals and strategies for his role in the 2021-22 school year.

But Joseph said he received a vastly different message from Leicester School Committee Chairman Tom Lauder:

"On June 22, 2021 – the same day the Superintendent told my client his job was secure – SC Chair Lauder told my client that he (Mr. Lauder) planned to create a position of assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction, and intended to eliminate my client's position," read a letter submitted to school officials by Attorney Harry Beach, of Beach Law, LLC, which is representing Joseph in a wrongful termination complaint against the district.

Joseph said he has been authorized by his attorney to release his complaint to the Attorney General's office. One

of his major grievances with the district goes back to his conversation with Chairman Lauder in June.

"The new [School Committee] chair met with me on June 22 and told me his idea to create an assistant superintendent of curriculum and instruction and eliminate my position as director of curriculum and instruction. He then said, 'you can apply, but you will not get it,'" Joseph said. "So this was determined before even voting on the role. On July 6, they voted 4-1 to eliminate my job and post for a new role. No warning, no notice—just cut and informed I would not get the new role. I feel I was bullied out of a job."

Several residents are standing behind Joseph, questioning whether the decision to hire Lind was made before Joseph's position was eliminated.

At a Sept. 15 School Committee meeting, resident Dylan Lambert attempted to inquire about Lind's hiring process during a public session, but Chairman Lauder denied the request, stating the item was not on the meeting agenda.

"I tried to pose the questions during the public comment toward the end of the meeting. Tom's response was simple: Not on the agenda," Lambert told the New Leader. "At that point, there was a lot less that we knew. I wanted to ask some questions about the process itself."

In response to the denial of his request for information, Lambert filed an Open Meeting Law complaint against the School Committee. The complaint was received by the committee on Sept. 16, but officials contend that they did not violate the Open Meeting Law.

"The topic you wished to discuss, i.e., the hiring process of the new assistant superintendent, was not on the Committee's agenda for the September 15, 2021 meeting, and the Chairman declined to hear your comments, which he has the authority to do," read a letter obtained by the New Leader, written to Lambert from School Counsel Kimberly

Rozak.

The School Committee submitted a copy of Lambert's complaint to the Attorney General's Division of Open Government. School officials maintain that no wrongdoing took place in the denial of Lambert's request.

"While the Open Meeting Law does not require any type of public participation in a meeting, the School Committee routinely allots time for public comments. In an effort to respect everyone's time, the School Committee limits public comments to topics on the agenda for that meeting," said Superintendent Tencza.

On Oct. 9 and Oct. 17, Lambert requested emails, correspondences, and text messages regarding School Committee members. Unsatisfied with the district's response, Lambert petitioned the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Public Records Division, which opened an appeal.

Lambert's complaint is also being reviewed by Kerry Kilcoyne, the head of the Attorney General's Division of Open Government.

Meanwhile, Lambert told the New Leader he uncovered information in the weeks following his initial complaint that has led to even more questions about Lind's hiring process. He conveyed many of his concerns to Kilcoyne in an Oct. 21 letter explaining his complaint.

"When I had originally filed the complaint, there was far less information available to me than is now," Lambert wrote. "Frankly, as we get more information regarding the hiring process for the Assistant Superintendent, Richard Lind, I'm starting to see why the committee chair, Tom Lauder, is so tight lipped. It appears that the committee that he chairs went into creating this position with the predetermined conclusion on who they were hiring before they created the position 7/6/21, based on assertions made by the former curriculum director that they eliminated to

pave the way for the position."

District leaders directed media inquiries on Lind's hiring process to an FAQ document regarding the process.

"On July 7, 2021, the School Committee voted to reorganize the Central Office Administration to focus efforts on the continual advancement of our district's goals," the document read, in part. "The position of Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment was eliminated, and a new Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning was created."

The Assistant Superintendent position was posted on July 8, school officials said, and it was advertised from July 8-23.

The FAQ document, released by Superintendent Tencza's office, acknowledges that the Superintendent sent a letter to Lind informing him that he would be hired. The letter was sent to Lind prior to the School Committee voting on his employment.

"The four candidates who received the highest number of committee votes were interviewed by the Leadership Committee. They recommended that two candidates move forward to meet teachers and parents and participate in a public forum," read the document issued by Superintendent Tencza's office. "On the day of the public forum, one candidate withdrew from the process. Although there was only one candidate left, he was the strongest candidate. I sent a conditional letter of hire to him pending the School Committee vote."

In a Nov. 8 letter written to Superintendent Tencza from Rebecca Murray, the Supervisor of Records with the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Public Records Division, the school department was ordered to provide Lambert with a response to his request within ten business days.

Kilcoyne's separate review of the complaint is ongoing.

# Quinebaug Lodge participated in Christmas tree lighting festivities

SOUTHBRIDGE — On Saturday, Nov. 27, it was a cold windy blistering night at the Christmas Tree Lighting festivities on the Southbridge common. Quinebaug Masonic Lodge had a booth set up and put smiles on many people and children's faces with the selling of kettle corn, hot dogs, fried Oreo cookies and fried dough. There was a Lama that children could pet and vendors selling

Christmas ornaments that light up that you could wear around your neck or on your hats. A DJ played Christmas music in the gazebo and a vendor selling hot coffee and coco. There were long lines at the Quinebaug Lodge's booth to get the tasty treats the lodge was selling.

When the parade started and Santa came by, the lines were still long while many adults and children watched the parade go by. The common was lite up with Christmas lights and decorations of all kinds. Everyone at this event did not seem to mind the wind and cold because there was so much to see and do. If you are interested about Freemasonry and what we do in your local community, for more information and to find a lodge nearest you, visit our Web site at [www.massfreemasonry.org](http://www.massfreemasonry.org).

Photo Courtesy

The Quinebaug lodge booth with members working hard to accommodate these tasty treats to the people who attended this very busy event.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE  
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

What's  
your story?

It's holiday party season, and for most of us that, is a good thing. We get together with friends and family, enjoy some eggnog and a plethora of our favorite appetizers. However, we do know that oftentimes, we are invited by our significant others to attend a work soiree or we are attending one ourselves. Being in a room where you only know one or a few people could seem like a daunting task for our introverted readers, but have no fear — we have ways for you to have memorable conversations that you may end up actually enjoying.

Instead of discussing the weather or asking the mundane questions such as ‘Where are you from?’ why not simply ask, ‘What’s your story?’ Other conversation starters include, ‘How do you know the host?’ ‘What was the highlight of your week?’ or ‘Are you working on anything exciting?’

If you’re shy or feeling a bit awkward, you can keep the conversation going by talking about the food being served or the venue where the event is taking place. Asking a person what they have tried so far, and how they liked it is an easy conversation starter. If you research the history of a place, you can always begin with the ‘Did you know?’ questions. We know everyone loves a good history story and bits of local trivia.

If the person you are speaking with is from the area, ask them what they do for entertainment in town, including where and what their favorite restaurants are. Looking up recent sports standings is never a bad idea, even if you don’t particularly care for sports. This way when you nod and smile, you can have some confidence in knowing that you are at least somewhat in the loop. If you’ve bumped into a fellow skier, discussing snow conditions and ski hills is an easy topic. Look up a recent odd news story that is interesting and humorous, that way during a lull, you can say, ‘So, I was reading about a man who appeared before a Dutch court and requested that he legally be made 20 years younger.’ (Yes, that actually happened; if we see you at a holiday bash, we will fill you in.)

Most conversations remain on the surface which is appropriate when you don’t really know someone. However, if you feel comfortable and are enjoying the conversation don’t be afraid to go a bit bolder. Generally, most people like to talk about themselves, not necessarily for selfish reasons, but who doesn’t want to be known and appreciated? We all have unique personalities that are worth sharing.

Such questions that go beneath the surface may include, ‘What is your biggest fear?’ ‘When you were growing up, what was your dream job?’ ‘Have you been to any interesting places lately?’ ‘Have you learned anything this week, that you weren’t aware of last week?’

The easiest thing to do while in conversation this month is to ask how a person celebrates the holidays. Asking about traditions and the best holiday a person has ever had brings up fond memories and positive energy.

These questions tend to snowball naturally and voila a solid, meaningful conversation has been had and you could even make a new comrade along the way.

Resist socialism

To the Editor:

Joe Biden and his socialist Democrats are really changing America, and not for the better. Their policies are changing our traditions. Let’s look at a few.

Their war on law enforcement and lax treatment of criminals is making our country into one where citizens are a lot less safe. We see the result nationwide in cities and states that have embraced the socialist crazy notion of Defund the Police, no prosecution, and slaps on the wrist. Murder rates going sky high in Detroit, Baltimore, and New York City. Across the nation, the BLM tactic of “Smash and Grab” is becoming the norm. A new holiday tradition. The BLM Black Friday sale is a group of 60 young thugs brandishing crowbars and hammers. ‘Tis the sea-

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Veterans don’t just do their time

To the Editor:

I read with interest the headline in last week’s Spencer New Leader, “Spencer designated as purple heart community.” Then I read the article. Nowhere does it mention what a purple heart medal is or how one is earned. I know it dates back to 1782, when General George Washington first awarded it to soldiers wounded in battle and posthumously to soldiers who were killed in battle.

My husband was awarded one, as he was wounded in the Vietnam War. My heart fell as I read what Spencer’s Veterans Agent, Scott Conner, was quoted as saying about veterans: “They do their time and meld back into society...this [Purple Heart Community designation] is a celebration of all veterans.” Wow — does a soldier killed

or wounded in battle “do their time and meld into society?” I say they do not – they remind us all that freedom is not free. It comes at great cost and great sacrifice. Ask any Gold Star mother who keeps that medal by her child’s picture. Ask any soldier who lies awake at 2 in the morning because PTSD won’t let him rest as he should.

I am very grateful for everyone who wears a uniform in service to our country. But there is a special place in my heart for the men and women who left their blood on a battlefield to protect and defend our nation and our freedom.

Yours very truly,

CAROL J. HAWKINS  
NORTH BROOKFIELD

The prophetic words of Hamilton

To the Editor:

This Autumn, in what may be the autumn of our republic, your readers could be informed in their political meditations by the following prophetic words of Alexander Hamilton. I certainly am. They can be found in “The Federalist Papers.”

“The truth unquestionably is, that the only path to a subversion of the republican system of the Country is, by flattering the prejudices of the people, and exciting their jealousies and apprehensions, to throw affairs into confusion, and bring on civil commotion. Tired at length of anarchy, or want of government, they may take shelter in the arms of monarchy for repose and security. Those then, who resist a confirmation of public order, are the true Artificers of monarchy — not that this is the intention of the generality of them. Yet it would not be difficult to lay the finger upon

some of their party who may justly be suspected. When a man unprincipled in private life desperate in his fortune, bold in his temper, possessed of considerable talents, having the advantage of military habits — despotic in his ordinary demeanour — known to have scoffed in private at the principles of liberty – when such a man is seen to mount the hobby horse of popularity – to join in the cry of danger to liberty – to take every opportunity of embarrassing the General Government & bringing it under suspicion — to flatter and fall in with all the nonsense of the zealots of the day — It may justly be suspected that his object is to throw things into confusion that he may ‘ride the storm and direct the whirlwind.’”

WILLIAM M. SHEA  
SPENCER

Gaslighting history

To the Editor:

Belated Happy Thanksgiving and proactive Merry Christmas to all who celebrate long cherished national holidays, and even those who don’t.

Historians of world and western civilization will require centuries to understand how and why the most advanced civilization of its day participated in its own destruction. For reasons which will be parsed for generations, the concept of gas-lighting and its impact across Western academia will probably remain a murky area of ideologically driven explanations about why European/American Western culture dissolved under a tidal wave of self-righteous obloquy.

Whether because of guilt generated by disproportionate success, or a need to demonstrate moral superiority among themselves, affluent westerners have, with increased fervor, adopted a suicidal course which can only result in a reoccurrence of the horrors of armed struggle. I refer specifically to the new cultural worldview which lends credibility to infamous social justice theories that, at their core, are the antithesis of what they purport to be. In adopting the mea culpa stance of historical revisionists, western academic institutions have deliberately promoted a view of reality which ignores virtually all of western civilization’s hard-won achievements, in favor of a maniacal focus on the harm done.

This could only be achieved by a people so long protected from adversity that their grasp of the real world has become impaired. Those revisionists not only turn the focus of their interpretation away from truth, but fall so low as to deliberately distort history to fit a narrative which advo-

cates cultural demonization. A narrative intended, and suited only, to destroy the bonds which cement this civilization in a way consistent with our national motto.

Education is not wisdom, and the sophomores have clearly overthrown the complacency of people committed to calm, academic discussion. There can be no reasoning with the passion of true believers, whether they manifest as religious zealots, globalist one-worlders, Neo-Marxists, or environmental extremists. Someone has allowed the children to sit in the driver’s seat of the school-bus, and that bus is very clearly headed for a cliff. If you still haven’t figured out what I’m going on about, consider the possibility that you’re not someone I want to spend time talking with about the matter at hand. If you’re the least bit curious, read the definition provided below. I mean to make clear my belief that this “gas lighting” has already been done to countless graduates of higher education. If some of our social institutions need to be torn down, I suggest we begin there. Do you suppose it’s possible to De-Fund Harvard?

Definition of gaslight, Gaslighted or gaslit; gaslighting; gaslights Transitive Verb: To psychologically manipulate (a person) usually over an extended period of time so that the victim questions the validity of their own thoughts, perception of reality or memories, and experiences confusion, loss of confidence, and develops doubts concerning their emotional or mental stability: to subject (someone) to gaslighting.

JACK MCCLINTOCK  
NORTH BROOKFIELD

What to  
know about  
early IRA  
withdrawals

While you’re working, you may be contributing to an individual retirement account (IRA), which can provide a tax-advantaged way to save for your future. So, is it ever a good idea to tap into your IRA before you retire?

Ideally, you should leave this account intact until your retirement. After all, you could spend two or more decades in retirement, so you’ll need a lot of financial resources. Still, life is unpredictable, so there may be times you’ll consider taking money from your IRA. You’ll need to be aware, though, that if you withdraw funds before you turn 59 and a half, you will generally trigger a 10% penalty. Plus, you’ll be taxed on whatever you take out, thereby losing, at least in part, the benefits of tax-deferred earnings offered by a traditional IRA. (With a Roth IRA, you can withdraw your contributions free of taxes and penalties, but the earnings may be taxed and penalized if you take them out before you’re 59 and a half.)

If you need to withdraw funds from your IRA before you’re 59 and a half, you may be able to avoid the 10% early withdrawal penalty if you meet an exception, such as one of these:

Paying for college – You are allowed to take penalty-free withdrawals to pay for tuition and other qualified higher education expenses for you, your spouse, children or grandchildren. However, since the withdrawals may be considered taxable income, they could reduce the student’s eligibility for financial aid.

Buying a first home – You and your spouse can each withdraw up to \$10,000 from your respective IRAs to buy your first home. To qualify as a first-time homebuyer, you (and your spouse) need to have not owned a home for the two years preceding your home purchase.

Having a child – Following the birth or adoption of a child, you and your coparent can each withdraw up to \$5,000 from your respective IRA without paying the 10 percent penalty.



Covering medical expenses – You may be able to avoid the early withdrawal penalty if you use the money to pay for unreimbursed medical expenses (for you, your spouse or dependents) that exceed 7.5 percent of your adjusted gross income. You may also qualify to take a withdrawal without penalty to pay for health insurance premiums if you are unemployed. In the case of a disability, the 10 percent early withdrawal penalty also may not apply. These aren’t the only exceptions to the 10 percent withdrawal penalty, but they do cover many of the common reasons that people may consider an early withdrawal from their IRAs. And if you do need to take an early withdrawal, consult with your tax advisor to determine your eligibility for avoiding the 10 percent penalty. Keep in mind, though, that you do have ways to potentially reduce the necessity of withdrawing from your IRA early. One proven technique is to build an emergency fund containing at least three to six months’ worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account. You might also consider opening a line of credit. A financial professional can help you explore other options, as well. Ultimately, if you can leave your IRA intact until you retire, you’ll be helping yourself greatly. But if you do need to tap into your account early, at least be familiar with the possible drawbacks – and how you might avoid them.

*Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.*

*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

A test

To the Editor:  
It is a longstanding tradition for people to acquire disinformation that are actually allegations (he says, she says), and treat them like they are actual facts. These have included the election was stolen, bamboo in paper impacts votes, a server in Germany is changing vote totals, Trump could only lose if there was massive fraud, dead people voted, people voted multiple times.  
These are all allegations (accusations), and should be taken as seriously as is merited. A multi-million-dollar audit was contracted in Arizona. It was scheduled to have been completed in a month. It wound up being quite comprehensive and stretched to five months. The outcome was evidence of fraud, but not significant enough to change election outcome. The dead person voting voted for Trump, and the erroneous count gained Biden votes, who had won without them.  
I understand that many red states are proposing undertaking this same audit. For those who think deficits and

spending should be carefully done, my three questions are 1) Since there is no Constitutional path to overturn the certified election, what can be gained? 2) Why would states controlled by GOP, whose electoral votes all favored Trump? Are you trying to change result? 3) We are talking about megabucks — who is profiting from the most ridiculous grift in my lifetime?  
Freedom is a term I believe is abused and mis-used more than most others. When I started school 68 years ago, I was forced to get a smallpox vaccination before I could attend. My pediatrician administered the Salk polio vaccine as soon as available, and also got the Sabin sugar cube in school. We took disease personally and seriously, and revered having a science based defense remedy. It is a virtual mystery to me why the voters who support the vaccinated guy who started Operation Warp Speed see anything rational about not doing it. I lost a first cousin to Covid this week. I don't yet know if he was vaccinated, and won't beat that

drum today.  
Having reviewed posts and listened to public comments made recently, I have simpler subjects to explore. Let's say you have a widget (car, bike dish, furniture) you want to sell. You decide what you will sell it for, and the government says your price is wrong and they will set it. They do involve themselves in utilities, where there is no competition, but, as far as I know, they exercise *laissez faire* and price offering and purchasing are private enterprise. Why would anyone think that the pricing of any commodity is government controlled- like barrels of oil? Why would a society that thinks \$15 an hour is a living wage, get upset when the guy who grows the food, packs or trucks the food, or sells it to you, should not be allowed to inflate their pricing to cover those costs. This is not rocket science folks. Insufficient actions to keep pace with inflation, will, of necessity, update. If cheap comes back, so will starvation wages. Fortunately, many commodities are more reasonable than

ever these days. Sadly, most of them are made in China.  
Here, we exercise capitalism — supply chain, demand issues drive the market. Government does not control these things. Those would all be in the purview of other types of government- not ours. Unless you want a different type of government, stop holding this one responsible when they just are not.  
A former boss had a great response when customers complained about prices.  
The man asked the store owner the price for eggs. He responded \$1.79 a dozen.  
The man said “They only a dollar across the street.”  
The boss said “Why didn't you buy them there?”  
The man said, “They were out.”  
The boss said, “When we are out, they will be a dollar a dozen here.”

KEN KIMBALL  
BROOKFIELD

Shotgun deer season kicks off

Massachusetts' shotgun deer season opened under less-than-ideal conditions! The deer herd in Massachusetts is at an all-time high. All deer must be checked in at authorized deer station for the first week only. When harvesting a deer, and it is processed by a butcher shop, or it is processed by an experienced meat cutter, it should provide hunters with plenty of venison for the freezer.  
The Blackstone Valley has a huge population of deer today, but it was not always that way. Hundreds of deer hunters made the journey to Petersham and Hardwick, to mention a couple. Once you hit Worcester, it held a caravan of deer hunters heading to some of their favorite towns to hunt in the early morning hours. Most diners and breakfast shops along the way were packed with deer hunters. We were called flatlanders by the locals up there.  
We all share the memories of the earlier days, but it is nice not to travel the sometimes two-hour journey to hunt deer. With gas prices soaring, a trip to the above-mentioned towns could cost many a tank of gas. Back in the day, gas was as low as 10 cents a gallon, and



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rose to a huge price of 25 cents in the '70's and '80s. My favorite gas station was at the former Whitin Machine Works garage next to the fire station on Main street.  
If you are lucky enough to harvest a trophy buck, you need to take special care of the deer skin, if you are planning to have it mounted. If the taxidermist that you chose is extremely busy with other customers' deer pelts, you may need to store it in your chest freezer until he has room for yours. Choosing the right taxidermist for the job is extremely important. Ask for references and work that he has done in the last few years.  
Other questions to ask for is the final price, and how long it will take to get your mount back. You should get it in writing! In past years, some hunters ended up waiting a few years before receiving their finished mounts, and some actually ended up waiting even longer. Some were disgusted with the long wait sending it to another taxidermist, resulting in another year or two to have their deer mount finished. You need to do your homework. The cost to get a good job done for your trophy buck could cost upwards of \$500. Never ever

pay the taxidermist in full until you receive your mount. You will need to pay a deposit at the time that you drop off your deer head and pelt.  
Black bear season in the valley opened this past Monday, Nov. 29, and will run till Dec. 11. With all of the numerous bear sightings in the valley, many deer hunters have purchased a bear permit from the state at a cost of \$5.  
Mass. Fish & Wildlife has a new updated site to log onto, which started Dec. 1. You will also notice the hike in license fees and permits for next year. Most permits and stamps have increased from \$5 to \$10, and will automatically increase \$5 for the remaining four years.  
Wallum Lake continues to provide some nice trout for shore line anglers, and those that have not put their boats away for the season. One local angler fished from his boat on Wallum Lake last week and caught a couple of 18-inch brown trout while trolling a shiner on one of his trout rigs. Anglers fishing from shore are also doing well, catching numerous rainbow trout. Ice fishing anglers are hopeful that there will be some good ice fishing this year, but you may need to go North if you want a good season. Global warming of planet earth has changed our lives forever, when it comes to outdoor activities in New England.



Photo Courtesy

This week's photo shows a deer with awesome antlers, taken in Massachusetts a few years ago, which was displayed in the Big - E sportsmen's show. Amazing!  
  
Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Change yourself to change your situation

We've all experienced times when things were going well, we were moving towards a goal, and suddenly things began to sour. A new manager may be putting negative pressure on you, and maybe a family member is constantly angry with you - no matter what you say or do, it's wrong.  
Situations like this are most challenging. It's hard to move forward. We lose the spring in our step; we let our heads droop down, we wonder why everything has to be so bad. We go home at night, and we dread the next day. We wonder how it will be possible to make it through.  
You say your prayers and beg for a change; you confide in your loved ones;

They try to help, but nothing they say seems to make a difference.  
The positive thoughts become few and far between. You try to be positive, but with a bad attitude, you think to yourself, "I just have to keep putting one foot in front of the other."  
The fact is, things don't always go the way we plan. We plan for great things, and then not-so-great things can happen. We have great expectations, but sometimes those expectations are crushed.  
When life becomes like this, it's easy to get negative; It's easy to get stuck; it's



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easy to think things will always be like this.  
I used to believe that when life gives you lemons, you should squirt your enemies in the eye, but is that the best way?  
Years ago, I had a job where everything was running smoothly; it was all under control. Suddenly a new manager was hired, and life became very different. Initially, I was ok with the pressure, but it became too much. I couldn't stand to be at work, and I was distraught. It was a good job, and I didn't want to leave, but I didn't feel like I could deal with it any longer. I prayed, and I read, seeking a solution.

I tried to change my manager, but nothing seemed to work; I lost my cool.  
After some time, I realized I wasn't going to change the situation, nor was I going to change my manager, but instead, I was the one who needed changing.  
Sometimes to overcome a problem, it isn't about changing the other person; it's about changing yourself. Often our reaction to what's happening is the problem. We have a choice.  
I've had family members get angry at me, and my reaction only made things worse. I'd try to show them the error of their ways, I'd complain to other family members, I'd think of ways to change them, but it never worked. The only time things became peaceful again was when I changed myself when I changed my reaction.  
The other person may change, but it usually won't happen according to our time frame. When you can't change the situation, it might be because it's time to change your attitude and feel about it.  
They say everything in life is only for a season; is that true?  
Oddly enough, when I finally adjusted my attitude and gave up trying to change my manager and the situation,

Turn To **MOORE** page **A11**

ROBILLARD

continued from page A8

tary, and a society with a government in firm control. They see us under Biden, and we look just the opposite. The head of Germany, Merkel, even point blank asked our VP what the heck's happening in our country. The rest of the world is astounded how fast we are falling.  
Then there's the ungrateful attitude of a great many of our people. If you are in America, have the best opportunity to succeed if you want to. When I grew up, you didn't take handouts. You had pride and a work ethic. If you wanted something, you were expected to earn it. It was instilled in you by your parents and everybody who knew you. You felt ashamed to be on the dole. You worked hard, and when you got it, you walked upright and proud. The thieves, liars, and cheats were looked down on. With the leftist socialists, that doesn't seem to be the tradition they want to instill. They want you to feel you are owed everything just for being here. You should expect the government to give you everything free. After all, it doesn't cost nothing. It's funny — these same people who say it don't cost nothing, do you think their giving their money away? Of course not. It doesn't cost nothing when they're taking and spending your money. The leaders of the progressive movement aren't poor, downtrodden paupers. You have Bernie with three houses and millions. You have Pelosi, a millionaire many times over. They aren't giving their money away to the poor. No, they just want to take yours and give it away to the lazy ones that don't want to work. That way, they can get their votes to stay in power. Then you have local socialists like Mr. Ken Kimball, who says it's about time we all sacrifice our financial stability

to provide free services to all. That's great when it's the government draining our pockets to do it. It doesn't cost him anything. I wonder, when he goes to the store, does he give the poor cashier an extra \$10 spot to help her out? Do you think he opens his house so that the underprivileged can take what they need? You and I know that answer. It's a big no. That's how a leftist socialist is. Everything for free as long as it doesn't cost me.  
Its time, America, to get back on track and reject the Biden socialism. It's time

to promote a strong work ethic so people have pride in themselves and what they can do. Teach people to respect the rule of law and those we put in charge to enforce them. Maybe require students to read "Profiles in Courage" and remember what Democrat John F. Kennedy famously said back in the early '60's: "Ask not what America can do for you but what you can do for America."

MARK ROBILLARD  
SPENCER

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# Latest antique and collectibles news

I hope everyone had a happy Thanksgiving and is enjoying the start of the holiday season. There have been many antiques, collectibles and auction related news reports since my last recap over a month ago, so it's time to get caught up.

In local news, our recent Webster auction of Corvettes, boats, car parts and estate items was very successful. A 1962 Corvette brought the highest amount at \$30,000.

In global news, Reuters reports that a rare manuscript by Albert Einstein recently sold at auction. The 54-page manual was written by Einstein and Swiss physicist Michele Besso, who was Einstein's close friend and academic partner. According to Reuters, the manuscript offered insights on Einstein's theory of relativity "that laid the groundwork for modern cosmology and technology such as GPS navigation." The document was created by the pair between 1913 and 1914 and Einstein's theory of relativity was published in 1915. Documents by Einstein from before 1919 are considered very rare. The pre-auction estimate was 2 to 3 mil-

lion euros. It sold for 11.7 million euros (\$13.17 million U.S.).

Elsewhere, the holidays just got a little brighter for a fan of the movie "Elf." The outfit Will Ferrell wore while playing Buddy the Elf just sold at an auction along with over 1,000 additional pieces of Hollywood memorabilia. The Buddy costume had an auction estimate of between \$27,600 and \$41,000. An unidentified buyer paid almost ten times that estimate when it sold for nearly \$300,000. The volleyball from the Tom Hanks movie "Cast Away" sold for even more at \$388,750.

Another recent article tells the story of a London-based dealer who spotted a rare jade figure in a New York auction, as reported by England's Daily Mail. In his 2005 book, Geoffrey Munn wrote about Fabergé dealers Wartski. One of the objects he discussed was a jade T-Rex dinosaur created by Carl Fabergé. The piece is believed to have been created for Russian Emperor Nicholas II. Munn and other experts believed that the carving was lost forever until Munn recently spotted it for sale at a New York auction house. Prior



ANTIQUES,  
COLLECTIBLES  
& ESTATES  
• • • • •  
WAYNE TUISKULA



to going to auction, the piece had been on display in a local family's cabinet for 40 years. It's believed that a child who played with it broke and lost two arms on the dinosaur. Despite the damage, the T-Rex surged past the \$800 to \$1,200 estimate to sell for over \$81,000. Experts think that without damaged arms it could have brought over \$300,000. I'm happy to learn that the dinosaur that went missing for all of this time wasn't extinct.

We are currently cataloging the next model railroad, die-cast cars and models auction which go live this month. We

are also currently accepting consignments of higher value antiques and collectibles for our next multi-estate auction. Sterling silver, gold jewelry, coins, antique paintings, old comic books, baseball cards and advertising items are just some of the items we are accepting on consignment for that sale.

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



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

With the holidays around the corner, the focus turns to homemade pies, cookies and other comfort food confections that conjure up fond holiday memories. One of the simple pleasures of churning out home baked goods this time of year is the unmistakable aroma of such spices as cinnamon, nutmeg and ginger. Thus, each year at this time I review an array of holiday spices that can benefit your health as well as your taste buds. Read on for some unconventional ways to spice up your life as well as a guide to storing spices.

Note: Do not ingest spices as home remedies without proper medical supervision. Life threatening allergies, overdoses, and side effects can occur.

\*\*\*  
Nutmeg: Often sprinkled in a holiday eggnog or added to a meat pie, the nutmeg spice jar does duty beyond the kitchen cupboard, from clearing a complexion to promoting sweet slumber.

According to the Encyclopedia of Healing Foods, a little nutmeg added to a glass of warm milk can lull you off to sleep in record time.

Nutmeg has also been hailed for its anti inflammatory properties, which makes it a powerful weapon in battling blemishes. To zap a zit, make a paste of ground nutmeg and milk, and apply to pimple to reduce redness and swelling.

\*\*\*  
Cinnamon: Move over cinnamon toast and apple pie, the spice has a higher calling. Ever since a study published in the journal Diabetes Care found half a teaspoon of cinnamon daily could be helpful in reducing blood sugar levels in people with type 2 diabetes, cinnamon has been touted as an additional dietary supplement along with conventional medications to fight the disease.

The study also revealed the spice reduced triglyceride, LDL cholesterol, and total cholesterol levels among the same test group.

Want more? Research from Copenhagen University showed a significant relief in arthritis pain when patients were given half a teaspoon of cinnamon powder combined with one tablespoon of honey every morning for a week.

And another study found that the mere act of smelling the spice can

boosts cognitive function and memory!

Cinnamon FYI: Microbiologists at Kansas State University found that adding small amounts of cinnamon to samples of apple juice contaminated with E. coli bug killed most of the bacteria. Just one teaspoon of cinnamon killed 99.5 percent of the bacteria after three days at room temperature.

\*\*\*  
Ginger: Ginger bread and ginger snaps are familiar holiday treats, but did you know ginger has long been hailed for its power to tame a tummy ache? It's also a well known home remedy to treat motion and sea sickness. In fact, in one study, ginger was shown to be superior to a commonly used over-the-counter and prescription drug for motion sickness, reducing dizziness, nausea, vomiting, and cold sweats.

It's also claimed that ginger can aid in relieving arthritis and sciatica pain.

A simple Ginger tea is made by steeping one or two half inch slices of fresh ginger in a cup of hot water. Or add 1/8 teaspoon ground ginger powder too three cups of boiling water and let steep for a few minutes.

Or, some people simply eat several pieces of crystallized ginger to help relieve joint and nerve pain.

\*\*\*  
Allspice: Christmas pudding, mincemeat and pumpkin pies all benefit from the addition of allspice, but did you know your health can too?

Allspice is famous for its ability to relieve muscle aches and pains when applied topically. To make an allspice poultice, mix ground allspice with water to form a thick paste. Apply it to the body, cover with gauze and relax for 15 to 20 minutes.

Sipping tea made from the spice can also be helpful in relieving menstrual cramps and headaches.

Allspice berries can also be used to temporarily relieve toothache pain. Simply chew one allspice berry for quick relief.

\*\*\*  
More kitchen cupboard Rx:

Soothe a Sore Throat: To relieve a sore throat, squeeze one half fresh lemon into one half cup warm water. Mix one tablespoon of salt and one quarter teaspoon of cayenne pepper. Gargle with the mixture three times per day until pain is relieved. Do not swallow this mixture.

This remedy, attributed to Dr. Jane Guiltinan, chief medical officer at John

know Thyme may help reduce coughing due to a cold? Make up thyme tea by adding a teaspoon of crushed thyme to one half cup of boiling water. Allow to steep for ten minutes, then strain and sip. As a bonus studies suggest that thyme can help maintain brain function and promote heart health.

\*\*\*  
Halt a Headache: Cayenne pepper is a proven pain reliever, especially for headaches. It is said cayenne dilates blood vessels to improve circulation. Before you reach for a pain killer, you might want to try this: Mix one half teaspoon cayenne pepper in six ounces of water and drink slowly.

\*\*\*  
Cut Congestion: For generations, cayenne has been used as a remedy to clear a head cold and relieve congestion and sinus pain. All it takes is a dash or two of cayenne powder in a cup of hot tea (preferably with honey and lemon) to do the trick!

\*\*  
All of us likely have some aging spices in the back of the pantry shelf. To use or not to use, that is the question! For some specific guidance on when spices expire, here is a round-up of expiration dates of common spices, courtesy of [wideopeneats.com](http://wideopeneats.com):

Allspice: Ground and dried allspice lasts about two to three years.

Basil: Fresh basil lasts about five to seven days, while ground and dried lasts about two to three years.

Bay leaves: Fresh bay leaves last about five to seven days, while ground and dried bay leaves last about two to three years.

Black pepper: Ground and dried black pepper last for about two to three years, while whole peppercorns last about five to six years.

Cayenne pepper: Fresh cayenne lasts about five to seven days, while ground cayenne pepper lasts about two to three years. Like paprika, cayenne pepper will last longer in the refrigerator, though it's not required.

Chili powder: Ground chili powder lasts about two to three years.

Cilantro: Fresh cilantro lasts about five to seven days, while ground and dried lasts about two to three years.

Cinnamon: Ground and dried cinnamon last about two to three years.

Cloves: Fresh cloves last about five to seven days, while ground and dried cloves last for two to three years. Whole cloves last four to five years.

Coriander: Ground and dried corian-

Garlic: Fresh garlic lasts for four to six months, while ground and dried garlic each last about two to three years.

Italian Seasoning: Ground and dried Italian Seasoning lasts for about two to three years.

Jalapeños: Fresh jalapeños last for about five to seven days, while ground and dried will last about two to three years.

Mint: Fresh mint lasts about seven to 10 days, while ground and dried mint last for about one to three years.

Mustard: Fresh mustard, not the condiment, lasts for about five to seven days. Ground and dried mustard, on the other hand, lasts for about two to three years.

Nutmeg: Ground and dried nutmeg last for about two to three years.

Onions: Fresh onions last for about five to seven days, while dried and ground onion powder lasts for about two to three years.

Oregano: Fresh oregano lasts about five to seven days, while ground and dried oregano last about two to three years.

Paprika: Dried and ground paprika last about two to three years.

Parsley: Fresh parsley will last about five to seven days, while ground and dried will last about two to three years.

Pumpkin Pie Spice: Ground pumpkin pie spice will last about two to three years.

Rosemary: Fresh rosemary will last about 10 to 14 days in the refrigerator, while dried and ground rosemary will last about one to three years.

Sage: Fresh sage will keep about 10 to 14 days in the refrigerator, while dried sage leaves will last about one to three years. Ground sage will last about three to four years.

Salt: Table salt keeps indefinitely, just like kosher salt and sea salt.

Steak Seasoning: Bottled or bulk steak seasoning will last about one to two years.

Taco Seasoning: Packets of taco seasoning will last about two to three years.

Thyme: Fresh thyme will last about 10 to 14 days in the refrigerator, while ground and dried thyme will last about three to four years.

Turmeric: Ground turmeric will last about three to four years.

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

Your tips can win you a great three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

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Grow them in a sunny window and turn the plants occasionally to ensure all parts receive equal sunlight and grow evenly. You'll have the best results if you keep your plant in a cool location free of cold and hot air drafts.

Water your mini holiday tree whenever the top few inches of soil are dry.

## MOORE

continued from page A9

ed my attitude and gave up trying to change my manager and the situation, when I accepted that I was the one that needed changing and I took steps to let go and become flexible, my manager was fired.

After reading that, I know some of you are going to change real fast! Don't get your hopes up! Ha-ha!

When he was gone, I missed him. I realized how much he had changed me and what valuable life lessons I learned in the process.

Everything in life is only for a season; whatever you're going through won't last forever; soon, you'll be in a new season with new challenges. Make the most of each season. Allow the season to change you; it will prepare you for the next season.

Gandhi said, "...as a man changes his own nature, so does the attitude of the world change towards him...." Is that true?

Try it and see.

# Three indoor trees for the holidays

Photo Courtesy

Norfolk Island pine makes a great indoor holiday tree especially when combined with holiday plants or decorated with garland and small ornaments.

plant fell out of favor, but it is growing in popularity as a holiday plant. You can find it in many garden centers and florists this time of year.

Rosemary represents love and remembrance, a great sentiment to share during the holidays. Growing Rosemary indoors can be challenging. Don't let past failures stop you from trying. Just keep experimenting until you find the location and maintenance routine that keeps your Rosemary thriving. If the plant turns brown, move it out of sight to the back of your indoor garden. It still smells good when you give it a pet and no one, but you will know.

Change things up this season with the addition of one or more of these indoor evergreen trees. They are sure to brighten your spirits and holiday décor.

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).

## The following is a summary of the donations to date for the East Brookfield/Brookfield Toys for Joy program.

If you are a family in need or know a family in need, please contact Debbie Morgan 508-341-3205. Unwrapped toys can be left at the Memorial Town Complex in East Brookfield, East Brookfield Fire Station, Brookfield Fire Station or Library. Monetary donations can be mailed to Toys for Joy, P.O. Box

575, East Brookfield, MA 01515. This program supports both Brookfield & East Brookfield families.

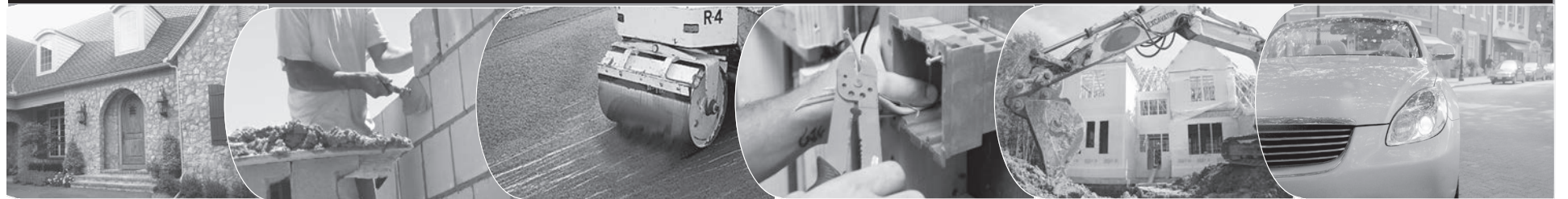
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George & Louise Woodard \$50.00  
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Toys for Joy Committee of East Brookfield/Brookfield  
Donna & Roger Lafleur  
Debbie Morgan

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# LEICESTER HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

LEICESTER — Leicester High School has released its honor roll for the first quarter of the 2021-2022 school year.

High Honors  
Grade 12: High Honors: Brett Connor Carroll, Karloz Ariel Castillo, Thomas Jay Heffernan, Morgan Leigh Merrell, Xavier Paul Morales, Kailyn Amade Orrell, Morgan Ava Smith, Julianna Angelis Torres  
Grade 11: Ayden James Beique, Abigail Virginia Bernabei, Nicole Margaret Blais-Bennett, Tyler Jeffrey Herron, Annie Jordan Hunt, Ariana Mae Levitan, Ana Gabriella Ruggieri, Ella Juliet Wells  
Grade 10: Molly Rose Baker, Chloe Bea Bouchard, Madison Dae Burkhead, Anthony Diego Coll, Hannah Raine Collette, Charolette Grace Libby-Toler, Nora Katherine Oliver, William Everett Panepinto, Gabrielle

Marie Pietri  
Grade 9: Kayla Rose Bouchard, Dylan Paul Delage, Ryan Sidney Delage, Kathryn Vera Dolimount, Vivian Jayne Giles, Sedona Marie Richard, Elizabeth Janel Sosa  
Honors  
Grade 12: Kayla Ann Alves, Michael James Barbato, Mrianda Gabriel Bartley, Evan Riley Benoit, Riley Rose Boisvert, Livia Ruth Bonzey, Sarah Ann Brouillard, Erin Katherine Brown, Paiten Anne Bulak, Ava Dorothy Butkiewicz, Timothy Robert Cehon, Richard Joseph Cichowski, Jordan Jocelyn Clarke, Meghan Mary Connolly, Miles Arwen DiMeglio, Victoria Yachiyo Ditaranto, Alyssa Jane Fling, Morgan Elizabeth Flodman, Christina Doreen Gambaccini, Paige Marie Gaudet, Erin Nicole Gerber, Alexis Kathleen Goodney, Grace Nancy Guinee,

Matthew James Heffernan, Deanna Marie Herbert, Abigail Fay Johnson, Kayla Jade Kobel, Seth David Larson, Madison Elizabeth Leith, Kyle Robert Leopard, Madelyne Marie Libby-Toler, Kristopher Glen Lopriore, Casey Lynn Macaruso, Allyson Janine Mahoney, Michael David Mero, Theodore James Miller, Abigail Theresa Morrison, Shannon Marie Moynagh, Justin Kamau Muturi, Cole Benjamin Parke, Julia Moreira Pereira, Lindsey Grace Salek, Timothy Campbell St. John, Kyle Edward Stapel, Jane Mary Toohil, Shannon Elizabeth Tuson, Brady Everett Olney White, Lindsey James Wickson  
Grade 11: Sofia Isabella Acero, Olivia Nicole Beltran, Danielle Esther Birchett, Mashayla Naa Boatemaa, Haillee Elizabeth Breault, Kathy Cai, Ayva Gail Connor, Jonathan Stephen Dahlgren, Cole James Delage, Sophia Diana Gallati, Nakita

Marie Grammatic, Annalisa Renee Hair, Eleanor Marie Hills, Steven Michael Jyringi, Anthony Santos Kobel, Deven James Kularski, Izabella Valentina Kulla, Hailey Regina Lazarevic, Sean Van Le, Molly Shae Ledbetter, Jaedyn Delannay Levine, Derek Joseph Mahoney, Jason Todd Milgate, Rhyen Marie Perry, Erick David Portillo Munoz, Hunter James Prokopowich, Grace Abigail Reinke, Tanisha Marie Rodriguez, Andy Elias Vega  
Grade 10: Jacob George Altman, Caden Joseph Birtz, Grace April Bujak, Kiara Aileen Cavanagh, Michael James Connly, Michelle Angelina Darcric, Ashlyn Ella Deary, Ace Madison Delgado, Matthew Walter Direnzo, Elizabeth Rose Gallagher, Mason Thomas Griffiths, Gia Louise Gully, Patrick David Harrington, Jasmine Nevaeh Hunter, Abbi Rain Lane, Meghan Kim Le,

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Grade 9: Sean Patrick Alves, James Eldon Colonies-Kelley, Jacob Anthony Cruz, Jason George Fournier, Alexis Kathleen Herbert, Kyle Normand Huff, Benjamin Paul LaPointe, Jack Alexander Ledbetter, Madeline Rose Milionis, Alexander Lucas Ngo, Coddan Nguyen, Nicole Huynh-Anh-Thu Nguyen, Gia Snyder Norcia, Jordan Mackenzie Patterson, Nya Rain Santana, Jenna Louise Savoie, Ella Grace Smith, Shawn Aiden Wells, Molly Brooke White

# Leicester police receive funding for body cameras

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – The police department has received state funding to implement body-worn cameras by next summer. Last month, the Massachusetts Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) announced several police departments as recipients of capital budget funds. The majority of the funding will be used to purchase body-worn cameras. Local law enforcement leaders and legislators are praising the funding for cameras. “Body-worn cameras have become an integral part of the law enforcement community and serve as an important tool for the officers who wear them,” said Sen. Michael Moore. “Despite their usefulness, they are expensive pieces of equipment, and so I am very pleased that the Leicester Police Department has been provided this funding from EOPSS, as it will assist them in providing more cameras for their officers.” Leicester has been awarded \$40,845, which was administered by the EOPSS Office of Grants and Research (OGR). LPD Chief Kenneth Antanavica and his team are currently going through the process of ordering equipment. The Chief expects the new cameras to be launched by the summer of 2022 or sooner. “The Leicester Police Department

would like to extend its gratitude for the funding awarded by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security’s Office of Grants and Research to institute a body-worn camera program,” said Antanavica. LPD leaders said the new cameras will add another layer of transparency while augmenting officer safety. “Body-worn cameras are a ubiquitous topic in this dynamic era of modern-day policing,” added Antanavica. “These body cameras are a preeminent necessity for department transparency and accountability, but just as importantly, an increase to officer safety and real-time accurate facts surrounding an event. The police officers of this department are professional, proficient, and lead with veracity. The capability to institute a body-worn camera program will advance this police department in its dedication to serving the citizens of Leicester and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.” The state funding is part of a \$20 million package of capital funding that will be made available over the next five years for local police departments to solicit grant funds to implement body-worn cameras. In total, the OGR is assisting 64 municipal police departments statewide this year, with funds totaling more than \$4 million. Individual police departments will now use the funds to purchase 2,859

body-worn cameras. By the end of next year, the total number of Massachusetts officers equipped with body cameras is expected to surpass 3,600. “I can’t think of a department more deserving than the Leicester Police Department to receive this grant award,”

## Katheryn Stapel named to Dean’s List at Stonehill College

EASTON — Katheryn Stapel, of Leicester, a member of the Class of 2024, has been named to the Spring 2021 Dean’s List at Stonehill College. To qualify for the Dean’s List, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better and must have completed successfully all courses for which they were registered. Stonehill is a Catholic college located near Boston on a beautiful 384-acre campus in Easton, Massachusetts. With a student-faculty ratio of 12:1, the College engages over 2,500 students in 80+ rigorous academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, and pre-professional fields. The Stonehill community

said State Rep. David LeBoeuf, who serves Leicester and Worcester: “The use and implementation of body-worn cameras by Chief Antanavica and his team will certainly lead to best practices that will inform the Commonwealth as we continue to advance enhanced, pragmatic public safety policies.” helps students to develop the knowledge, skills, and character to meet their professional goals and to live lives of purpose and integrity. About Stonehill College Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 384-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person. Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional field, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students. Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

# LEGALS

## TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 138, Section 15, a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 6:30 PM in the Lower-Level Meeting Room, 2 East Main Street, West Brookfield, MA on the application for a Change of Manager at Country Corner Citgo, Inc, d/b/a Country Corner from Peter J. Mckearney, 118 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585 to Timothy S. Reeves, 118 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585. The property is also known as Parcel ID#, Map 37, Lot 41. The public is invited to attend with any comments or concerns. November 26, 2021 December 3, 2021

## LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE’S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Stephen Natale to Fairfield Financial Mortgage Group, Inc., dated January 27, 2003 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 28835, Page 134 (the “Mortgage”) of which mortgage NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing is the present holder by Assignment from Fairfield Financial Mortgage Group, Inc., its successors and assigns to Mortgage Electronic Registration System, Inc its successors and assigns dated January 27, 2003 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 29419, Page 183, and Assignment from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc its successors and assigns to GMAC Mortgage LLC dated March 24, 2009 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 44032, Page 2, and Assignment from RESCAP Liquidating Trust, as Successor in Interest to GMAC Mortgage LLC to Ditech Financial LLC dated December 12, 2017 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 58177, Page 9, and Assignment from Ditech Financial LLC to New Residential Mortgage, LLC dated January 17, 2020 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 61764, Page 28, and Assignment from New Residential Mortgage, LLC to Ne-

wRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing dated October 28, 2020 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 63653, Page 382, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 106 Haywood Drive, East Brookfield, MA 01515 will be sold at a Public Auction at 2:00 PM on December 22, 2021, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: The land with the buildings thereon in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, County of Worcester, Town of East Brookfield, shown as Lot #10 on a plan entitled “Bay Pathe Estates” by John C. Miller, dated February 1979 revised August 1989 and recorded at the Worcester District Registry of Deeds, Plan Book 469, Plan 55 and bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the most northwesterly corner of the premises herein to be described; THENCE S. 77 degrees 43’ 25” E., a distance of 180.00 feet to a point; THENCE S. 12 degrees 16’ 35” W., a distance of 125.00 feet to a point; THENCE N. 77 degrees 43’ 25” W., a distance of 180.00 feet to a point; THENCE N. 12 degrees 16’ 35” E., a distance of 125.00 feet to the point of beginning. Lot #10 contains 22,500 square feet more or less. Subject to a Declaration of Restrictive Covenants dated March 16, 1988 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds Book 11193, Page 254. Being the same premises conveyed to the herein named mortgagor (s) by deed recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds herewith. INSTR. 21417 For mortgagor’s title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 28835, Page 132. The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to

all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession. Terms of the Sale: 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 (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee’s attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication. Other terms to be announced at the sale. NewRez LLC d/b/a Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Natale, Stephen, 18-032165 November 26, 2021 December 3, 2021 December 10, 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. W021C0529CA  
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME  
In the matter of:  
Macie Hope Madelle  
A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Macie Hope Madelle of East Brookfield MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:  
Macie Hope Keans  
IMPORTANT NOTICE  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of

12/21/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: November 16, 2021 Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate December 3, 2021

(SEAL)  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT  
21 SM 001476  
ORDER OF NOTICE

To: Harold Rondeau and Kristian Rondeau and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. App. § 501 et seq. Jeffrey S. Rodman, Trustee of Plan Investment Trust claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Spencer, Massachusetts known as 108 Paxton Road given by Jeffrey S. Rodman, Trustee of Plan Investment Trust dated December 8, 2021 and recorded with the Worcester South District Registry of Deeds in Book 58162, Page 1 has filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendants’ Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before December 27, 2021 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of non-compliance with the Act. Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of said Court on this 12 day of November, 2021. Attest: Deborah J. Patterson Recorder December 3, 2021



# OBITUARIES

## Robert J. Beauregard, 96

BROOKFIELD – Robert J. Beauregard, 96, passed away Thursday, November 17, 2021 at St. Vincent’s Hospital in Worcester after a brief illness.



He leaves his children, Eileen (Ernest) Giard, R. Paul Beauregard, Diane (Jacob) Carpenter and daughter-in-law Beverly Beauregard; step-children Dorinda (Thomas) Gorski, Phillip Smith, James (Diane) Smith, and Cynthia Smith and his special friend Betty; grandchildren Scott, Joseph and Christine Beauregard and Kerri and Joshua Carpenter and great grandchildren Emma and Caroline Beauregard, Garrett, Matthew, Zachary and Kayli Carpenter, Kody Turner, and Samantha, Simon, Jacob, Joshua and Jonathon Carpenter. He is predeceased by his wife, Ruth, his son Roland, his parents Joseph and Ida and 7 brothers and 8 sisters.

He grew up on a farm in West Brookfield and farming was always in his blood. He worked for H. P. Hood picking up milk at local farmers until they closed. He bought the milk route and also branched out to a larger trucking business until he retired. After he retired, he had to have something to do, so he drove school buses and he enjoyed

the interaction with the young children. He enjoyed cutting and splitting wood well into his 90’s, playing cards, spaghetti suppers, antique car, tractor and truck shows and tractor pulls. He had the gift of gab and he never met a stranger that did not become a friend.

He was a remarkable man. A person that worked hard all his life and helped anyone that he could. He had a remarkable memory and was a great story teller and a keeper of family history, a lover of life and someone who rejoiced in a job well done. He especially treasured not only hard work for his entire life, but good times with family and friends. He kept his family history alive for all of us. He was simple, hard-working and honest. He lived his life to the fullest and leaves us all better off for having known and loved him.

Calling hours will be held on Wednesday, December 8, 2021 from 5-7PM in Pillsbury Funeral Home 3 West Brookfield Rd. Brookfield. The funeral will be held on Thursday, December 9, 2021 with a Mass at 11AM in Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Church 22 West Main St. West Brookfield. Burial will be private. Donations may be made in his name to the American Heart Association PO Box 840692 Dallas, TX. 75284-0692. For an online tribute please visit: Pillsburyfuneralhome.com

## Elaine A. Nydam, 75

West Brookfield - Elaine A. Nydam, 75, of West Brookfield, died on Monday, November 22, 2021 at her home.



She leaves her daughters, Elaine A. Landry and her husband Joseph of West Brookfield, and Michelle Nydam-Thompson and her husband Joseph of West Brookfield and her son, Raymond C. Nydam, Jr. of Worcester. She also leaves her brother, Michael Cloutier, her sister, Barbara O’Keefe, grandchildren, Jennifer, Heather, Melissa, Shayna, Raymond, and Marion, and her great-grandchildren, Caleb and Owen.

She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late John B. and Josephine (Crespin) Cloutier.

Elaine worked as a Jewellery Clerk in the Distribution Center for TJ Maxx for several years.

She enjoyed playing board games, bird watching and the beach. She was often visible in town, walking with her push cart along Main Street, and the common.

At her request, funeral services will be held privately.

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

An online guest book is available at [varnumfuneralhome.com](http://varnumfuneralhome.com)

## Tim Morin, 66

Tim Morin, 66, of N. Brookfield passed away at home on November 6th from mantle cell lymphoma.



He leaves his wife of 44 years, Anne, two daughters, Sara Levia and her husband Del of Maryland and Caroline Morin of Warren, and four grandchildren, Nathaniel, Patrick, and Owen Levia and Lauren Gassnola. He also leaves his siblings, Kathy Mundell of W Virginia, Paul and Ray Morin both

of N Brookfield, William Morin of Holden and Maryellen Crevier also of N Brookfield.

Tim was a loving, fun husband and father. He will be greatly missed. He enjoyed family gatherings, good food, travel, hot rods, shooting sports and loved life in general. He will be greatly missed.

There will be a funeral mass December 11th at 9am at St John the Baptist in E Brookfield. Donations may be made to the N Brookfield Rescue Squad, Springfield Rescue Mission or St. Jukes.

## Suzanne T. Morin, 83

NORTH OXFORD – Suzanne T. (Marin) Morin, 83, of Old Merriam Road, died Wednesday, November 24, 2021, at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester. She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Donald P. Morin of North Oxford; three children, Donald P. Morin II and his wife Laima of Weston, FL, Mark P. Morin of Woodbridge, VA, and Michelle T.



Elliott and her husband Michael of Spencer, MA; six grandchildren, Madeleine M. Morin, Thomas V. Morin, Nathaniel D. Elliott, Christopher J. Elliott, Logan J. Morin, and Madison V. Morin; her brother-in-law, David E. Morin of North Oxford; and several nephews and nieces. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Valmore A. and Glorina C. (St. Germain) Marin, and lived in Worcester before moving to Oxford in 1964. She graduated from Holy Name High School in Worcester, and received her bachelor’s degree and master’s degree equivalent from Anna Maria College in Paxton.

Mrs. Morin was a 5th grade teacher at Oxford Public Schools for 27 years, retiring in 2001. Previously, she was a school teacher in Boylston and West Boylston. She was a member of St. Ann’s Church in North Oxford and was a member of the baked goods committee at the church. She was a member of the St. Anne Society at Anna Maria College and volunteered at St. Louis School in Webster. Mrs. Morin was a Friend of the Smithsonian, a member of the Mount Vernon Society, and volunteered for N.E.A.D.S. in Princeton. She loved history, archeology, and spending time with her family and grandchildren.

A funeral was held on Monday, November 29, 2021, from Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford, followed by a Mass at 10 a.m. at St. Ann’s Church, 652 Main St., North Oxford. Burial will follow at St. Roch’s Cemetery in Oxford. Calling hours were Sunday, November 28, 2021, from 4-6 p.m. at the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to N.E.A.D.S. Inc., P.O. Box 1100, Princeton, MA 01541.

### BUS

*continued from page A1*

everyone that made a donation,” said Melody Miller, the manager of AA Transportation’s East Brookfield division. “Even though the temperatures were very cold on Saturday, AA Transportation staff stayed out there and collected hundreds of toys for area children this year.”

In Spencer, AA once again worked with the David Prouty High School Band. The bus was parked in front of DPHS, and all toys collected will be distributed to needy families.

“We deeply appreciate and value the professional relationship we share with AA Transportation. It is because of our shared commitment to southern Worcester County and the communities of Spencer and East Brookfield that we are able to serve so many young people with this invaluable act of giving known as the Stuff the Bus campaign,” said Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District

Superintendent Paul Haughey. “Our students in the band, and at David Prouty High School, look forward to this program each year and promote it through word of mouth so that we are able to raise lots of toys for those in need. It is an invaluable partnership that has stood the test of time, and we look forward to continuing in the years ahead.”

In North Brookfield, AA teamed up with the police department and Hannaford Supermarket for another successful event. The donation bus was parked at the North Brookfield Hannaford.

In Leicester, AA officials partnered with the police department, fire department, Teachers’ Association, and Walmart. The donation bus was parked in front of the Leicester Walmart Supercenter.

With employment challenges continuing to affect local families, this year’s toy donation drive was especially important. And even though some donors weren’t able to give as much as usual this year due to rising costs and pandemic-relat-

ed challenges, they still made sure to support the program.

“For some families, this can be a very stressful and challenging time of year. We are trying to make this a little easier for them,” Miller said in a previous interview.

AA Transportation employees always look forward to the donation campaign each year. They appreciate the support of residents who make the effort to donate each holiday season and assist families.

“We enjoy spearheading this community effort and hopefully spreading some cheer by collecting new, unwrapped toys throughout the area that can be given to area families in need,” Miller added. “The success of our campaign each year is all because of generous donations made by the wonderful people in our communities.”

Additional donations were also made in advance of the drive, with residents dropping off donations at local police departments and with their AA Transportation bus drivers.

### THANKSGIVING

*continued from page A1*

carrots, squash, green beans, bread, cranberry sauce, and plenty of desserts provided by local residents.

Special thanks is also offered to Father Robert Loftus, of St. Joseph-St. Pius Parish, for purchasing four fresh turkeys. Additional volunteers taking part in the effort include State Representative David LeBoeuf, Karl Solomon, Diane Calvano, and many others who helped prepare the meals

for delivery.

“Thank you also goes to others in our community who arrived on the scene and provided ample desserts for our elderly clients,” Cloutier added. “I want to personally thank my staff, who were here and have been busy making certain that those who have been displaced are well taken care of.”

Senior Center outreach coordinator Nancy Lamb was among those who arrived early on Thanksgiving morning to assist. She has since worked with

*Turn To* **THANKSGIVING** *page* **A15**

## Friday's Child



**Arianna  
Age 14**

**Hi! My name is Arianna and I love ballet!**

Arianna is a sweet and likable girl who likes to dance; she especially loves ballet and participates in ballet recitals every year. She does very well with her peers and is able to build and maintain healthy relationships.

Legally freed for adoption, Arianna would thrive in a family of any constellation, either with or without other children in the home, that is able to provide her with a stable and consistent environment. An ideal family for Arianna will be able to continue the services

she has in place to address her academic and social/emotional needs. Arianna has established a supportive relationship with her maternal aunt, which a family must help maintain after placement

### 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.



## Card Of Thanks

I wish to say Thank You to the following:

Kevin Madrazo for standing by my side, his sister Deb Waugh for the food, my brother Tim DeSantis for everything, my sister Tana Valois, and my good friends Missy Cassavant and Janet Pasternack for all their help. Thank you to Glenn Waugh and all the members of the American Legion Post 41 North Brookfield for the use of the hall; Depot Square Deli in East Brookfield for prepping the food, and Appleblossoms in Spencer for the beautiful flowers. Thank you to the Bafaro family and all the employees of JJ Bafaro Company, and family and friends near and far. Thank you to Shawn’s amazing friends near and far for the condolences, cards, gifts, the stories of how my son Shawn touched their lives. I’d like to say a special thank you to Andrew Ciullo for Shawn’s Sous Chef uniform. Also, thank you to Mike Pillsbury of Pillsbury Funeral Home for making all the arrangements.

A thousand THANK YOUS to you all. God Bless.

Sincerely,  
Sherry House Lemay



**StonebridgePress.com**  
**If it's important to you,**  
**It's important to us.**





# POLICE REPORTS

## Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17  
1:08 a.m.: parking violation (Main Street), ticket issued; 1:15-2:44 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:55 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 3:56 a.m.: commercial alarm (Meadow Road), services rendered; 9:10 a.m.: medical/general (R. Jones Road); 9:30 a.m.: medical/general (Sampson Street); 12:16 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), items taken from apt.; 12:22 p.m.: 911 call (Bellevue Drive), open line; 12:24 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), loose ferret; 2:00 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 2:23 p.m.: animal complaint (Adams Street), cat found; 2:49 p.m.: 911 call (Browning Pond Road), accidental; 3:14 p.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 3:41 p.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 4:05 p.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), services rendered; 6:04 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 9:36 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:44 p.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; 9:55 p.m.: parking violation (Prospect Street), ticket issued; 10:45 p.m.: suspicious persons (Ash Street), investigated; (Total daily mv stops – 4).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18  
1:19 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 2:40 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:47 a.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 7:20 a.m.: vandalism (Grove Street), window smashed; 7:32 a.m.: vandalism (Monticello Drive), mv window smashed; 9:05 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 9:08 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:17 a.m.: officer wanted (Route 49) c/o police officer; 10:08 a.m.: elderly matter (Wall Street), assisted; 11:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: RV in lot; 12:12 p.m.: officer wanted (Temple Street), truck bed in roadway; 12:16 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 12:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Norcross Road), animal welfare check; 12:55 p.m.: lost/ found (West Main Street), lost wallet; 1:13 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 1:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Kittredge Road), leaves piled in road; 1:51 p.m.: DPW call (High Street), water main break; 2:10 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 3:11 p.m.: animal complaint (McCormick Road), loose dog; 3:24 p.m.: parking complaint (Dustin Street), info taken; 3:36 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/4 (West Main Street), assisted; 3:39 p.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), mc crash/ report taken; 3:46 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), response to call redacted from police log; 5:56 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 8:07 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:11 p.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), aggressive operator; 8:12 p.m.: disturbance (Elm Street), fem. yelling for help; 10:06 p.m.: 911 call (South Street), services rendered; (Total daily mv stops – 3).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19  
12:56 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 1:03 a.m.: commercial alarm (Donnelly Road), services rendered; 3:18 a.m.: residential alarm (Lake Street), services rendered; 4:38-4:48 a.m.: parking violations/2 (Mechanic, South streets), tickets issued; 7:24 a.m.: accident (Northwest Road), report taken; 8:19 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), wants to file report; 10:04 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:48 a.m.: illegal dumping (Main Street), tires/side of road; 10:48 a.m.: DPW call (Paxton Road), tree on wires; 10:58 a.m.: fraud (Washburn Drive), scam call; 11:22 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 11:49 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 12:10 p.m.: DPW call (Holmes Street), wires down/in road; 12:23 p.m.: 911 call (Ash Street), open line; 12:24 p.m.: medical/ sudden death (Howe Village); 1:03 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 1:22 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), re: injured bird; 3:05 p.m.: lost/ found (West Main Street), Mass. DTA card found; 3:38 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 4:52 p.m.: mv com-

plaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 5:40 p.m.: officer wanted (Gold Nugget Road), spoken to; 7:54 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:40 p.m.: fire/woods/ grass (Parent Street), investigated; 10:04 p.m.: residential alarm (Point Eastalee Drive), services rendered; 10:23-10:25 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:53 p.m.: animal complaint (Chery Street), bear in yard; (Total daily mv stops – 3).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20  
12:22-1:21 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:39 a.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road); 6:13 a.m.: DPW call (Smithville Road), poss. water main break; 9:09 a.m.: 911 call (Wilson Street), open line; 9:28 a.m.: animal complaint (North Street), bear in area; 10:27 a.m.: mv lockout (Crestview Drive), assisted; 11:14 a.m.: animal complaint (East Charlton Road), loose dog; 12:35 p.m.: DPW call (McDonald Street), sewer issue; 5:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Starr Street), loose dogs; 5:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Brown Street), housemate damaged mv; 7:24 p.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 10:33 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Crestview Drive), accidental; 11:03 p.m.: disturbance (Valley Street), noise complaint; (Total daily mv stops - 1).

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21  
1:08-1:34 a.m.: parking violations/6 (Pearl, Elm, Cherry, Grove, Chestnut streets), tickets issued; 1:31a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:41 a.m.: disturbance (Elm Street), noise complaint; 1:56-2:00 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Browning Pond Road), family issue; 11:05 a.m.: medical/general (Gold Nugget Road); 11:35 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Mechanic Street), no contact; 11:43 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:07 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 12:08 p.m.: animal complaint (Borkum Road), loose dog; 12:33 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 1:48 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 6:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Hastings Road), bear in area; 6:38 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 8:04 p.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), dog found; 11:29 p.m.: 911 call (Crestview Drive), hang-up; (Total daily mv stops – 5).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22  
12:23-1:03 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:15 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:31 a.m.: medical/general (Cottage Street); 9:45 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:40 a.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info taken; 10:45 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), referred; 11:07 a.m.: officer wanted (Temple Street), re: mv reg.; 1:16 p.m.: lost/ found (West Main Street), wallet lost; 2:37 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (West Main Street); 2:58 p.m.: animal complaint (Kingsbury Road), cows in yard; 3:07 p.m.: larceny (West Main Street), re: day-old incident; 3:35 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 3:50 p.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), services rendered; 4:22 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 6:25 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 6:34 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 7:05 p.m.: medical/general (Gold Nugget Road); 7:52-8:10 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:30 p.m.: suspicious persons (North Spencer Road), investigated; 8:43 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), concerned for individual; 9:13 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:13 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Lyford Road), no contact; 10:24 p.m.: disturbance (South Spencer Road), domestic dispute; 11:45 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), re: access to UMass hospital; (Total daily mv stops – 7).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23  
1:40-2:41 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:45-1:50 a.m.: parking violations (Mechanic, McDonald streets), ticket issued; 8:46 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 9:22 a.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 9:25 a.m.: suspicious mv (Lyford Road), investigated; 9:30 a.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 10:02 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 11:10 a.m.: mv lock-

out (Main Street), services rendered; 11:16 a.m.: restraining order service (Pleasant Street); 12:07 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 2:21 p.m.: officer not wanted (Maple Street), concern for family member; 2:51 p.m.: medical/general (Depot Road); 2:55 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 4:31 p.m.: fire/ woods/grass (Pleasant Street), apt. flooding; 5:05 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), hit/run; 5:13-5:28 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:36 p.m.: suspicious persons (Powers Street), info taken; 7:12 p.m.: accident (Howe Road), report taken; 7:53 p.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; 10:35 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:17 p.m.: animal complaint (Meadowbrook Road), bear in area; 11:28 p.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info taken; (Total daily mv stops – 5).

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## Leicester Police

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18  
3:08 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 3:36 a.m.: unknown alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 5:18 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 6:31 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 8:35 a.m.: assist citizen (Chapel Street), services rendered; 10:15 a.m.: investigation (Winslow Avenue), services rendered; 12:48 p.m.: disturbance (Whittemore Street), report taken; 1:40 p.m.: investigation (Whittemore Street), services rendered; 1:47 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 2:00 p.m.: welfare check (Pine Street), transported to hospital; 2:44 p.m.: ambulance (Pine Street), transported; 4:36 p.m.: malicious mischief (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 4:41 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 4:46 p.m.: missing person (Pleasant Street), call canceled; 7:54 p.m.: debris in road (Main Street), referred; 9:33 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), services rendered.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 19  
1:00 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Spencer), transported; 5:43 a.m.: ambulance (Chapel Street), transported; 8:01 a.m.: ambulance (Baldwin Street), transported; 8:08 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:24 a.m.: accident (Main Street), assisted; 8:48 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 11:49 a.m.: disabled mv (Mannville Street), services rendered; 11:57 a.m.: ambulance (Hammond Street), transported; 12:14 p.m.: accident (Mill Street), unfounded; 1:09 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 2:37 p.m.: disturbance (Winslow Avenue), spoken to; 2:52 p.m.: investigation (Henshaw Street), services rendered; 3:18 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve; 3:21 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 3:59 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:20 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 4:44 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 4:50 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), resolved; 5:06 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 5:37 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 6:33 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 8:46 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), report taken; 9:39 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 9:40 p.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), resolved; 9:45 p.m.: ambulance (Leela Lane), no action required.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 20  
12:25 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 1:05 a.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), resolved; 2:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 2:21 a.m.: mv stop (Church Street), spoken to; 2:33 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 8:37 a.m.: animal complaint (Sargent Street), services rendered; 9:11 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 9:11 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 9:34 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 9:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 10:50 a.m.: ambulance

(Hammond Street), services rendered; 10:57 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed; 11:36 a.m.: residential alarm (Whittemore Street), false alarm; 11:44 a.m.: animal complaint (Baldwin Street), services rendered; 1:32 p.m.: accident (Henshaw Street), assisted; 3:08 p.m.: animal complaint (Warren Avenue), services rendered; 4:52 p.m.: threats (Sabina Circle), services rendered; 7:56 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Burncoat Street), services rendered; 8:09 p.m.: ambulance (Jacques Avenue, Worcester), transported; 8:18 p.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), resolved; 9:30 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), resolved; 9:56 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 11:20 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 11:39 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 11:49 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 21  
12:23 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 12:35 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 12:56 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 1:12 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 3:21 a.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), investigated; 3:29 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:53 a.m.: accident (McCarthy Avenue), mv towed; 4:18 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 8:30 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 8:47 a.m.: ambulance (Henshaw Street), transported; 3:03 p.m.: ambulance (Memorial School Drive), transported; 4:31 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mannville Street), resolved; 5:54 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 6:32 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 8:01 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Street), gone on arrival; 8:25 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), resolved; 8:41 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 9:55 p.m.: suspicious mv (Tracy Place), resolved; 11:04 p.m.: ambulance (Goddard Memorial Drive, Worcester), transported.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22  
1:42 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 4:38 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 6:13 a.m.: ambulance (Howard Terrace), services rendered; 6:57 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Monterey Drive), services rendered; 8:20 a.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve; 9:32 a.m.: welfare check (Charlton Street), services rendered; 11:40 a.m.: civil dispute (South Main Street), advised civil action; 11:59 a.m.: accident (Soojians Drive), mv towed; 12:11 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians Drive), transported; 12:36 p.m.: assist citizen (Auburn Street), services rendered; 1:18 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Drive), transported; 2:19 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Drive), transported; 3:41 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), services rendered; 3:53 p.m.: retraining order service (Charlton Street), unable to serve; 4:02 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 4:57 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 5:23 p.m.: restraining order service (South Main Street), served; 5:25 p.m.: harassment (Main Street), no action required; 5:34 p.m.: debris in road (Clark Street), services rendered; 6:18 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 23  
1:50 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 2:40 a.m.: residential alarm (South Street), false alarm; 6:48 a.m.: accident (Mill Street), gone on arrival; 7:26 a.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve; 10:13 a.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 10:48 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 12:15 a.m.: welfare check (Bottomly Avenue), resolved; 3:31 p.m.: threats (Winslow Avenue), report taken; 5:49 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), spoken to; 11:09 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), assisted; 11:48 p.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken.

###

## SOLAR

continued from page A1

um from the Attorney General's office was ending. I still think there's more work to be done on the solar bylaw, but now we have some breathing room. How we protect the town when it comes time to decommission these sites is still an important issue. We need to ensure that the bonds are maintained and tracked by both the owner and town so there is no lapse in coverage."

At a Special Town Meeting in Nov. 2020, 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 reviewed zoning bylaw language pertaining to large-scale solar projects. Assistance

was provided by the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC).

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

One of the major concerns for officials in Spencer and surrounding towns is the lithium batteries in solar units. Additionally, many solar projects require extensive clear-cutting of trees and ground vegetation.

Decommissioning has also been a frequent topic of concern over the last year. The life expectancy of solar battery containers is about 10 years. Because the lifespan of an average solar field is approximately 20 years, officials in area towns fear that solar companies could exit agreements

early and leave towns with costly disassembly responsibilities.

Officials thank everyone who was involved with the process of reviewing the bylaw and making recommended revisions.

"Todd Miller did a lot of research to see what other towns have done. And the [Solar Bylaw Advisory] Committee met for a year to research different items—they were very diligent with their work," said Selectman John Howard.

In other Fall Town Meeting news, departing Interim Town Administrator William Ross was presented with an award recognizing his service. Selectmen presented the award to Ross, who is in the final month of his second stint as Spencer's Interim TA.

## THANKSGIVING

continued from page A14

several individuals to provide an array of services to victims during a traumatic time.

"She has been a remarkable comforting presence for these displaced elderly," Cloutier said of Lamb. "She has been able to obtain their meds and administer to many who were affected."

Local first responders are also thanked for providing refreshments to victims and helping with deliveries.

"We are very blessed in Leicester to have such wonderful folks. We

wish to thank our Town Administrator and Board of Selectpersons for their steadfast support always," Cloutier said.

On the Friday after Thanksgiving, several officials and organizations provided additional services. These included the Red Cross, the Salvation Army, the Leicester Housing Authority, Deja New, and the Mass. Emergency Management Agency. Officials met with victims and their families to offer resources and support.

"That support will continue until the building is rehabilitated and those residents return home," said Town Administrator

David Genereux. "There will be difficult months ahead, but if the outpouring of support that we have seen thus far is any indication, the spirit of community that is Leicester will carry the day."

LPD Sgt. Craig Guertin is also thanked for requesting the assistance of the Worcester Regional Transit Authority, which supplied a bus for transportation to help victims.

Several of the displaced victims are now temporarily living with family members. Others were briefly placed at a hotel in Auburn while additional accommodations were made.



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## Seasons Greetings - Happy Holidays



**WEBSTER LAKE** - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Lake 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**



**DUDLEY** - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/ Guest Closet! SS Appliance Dining Room, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Chair Rail! Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6x27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Flr Laundry! The 2nd Floor w/4 Bdrms! Spacious Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner - Pride of Ownership! **\$570,000.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** - 701 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Lake Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! **\$299,000.00!**



**WEBSTER LAKE** - 50 Laurelwood Drive! 90' Waterfront! Western Exposure - Beautiful Sunsets! Half Acre, 22,729' of Natural Privacy! 6 Room Custom Built Cedar Home with 2 Car Attached Garage! Dining Area and Fireplaced Living Room with Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! First Floor Master Bedroom with Full Bath! 2 Second Floor Bedrooms and Second Full Bath, Large Second Floor Expansion Area! Additional Garage Space Under! Lighting Strike Fire Damage Repair Required! Tons of Potential! **\$889,900.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** - 33 Loveland Rd! South Pond - Fantastic 19,243' Waterfront Lot with 125' of Prime South Facing Natural Shoreline which Highlights this 5 Room, 2 Bedroom, 3 Season Cottage! Start Your Lake Memories Here! Cute & Cozy, the Way the Lake Use to Be! Open Floor Plan with Lots of Glass and Panoramic Lake Views! Just Enjoy it as it is, or Add on to it, or Take it Down and Build Your Dream Home Here! Don't Need the Entire Lot, Subdivide it and Bring the Cost Down! Perfect Gentle Slope to the Water! Town Services! **\$949,900.00**



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**Featured New Listing!**  
TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO

Unit 1404 Marina side of the Complex - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$549,000.**

**June Cazeault \* Laurie Sullivan \* Matthew Ross \* Lori Johnson-Chausse \* William Gilmore II \* Brian Bohenko**

### DUDLEY - 10 MILL ROAD



**SORRY, SOLD!**

Beautiful family home! 3 bedrooms, 2 full baths, newer widows & heating system. Mini split system. Hardwoods. Lg eat-in kitchen /Corian counters & Island! Warming fireplace with handsome mantel. Generous dining room, spacious enough for your family gatherings. lower level fireplace family room. Harmon pellet insert! 2 car garage. Reduced **\$340,000.**

### WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



**SORRY, SOLD!**

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 - 10 THOMPSON RD



**ON DEPOSIT**

2 FAMILY! LOCATION, LOCATION! OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THIS A SOLID INVESTMENT. A GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! PRIME WEBSTER BUSINESS DISTRICT! A LARGE, DEEP LOT, 14,875 SF/0.34 ACRE. 9 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, FHW/DL. Garage! Lot is currently private with a mature tree line in the rear. Property serviced by Municipal Water & Sewer, Natural Gas line in Basement. A QUICK CLOSE IS POSSIBLE. **\$195,000**

### WEBSTER • 22 EASTERN AVE



**SORRY SOLD!**

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, Reshingled Roof, Replacement Windows, Updated Electric, Buderus Boiler. Part finished walk-out bsmt! Garage! **\$215,000**

### THOMPSON CT - 15 WAGER RD



**SORRY SOLD!**

Cape with 3 bedrooms, gleaming hardwoods, stone fireplace. Septic (2019), replacement windows, family and dining room, fresh paint throughout! Generator hook up, and updated Buderus boiler with holding tank. Garage under. This one maybe for you! assisted sale **\$279,900.**

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



**SORRY, SOLD!**

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 LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



**SORRY, SOLD!**

Quiet Summers & Fall Seasons on Big & Beautiful Webster Lake. Completely updated Hardwood & Ceramic. Center Island Kitchen. 6 Rooms, 2-1/2 Baths, a must see. Overlooking the Marina. 2 Deeded boat slips. assisted sale **\$600,000.**

### LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Oxford - 2 Meriam Rd 80 +/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton! Great Location for Horses! **ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.**

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

WEBSTER - DOUGLAS RD 26 ACRES on SUGARLOAF HILL. 1000+/- ft of frontage! **SORRY, SOLD! \$200,000**

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

### OXFORD - 10 BEVERLY STREET



**ON DEPOSIT**

2 Family! A RARE FIND, BUILT IN 1967!! 2 PARCELS =16,224 SF!! EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Total 9 rooms, 5 Bedrooms, 2 baths. 2nd apartment is a perfect mortgage helper!! Beautiful Hardwood Floors! Roomy yard. Off Street Parking! Neighborhood Setting! **\$449,000.**

## On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



**SORRY, SOLD!**

**Webster Lake - 300 Killdeer Island.** OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! WEBSTER LAKE waterfront property on Killdeer Circle! Prime waterfront location! Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear, sandy bottomed shoreline. Everyday is a new day at the Lake! 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walk out lower level to nice size patio! Garage. **\$650,000.**

### WEBSTER - 1402 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO



**SORRY, SOLD!**

Nicely appointed, Marina side condo - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Gazebo, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$595,000.**

### WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO



**SORRY, SOLD!**

WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area. Hardwood Floor & Carpet. Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets. Master Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Natural gas heat! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Natural Sandy Beach! **\$439,000.**

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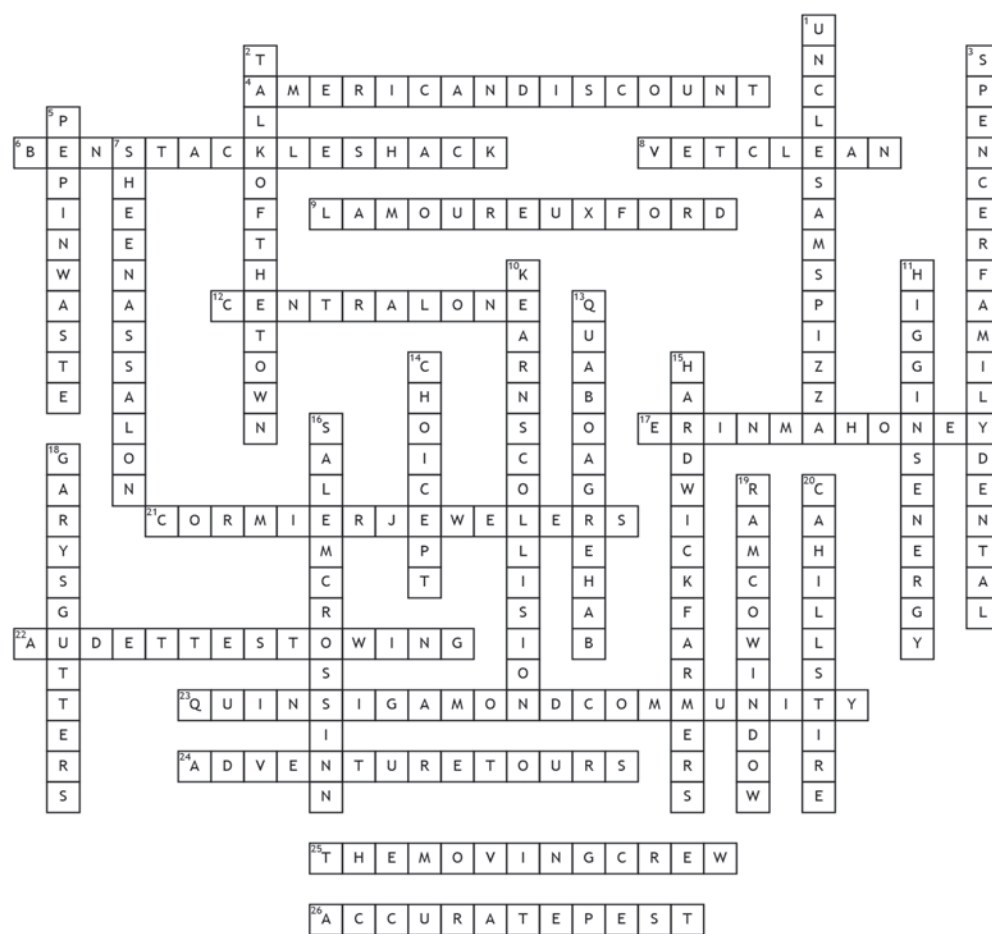


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We hope you enjoyed our 4th Annual ABC's of the Season crossword puzzle. The randomly chosen winner of all the correct entries for a \$25 gift card is Liz R. of Spencer.

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Thank you to all the ABC businesses and to those who completed our puzzle!

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Mikaela - [mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news)  
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# Spencer police taking part in Goods for Guns event

SPENCER – The Spencer Police Department is once again participating in a gun buyback program that will occur this month.

The 20th annual Goods for Guns Buyback will take place on Saturday, Dec. 11. Several area police departments are taking part in the program, including Spencer, Auburn, Dudley, Worcester, and Northbridge.

The Spencer Police Department program will take place from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the station (9 West Main St.).

Event participants will receive gift cards in exchange for each operable

gun. A \$25 grocery gift card will be provided for each rifle, and a \$50 gift card will be given for each pistol.

Each automatic or semiautomatic weapon turned in will earn a \$75 gift card.

Non-operable guns, ammunition, and firearm accessories will also be accepted, but gift cards will not be distributed for these items.

All weapons brought to the police station for the program must arrive unloaded and contained in a bag. Participants’ anonymity is guaranteed at the event; no names of gun owners

will be requested by officials. Also, no gun registration is required to turn in a weapon.

The event will also feature a gun lock giveaway. You can even get a lock if you aren’t turning in a gun.

Meanwhile, local officials continue to stress the importance of keeping weapons secured at home. If you aren’t able to properly secure your weapon, or if you no longer wish to own the weapon, please turn it in at one of the participating police stations.

“An unsecured weapon in the home is a public health danger that leads

to more frequent homicides, burglaries, lethal domestic violence, accidental shootings, and suicides,” said Worcester Department of Public Health Medical Director Dr. Michael Hirsh. “Please honor the memories of all our citizens harmed by gun violence by bringing in your unwanted or unsecured weapons.”

Program supporters include the University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center and the Worcester County District Attorney’s Office.

## Ladle up a warm and hearty soup

As the days cool, autumn cooking starts to heat up. If soup hasn’t yet been on the menu, then now is the time to explore new recipes that can warm us up from the inside out.

Soup can be customized with flavors that evoke the spirit of autumn. Ingredients like pumpkin, warming spices like cinnamon and cayenne and peanut butter come together in this recipe for “Vegan Pumpkin Peanut Butter Soup,” courtesy of The National Peanut Board and Abra Pappa of “Abra’s Kitchen.”

**Vegan Pumpkin Peanut Butter Soup**  
**Serves 10**

2 large leeks, sliced  
1 tablespoon coconut oil  
8 cups fresh pumpkin puree  
1 cup creamy peanut butter  
4 cups vegetable broth

14 ounces coconut milk (1 can)  
2 teaspoons salt  
2 teaspoons Chinese five-spice powder (or 1 teaspoon cinnamon)  
1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper

**Toppings:**  
Sriracha sauce  
Vegan coconut yogurt

**Fresh roasted pumpkin:**  
Purchase a “pie pumpkin” (also called a “sweet pumpkin”), which are typically around 2 to 4 pounds. On average, each “pound” will yield about 1 cup of pumpkin puree. Using a sharp knife, carefully cut the pumpkin in half lengthwise. Use a sharp spoon or ice cream scoop to scoop out all seeds and strings (reserve the seeds for roasting). Drizzle the pumpkin with olive oil, salt and pepper. Line a cookie sheet with parchment paper and place the pumpkin halves

skin side down. Using the tip of a sharp knife, carefully place a few slits in the skin of the pumpkin. Roast in a 375 F oven for 40 minutes to 60 minutes. It will entirely depend on the size of your pumpkin. Remove from oven and allow to cool. When cool enough to handle, scoop out the flesh and set aside.

**Pumpkin soup:**  
In a large pot over medium-high heat, melt coconut oil. Add sliced leeks and 1/4 teaspoon salt. Sauté for 5 to 8 minutes or until leeks are soft and creamy. Add vegetable stock, pumpkin puree, peanut butter, coconut milk, and spices to pot. Stir well to combine, and allow to simmer for 15 minutes. Working in batches, add soup to a high-speed blender and blend until smooth, return to pot and taste for seasoning adding more salt if needed. Serve with a drizzle of sriracha and a spoonful of vegan (plain, unsweetened) coconut yogurt. PC21B477



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### FOOTBALL

*continued from page A1*

games. It's a testament to the kids' fortitude."

Against the Vineyarders, the Panthers opened the scoring on a trick play. Quarterback Justin Falletti tossed the ball back to Logan Josti, who then threw a 62-yard touchdown pass to Stephen Ceccarini.

Falletti also threw two touchdown passes, both going to Julian Kondratowicz (25 and 21 yards). But with the game winding down, Prouty trailed by two points at 24-22.

"We got the ball with seven minutes to go, and we scored with five minutes left," explained Rossi, with Falletti scoring the winning touch-



Insightful

down on a 5-yard keeper. Martha's Vineyard then drove the length of the field looking to win the game, but the Panthers' defense — behind the leadership of coach Aaron Powell — stood tall.

"I can't say enough to what my coaches prepare and scheme up. We had just scored and they had a five-minute drive all the way down to our 10. It was fourth-and-3 at the 10 and we got the stop with 14 seconds left in the game," said Rossi, who called the winning moment "electric."

Justin Baptista, Jameson Kondratowicz, Julian Kondratowicz and Cam Goodrich all gang-tackled Martha's Vineyard's ball-carrier on the final play.

"It was very, very big," Rossi said of the win. "We had a chance to play an Eastern Mass. Division 5 school that is maybe four to five times the size of our school. They had great size and were very well-coached. We started four freshmen, three on the offensive line. They rose up and executed everything that we asked them to do. It was phenomenal to see them finish a winning season at 6-5."

Next year, the Panthers will play at Martha's Vineyard as part of a two-year deal. Rossi hopes for the new tradition to continue after that, possibly playing the games at neutral venues to make the atmosphere feel even more like a college Bowl game.

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