

# 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, October 1, 2021

## Voters authorize purchase of Becker campus



From left, Leicester Selectmen Allen Phillips, Rick Antanavica, and Herb Duggan, Jr., celebrate the town's acquisition of the former Becker College campus. Missing are Select Board members John Shocik and Dianna Provencher.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Voters last week delivered the final authorization needed to complete the town's acquisition of the former Becker College property.

At the Sept. 21 Special Election, residents voted 1,222-205 in favor of a \$19.9 million debt exclusion request for the acquisition of the property.

The vote came one week after Special Town Meeting voters secured the first approval needed for the acquisition to move forward (546-52 in favor of acquiring the Becker campus).

The town will now proceed with the acquisition of all Becker landholdings, officials said.

"I think it's a historic vote the residents of Leicester made," said Selectman John Shocik. "How many other communities have had the chance to buy a college campus to benefit their town? With both overwhelming votes to buy Becker, the town has the opportunity to control the destiny of the historical district of the town, along with fulfilling the needs of some of the other town depart-

Please Read **BECKER**, page **A18**

## Leicester resident honored by Patriots for community service

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – The New England Patriots recently honored some of the region's most valuable players in community service, including Leicester's Deborah Antanavica.

Serving as the president of the Hearts for Heat Leicester chapter – in addition to her role as secretary for Deja New – Antanavica is always active in service across town. Last month, her efforts were recognized by the Patriots with the organization's Difference Maker of the Week Award, which is being presented to 17 volunteers throughout the 2021 football season.

Led by the Kraft family and the New England Patriots Foundation, the weekly award program is celebrating honorees who support nonprofit organizations throughout New England.

"We are excited to once again recognize local volunteers with our Patriots Difference Maker of the Week Award," said Josh Kraft, the president of the New England Patriots Foundation. "Each of these honorees has their own unique story of community service, and we are proud to shine a light on the tremendous work they are doing. We would like to thank all of this year's Patriots Difference Makers for helping



Photo Courtesy

Leicester's Deborah Antanavica was recently selected as a 2021 Patriots Difference Maker of the Week recipient.

to build stronger New England communities."

Antanavica, who lives in Cherry Valley, was selected for the award based on her commitment to Deja New in town. As part of this recognition, the Kraft family and the New England Patriots Foundation will make a \$5,000 donation to support the nonprofit.

Deja New-Leicester is a volunteer-run nonprofit organization dedicated to

Please Read **ANTANAVICA**, page **A17**

## Two young programs on the rise as North Brookfield defeats Bay Path

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

SPENCER — Although North Brookfield High has employed a field hockey program for decades and Bay Path Regional is in its infancy stage, the two teams are in similar positions in terms of working with many younger players and improving as the season rolls on.

"I like the number of kids we have," Indians' head coach Shiela LeBlanc said of the 19 players on her roster.

North Brookfield, which defeated the Minutemen

4-0 in the varsity game on Wednesday, Sept. 22, doesn't have a full junior varsity team, but instead has many players compete in both games. The Indians and Bay Path played a 7-on-7 JV game following the rain-soaked varsity contest.

For LeBlanc, she wants as many JV games as possible to take place.

"Six kids out on this field out of the seven are brand new, have never touched a ball before this fall," she while watching the junior varsity game. "They are brand new to

the sport. We have half and half of experienced and not. You've got to try and find a way to mesh it."

Similarly, Bay Path is experiencing many athletes playing the sport for the first time.

"I want to say 65 percent of the girls have never held a stick before tryouts this year. We have very few returning that have played," said Joanna Gogan, head coach of the Minutemen. "Of those that are returning, I think we have four

Please Read **NORTH BROOKFIELD**, page **A4**



Photos Nick Ethier

North Brookfield's Kelly Daige follows through with her stick after whacking the ball down the field.

## LHS junior delivers dominant performance in cross country

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Junior Abigail Bernabei raced out to a hot start this year for the Leicester High School cross-country team.

Bernabei was the top individual finisher in each of her first two meets of the season. Even though her team came up short overall in the matchups against Tantasqua and Grafton, Bernabei secured first place in both races while setting a new personal best in each contest.

LHS cross-country and track Coach Norman Everett said Bernabei has made significant improvements over the last few years. Local athletes have been training hard despite the challenges presented by COVID-19 since 2020, and LHS coaches are thrilled with Bernabei's

hot start in 2021.

Also a member of the LHS track team, Bernabei has climbed to the top of the LHS running program. During her first cross-country meet on Sept. 8, she finished the three-mile course in 22:43, followed by a 22:26 performance on Sept. 15 against Grafton. Both of these times marked new personal bests in consecutive weeks.

"She has always done well working off of other runners on the team to better her performances. This year, she has excelled at running well on her own," Coach Everett said. "As a result, she has dropped her times by about a minute and a half on the Leicester home three-mile course."

Bernabei's early season success follows a summer of hard work and dedication. After

focusing on several details of her game in training, she has taken major strides away from the track and come back ready to dominate.

"I spent more time over this summer training and going on free runs around Leicester," said Bernabei, who joined the cross-country team as a sixth grader. "I have also tried to focus more on my running form this season and make sure I take time off to rest and recover."

Coaches praise Bernabei for her hard work and commitment to improvement over the years. She has twice been selected as a regional first team all-star.

"She has an excellent overall work ethic," Everett said. "Over the years, she has par-

Please Read **XXX**, page **A4**



Photo Courtesy

Leicester High School junior Abigail Bernabei has started the year with consecutive dominant performances.

# North Brookfield Savings Bank announces new hires

NORTH BROOKFIELD — North Brookfield Savings Bank is pleased to announce the hire of three new Customer Experience Associates to its Retail Department, Brandi Sagendorph, Matthew Kile and Jon Midwood.

“We are pleased to welcome Brandi, Matthew and John to our team. We look forward to watching them grow and contribute to their new roles,” said North Brookfield Savings Bank President, Marco Bernasconi. “They are highly skilled and are committed to providing valuable support and service while contributing to the Bank’s overall success. I know they will be great assets to our Team and our customers.”

At North Brookfield Savings Bank we pride ourselves on unconventional, out-of-the-box hiring. We do not simply hire those with experience, we hire those who will add to our culture and offer unique perspectives to the banking process and experience. People from all walks of life bring different experiences with them and that combined with our current staff really creates a diverse workplace. As we are fond of hiring from within, and as we have seen, an employee hired as a teller, with interest and hard work can learn any specific bank department function and

create a path to that goal with the support that is needed to get there. We call it, A Culture of Promoting from Within.

Brandi Sagendorph, of West Brookfield, has been hired as a Customer Experience Associate for North Brookfield Savings Bank. She will be responsible for providing our customers with the tools and guidance needed to guide them to financial success.

Sagendorph comes most recently CVS where she was a Pharmacy Technician. There, she handled cash transactions, filled prescriptions, and verified correctness. She had great responsibility in maintaining ethical and procedural standards of medicine and dispensing. She most enjoyed building strong relationships with customers and cultivating customer loyalty.

Before her work at CVS, she held various roles at Hiltop Equipment and LJ’s Hair Hop as both a Receptionist and Hairstylist.

She graduated with her Associates in Dental Hygiene and General Health from Quinsigamond Community College with honors. She is also local and a high school graduate of Quaboag Regional High School.

“North Brookfield Savings Bank has always

been a Bank I thought of applying to because of how they treat their employees and their customers,” said Sagendorph. “I am extremely excited to be working with such a motivational group of people; I believe that the Bank has many opportunities ahead and I cannot wait to see what the future holds.”

Matthew Kile, of Bondsville, has been hired to join the retail team as Customer Experience Associate at our Palmer branch.

Before coming to the Bank, Kile held the role of Assistant Produce Manager at Big Y in West Springfield, where he was responsible for ordering, quality control, inventory, schedule writing, stocking, rotating, providing customer service, training just to name a few. Prior to the produce position, Kile got his start at Big Y as a cashier and handled cash for customers in their transactions back in 2011.

Kile currently holds an associate degree in Arts and Science. In this new role, Matthew will be responsible for providing a first in class customer experience. He will continue to learn all Bank policies and procedures

to be successful in his new role.

“I am most looking forward to the opportunity to learn more about my new role. I am eager to get to know the financial needs of our customers to match them with products and services that will help them achieve financial success and growth,” said Kile. “I look forward to conquering my new role through various training and online courses, as well as mentoring from my superiors and co-workers so that I can begin establishing my long-term professional goals at North Brookfield Savings Bank.”


Jon Midwood, of Ware, has been hired to join the retail team as a Customer Experience Associate at our Three Rivers branch.

Before coming to the Bank, Midwood held many unique roles. Holding roles at Key Property Management, Klem’s and most recently as a firefighter for the Bondsville Fire Department. He uses the problem-solving, quick thinking, customer service and organizational skills to help him in his role at NBSB.

Midwood, A graduate of Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, has always had a love for banking, but never got the opportunity to be involved in finance until now. As a boy, it was common for him to accompany his mother to work, a banker, who planted the seed for his interest in banking. In this new role, Jon will be responsible for learning all the facets of being a Customer Experience Associate including money handling, cashing checks, verifying customer identity, and of course regulatory policies and procedures as well as getting to know our customers.

“I am looking forward to learning from the great mentors we have here at the Bank, as well as others who have been here longer than me,” said Midwood, “I hope to absorb all this added information and put it into practice in my daily duties at the Three Rivers Branch.” “I plan to make my mother proud by walking in her shoes as a banking professional.”

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## Comedy fundraiser planned in support of Christmas light display

LEICESTER – The organizers of Leicester’s Christmas Display invite residents to attend a fundraiser that will help brighten spirits this holiday season.

Scott Weikel and his wife, Denise, draw thousands of guests to view their display of Christmas lights each year. Many guests donate money on site, which is then given to local charities.

As one of the largest residential light displays in the state, the setup often attracts over 3,000 people on some weekends. As a result, a police detail is required.

“We are a 501(c)3 charity.

Each year, we raise over \$13,000 from the small donation box that we put out. All of that money goes to local charities, or people down on their luck,” Scott Weikel wrote. “Because of the traffic that we get, we have to hire a police detail. The police are great, and we could not do it without their help.”

To help defray the cost of the police detail and ensure that all guests can safely enjoy the display, a comedy fundraiser is set for Saturday, Oct. 9, at 7 p.m. The event will take place at Rascals in Worcester (70 James Street).

Entertainers slated to attend the event include Chris Goodney;

Adam Webster from 98.9 Nash Icon; and Steve Donovan from LITE 105 FM.

Doors open at 6 p.m., and the comedy show will start at 7 p.m. The event will also include raffles and a cash bar.

Live music from Broken Roads will take place after the comedy show. There will also be light appetizers available from Eller’s Restaurant.

Tickets for the program are \$25 per person.


For more information about the event, call Scott at 508-414-0114. You can also send an email to [sninefingers@aol.com](mailto:sninefingers@aol.com).

# YOUR TEETH MATTER

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## Dental hygiene is about more than just your teeth

Individuals tend to learn about dental hygiene at an early age. On the recommendation of their children’s pediatricians, parents may begin brushing their youngsters’ teeth the moment the first tooth breaks through the gums. While proper dental hygiene is vital to oral health, it also can have a profound effect on the rest of the body.

According to the Mayo Clinic, poor oral health might contribute to various diseases and conditions. Periodontitis is a severe yet preventable gum infection

that can lead to tooth loss if left untreated. But the threat of periodontitis doesn’t end in the mouth. The American Academy of Periodontology notes there’s a connection between periodontitis and several other diseases. While bacteria was long suspected to be the link between periodontitis and other diseases in the body, the AAP notes that recent research points to inflammation as the culprit that connects periodontitis with diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

Diabetes betes are at increased risk for periodontal disease, speculating that diabetes patients’ risk is higher because people with diabetes are more vulnerable to infections than those without diabetes. While that suggests periodontal disease is a byproduct of diabetes, the AAP notes that research points to the relationship being a two-way street. Periodontal disease may make it more difficult for people with diabetes to control their blood sugar, making dental hygiene an especially vital component of routine healthcare for people with diabetes.

Diabetes The AAP notes that people with dia- Heart disease



Can periodontal disease be prevented?

Periodontal disease is preventable. A daily dental hygiene regimen that includes brushing after meals, flossing at least once per day and swishing with mouthwash are some simple, healthy habits that can prevent periodontal disease. In addition, the AAP recommends that people at increased risk for periodontal disease, including the elderly and smokers, should discuss their risk with their dental professionals.

Dental hygiene can do more for individuals than produce a mouthful of pearly white teeth. In fact, people who prioritize dental hygiene may lower their risks for various diseases.

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# Leicester police chief joins the fight against cancer

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Police Chief Kenneth Antanavica is asking residents to join him and several other local police leaders in the battle against cancer.

Chief Antanavica is once again taking part in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. As a member of Team Police Chiefs, he will join fellow chiefs from departments across Massachusetts. The event will take place virtually this year on Oct. 3.

All proceeds from the event will benefit the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. Community support is always a major factor each year in fundraising, and Chief Antanavica has created a donations webpage through the Jimmy Fund site that makes it easy for residents to give back.

"When you make a gift to my walk, you're directly supporting Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's unique 50-50 balance between cutting-edge science and compassionate patient care," read a statement posted on Antanavica's fundrais-

ing page. "Your support allows Dana-Farber leaders to enhance programs and initiatives that serve pediatric and adult patients and their families. My family knows the magic that Dana-Farber performs on a daily basis and we fully support this worthy cause."

Although this year's event is virtual, the chiefs are still expecting to have a great experience while raising critical funds. Antanavica also has several unforgettable memories from past events.

"The first couple of times I participated, it was in person, and what a great time walking through Boston raising money for this very worthy cause," Antanavica said.

If you would like to donate to Chief Antanavica's page, visit [http://danafarber.jimmyfund.org/goto/Chief\\_Ken\\_Antanavica](http://danafarber.jimmyfund.org/goto/Chief_Ken_Antanavica).

Also participating in the event as a member of Team Police Chiefs is Michael Shaw, who leads the Webster Police Department. He has seen several people bravely take the fight to cancer,

and now he is hoping residents will join the battle.

"I started walking with Team Police Chiefs in 2018," Shaw said. "A big part of the reason that I walk is that I know several people who are very close to me that have benefited from the treatment they have received from Dana-Farber. One person in particular was Detective Cynthia Johnson, who fought ovarian courageously for over five years. Cindy was a huge supporter of the Jimmy Fund, so when I saw this opportunity to help raise money for Dana-Farber, I jumped on it. The work they do is incredible and beneficial to so many people in so many ways. I am happy to be able to participate."

For more than 70 years, the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute has served as a leader in cancer research and patient care, providing the most advanced treatments available. To learn more about the organization and how you can help, visit [www.dana-farber.org](http://www.dana-farber.org).

## New student cohort joins Lasell University community

NEWTON — Lasell University began its fall semester with a fully operational campus, in-person activities, and a strong cohort of new students.

Mikayla Bokis of Spencer is majoring in fashion merchandising and management.

Connor Flynn of Spencer is majoring in management.

Lasell, located in Newton, Massachusetts, began its fall semester with a fully operational campus. New and returning students began classes in early September. Among the first gatherings held was Lasell's annual U-Belong event, a celebration of connectivity, inclusivity, and friendship.

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

## FCC West Brookfield to host Blessing of the Animals

WEST BROOKFIELD — On Saturday, Oct. 2 at 10 a.m., the First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, United Church of Christ, will host a Blessing of the Animals Service on the W. Brookfield Common.

If you are not able to bring your animal for a blessing, send a picture, your name, your pet's name and any special request for a blessing (email: [firstconglwestbrookfield@gmail.com](mailto:firstconglwestbrookfield@gmail.com)) We

mark the Blessing of the Animals on the Saturday closest to the Feast of St Francis of Assisi Day on Oct. 4. St Francis died at Portiuncula, Italy on October 4, 1226. Rev. Dr. Ann Michele Rogers Brigham, Pastor, invites you to join with others in our community for this special blessing day. Need more info? Call 508-867-7078.

## Employee injured in explosion at New England Metal Services



Photo Courtesy

One person was injured following an explosion in Spencer last week.

SPENCER – A worker was injured in last week's explosion and fire at New England Metal Services.

On Sept. 24, Spencer Police, Fire, and EMS personnel were called to New England Metal Services at approximately 8:30 a.m. The business is located at 57 Wire Village Rd. in Spencer.

One employee was burned in the incident, police said. The worker was transported to UMass Memorial Medical Center with non-life-threatening injuries.

"It appears that the explosion took place while the employee was changing a fuse, which sparked the explosion," read a statement released by the SPD.

The State Fire Marshal, OSHA, and local inspection services are investigating the incident.

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

**ENTERTAINMENT AND EVENTS**

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**Attention North Brookfield Water Users:**  
**WATER MAIN FLUSHING**  
Oct. 4, 2021 through Oct. 22, 2021

The North Brookfield Water Department will be flushing water mains throughout town beginning Monday, October 4 through Friday, October 22, 2021.

The purpose of the flushing is to remove sediment buildup in the mains. The flushing may result in temporary discoloration of the water, caused by small particles dislodged during the flushing. This discoloration might stain your laundry, especially white materials.

Flushing is performed between the hours of 7:30 AM and 3:30 PM. We post our daily flushing schedule on the North Brookfield Water Department's Facebook page. If you would like additional information, please call the Water Department at (508) 867-0207.

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**PERSON of the WEEK**  
**HOLLY COLLETTE, Spencer, MA**

Holly has been a longtime supporter of the Spencer community. Years ago she started out working as an EMT for Spencer Rescue Squad and has been a dispatcher for the Spencer Police Dept. for I believe, over 30 years. Holly also is very involved with the Spencer Fish and Game. She is involved with our community and our children and spends endless hours doing these jobs and organizing many community activities. I feel she deserves to be recognized as Person of the Week. Holly does a lot for our community "in the background." As a long time Spencer citizen, I appreciate what she does for our community!!

— Submitted by Danielle Gebo

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

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# SPORTS

## Bartlett battles through injuries, upends Panthers

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — The Bartlett High and David Prouty Regional boys' varsity soccer teams did battle on Monday, Sept. 27, both hoping to find win No. 2 on the season. And it was a close, evenly played matchup throughout. But the Indians scored in the game's third minute and it proved to be enough, as they upended the Panthers 1-0.

"I think we jumped on them early and then we were able to kind of lean on that lead a little bit through the rest of the first half," said Bartlett head coach Ryan Renauld on what led to the victory. "They had some great buildup chances where Art [Sochacki] played phenomenal in the back and cleaned up a lot of things."

The Indians scored when Jaime Cuellar was credited with an assist — albeit in an odd fashion — as the ball caromed over to Tom McGonagle, who deposited his shot from inside the box past keeper Dan Blazejewski (10 saves) and into the back of the net.

"There was a ball that was played by Prouty that came up to Jaime's face and came down to Tom's



David Prouty's Jacob Bergeron makes a play on the ball to help keep it away from Bartlett's Jaime Cuellar.

foot," said Renauld.

Ralph Kay, head coach of the Panthers, thought that the goal came on a defensive "breakdown" that his team needs to "handle better," but overall he was pleased with the team defense.

Prouty applied a ton of pressure to open the second half, routinely testing Sochacki at sweeper and keeper Ayden Carlson.

In the first 10 minutes of the half, the Panthers threw the ball into the box. Carlson made the save but Prouty's Frander Carillo pounced on the rebound. Before he could maneuver the ball around Carlson and shoot into the net, Bartlett's defense cleared it out of harm's way.

Then, with 22 minutes to go, Charlie Lascom



Braeden Cashman of David Prouty sends a free kick down the field.

hit a corner kick toward teammate Braeden Cashman, whose header was targeted at the right post but narrowly missed.

The Panthers had other opportunities, but Carlson finished with 11 saves for his first career varsity shutout.

"I thought in the second half, [Kay] did a great job of making adjustments and changing their

mindset because they came at us and we didn't react well," Renauld said of Prouty's offensive persistence.

Then, shifting to Carlson's ability in net, Renauld had plenty of praise.

"He played phenomenal in the sense of not even necessarily making the spectacular save but always being in the right spot positionally

and reading the through-balls to come out so that it's not a defender and a forward going at our own net," Renauld said. "The future looks bright for him."

Bartlett nearly doubled its lead late, but Adam Phillips and McGonagle both narrowly missed goals.

When the final whistle blew, the Indians improved to 2-6 following a six-game slide to open the season.

"We're getting healthy again, and that's helping. Wins cure a lot of frustration that was building," Renauld said of losing four starters in the first two games and now rattling off a pair of victories.

Prouty is now 1-4-1. "We had plenty of chances; we just couldn't put the ball in. We've had trouble scoring goals," said Kay. "We didn't defend poorly, but we're just struggling getting goals."

"The guys will keep fighting, they'll keep working and we'll keep trying to get better, and that's all we can do. We're close. We've played some very good games and some very poor games. It's just not all there yet," added Kay.

## Quaboag football claws past Minutemen Bay Path golf splits pair of matches last week

BY DEAN ST. LAURENT  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — The culture has changed in Warren, home of the Quaboag Regional varsity football team. For the first time in program history, the Cougars have gotten off to a 3-0 start.

"Tremendous, I am not going to lie. The kids are playing very hard," expressed head coach Dave Shepherd with a smile. "We have changed the culture; these are kids that we started a youth program with that I have coached since fourth grade. Now it is starting to pay dividends. We used to come to the game thinking let's try and keep it close and hang in there, now we are coming to games expecting to win, so the culture has changed. That is big."

On Friday, Sept. 24, Quaboag controlled the pace of the contest with a strong ground and pound approach led by senior Alex Worthington and junior Brendan Burke to down a young Bay Path Regional (1-2) team on the road, 34-21.

"They're close, we are right there," explained first-year head coach Cody Giampa of Bay Path. "We are playing tough with everybody, but we have to make tackles and you have to block the whole game. We did a good job in the first quarter, halfway through the second quarter we kind of lost it, but they (Quaboag) did a great job on offense just pounding us up the middle. Again, if you can't stop that you're not going to win very much, but we are a young team we are relying on a lot of younger guys to play so know we need to make that next step. We are close, we are right there and I hope they see that."

The game started fast, with four

straight scoring drives, and was neck-and-neck for the majority of the first half. The game was even at 14-all with 9:07 left in the second quarter. Quaboag got both of their scores from senior Worthington, on runs of 16 and 44 yards. Bay Path got a score from junior Luke Welton and junior quarterback Anthony Catino.

Late in the second quarter is when momentum started to shift. Following Bay Path's second scoring drive, Quaboag's offense drove down the field but ended up fumbling the ball in the red zone. Momentum shifted briefly in favor of the Minutemen, but just four plays later they were forced to punt after a three-and-out. This gave the Cougars the opportunity to score before halftime and change the course of the game.

That is exactly what they did, with just one tick left on the game-clock Burke scored the first of his pair of touchdowns from just 1-yard out. Quaboag went into the half up 20-14.

Coming out of the half with all the momentum, led to a very energized and crucial defensive stand to open up the third quarter. Bay Path did have a promising drive going to open the half that started at mid-field, but it ended in Quaboag territory when they turned the ball over on downs after picking up just one first down a big play through the air from Catino to Jonathan Nussy for 25 yards.

Moments later Quaboag controlled the clock and used an effective inside-out game to drive the length of the field and score. Burke accounted for 25 hard-earned yards on the drive and Worthington accounted for 37 yards

including his third touchdown of the game from 14 yards out.

"We talked about it at halftime," stated Shepherd. "We said we got that score before the half, but we have to bump into a two-score lead. We knew that these guys were going to keep fighting, so getting that stop and then another touchdown was huge."

Bay Path showed some fight and scored on the next drive on a heave down the sideline from Catino to Welton for a 39-yard score to make it a five-point game, 26-21 late in the third quarter.

"Luke is great for us," praised Giampa. "He does whatever we ask. We use him in a variety of roles. He works his tail off. He does everything for us. He is just a very good player, he is fast and physical. He is another kid that has a lot of potential, it's the same thing if he could take that next step he would probably be one of the better players around here. We need to keep putting him in positions to get the ball and put him in positions to do well."

It didn't matter though because Quaboag continued to run the rock between the tackles with Burke to wear down the Bay Path defense, as they did for the entirety of the game. Burke accounted for 30-plus carries for the Cougars and a pair of touchdowns. Shepherd acknowledged Burke's importance following the win.

"He (Burke) is a workhorse. He has put in his time in the weight room so he has earned his keep. He has lifted like crazy over the last two years and it shows. Now he is a 220-pound kid and tough to bring down especially for high school," the coach said.

Sept. 20  
Bay Path 156, Monty Tech 177 — Behind the strong playing of Evan O'Malley (2-over par 37), Martin Mullen (38) and James LeFrohon (39), Bay Path's golf team defeated Monty Tech at Heritage Country Club.

Sept. 21  
Blackstone Valley Tech 162, Bay Path 165 — In a very tightly contested golf match at Heritage Country Club, the Beavers edged the Minutemen. But Bay Path's Brandon Mertocci was the match's medalist with a 2-over par 37.

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# SPORTS

## Well-balanced Warriors blank Notre Dame Academy



Photos Nick Ethier

Tantasqua's Shannon Dunn runs up to the ball before it can roll out of bounds.

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

STURBRIDGE — As a head coach, all one can want is for their team to try and perform the task asked of them to the best of their ability. And when that happens, it's more than worthwhile.

That was the case for Matthew Rickson, head coach of the Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity soccer team, when the Warriors hosted Notre Dame Academy at the Cage on Tuesday, Sept. 21. Tantasqua played brilliantly on the way to a 3-0 shutout victory.

"They're increasing their level of play each game and that's all I can ask for. They did everything we asked them to do today," said Rickson.

What Rickson asked of the Warriors was to remain offensively persistent at the halftime break, where they held a slim lead of 1-0.

"It's going to come," Rickson remembered telling his squad. "You guys are doing everything you're supposed to do. It [ended up working out] for us."

Rickson was also pleased that his team had a lead at the break after numerous chances to put a goal on the board. Tantasqua finally did so with 5:45 remaining in the first half. That is when freshman Keelan Mader, a defender, found a gap in the Rebels' defense and lofted a brilliant kick from 25 yards out that got up and over the keeper and into the back of the net.

"[That goal] helps us going into the half," said Rickson. "That's a big goal. One's nowhere near enough. The opportunities we were creating we had to keep doing."

And keep going the Warriors did.



Tess Chevalier of Tantasqua slows down the ball's progress before making a play on it.

"The best thing is what we talked about they were able to execute," Rickson said.

Tantasqua continually peppered Notre Dame's net in the second half and they were rewarded with their second goal just four minutes in. Junior Olivia Magerowski slipped a pass into the box, which found the foot of sophomore Ella Colati. From there, Colati placed a shot into the near-side left corner, but the Rebels' diving keeper.

Just six minutes later, the Warriors added one more insurance goal to account for the 3-0 final score. Senior Shannon Dunn passed the ball over to Colati down the right side. Colati then went right-to-left on her shot, the ball finding the upper portion of the left-side of the net for her second goal of the afternoon.

To preserve the shutout, a strong defensive wall displayed by Tantasqua was used with 18 minutes remaining when Notre Dame received a free kick well within scoring range. But sophomore Abby Rio was there to block the attempt.

Rickson noted that six of



Olivia Magerowski of Tantasqua steps into the ball to clear it out of her team's defensive zone.

the 11 Warrior starters are either freshmen or sophomores, and many of them could be seen all over the scoresheet. One player who didn't produce a point was freshman Lilina Shiers, but her presence was still felt all over the pitch.

"My leading point getter to this point did not score today, but she just disrupted and distributed and did everything up front," Rickson said of Shiers.

"This was a whole team effort," he added.

Now 5-1, Rickson is pleased with the way his team keeps improving.

"They are responding very well," Rickson said. "The one we lost was 3-0 against Uxbridge. We had 15 shots on frame. They had three on frame. What we had to work on was finishing. And then we had Auburn and we beat them 5-0."

Without wanting to look too deep into the future, Rickson is excited for the opportunity the Warriors have in front

### High School Notebook

Sept. 20  
Tantasqua 179, Bartlett 251 — A 7-1 record is now had by the Warriors' golf team after defeating the Indians. Colm McGrath was the medalist after carding a 6-over par 42 at Hemlock Ridge.

Sept. 23  
Longmeadow 163, Tantasqua 168 — Ryan Downes carded a 1-under par 35 to help Longmeadow defeat the Warriors' golf team at Hemlock Ridge. Tantasqua's Aubyn Phillips was the lowest Tantasqua (7-2) player with a 40.

Sept. 24  
Fitchburg 20, Tantasqua 6 — Falling behind by a score of 13-0 at halftime, the Warriors' football team couldn't mount a second half comeback, despite a touchdown run by Caleb Thompson in the third quarter.

Wachusett 197, Tantasqua 227 — The Tantasqua varsity golf team travelled to Bedrock Golf Club to face undefeated Wachusett. There, medalist honors went to Mitch Bullett, who shot an even par 36 for winning Wachusett. Low Warrior was Nate Wright who shot a 43. Tantasqua is now 7-3.



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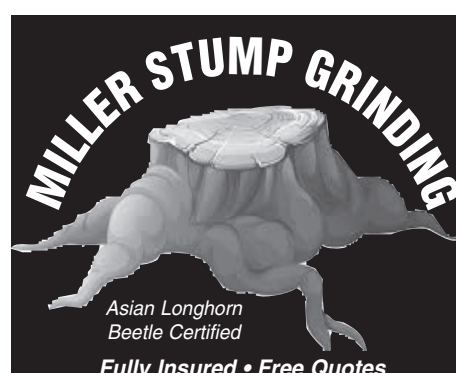
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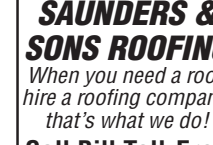
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EDITORIAL

Take a break from bad news

Oftentimes, ideas for Editorials arise when something close to us personally surfaces that hits home, or when we hear a significant amount of chatter about a specific topic. This week, the chatter has been about national news overload.

We love the news — after all, it’s what we do. Sharing information with our readers on the local level is both an honor and a necessity.

This week, however, we have heard many people say they just can’t listen to the national news anymore. They feel bombarded by a relentless parade of doom and gloom, from the continuing (and to us, frankly confounding) debates over mask mandates in schools to the minute-by-minute coverage of the tragic Gabby Petito case, oftentimes leaving them feeling depressed and overwhelmed. News junkies watch the news every morning and night, check their Twitter feeds, listen to talk radio on their commutes and are constantly in the know. It’s important and responsible to be aware of what’s happening around you, however finding a balance is key, even for those of us in the businesses.


It seems as though the national news cycle has been nothing but chaos. Bad news seems to ping our phones almost on the minute. This can be exhausting.

As a way to catch your breath, pick one day of the week as a ‘no news’ day, sort of like a news siesta. Get outside, un plug, read a book, listen to some vinyl or watch Cobra Kai (we do recommend for a splash of nostalgia). Attempt to shut off the little magic box we all stare at way too much on the daily. Could landlines actually still serve a purpose?

If you feel like you can’t make a difference, realize that you can. Do something every day to make the world a better place, even if that means your own little world. Such actions can often result in the domino effect.

Take some time to count the blessings in your life. Positivity still surrounds us in bulk if you look for it. Family, friends, dogs, crisp fall leaves, apple crisp, bacon, a friendly wave from a neighbor, morning coffee, a cold drink, a beautiful hike or walk, a good novel and a nice music blasting session are just a few things we can lean on to always lift us back up.

Take some time to count the blessings in your life. Positivity still surrounds us in bulk if you look for it. Family, friends, dogs, crisp fall leaves, apple crisp, bacon, a friendly wave from a neighbor, morning coffee, a cold drink, a beautiful hike or walk, a good novel and a nice music blasting session are just a few things we can lean on to always lift us back up.



To the Editor:

Last week’s New Leader contained the letter “The Three C’s.” Like an earlier one from the same source that praised Covid vaccine providers, it contained a heartfelt thanks to the public servants other first responders and hospital staff that assisted the writer during an ambulance and ER apparent emergency event. This expression of thanks for those often undervalued members of our communities should find praise and common agreement.

The letter goes onto express the wish that Americans unite around the common good and politicians “do their jobs!”

Evidence indicates that much needs to be done to restore and then, for the “common good,” develop the America for 21<sup>st</sup> Century needs and opportuni-

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support of school supply drive is appreciated

To the Editor:

The Mission Committee of the First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, UCC, would like to thank all those who donated to our school supply drive.

The items are being divided and given to the West Brookfield Elementary School and the Warren Community Elementary School. The

scissors, rulers, notebooks, pencils and sharpeners, erasers and crayons were appreciated by both schools.

Office personnel in both elementary schools said to say thank you to all who donated.

MILLIE GUSHUE  
MISSION COMMITTEE  
WEST BROOKFIELD UCC

Durant’s bill is misguided

To the Editor:

It was disheartening to read about the bill filed by Rep. Peter Durant, supported by Donald Berthiaume and others, to prohibit schools, businesses, government agencies, and other entities from requiring proof of vaccination against COVID-19 as a condition of entry to buildings.

It is ironic that Mr. Durant mentions stopping “government overreach” in defense of a proposed bill which is such a blunt instrument for addressing a problem whose solution is better left to public health professionals.

Our political leaders could serve us

better in the fight against the COVID-19 pandemic by supporting public health recommendations, including those that the governor has chosen to follow, instead of obstructionist tactics masquerading as the protection of individual liberties.

Individual liberties are worth protecting, but some individual choices have consequences. A regulation which prevents sound public health policy is misguided.

Sincerely,

LIZ FOSS  
SPENCER

House Bill 4416

To the Editor:

As reported in the New Leader House on Sept. 24, House Bill 4416 seeks to prohibit proof of vaccination for COVID-19 throughout the state. This bill, filed by Peter Durant and endorsed by Donald Berthiaume, would allow unvaccinated immigrants and international travelers to enter the state and work in our nursing homes and hospitals. This will put those most susceptible to the virus at the highest risk.

Mr. Durant says he is not anti-vaccine. In fact, he and his fiancée got

immunized before their wedding so they could avoid problems traveling. If proof of vaccination is required for young, healthy travelers, it should also be required for those working in the health care industry, as well as anyone entering the Commonwealth from overseas.

The bill is currently under study by the Committee on House Rules who, hopefully, it will see it as flawed.

ROGER FOSS  
SPENCER

Lee was a traitor, pure and simple

To the Editor:

As one who has a B.A. in History, who taught U.S. History, I was stunned to read John McRae’s letter “General Lee, down but not out.”

McRae makes a case for Lee and other Confederate generals to have their recently removed statues returned to their former locations of prominence. Yes, Lee and others provided good and sometimes great service to the United States. However, their desertion from the U.S. Army to fight for the Confederacy made them traitors who sought to destroy the Union. Had they been successful, we

would not have 50 states, but at most only 39 states. You would need a passport to visit Virginia, Florida or any of the Confederate states.

In short, Lee and the other deserters were traitors who very well could have been shot to death for their betrayal, pure and simple. Perhaps McRae may one day make the case for having a statue of Benedict Arnold in Washington, D.C. It wouldn’t surprise me!

RALPH E. HICKS  
SPENCER  
SPENCER, MA 01562

The party of Lincoln has become the party of the Confederacy

To the Editor:

Mr. McRae has been a cheerleader against “CRT.” Basically, he wants to force the North Brookfield school committee to block teaching about racial problems in the history of this country.

In the Sept. 17 issue, he wrote a fawning, 2,000 word article about General Robert E. Lee. That’s a lot of words, but McRae neglected to include “treason.” Treason is defined in Section 3 of Article 3 of the Constitution. Treason is apparently not enough to besmirch the reputation of such a “great” slaveholder as Mr. Lee.

Now, the people of North Brookfield

can see the teaching that McRae would approve. Everybody had slaves; slaves were in the Bible; no big deal. Those who fought against the United States in order to keep slaves were honorable. This is “Critical White Supremacy Theory.”

Republicans used to say they were the party of Lincoln. Mr. McRae’s party is of the Confederacy.

Oh, in the Sept. 24 issue, he wrote a 1,000 word article saying that people should write shorter articles. That’s hilarious.

ALLAN JOHANNESSEN  
LEICESTER

Should you buy term insurance and invest the difference?

If you have children or other loved ones who depend on your financially, you need life insurance – no question about it. And you’ll need an amount that can enable your family members to continue their lifestyle if you aren’t around. But there may be less certainty about what type of insurance you should purchase: term or permanent. And the issue can cause even more confusion if you’ve heard the phrase: “Buy term and invest the difference.” What does this mean? And is it good advice?

First, let’s review the chief differences between term and permanent insurance. As its name suggest, term insurance lasts for a set period, such as 10 or 20 years, while permanent insurance can last your entire life. Term insurance only pays a death benefit – there’s no opportunity to build cash value. But permanent insurance, such as universal life, also contains an investment element. Consequently, permanent insurance premiums are generally considerably higher than those of term insurance.

Given this difference in premiums, you may have heard that it’s a good move to buy term insurance and use the “savings” – that is, the money you would have spent on a costlier permanent insurance policy – to invest in stocks or mutual funds, rather than rely on the investments contained in permanent insurance. But in reality, it’s not that simple. Here are a few reasons why “buy term, invest the difference” may not always be the best strategy:

People don’t consistently invest the difference. Although people may have the best intentions when it comes to investing the savings achieved by purchasing term insurance, life often gets in the way and they find other ways to spend the money. Or they may invest sporadically or make poor investment decisions. By way of contrast, the premiums that go into permanent insurance are invested systematically and managed by professionals.

Term premiums won’t always be cheap. Term insurance is quite affordable when you’re young. But when the term expires after, say, 15 or 20 years, the premiums can become much more expensive. Consequently, there will likely be much less of a gap between the costs of term and permanent insurance.

Permanent insurance investments can grow tax-deferred. If you followed the “buy term, invest the difference” approach, and you purchased stocks or mutual funds, you might incur taxes on capital gains and dividends. But the investments within a permanent insurance policy are tax deferred, so you won’t pay taxes on interest, dividends or capital gains until you withdraw the proceeds, similar to the tax benefits you get with your IRA and 401(k) accounts.

Even though you should consider the above issues, you don’t necessarily have to dismiss the “buy term, invest the difference” strategy. Everyone’s situation is different, so you’ll want to explore your options carefully. At different times of your life, different insurance and investment solutions may be appropriate. But however you choose to do it, you’ll want to maintain sufficient life insurance and invest for your long-term goals – two actions that can pay off for you and your loved ones.

*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.*

Three C’s & no way to run a democracy, assuming “We the People” want one

ties. An incomplete list would include: as indicated in the letter, fixing our world’s most expensive but not well performing medical system by, for example, reducing highest in the world pharmacy industry profits and using the money to improve ordinary persons’ health care, getting out of the Covid epidemic that continues to kill (about 700,000) and seriously affects the health of tens of millions others (including the 3C’s writer) by mandating – but not making illegal vaccines and needed use of face masks, realizing it will take decades, approve the current trillion dollar plus Biden administration Physical Infrastructure Plan Likewise ensure that the often undervalued public sector - with private sector implemen-

tation- is equipped and supported to effectively supervise the task.

again realizing it will take decades, fund effectively implement and supervise the trillion dollars plus Human Infrastructure Plan, recognizing that, like our friends and competitors, the well-being and education of our children is a fundamental “common good” requirement,

making wealthy corporations pay their fair share of taxes, and the “Building Back” of the Internal Revenue Service’s ability to chase and punish wealthy tax dodgers and criminal avoiders, and

making the changes and funding needed to immediately address Climate Change, as ever more higher temperatures, wildfires, hurricanes, flooding etc. provide much more that evidence

we, not to mention our children now live in a worsening high alert-danger zone.

My only major objection to the 3C’s letter relates to the use of a false equivalency, that is appearing to indicate equally shared faults of Democrats (liberals) and Trump Republicans (well beyond conservative) - not to mention by moderates. Massive evidence - regarding lack of “Trump Republicans” governance according to centuries old commonly agreed American norms, values, and our Constitution - tells us otherwise.

KEVIN KANE  
SPENCER



# Preparing your landscape for winter



GARDEN  
MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA  
MYERS

Fall is a season of transition and that includes your garden. Make the most of beautiful fall days to enjoy your garden and prepare your landscape for the winter ahead.

Put fall leaves to work in your landscape improving your soil, reducing maintenance, and creating winter homes for toads, frogs, and beneficial insects. Mow over the leaves that land on the lawn. It may take a couple passes but once the fall leaves are the size of a quarter you can leave them on the lawn to add organic matter and nutrients to the soil.

Or mow, bag and add the shredded leaves to annual flowers or vegetable gardens. Dig several inches of shredded leaves into the top eight to 12 inches of garden soil. The leaves will decompose over winter, adding organic matter to the soil. Still more leaves; add them to the compost pile. Mixing this carbon rich plant debris to greens like plant-based kitchen scraps, manure, and worm castings makes for great compost.



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
.....  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

Here in New England where long, cold winters make warm weather highly anticipated and much appreciated, few weather forecasts are celebrated more than the promise of “Indian Summer.” The bonus of an extra week or two of summer weather as the hydrangeas wane and school buses reappear, is nothing short of a celebratory occasion. From extra swims to extended camp outs,

Use leaves as mulch on the soil around the base of perennials. They suppress weeds, conserve moisture, insulate the roots and add organic matter to the soil as they decompose. Leaves also provide winter homes and insulation for insects, toads and frogs that overwinter in leaf litter or just below the soil surface.

Leave healthy perennials stand for winter. They add winter interest to the landscape, provide homes for many beneficial insects and the seeds of Rudbeckia, coneflower, liatris, and others provide food for the birds. These winged visitors add welcome color and motion to the often, gray days of winter.

Take time to remove any dead, damaged and diseased stems, and branches. Disinfect your tools between cuts to reduce the risk of spreading disease to healthy plants. Clean tools with a spray disinfectant or 70% alcohol between cuts to manage disease organisms without harming your tools.

Refresh mulch around trees and shrubs. Maintaining a three-inch layer helps conserve moisture, insulates the roots from temperature extremes, reduces competition from the lawn for water and nutrients and improves the soil as it decomposes. Pull mulch away from the trunk of trees and stems of shrubs. Piling mulch over these can lead to rot, decline and early death of the plants.

Help your lawn recover from the

stresses of summer and prepare for winter with fall fertilization. University research found fall fertilization is most beneficial for home lawns. Fall fertilization encourages deep roots and denser growth that is better able to compete with weeds and tolerate disease and insect pests.

Always sweep grass clippings and chemicals off walks and drives and back into the lawn where they belong. This simple step keeps unwanted nutrients out of waterways and eventually our drinking water.

Add some spring color by planting daffodils, grape hyacinths, tulips, and other spring flowering bulbs this fall. It is also a good time to add trees, shrubs, and perennials to the landscape. The soil is warm and air cool, making it less stressful for plants to adjust to their new home. Mulch new plantings and water thoroughly whenever the top few inches of soil are crumbly and moist. Continue watering new and existing plantings as needed until the ground freezes.

Once the garden is prepared for winter, you can put away the hoses and garden tools, break out the snow shovels and wait for spring to arrive.

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”



Photo Courtesy — Pasquesi Home and Gardens  
Leaving healthy perennials like coneflower stand for winter provides food for birds, winter interest and homes for many beneficial insects.

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).

## Indian Summer and Other Weather Curiosities

Northeasterners of all ages savor the unseasonal high temperatures.

Now I'm not saying we'll have Indian Summer this year, and while the hope of it conjures up thoughts of autumn boat rides and post Labor Day whites, the phrase itself isn't exactly clear. When does warmer weather qualify as an Indian Summer? And is it a Native American phrase as the title implies?

Read on for interesting and intriguing facts about Indian Summer and other old New England weather lore.

\*\*

Indian Summer Explained

In 1817, writer John Bradbury offered this emotional explanation of Indian

Summer:

“The air is perfectly quiescent and all is stillness, as if Nature, after her exertions during the Summer, were now at rest.”

Weather Historian William R. Deedler notes “The term ‘Indian Summer’ dates back to the 18th century in the United States. It can be defined as ‘any spell of warm, quiet, hazy weather that may occur in October or even early November.’ Basically, autumn is a transition season as the thunderstorms and severe weather of the summer give way to a tamer, calmer weather period before the turbulence of the winter commences.”

Deedler, in his article “What is Indian Summer and did Indians really have anything to do with it?,” further explained:

“The term “Indian Summer” is generally associated with a period of considerably above normal temperatures, accompanied by dry and hazy conditions ushered in on a south or southwesterly breeze. Several references make note of the fact that a true Indian Summer can not occur until there has been a killing frost/freeze. Since frost and freezing temperatures generally work their way south through the fall, this would give credence to the possibility of several Indian

Turn To **TRAINOR** page **A20**



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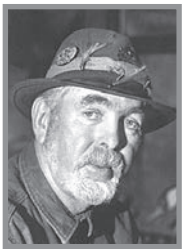
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# Looking ahead to waterfowl season



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The regular waterfowl season is scheduled to open on Oct. 11 in the Central district. There is a lot of water this year making plenty of areas for the ducks and geese to hang out. The plentiful acorn crop, which is one of the Wood Ducks favorite food this time of year, should keep them well fed for these long migration South. Wood Ducks are plentiful this year, and provide most of the shooting during the first part of the duck season. If the season starts early enough, you may get lucky to encounter a few flights of blue winged or green winged teal. They provide some great shooting opportunities, and they are fast.

Wood Ducks do not take a lot of hunting pressure and move out of the area sooner than other ducks. Other than Wood Ducks, Mallards make up most of the daily bag limits during hunting season, with some blacks also being harvested. Because of the inter breeding of black and mallard ducks, they can easily be mistaken for a black duck. The three-bird daily limit on Wood Duck is far better than the limits 20 or 30 years ago that remained at a two-bird limit for years, despite the high population of birds in the area.

Local sportsmen banded together to build and erect a few hundred nesting boxes for the birds to raise their young. It worked well and even more birds were observed in the valley. It was called operation Wood Duck! The high

population of birds in the area did not convince Fish & Wildlife to increase the daily limit on Wood Ducks until eight or 10 years ago. The migrating Wood Duck's provided great shooting for the neighboring state of Rhode Island's waterfowlers, as well as the Southern states. Rhode Island did have a shorter duck season back then, but did provide some great shooting opportunities for the most colorful & exciting duck to hunt in Massachusetts, and they still are.

Their feathers were prized by fly tyers for their colorful barbs under their wings, as well as numerous other feathers that made great trout fly's. The meat on the wood Duck was, and still is a great eating bird when properly prepared. Any duck hunters that do not tie flies should reach out to the New England Fly Tiers organization and donate the male Wood Duck feathers to them for their students to use at their upcoming classes. They would surely appreciate them. Duck feathers are illegal to sell, but can be donated to individuals or organizations like the New England Fly Tiers!

Waterfowl hunters need to be reminded that when hunting ducks and geese, every possible means to retrieve shot birds needs to be practiced. Hunters that do not can be charged with wanton waste. Most serious duck hunters own a good retriever. These dogs can provide the most satisfaction when hunting waterfowl. Their desire to hunt and retrieve ducks and upland birds provides the ultimate satisfaction for their owners, and also find and retrieve downed birds that would otherwise be lost. Owning a good bird dog can cost a few bucks, but once you own one to hunt with you. You will never hunt without one again, not to mention their bond with their owner throughout the



Photo Courtesy

These yellow lab pups were part of a litter this writer had his pick of at seven weeks old. The one on the left (Twig) is now 11 years old, and is a great hunter & family pet. She may not be a field Champion, but she is great in the field. She has had no hip problems which is often a problem for Labs, and has been basically a healthy dog.

year. He or she will become your best friend, but do not tell your wife!

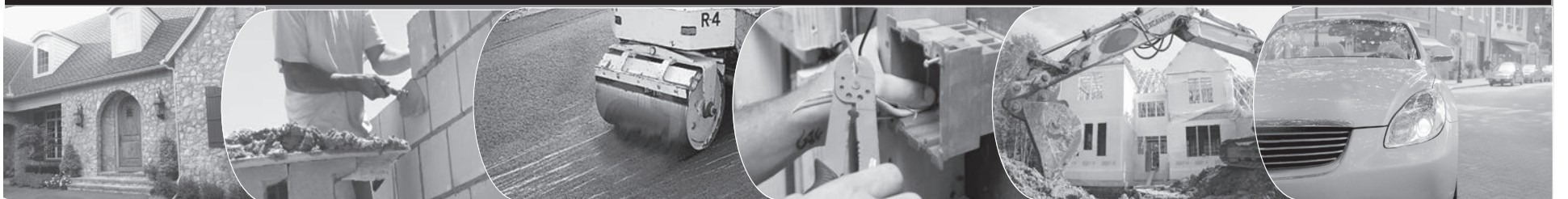
A good hunting dog is not cheap and veterinarian bills are costly, but they are worth every penny. If you decide to purchase a pup, be sure to do your homework. It cost just as much money to raise a pedigree dog as it does a mongrel, and the final results are totally different in most circumstances. Be sure to buy your pup from a highly respected breeder, and you should end up with a great hunting partner for many years to come, not to mention a great family pet.

Saltwater fishing for tautog and seabass is red hot right now in Rhode Island right now, and continues to improve daily.

Freshwater bass fishing has been very good for anglers using shiners. At the time of this writing, anglers were anxiously awaiting the start of the fall trout stocking. Only lakes and ponds are stocked with trout in the fall, in the Central District.

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# OBITUARIES

## Myland “Mike” F. McRevey Jr., 66

West Brookfield - Myland F. McRevey, Jr., 66, of West Brookfield died on Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at Holyoke Medical Center after a long illness.



He is remembered by his son, Matthew McRevey of Mill Valley, CA; his mother, Shirley Nimmons of West Brookfield, MA; his nieces, Shelby and Mariah, as well as the McReveys and Richardses of West Brookfield, and the Pucketts of West Virginia. Myland was predeceased by his father, Myland F. McRevey Sr. and his brother, Edward Dennis McRevey. Myland attended Dominican University, and graduated from California College of the Arts with a Bachelor of Fine Arts. He worked as an illustrator and graphic designer in San Francisco until 1984, when his award-winning designs piqued the interest of Pleasant Rowland. Myland moved to Madison, WI to develop the

identity and branding for Rowland's then start-up, Pleasant Company, which became the national sensation, American Girl. He worked as the Senior Art Director for American Girl until 1998, while raising his son, Matthew. Later, his talents took him to Aurora, New York, working for MacKenzie-Childs. Myland spent his final years living with his mother Shirley in West Brookfield, Massachusetts. Myland was a loving father, a giving son, and an enormous talent. With his unique brand of dry wit, and unmatched attention to detail, he impacted many throughout his life. He will be greatly missed. There are no Calling Hours. At Myland's request any services will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to West Brookfield Rescue Squad. Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting his family with arrangements. An online guest book is available at [varnumfuneralhome.com](http://varnumfuneralhome.com)

## Ronald G. Wagner, 84

WEST BROOKFIELD/EAST BROOKFIELD- Ronald G. Wagner, 84, died Saturday, Sept. 25 in Brookhaven Assisted Care in W.Brookfield, his home for the past 11 years.



He leaves his sister Louise M. Carter of Spencer, two nieces Lynne M.Chalifoux of E.Brookfield and Leslie A. Daniels of Sturbridge, a nephew, Brian F. Carter of Spencer and several great nieces. He was predeceased by his brother in law Francis E. Carter who was like a real brother to him. He was born in Worcester, the son of the late Donald E. and Blanche M. (Gouin) Wagner, and moved to E.Brookfield as a child and later attended grammar school in E.Brookfield and

Worcester Boys Trade School. Ron worked for several years on the family farm in E.Brookfield before joining the U.S. Army. Upon his discharge, he worked for many years as a machinist and a landscaper for his best friend, Dickie Fiske. Ron was an avid ice fisherman, Red Sox Fan and enjoyed trips to the race track. Private funeral services and burial were held in Evergreen Cemetery, E.Brookfield. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Second Chance Animal Services, P. O. Box 136, E.Brookfield, MA 01515. The J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer is assisting the family with arrangements. [www.morinfuneralhomes.com](http://www.morinfuneralhomes.com)



# LEGALS

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:  
Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals  
Special Permit– Applicant/ Owner: Jeremy Feldman; Location: 10 Grove Street, Spencer Assessor's Map U14-62. The applicant is looking for a variance under section 4.3.3 (Conversion of a Single-Family Home to a Multi-Family Home) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to convert a pre-existing single-family home into a multi-family home. The property is in the Village Residential zoning district.  
September 24, 2021  
October 1, 2021

### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:  
Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals  
Major Site Plan Review – Applicant/ Owner: Town of Spencer; Location: 69 West Main Street, Spencer Assessor's Map R29-01. The applicant is looking for a Major Site Plan Review under Section 7.4 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to modernize, upgrade and improve the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The property is located in the Commercial zoning district.  
September 24, 2021  
October 1, 2021

### Notice of Public Hearing Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:  
Special Permit (Renewal) – Applicant/ Owner: Bond Construction Corp. Location: Cranberry Meadow Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R09-1 & R09-2. The applicant is looking to renew their Special Permit under Sections 4.2 (H.1) and 4.8.6 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to continue a gravel removal operation. The property is located in the Rural Residential zoning district.  
Special Permit (Renewal) - Applicant/ Owner: Leo Aucoin. Location: 89 Cranberry Meadow Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R02-2-1. The applicant is looking to renew his Special Permit under Sections 4.2 (H.1) and 4.8.6 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to continue a gravel removal operation. The property is located in the Rural Residential zoning district.  
September 24, 2021  
October 1, 2021

### Notice of Public Hearing Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:  
Variance – Applicant/ Owner: Christopher and Andrea Burke; Location: 6 Walnut Street, Spencer Assessor's Map U29-04. The applicant is looking for a variance under section 7.3 and Section 5.1 (Table of Area Requirements) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to construct a 31' wide x 24' deep addition to a pre-existing single-family home, the addition would be within the front and left side setback. The property is in the Village Residential zoning district.  
September 24, 2021  
October 1, 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. WO21C0433CA CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME In the matter of: Madyson Arline Cycz

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Madyson Arline Cycz of Spencer MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:  
**Mason Cycz**  
**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 10/12/2021. 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: September 14, 2021  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate  
October 1, 2021

### A.C.78A COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS WORCESTER, SS PROBATE COURT 20P3608PM

To all persons interested in the estate of Patricia S. Gallant of West Brookfield in said County, person under conservatorship. A petition has been presented to said Court for authority to sell – private sale– certain real estate of said Patricia S. Gallant for her maintenance. If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the twelfth day of October 2021, the re-

turn day of this citation.  
Witness Leilah A. Keamy, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this fourteenth day of September 2021.  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register  
October 1, 2021

### Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, MGL c. 131, s. 40 and the Spencer Wetlands By-Law:  
John & Brenda Kelley have filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to put in a septic system located at 24 Briarcliff Lane, Spencer, MA.  
Rick Simonovitch has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove trees at 36 Westland Drive, Spencer, MA.  
John Stone has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to repave the road from 32-47 Laurel Lane, Spencer, MA.  
Benjamin Paul Goodwin has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove trees at 45 Lambs Grove, Spencer, MA.  
David Franca has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission for a proposed multi-family housing development at R35 -25 Donnelly Road, Spencer, MA.  
Kenneth & Heidi Laliberte have filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to install a septic system at 14 Washburn Terrace, Spencer, MA.  
SJC Development Inc. has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to construct a single-family home at Wire Village Road, Spencer, MA.  
Dean & Michele Chaffe have filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove 3 trees at 4 Wilson Street, Spencer, MA.  
Robert Ceppi has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to excavate up to 100 cubic yards of petroleum-impacted soils at 18 Elm Street, Spencer, MA.  
TOWN OF SPENCER  
Office of Development & Inspectional Services  
Thomas Pelletier has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove a tree at 52 Browning Pond Circle, Spencer, MA.  
Laura C. Joyce has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to re-point the water wall at 9 Wilson Avenue, Spencer, MA.  
Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at which time all persons having an interest may be present and participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 6:00 p.m.  
Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman  
October 1, 2021

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts

### The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. WO21P3029EA Estate of: Raymond A Lafaille Date Of Death: May 27, 2021 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE G.L. C. 190B, § 3-306

To all persons who have or may have some interest in the above-captioned estate and, if interested, to the Office of the Attorney General and the Department of Veterans Affairs, notice is hereby given on **August 24 2021** that the Petitioner  
**Andrea Pope of Boca Raton FL** intends to file with the above-named Probate and Family Court, not sooner than seven (7) days after this notice, a Petition for Informal Probate of a Will Petition for Informal Appointment of Personal Representative, to serve **without surety** on the bond  
**Andrea Pope of Boca Raton FL**  
The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
October 1, 2021

### Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday October 19, 2021 in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, and the hearing will be conducted in person and remotely on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:  
**Major Site Plan Review/ Special Permit/ Aquifer Protection – Applicant/ Owner: Town of Spencer; Location: 69 West Main Street, Spencer Assessor's Map R29-01. The applicant is looking for a Major Site Plan Review under Section 7.4 and a special permit under Section 3.4.1 (Aquifer Protection) and 4.2 (Major Utility in Commercial Zone) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to modernize, upgrade, and improve the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The property is located in the Commercial zoning district.**  
October 1, 2021  
October 8, 2021

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# Brookfield Orchards hosts first Local Authors Fair

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Guests arrived at Brookfield Orchards last weekend to hunt for apples, but they also wound up discovering several bushels of local books.

On Sept. 25, Brookfield Orchards presented its first ever Local Authors Fair. Guests were able to meet area writers representing several genres and paths to publication.

The event also included apple picking; a beer and wine vendor; food; live music; and several other activities.

Writers thank event organizer Diana Nydam for her support of local creators.

Photos Kevin Flanders

Curtis Corey, of Woodstock, Conn., wears two hats as an author-illustrator.



Tracey Ryan, of Sturbridge, began writing books in 2015.



Meaghan Racicot, of Auburn, is attending one of her first festivals.



Mattie Kingori, of Springfield, has been writing since high school.



Spencer's Jacqueline Seymour greets guests.



Musical entertainment was provided throughout the day.



Gail Olmsted, of Charlton, introduces guests to her books.



Douglas Sanderson, of Petersham, with his wife Maureen.



Douglas Sanderson, of Petersham, with his wife Maureen.



Authors Suzanne Eglington, left, and Andi Ramos spend their day at the fair.



Angela Couture, of Sturbridge, with her two-year-old son Nolan.

# POLICE REPORTS

## Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15  
12:27-2:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:18 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 5:50 a.m.: building checked, secure; 7:22 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 8:29 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:16 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:37 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 11:22 a.m.: lost/found (Pleasant Street), debit card found; 12:32 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:55 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 1:56 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 2:42 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:04 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:02 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), spoken to; 4:52 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (High Street), no emergency; 5:32 p.m.: animal complaint (Kingsbury Road), cows loose again; 6:13 p.m.: disturbance (Cherry Street), unwanted party; 6:31 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), custody issue; 8:07 p.m.: fire alarm (Chestnut Street), referred; (Total daily mv stops – 3).

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16  
12:30-2:29 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:40 a.m.: residential fire (Howe Village), referred; 7:51 a.m.: accident (North Brookfield Road), hit/run; 8:49 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 8:51 a.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), 5th-grader left school; 9:32 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), hang-up; 9:36 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:17 a.m.: medical/general (Lake Whittemore Drive); 10:53 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), truck ran red light; 11:56 a.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), cat missing; 12:48 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), dead fox; 2:54 p.m.: RV complaint (Wilson Street), dirt bikes damaging property; 3:45 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street), 3:52 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 4:33 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Cherry Street), accidental; 5:05 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 5:30 p.m.: 911 call (Bixby Road), misdial; 6:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Kingsbury Road), cows loose again/damaging property; 6:25 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 6:37 p.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 8:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Smithville Road), cows loose; 8:51 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), malfunctioning phone; 9:01 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:15 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), St. Vincent Hospital on cautionary status/obstetrics; (Total daily mv stops – 3).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17  
12:36-12:51 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:52 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), missing juvenile/North Brookfield; 12:59-1:19 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:56 a.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), emergency button hit by accident; 6:04 a.m.: residential alarm (Garrette Lane), services rendered; 9:17 a.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 9:17 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 9:57 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), req. phone info; 10:55 a.m.: DPW call (Greenville Street), low-hanging wire; 11:01 a.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 12:26 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 1:46 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mechanic Street), investigated; 2:28 p.m.: medical/general (Point Eastalee Drive); 2:43 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), rep. threats; 3:00 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. hit/run; 4:01 p.m.: animal complaint (Vista Lane), found rabbit kitten; 5:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), re: mv sale; 7:55 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:14 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), missing person/out-of-state; 8:41 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:52 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. stolen mv; 8:55 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:34 p.m.: commercial alarm

(Main Street), services rendered; 11:47 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops – 4).

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18  
12:35 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 1:21 a.m.: suspicious persons (Maple Street), investigated; 1:56 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 2:46 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dog; 4:59 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 7:15 a.m.: bad checks (Main Street), inv. larceny by check; 7:29 a.m.: larceny (Main Street), inv. larceny by check; 9:57 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), services rendered; 10:52 a.m.: larceny (Bixby Road), re: missing pkg.; 12:12 p.m.: 911 call (North Spencer Road), no contact; 12:20 p.m.: larceny (Chestnut Street), re: missing pkg.; 12:54 p.m.: parking complaint (North Street), neighbor issues; 1:21 p.m.: medical/general (North Brookfield Road); 1:25 p.m.: fire alarm (Holmes Street), referred; 1:45 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 2:03 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 2:30 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), investigated; 2:52 p.m.: 911 call (Lincoln Street), accidental; 3:21 p.m.: vandalism (Paxton Road), mailbox smashed; 3:27 p.m.: officer wanted (Brooks Pond Road), re: dangerous activity; 3:41 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), Alan Knute Swanson, 50, 12 Linden Street, Spencer, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, arrest; 4:45 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Pleasant Street), no contact; 5:24 p.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 5:31 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 6:04 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), car off road; 6:36 p.m.: animal complaint (Crown Street), bear in area; 8:01 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:34 p.m.: accident (Main Street), car vs house; 9:43 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:44 p.m.: disturbance (Charlton Road), inquiry re: festival; 11:14-11:26 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:34 p.m.: disturbance (Donnelly Cross Road), noise complaint; 11:57 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops – 2).

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19  
12:10 a.m.: suspicious persons (North Spencer Road), spoken to; 12:56 a.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), poss. domestic disturbance; 1:17 p.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 1:21-1:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:04 a.m.: medical/general (Town House Court); 2:34 a.m.: officer wanted (Meadowbrook Road), services rendered; 7:59 a.m.: DPW call (Grove Street), manhole cover lifted/poss. hazard; 8:56 a.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 9:17 a.m.: disturbance (High Street), re: harassed by neighbor; 10:29 a.m.: medical/general (Salem Street); 10:52 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Maple Street), Jennifer L. Proia, 45, 1 Cheney Street, Worcester, warrant, arrest; 11:12 a.m.: DPW call (Maple Street), crosswalk sign down; 11:14 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 11:42 a.m.: mutual aid (Cottage Street), message del. for Oxford PD; 11:57 a.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), re: tenants; 1:11 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Rutland PD bolo/welfare check; 2:58 p.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), open line; 4:00 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), issue re: Midstate Trail; 5:07 p.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 5:49 p.m.: lost/found (Paxton Road), wallet found; 6:18 p.m.: RV complaint (Kittredge Road), unreg. dirt bikes; 6:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), re: dog tied to stick; 9:02 p.m.: medical/overdose (Greenville Street); 9:03 p.m.: 911 call (Route 49), open line/hang-up; (Total daily mv stops – 0).

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20  
1:56-5:30 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:41 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), keys found; 10:53 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 11:05 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 11:15 a.m.: officer wanted (Greenville Street), elderly male needs assistance; 11:20

a.m.: suspicious persons (Bond Street), info taken; 11:31 a.m.: animal complaint (Salem Street), black cat in yard; 11:44 a.m.: animal complaint (Borkum Road), crow in road; 12:19 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 3:04 p.m.: medical/general (South Street), lift assist; 3:10 p.m.: suspicious mv (Cherry Street), mv following bus/honking & waving; 3:54 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 4:14 p.m.: medical/general (Cottage Street); 4:22 p.m.: juvenile matter (Church Street), 2 boys burning items; 4:54 p.m.: building checked, secure; 5:00 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), accident East Brookfield; 5:11 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 5:34 p.m.: animal complaint (Wire Village Road), stray kittens; 6:18 p.m.: accident (Smithville Road), report taken; 8:03 p.m.: 911 call (Donnelly Cross Road), misdial; 8:58 p.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), rep. dog found; 11:52 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops – 1).

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21  
12:02-12:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:47 a.m.: medical/general (Condon Drive); 9:43 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 9:48 a.m.: chemical/fuel spill (Elm Street), oil tank leading/basement; 10:44 a.m.: medical/general (Lloyd Dyer Drive); 1:25 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), no contact; 1:47 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), dead cat; 4:22 p.m.: accident (Meadow Road), report taken; 5:02 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 5:02 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 5:20 p.m.: commercial alarm (Old Meadow Road), services rendered; 5:58 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 6:58 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Valley Street), no contact; 8:31 p.m.: mv repossessed (Grove Street), info taken; 9:12 p.m.: elderly matter (North Spencer Road), req. welfare check; 10:29 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 10:29 p.m.: fire alarm (Sunset Lane), referred; (Total daily mv stops – 1).

###

## Leicester Police

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16  
5:10 a.m.: ambulance (Whittemore Street), transported; 6:56 a.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 8:37 a.m.: investigation (UMass Memorial Medical Center Drug Lab, Worcester), services rendered; 1:14 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), unable to locate; 1:18 p.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Highway), assisted; 2:30 p.m.: larceny (Oakwood Lane), assisted; 4:23 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Paxton Street), unable to locate; 5:17 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, unregistered mv, mv towed; 6:15 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate; 7:07 p.m.: welfare check (Soojians Drive), unable to locate; 7:17 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), spoken to; 9:00 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), services rendered; 9:21 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pine Street), services rendered; 10:11 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 17  
9:26 a.m.: mv stop (Baldwin Street), verbal warning; 9:56 a.m.: suspicious activity (Brickyard Road), report taken; 10:04 a.m.: assist other PD (Main Street), unfounded; 10:42 a.m.: fraud (Brickyard Road), report taken; 11:20 a.m.: illegal dumping (Auburn Street), services rendered; 1:44 p.m.: assist other agency (Mill Street), services rendered; 2:53 p.m.: runaway (South Main Street), report taken; 3:47 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), investigated; 4:49 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), mv towed; 8:09 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv towed.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

9:16 a.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), no action required; 9:34 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, report taken; 11:28 a.m.: mv stop (Henshaw Street), spoken to; 2:11 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), gone on arrival; 3:40 p.m.: animal complaint (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 7:43 p.m.: disturbance (White Birch Street), spoken to; 7:54 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19  
9:00 a.m.: mv stop (Woodland Road), report taken; 9:45 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 11:23 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, mv lights violation, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 11:38 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), unfounded; 11:58 a.m.: animal complaint (Soojians Drive), spoken to; 3:48 p.m.: mv stop (Chapel Street), name and address redacted from police log, speeding, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 4:30 p.m.: assist other agency (South Main Street), no action required; 6:34 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 6:48 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 7:02 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 7:22 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 7:38 p.m.: ambulance (South Main Street), transported; 9:01 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:30 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 10:13 p.m.: ambulance (Queen Street, Worcester), transported.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 20  
1:10 a.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), no action required; 6:40 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:51 a.m.: accident (Lake Avenue), mv towed; 10:08 a.m.: disturbance (Pleasant Street), report taken; 1:38 p.m.: assist citizen (Chapel Street); 4:16 p.m.: investigation (Whittemore Street), services rendered; 4:33 p.m.: disabled mv (Pleasant Street), assisted; 5:34 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 8:03 p.m.: b&e/residential (Brook Street), report taken; 9:20 p.m.: disabled mv (South Main Street), services rendered.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21  
1:26 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), assisted; 1:48 a.m.: ambulance (Warrant Avenue), transported; 8:17 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), written warning; 8:25 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), citation issued; 8:43 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), written warning; 9:12 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 10:04 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 11:15 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), spoken to; 4:34 p.m.: disturbance (Lakeview Drive), services rendered; 5:50 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed; 5:55 p.m.: summons service (Peter Salem Road), unable to serve; 6:06 p.m.: summons service (Towtaid Street), served; 6:14 p.m.: summons service (Bottomly Avenue), unable to serve; 6:24 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve; 6:30 p.m.: summons service (Peter Salem Road), served; 8:02 p.m.: arrest warrant service (River Street), unable to serve; 8:33 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 11:41 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22  
6:34 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 10:37 a.m.: suspicious activity (Bond Street), report taken; 10:47 a.m.: suspicious mv (Washburn Square), no action required; 12:35 p.m.: suspicious mv (Washburn Square), no action required; 2:21 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), message delivered; 4:15 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv towed; 5:14 p.m.: family problem (Mannville Street), peace restored; 8:39 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pine Street), unable to locate.

###

## HAR-YAROK

continued from page A9

or publicly curate the commission? No good answer there.

The debt ceiling has to be the dumbest debate in the United States. The debt ceiling is not about spending money; it isn't about taxes, either. The debt ceiling is about giving the U.S. Treasury authorization to pay the bills we have already incurred. The U.S. balance sheet includes things like Social Security and Medicare, Defense, and uncontroversial domestic spending. The deficit exploded during the Trump era amid spending surges and his signature 2017 tax cut which never paid for itself. The U.S. had a \$1 trillion annual deficit in 2020, after three years of Trump's presidency, BEFORE the pandemic. COVID-specific spending (most of which can be attributed to Trump) represents another \$3.7 trillion. If President Biden literally did nothing at all since he was inaugurated, we'd be hitting the debt ceiling anyway – because it's about paying bills we already incurred... Bills passed by prior congresses and prior presidents. If Trump had won the 2020 election (he didn't) we'd be hitting the debt ceiling anyway, this train was put in motion years ago).

The debt ceiling was raised countless

times before the Obama presidency and nobody knew about it. It was routinely raised 90 times in the 20th century. During Obama's presidency the GOP tried using the full faith and credit of the United States as a bargaining chip. Basically, taking a hostage works when the other side cares about the hostage, you're willing to shoot the hostage, and they know it. During Trump's presidency the debt ceiling was raised four times without incident, because the GOP didn't want to negatively impact his presidency. Now that Biden is president, the full faith and credit of the United States is a bargaining chip once again...Democrats care about the country and the GOP may be willing to shoot the hostage...Lovely.

Not to forget COVID-19, but the pandemic looks like it is peaking (for now)... Between vaccinated and previously infected people the virus is running out of places to go – of course until the next variant. Lambda and Mu will probably start ramping up soon. Last week we had 834,015 Americans fall ill and 14,077 die – simply inexcusable for a country that is so awash with vaccine it is expiring in freezers. Just last week we had the equivalent of a 9-11 event every 36 hours.

While the epicenter of the crisis is “red states,” we can't forget the small

pockets of anti-mask, anti-vax sentiment in red towns. I have heard that a certain former Spencer Selectman and his wife are currently hospitalized and not in good shape. I'm going out on a limb and assuming they're Trumpsters, anti-mask, and anti-vax and if that is the case it's honestly poetic justice.

So far 687,764 Americans have died from this disease, the same disease only 1,231 Australians died from. The same disease 27 New Zealanders died from. The same disease 4,849 Chinese people died from, 17,480 in Japan, 27,691... Yet 687,764 here. That's just pathetic.

But freedom...

OMAR HAR-YAROK  
EAST BROOKFIELD

## MCRAE

continued from page A9

one fell swoop everything accomplished over the past 245 years by men and women infinitely better, stronger, braver, and more genuinely kind and generous than you could even dream of being. “Ask not for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee”...Baizuo!

JOHN MCRAE  
EAST BROOKFIELD



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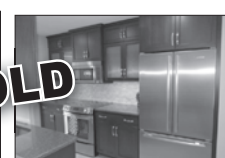
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**WEBSTER LAKE** - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Lake Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their 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**

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

**AUBURN** - 26 Bryn Mawr Ave! Electric Pond Waterfront! Western Exposure - Beautiful Sunsets! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrms, 1.5 Bath Ranch! Applianced Cabinet Packet Granite Kitchen w/Center Island! Dining/Living Room w/Open Floor Plan & Wood Cathedral Ceiling w/Skylights! Fireplaced Formal Living Room w/Hrwdws! 3 Season Porch! Huge Composite Deck with Tempered Glass Railings for an Unobstructed View! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/Fireplace & Water View! Listed by Another, SOLD by Lake Realty! **\$540,000.00**



**DUDLEY** - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrms, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/Guest Closet! SS Applianced Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrwd 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** - 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' AC'd Colonial! Custom SS Applianced Granite Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Cherry Hardwoods! Lake Facing Living Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hardwoods! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bedroom w/Full Bath, Cherry Hardwoods & Walk-in Closet! Fireplaced Lower Level Family Rm! 1st & 2nd Floor Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$979,900.00**

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

**DUDLEY** - 4 Day Rd! Charming 7 Rm, 3 Bedroom Antique Farmhouse w/Lots of Character! Front Parlor w/Hrwd Floors! Open Country Kitchen w/Separate Pantry for Your Baking and Storage Needs! Office Space/Den/Reading Area! Laundry Area! Large Family Rm w/Chimney for Wood or Pellet Stove & Hrwd Floor! 3 Bdrms w/Hrwdws! Full Bath! Lots of Yard w/Fire Pit & Shed! Dead End Road! New Septic System! **\$290,000.00**

**CHARLTON** - 3 Glen Echo Shore! Gorgeous Water Views! Year-round 4 Rm Bungalow! Home Features Light Filled Living Room Open to Work-in Kitchen w/Custom Built Cabinetry & Tile Counters! 2 Comfortable Bedrooms! Full Bath w/Tub/Shower Combo! Four Season Heated Sunroom! One Car Garage! Manageable Yard w/Fire Pit & Shed! Dead End Road! Great Condo Alternative! **\$215,000.00**



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### DUDLEY - 10 MILL ROAD



ON DEPOSIT

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 - 135 LAKE STREET



SORRY SOLD!

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

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



SORRY SOLD!

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

### WOODSTOCK CT - 110 JOY RD



SORRY SOLD!

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

### 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 • 22 EASTERN AVE



ON DEPOSIT

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

### LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

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

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **\$99,900**

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

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

### FITCHBURG - UNIT# 109 CONSTITUTION DR



SORRY, SOLD!

Chamberlain Hills Condo! 6 Rooms, 2 bedrooms, 1 & 1/2 Baths. Finished lower level! Hot water baseboard by Natural Gas! Low Condo fee# \$202/Mo. **\$247,000.**

## On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



ON DEPOSIT



### Webster Lake - 300 Killdeer Island

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

### WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO



SORRY, SOLD!

Deck & Slider to the Patio! Natural gas heat! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Natural Sandy Beach! **\$439,000.**



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215 Stafford Rd ~ \$389,900 ~ Call Jo-Ann



**SOUTHBRIDGE:** Move right in! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Gleaming wood floors, 1/2 acre lot  
22 Hilltop Dr ~ \$339,900

### NEW LISTING



**WEBSTER**  
Contractors - potential with this 7 room Cape, 3-4 bedroom, 1st floor family room, workshop  
56 Ash St. ~ \$299,000



### Webster 3 Units \$389,900

2 family with 2-2 bedrooms apartments, modern kitchens and bathrooms. Two 38 foot garages with 11' garage doors. Third unit is a 400 sq. ft. garage with automatic garage door and burglar alarm. Located on dead end street.



Open House  
Sat. 1-2:30PM

**Dudley Tri-Level \$399,900**  
9 rooms 3 bedrooms 1.5 bath with attached garage. Two fireplaces, formal dining room, entertaining size living room. 26'x22' family room with fireplace. Large rooms throughout. Possibility of 1st floor office with 1/2 bath. Lots of extras  
141 West Main St



### Dudley 3 acres \$450,900

Large 5 room 3 bedroom 2 bath Cape. Large rooms throughout. Two car attached garage. Beautiful grounds. You have lots of privacy but not total isolation. Utility building for storing equipment.



### Webster 17 acres \$114,900

All the privacy in the world but minutes to Rt. 12, Rt. 16, and Rt. 395, lots of trees to burn in your new home.

### Webster Mobile Home House Lot \$59,900

No park fees with level mobile home lot. Town water and sewerage. Off School St



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# Hope

Most of us are hoping for things. Hoping to meet someone special, hoping to get a new job, hoping our business works out, hoping our loved ones break the addiction, hoping to hear good news from the doctor.

There are a few definitions of hope in the dictionary. One description says: to want something to happen or be true and think that it could possibly happen or be true.

Another definition is: a wish or desire that something will occur.

Those two definitions, it seems to me, are the way most people use the word hope today.

"I hope I get the job," "I hope things work out," "I hope I get a raise," "I hope to be cancer-free," "I hope I get a puppy for Christmas!" "I hope we win

the game..."

These are merely wishes. They might happen, they might not happen, and it's a passive way to approach a desire. It doesn't require anything of you.

There is another definition of hope: to expect with confidence.

This type of hope requires you to believe with a confident expectation. It requires you to have faith; It's active, not passive.

A lot of people like to say, "I hope for the best but expect the worst." Sadly, it seems that's how a large portion of people live their lives.

I had a friend who was fond of saying, "I always expect the worst to happen, so that way I'm never disappointed."

Upon contemplating what he was saying, I began to realize,

whether he knew it or not, what he was saying was, "I expect to live a life of disappointment," or "I hope the worst happens; that way, I'm never disappointed."

When you have that type of mindset, you're satisfied when every disappointment occurs because it's a reassurance that you're correct; disappointment becomes a reward!

Sure, bad things happen, and preparing for the worst outcome could be a wise thing to do, but to expect disappointment around every corner is a road that leads to a lifetime of dissatisfaction.

A different and better way to hope and expect with confidence is to predict the best possible outcome, expect to win, expect success, expect good health, and accomplish your goals.

Do you think winners ever hope to lose? Does Tom Brady

walk out onto the field hoping and expecting not to get a Super Bowl ring?

One of his best quotes is, "You wanna know which ring is my favorite? The next one."

That's powerful!

He may be blessed with fantastic football abilities, but I would be shocked if he had a hope and confident expectation that disappointment lurked around every corner. Some of his quotes say precisely the opposite.

"If you want to perform at the highest level, then you have to prepare at the highest level."

If you're preparing to perform at the highest level, then you're hoping and expecting the best possible performance.

A lot of you reading this are probably thinking, "Yeah, Yeah, but I'm not Tom Brady, and I've never won at anything like he does, so why should I hope and expect the best possi-

ble outcome? It's not realistic."

I get that. I've spent large parts of my life expecting the worst. When I lived with that attitude, things never got better; they only got worse. I was unhappy, irritated, pessimistic, lost, and unable to see that my thoughts were the cause of it all. I was so far from my dreams and goals I didn't think I'd ever find my way back.

The only time things ever turned around and moved in a direction I wanted for my life was when I changed my thinking and began hoping and confidently expecting for the best! Now, after many years with this attitude, I'm happier than I've ever been, and I'm closer to accomplishing my dreams than ever before.

It's never too late to become the best version of you.

## ANTANAVICA

continued from page A1

improving the quality of life for local families. Having grown up in Leicester, Antanavica co-founded the organization as a way to give back to neighbors in need.

Among other services provided to the community, Deja New assists families during emergencies; pays household bills for families in crisis; and lends medical equipment not covered by insurance. The organization also sponsors targeted fundraisers for one-time necessities and provides students with internships focused on service and vocational skills.

"As a co-founder and the secretary and clerk for the Board of Directors, Deborah wears many hats for the organization," read a statement released by the Patriots Foundation. "Together,

with the Board of Directors, she develops the annual strategic plan, manages the budget, and oversees Deja New's unique marketplace where they sell new and gently used furniture, home décor, toys, and more. Thanks to her leadership, Deja New has purchased a wheelchair-accessible van for a child in need, helped purchase a seizure alert dog for a child with epilepsy, and much more."

When asked why she co-founded Deja New, Antanavica responded, "Because it needed to be done. I believe that we need to do what we can to help the people in our community and not wait and hope that someone else will do it."

In addition to her efforts with Deja New, Antanavica is the founder and president of the Leicester Hearts for Heat chapter, helping to provide heat to more than 100 families each winter. Among other duties with the organi-

zation, she informs residents on how to apply for fuel assistance; reviews applications to ensure that they meet the criteria for receiving aid; manages the budget; and runs fundraisers. During the height of the pandemic, local demand for fuel assistance increased significantly, but Antanavica's efforts helped families stay warm through the long winter.

All Patriots Difference Maker Award winners will participate in a special year-end celebration. They will also receive a pair of tickets to attend the Patriots' final regular season home

game against the Jacksonville Jaguars.

This year marks the 11th season that the Patriots Foundation has presented its weekly award program honoring community service. Since its inception, the program has honored 150 individuals and disbursed more than \$675,000 to local nonprofits.

To learn more about the program, or to nominate a volunteer for the Patriots Difference Maker of the Week Award, visit [www.patriots.com/community](http://www.patriots.com/community).



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# Open House Directory

(C) Condo	(X) Condo	(M) Multi-Family	(T) Townhouse
(B) Business	(U) Duplex	(S) Single Family	(D) Adult Community
(P) Land	(L) Mobile Home	(A) Apartment	(W) Waterfront

ADDRESS	STYLE	TIME	PRICE	REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE
<b>SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2</b>				
<b>DUDLEY</b>				
141 West Main St	S	1:00-2:30	\$399,900	ReMax Professional Associates Conrad Allen 508.400.0438

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**BECKER**

continued from page A1

ments, such as the school department. There's still a lot of work to be done, but the hard part is done and we can start having serious discussions on what to do with the Becker property."

Residents got a glimpse last month of the possibilities offered by the campus when it served as an emergency host for the annual Harvest Fair due to an incomplete sidewalk project on the Town Common. Fair guests and crafters alike were thrilled with the arrangement and accessibility of the campus, as well as its ample parking.

"The ballot box vote sent a clear message that Leicester is moving for-

ward as one Leicester," said Selectman Allen Phillips. "We could not have asked for any better results from the residents. I am proud of the people in Leicester and the way they helped to move this forward. They were laser focused and will continue to be part of the process."

Home to 19 buildings on 28 acres, the college closed at the end of this past academic year due to financial struggles worsened by COVID-19. The property includes a new turf field; a campus center; a veterinary health clinic; a gymnasium; the historic May House; several dormitories and other residences; and the Swan Library. Additionally, the college's kitchen, gym equipment, and veterinary equipment are included in the sale, as well as the IT network

and equipment.

Officials said portions of the property could be used to significantly improve the town's schooling situation. Last year, voters rejected a new school proposal, and officials have scrambled to find a solution to aging school buildings and outdated equipment.

Officials also emphasized the historical significance of acquiring the campus. They are especially interested in preserving the May House, which was once a stop on the Underground Railroad. Several voters told the New Leader they supported the town acquisition to ensure that outside businesses and organizations didn't take over the campus.

Two open house events were held at Becker over the summer to familiarize

voters with the property prior to town meetings.

Looking ahead, the town will likely form committees to help determine a comprehensive plan following the acquisition. Additionally, the Select Board and Town Administrator's office will work together to create a building maintenance and grounds plan for all newly acquired structures.

Officials will also determine which buildings could be considered for lease or sale to create additional revenue.

"Now that we have met the timeframes, once this is approved through the A.G.'s office, we will take a slow and methodical approach to make sure we get this right," Selectman Phillips added.

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Applications must be received by October 7, 2021.

The position will remain open until filled.

*The Town of Charlton is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity.*

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The Town of Charlton seeks to fill a part-time Custodian position (15 hours per week) at the Police Department. The Custodian is responsible for performing custodial, maintenance, and grounds keeping work. Salary is \$15.43-\$17.20/hr. To apply for the position or to see a full job description go to <https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/human-resources>.

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## continued from page A10

In short, any spell of unseasonably hot temperatures after autumn has officially begun is called an Indian Summer. Unless of course you're a weather purist, in which case it isn't officially Indian Summer unless the summer temps occur after a frost.

So where does the “Indian” in Indian Summer come in? Like most old New England history, it’s not crystal clear. The most likely explanations? According to the aforementioned Deedler, one theory is that Native Americans hunted during such warm autumn spells, since the hazy air allowed the hunter to better sneak up on its prey. Supporting this explanation is a practiced the Native Americans to set fires to New England woods and grass to create hazy, smoky conditions. Another theory is that the Indian in the title refers to the ocean. Deedler recounts how ships in the Indian Ocean typically loaded up their cargo during the fair weather season, marking their hull level with the initials IS, for Indian Summer.

Early America Weather Forecasters: Native Americans have a long history of predicting the weather through nature. They taught many of these weather forecasters to the early settlers, some of which have continued to aid farmers for centuries. Here is the logic behind some of the oft repeated phrases:

Principle: Squirrels chatter while gathering or eating food, both of which they tend to do before a rainstorm.

Phrase: A mile winter is in store if a muskrat builds his house toward the edge of the lake it.

Principle: A muskrat requires open water to leave of his house. If he builds near the edge of the lake, it means he

\*\*\*

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

**IT'S GOIN'  
DOWN!**

CHECK OUT THE  
SPORTS ACTION!

A cartoon illustration of a young woman with blonde hair in a ponytail, wearing a red and white volleyball jersey, blue shorts, and white knee pads. She is in a ready position, bumping a volleyball with her forearms. The ball is in the air above her. The background is a simple tan color with a white border.



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