

SPENCER NEW LEADER

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

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Longtime Lions recognized for service



Photo Kevin Flanders

Brookfields' Lions Club member Glenn Waugh, left, with former club president Andy Caron.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Two members of the Brookfields' Lions Club recently became their district's first ever recipients of the Progressive Gold Joseph J. Camarda Fellowship Award.

Glenn Waugh and Gary Fuller previously won different versions of the award, but the May 19 ceremony at the American Legion represented the first time a "Progressive Gold" version of the award was given to any member of a District 33A Lions Club.

"The title 'fellow' implies that the person so named has done something special or has fulfilled certain conditions, which entitles him/her to special recognition as a member of that group," read an informational statement provided by event leaders.

For Waugh and Fuller, both longtime Lions, their strong commitment to service has earned them repeated recognition. They have been humbled and thrilled by each

award ceremony, but the most recent honor was especially meaningful.

"Every time you get one, it is even more rewarding and exciting. I'm very privileged to get this award," said Waugh, a member of the club for 47 years.

District 33A includes Lions Clubs throughout Worcester County. As members of the Brookfields' Lions Club, which serves New Braintree and the Brookfields towns, Waugh and Fuller enjoy leading fundraising events and other programs that give back to their community. These include an annual ice fishing derby, golf tournament, and the Apple Run/Walk for Diabetes held at Brookfield Orchards in North Brookfield.

For Waugh, it's always an inspiration to earn the Joseph J. Camarda Fellowship Award because he personally learned from Mr. Camarda during his early days of service.

"This is quite an honor. Joe Camarda

Please Read **LIONS**, page **APB**

LeBoeuf seeks to regain community's support

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Now facing a primary challenger after his arrest for drunk driving last month, State Rep. David LeBoeuf is seeking to restore trust with residents.

On April 26, LeBoeuf was arrested by State Police and charged with OUI-liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and a marked lanes violation. Troopers said he drove with a blood alcohol content four times the legal limit.

During an inventory of LeBoeuf's vehicle, police found nine empty nip bottles in the rear of the vehicle and two cans of wine in the front cupholders. The vehicle's right front tire was missing and the rim had sustained damage from grinding on the pavement, police said.

"I do not think it is possible to express in words how deeply sorry I am for my egregious lapse in judgment that resulted in an OUI last month, and how it has impacted the community," LeBoeuf wrote in a letter released to the community on May 17. "I am thankful there were no injuries and recognize the pain I have caused my family, friends, and constituents. I own this incident, and it is something I will regret for the rest of my life."

Immediately after his arrest, LeBoeuf attended in-patient treatment to address his substance use. Since completing the program, he has attended a long-term outpatient program.

With rumors swirling in recent weeks over LeBoeuf's political future, the letter cemented his intentions to



Rep. David LeBoeuf

continue serving the 17th Worcester District.

"I want to make it clear that I am still working as your state representative, and my office is fully functioning to advocate for your legislative priorities on Beacon Hill and make sure every resident of the 17th Worcester District has continued access to the high-quality constituent services they deserve," wrote LeBoeuf, a 32-year-old Democrat from Worcester.

Added LeBoeuf, "One of the biggest regrets I have is not fully addressing my addiction sooner. While I was helping individuals find treatment options and mental health services, I was hiding my own struggles from my loved ones. I fought the stigma of addiction publicly, but privately I was too ashamed to reach out when I truly needed it."

LeBoeuf has received strong support from community members throughout his district, which includes Leicester and

Please Read **LEBOEUF**, page **APB**

Warrant set for Brookfield Town Meeting

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD – Officials recently released the Annual Town Meeting warrant, which includes a proposed budget that would support the hiring of two full-time police officers.

New state legislation aimed at police reform mandates that, after July 1, all officers must earn the certifications required of full-time personnel. Officers across the Commonwealth may still choose to work part-time hours, but they all must receive the same certifications as their full-time counterparts.

The new legislation puts small communities like Brookfield in a position where

it is no longer feasible to rely predominantly on part-time reserve officers. Rather than send part-time officers to the full-time police academy and pay their lost wages while they attend school, Brookfield officials decided instead to hire two full-time officers.

"With police reform, the town will no longer be able to have part-time police officers, leaving the current team overworked and understaffed," wrote Brookfield Town Administrator Kelli Robbins in a statement released last week. "Hiring two new officers will replace the many part-time officers, reducing the amount of overtime expenses

we incur when shifts cannot be filled and promote officer safety, preventing the current officers from having to take too many shifts."

The new positions will need to be approved at Town Meeting as part of the overall budget article.

"It is the best solution for Brookfield to continue to provide round the clock coverage," Robbins added.

The Town Meeting budget also calls for the hiring of one full-time highway worker.

"We receive many inquiries about road repair, snow removal, tree removal, etc.," Robbins wrote. "Three people can only be in so many plac

es at once. This will give a much-needed boost to the productivity of the department."

Added Robbins, who made a public presentation on May 20 regarding the Town Meeting warrant, "It is also my hope that the town will vote to create an All Boards' Clerk to assist the more legally intensive boards, committees, and commissions."

The creation of this position would allow officials to keep in compliance with the ever-changing legal landscapes pertaining to the Board of Appeals, Conservation Commission, and Planning Board.

"Besides providing necessary administrative assis

tance, the All Boards' Clerk will be available to assist residents looking for copies of records that would normally be unavailable unless a meeting was being held by one of the aforementioned boards, committees, and commissions," Robbins said. "This position would also be available to transcribe minutes of other boards, committees, and commissions as time allows. We are hoping with the clerical support, there will be more people willing to volunteer, as the clerk will alleviate a lot of the off the clock work the volunteers do for their boards, committees,

Please Read **WARRANT**, page **A3**

BES students promote recycling with creative exhibit

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD – Students at Brookfield Elementary School recently put an artistic twist on recycling by turning used plastic bottles into a creative exhibit.

On May 17, families and friends of students visited the school to see an artistic ecosystem fashioned out of old bottles that otherwise might have ended up in the trash. Students in grades K-6 took on several projects, cutting up the old bottles and converting them into everything from fish to ladybugs.

The project was led by BES art teacher Ashley Simonds, who has put together several student art installations in the past. This year, she was able to use the project to teach students about recycling and reuse, biology, and artistic interpretations.

"So many art materials are expensive, and it's a lot of fun to show the kids how to use something recyclable for art," Simonds

told the New Leader.

Additional art projects created by students included plastic flowers, snakes, and several other inspirations for the old bottles.

With help from Simonds, students cut the tops and bottoms off hundreds of recycled water bottles and soda bottles. From there, they used colors and creativity to turn plastic into art. The finished products were on display for guests at the school on May 17, and student volunteers helped throughout the event.

The project began back in March, when students collected bottles to be used in the effort. The construction phase of the reimagined bottles took place after the April break.

The completed project was displayed on the chain link fence between the school playground and back driveway.




Photo Kevin Flanders

Brookfield Elementary School students show off several artistic creations.

Please Read **BES**, page **A3**

Celebrate Memorial Day 2022 safely with family and friends, and always remember to honor the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice. We also remember our beloved deceased on this day. May they all rest in peace.

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE



Stephen A. Day
December 3, 1950 - November 9, 2021
"Forever in our hearts"
Love and miss you

Kenny & Nadine, LeeAnn & Paul, Christopher & Jillian, Mary & Paul

Memorial Day Remembrance



Edward J. Simakauskas
U.S. Army
WWII

Forever loved and missed by children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren


Memorial Day Remembrance



Henry J. Carroll
FOR HIS SERVICE IN WWII
We don't have many photos
Of your time in WWII
But know you did your
very best
To serve your country true

May God bless and keep you always.
Your loving children, John, June,
Janet & Jim, and their families

Memorial Day Remembrance




TROY CORMIER
10/2/1963
5/19/2018
Gone but will never
be forgotten.
We love you, Troy, and
miss you so much.

Mom, Todd & Lynne, Tracy & Donna,
Trevor, Collin, Ashley and Terry.
North Brookfield, MA.



"And I'm proud to be an American,
where at least I know I'm free.
And I won't forget the men who
died, who gave that right to me."
~ Lee Greenwood



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Memorial Day Remembrance



Richard P. McEvoy
June 24, 1958
August 22, 2015

~Brothers~
**Gone too soon.
Our hearts still ache.**



Craig P. McEvoy
January 16, 1960
October 6, 2016

Memorial Day Remembrance

Paul Burke
June 28, 1948-
February 5, 2019



Lisa Burke
April 16, 1974-
October 11, 2005

You both are forever in our hearts.
— Love, Mom

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MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATE • HONOR • REMEMBER

This Memorial Day Weekend, the Spencer Agricultural Association would like to pay homage to those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. May they rest in peace.



LABOR DAY WEEKEND 2022

we can once again celebrate the end of summer with the resumption of the **133rd ANNUAL SPENCER FAIR** and four days of Family Fun!

Watch for updates on our website
www.spencerfair.org,
on our Facebook page,
and in this newspaper.

LABOR DAY WEEKEND
FRI • SAT • SUN • MON

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE



Not Forgotten
The Berthiaume & Russo Families of Spencer

Lionel William Berthiaume
Private/Purple Heart Recipient
European Theater
U.S. Army WWII
Spencer, MA

MEMORIAL DAY REMEMBRANCE



Not Forgotten
The Berthiaume & Russo Families of Spencer

Lionel Lescault
U. S. Navy Buglemaster Second Class
First Spencer Resident to be killed in WWII
12/7/41 on the deck of the USS Oklahoma

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"Our flag does not fly because the wind moves it. It flies with the last breath of each soldier who died protecting it."
- Unknown

Thank you to our veterans and their families for the sacrifices they've made for our freedom, from all of us at the Salem Cross Inn.

Thursday, Friday, & Saturday 4-8; Sunday 12-5
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*Baylor means getting paid for hours not worked

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or \$25.99 ea.



The Spencer Exchange Club Salutes our Veterans!



QCC hosts third virtual legislative town hall

WORCESTER — Administrators, students and staff from Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) recently gathered with area legislators for the third virtual Legislative Town Hall, to showcase the innovative programs and community impact that QCC has provided to its students and the region. Moderated by Student Government Association President Shauna Connelly, the Town Hall focused on increased supports for students and a new programs designed to encourage and support more people to enter the biomanufacturing industry pipeline.

This entry-level Biomanufacturing On-Ramp program offers entry-level technician positions, in partnership with Mass. Biomedical Initiatives (MBI) and the Mass. Office of Business Development (MOBD), and biopharmaceutical company AbbVie. A 10-week pilot program was launched in the Fall 2021, which included a group of English Language Learners (ELL) from QCC's Adult Community Learning Center. Additional spring programs have also taken place. A recent graduate of the inaugural program, Lorena Hoxhalli, an immigrant from Albania, described the impact of the program.

"We took a lot from the program - knowledge, friends, confidence, and hope. I'm so happy that I was able to be a part of that program," said Ms. Hoxhalli, who was offered a position at AbbVie after going through the workshop.

Another program making an impact on students is QCC's SUCCESS program, which enhances student engage-

ment through wraparound support services for historically underserved groups such as low-income students, students of color, and disabled students. The program is funded by the state SUCCESS Grant in partnership with the Mass. Association of Community Colleges, with the goal of empowering the most vulnerable community college students using a holistic, developmental advising model.

"I've managed to outgrow a shell of suffocating constraint and really shine at QCC, thanks to the help of advisors and staff. I've gained so much more confidence navigating the systems of higher education, and I feel comfortable reaching out and advocating for myself when I need something," said QCC student Haley LaFortune, who has taken advantage of the program.

Representative Mary Keefe noted the impact the College is having on the communities it serves.

"After coming through this difficult time, I think what I appreciate the most is the relational commitment of all of you to your students and being able to create that atmosphere of belonging. It's a great thing what our community colleges do and especially Quinsigamond, our Worcester community college," Representative Keefe said.

QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. praised legislators for their support of the City's only community college.

"You're our greatest cheerleaders. We appreciate the support that you offer us day in and day out. I think it's essential for the state to continue to invest in higher education and particularly in

community college students who stay in our communities and are the heart of our communities," he said.

Other new achievements have included \$2.5 million of QCC's institutional portion of the Federal Higher Education Emergency Relief Funds that the College put toward a student debt forgiveness program; a partnership with the Central MA Agency on Aging to offer free dental services to local seniors; an expansion of the Brothers & Keepers Club, which offers mentorship for men of color into a full-time program, and an increase in services at the College's Counseling and Wellness Office.

Additionally, QCC's HomePlate Food Pantry and Resource Center has more than doubled in size and now has a state-of-the-art electronic software system that enables students to select prepackaged baskets of food, as well

as diapers and hygiene products in a safe, contact-free way. The HomePlate Food Pantry and Resource Center has also partnered with local organizations to offer housing resources, legal aid, SNAP benefits, and nutritional workshops.

"It really strikes me how you (QCC) focused on ensuring the students' success over the last two years, not your own success as a college, but making sure that the students who rely on you so much are cared for and it shows your dedication to the people," said Rep. McKenna.

Attending the event were area State Representatives Natalie Higgins, Mary Keefe, David LeBoeuf, Joseph McKenna and James O'Day.

For more information on QCC, contact Karen Hutner, Interim Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-2842 or khutner@qcc.mass.edu.

North Brookfield Friends of Council on Aging meets June 13

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The General Meeting of the North Brookfield Friends of the Council on Aging will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, June 13 at the town Senior Center. This is an open meeting, and all are welcome to attend.

Those members in good standing with dues paid for the current year are eligible to vote.

An agenda will be provided at the meeting and light refreshments will be served. Come and learn how the Friends help to support the important work of the Council on Aging in our local community.

Meat raffle to benefit local public safety personnel

SPENCER – Residents are invited to join public safety officials for a meat raffle next month.

The event will be held on June 11 at 5 p.m. Hosted by the Spencer Firefighters and Spencer Police Associations, the program is a great opportunity for guests to fill their freezers with quality local meat from Royal Crest Farm.

All proceeds from this event will help maintain the Spencer Police and Fire Memorial located outside the police station.

BES

continued from page A1

Spencer-based FLEXcon Company, Inc., also helped make the project possible by donating paper products for the effort. School officials thank everyone who came together to make the program a success, as well as parents and families for supporting the project.

WARRANT

continued from page A1

and commissions, making volunteering less cumbersome."

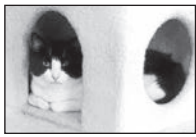
Brookfield's Annual Town Meeting will take place on Friday, June 3, at 6:30 p.m. at Brookfield Elementary School (37 Central St.).

To learn more about the Annual Town Meeting warrant, visit the town Web site: www.brookfieldma.us.

P.A.L. of the Week

Sponsored by Hardwick Farmers Co-op Exchange

Name: Buster
Breed: DSH Tuxedo
Sex: Neutered Male
Age: Young Adult



Buster came to the shelter as a stray from a local town. He has never shown any aggression, but he was very shy initially.

Buster is still shy, but the shelter staff can pet him now (which we think he actually likes). His favorite time of the day is canned food time and that is when we try to interact with him to earn his trust. He is a very handsome tuxedo young male.

He is great with the other cats so he would make a wonderful companion for another cat. We are hoping someone will give this shy boy a home.

For more information about Buster please call 774-745-8041 or go online www.people4animals.com. Visits are by appointment only.



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PERSON of the WEEK
Those Who Made the Ultimate Sacrifice for our Freedom.

Remember
by Victor C. Kleinschmit
Someone's child, left long ago,
A strange land,
Someone's foe.

An unmarked grave, fields of green,
Resting quiet,
Just eighteen.

Winds of freedom, wash us now,
Remember him,
This I vow.

Person of the Week is sponsored by:

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Sat. May 28 @ 9:30 am
Historical Talk
Ed Londergan
Murder in the Brookfields
(Spooner/Newton Murders)
TOWN HALL - FREE & open to the public



COMING UP...
Sat. June 4 • 2:00 pm & 3:30 pm Seatings
History and Dessert at Podunk Chapel
\$5.00 per person

Fri. June 10 @ 7:00 pm
Coast Guard Band
EB Elementary School
FREE (tickets required for entry)

Tickets for these events are available at the library or by email:
EB100th@gmail.com



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

Join us this Spring!

Friday's Child



Khamari - 05/22
Age 14

Hi! My name is Khamari and when I grow up, I want to be a video game designer, music beat maker, and doctor!

A Khamari is an extremely creative young boy of African American descent. Khamari enjoys expressing himself by creating his own music, board games, and videos/plays! He thrives on receiving one-on-one attention from caring adults, but is also able to play independently. He loves to stay busy and is up for engaging in a range of activities. He is also very curious and loves to talk and ask questions.

Legally freed for adoption, Khamari would benefit being part of an energetic and loving family of any constellation, with or without older children in the home. A family for Khamari would

be engaging, nurturing, and able to continue the beneficial services he has in place for him.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7498>

Can I Adopt?

If you're at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ+ singles and couples. As an adoptive parent, you won't have to pay any fees, adoption from foster care is completely free in Massachusetts.

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at (617) 964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.



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Local residents receive degrees at WPI's 153rd Commencement

WORCESTER — WPI awarded nearly 1,200 bachelor's degrees at the undergraduate Commencement ceremony on May 14.

In her final commencement exercises before stepping down to become the Director of NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, President Laurie Leshin presided over both celebrations, along with Board of Trustees Chairman William Fitzgerald '83. In her remarks, President Leshin celebrated the Class of 2022 and all they have accomplished during their time at WPI, including how they weathered the challenges of the pandemic. "While it would be unfair to describe the second half of your time at WPI as anything short of extraordinarily challenging, as always, I am so heartened by how this community came together to meet every moment," she said.

The keynote address was given by Rochelle Walensky, MD, MPH, Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and Administrator of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, who was awarded an honorary degree. She praised the members of the Class of 2022 for navigating the uncertainties of the pandemic and implored them to continue embracing the many shades of gray they first encountered due to COVID-19, and are likely to continue to face in their profes-

sional lives.

Honorary degrees were also bestowed upon State Senator Harriette Chandler, the first woman from Worcester to serve in the Massachusetts State Senate, a position she has held since 2001. Lesley Small Zorabedian '72 was honored with a Presidential Medal for her trailblazing efforts to help shape the university. She was one of the first women to be enrolled at WPI as an undergraduate in 1968 and in 1972, she became the first woman to receive an undergraduate degree from WPI.

The undergraduate class speaker, Nicole Conill, received a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science, with a focus on cyber security. Conill is pursuing a master's in Computer Science at WPI. Her speech was titled "Reflect on the Past. Celebrate the Present. Focus on the Future." She concluded by telling her classmates to "follow your heart to wherever, whenever, or whatever it is that calls you. Use what you've learned from WPI, whether it's academic or personal, to guide you on that journey."

The following students were awarded bachelor's degrees at WPI's Commencement Ceremony:

James Copeland of Leicester majored in Biomedical Engineering

Desiree Rivas of Spencer majored in Biomedical Engineering

Rose Romanos of Spencer majored in Biomedical Engineering

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effectively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI's pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degree programs across 17 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

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CLUES ACROSS

1. English river

5. Particular part of something

11. Cool!

14. Welsh for John

15. Given name meaning "great spirit"

16. Wrath

17. Social occasion

19. Mechanical belt

20. ___ de la ___

21. Commands

22. Body part

23. Caught sight of

25. Funeral car

27. Skin infection

31. Sometimes they "burn"

34. Russian river

35. Famed soap opera character Kane

38. Pie ___ mode

39. Endangered

41. Socially inept person

42. Romanian river

44. Swerve

45. Monetary unit of Samoa

46. A type of approach to please

49. Form of Hebrew name for God

51. "Carry On My Wayward Son" rockers

55. A team's best pitcher

56. A woody climbing plant

60. Long, edible marine fish

61. Human rights group in Africa (abbr.)

62. Data

64. Corporate bigwig

65. Climbs

66. Relating to the ear

67. Commercials

68. You need it to eat

69. Political extremists

CLUES DOWN

1. Reconnaissance (Brit. military)

2. Asserts to be the case

3. Starchy food made of dried orchid tubers

4. Foes

5. Rheumatoid arthritis score

6. Ruler of Iran

7. The top of the head

8. Lilly and Manning are two

9. Purchase attire for

10. Glittering with gold or silver

11. The bank of a body of water

12. Regions

13. Makes tractors

18. Adult beverage

24. Force unit

26. Swiss river

28. Cater to

29. Woody climbing plants

30. Seems less impressive

31. Consume

32. Boxing's GOAT

33. Southwestern farmers

36. Beverage holder

37. A way to deteriorate

39. Judge

40. Norse explorer ___ the Red

43. Farm resident

45. One who helps to govern

47. Plant-eating ground bug

48. History Finnish county

49. Conifer native to Jamaica

50. Longed

52. Small Japanese city

53. Arum family plant

54. Puts together in time

57. From a distance

58. ___ contender: no contest plea

59. Region

63. Mountain Standard Time

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ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

WEBSTER — The following students have been named to the honor roll at St. Joseph School for the third term of the 2021-2022 academic year.

Grade 4

High Honors: Tosin Akindele, Alexis Archambault, Avery Archambault, Lukas Barbosa, Hayley Benes, Natalee Genduso, Neli Kuznecki, Jacob Lopez, Maria Mankarios, Jacob Marcuccio, Brooklyn McCarthy, Olivia Rozanski-Rose, Benjamin Thomas, Ivonka Warnajty

Grade 5

High Honors: Tobin Akindele, Rosemary Basha, Jada Jackson, Simon Kowalczyk, Kyle Muchiru, Faith Muga, Jacob Parafinowicz, Ayla Reed, Alan Rubin, Jacob Singer

Honors: Ryan Amaral, Lisa Kippax, Jake Martin, Gianna Pigeon, Gabriel Rudnicki, Luke Surowaniec, Liana Worth, Adam Wozniak

Grade 6

High Honors: Claire Calnana, Colton Haase, Molly Hachigian, Laura Ibrahim, Jack Keller, Emily Macko, Alissa Perron

Honors: Gabriel Gallant, Ryan Gruposso, Alvin Montreuil, E lla Parslow

Credit: Violet Johnson, Alan Kulpa, John O'Melia, Max Podgorny

Grade 7

High Honors: Emerson Bernard, Leah Boudreau, Bella Calnan, Haleigh Creighton, Aiden Muchiru, Marcus Muchiru, Gabriela Pianka,

Gianna Rosario, Shayley Szela, Vanessa Zeglen

Honors: Bobbi Enman, Alex Kowalski, Brett McCarthy, Jacob Perry, Ike Rudnicki

Grade 8

High Honors: Philo Basha, Andrew Bergeron, Treyton Dery, Giann DiCola-Keddy, Aleksandra Kurowski, Paul Mankarios, Rocco Rudnicki, Maeve Sullivan, Hannah Watson, Matthew Zdrok

Honors: Connor Czechowski, Steve Mathu, Bradley McCarthy, Matthew Obyrycki, Alexandra Parafinowicz, Adam Podgorny, Juliana Rudnicki

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\$685,000, 56 Hemlock St, Jasmin, Kathleen, and Jasmin, Eric, to Grinsztstein, Steven I, and Deitsch, Jessica E.

\$515,000, 390 Auburn St, LRE LLC, to Galvis, Maria D.

\$450,000, 132 Mccarthy Ave, Martinez-Pietri, Victor E, and Martinez-Pietri, Kiara, to Benton-Kastner, Johnathan, and Kastner, Gillian K.

\$340,000, 3 Edward St #3, Whitmore, Ronald, and Whitmore, Iris, to Dube, Cynthia M.

\$176,000, 1 Lakeview Dr, Halpin, John H, and Halpin, Patricia, to Lloyd, Jeremy.

\$130,000, Pleasant St, Mercer, Sue E, and Mercer, Robert, to Fontaine, Stephen.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$421,000, 38 W Brookfield Rd, Edma Properties LLC, to Nettey, Richmond.

\$350,000, 50 Ward St, Mccaleb, Colleen H, to Scotland, Cheryl L.

\$325,000, 25 Donovan Rd, Caouette Nancy A Est, and Caouette, Christopher E, to Pyne, David A.

\$311,000, 18 Spring St, Paquette, Robert, to Gordon, Andrew R, and Gordon, Kathleen A.

SPENCER

\$480,000, 8 Briarcliff Ln, Pohl, Steven G, to Hinson, Janice.

\$237,405, 15 Smithville Rd, FNMA, to Aranch LLC.

\$200,000, 10 Highland St, Goodro Frust 2017, and Goodro, Patricia A, to Hevy Sr, Edward R.

\$55,000, Lower Wire Village Rd #A, Thibault, Tracy M, and Thibault, Nancy E, to Orourke, John.

WARREN

\$544,700, 24 North St, Wilk Jr, John S, and Wilk, Brian R, to

Queens Management LLC.

\$395,000, 456 South St, Cormier, Timothy N, and Cormier, Laurie, to Sabourin, Joshua M, and Mailhot, Eva H.

\$375,000, 31 A St, Paquette, Justin, and Paquette, Meaghan, to Willingham, Craig, and Willingham, Renee A.

\$335,000, 778 Bemis Rd, Mckusick, Timothy E, and Mckusick, Heather T, to Bellows, Alex R, and Bellows, Ryan J.

\$240,000, 2233 Main St, Arsenault, Richard E, to Carlson, Ben J, and Carlson, Angelique B.

\$225,000, 130 East Rd, Mannila, Cody, and Mannila, Kailin, to Brooks, Zackery.

\$56,178, 772 Brimfield Rd, Edwards, Mary R, to Edwards, Michael, and Edwards, Brenda.

WEST BROOKFIELD

\$448,000, 88 Lakeshore Dr, Conte, Timothy F, to Mui, Justin K, and Mui, Rhiannon.

\$424,106, 125 Long Hill Rd, Gordon P Dewolf Jr NT, and Dewolf, Richard G, to Dewolf, Richard G, and Schmidt, Ann L.

\$344,500, 4 Oday Ln, Kemp Builders LLC, to Spencer, Elaine F.

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\$290,000, 133 New Braintree Rd, Oleary, Brian J, to Gelinas, Clifford.

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IT'S GOIN' DOWN!

CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

Local students graduate from Assumption University

WORCESTER — Nearly 400 graduates received a bachelor's degree during Assumption University's 105th Commencement exercises on Sunday, May 8, at the DCU Center in downtown Worcester. Larry Lucchino, Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer and chairman and principal owner of the Worcester Red Sox, delivered the commencement address, thanking the University for its partnership with the Worcester Red Sox and imparting upon the Class of 2022 advice gleaned over five decades in baseball and in law. Local students include:

Kyle Belmonte of Charlton
Cameron Cox of Charlton
Zachary Darling of Charlton
Emily Gay of Uxbridge
Jake Hamel of Uxbridge
Nora Iacqua of Charlton
Breanna LaHair of Charlton
Olivia McAleer of Charlton
Emily Snay of Charlton
Fabio Mercurio, of Sturbridge

"I am well aware that my presence here is a reflection of the close bond that has been quickly established between the Woo Sox and Assumption," Lucchino said. "We share a commitment to serve this community and its people. We share a new ballpark where Assumption's

name is featured prominently. In fact, [Assumption's] vision, your loyalty, and your early commitment helped pave the way for that ballpark and its extraordinary reception."

Lucchino imparted that since his college graduation 55 years ago, he's "learned a few things about what to do in life, and what not to do." He admitted that as a baseball executive, he doesn't have all the answers, but hoped his personal top ten list of life lessons amassed from over "four unexpected decades as a baseball executive, and several decades of errors, missteps, and regrets," might help someone along the way. The lessons included having fun; being bold; smiling; being strong enough to say, "I don't know"; remembering that life is too hard to be lived alone; working at friendship; seeking balance; remembering Jackie Robinson and the "catalytic effect one person can have on a community, on a nation, on a compelling cause, or on a nagging injustice"; embracing and celebrating "the pluralism and diversity that are the essence or American life"; and being a positive force in one's community.

"Life is not about warming yourself by the fire, it's about building the fire," said Lucchino, a three-time can-

cer survivor who has invested himself in cancer research and care. "The match that lights that fire is generosity. To consider yourself and to be considered capable is good. To consider yourself and be considered loving is even better. But best of all is to know yourself as generous. Generosity is its own reward. There is a Chinese proverb that applies and roughly it says if you want happiness for an hour, take a nap. If you want happiness for a lifetime, help your brothers and sisters in the community."

In his last commencement address, President Emeritus Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D., who retired on June 30, congratulated the graduates for earning their degrees "in the midst of extraordinary circumstances." He added that the pandemic provided them with "an education beyond what you could have learned in your coursework," because the framework of the Catholic liberal education allowed students to use the pandemic as a learning experience.

"You learned that you have the ability to overcome adversity, to navigate the unexpected and to look for the positive in the midst of challenges," he said. "You have shown yourself to be resilient despite the obstacles. You have learned

the value of sacrificing one's wants for the benefit of others, striving always for the common good. While you may not immediately perceive it, your characters are stronger, and you have become a better person because of what you have learned through the pandemic."

In his valedictorian speech, Leominster native Nicholas Macchione '22 compared an Assumption education to a Swiss army knife. "If you only could have one tool to serve you for the rest of your life, wouldn't you want it to be applicable to whatever you might encounter? The same sentiment rings true in education," he shared. "An Assumption liberal arts education is similarly suited to a wide variety of careers and vocations."

Macchione encouraged his classmates that "in the world of specialization that requires elaborate job titles, obtuse degrees, and the labeling of so-called experts, let us take time to unfold our Swiss army knives, recall the things that have brought us to where we are today, and trust that they will continue to take us wherever we need to go."

During the ceremony, honorary degrees were presented to Lucchino; Francesca "Paqui" Kelly, co-founder and board

president of the Kelly Cares Foundation; and Wendy M. Wright, Ph.D., professor emerita of theology at Creighton University. The Board of Trustees also bestowed honorary degrees upon President Emeritus Cesareo and his wife, Filomena Cesareo, Esq., J.D., for their 15 years of service to Assumption.

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is New England's premier university for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, seeks to provide students with a transformative education that forms graduates who possess critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service. The University offers 34 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.





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FHFA Inspector General espouses power of a degree at QCC's Commencement ceremony

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College's keynote speaker, Brian M. Tomney, addressed the College's 1,358 graduates at its 2022 Commencement ceremony, held at the DCU Center in Worcester on May 20. Mr. Tomney was nominated by President Joe Biden and confirmed by the U.S. Senate to serve as Inspector General for the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) earlier this year.

Mr. Tomney told the crowd that when he was younger, he wasn't concerned with getting a college degree, instead becoming an EMT while in high school and a firefighter shortly thereafter. However, when his local community college began offering a paramedic degree, he decided to make the commitment to higher education and enroll in the associate degree program.

"Many decades later, it is this two-year degree that has been the stepping stone for every non-traditional step that my career has taken. From going into burning buildings and delivering babies, to meeting presidents and sitting in the White House situation room. From this two-year degree, a life of incredible opportunities was born. And to each of you sitting here today, those same opportunities await you," he said.

There are many emotions that can arise while graduating from a higher education institution and Mr. Tomney touched on many of these during his speech. While joy and happiness are the first emotions to come to mind, he recalled how during his law school graduation he was struck with fear.

"I had been hired by the Department of Justice and was moving to Washington, D.C. with my young son; and for the first time in 36 years moving more than 10 miles from my now aging parents. What if I had made a mistake? But I refuse to let fear and anxiety paralyze me. I try to harness them. So channel



Brian Tomney

all your emotions. Channel the ones that don't feel so good into meaningful, productive energy. Remember and embrace your emotions today – and always. They are yours and each one of them is valid," he said.

In addition to his passion for community college, Mr. Tomney also encouraged graduates to explore public service.

"I cannot speak today without briefly reflecting upon and remembering the Worcester Six and the value of – if not the imperative of – finding ways to serve. In a job where all give some, they gave all. Find a path to service, no matter how big or small, and I guarantee you that it will always be the capstone of your well lived life," he continued.

Community impact is a large part of

QCC's mission.

"Our graduates are truly a representation of the communities they live and work in. They span all ages and ethnicities, are traditional students right out of high school, non-traditional students, veterans, parents, first-generation college students, and immigrants who all have a goal of bettering their lives through higher education. They will now go out into the world and become the positive change makers for our society," said QCC Chair of the Board of Trustees Alex Zequeira. "As these graduates celebrate with families and friends, let us all be reminded of the transformational power of a postsecondary education. It changes the course of a person's life, their family's lives, and delivers a skilled workforce to our communities."

Student greetings were given virtually by QCC Student Government Association President Shauna Connelly, who championed resilience in the face of difficulties.

"We, the QCC class of 2022, might be the last class of the pandemic. You are here because through some of the darkest times the world has seen, you chose to turn on the light, you chose to make something good happen for you. You need to be an active participant in your own life. Good things happen to those who do! Your future is bright because you chose to surpass all adversity and continue on your journey. Today QCC is going to hand you a torch to help light the way through your future," Ms. Connelly said.

QCC President Dr. Luis G. Pedraja also commended graduates on their resilience.

"I am amazed by you, by what you have endured to get you here today, and by what you accomplish every single day. You have faced many obstacles, but your determination and resilience, along with the support of friends and family, has brought you here today. I am confident that you will succeed and that you will transform our world. Look back on what you have accomplished and take strength from it. Bring the same grit and determination that got you here to what waits ahead of you. Keep striving to better yourself and to transform our world into a better place. In spite of the challenges of today, I believe the future is bright, because you are in it," he said.

A total of 1,003 degrees and 494 certificates were conferred upon this year's graduates.

For more information about QCC, contact Karen Hutner, Interim Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-2842 or khutner@qcc.mass.edu.



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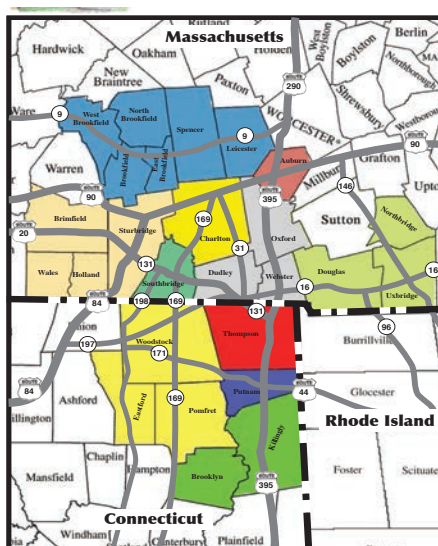
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EDITORIAL

Honoring
the fallen

When Memorial Day was first celebrated, it was known as Decoration Day following the Civil War. Youngsters would place flowers in cemeteries while they sang songs and honored those lost due to war. The Civil War that ended in 1865 took the lives of more people than any other war in the history of the United States, the estimate is roughly 620,000. The Union losing 365,000 and the Confederacy 260,000. History says that more than half of these losses came as the result of disease. As a result, the first national cemeteries were created.

In 1868, General John A. Logan, the leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day to honor fallen soldiers. General James Garfield gave a speech at Arlington National Cemetery on the first Decoration Day and the over 5,000 people in attendance decorated over 2,000 graves, both Union and Confederate.

The holiday as we all know is celebrated on the last Monday in May and became an official holiday in the year 1971. Parades across the country take place, and people visit cemeteries where family members who have served in the military have been laid to rest.

At 3 p.m. every year, a moment of silence takes place across the country. In December of 2008, President Bill Clinton signed the “National Moment of Remembrance Act” which designated the time be at 3:00 p.m. In 1966, the government marked Waterloo, New York as the official birthplace of Memorial Day. In Waterloo, every business in town would shut their doors and owners would venture out to decorate graves with flags as well as flowers.

Originally, Decoration Day was intended to honor those lost in just the Civil War. After WWI America felt the need, and rightfully so, to honor all those lost serving their country. In WWI 116,516 Americans died at war and 405,399 were lost during WWII. The Korean War took 36,574 lives and the Vietnam War cost 58,220 lives. 4,411 were lost in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 73 in Operation New Dawn, 2,346 as the result of Operation Enduring Freedom, 48 in Operation Freedom’s Sentinel and 61 in Operation Inherent Resolve.

An estimated 38 million people in America will travel over the holiday weekend, and 2.5 million travelers will board flights. Memorial Day is the fourth busiest travel day of the year.

In New York, Washington, D.C and Chicago you can find the largest parades in the country.

Because of the three day weekend, many Americans will throw parties and barbecues or head out of town for a mini getaway.

To promote or punish

To the Editor:

I grew up in a very Catholic family; faithfully attending Saturday catechism, Sunday Mass, the Stations of the Cross during Lent and serving as an altar boy. Later I graduated from a Jesuit run Catholic university.

Also, for generation after generation, I have experienced the joy of being being surrounded by children – my mother and her two sisters had nine, Then my two sisters and wife had the next generation’s nine. Today with eight of already married, we celebrate and adore a third generation of sixteen grandchildren and nieces and nephews - with a seventeenth on the way. Like most families, not all the pregnancies have been easy or complete. This even more makes us more grateful for having children surround us.

I provide this personal introduction as a way of beginning a letter about a number of subjects that come together - children, pregnancy, and giving birth or terminating a pregnancy.

I stand very much in favor promoting births and making sure that all our children (and mothers) have happiness, good health, education, and successful and productive and lives.

However, compared to wealthy and some not so wealthy countries in the United States we (especially the rich) don’t seem to care so much about our mothers and children. In fact, as a country, the USA often ranks near the

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for a successful clean-up day

To the Editor:

This letter is written to acknowledge and thank all who participated in the success of the Spencer Clean-Up Day sponsored by the First Congregational Church and the Spencer Conservatin Committee.

We are grateful for the support of man: The utilities and facilities and Highway Department for the donation of gloves and trash bags and picking up the trash collected.

The Big Y and Woody’s Auto Body for the food donations given, and most of all, the clean up volunteers. There

were about 50, ranging in all different ages.

Without everyone working together, it would not be possible. We can be proud of keeping our town in good shape.

This has been a yearly project, so we look forward to your continued support.

Thanks again,

THE FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
SPENCER CONSERVATION
COMMITTEE

Anti-American rhetoric from “patriots”

To the Editor:

It’s been several weeks since we have come across any right wing opining here in the New Leader. Not sure if that is credited to your decisions, dear Editor, or lack of content. But today, I do not want to address the frequent contributors, but every reading, caring citizen of our wonderful towns.

My neighbors, next time you drive past Mexicali, Whitco, or up the hill to the light and facing town hall, take a close look. Hiding in the shadows, on little white stickers placed all down Main Street’s new lampposts, is radical political propaganda.

These thugs are trying to infiltrate our towns with filthy, un-American bile that divides our communities, erases our common national history, and cancels our military heroes’ accomplishments in World War II. These bottom feeding basement dwellers call themselves the “Patriot Front.” They look to justify their pitiful existence by rewriting American History. “Conquered not Stolen.” Give me a break. Some European religious fanatics killed, pillaged, and coughed on some of the most advanced civilizations up to that time. Viruses did most of the work, boys, not grandpa.

Oh, and another — “America is not for sale.” Correct! The Koch Brothers, Rupert Murdoch, Vanguard, and BlackRock already own it by buying out the overpowered Senate and Supreme Court!

Hyperbole aside, these guys are bad news. Their Manifesto is rife with dog whistled racism and grandiose language meant to entice unconnected young men to a cause not worthy of anyone’s time. If you read it in the movie trailer voice it sounds like a pickup truck commercial. Pithy generalizations and sermonizing, it sounds like a sociology essay written by a procrastinating 11th grader trying to reach a word count. I have two important excerpts, especially germane in light of recent events in Rochester.

“Those of foreign birth may occupy civil status within the lands occu-

pied by the state, and they may even be dutiful citizens, yet they may not be American.” This is, not ironically, directly underneath a picture and quote from (not native born) Alexander Hamilton. They say the quiet part out loud here. “In order to survive as a culture, a heritage, and a way of being, our nation must learn that its collective interests are fighting against its collective threats of displacement and enslavement.” Displacement. I wouldn’t be surprised if at one point the word was “replacement.”

The manifesto is online. Read it yourself with a critical eye. Any good conservative or liberal should be outraged at its contents. Their basic premise is that being an American is an issue of “blood, not ink.” So many good conservative Americans are naturalized citizens. Many decent tax paying people of our towns are not “less American” based on their ethnicity. We shouldn’t stand for it. They are coming after the children as well. There are several around the little league facilities, I see them when I see my niece play softball

Lastly, to show their true colors, they have a quote from Nazi sympathizer Charles Lindbergh: “We can have peace and security only so long as we band together to preserve that most priceless possession, our inheritance of European blood, only so long as we guard ourselves against attack by foreign

armies and dilution by foreign races.” Unreal.

I will assume that if this propaganda remains on the town owned facilities (power box in front of town hall and lamp posts), it is a tacit endorsement of these anti-American views. I will be contacting Don Berthiaume, Anne Gobi and other members of the town selectmen. Any inaction on this will be a shame on them and an insult to our grandfathers who actually did defeat fascism in the 20th century.

SPENCER GUDMAN
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bottom of the barrel.

Much fact based evidence shows this. Maternity leave:

Only two countries in the world do not require paid maternity leave – Papua New Guinea (where most mothers aren’t formally employed) and the Unites States. Rather, many countries similar to the USA require 20 or more weeks of paid maternity leave 60% - 100% of their regular salaries. We do not.

Maternal mortality:

The ratenof USA mothers dying of childbirth complications stands at 17 per 100,000. Here we rank as one the worst of wealthy countries. For example, we have nearly twice as many mothers dying during birth as in as Canada and almost 10 times more than in Norway.

Neonatal and postnatal mortality:

In the United States, the number of babies who die during birth and the first year following stand at 20 percent higher than Canada and 125% higher than Sweden.

Assistance to lift children out of poverty:

In the USA, as in other countries most often the best way to have children become, happy, healthy, well educated, and positive contributors to their communities and country requires having them not growing up poor. A childhood allowance provides a simple and effective way of doing

this. The childhood poverty rate for the United States ranks as the highest of any wealthy country. Even before Covid, we had 12.5 million poor or near poor children not healthy mental

Rather, added up. the sums indicate that childhood poverty costs the USA one trillion dollars a year from lost productivity, crime and prison costs, homelessness and child abuse. To remain competitive, we must reduce these costs by using our wealthto take better care of all children.

A good country example of how to do better is our neighbor Canada. lies on our northern border. There the government provides a allowance of up to \$4,000 to each child, with better off children getting less. In two years, childhood poverty rates dropped 20 percent. Australia, Ireland, and Great Britain and many other countries provide similar childhood allowance examples.

Early childhood education (ECE)

Educators generally agree that the time from birth to three years or pre-kindergarten learning ranks as very important for children’s development. Here too the United States lags behind. Of the 30 or so other wealthy countries, we rank 25th in children participating in ECE, 22nd in age when they begin, and 21st in the amount we invest. And , China moves much faster than us to improve their ECE.

(Having observed how much my grandchildren, nieces, and nephews

Market decline offers buying opportunities

The financial markets have gotten off to a rocky start this year. What’s caused this volatility? And does it present opportunities for patient investors?

First of all, several factors are behind the market volatility, including the war in Ukraine, higher inflation, rising interest rates and the lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, while these factors may be specific to the recent market decline, volatility itself is a common feature of the investment environment. In fact, history shows that corrections of 10 percent or more happen about every year, and declines of 15 percent or more have happened every other year, on average. Furthermore, while 2022 has thus far been challenging for investors, it was preceded by a long period of strong markets, with the S&P 500 averaging more than a 20 percent return over the past three years.



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Knowing the typical frequency of market volatility and reviewing the results of the past few years may make the current situation seem less shocking. But you don’t have to simply “ride out” the downturn – because a down market may give you the opportunity to buy more investment shares at good prices. Specifically, you can expand your holdings in companies that have good growth prospects due to strong management and products or services that provide sustainable competitive advantages. And this type of opportunity is important, because one of the keys to building wealth is to increase the number of shares you own in your various investments and hold them for the long term. While the market will always fluctuate, the long-term trend has been positive, particularly for well-diversified portfolios built with quality investments.

Of course, while it is a good idea to boost your share ownership at favorable prices, you still want to be strategic about it, rather than just buying whatever seems to be the biggest bargain. In reviewing your existing portfolio, can you identify any gaps that could be filled with new investments? Are there opportunities to further diversify your holdings? By owning different types of stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments, you can help reduce the impact of volatility on your portfolio. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification can’t guarantee profits or prevent losses in declining markets.) Or, if your portfolio has become “unbalanced” in some way, you could also use this time to rebalance it back to its original long-term targets. You might also consider setting up a systematic investing program in which you invest the same amounts in the same investments on a regular basis, such as monthly. When prices go down, you’ll automatically buy more shares, and when prices rise, you’ll buy fewer shares. (However, systematic investing does not guarantee a profit or protect against loss and you’ll need to be willing to keep investing when share prices are declining.)

Before this year, average annual returns have been solid for about a decade, which makes it somewhat easy to forget about normal market volatility and may have led to overly optimistic performance expectations. So, it would not be surprising if your initial reaction to the current downturn is one of concern. But by viewing the current investment environment as a chance to add quality investments at attractive prices, you can help yourself develop a behavior that can serve you well throughout your life as an investor.

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

have gained from ECE, I can personally recommend it).

To end at about the 800 word New Leader limit, a question: What does all this have to do with pregnancy and giving birth or terminating the pregnancy? The answer; as a country the USA could much better help mothers give birth and families raise children (and reduce abortions) by committing ourselves and our wealth towards these goals.

KEVIN KANE
SPENCER

Bullied while fishing



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
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RALPH
TRUE

As we approach Memorial Day weekend, we are remembering the veterans and those that went before us. Appreciating the country we live in, even though some hard times are ahead, we still can live free to worship, and enjoy our family and friends daily.

We can also enjoy the great outdoors, fishing, hunting, attend cookouts, etc. because of the sacrifices that were made by our veterans. This weekend many families will head out to do some fishing at local ponds or at the ocean where it can become quite hectic at some of the boat ramps in previous years. Before launching your boat, you need to remember to have it ready before pulling onto the ramp. Removing all hold down straps and placing all coolers and fishing gear, and life preserves into the boat, prior to pulling onto the ramp, needs to be done. It should take less than five min-

utes to launch your boat, and make way for the next person waiting in line. If you have a problem launching your boat, ask someone for help.

First time boat owners often have a hard time backing onto a boat ramp, and most boat owners will gladly help out, which will keep the line moving and everyone will get onto the water to fish and enjoy the day, with family and friends. There are also a couple of impatient anglers that are waiting to launch their boats every year, and become agitated when they are required to wait very long to get onto the water. Do not let them ruin your day! In the past, fights have broken out, and innocent boat owners & family end up having their day ruined. Do not let this happen to you!

On the brighter side, I can remember fishing with my late brother Mel when we were around eight or nine years old at the Meadow pond in Whitinsville. We were brought up fishing on the Meadow pond and Arcade Pond, and basically, the two ponds were our playground. Our parents were not overly concerned about our safety, as the world then was a lot safer than today. Anyway, we were fishing with our cheap steel rods that came in a long

aluminum tube with a cheap reel that had no drag on them, and we used our thumb to slow the line when a fish was hooked.

It was not long before a bully decided he was going to push my brother Mel out of his spot. He was a bit older by couple of years, but my brother held his ground. Suddenly, the bully decided to make a cast with his somewhat high-priced fishing gear and hooked my brother in the side of the head. We both quickly jumped on our bikes and headed for home, after breaking the line from the pole. I managed to get home first to tell my mother that Mel had a hook in the side of his head. As Mel pulled into the back yard of our house on Main Street, you could hear him crying rather loudly. Mel was taken to the ER. and had the hook removed, no worse for the incident. The next day, the bully had the nerve to ask for his fishing lure back that I have till this day, minus the hook on one side. Just another day growing up in Whitinsville in the Fortys.

A report from Captain Mel True of "Fish Net Charters" stated that Buzzards Bay was slow fishing for seabass this past weekend, although he managed to get his clients their



Photo Courtesy

Matt Fontaine with an impressive seabass taken aboard his fishing boat last year.

limit of four fish each. Then they went & fished for Tautog, and limited out with the three fish limit. Reports of stripers being caught in the bay, and in the Providence River last week was good news. The bottom line is that the cost to go fishing for a few fish these days is hurting the small charter boats

this year, & with the severe restrictions on species of fish and price of gas, even the private boat owner is complaining about the cost to do a little fishing.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Readers Share Tips and Tricks

As the days get longer and life becomes busier, finding ways to make life a little easier is especially appreciated! From packing and cleaning hints to repurposing tips, the following submissions from readers are sure to save you time and money this season!

And remember readers, send in your favorite helpful hint and you could win Dinner for Two at the Publick House in Sturbridge.

**

Organizational packing is literally "in the bag," with this reader's tip:

When you're packing to go on a trip and you have a 14" x 8" or larger luggage bag, put a lightweight plastic dollar store square container or longer (with cover on or off) inside the bag. This way you can store all your supplies and you can see everything you need for easy access, shampoos, cosmetics, etc.

Jo Ann Wypyck
Gilbertville, MA

**

Help yourself by helping others is this reader's antidote to high anxiety:

I'd like to submit a tip about handling stress:

Check up on others. When I'm feeling stressed, I try to redirect that energy into something good by sending a quick text to someone I don't speak to very often. Not only is it doing something

kind, which is scientifically proven to make you feel better, but it often helps give you some perspective.

Audrey Crozier
Spencer, MA

**

A clever couple offered tips for corralling clutter, unconventional cleaning, and an unexpected repurposing tip:

I have to give credit to my significant other for two of these tips:

If you have a small bathroom like we do, try putting up a few sturdy wicker baskets on the wall for storage of personal care items, etc. It really helps to keep clutter away.

My second tip is also from him. He sprayed WD40 (I don't know why) into the toilet bowl. It cleaned it better than any other cleaner we've tried.

My last tip is actually mine: I think someone who tends to drop things a lot like myself, would find a back scratcher that extends quite handy. I use mine so often to retrieve things I drop on the floor.

Karleen Cournoyer
Whitinsville, MA

Yes, we have some bananas – ripe



TAKE
THE
HINT
.....
KAREN
TRAINOR

ones at that, thanks to this reader's tip!

The best tip I've used recently is ripening bananas in the oven. I acquired a few large bunches of bananas and needed to ripen them quickly to make several banana breads/cupcakes. I put them in a 350 degree oven for 20 minutes, and Voila! Ripened bananas perfect for baking!

Pam Murray
Oxford, MA

**

This reader's old farmers' trick boosts a plant's nutrition without spending a penny:

My hint saves money on plant food. When rinsing out empty milk containers do not pour that water down the drain, instead pour it into your plants. You can use on indoor or outdoor plants. My plants thrive on it. This tip was shared with me by a farmer years ago; farmers would rinse their milk cans and pour the milky water into their gardens.

Judith Lewinski
Webster, MA

**

Prize Winner
Congratulations to Karleen

Cournoyer from Whitinsville, MA, who offered the trio of tips above. Her name was drawn for a three course dinner for two at Publick House in Sturbridge.

**

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

Give optimism a chance

I've heard it said that pessimism is destructive, and optimism is boundless. What is the best way? I guess it all depends on what you want from life.

You can find plenty of people throughout time who promoted pessimism. George Bernard Shaw said, "The optimist invents the airplane, the pessimist the parachute."

There have been plenty who have promoted optimism. Winston Churchill said, "The pessimist sees the difficulty in every opportunity, the optimist sees the opportunity in every difficulty."

Whatever you choose, realize that they are not just philosophies; they are also strategies for dealing with the issues of life.

What is Pessimism? One of the definitions of pessimism in the dictionary reads: "a tendency to see the worst aspect of things or believe that the worst will happen; a lack of hope or confidence in the future."

Coming from a background in acting, I've been around many dreamers. I've been around many people who have had big goals and ambitions and saw themselves as larger than life.

Some of these people succeed as optimists but then become jaded pessimists. Interestingly, those I have known who went from optimism to pessimism succeeded while they were optimists and failed when they were pessimists.

I was friends with a very optimistic actor. We met every evening and rehearsed our auditions together. He went on to star in a successful television series. We lost touch, but I saw him at an audition years later, and he was different. I asked him how he was doing, and he only had negative things to say. He was sour and bitter. Something changed. Coincidentally, he wasn't working anymore.

An article in Psychology Today suggests that most people don't start as pessimists; instead, they become pessimists because of trauma they've experienced in their life. Pessimism is often a strategy to prepare for the worst. It's a way for some-



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
.....
TOBY
MOORE

one to set low expectations for their performance to protect against disappointment.

Pessimism takes a toll on one's mental and physical health. Pessimism is associated with anxiety, depression, sleep disorders, hostility, high blood pressure, and heart disease.

Some will say that realism is the middle ground between pessimism and optimism. A realist might tell you that they are rational and only perceive things as they are, without any interpretation. Is that possible? Can you see life outside of the filter of your experience and beliefs? I tend to think that a realist usually falls into two categories, a pessimistic realist or an optimistic realist.

Walt Disney said, "I like to look at the

optimistic side of life, but I am realistic enough to know that life is a complex matter."

A lot of people tend to confuse optimism and idealism. They are not the same. One definition of idealism reads," the practice of forming or pursuing ideals, especially unrealistically."

I suppose I've been guilty of being an idealist in my younger years. I genuinely believed that I had a chance to be an Olympic swimmer. Even though I was very far from competing on that level, I thought I could do it if I believed and worked hard enough. In the end, I never came close. I learned that taking an honest assessment of one's strengths and weaknesses is very important.

A successful optimist is realistic in their approach and hopeful and confident about the future. Often their optimism

comes from their faith. Many studies have shown that being optimistic about the future predicts success. Those who are optimistic are overwhelmingly successful compared to those who are pessimistic.

A recent scientific study revealed that optimists live 11-15 percent longer than pessimists and are associated with better overall health.

My father, who started this column, was an optimist. I think about his life often and am amazed at his accomplishments. There is no way he could have done the things he did if he had a negative mindset. He remains an inspiration and a guiding light in my life.

Were you once optimistic, but became pessimistic? Have you always been a pessimist but are unhappy and want more from life? Change your thinking, have some faith, and give optimism a chance.

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Use rain barrels to capture rainwater

Put rainwater to use in your landscape with the help of rain barrels. This centuries old technique allows you to capture rainfall to use for watering ornamental gardens and containers.

Always start with a call to your local municipality. Some have restrictions on water harvesting, but most encourage this practice, and some even offer rebates or rain barrels at a discounted rate.

Purchase a rain barrel or make your own from a large, recycled food grade container. In either case, there are some features to consider when purchasing, creating, and adding a rain barrel to your landscape.

Make sure the top is covered to keep out bugs and debris. Some come equipped with a solid lid with an opening just big enough to accommodate the downspout. Others use a screen to keep out debris, while letting in the rain.

Don't worry about mosquitoes breeding inside your rain barrel. Just use an organic mosquito control like Mosquito Dunks and Mosquito Bits (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com) in rain barrels and other water features. Mosquito Bits quickly knock down the mosquito larval population,



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

fill watering cans or attach a hose for watering.

Include an overflow outlet near the top of the barrel to direct excess water away from the house or for connecting adjacent barrels. A downspout diverter is another way to manage rain barrel overflows. When the rain barrels are full, this device diverts the water back to the downspout where it is carried away from your home's foundation.

Elevate your rain barrel on cement blocks, decorative stands, or similar supports. This provides easier access to the spigot for filling containers and speeds water flow with the help of gravity. A water pump will boost water pressure for a nice steady flow of water.

Dress up your container with a bit of paint suited for outdoor use on plastic surfaces. And don't worry if you are not an artist, you can hide your rain barrels with some decorative screens or plantings or upright shrubs, perennials or ornamental grasses. Just make sure

while Mosquito Dunks provide 30 days of control. They are both safe for people, pets, fish, wildlife and beneficial insects.

Look for one with the spigot near the base of the barrel so water does not stagnate in the bottom. Use the spigot to



Photo Melinda Myers

Elevate your rain barrel for easier access to the spigot for filling containers and to speed water flow with the help of gravity.

you have easy access to the spout for retrieving water.

Start your conversion to rain barrels one downspout at a time. You can capture as much as 623 gallons of water from 1,000 square feet of roof in a one-inch rainfall. This can be a lot to manage when first adjusting to this change of habit. Disconnecting one downspout at a time allows you to successfully match the use of rain barrels and other rain harvesting techniques to your gardening style and schedule.

The choices are many, making it easy for you to conserve water and grow a

beautiful landscape.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

LEGALS

Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit, for Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center for the property located at 47 East Main Street, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to construct new additions on both the East and West side of the current building. Also, to modify the rear entrance and parking lot demolish the existing dwelling at the above address in General District. This requires a Special Permit as per section(s)
-1.52-Nonconformity: §1.52 Nonconforming Structures (a) (et al)
May 27, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO22P1749EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
David S Ingalls
Date of Death: 03/23/2022**

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/14/2022**. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the

Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration. **WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.**
Date: May 18, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
May 27, 2022

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: **William E. Keyes Jr.** has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to add fill, remove vegetation and add gravel to the road located at **Lot 13 Bacon Hill Road**, Spencer, MA. **Brett & Michelle Burtt** have filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to construct a garage, breezeway addition, deck, patio, boulder wall and 500-gallon propane tank at **47 Cranberry Meadow Road**, 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, June 8, 2022 at which time all persons having an interest may be present or call in remotely to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 6:15 p.m.
Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman
May 27, 2022

WARREN Office of the Collector of Taxes

The owner(s), occupant(s) and public are hereby notified that the following described parcels herein, located within the municipality of WARREN and WORCESTER County, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have taxes for the year 2020 as committed to the Collector of Taxes, by the Board of Assessors of this municipality which remain delinquent and unpaid, and that the property herein described will be taken by WARREN on Friday, June 10, 2022, at 10:00 am for non-payment of taxes, including interest and all legal costs and charges thereon, unless the property shall be previously discharged .
KERRY SCHMIDT
Collector of Taxes Town of WARREN

Property Location: 21 CARL ST
Assessed Owners: ADAMSKI HELEN & DUDEK, SHIRLEY
Bill Number: 7-3
2020 REAL ESTATE TAXES

1,341.43
1,341.43

Description: A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.370 acres described as parcel 23 0

77 in the office of the Assessors of the Town of WARREN identified in book and page 17787-176, WORCESTER County Registry of Deeds.

Property Location: 17 LIBERTY ST
Assessed Owners: CHAFFEE RICHARD A.
Bill Number: 62-6
2020 REAL ESTATE TAXES

366.24
366.24

Description: A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.890 acres described as parcel 24 0 83 in the office of the Assessors of the Town of WARREN identified in book and page 26695-189, WORCESTER County Registry of Deeds.

Property Location: 45 SUMMER ST
Assessed Owners: DELANSKI DAVID A.
Bill Number: 92-5
2020 W LIEN
S LIEN
REAL ESTATE TAXES

325.38
750.00
2191.32
3266.70

Description: A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.188 acres described as parcel 14 0 25 in the office of the Assessors of the Town of WARREN identified in book and page 1 0 2 3 5 - 385, WORCESTER County Registry of Deeds.

Property Location: DUNHAM RD
Assessed Owners: DESY STEVE B.J. & SUSAN E.
Bill Number: 97-1
2020 REAL ESTATE TAXES

6.30
6.30

Description: A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 4.700 acres described as parcel 11 0 6 in the office of the Assessors of the Town of WARREN identified in book and page 37682-188, WORCESTER County Registry of Deeds.

Property Location: 1210 MAIN ST
Assessed Owners: DUNN AARON LEE
Bill Number: 105-6
2020 S LIEN
REAL ESTATE TAXES

375.00
2,141.89
2,516.89

Description: A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0 .760 acres described as parcel 17 0 6 in the office of the Assessors of the Town of WARREN identified in book and page 58443-214, WORCESTER County Registry of Deeds.

Property Location: CROUCH RD
Assessed Owners: GREEN FIELDS, INC.
Bill Number: 146-5
2020 REAL ESTATE TAXES

344.88
344.88

Description: A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 2.305 acres described as parcel 6 0 75.46 in the office of the Assessors of the Town of WARREN identified in

book and page 47296-388, WORCESTER County Registry of Deeds.

Property Location: 10 LOMBARD ST
Assessed Owners: NICHOLAS KEITH E. & KAREN M.
Bill Number: 273-6
2020 S LIEN
REAL ESTATE TAXES

375.00
2292.58
2667.58

Description: A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.110 acres described as parcel 17 0 125 in the office of the Assessors of the Town of WARREN identified in book and page 27018-214, WORCESTER County Registry of Deeds.
May 27, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200**

**Docket No. WO22C0172CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:
Maddison Germaine Weldon
A Petition to Change Name of Adult**
has been filed by **Maddison Germaine Weldon of West Warren MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Maddie Germaine Lynch**
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 06/07/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 04, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
May 27, 2022

Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit, for Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center for the property located at 47 East Main Street, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes for special exception to allow an addition on the east side of original building within the 20' side setback. The existing building is non-conforming and is 11' from the east property line. The addition will encroach the property line by an additional 6" leaving a side setback of 10'6".
-4.2 General Requirements. (a) (et al)
May 27, 2022
June 6, 2022

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SPORTS

Auburn at the top of SWCL boys’ track and field team championship

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

OXFORD — The 12 member schools of the Southern Worcester County League took to Oxford High for the annual boys’ track and field championship meet, which took place on Tuesday, May 17.

Under mild but at times breezy conditions, Auburn High won the team title, accumulating 103 points. The Rockets bested second place Oxford by 24 points.

Individually, Leicester High’s Teddy Miller was a triple winner, taking firsts in the 400-meter dash, 110-meter hurdles and long jump events. Uxbridge High’s Lincoln Schiller (one-mile run, 800-meter run) and Oxford’s Darius Richardson (100-meter dash, 200-meter dash) each were double winners.

Each event handed out 31 possible points, with first place taking 10 points, second earning 8, third grabbing 6, fourth getting 4, fifth taking 2 and sixth receiving 1.

The results are as follows:

Team Standings

1. Auburn, 103 points
2. Oxford, 79
3. Grafton, 67.5
4. Uxbridge, 58
5. Millbury, 55
6. Tantasqua, 53
7. Leicester, 50
8. David Prouty 12
9. Quaboag, 10
10. Northbridge, 7
11. Southbridge, 1.5

Individual Results

100-Meter Dash

1. Darius Richardson, Oxford, 11.44
2. Aditya Kaki, Grafton, 11.58
3. Myles Craft, Oxford, 11.64
4. Zack Oliveira, Uxbridge, 11.69
5. Julian Kondratowicz, David Prouty, 11.72
6. Tyler Schold, Millbury, 11.79

200-Meter Dash

1. Darius Richardson, Oxford, 23.46
2. Aditya Kaki, Grafton, 23.613
3. Tyler Schold, Millbury, 23.618
4. Cameron Caso, Uxbridge, 23.93
5. Julian Kondratowicz, David Prouty, 24.08
6. Myles Craft, Oxford, 24.14

400-Meter Dash

1. Teddy Miller, Leicester, 51.68
2. Ryan Gleason, Millbury, 54.09
3. Dominic Murphy, Tantasqua, 54.54
4. Tyler Kwamo, Auburn, 56.35
5. Makarious Mansour, Uxbridge, 56.63
6. Avery Mitchem, Tantasqua, 57.43



Nick Ethier photos

Area schools competed in the Southern Worcester County League boys’ track and field championship meet at Oxford High on Tuesday, May 17.

800-Meter Run

1. Lincoln Schiller, Uxbridge, 2:09.30
2. Vincent Miles, Auburn, 2:09.95
3. Dylan Delage, Leicester, 2:16.46
4. Jason Fournier, Leicester, 2:18.05
5. Abhinav Sood, Grafton, 2:20.00
6. Mike Burns, Millbury, 2:20.62

One-Mile Run

1. Lincoln Schiller, Uxbridge, 4:55.74
2. Nevan Kelley, Grafton, 4:58.77
3. Luke Herren, Grafton, 5:03.44
4. Camden Foley, Tantasqua, 5:07.17
5. Vincent Miles, Auburn, 5:18.55
6. Camden Stone, Oxford, 5:22.70

Two-Mile Run

1. Aidan Ross, Uxbridge, 10:57.65
2. Nevan Kelley, Grafton, 11:21.92
3. Luke Herren, Grafton, 11:22.26
4. Jason Fournier, Leicester, 11:27.87
5. Mike Burns, Millbury, 11:30.68
6. Jamie Hozier, Millbury, 11:33.45

110-Meter Hurdles

1. Teddy Miller, Leicester, 15.75
2. Cameron McNally, Auburn, 16.82
3. Avant Fitzpatrick,

Tantasqua, 17.22

4. Hayden Plumb, Auburn, 17.49
5. William Owusu, Oxford, 19.36
6. Nolan Charbonneau, Millbury, 19.38

400-Meter Hurdles

1. Cameron McNally, Auburn, 1:01.87
2. Bryce Tessier, Tantasqua, 1:02.48
3. William Owusu, Oxford, 1:02.73
4. Nolan Charbonneau, Millbury, 1:03.38
5. Anthony Phillipo, Millbury, 1:04.13
6. Cooper White, Leicester, 1:05.31

4x100-Meter Relay

1. Uxbridge (Cameron Caso, Zack Oliveira, Thatcher Sweeney, Camden Lachapelle), 47.08
2. Oxford (Brett Morgan, Sam Zostant, Kalimbiro Bujlriri, Robert Fisher), 48.00
3. Tantasqua (Cameron Murphy, Avant Fitzpatrick, Nathan Winco, Brad Ellithorpe), 48.37
4. Millbury (Sergio Hernandez, Mario Vincequere, Jemil Jalloh, Tyler Vacarro), 48.62
5. Auburn (James Almeida, Owen Fitzgerald, Kweku Akese, Blake O’Brien), 49.40
6. Grafton (Alex Inciong, Nicholas St. George, Daniel Lettery, Alonzo Carpenter-Hill), 49.42

4x400-Meter Relay

1. Auburn (Jackson Bolduc, Gavin Groh, Nathan Leboeuf,



Tyler Kwamo), 3:55.82

2. Tantasqua (Joshua Baldracchi, Dylan Thompson, Camden Foley, James Segatore), 3:57.04
3. Grafton (Nicholas St. George, Cooper Berube, Andrew Samaha, Logan Mayo), 4:05.29
4. Millbury (Ryan Gleason, Sergio Hernandez, Jemil Jalloh, Nolan Clark), 4:05.92
5. Uxbridge (Matt Healey, Tyler Bergman, Makarious Mansour, Tyler Erickson), 4:07.48
6. Leicester (Dylan Delage, Giovanni Aguiar Ortiz, Xavier Morales, Tyler Herron), 4:10.70

High Jump

1. Owen Stevens, Quaboag, 6-00
2. Tyler Kwamo, Auburn, 5-10
3. Caden Ashmore, Grafton, 5-10
4. Anthony Phillipo, Millbury, 5-06
5. Jackson Shea, Grafton, 5-04
5. Michael Cook-Ramos, Southbridge, 5-04

Long Jump

1. Teddy Miller, Leicester, 20-09.00
2. Brett Morgan, Oxford, 18-11.25
3. Tyler Schold, Millbury, 17-11.50
4. Nathan Winco, Tantasqua, 17-11.25
5. George Adrianoplous, Millbury, 17-10.75
6. Glen Kelley, Grafton, 17-10.00

Triple Jump

1. Tyler Kwamo, Auburn, 42-02.50
2. Kweku Akese, Auburn,

41-08.00

3. William Owusu, Oxford, 40-03.00
4. Myles Craft, Oxford, 38-03.50
5. Adam Hillerstrom, Grafton, 37-02.50
6. Tyler Schold, Millbury, 36-05.50

Shot Put

1. Anthony Lataille, Tantasqua, 43-09.00
2. Owen Fitzgerald, Auburn, 41-00.00
3. Ian Gahan, Northbridge, 38-06.00
4. Sam Zostant, Oxford, 37-00.00
5. Garrett Papierski, Auburn, 36-10.00
6. Keating Oliver, Auburn, 35-10.00

Discus Throw

1. Owen Fitzgerald, Auburn, 115-06
2. Gathan Chaput, David Prouty, 110-07
3. Garrett Papierski, Auburn, 104-05
4. Ryan Schiappa, Grafton, 102-05
5. Sam Zostant, Oxford, 99-00
6. Ian Gahan, Northbridge, 94-09

Javelin Throw

1. Aidan VanArsdelan, Oxford, 125-00
2. Jason Bein, Millbury, 114-11
3. Tyler Erickson, Uxbridge, 114-09
4. Teddy Miller, Leicester, 113-01
5. Gavin Groh, Auburn, 110-07
6. Robert Fisher, Oxford, 109-00

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Wednesday, May 18

Southbridge 3, David Prouty 2 — Despite the close loss to the Pioneers, the Panthers still had a good showing in girls’ tennis. Standout performances were had by the first doubles team of Ava Bergeron and Ayla Messier, who won their match (6-3, 6-1), and the second doubles team of Greenly Waugh and Allison Decelle, who also won (6-3, 6-0).

Hopedale 9, Tantasqua 8 — Trailing by a goal, 8-7, with just over two minutes to go in regulation, the Warriors’ Kaydie O’Neil knotted the score in a girls’ lacrosse matchup against the Blue Raiders. Hopedale’s Nora Hodgen eventually won the game, though, in the second overtime.

O’Neil finished with three goals for Tantasqua, while Sophia Parker (two), Maeve Ashworth (two) and Kelsie Lucas also tallied, as the Warriors dropped to 9-5.

Monday, May 23

Leicester 4, David Prouty 1 — For the Panthers’ tennis team, a loss was had but quite an accomplishment took place. David Prouty’s first doubles team of Ava Bergeron and Ayla Messier won the team point and also finished the regular season undefeated. Bergeron and Messier went 10-0 at first doubles and 1-0 at second doubles.

LOCAL GOLF RESULTS

Quail Hollow Golf Club

May 9

Greendale Men’s League (-2): Lou Gouin, Dan McAuliffe, Ken Miller

(-2): Rick Wheeler, Glen Wuerthele, Dick Whipplee, Kent Seith

May 10

Pit’s Crew

First place (-10): Tony Neggers, Bob DiMaio, Bill Gaudette, Dave Walsh

Second place (-5): Gary Herl, Tom Lewandowsky, Tim Hickey, Kevin Grace

Third place (-4): Dick Lisi, Graham Entwistle, Dave Lapointe, Dave McClusky

May 16

Greendale Men’s League

First place (-2): Bill Gaudette, Bill Parsons, Mic Davis, Mike Thompson

Second place (-1): Rick Wheeler, Kent Seith, Dick Whipplee, Glen Wuerthele

May 17

Pit’s Crew

First place (-7): Roger Beland, Bruce Smebakken, Tom Emery, Bud Powers

Second place (-5): Ron Jette, Bill Parsons, John Dubsy, Dick Lapierre

Third place (-4): John Desimone, Phil Woods, Paul Thompson

Leicester Country Club

May 9

Jack Hanlon Golf League

Low Gross

1. Harry Kustigian, 84
2. Dave Burbine, 90
3. Tony Maio, 93
3. Tom DeFeudis, 93

Low Net

1. Paul Maio, 77
2. Paul Graham, 78
3. Andre Gaudette, 79

Teachers’ Association, school district reach tentative agreement

SPENCER – Last month, representatives from the Spencer-East Brookfield Teachers’ Association and the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District reached a tentative collective bargaining agreement to cover the next three years.

A draft of the contract has been written and is currently being reviewed by legal representatives on both sides. Once the agreement is fully vetted, details will be made available to School Committee members and members of the SEBTA.

The contract will then need to be ratified by the School Committee and the SEBTA membership.

“Representatives have been working toward this agreement for seven months. It is our belief that this agreement, once ratified, will allow both sides to work together for the benefit of the students of the Spencer-East Brookfield School District,” read a statement released jointly by Peter Bogren, the President of the Spencer-East Brookfield Teachers’ Association, and Heather Messier, the Vice Chair of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee.

SPORTS

SWCL girls' track and field team championship goes to Uxbridge

DAVID PROUTY'S BARNETT,
AUBURN'S DEFOSSE, MILLBURY'S NIKIFOROW
ALL DOUBLE WINNERS

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

OXFORD — One day after the boys' meet, the girls' track and field teams had their turn at the annual Southern Worcester County League championships on Wednesday, May 18.

Uxbridge High won the team championship with 120 points under pristine temperatures and a sunny sky. The Spartans defeated second place Tantasqua Regional, who scored 84 points.

On the individual side, there were three double winners. David Prouty Regional's Eliana Barnett (100-meter dash, 200-meter dash), Auburn High's Katherine DeFosse (100-meter hurdles, long jump) and Millbury High's Mila Nikiforow (one-mile run, 800-meter run) all won two events.

There were 31 points available in each event, points being awarded in a 10-8-6-4-2-1 scale for finishing in first through sixth place.

The results are as follows:

Team Standings

1. Uxbridge, 120 points
2. Tantasqua, 84
3. Grafton, 78
4. Auburn, 58
5. Leicester, 52
6. Oxford, 38
7. Millbury, 32
8. David Prouty, 31
9. Quaboag, 3

Individual Results

100-Meter Dash

1. Eliana Barnett, David Prouty, 13.25
2. Breanna Escobar, Leicester, 13.66
3. Ellie Makowiecki, Oxford, 13.72
4. Jacquelyn Gilbert, Millbury, 13.76
5. Lili Shiers, Tantasqua, 13.78
6. Tess Chevalier, Tantasqua, 13.80

200-Meter Dash

1. Eliana Barnett, David Prouty, 27.95
2. Ava Chevalier, Tantasqua, 28.36
3. Shaless Reddick, Auburn, 28.69
4. Haley McCormack, Tantasqua, 28.701
5. Sydney Mercadante, Auburn, 28.705
6. Morgan Kates, David Prouty, 28.82

400-Meter Dash

1. Allie Shrayer, Grafton, 1:04.53
2. Kendall Gilmore, Uxbridge, 1:06.02
3. Nicole Dupuis, Grafton, 1:07.67
4. Kaylee Tavares, Uxbridge, 1:08.43
5. Grace Kates, David Prouty, 1:09.29
6. Rian Fadden, Leicester, 1:09.43

800-Meter Run

1. Mila Nikiforow, Millbury, 2:33.66
2. Molly Hilditch, Auburn, 2:35.38
3. Olivia Magierowski, Tantasqua, 2:39.97



4. Karina Sargent, Auburn, 2:41.41
5. Abigail Deary, Uxbridge, 2:41.82
6. Anabel Melanson, Quaboag, 2:42.97

One-Mile Run

1. Mila Nikiforow, Millbury, 5:39.75
2. Grace Cummings, Grafton, 5:59.86
3. Julia Philbrook, Uxbridge, 6:12.76
4. Elle Bristol, Grafton, 6:14.68
5. Parker Tunley, Quaboag, 6:15.50
6. Abigail Gahagan, Leicester, 6:17.61

Two-Mile Run

1. Abigail Bernabei, Leicester, 13:00.80
2. Alena Duval, Grafton, 13:53.86
3. Haley Courtney, Tantasqua, 13:58.91
4. Jemma DePasquale, Grafton, 14:05.49
5. Sabrina Tibedo, Uxbridge, 14:17.21
6. Ghislaine Brenner, Grafton, 14:31.72

100-Meter Hurdles

1. Katherine DeFosse, Auburn, 15.13
2. Kathryn Cahill, Uxbridge, 15.90
3. Haley McCormack, Tantasqua, 17.96
4. Katie Riley, Tantasqua, 18.123
5. Mariko Partin, Grafton, 18.130
6. Megan Raymond, Oxford, 19.45

400-Meter Hurdles

1. Kathryn Cahill, Uxbridge, 1:08.29
2. Katherine DeFosse, Auburn, 1:08.36
3. Claire Godek, Tantasqua, 1:19.50
4. Niamh McSweeney, Uxbridge, 1:23.55
5. Claire Bertrand, Millbury, 1:25.02
6. Maryah Moldrow, Millbury, 1:26.78

4x100-Meter Relay

1. Tantasqua (Ava Chevalier, Tess Chevalier, Lili Shiers, Katie Riley), 54.67
2. Oxford (Adrianna Roszkowski, Annie Maynard, Ashlyn Hebert, Ellie Makowiecki), 55.65
3. David Prouty (Emilee Larson,



Nick Ethier photos

On Wednesday, May 18, Oxford High hosted the 12 Southern Worcester County League schools for the annual girls' track and field championship.

Alivia Sauvageau, Grace Kates, Morgan Kates), 56.29

4. Grafton (Emily Moreau, Casey Dunlap, Emma Bittel, Sade Carpenter-Schatzman), 56.34

5. Leicester (Alexa Butler, Jordan Clarke, Taylor Waterman, Abigail Johnson), 56.64

6. Millbury (Jacquelyn Gilbert, Jenna Boria, Hannah Irish, Isabella Raymond), 57.34

4x400-Meter Relay

1. Grafton (Katie Branda, Elle Bristol, Nicole Dupuis, Allie Shrayer), 4:38.47

2. Auburn (Lilah Delongchamp, Sofia Fortunato, Mya Benoit, Chloe Foster), 4:48.67

3. Tantasqua (Claire Godek, Tessa Kline, Olivia Magierowski, Haley Courtney), 4:50.06

4. Uxbridge (Olivia Holden, Milla Mace, Sabrina Tibedo, Kaylee Tavares), 4:51.44

5. Oxford (Julianna Small, Jewelisa Richardson, Ana Neves, Molly Raymond), 5:16.78

6. Leicester (Abigail Bernabei, Alexis Herbert, Bujak Grace, Rian Fadden), 5:21.75

High Jump

1. Haley McCormack, Tantasqua, 5-02
2. Megan Raymond, Oxford, 4-10
3. Lili Shiers, Tantasqua, 4-06
4. Mariko Partin, Grafton, 4-06
5. Breanna Escobar, Leicester, 4-04
6. Jordan Patterson, Leicester, 4-04

Long Jump

1. Katherine DeFosse, Auburn,

16-11.00

2. Kathryn Cahill, Uxbridge, 15-10.50
3. Tori Paulauskos, Grafton, 15-08.50
4. Kendall Gilmore, Uxbridge, 15-00.00
5. Tess Chevalier, Tantasqua, 14-11.00
6. Annie Maynard, Oxford, 14-08.50

Triple Jump

1. Tori Paulauskos, Grafton, 33-09.00
2. Kathryn Cahill, Uxbridge, 33-07.00
3. Breanna Escobar, Leicester, 33-01.00
4. Ava Chevalier, Tantasqua, 32-05.00
5. Haley McCormack, Tantasqua, 31-11.50
6. Mariko Partin, Grafton, 31-07.50

Shot Put

1. Saige Frazier, Uxbridge, 28-11.00
2. Lily Brayman, Uxbridge, 28-10.00
3. Payton Banfill, Oxford, 28-02.00
4. Jewelisa Richardson, Oxford, 26-08.25
5. Emilee Larson, David Prouty, 25-11.25
6. Rachel Rapose, Tantasqua, 25-08.50

Discus Throw

1. Lily Brayman, Uxbridge, 86-03
2. Gianna Noyes, Uxbridge, 80-01
3. Milla Mace, Uxbridge, 75-02
4. Elizabeth Mitchell, Millbury, 74-04
5. Nina Dykas, Leicester, 74-01
6. Emma Robertson, Oxford, 69-07

Javelin Throw

1. Abigail Johnson, Leicester, 91-07
2. Sarah Brouillard, Leicester, 89-00
3. Gianna Noyes, Uxbridge, 76-06
4. Milla Mace, Uxbridge, 76-03
5. Mya Benoit, Auburn, 75-00
6. Hannah Harris, Oxford, 74-06

Cornerstone Bank donates \$ 5,500 to Sixth Annual Golf Fore Kids Tournament

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, has pledged \$5,500 to the Sixth Annual Golf Fore Kids Tournament benefiting Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass and MetroWest. The tournament will be held Monday, June 13, at the Framingham Country Club.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass and MetroWest provides vital programs for children and teens in the area matching an adult "Big" with a youth "Little" for valued quality time and mentorship. Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman has been involved with the program for years as the treasurer and serves on the committee for the golf tournament.

"Big Brothers Big Sisters is an organization near and dear to my heart," said Tallman. "The benefits of mentorship are monumental and seeing the relationships that form between 'Bigs' and 'Littles' is incredibly inspir-

ing, as I've witnessed firsthand. All of us at Cornerstone are proud to sponsor the Golf Fore Kids Tournament, which helps the organization match more children and teenagers in our community with mentors."

Founded in 1963, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass and MetroWest has supported children in the community through individualized mentoring programs. Volunteer 'Bigs' spend quality time with their 'Littles,' typically children who live in poverty, come from single-parent households, or face other types of adversity, providing them with additional, caring adult support.

Registration for the Golf Fore Kids Tournament is open and sponsorship opportunities are still available. More information can be found here: bbbscm.org/golf-fore-kids/.

About Cornerstone Bank
Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong founda-

tion to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities, through a broad range of deposit and loan products, and services. Built on Trust is not just a tagline, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Benefit concert will support S.O.N.G.

REGION — Residents are invited to attend a benefit concert from The Otters next month in support of a local organization.

Proceeds from the June 4 event will benefit Supporting Orphans Nationally and Globally, Inc. (S.O.N.G.), whose founder Wally Connor is traveling to the Poland-Ukraine border to assist children impacted by the war.

The June 4 program will run from 7-11 p.m. at Camp Putnam (141 Rutherford Rd. in New Braintree).

A \$10 donation is requested to attend the event. The program will also include a cash bar and refreshments.

Local residents are looking forward to attending the event while supporting children in desperate need. Countless young refugees, despite escaping war-torn Ukraine, have faced a whole new set of dangers in other countries.

"Many orphaned and unaccompanied children have fallen victim to traffickers at the border, promising them safety and security, and then disappearing," read a statement released by Brookfield-based S.O.N.G.

S.O.N.G., Inc., is a certified 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization run entirely by volunteers. All donated funds go directly to supporting orphaned children.

"Our mission for the last 23 years has been to 'Be a Hero' for orphaned children," said Connor in a previous statement. "It's always been about helping children who are in situations through no fault of their own, no matter what country they are from."

Connor's organization was previously known as Socks for Siberia.

To learn more about S.O.N.G. and how you can help, visit www.SupportingOrphans.org.

OBITUARIES

Earl L. Bengtson, 93

SPENCER- Earl L. Bengtson, 93, of Spencer, died peacefully at home on Wednesday, May 18th, surrounded by family.



He leaves his wife of 63 years, Jeannine A. (Young) Bengtson; his sons, David C. Bengtson (Sheila) of Centennial, CO, Paul E. Bengtson of Glastonbury, CT., Mark R. Bengtson (Kim Purcell) of E. Brookfield, MA, and Peter R. Bengtson (Christine) of Sandwich, MA; grandchildren, Olivia, Emily and

Tim Bengtson of Sandwich, Anikka Bengtson of Centennial, CO., Katie Bengtson of Glastonbury, CT., Ryan and Hayley Purcell of E. Brookfield, Brittany Molloy of Spencer, Henry and Elliott Young of Ardsley, NY, and several nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his sisters Dorothy Reid and Ruth Adams.

Earl was born in Worcester, MA, the son of Harry and Elvira Bengtson. He grew up in the Quinsigamond Village area of Worcester, where he graduated from South High School and Worcester Junior College. While attending Worcester Junior, he captained the baseball team. Earl also

attended Boston University. During the Korean War, he proudly served in country with the U.S. Army 45th Infantry Division. He traveled the world as a Sales Engineer for Micro Abrasives (Westfield, MA) for many years and retired in 1994.

Earl was an avid golfer and longtime member of the Growlers and Massasoit Golf Leagues and an active member of the Lions Club. He coached his sons in Spencer Minor League and Little League baseball and was a devoted high school and college sports fan. Earl was a Civil War history buff and an enthusiastic fan of big band, swing, and jazz music.

A Memorial Service for Earl will be held on Thursday, May 26th. at 11 a.m. in the J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terrace., Spencer. Visitation will precede the service from 9:30 to 11 a.m. Burial with Military Honors will follow in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Spencer Rescue Squad, 6 Bixby Rd., Spencer, MA 01562. www.morinfuneralhomes.com



Asparagus and Flower Heritage Festival returns

WEST BROOKFIELD – After missing one of their favorite springtime traditions for two years due to COVID-19 cancellations, guests enjoyed a triumphant return to the Asparagus and Flower Heritage Festival on May 21.

Temperatures were significantly hotter than usual for this year’s fair, but

guests found plenty of cool, tasty treats to help beat the heat.

As usual, the festival included dozens of vendors, live music, fun activities, delicious food, and appearances from local officials and organizations.



Members of the West Brookfield Senior Center have plenty of fun activities on tap.



Kevin Flanders

Members of the Clowning for Kidz Foundation enjoy the event.



Oakham’s Brynne Stark gets ready for the festival.

Helping solve America’s nursing shortage



CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy celebrated the annual Nurses’ Week on May 6- 12. On Friday, May 6, the opening of the celebration was MARILN (Massachusetts Rhode Island League for Nursing) Spring Conference, “Creating a Culture of Success: Potentials in Nursing Students,” attended by faculty and staff led by Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director.

On Sunday, May 8, the PN Class of 2022 gathered at the Douglas Farm and Orchard for Homecoming and the National Technical Honor Society Induction Ceremony. The PN Class of 2022 was joined by their family, friends, and alumni. May 11, Wednesday’s activities included Mock Code Day and Stop the Bleed training.

The week capped off Thursday evening, May 12, with the Academic progression in nursing LPN to BSN bridge program presented by Fitchburg State University, represented by Nicole Lajoie, BSN, RN-BC, Nursing Coordinator, a presentation and onboarding for Medical

Reserve Corps (MRC) by Lois Luniewicz, and a round table/panel discussion on academic progression with PN faculty and alumni. First to speak was Danielle Southall-Scotto, ASN, RN who obtained her associate’s degree in 2021 from Excelsior College. Danielle was a member of the PN Class of 2017. She was a recipient of the 2017 Academic Excellence Award and was a bronze medalist for Medical Math in SkillsUSA National competition having placed gold in state and district competitions. Danielle was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society and was a member of the Mock Code Team. Timothy Nikopoulos, BSN, RN completed his accelerated bachelor’s degree in Nursing (2021) at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. He was a member of the PN Class of 2019. He is currently with UMass Worcester Cardiac Intensive Care Unit and Surgical Intensive Care Unit. He was a SkillsUSA State Champion for First Aid/CPR. Professors Sarah Watson, MSN Ed, RN, Rianna Romano, BSN, RN, CEN, and Jennifer DeFilippo, MSN Ed, RN moderated the round

table/panel discussion on academic progression and shared their own nursing journey.

Even prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, America’s nursing shortage is well established. The leadership at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy understands how higher education and academic progression can help to stem the nursing shortage. It is estimated that America is projected to require 1.2 million nurses by 2030. The scope of the problem calls for innovative solutions such as the LPN to RN and LPN to BSN bridge programs. Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is making academic progression more accessible through affiliation agreements with Fitchburg State University and Worcester State University’s PN-BSN bridge program.

According to Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director, “we are taking critical steps to strengthen America’s core of nurses. Our student population of adult learners represents greater diversity than the current nursing population. Our graduates represent a talent pool adept at meeting the needs of our nation’s healthcare system.”

She adds, “Our faculty adapts new tactics, teaching and learning strategies that build more flexibility for our adult learners. We are serving a population of working individuals and adult learners with a genuine desire to enter the nursing profession most of whom are already employed by healthcare organizations as CNAs (Certified Nursing Assistants). The US needs more nurses. We have a diverse faculty and a strong PN student workforce to serve our communities. We are up for the challenge.”

School Committee candidates launch campaigns

LEICESTER – School Committee candidates Dylan Lambert and Scott Weikel officially kicked off their campaigns with a joint event at Eller’s Restaurant on May 18.

Lambert and Weikel will challenge incumbents Tom Lauder and Stella Richard at the June 14 election.

During the May 18 event, Lambert and Weikel met with voters to discuss their reasons for running for School Committee. They also shared their ideas about what is most important for the students of Leicester.

“The choice is ours. We grow and change, or we stay as we are and suffer for it,” Lambert said. “We have to grow—we have to be better. And the only way we do that is if we vote for change.”

Weikel expressed his commitment to helping students move to the Becker campus for the upcoming school year. He noted the recent contract

the Select Board proposed to the School Committee that was not accepted. Weikel said he would sign the Select Board’s contract on day one of office in order to get students situated at the Becker campus for the start of school.

Both candidates also attended the Leicester Senior Center this week to meet with voters. Lambert and Weikel fielded questions and concerns from townspeople related to the condition of school buildings and transparency from district leadership.

All four candidates running for the School Committee will participate in a forum on June 7 at 7 p.m. at Leicester High School. Attendees are welcome and Leicester Cable Access will also record the event.

Leicester’s Annual Town Election will take place at Town Hall on Tuesday, June 14, from noon-8 p.m.

FCC West Brookfield to host Memorial Day service

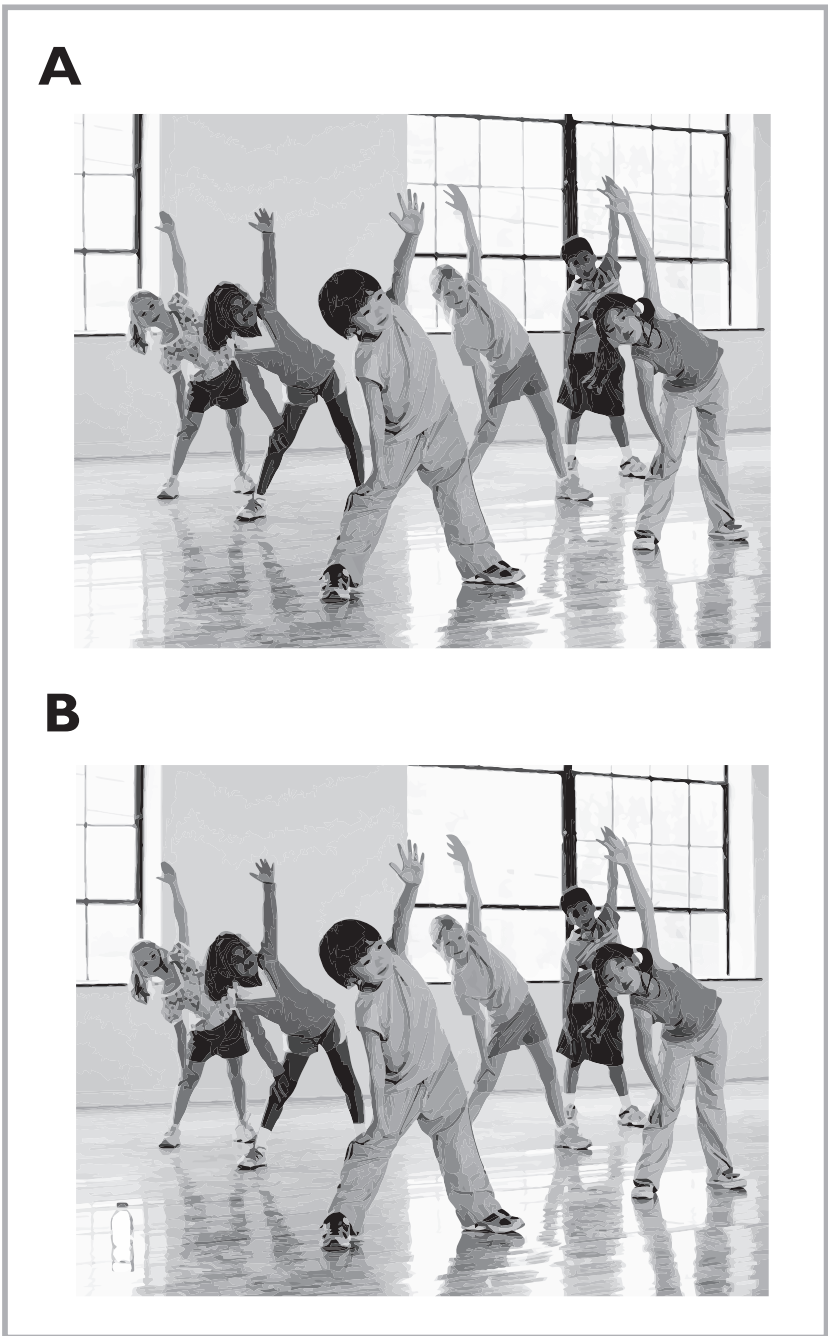
WEST BROOKFIELD — The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, United Church of Christ, 36 North Main St., West Brookfield, encourages our communities to join us in marking Memorial Day Sunday on May 29, 10 a.m., with a service of remembrance and candle lighting in the Sunday morning worship service.

Join us to remember the many brave men and women who have given their lives through the history of our country to protect us from danger and harm. Join us to remember all those who sustained injury in mind and/or body in the course of their service. We salute all those who served in the military and give thanks for their service. Call the church with questions: 508-867-7078 or email, firstconglewestbrookfield@gmail.com.



What’s the Difference?

There are four differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?



Answers: 1. Girl on left side back had extra hair
2. Water bottle on floor 3. Missing panes on window 4. Girl in orange has taller socks

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1703: TSAR PETER THE GREAT FOUNDS THE CITY OF SAINT PETERSBURG.
- 1937: THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE OPENS IN CALIFORNIA TO PEDESTRIAN TRAFFIC.
- 1967: THE NAVAL CARRIER USS JOHN F. KENNEDY IS LAUNCHED BY JACQUELINE KENNEDY AND HER DAUGHTER, CAROLINE.



SET

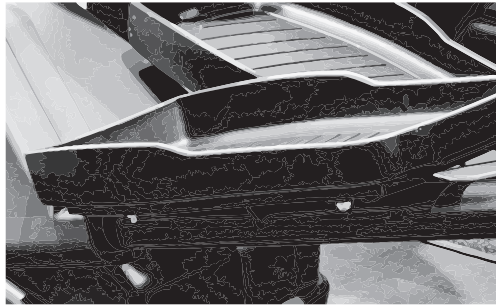
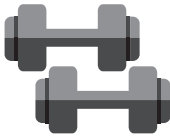
a fixed number of repetitions of an exercise

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH: Fitness
- SPANISH: Aptitud fisica
- ITALIAN: Forma fisica
- FRENCH: Forme physique
- GERMAN: Fitness



MOST KIDS CAN START TO BUILD STRENGTH SLOWLY BY LIFTING WEIGHTS AT 7 OR 8 YEARS OF AGE. WEIGHTS SHOULD BE AGE-APPROPRIATE AND EXERCISES SHOULD BE DONE CORRECTLY.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: ELLIPTICAL MACHINE

CRYPTO FUN



Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to cycling.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 17 = E)

- A. 15 9 26 20 8
Clue: Beaten path
- B. 11 1 11 8 17
Clue: Ride a bike
- C. 2 17 18 26 8 6
Clue: Power a bicycle
- D. 17 3 17 9 11 20 6 17
Clue: Fitness activity

Answers: A. trail B. cycle C. pedals D. exercise

SUDOKU

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

Level: intermediate

Here’s How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

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Lusignan



T.A.
King



Maureen
Cimoch



Ellen
Therrien



John
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WEBSTER – Lower Gore Road! Build Your Dream Home! 2.3 & 5 Acre Approved Buildable Lots! Large Parcels are getting harder to come by! New England Field Stone Walls and beautiful tiger lily wildflowers can be found! Great Commuting Location, Easy Highway Access! Nearby State Boat Ramp for Easy Lake Access! Water & Sewer in the Street! **Each @ \$99,900.00**

DUDLEY – 67 Southbridge Road! 6 Rm Ranch Set on 16,875' Lot! Applianced Eat-in Kitchen! Dining Area and Fireplace Living Room w/ Hardwood Floors! 3 Bedrooms w/ Hardwood Floors and ample Closet Space! Spacious 11x14.5 Master! Full Tile Bath! Oil Heat! Garage! **\$279,900.00**

WEBSTER – 6 Slater Street! Professionals Take Notice! Ideal Office Setup! 1st Floor w/Waiting Rm, Reception Area, 4 Offices w/Sinks, 3 Alcove/Prep Areas, Handicap Accessible 1/2 Bath, and Hrdwd Flrs! 2nd Floor Currently w/Employee Breakroom w/ Full Kitchen, Cabinets & Closet Storage, 3/4 Bath and additional office/bedroom! C/Air C/Vac! Security System! **\$349,900.00**

DUDLEY – 50 Brandon Rd! 3 Family! 55/4 Rm! 22/1 Bdrms! 22/1 Bathrms! Investors take Notice! Fully Rented! Solid Rental History! Long Term Tenants! Conveniently Located! Washer & Dryer Hookups in the Basement for Each Unit! Efficient Natural Gas Heating! Two Driveways provide Off Street Parking for up to 5 Vehicles! Dudley's Low Taxes & Desirable School System! **\$336,900.00**



DUDLEY HAYDEN POND WATERFRONT – 48 Hayden Pond Rd! Recently Renovated, beautifully appointed, 5 Rm Waterfront Ranch! Enjoy sunsets, fishing & all water sports! Vinyl Composite decking & vinyl railings! Open floor plan! Cathedral ceilings w/ skylights! Din Rm w/slider to covered deck! Kit w/quartz counters & SS appliances! Liv Rm w/stunning views of the Pond! Comfortable Master w/generous closet & half bath! 2nd bedroom or office! Full bath w/washer/dryer hook ups! Full basement for storage or additional living space! Floating Dock! Shed! **\$525,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 301 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Lake Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bdrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! **\$320,000.00!**

WEBSTER LAKE – 65 Bates Point Rd – Eastern Exposure – Beautiful Sunrises! Year Round – Principle Residence - Second Home – Remodel – Tear it Down and Start Anew! The Choice is Yours! Set on a 12,449' Lot, 50x249', 50.7' Waterfront! Plenty of Area for Expansion! Surrounded by Million Dollar Homes the Pallet is Yours to Create! 5+ Room Ranch with Full Walk-out Expandable Lower Level! Open Floor Plan! Applianced Kitchen, Dining Area and Living Room with Panoramic Water Views! 3 Bedrooms! Full Tile Bath! Oil Heat! Screened Porch! Detached Garage! Dock! Quick Closing! Summer is Just Around the Corner – Don't Delay! **\$710,950.00**

DUDLEY – 16 Joseph St! Spacious UPDATED 8 Rm Center Hall Garrison Colonial! Nicely Landscaped 25,581' Lot Set on a Cul-De-Sac "Dead End"! Ideal Residential Neighborhood! Dble Glass Door Tiled Center Hall Entry Foyer w/Guest Closet! SS Applianced Cherry Cabinet Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Corian Counters, Tile Flrs! Din Rm w/Hrdwds, Crown Moldings & Bay Window! Frpld Liv Rm w/Pellet Stove, Custom Shelving, Hrdwds & Bay Window! Fam Rm w/Hrdwds, Custom Cabinetry, Ceiling Fan, French Doors & Slider to Deck Overlooking Private Backyard! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry Closet! Hall w/Dble Closet to the 2 Car Garage! 2nd Flr w/4 Spacious Bdrms w/Hrdwd & Vinyl Plank Flooring! MASTER w/2 Walk-in Closets, Ceiling Fan & Custom Tile MASTER BATH! Hall Bath w/Custom Tile Tub/Shower Surround w/Linen Closet! Don't Delay! **\$449,900.00**

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DUDLEY - 7 SHINE AVENUE

Better than new! 3100 Sq.Ft. of spacious living! METICULOUS, OVERSIZED CAPE w/CONTEMPORARY FLARE! CLEAN, UPDATED & SPACIOUS! .62 Acre Lot, 120'+- Rd Front, Private Backyard, 9 RMS, Front-To-Back Living Rm w/Frplc & scenic views, Open Flr Plan Kitchen/Dining w/Slider to rear deck, 1st Flr Office, 2 Car Attd Garage, 2nd Flr Great Rm over garage. **MASTER BEDROOM SUITE** w/MSTR Bath, 2 more LG BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, LL BATH! Central Air, Central Vac. BEAUTIFULLY landscaped grounds. **\$549,000.**



WEBSTER LAKE - TREASURE ISLAND #503

Magazine Worthy Decor! New Kitchen with island, flooring, baths, gas fireplace, and so much more! Newer Furnace. Completely furnished. 6 rooms, 2-1.2 baths! 2 deeded boat slips. Salt Water Pool, Sandy Beach!

\$679,900

WEBSTER - 7 BRODEUR AVENUE



RARE FIND ~ TO BE BUILT - SPRAWLING 2,200 SQFT+ RANCH HOME! GARAGE Level 1/2 Acre Lot! FOUNDATION IS IN. Private backyard. GREAT LAYOUT! SOLID HARDWOOD FLOORS THROUGHOUT!

Seller will sell land, with improvements, Foundation w/Water & Sewer connections in. **\$170,000.**

WEBSTER - 10 GRANITE STREET



CONTRACTORS TAKE NOTICE! Single Family, need of Repair, 1,900 SF, 3 BRs, 1-1/2 Baths, 6,200 SF Lot, Oil Heat, City Gas avail. Architectural Character! SOLD "AS IS" - Submit Offers, Cash or Rehab Financing. **\$125,000.**

LEICESTER - 5 KEEFE COURT



CHERRY VALLEY of Leicester. Manageable 2 Bedroom Ranch! One Level Living! Large Dining Room for Entertaining! Detached Garage and Loft Area! 25 of an Acre! Flat side yard. Large Dog Kennel & Shed with Power! Mass Save Improvements. Central Air! **\$275,000**

LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD/PUTNAM

OXFORD - NEW LISTING! LAND - General Business Zoned! Marijuana OVERLAY DISTRICT! LAND with 4,095 SF Metal Building! 124 SOUTHBIDGE RD (RTE 20). Town Sewer Project Plans are Approved. 22,884 sq. ft. Level Lot. 140 ft of road frontage. **EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES! \$795,000.**

OXFORD - LAND - RTE 20 General Business Zoned! Marijuana OVERLAY DISTRICT! Vacant LAND, Level & cleared. 39,549 SF. **ON DEPOSIT \$419,000.**

Putnam - LAND Zoned General Business 23 acre 103' frontage. Water, Sewer, & city gas available. 2 street entrances. **\$125,000**

Oxford - 2 Merriam Rd 80+- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. **ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.**

Webster - Cooper Rd - 3 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & Sewer Access! **SORRY, SOLD! \$79,900.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.



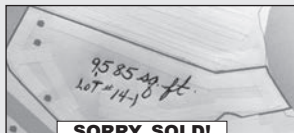
Killdeer Circle! Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! **\$650,000.**

TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO



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

WEBSTER LAKE - BLACK POINT ROAD



Buildable Waterfront Corner Lot!, 9500 +/- sq. ft. Sandy Beach. Town Water & Sewer Connections on the lot. **\$325,000.**

WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.



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DUDLEY: CAPE WITH OUT-BUILDING, 9.3 acres, 3 buildings, home, garage, workshop, Passing Title 5, Potential unit above 2 car garage or man cave, 4 room workshop or storage area, Additional land available
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CHARLTON: Developers
41 Potential lots for a subdivision on 99 acres **\$1,900,00**

Seven Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy student medalists headed to SkillsUSA National Competition

CHARLTON — Seven Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students will compete at the National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) on June 20-24, in Atlanta, Ga., after winning medals at the state level.

The NLSC is a showcase of career and technical education with experiences for students and advisors such as Leverage, Activate, and Engage. The intense and rewarding events cover individual, group, and interactive leadership training. The SkillsUSA Championships will be held on Wednesday and Thursday. More than 6,500 outstanding career and technical education students, all state contest winners will compete hands-on in 108 different trades, technical, and leadership fields.

According to SkillsUSA.org, "Students work against the clock and each other, proving their expertise in occupations such as electronics, computer aided drafting, precision machining, medical assisting, and culinary arts. Contests are run with the help of industry, trade associations and labor organizations, and test competencies



are set by industry. Leadership contestants will demonstrate skills including extemporaneous speaking and conducting meetings by parliamentary procedure."

The seven Practical Nursing students who finished first in the state competition are Health Knowledge

Bowl (Gold): Darcey Howe, Genie Blando, and Marvellous Undag. Sarah Garcia (Gold), Luciane Lindvay (Gold) for Medical Math, Eunice Kamau (Gold), for Medical Terminology, and Katie Blanchard (Gold) for Practical Nursing.

"Our Practical Nursing students represented the Academy with pride,"

said Getheline Bolandrino, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director. "I am excited for their upcoming adventure in Georgia! Thank you to the Superintendent, Mr. Kyle Brenner for his support, Professor Sarah Watson, and both SkillsUSA Advisors for Bay Path, Ms. Jennifer Stachura and Ms. Pam Staney for all their challenging work and coordination. Our PN students would not have been able to take part as well if not for the Bay Path community's support."

Further, according to SkillsUSA.org, "through an investment from business and industry partners of approximately \$36 million, the SkillsUSA event occupies a space equivalent to thirty-one football fields or 41 acres. Nearly 2,000 judges and contest organizers from labor and management make the national event possible. The philosophy of the Championships is to reward students for excellence, to involve industry in directly evaluating student performance and to keep training relevant to employers' needs."

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Brookfield announces Memorial Day events

BROOKFIELD — Again is a grateful nation called to refresh the memory of her fallen sons and daughters. The veterans of the republic come once more to reverently call the roll of the “mustered out” and strew with wreaths and flowers their honored graves.

Memorial Day calls upon a united nation to appropriately mark the last resting place of our sons and daughters who saw service while following the flag in times of war and peace.

In Memoriam	
Ralph T. Long	Korean War Navy
Kenneth E. Grimes	Peacetime Army
Stanley “Matt” Dulmaine, Jr.	Vietnam Air Force
John T. “Jack” Watterson	Vietnam Air Force
Douglas L. McNeely	

Vietnam Era	Coast Guard
Roy J. Couture, Jr.	Vietnam Era Army Reserve
“Time only enhances the lasting value and demonstrates anew the true significance of Memorial Day.”	
Memorial Day Parade, Monday, May 30	
Assembly of all marchers and all units at the Brookfield Elementary School, 35 Central Street, back parking area. Parade starting at 10 AM under the direction of the Brookfield Cultural Council, the Brookfield Selectmen, the Brookfield Fire Department, the Massachusetts State Police and the Brookfield Police Department. In the event of rain, parade will be in the BES Gymnasium.	
Program at Soldiers’ Monument Brookfield Cemetery Assembly 10:30 a.m.	
Pledge of Allegiance	Selectmen

Prayer Selection	Pastor John Condon	The Lincoln Minute
Men	Gettysburg Address	Tyler Neifert
	In Flanders Fields	Noah Wexler
	Salute to the Dead	
	In Memory	Town Clerk
	Taps	Jenny Dube
	National Anthem/Raising of the Flag	
Jack Gordon	Dismissal	Selectmen
Program on Brookfield Town Common Assembly 11:30 a.m.		
Pledge of Allegiance	Selectmen	
Prayer Selection	Pastor John Condon	The Lincoln Minute
Men	Gettysburg Address	Taylor Abair
	In Flanders Fields	Noah Wexler
	Salute to the Dead	
	In Memory	Town Clerk
	Taps	Jenny Dube
	National Anthem/Raising of the Flag	
Jack Gordon	Dismissal	Selectmen

Order of March

Fellow Citizens, Comrades of any military organization, all Comrades of the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or returned Comrades of the same, Veterans of all wars, all service men and women, Police, Firefighters, First Responders, Civil Defense, Emergency Medical Technicians, Sons of the American Legion and V.F.W, Scouts, 4-H Youths, Recreation Teams, Students and Parade Units are earnestly invited to join us in a proper observance of this day.

All vehicles are welcome.

Be prepared to kick off march at 10 a.m. at the elementary school on Central Street. Program at Brookfield Memorial Cemetery, at 10:30 a.m. Program at Town Common / Memorial Square 11:30 a.m.

Dismissal: noon.

MAPFRE USA celebrates 50th anniversary

WEBSTER — MAPFRE USA, the leading auto and home insurer in Massachusetts, is marking a significant milestone – its 50th anniversary.

The company was founded as The Commerce Insurance Company in 1972 by the late Arthur Remillard, an entrepreneur and leader in the Massachusetts insurance industry. Commerce was

acquired in 2008 by MAPFRE S.A., a global insurance group that does business in over 100 countries across five continents. MAPFRE USA operates in 12 states and is the largest personal auto, commercial auto and home insurer in Massachusetts, offering a wide range of insurance solutions for homes and vehicles.

“For a half century, MAPFRE

USA has provided excellent products and the highest levels of service to our agents and customers, and we appreciate their continued loyalty and trust in us,” said MAPFRE USA President and CEO Jaime Tamayo. “I could not be prouder of our dedicated employees, whose talents and contributions have been fundamental to our many accomplishments

and enduring strength over the years.”

Today MAPFRE USA has more than 2,000 employees across the country. In 2021, the company reported \$2.05 billion in total written premiums.

About MAPFRE Insurance MAPFRE Insurance®, rated “A” (Excellent) by A.M. Best Company, serves policyholders in 12 states across the United

States. It is the largest auto and home insurer in Massachusetts and ranks among the top 25 personal lines insurers in the United States. MAPFRE Insurance is part of MAPFRE Group, a global insurance company with a worldwide presence.

MAPFRE Insurance is a brand and service mark of MAPFRE USA Corp.

SNHU announces Winter 2022 President’s List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Winter 2022 President’s List.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above are named to the President’s List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in the fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits over two consecutive terms (EW1 & EW2, EW3 & EW4, or EW5 & EW6).

Christina Raymond of

Leicester
Nicholas LeBoeuf of
Rochdale
Donna Richer of Spencer
Lauren Wilcox of West
Brookfield
Denis Leo of Spencer
Laura Coulombe of
Brookfield
Thomas Bolduc of Spencer
Erin Parenteau of Spencer
Meghan OConnor of West
Brookfield
Isabella Cloward of West
Brookfield
Morgyn Astrella of West
Brookfield
Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of educat-

ing traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 165,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the “Most Innovative” regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

Rebecca Field named to SNHU Dean’s List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Rebecca Field of Spencer has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s Winter 2022 Dean’s List.

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

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private,

nonprofit institution with an 89-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 165,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the “Most Innovative” regional university by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

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