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Friday, August 19, 2022

## Fuller Campus Center ready to welcome Leicester students



Photos Kevin Flanders

Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Brett Kustigian, right, with Police Chief Ken Antanavica.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — Thanks to contributions from across the community, the Fuller Campus Center is ready to welcome LHS upperclassmen to their new home at the former Becker College.

Leicester High School juniors and seniors can't wait for the first day of school on Aug. 31, when they will usher in a new era for Leicester Public Schools.

In recent weeks, Superintendent Brett Kustigian and LHS Principal Ted Zawada have worked hard to complete the final preparations needed to transform the Fuller Campus Center into its next incarnation as a high school building.

With many flexible learning spaces that are already outfitted with multimedia equipment and other technologies, the building

lends itself well to creative, versatile uses.

"We are very excited about all of the collaboration spaces in the building that students can use to work together and build their teamwork skills," Kustigian said.

Even though the Fuller Campus Center no longer serves college students, it will still offer the same amenities as a college campus, officials said. This includes a cafeteria with equipment and capabilities that far exceed those of a typical high school. From the pizza oven, to a faculty coffee bar, to a capacious freezer that will make storage easy for staff members, the cafeteria will undoubtedly be a popular spot throughout the year.

Additionally, the building features several spaces that can easily be sectioned off to accommodate multiple academic, social, and community uses. These will likely include

Please Read **CAMPUS**, page **A6**

## Local author offers inside look at corrections system

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — For readers interested in learning about the inner workings of the corrections system, local author Jack McClintock's latest book offers an inside look at criminal justice in Massachusetts.

Having spent 50 years as a psychologist practicing in a wide range of facilities, including psychiatric hospitals and prisons, McClintock has provided mental health services to countless dangerous inmates and career criminals. Now, with the release of his book, "Sin Eater: Memoirs of a Prison Psychologist," McClintock takes readers into lockup to explore some of the darkest corners of crime and the system that manages all aspects of life behind bars.

"I've worked with cannibals and killers, monsters and madmen," said McClintock, who was often ridiculed and physically attacked during his sessions with inmates. "I've even had professional murder contracts taken out on my life, and all of that has enabled me to mature, adopt a pragmatic perspective on life, and develop a deep sense of gratitude for the things which brought me joy, as well as the sorrows that enabled me to appreciate that joy."

McClintock began writing the book after he left work in the prison system in 1999. The

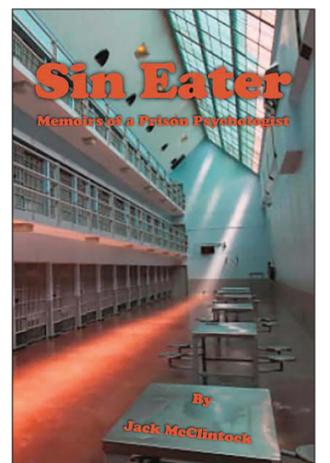


Photo Courtesy

Local author Jack McClintock recently released a memoir inspired by his work in the corrections and criminal justice system.

Please Read **SIN EATER**, page **A19**

## '82 East Brookfield Babe Ruth team to reunite

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD — Four decades after inspiring the community with their improbable championship run, members of East Brookfield's 1982 Babe Ruth title team will reunite this month.

For Mike Grenier and his teammates, it seems like just yesterday that they took the field as teenagers in August 1982, squaring off against several vaunted Worcester opponents in the annual Babe Ruth All Star Tournament of Champions. The tournament featured winners of multiple conferences across Worcester

County, many of which boasted intimidating lineups and pitchers.

Ranging in age from 13-15, the heavy underdogs hailing from the Commonwealth's youngest town wound up shocking their high-powered foes with five straight victories to capture the crown.

Flash forward to 2022, and the teammates are looking forward to reconnecting and reliving the magic.

"We had a great group of athletes that year. It was a defining moment for all of our athletic careers," said Grenier, who helped put together the reunion.

The team had originally hoped to get together in 2020, but that plan was called out on strikes by COVID-19. Two years later, the group is eager to take in a Worcester Red Sox game and then attend a private ceremony for families at 308 Lakeside in East Brookfield. The restaurant is owned by none other than their head coach from that Cinderella 1982 season, Tom Fahey.

"He was always so knowledgeable about the game. He had high hopes for us because he saw our talent and potential," added Grenier, who manned second base all those years ago and now resides

in California. "He was determined to get the most out of us."

Over the last ten years, a few teammates have taken part in an annual charity event in Charlton. They are looking forward to reconnecting with the rest of the group and Coach Fahey.

The ceremony following the WooSox game will undoubtedly feature plenty of reminiscing on an unforgettable summer.

"Tom pumped us up enough to believe a bunch of small-town kids could compete with the city boys. We picked a great time to go on a five-game win-

ning streak," Grenier recalled.

Following the storybook summer of '82, Grenier went on to play ball at David Prouty High School and then Clark University. He thanks local parents and community members for their constant support at all levels.

"I look back, and we had a great base of kids all the way from tee-ball to Little League to Babe Ruth League," Grenier said. "Some of us have not seen each other since our David Prouty days, so we're looking forward to reconnecting after all these years."

Team members are also

Please Read **REUNION**, page **A8**

## Wild Bill Challenge draws swimmers from far and wide



Photo Courtesy

Guests from throughout the area and the nation recently visited Brookfield to take part in the inaugural Wild Bill Swim Challenge.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD — Swimmers of all ages and abilities recently beat a punishing heat wave while raising funds at the inaugural Wild Bill Swim Challenge.

Held on Aug. 7 at the Quacumquasit Pond public beach, the event was created by Jennifer Yorzyk Triger in memory of her father, local Olympic hero William "Bill" Yorzyk.

Best known for his 1956 Olympic gold medal victory in the newly created 200-meter butterfly, Bill Yorzyk died in 2020. His legacy lives on through the passion guests showed on the water during the Wild Bill Swim Challenge.

The event saw 75 swimmers take to the water, with participants ranging in age from nine to 80. Event leaders were thrilled to see guests arriving not only from central Massachusetts, but throughout the region

and across the continent.

"The majority of our one-mile swimmers were first-timers. We had people arriving from Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, San Francisco, Rhode Island, Connecticut, the Berkshires, Maine, and a big group from New Hampshire which included many veterans," said Jennifer Yorzyk Triger.

The event featured a novelty dock-to-beach swim in which participants used buoys, noodles, kickboards, or any other flotation device. The program also included open water swimming races, various entertainment activities, and a Vintage Bathing Beauties and Blokes Pageant to commemorate Yorzyk's 1956 Olympic win.

Proceeds from the event will support the Quacumquasit Pond phosphorus inactivation project.

Originally from Northampton, Bill

Please Read **WILD BILL**, page **A3**

# Libertarians, comics and thespians of Central Mass and North Quabbin Region prepare to take on “12 Angry Men”

LEICESTER — The idea to do the play had begun with an idle quip from a Massachusetts political official engaging with colleagues. He was likely poking good-natured fun at their third-party’s ostensible demographics. Within a few short months, however, the traveling zinger had become a plan taken on by a wider community.

On the evening of Sept. 10, the Town Hall curtain is poised to rise upon a dramatic debut: fledgling Liberty Productions’ staged reading of “12 Angry Men.”

While Hollywood casting had drawn from its biggest names for feature film versions, Director Vivian Eliza Nichols, of Grafton, has gathered performers from less predictable realms. Converging from parts of Central Massachusetts and the North Quabbin Region, the 14 castmates include fellow active Libertarians, colleagues from Worcester’s standup comedy scene, musicians and theater actors.

The morally stirring courtroom drama, written by Reginald Rose, had been introduced in 1954 as a teleplay. It was soon adapted for the stage by Sherman L. Sergel, subsequently released in 1957 as a feature film directed by Sidney



Photo Courtesy

Liberty Productions players rehearse the justice-themed staged reading in space provided by the Congregational Church of Grafton, whose minister, Rev. Dr. Barbara Therese, has noted that that church’s own “mission” takes form through the arts. Pictured from left: Justin Costa, of Warwick; Terry Reed and Ann Reed, Orange; Kyle Hargrove, Worcester; Mark Branson, Westborough; Brian Zakrajsek, Ayer; Jeffrey Labbe, Worcester; Lou Ramos, Clinton; Thomas Sargent, Fitchburg; Scott David Gray, Marlborough; and director Vivian Eliza Nichols, Grafton.

Lumet, and, 40 years later, remade by director William Friedkin.

The upcoming staged reading aims to approximate a play

performance, although not off-book.

Nichols, a long time theater professional, announced auditions for “12 Angry Men” in

June. Upon hearing that the political official’s facetious brainchild had taken flight, a delighted associate expressed interest in pursuing the “type-

casting” opportunity. He passed the audition.

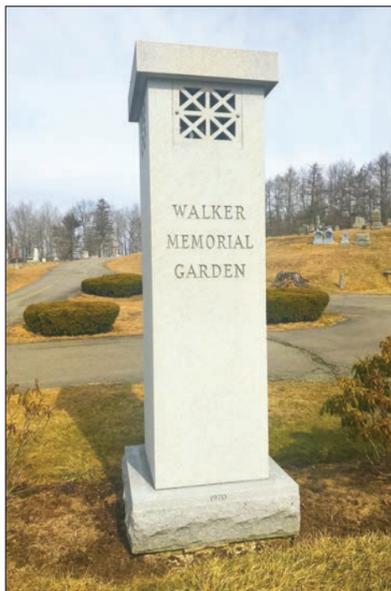
The Foreman will be played by Terry Reed; Juror Two, Justin Costa; Three, Mark Branson; Four, Kyle Hargrove; Five, Lou Ramos; Six, Charlie Larkin; Seven, Brian Zakrajsek; Eight, Jeffrey Labbe; Nine, Pat Ford; Ten, Thomas Sargent; Eleven, Scott David Gray; Twelve, Ethan White; and the Judge, Ann Reed.

Town residents Aimee Brigham and Mike Brigham manage business as Co-Producers and spearheads of the newly formed Liberty Productions.

Leicester Town Hall is located at 3 Washburn Square. The performance will begin at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 10, and - including an intermission - will run until about 10pm. General admission tickets cost \$10 and, for seniors and students younger than 12, \$8. They can be purchased at the door or in advance by visiting <https://liberty-productions.ticketleap.com/liberty-productions-presents-12-angry-men/>

The intense subject matter may be preferable for mature persons.

## Walker Scouting Memorial Carillon project meets fundraising goal



NORTH BROOKFIELD — The campaign to restore the carillon chimes to the Walker Scouting Memorial at Walnut Grove Cemetery in North Brookfield has met and exceeded its

fundraising goal, according to campaign chair, Joe Klimavich.

The campaign to install new carillon chimes was announced at the annual Scouting Memorial Service at the beginning of June.

“It’s been an amazing two months since the start of the campaign,” Klimavich said. “The generous outpouring of support from the Scouting community, the local business community, area service organizations, and the community at large has been simply outstanding. There’s no other word for it.”

According to Klimavich, the new system has been ordered and is being assembled by Bells of America, an Oklahoma City multi-media company that specializes in a variety of carillon applications. Installation will be scheduled as soon as the equipment arrives and the committee is planning an early fall ribbon-cutting event and demonstration. Once the project is completed, it will be turned over to the Town along with any remaining funds, which will be designated for perpetual care.

The project involves repairing electrical service to Walker Memorial Garden, installation of an industrial

amplifier in a vapor-controlled stainless steel container, housing new speakers in the carillon tower, an infrared beam interface that will activate the music when someone crosses its path, and a night-time automatic disconnect timer. The system includes programmable Westminster chimes with over one hundred liturgical and seasonal hymns and bugle taps.

“The infrared beam interface was actually a bonus of working with Bells of America,” said Klimavich. “It was our good fortune that the company we chose made the acquaintance of two Disney engineers who designed the exact interface we need to activate the chimes in the same way they worked in the original installation.”

At the request of cemetery commissioners, the project also includes the addition of overnight lighting on the flagpole at the center of the memorial that will allow the flag to fly around the clock as weather permits.

The fundraising campaign was bolstered in July by a \$2,500 matching gift challenge from Tasse-Crowley Oil & Propane in honor of Crowley Fuel’s Bob LaFlamme, who is retiring this year after 34 years of dedicated service to the

102-year-old home heating business and LaFlamme’s lifetime of service to the Scouting.

Walker Memorial Garden was designed and constructed by Norman Walker to honor the memory of his son, Ronald. Because both father and son shared a love for Scouting and because Scouting had brought them so close to one another, the idea for a “Living Memorial to Scouting” was born. It was dedicated on Memorial Day, May 25, 1970, and for the past 52 years, Scouts from around central Massachusetts have gathered there on the Saturday after Memorial Day to honor Scouters who died during the previous twelve months.

“The original memorial included a beautiful set of carillon chimes that were set into motion every time a visitor passed into the Memorial Garden,” explained Klimavich. “Sadly, weather and time took their toll on the carillon and the chimes have been silent for many years. Based on the many comments and messages from donors, we know just how important they were to this installation and how much they have been missed by area residents.”

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# SEBRSD students will get free meals during 2022-23 school year

SPENCER — Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District will take part in a new state pilot program offering free meals in schools in the 2022-23 year. The state set aside \$110 million to continue the federal government's free school meal offering, which expired in June.

Here's more from an SEBRSD news release:

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District will be participating in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. As part of this program, all Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District will offer healthy meals every school day. The Massachusetts legislature has provided funding to make meals available at no cost to all students during the school year 2022-2023, regardless of household income. However, parents and families should still complete a Meal Benefit Application as this provides data for key funding for academic resources and may also connect families to additional benefits. This data will also support the additional funds provided by the Commonwealth for this pilot.

Qualifications for children to receive free or reduced-price meals include: belonging to a household whose income is at or below the Federal Income Eligibility Guidelines, belonging to a household that receives public assistance, or if the child is homeless, migrant, runaway, foster, or participates in a Head Start or Even Start Pre-K program.

Household size and income criteria are used to determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits if the house-

hold does not receive assistance or the children are not in the other categories mentioned above. Children can get free or reduced-price meals if the household's gross income falls at or below the limits on the Federal Income Eligibility Guideline chart.

To apply for free or reduced-price meals, households can fill out the application and return it to the school unless the household has already received notification that their children are approved for free meals this year. Application forms are being distributed to all households with a letter informing households of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for their children and what is required to complete the application. Applications also are available at the principals office in each school and on the district's Web site.

Only one application is required for all children in the household and the information provided on the application will be used for the purpose of determining eligibility and verification of data. Applications may be verified at any time during the school year by the school or other program officials. An application for free or reduced-price benefits cannot be approved unless it contains complete eligibility information as indicated on the application and instructions. In the operation of child feeding programs, no child will be discriminated against because of race, sex, color, national origin, age, or disability.

Families can apply for benefits at any time. If a household member becomes unemployed or if the household size increases, the household should contact the school. Such changes may make

the children of the household eligible for benefits if the household's income falls at or below the Federal Guidelines. Contact the child's school at any time to request an application.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price policy, the Food Service Director will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the determining official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for a hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to Superintendent of Schools Paul Haughey, c/o Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, 306 Main St., Spencer, MA 01562.

When known to NPS households will be notified of their children's eligibility for free meals if they are members of households receiving assistance from the:

- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP);
- Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR); or
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), if the State program meets Federal standards.

An application is not required for free meal benefits for Assistance Program participants and all of the children in the household are eligible for free meal

benefits. If any children were not listed on the notice of eligibility, or if a household does not receive a notice of eligibility, the household should contact the school to have free meal benefits extended to them. Participants in the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) may be eligible for free or reduced-price meals, but they will need to turn in an application including household size and total income.

When known to SEBRSD households will also be notified of any child's eligibility for free meals if the individual child is considered "Other Source Categorically Eligible", because the child is categorized, as defined by law as:

- Foster
- Homeless,
- Migrant,
- Runaway,
- Enrolled in an eligible Head Start, or
- Enrolled in an eligible pre-kindergarten class.

If any children were not listed on the notice of eligibility, the household should contact the school about their eligibility through the list above or should submit an income application.

Households notified of their children's eligibility must contact the school if the household chooses to decline the benefits.



## NO INJURIES REPORTED IN SPENCER HOUSE FIRE

Photo Courtesy

The quick work of firefighters last week quelled a small house fire before it could do major damage. The Aug. 9 second-alarm fire took place at 11 Franklin St. All occupants made it out of the house without injury. Firefighters from the Spencer Fire Department extinguished the flames in time to contain the damage to a first-floor bedroom. The residents are not expected to be displaced by the incident, fire officials said. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

## WILD BILL

continued from page A1

Yorzyk always loved introducing people to swimming and helping them discover the joys of the water. He entered Springfield College at 16 years old as a non-swimmer, studying to become an Eagle Scout leader. His swim coach, Charles "Red" Silvia, took immediate notice of his potential and helped him revolutionize the sport by establishing the butterfly stroke in competitive action.

"His swim in the 1956 Olympics was the first time butterfly was even swum in competition with today's FINA rules," read an event promotional statement.

A five-time NCAA All-American who graduated college in pre-med, Yorzyk set a total of 11 world records and won the U.S. National Outdoor Butterfly title four times from 1955-1958.

Two years after Yorzyk's death, guests united in celebrating his legacy and his love for swimming. Several members of his family were on hand,

including his grandchildren Mali and Lucas Yorzyk Triger.

The Wild Bill Swim Challenge also saw a wildly successful raffle, and the celebration continued long after guests left the water.

"Many volunteers and swimmers joined us for the after party at Oakholm [Brewery], where we celebrated with Wild Bill Beer and Wild Carrol Hard Seltzer," added Jennifer Yorzyk Triger.

The program is expected to return even bigger and better next year.

Event organizers thank everyone who contributed to sponsorships and the raffle. Sponsors include SnowMagic, St. Germain Investments, Cornerstone Bank, Keep Secure, Tasse's Oil & Propane, and the QQLA.

To learn more about the program and upcoming events, visit [www.wildbillswim.org](http://www.wildbillswim.org).

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**PERSON of the WEEK**

THE SPENCER-5 of the 100-MILE RUCK MARCH CHALLENGE GROUP  
Jay Savageau, Casey Cormier, Jamie Cormier, Jeremy Ahearn, and Jason Monette

Coined the Spencer-5, these Spencer residents raised money for Why Me and Sherry's House by participating in a 100-mile Ruck March Challenge that began on July 21 and ended on July 24. They camped out at various venues before continuing their march at sunrise each morning. The 90-degree daytime heat wave made the march especially challenging.

Congratulations for your dedication to this cause and your commitment to the end despite the unbearable heat.

Why Me, a Worcester based nonprofit organization assists families throughout the area struggling with a childhood cancer diagnosis. For more information, see the article that ran in the August 12th issue, or visit [www.whyme.org](http://www.whyme.org).

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**Pet of the Week**

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Name: Mack  
Breed: Bernese Mountain Dog/Mix  
Gender: Male  
Size: Large  
Age: 1 year, 6 months

Hi, my name is Mack. (SEE MY VIDEO at [secondchanceanimals.org](http://secondchanceanimals.org)!) I am a super sweet and goofy boy ready to play and bounce around. I still have puppy behaviors and am always very excited and ready for all of the fun, all of the time!! I do have a condition called optic nerve hypoplasia which has caused me to lose some of my vision. Because of that, fast movements and lots of things going on at once scare me, so I would need to go home with no other pets or children. Adult, pet free home only please! I promise I have enough love and energy to fill your heart. I have just returned from our training program, and I have so much to show you that I can now do, please come meet me!

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# DA, Sheriff's office team up for job fair

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION—Recognizing the myriad job search challenges facing residents who were convicted of crimes, the Worcester County District Attorney and Sheriff teamed up for a special event last week.

Held at the MassHire Central Career Center in Worcester, the Aug. 11 job fair focused on finding occupations for residents with a criminal record. The event was hosted jointly by Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., and Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis.

More than 20 local employers participated in the job fair, which was open to all residents. A special emphasis was placed on connecting employers with residents who have served their time and are looking for a fresh start.

With most job candidates now facing comprehensive screening procedures, including CORI checks and other background checks, it can be difficult for those with convictions on their records to find work. Gaps in resumes may also cause employers to balk at considering candidates who have been incarcerated. The result is often a return to criminal activities to make money for their families, officials said.

“We know how important a job is to giving people a sense of purpose, and we also understand the barrier a criminal record can create,” Early said. “Gainful employment has been shown to reduce recidivism rates and increase long-term addiction recovery, therefore making our communities safer. This is good government. People are not defined by



Photo Courtesy

Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., (right), recently organized a job fair with Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis (center). Several local organizations and companies participated.

their diseases or their history, and we applaud the companies participating in the job fair for seeing that.”

The Worcester County District Attorney's Office previously hosted an expungement training program in 2019 to help the public understand when a criminal record can be cleaned by expungement. The DA's office also remains a participant in Worcester's

Re-Entry Task Force alongside many community partners.

“I've always believed that the best social program is a job,” said Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. “Nothing is more important than the dignity and self-respect of earning a paycheck. Job fairs are a direct pipeline for individuals who've become involved in the justice system.”

Officials thank the Worcester County DA and Sheriff for their efforts in assisting residents as they attempt to gain traction after leaving lockup. For many residents, all it takes is one employer's trust and belief in their abilities to set them on a track for career success, officials said.

Other job fair attendees were eager to show employers the skills and knowledge they gained while behind bars. Several career training and vocational services are available to inmates while serving their sentences.

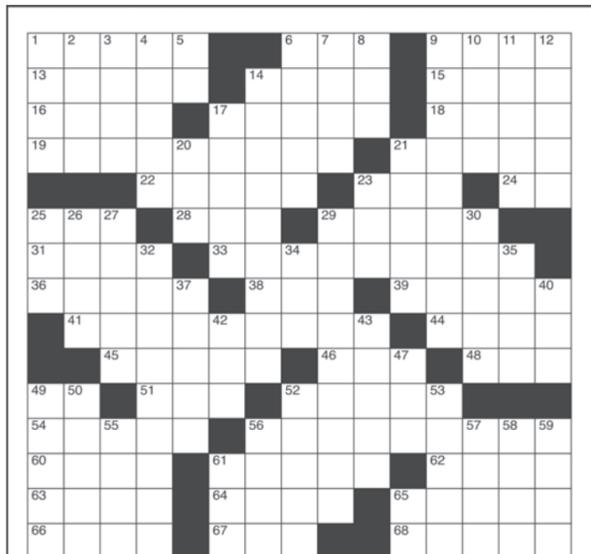
“We love collaborations, especially when it allows us to focus on target populations and work with organizations who provide resources to specific job seekers,” said Janice Ryan Weekes, the Executive Director of MassHire Central, which has locations in Worcester and Southbridge. “This job fair is a continuation of our work with this population. Prior to the COVID pandemic, we were working behind the walls, in collaboration with the Sheriff's and District Attorney's offices, to help this population get job ready.”

Participants of the August 11 job and resources fair included: Mass Rehabilitation Commission; Worcester, Massachusetts, Veterans, Inc.; Nouria; FedEx; DCU Center; Taco Bell; Amazon; Ocean State Job Lot; Eastridge Workforce Solutions; Table Talk Pies, Inc.; The Davis Companies; UPS; and the Transportation Security Administration, among several others.

To learn more about career resources available to job seekers in the Commonwealth, visit [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov).

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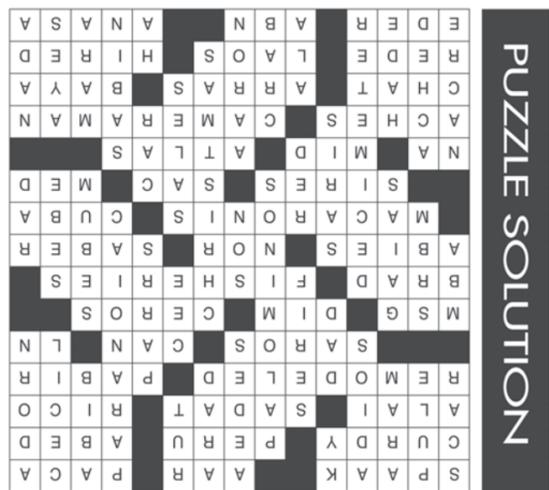


### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Influential Swedish, Belgian clan
- 6. Swiss river
- 9. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 13. Like coagulated milk
- 14. Lima is its capital
- 15. Lying down
- 16. Jai \_\_\_ sport
- 17. Egyptian statesman
- 18. Napoleon Dynamite's uncle
- 19. Renovated
- 21. Chadic language
- 22. 18-year period
- 23. Beverage container
- 24. Natural logarithm
- 25. The "mecca" of basketball
- 28. A way to darken
- 29. Mackerels
- 31. Actor Pitt
- 33. Places to buy seafood
- 36. True firs
- 38. Neither
- 39. Fencing sword
- 41. Italian pastas
- 44. Island nation close to the U.S.
- 45. Begets
- 46. Resembles a pouch
- 48. \_\_\_ student, learns healing
- 49. Sodium
- 51. Indicates position
- 52. The world has one
- 54. Partner to pains
- 56. Photographer
- 60. Chew the fat
- 61. Culture of the British Iron Age
- 62. Weaverbird
- 63. Advice or counsel
- 64. Asian nation
- 65. Brought on board
- 66. German river
- 67. Airborne (abbr.)
- 68. Leaf-footed bug genus

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Mark left behind
- 2. Cry weakly
- 3. Ancient region in modern Syria
- 4. Farewell
- 5. Blue grass state
- 6. Genus of mosquitoes
- 7. S. Israeli city
- 8. You can get stuck in one
- 9. One who mistrusts others unjustifiably
- 10. First month of ancient Hebrew calendar
- 11. Tigers legend Fielder
- 12. Make more attractive
- 14. Horses
- 17. Slight projection in typefaces
- 20. Male parent
- 21. Jack and Jill are two
- 23. After B
- 25. Licensed for Wall Street
- 26. Missile with about 600-mile range
- 27. Goddesses
- 29. A day kids love
- 30. Oily secretion
- 32. One-tenth of a meter
- 34. A father's male child
- 35. One point east of southeast
- 37. Silk garments
- 40. Cool!
- 42. The color of anger
- 43. Trade profession
- 47. It can get you around
- 49. Mother-of-pearl
- 50. Hurt
- 52. Legendary slugger Hank
- 53. Polio vaccine developer
- 55. Incline from vertical
- 56. Sea creature
- 57. Actress Kate
- 58. Affirmative votes
- 59. Nothing
- 61. Pie \_\_\_ mode
- 65. Expresses surprise



PUZZLE SOLUTION

## SHE'S BUSY TO CLOSE OUT SPENCER SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

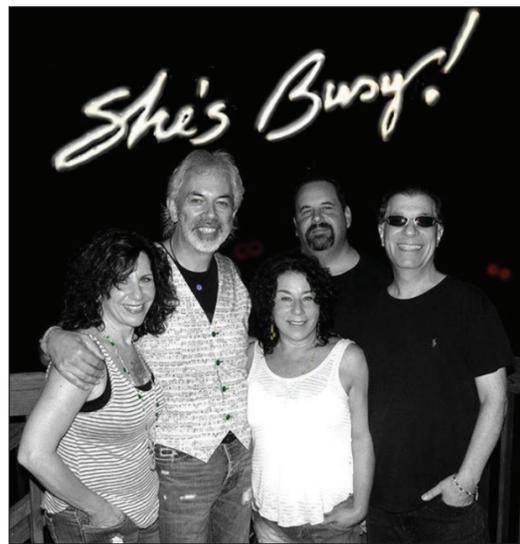


Photo Courtesy

The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission's 2022 Summer Concert Series concludes from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 21 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and Meadow Roads, Spencer with She's Busy. She's Busy is a popular classic rock band with exciting vocal harmonies, rolling rhythms and vibrant energy. Sisters Lisa and Selena Wilson originally formed She's Busy in 1990 and had two critically acclaimed records – “Strange Bedfellows” in 1991 and “Thinkin' Out Loud” in 1994. Songwriter/guitarist Brett Brumby came on board recording the third She's Busy record in 1996 titled “Different This Time.” The concert series is proudly sponsored by Cornerstone Bank. Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving the residents, businesses, and communities throughout Central Massachusetts from offices in Charlton, Holden, Leicester, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster and Worcester.

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\$720,000, 103 Turtle Cove Ln, Vermes, Craig, and Vermes, Rachie J, to Falvo, Thomas C, and Falvo, Anne L.  
**LEICESTER**  
\$467,000, 42 Cricklewood Dr, Snow FT, and Snow, Daniel N, to Amoah, Abigail. \$385,000, 4 Andy Dr, Alene R Stuart LT, and Dufresne, Jeanne S, to Ramos, Monica. \$328,000, 9 Redfield Rd, Zollo, Susan P, to Carmody, James P. \$314,000, 35 Deer Pond Dr, Tolman Robert P Est,

and Eagleton, Penny G, to Cashman, Cole R, and Pond, Elise M. \$265,500, 444 Henshaw St, Desota, Ethan, to Wetzlich, Krystalle L.  
**NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
\$260,000, 53 Bell St, Drost, Ashlyn C, and Baker, Joseph G, to Breitenfeld, Devin E. \$250,000, 125 S Main St #D, Buckland RT, and Anderson, Robert W, to Messier, Lisa A. \$40,000, 16 Saint John St, Perritt, Michel, to Los, William, and Los, Rebecca.  
**SPENCER**  
\$875,000, 3 Nottingham Cir, Minardi RT 2015, and Minardi, Joanne, to Tugal, Halil, and Tugal, Lisa. \$610,000, 55 Lakeshore Dr, Hartley FT, and Hartley, Lynne S, to Innamorati 3rd, A R, and Innamorati, Angela J.

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\$550,000, 10 Sherwood Dr, Haynes, Stephen J, and Haynes, Lissa J, to Muenstermann, John K. \$309,000, 68 Cherry St, Morrill, Robert K, and Laird, Caleb J, to Deyo, Jessica R. \$300,000, 14 Main St, B2 LLC, to Manzai, Gianna. \$47,500, 5 Cherry St, Jolicoeur Ave Inc, to 43 Orient LLC. \$47,500, 7 Cherry St, Lacaire, Donald B, to 43 Orient LLC. \$27,000, 2 Condon Dr, Guerin Jr, Paul A, and Guerin, Julie, to Chaffee, Richard. \$27,000, 4 Condon Dr, Guerin Jr, Paul A, and Guerin, Julie, to Chaffee, Richard.  
**WARREN**  
\$280,000, 755 South St, Brennan, Tricia A, to Baker, Joseph E, and Drost, Ashlyn.  
**WEST BROOKFIELD**  
\$230,000, 34 Whispering Pine Dr, Douglas, Andrew M, to White, Stephanie.

# Cornerstone Bank awards 16 college scholarships to local graduates

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout central Massachusetts, is proud to announce the 16 recipients of their scholarship awards program for local high school graduates. Each chosen graduate is awarded \$2,500 to assist with college expenses.

“Cornerstone Bank is proud to help students in our community reach their educational goals,” said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. “We want to foster the growth and development of the next generation of business and finance professionals, and congratulate these 16 exceptional students on their achievements, wishing them continued success.”

This is the list of the 2022 scholarship recipients along with the name of the school they plan to attend in the fall:

Kiana Barnes of East Brookfield, Nichols College  
Emma Blomquist of Holden,

University of Massachusetts, Isenberg School of Business

Madeline Duke of Shrewsbury, Indiana University

Hunter Goguen of Brookfield, Nichols College

Alexis Goodney of Leicester, Bentley University

Abigail Hill of Brimfield, Westfield State University

Nhi Huynh of Worcester, Harvard College

Brian Langevin of Sturbridge, University of Alabama

Owyn Law of Dudley, Quinnipiac University

Colin Minarik of Webster, Bentley University

Samuel Murillo of Charlton, University of Massachusetts, Lowell

Christopher Murzycki of Spencer, Worcester State University

Arieta Nasto of Worcester, Villanova School of Business

Brennan Ogert, Nichols College

Lauren Potvin of Charlton, Worcester Academy

Nina Zurawski of Charlton, Suffolk University

To be considered for a scholarship, each student had to:

Be a 2022 high school graduate

Anticipate being a full-time student at an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education

Anticipate studying in a business or financial field

Demonstrate achievement and high standards in academics, extracurricular activities and community involvement

Submit an official transcript and GPA from their guidance office

Submit a one-page essay

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

providing a strong foundation 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](http://cornerstonebank.com) or call 800-939-9103.

## Leicester School Committee gets a look at Becker upgrades

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — School Committee members last week got a close-up view of the progress at the former Becker College campus.

The committee held its Aug. 9 workshop meeting inside the newly upgraded Fuller Campus Center, where LHS juniors and seniors will spend the 2022-23 school year. The transition never would have been possible without the teamwork of school leaders, town officials, and multiple student and community volunteers.

During the Aug. 9 workshop, School Committee members were thrilled to witness the progress in person.

“Walking into the Minuteman Room at the Fuller Campus for our School Committee

retreat was a very emotional moment for me, as I paused and realized our dream of using this beautiful building as a high school became a reality,” said School Committee Chair Donna McCance. “As a Becker alumni and former member of the Becker Alumni Board of Trustees, we held many board meetings in the Minuteman Room. Being there at that moment was surreal, knowing the greatness we achieved, while preserving a stellar place for learning. I’m so grateful for the many votes and joining of minds and hands that went into making this successful for our students and community.”

During the School Committee workshop meeting, members approved the formation of a finance subcommittee to assist with fiscal responsibilities and

transparency. People who are interested in serving on the subcommittee may contact McCance by email at [mccanced@lpsma.net](mailto:mccanced@lpsma.net).

The School Committee also authorized school choice to be opened. With the transition of LHS upperclassmen to the former Becker College campus this year—and the rest of the high school student body expected to follow no later than next year—school officials are projecting increases in students wishing to enter the district through school choice.

Families interested in learning more about school choice opportunities should contact the district's central office. The school department's phone number is 508-892-7040.

To learn more about district happenings, visit [www.leicester.k12.ma.us](http://www.leicester.k12.ma.us).

## QCC receives close to \$500,000 for nursing labs

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College (QCC) was recently awarded \$499,815 in Skills Capital Grant funding, which will be used to update three nursing labs at its Healthcare and Workforce Development Center, located in downtown Worcester. The labs enable nursing students to have hands-on training on the most state-of-the-art equipment, which is crucial in preparing them for a career in the field of nursing.

“QCC’s nursing programs have always provided nursing students with the most current, up-to-date equipment and training to ensure students are ready to immediately enter the workforce,”

said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. “QCC is one of the largest providers of nurse education and practical nursing in Massachusetts and staying up-to-date with technology is vital in continuing to supply the Commonwealth with skilled healthcare workers.”

The Skills Capital Grant will not only fund equipment for the nurse education lab, but also the simulation lab and practical nursing lab, where students prepare for an Associate Degree in Nursing or a Practical Nursing Certificate.

“Technology in nursing is constant-

ly changing and advancing, which allows nurses to improve efficiency, communicate effectively, and most importantly provide safer care. This grant will allow our nursing students to train on the newest equipment and most current technology, similar to what is being used in acute, critical, and long-term care settings. The equipment funded by the Skills Capital Grant will better prepare students to enter the nursing workforce,” said Dean of the School of Healthcare Pat Schmohl.

QCC will use the grant to supply the nursing labs with simulation manikins that allow students to apply the skills they’ve learned in a controlled environment. These highly life-like manikins come in models to represent infants, four- to seven-year-olds and adults. Students can check vital signs, assess symptoms, and practice procedures such as tracheotomies. The grant will also cover a Pyxis medication dispensing system, hospital beds, patient lifts and an Electrocardiogram (EKG) machine.

The Baker-Polito Administration's Skills Capital Grant program has been funding career education technology since 2015. The latest round included \$22 million given to 70 educational institutions.



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upperclassmen will call the Fuller Campus Center home this year.



Student athletes will spend plenty of time in the weight room.



The building features ample classroom space.



A look at the cafeteria.

**CAMPUS**

continued from page A1

various functions when school isn't in session.

"We will be able to bring the community into these spaces at night," Zawada said. "We want to start bringing in more people to get a feel for the campus."

Long gone are the days of students finding themselves restricted to rigid schedules that shuttle them through the same rotation of classrooms. Even before the move to the former Becker campus, the LHS virtual high school program was already on the rise, with up to 40 virtual classes available to students across an array of subjects and career tracks. The Fuller Campus Center is even more conducive to students completing their specialized remote courses that range beyond those offered by the district. Multi-use learning spaces within the building will allow students to flexibly accomplish their virtual requirements and then report back to an educator overseeing the program.

"These are perfect classes for students because they aren't offered here," LHS guidance counselor Chris Barry said of the virtual classes. "We have a lot of kids interested in medical and science fields."

Moreover, the Fuller Campus Center

features a media center, a guidance department suite, an activities room, a spacious nurse's office, and a weight room. Student volunteers recently augmented the existing equipment in the weight room by bringing in gear from LHS. Several other students and community volunteers have stepped up to help with the transition.

"To see the community come together like this has been tremendous," said Kustigian, who attended Leicester Public Schools growing up. "We can't thank the community enough."

LHS teachers are just as excited as students about the move. For history educator Jason Grimshaw, who has taught in the same classroom since 1998, it's been a thrill to check out his new room at the Fuller Campus Center.

"There is a lot of excitement. For students who will go on to college, this experience will give them a leg up," said Grimshaw, who will move back and forth between the Fuller Campus Center and LHS this year to teach underclassmen and upperclassmen.

The campus center also offers impressive views of the stadium where Leicester's football, soccer, and field hockey teams will compete right away this fall.

For LHS freshmen and sophomores,



A view of the upper corridor that will serve multiple classrooms.

they won't have to wait long before joining the upperclassmen at the former Becker campus. By the 2023-24 school year, the entire LHS student population is slated to occupy the Becker buildings in a campus-style high school environment. This will likely involve students moving between various buildings throughout the day, as one would see on a college or prep school campus.

The Fuller Campus Center will be a closed building this year, in terms of students' daily schedules and the facility's security protocols. In advance of the 2023-24 school year, when the new open-campus version of LHS will likely be launched, district leaders plan to work with a third-party consultant with expertise in campus security measures. Additionally, new personnel are expected to be hired to assist with monitoring students throughout the school day.

Further information on campus safety procedures will be announced over the coming year.

"We are super excited about a campus-style high school. We understand that this comes with the need for students to be monitored and check in often," Zawada said. "Juniors and seniors will be able to help educate our younger students on what the campus is like."

Leicester Police Chief Ken Antanavica has assisted school officials this summer with several aspects of safety and security related to the Becker transition plan. The police department will continue to guide the district as it moves toward the eventual open-campus model.

"The open-campus plan will be similar to a college, but it will be a custom plan. It is a work in progress," Antanavica said.

For now, students in grades 9 and 10 will be located on the third floor of the existing Leicester High School. Students in grades 5-8 will move to the first and second floors of LHS.

School leaders commend LHS staff members for their assistance in making the transition a success. From faculty members readily accepting schedules requiring them to commute between buildings, to a guidance department that made rapid adjustments to ensure that all students will receive the services they need this year, the LHS team has willingly embraced major changes.

The following open houses and meetings are scheduled to familiarize students with their 2022-23 building assignments and new administrators. Families are welcome to attend.

Aug. 22 (5:30 p.m.): This is a chance for all LMS staff members, students, and the community to meet new Principal Doug Daponte.

Aug. 22 (6 p.m.): LMS students and families can visit the new LMS setup at the high school.

Aug. 25 (6 p.m.): The LHS open house will showcase the former Becker campus.

Aug. 29 (5:30 p.m.): The LES open house for families of students in grades 1-4.

Sept. 8 (5:30 p.m.): The LES open house for families of students in grades Pre-K and kindergarten.



## Friday's Child

**Desiree**

**Hi! My name is Desiree and I love to dance and read books.**

Desiree is of Caucasian and Hispanic decent. She is an energetic girl who is full of life. Desiree loves playing with dolls, singing, dancing, and reading books. She also enjoys gardening with her foster parents and is very proud of what she has produced in her garden. Desiree is able to be redirected and follows directions with assistance. She can have a difficult time with the word "no" but with support she is able to process and move forward. She gets along well with older foster sisters and her foster parents and enjoys family gatherings. She is described as having a great imagination and dreams about places that someday she would like to visit and explore.

She has made a lot of progress over the previous school year. She is in the 4th grade in school year 2021-2022 and enjoys school. She is friendly and gets along well with others. Desiree receives weekly therapy and counseling. In therapy she is learning to use her coping skills to manage her emotions and express her feelings.

Freed for adoption Desiree will need a patient and structured home life. She would well in a two female or single female household. Older children in the home would be best. She has a younger brother living in western MA with whom she will need to maintain regular in-person contact.

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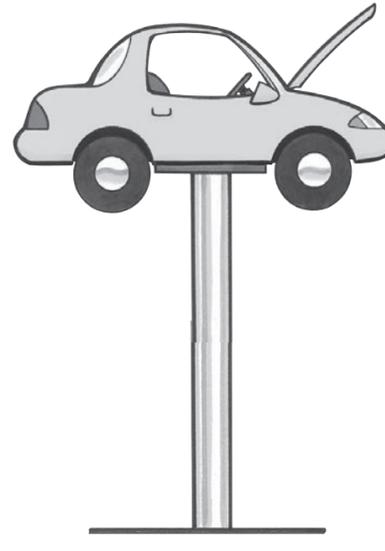
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PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

## EDITORIAL

# Still “Hopelessly Devoted”

There was more sad news this past week, when we learned that Olivia Newton-John passed away at the age of 73 from breast cancer. Her husband, John Easterling, told reporters that she passed peacefully in her California ranch.

Newton-John, born in Cambridge, England, rose to fame after getting her start as a country singer, and appeared in many commercials. When she was just five years old, her family moved to Australia. A few years later, Newton-John won her first talent contest. At the age of 15, she formed an all girl band with her friend Pat Carroll, called Pat and Olivia.

Her big break, however, was when she landed the role as Sandy in the movie “Grease” in 1978, starring alongside John Travolta. Newton-John was 27, yet easily passed for a 17 year old high school student!

In prior interviews, Travolta noted that their chemistry was indisputable.

Newton-John herself said, “When we walked inside the room together, it was magic, everyone saw it.”

Years later, Newton-John said of Travolta, “I had a great love and support from him and the feeling was mutual. We were attracted to each other however we never would date because we were both involved with other people at the time and both of us have a loyalty streak that runs deep.”

Other unforgettable roles include the cult classic “Xanadu,” a 1980 musical starring Newton-John, Gene Kelly and Michael Beck. The title Xanadu is the name of the nightclub highlighted in the film. One of our reporters, on hearing of Newton-John’s death said, “We must go buy roller skates, stat.” The disco themed film is now a cult classic.

Her father was a World War II veteran with British Military intelligence, and a professor of German literature. Her mother Irene’s father was a physicist who won a Nobel Prize. Newton-John was the first in her family to be involved in theatre and entertainment.

In 1981, her hit “Physical” became the number one single of the decade. She has sold over 100 million records.

After three decades of battling cancer, Newton-John funded research for plant based medicine and created the Olivia Newton-John Foundation Fund.

From her indelible film performances to the soothing vocals on her numerous albums, we salute the spirit of this singular artist, and will always remain “Hopelessly Devoted” to her.

## Love your neighbor as yourself

To the Editor:

To whoever is reading this article, if you do not believe in God and His word, the Bible, this will be all gibberish to you; you will not believe; however, even if you do not believe it is still a fact that God is real, alive, and we will be held accountable for our choices.

Loving your neighbor is not an option; it is a command from God. Why? Because apart from God, Jesus, loving your neighbor is not always easy. To some of us, it is very difficult, and to many of us, it is impossible; that is why God made it a command because we need God’s help, grace through His son Jesus to be able to love each other and our neighbors. Who is our neighbor? According to God, it is whoever we may have contact with.

God is our creator and creator of this world, planet, galaxy, and God commands us to humble ourselves to His will with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength; this command was given in Deuteronomy 6:4-5, and God is again reminding us, getting our attention in the New Covenant in the Book of Matthew 19:19 & Mark 12:30-31, and it is my conviction God is very serious. God means business; there is no com-

# VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Straight from Stalingrad

To the Editor:

A message to all of you who are celebrating the fact that Mar-A-Largo was raided by former Vice President Joe Biden’s FBI — you obviously cannot see the forest for the trees. I’d be willing to bet that 99.999999 percent of you would be screaming at the top of your lungs if this had been President Trump sacking the feds on Hillary Clinton. However, I wouldn’t expect anything less from people who possess the consistency of Jello.

If this doesn’t strike you as the red flag of red flags, then I hope you love government rations, bread lines, no gas, curfews, travel limits, and mandated living... so, when I say red flag, I mean Communism red. I’m sure I’ll be accused of fear mongering, not that the left ever does anything like that. By the way, will someone please let AOC and Al Gore know that the sea levels are just fine and the temperatures aren’t wildly swinging like a monkey Hunter Biden’s speed?

Everything the left claimed President Trump was going to do to prove their tinfoil hat theory that he was just a dictator disguised as a businessman disguised as a President, the Biden administration is doing. This latest Lavrentiy Beria style search for a crime is another glaring example that the Democrats are running scared. They see this

administration for the dumpster fire that it is, but instead of trying to put it out and mitigate the damages, they are just rolling over more flaming dumpsters and throwing in some tires. Need proof? Really? Merely watch a White House press briefing and you’ll see Press Secretary Karine Jean-Pierre, former Press Secretary Jen “Peppermint Patty” Psaki’s replacement, stonewall Peter Doocy with yet another non-answer. Should I even mention the word salad speeches courtesy of Vice President Kamala Harris? The only thing more confusing than her verbal equivalent of the Hindenburg tragedy are the mental gymnastics used to describe the latest gender... or non-gender... Call yourself whatever you’d like, just don’t expect me to help you play pretend.

If this is what the left considers to be the “Adults” running the show, it’s time to bring back the Kids! I was having a lot more fun and this country was running a whole lot smoother with them at the helm. Time to clean House (see what I did there) during the Mid-Term elections this November and then go for the trifecta in 2024!

MATHEW HERHOLZ  
SPENCER

### Is it time to elect a mom to the North Brookfield Select Board?

Is it time to elect a mom to the North Brookfield Select Board?

To the Editor:

How is the inflation and predicted recession affecting your family? Are you able to cover expenses for food, gas, rent, any possible vacation? What about clothes and school supplies for fall? Most families and seniors are having difficulty. However, I learned an interesting fact during the past 15 years as a volunteer business counselor with SCORE. While counseling businesses, nonprofits and municipal projects I found that when moms were managing or projecting finances, those organizations were more successful even in bad times. Moms including working moms have learned how to plan, execute and adjust finances for changing times.

Town budgets are a lot like family or business budgets but with a few more players. Some towns use the old-fashioned pie slicing budgeting, where the town waits for the state to identify total tax revenue then the town starts cutting the pieces of pie without a real plan for the town to grow, plan and often achieve the goals of the citizens. I have looked at towns and municipal projects that operate with goals and citizen satisfaction and find that one or more moms with budget handling experience are on the Selectboard.

Currently, our town of North Brookfield is facing a financial crisis

due to inflation and any possibility of recession. That is why I believe that right now we need a mom like Brooke Canada with both family and business money management experience. Brooke has extensive experience working in nonprofits, where operating funds rise and fall based on donations. (Which reminds me, if you still have the \$10 or \$20 you normally give to food pantries, please give it! There are some cases of families and seniors in serious need.)

Brooke has experience working with budget planning, data analysis, and conflict resolution. Perhaps her most solid experience is working toward the future goals of an organization rather than just slicing up the budget pie, so everyone gets a piece, but no one is happy with their slice. North Brookfield has some great things starting to happen and if you look at the drivers of those good things you will find moms donating their time and talents to make our town a better and more affordable place for families and seniors.

I have seen many organizations be successful because moms know how to manage things and I am asking for your vote for Elizabeth Brooke Canada for the Board of Selectmen so the town can benefit from a mom’s proven excellent experience.

JIM METCALF  
NORTH BROOKFIELD

present Democratic government seems to be allowing. Look around you; all the irrational out of control violence and murdering and thousands to millions of illegal immigrants are entering this country and given the privilege to become citizens of this country without any legal due process; they are given more consideration than the legal citizens who went through the due process necessary to become a citizen of this country.

Come on, people; let us reconcile with God and make a Pledge of Allegiance to regain this country, our country; this nation to God by pledging our allegiance to this country, America, and the republic for which it stands — united together under God, calling us to humble ourselves and then God will hear our prayers and bless us spiritually, emotionally and physically. The choice is ours! Reinstate the republic Constitution or succumb to a socialist government.

Dwell in peace,

ROLAND BLAIS  
BROOKFIELD

## What should you know about IRA rollovers?

If you’ve been contributing to an IRA, you’ve chosen a great way to save and invest for retirement. All IRAs have potential tax benefits and a range of investment possibilities, but not all IRA providers offer the same features. So, if you decide that your current IRA provider is charging higher fees than you’d like, or perhaps doesn’t offer as many investment choices as you want, then you might choose to move your IRA assets to another provider. How should you go about making this switch?

Here are some options to consider:

**Trustee-to-trustee transfer or direct rollover** – You can ask the financial institution holding your IRA to move the money directly to another IRA. No taxes will be withheld from the amount transferred at the time of the transfer. This method is generally hassle-free, but some IRA sponsors will still only mail the check to your address of record, so you’d have to forward it to your new IRA.



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**Indirect rollover** – If you take an indirect rollover, also known as a 60-day rollover, the assets from your existing IRA will be liquidated and the custodian or plan sponsor will send you a check or deposit the funds directly into your bank or brokerage account. This payment may be subject to withholding for federal taxes, and possibly state taxes, unless you opt out of withholding. You have 60 calendar days from the time the funds were withdrawn to deposit the money, including any amount withheld, into a new IRA. If you miss this 60-day deadline, the withdrawal may be taxable at your personal income tax rate, and it could also be subject to an early withdrawal penalty if you’re younger than 59 and a half.

Given the immediate withholding and the possibility of further taxes if you don’t move the money into a new IRA before the 60 days are up, you’ve got much to consider before initiating an indirect rollover. Consequently, you should consult with a financial advisor and tax professional before you make this type of move.

In addition to a rollover from an existing IRA, you may someday want to move the money from your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan to an IRA. This can occur when you retire or change jobs, although if you do take on another job, you might have the options of leaving your 401(k) with your former employer or rolling it over into your new employer’s plan. However, if you do want to move your 401(k) funds into an IRA, you can make what’s known as a direct rollover, in which the administrator of your old retirement plan will send you a check made payable to the custodian of your IRA. No taxes will be withheld, but you need to get the funds transferred within 60 days to avoid any potential tax issues.

You spend years contributing to your IRA and 401(k) — and for good reason. So, when it’s time to move that money, be careful and consider getting help from your financial and tax professionals. These funds can play a big role in your retirement income, so manage them wisely.

*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.nielson@edwardjones.com.*

## REUNION

continued from page A1

thrilled that their reunion coincides with the town’s 100th anniversary celebration (which also came two years late due to the pandemic). Despite the delay, teammates will once again represent their town at the regional level by throwing out the first pitch at the WooSox game.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Art imitates life

To the Editor:  
I used to think that the movie "Dumb and Dumber" was satire; now I think it is more of an ironic parody.  
Mark Twain was exactly right when he observed "It is easier to con someone, than to convince them they were coned."  
No better evidence of truth can be found than the nearly instant conversion of the group formerly branded as the law and order party now targeting FBI agents and seeking to defund or abolish that agency. Trump had already accepted Putin's story over our CIA. Our enemies must be rolling on the floor laughing.  
There was a time when we not only espoused being a rule of law democratic republic, but somewhat acted like it. I am not so foolish as to pitch the old cliches like no one is above the law, or equal justice for all, as that would ignore both history and current reality. Me thinks those who succeeded in changing document security laws from misdemeanors to felonies, may soon regret it.  
Rampant what-aboutism is no longer going to play. POTUS #45, who was dumb enough to both ignore the

subpoena and to publicly announce the enforcement, is now asking the AG what he can do to reduce the heat that he being a scoff law and big mouth put on himself.  
If he thinks an actual revolution will serve him better than the unsuccessful coup of Jan. 6, and getting weak minded patriots on board with attempting it, I am unclear how that would work. Who exactly would these legions of assault rifle armed people shoot? I hope they do not think occupation of any building is key, as the Brits burned the Whitehouse, but lost the war of 1812... Ask Zawahari how safe it is to have the US military looking for you, no matter how well armed you are.  
I still think our 240 year old constitution needs much updating, and the framework of the founders that they included to retain controls and oversight, are not only out of step with fairness and justice, but they actually included the ability to modernize progressively, were it not being stopped by those who put their personal interests above the country's.  
I am a bit pleased to see that some of the Biden agenda, on which he was elected, will happen, and while some

has been sacrificed to the DINOs, to get most of the priorities, the contrast between a performance that delivered infrastructure, climate, technology, deficit reduction, rich paying their share and multiple other priorities, compared to Trump only borrowing trillions, increased deficit to go 83 percent to millionaires, which was neither promised or wanted, but failing to deliver everything else.  
Clearly, deficit not reduced, nothing was de-nuked, middle east not at peace, no steel plants or coal mines restored, and, after firing the pandemic response team Obama left him, totally botched the response leaving over a million dead, and the conspiracy to attempt a coup to take over was the cherry on top.  
Please explain how this president, who has accomplished so much, still has to deal with his predecessor, who still claimed he was great, despite all evidence to the contrary. Economic growth during his term continued at Obama pace until Covid shut us down. He surrendered to the Taliban, but would not rescue Muslim allies we had there and did not want to pullout before election, knowing it would not

go well. He spoke in support of Putin invading Ukraine at CPAC after trying to end NATO.  
Here comes the IQ test. Polls say the Dems, who are consistently delivering promises. Like the entire world, are dealing with rampant inflation. Would likely deliver more with enough Dems elected, but polls say the "brilliant" spoiled child voters, instead of getting what they say they want, will flip enough seats to let the GOP start baseless investigations and pass laws that Biden will veto. The smart money would be to vote blue and get things done. Then, if dissatisfied, choose whole other direction in 2024.  
Those with memories will remember how wonderful it was and could be again, with Moscow Mitch setting senate agenda. If you flip the house, you may retire Nancy Pelosi, but Kevin McCarthy, who famously cautioned Merrick Garland to keep good records for the investigation into Mara Lago search gives the rock in the dumb as a rock analogy, a bad name. Should be an easy test to grade.  
KEN KIMBALL  
BROOKFIELD

## FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK

BY PAUL HAUGHEY  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  
SPENCER-EAST BROOKFIELD REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

I hope this Superintendent Update finds you and yours well and enjoying the summer! I wanted to follow up on an earlier communication and provide additional information so you may be as prepared as possible for the coming school year as parents, families, students and staff.

**Enrollment:** Our enrollment for August 2022 as a regional school district has gone up from last year from 1,408 to 1,456 at this time. David Prouty High School is 373; Knox Trail Middle School is 389; Wire Village School is 415; and East Brookfield Elementary is 253 - of which 112 students enrolled for fall in our Cubs Corner Preschool.

**Retirements:** I would like to also acknowledge our professionals who have dedicated their lives to the regional school district with many, many years of service. Please join me in recognizing the retirements of Nancy Gingras, Dennis Streeter of David Prouty High School; Donna Williams of Knox Trail Middle School; Donna Cutler and Sheila Howard of the Food Services Department and Deb McColl of the Student Services Department. Thank you so much to each and every person for helping to make the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District so special. You will be missed!

**Summer 2022 Update**  
**AlphaBEST Summer Update:** This summer, AlphaBEST has provided a number of Extended Day enrichment opportunities to our students (Grades K-4); and exposed participants to cutting-edge learning themes, known as "Zones." AlphaBest Extended Day Zones included but were not limited to: STEM, World Languages & Culture, Fitness & Wellness, Arts & Entertainment, and Makerspace collaborative projects! Student in the AlphaBest program were provided with structured playtime to get extra energy out and got a healthy snack every day. Most important, they had had FUN!

**Extended School Year 2022: A Huge Success!** Throughout the month of July, the Extended School Year program has provided essential services to students in grades PreK-12 which have focused on cognitive, affective, psychomotor and social skill development through high-interest, hands-on, problem-based learning. Special thanks to Mrs. Linda Stanelun, ESY Program Director, Mrs. Deb McColl, ESY Program Facilitator, Mrs. Denise Avolese, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent of Schools, and to all of the extended school year faculty, staff and students for making the program such a rousing success this summer!

**Summer 2022 Accelerated Academies** Taking Place! Accelerated Academies focused upon science, math, reading, writing and SEL skill development as well as Extended School Year programs for students in grades 5-12 have been taking place and will continue throughout the summer months. These enrichment and remediation efforts are focused, purposeful, and aim to support students during the sum-



mer months in specific social, emotional and academic need areas. Please join me in thanking our dedicated faculty, staff, administration and community leaders in providing these programs throughout the summer months. Without them, none of this would be possible!

**COVID 19 Update.** As you know, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and Department of Public Health (DPH)DESE and DPH have continued to collaborate on the best practices to mitigating Covid-19. Guidance received for Fall 2022 remains the same as it was in the spring of this year. There will be no commonwealth-wide masking or testing to begin the year. Each school district will have kits and masks on hand to deal with surges, if and/or when they occur. More informational updates will be forthcoming in the weeks and months ahead as new information is gleaned from our local, state and federal public health partners.

**DPHS Accreditation Update Received!** David Prouty High School was evaluated five years ago for accreditation and placed on probation. At that time, the New England Association Schools and Colleges (NEASC) made clear that they would require an additional review every five years. Recent follow-up with NEASC concluded that every concern had been met and addressed by the administration and staff - except for the physical building. As a result, David Prouty High School remains on probation due to 22 concerns with the building.

**MSBA Update:** The David Prouty High School "Addition/Renovation" Building Project moves forward! This month, the School Committee will formally voted to update the School Building Committee membership so it may be submitted to the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) later this month. As of August 2022, the updated membership of the David Prouty High School Building Committee includes: Michael Ethier, Chairman of School Building Committee; Paul Haughey, Superintendent of Schools & Vice Chairman of the School Building Committee; David Prouty HS Principal; Matthew Bolduc, Director of Academic Affairs; David Gates, Director of Student Services; Denise Avolese, Executive Assistant to Superintendent's Office; Gary Suter, Business Administrator; Jason Monette, School Committee; Heather Messier, School Committee; Senator Anne Gobi, Spencer, MA; Representative Donnie

Berthiaume, Spencer, MA; Ralph Hicks, Spencer, MA Selectmen; Mary Braney, Spencer Finance Committee; Mark Carpentier, East Brookfield Finance Committee; and David Joyce, East Brookfield, MA Resident. Ex-Officio members include: Police Chief David Darrin, Spencer, MA; Fire Chief Robert Parsons, Spencer, MA; Police Chief William Cournoyer, East Brookfield, MA; and Fire Chief Dave Messier, East Brookfield MA. Please join me in thanking the members of our communities-at-large - as they have donated countless hours to the betterment of our high school facility/building and the educational programming and services provided within it.

Upcoming meetings and events regarding our project! To learn more about the David Prouty High School "addition/Renovation" Project, please join us at one of our upcoming public forums/meetings. The dates and times are as follows for each event:

August 8th @ 6pm - Spencer Town Hall (Joint meeting with Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee)

August 18th @ 7pm - East Brookfield Elementary School

August 25th @ 6pm - Wire Village School in Spencer

September 1st @ 6pm - Wire Village School in Spencer

September 7th @ 7pm - East Brookfield Town Hall (Joint meeting with Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee)

September 8th @ 6pm - Wire Village School in Spencer

Project Website is a one stop shop! Feel free to check out our project website at: <https://dphsbuilding.com/> to review the important aspects of our "Add/Reno" project for David Prouty High School including the details of the project, why it is so important our two communities and our students, the design elements as well as provide us with your input/feedback or ask your questions as needed.

After-School Sports, Clubs, and Activities starting soon! Please know we are encouraging all of our staff and students to remain active here within our district. As a result, we are promoting our high school and middle athletic programs and fall sports, after-school clubs and activities; and are even adding to the list of opportunities to keep your son or daughter actively engaged in our learning community. In addition to fall sports in grades 5-12, do not be surprised to see me recommend soon to the School Committee that we once again bring back a revitalized "School Newspaper" and an after-school Theatre Arts offer-

### Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District

2022-2023 School Calendar

July 2022							August 2022							September 2022								
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S		
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13			
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30						
31																						

October 2022							November 2022							December 2022							
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	30	31				
30	31																				

January 2023							February 2023							March 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
29	30	31					26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31	

April 2023							May 2023							June 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S	Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1	1	2	3	4	5	6	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31	25	26	27	28	29	30	31			

■ School Closed/ Holidays    ■ Teacher in-Service Day (no school for students)  
■ Half Day    ■ First Day of School

Approved by School Committee on May 17, 2022

### Last Day of School (half day for students/in-Service Day for Teachers)

First and Last Days of School	
First Day of School for Teachers	August 29, 2022
First Day of School for Students	August 30, 2022
Last Day of School - 180 <sup>th</sup> day (1/2 day)	June 14, 2023
Last Day of School - 185 <sup>th</sup> day (1/2 day)	June 22, 2023

The District is required to provide a school calendar with 185 days of school scheduled. The last day of school will be a half-day wherever it falls.

### School Closed - Holidays and Vacations

No School	Friday, September 2, 2022
Labor Day	Monday, September 5, 2022
Columbus Day	Monday, October 10, 2022
Veterans Day	Friday, November 11, 2022
Thanksgiving Recess - 1/2 day	Wednesday, November 23, 2022
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday and Friday, November 24 & 25, 2022
Winter Recess	December 23, 2022 - January 2, 2023
Martin Luther King Jr. Day	Monday, January 16, 2023
February Recess	February 20-24, 2023
Good Friday	Friday, April 7, 2023
April Recess	April 17-21, 2023
Memorial Day	Monday, May 29, 2023
Juneteenth	Monday, June 19, 2023

### Professional Development Days/Half Days

Full Day PD	August 29, 2022
Half-Day PD	September 16, 2022
Half-Day PD	October 7, 2022
Full Day PD	November 14, 2022
Half-Day PD	November 23, 2022
Half-Day PD	January 13, 2023
Half-Day PD	February 10, 2023
Half-Day PD	March 10, 2023
Half-Day PD	May 26, 2023
Half-Day	Last day of school for students

Approved by School Committee on May 17, 2022

ing that is aligned with students earning college credits at David Prouty HS; a School Choir and even Beginner Instrumental Music at Knox Trail Middle School to name just a few. Please be on the lookout for other opportunities so your son or daughter gets involved; is active and engaged this fall and throughout the school year with us...

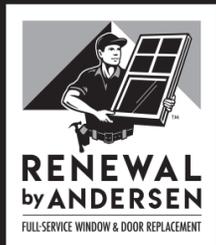
**School Calendar:** By special request, the updated school calendar for the 2022-2023 academic year as voted by our School Committee is listed below.

First Days of School are right around the corner! As highlighted above in the school calendar, the first day of school for students in grades 1 - 12 is Tuesday, August 30th, 2022. Cubs Corner Preschool and kindergarten begin classes on Tuesday, September 6th, 2022. Building Principals and Program Directors will be sending out updates prior to the start of school, which is now only 21 days away, so please keep your eyes and ears open for the latest news from our district and its schools.

2022-2023 School Handbooks. Each school has a handbook

from which we will operate a school district. In an effort to prepare for the year ahead, please take a moment to review this information with your son or daughter so you as a family know what the expectations are for the year ahead within our district and its schools and programs. Our schools and the district are committed to student achievement and only by working together will we be able to create a school system that is focused upon teaching and learning with purpose!

Finally, as we prepare to return to school please know that I am honored and privileged to serve as the Superintendent of Schools for the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District! I recognize that these have been extremely challenging times for everyone and cannot thank you enough for your patience, ongoing support and collaboration while we look forward to the 2022-2023 school year. Your support and partnership is deeply appreciated by everyone within the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District! #Innovate #Inspire #Achieve



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**Must call by September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**

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**SAVE \$750 on every patio and entry door<sup>1</sup>**

Minimum purchase of four.

**AND**

**2 6.25% OFF your entire project<sup>1</sup>**

No minimum purchase required.

**WITH**

**3 \$0 Down 0 Monthly Payments 0% Interest**

**FOR 1 YEAR<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>1</sup>DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 9/17/2022. You must set your appointment by 9/3/2022 and purchase by 9/17/2022. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get \$350 off each window and \$750 off each entry/patio door and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 8/1/2022 and 9/17/2022. Get 6.25% off your entire purchase, taken after initial discount(s), no minimum purchase required, when you purchase windows or entry/patio doors between 8/1/2022 and 9/17/2022. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky<sup>®</sup> consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. <sup>2</sup>See limited warranty for details.

# Sunrise on the sea



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH  
TRUE

Finally, we got a break in the heat this past weekend, and the fishing was great for seabass & bluefish. This writer and Matt Fountain made a trip back to the Westport River this past Friday to try fishing for a few more seabass, and hopefully a few more bluefish, and possibly a striper. We left Uxbridge at 4:15 a.m. and arrived at Westport at 5:15 a.m., as there is very little traffic during the early morning hours. The tide was still coming in, and would continue to do so for a couple more hours, until it reached high tide. There was only one boat & trailer in the parking lot which seemed a bit odd. Because of the full moon, the tide was running a bit strong, which can produce some great fishing.

After launching the boat, we were on our way, with the sun slowly rising in the East. I took a quick photo of the sun rising with the Westport Bridge in the background! Although the picture is black and white, I snapped the photo anyway, and included the photo in this week's column. Anyone that has seen sunrises and sunsets on the ocean, can relate as to how beautiful they can be. It is a slow ride from the ramp area to the opening of the breakwater because of all the boats that are moored along the way, with numerous signs, declaring a

no wake area. As we entered the mouth of the river, Matt throttled the motor into high speed, and we were at our fishing spot in short time, as the seas were quite calm.

We were doing some bottom fishing, so there was no reason to drop the anchor.

Using light rods and conventional reels loaded with 40-pound test braded line, I dropped my high low rig tipped with a small piece of squid to the bottom! The high low rig consisting of two circle no # 3 hooks, make the rig ideal for catching seabass, and other bottom feeding species like huge scaup, fluke, and an occasional bluefish or striper. That is why I love fishing on the ocean. You never know what kind of fish is going to hit your bait. As soon as my bait hit the bottom, I had a strike. The fish was immediately hooked, and was reeled to the boat. It was Just a couple of short seabass, but catching doubles of undersize seabass on light rods, is a lot of fun and a great way to get a kid hooked on fishing.

The drift was a bit fast because of the high tides, but the fish were biting. Between Matt and I, we had to catch over 100 seabass, but most were just a bit undersize. We did manage to catch a few keeper seabass, with the largest 19 inches, along with a few fluke.

During our early morning fishing, we also had a school of bluefish breaking on the surface of the water. I quickly grabbed my fishing rod that already had a surface popper on the line. The first cast had a seven-pound bluefish hooked up, and the line was screaming, as it left the reels spool. Bluefish

have a lot of fight, and made numerous runs, before it was brought to the boat. I looked around to see what Matt was doing, as he is always ready with the net. He was standing there with his arms folded.

"Hey."  
"Are you going to net my fish?"  
"No."

"You put it in the paper last week that you did not like my netting capabilities."

It took a minute or two to convince him that I was only joking. He slowly picked up the net, and did a Great Job!

Matt quickly grabbed his fishing rod and rigged it with a surface popper also! A huge bluefish came bursting out of the water on his first cast, and was immediately hooked up. Matt had a big smile on his face, as he battled the fish for approximately 10 minutes. Yes, I netted his fish.

The days catch of seabass, fluke, bluefish, three hammerhead sharks, scaup & sea Robbins, quickly tired out this elderly angler, and Matt was also ready to go. The fish that we retained were all placed on a bed of ice in the LiveWell immediately after catching them. Bluefish need to be placed on ice as soon as they are caught, as all our fish are. We had gone a longer distance on the water to find the fish, but it was all worth the effort.

As we approached the boat ramp, we noticed a Harbor Police boat tied up to the dock. There was a couple of anglers waiting to launch their boats so we had to wait 15 minutes or so! When our turn came, Matt quickly powered the boat to the dock, and exited the boat. He sprint-

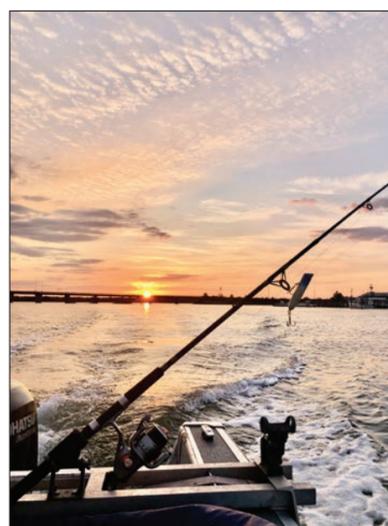


Photo Ralph True

This week's picture shows the recent sunrise at the Westport River!

ed up the ramp to his parked vehicle.

One of the Harbor Patrol police were ticketing numerous vehicles, and Matt's vehicle was about ready to have a \$25 ticket placed on his vehicle, but Matt convinced him to allow us to pay the \$5 fee in the box at the ramp entrance. The way this guy was writing tickets; it was evident that very few if any had paid the \$5 fee. It is unfortunate that the ramp was paid with sportsmen's monies, and we still need to pay again!

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

## An Array of Timely Harvest Tips



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

It's picking season and fresh garden produce takes a front row seat at the dinner table. From harvesting herbs to picking the perfect corn, read on for some tips to enhance your harvest haul!

If you're harvesting herbs from the garden this season, take note of these quick and easy tips!:

\* When chopping fresh herbs such as basil and tarragon, sprinkle the leaves with a few drops of olive oil. This effectively slows the darkening of the chopped leaves.

\*Here's an easy foolproof way to store fresh basil, cilantro, parsley, tarragon, and other delicate herbs that preserves their fresh from the garden taste: Stand herbs in a tall glass or mason jar. Fill halfway with

water and add a pinch of sugar. Then place a plastic bag loosely over the top of it all and place in the refrigerator. Now your herbs will keep their fresh taste for a week!

\*To enhance the flavor of dried herbs, simply chop up some fresh parsley with them!

Hot Peppers are a seasonal garden favorite! Here are some hot pepper hot tips that take your tasty peppers from the garden to the table!:

\*After picking hot peppers, you can dry them by stringing through the stem with sewing needle thread or fishing line. Then hang in a sunny window. Thin skinned varieties dry the best.

\*To Freeze peppers, wash, dry, cut off the stem and leave the seeds in. Freeze in containers or plastic bags. They'll taste "fresh" any time you eat them.

\*Here's how to make your own gourmet crushed peppers: Broil dried hot peppers until they start to darken. Let cool and crush in blender.

Sweet ears of corn on the cob are an anticipated summer treat worth waiting all year

for. Read on for tips to pick and cook corn this season:

\*Did you know the sugar content of garden corn is highest late in the day? In fact it's perfect to pick the ears just in time for supper.

\*Want that newly picked ear of sweet corn to stay fresh longer? The key is keeping the corn cool using this tip. Pick ears either early in the morning, or late in the day and immediately husk and place the ears in an ice bath, until the ears are cooled to about 37 degrees. Then place the corn on the cob in ziplock plastic bags in the refrigerator. They should stay fresh and sweet for up to two weeks.

\*Evaluating ears of corn can be a challenge at farm stands or grocery stores as ripping down the husk to inspect corn is a definite no-no in the marketplace. To ensure a quality ear, look for bright green husks that are slightly moist. The silk should be slightly sticky and a pale golden color. If you press gently against the husk you should be able to feel the kernels.

\* Also look for corn with lots of silk, as that means there are

lots of kernels inside!

\*And be sure to check out the bottom of the ear, where it was cut off the stalk. If it is brown, the ear was likely not picked that day.

\*Did you know corn on the cob will lose up to 25% of its sugar content after just six hours of storage at room temperature? That is because from the moment it is picked, the sugar in the corn begins to convert to starch. To keep corn at optimum taste, keep corn chilled at about 36 degrees.

\*The golden rule of corn on the cob is it should be eaten the same day it is picked. If that's not possible, keep it refrigerated and use within three days to ensure good taste.

\*Never husk corn until you just ready to cook it. While stripping the husks off in the supermarket may be a tempting convenience (especially since some keep a barrel there for that purpose), you'll lose out on flavor. Keep corn in the refrigerator with the husks intact until you can cook it. This helps to slow down the sugar to starch conversion, thus maintaining its sweetness longer.

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.

## Decisiveness

Over the last several weeks, I've discussed five traits you need to develop to accomplish your dream. Today, I will write about the sixth most crucial quality. None of these necessarily have to be in a particular order. Everybody's dream is different, and so is how you will accomplish it. Desire, Faith, Specialized Knowledge, Imagination, and Organized Planning are a requirement in whatever order. The sixth is decision.

I have read that a lack of decision is one of the most significant factors that lead to failure in accomplishing dreams. The opposite of decision is procrastination. I've written about procrastination before; we've all done it. It's a dream killer. With so many distractions at our fingertips, putting off your dream day after day is easy until you lose all motivation and eventually convince yourself it wasn't meant to be. Some say procrastination is the number one reason people fail to accomplish what they want.

There is much written about successful people. If you read about them, you'll notice at least one similarity: once they've considered all the relevant information, they make a decision quickly, and they're slow to change their mind. On the other end of the spectrum, people who fail are often prolonged to make decisions and change their minds frequently.

When you do make a decision, you must act! Once you decide, you will discover those around you who try to convince you that it's a bad idea, that you're too late, or that it's been done before. You may experience the judgment of family or friends. You could open the newspaper and read an opinion piece that makes you wonder if you should change your mind.

There are over nine billion people in the world, which means there are unlimited opinions. If you open up to your driver on the way to the airport about what you've decided to do, they'll probably tell you how you're doing it wrong or how you shouldn't do it at all.

When you begin to feel yourself persuaded by the opinions of others, consider this: do they have the desire, faith, specialized knowledge, imagination, and organized planning that you have? If the answer is yes, then you should listen!

If it isn't, stay the course, and become hardened in your determination.

It's good to be open-minded and hear the opinions of others but don't act on them. Don't be easily moved by someone who knows nothing of what you're trying to accomplish. Stay the course, fol-

low through, and be strong. If you've done the work and put in the time, why would you allow your dream to be toppled by those who don't have the knowledge or desire you have?

Has it been done before? Maybe you've decided to do it differently. Perhaps you're going to do it better. Possibly you'll be the one to change an entire industry and how it works. The six qualities I'm writing about are so powerful that the opinions of a trillion people couldn't prevail against just one person who carries

them out diligently.

Take special care to keep quiet about what you're doing. Don't tell anyone except those on your team, people you've entrusted to help accomplish your dream, and those who have complete sympathy and agree on what you plan to do. Those are the people whose opinions you might consider. Telling anyone else will only expose you to ridicule, sarcasm, eye-rolling, jealousy, envy, and naysaying, even from those you thought were on your side.

Some might say that if you do this, you're just putting yourself into an echo

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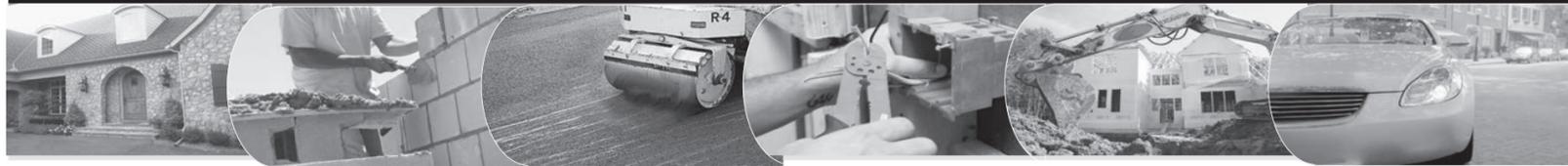
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**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court**

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Docket No. WO22P0010EA  
CITATION ON PETITION  
FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE  
Estate of:  
David E Young  
Date of Death: 07/30/2021

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by:  
**Vincent A. Vilkas of Shrewsbury MA** requesting that court authorize the Public Administrator to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale.

**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 08/30/2022.  
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.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: August 04, 2022  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
August 19, 2022

(SEAL)  
**THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT**  
Docket: 22 SM 002149  
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO:  
**Ricky D. Garvey**  
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (et seq)

**Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, as trustee for Freddie Mac Seasoned Credit Risk Transfer Series 2017-2, as owner of the Related Mortgage Loan** claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40883, Page 163, and now held by Plaintiff by assignment, has filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or

before 9/26/2022 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.  
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on 8/9/2022  
Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
August 19, 2022

**Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals**  
A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit, for Catherine Peterson for the property located at 62 Pierce Road, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to build (resurface) a deck, platform (landing) and reposition stairs to the above pre-existing nonconforming property located in Rural Residential District. This requires a Special Permit as per section(s) -1.52-Nonconformity: (§1.52 Nonconforming Structures (a) (et al)  
August 19, 2022  
August 26, 2022



# OBITUARIES

## Catherine E. Strandberg 88

NORTH BROOKFIELD- Catherine E. (Tucker) Strandberg 88, passed away on Monday, August 8, 2022 at home with her family after a long illness.



She leaves her children Susan Strandberg of Worcester and David Strandberg and his wife Trina of North Brookfield; her grandchildren Jeffrey Strandberg and his partner Alexandra Marceau of Philadelphia and Brittany Flibbert and her husband Jeff of Dudley; her sister Margaret Steiger and her husband Richard of Spencer; her beloved great-grandson Connor; her Minnesota Tucker clan; many nieces, nephews, and her "good little boy dog" Rascal. Cathy was predeceased by her husband of 41 years, Roy B. Strandberg as well as her brother George Tucker and sisters Mabel Buzzell and Rose Monson. Cathy grew up in North Brookfield graduating from high school in 1951. She graduated from the Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in 1954 as a Registered Nurse and worked for the hospital until her retirement in 1993. She made treasured and lifelong friends while in nursing school as well as her friends from her work in hospice. Cathy was a member of the Board of Directors of the Memorial Hospital

School of Nursing Alumni Association. She was a lifelong member of Christ Memorial Episcopal Church in North Brookfield where she was a member and treasurer of the Episcopal Church Women and served on the Altar Guild and Vestry. Cathy enjoyed her stint on the North Brookfield Board of Health where she served for 10 years as well as her time on the Board of the North Brookfield Senior Center where she loved to line dance. Cathy was involved in many activities during her life and never missed one of her children's events. She loved Snoopy, the Boston Celtics, Law and Order: SVU, and her beagle Rascal. The family wishes to thank Notre Dame Palliative Care and Notre Dame Hospice for the compassionate care given to our Mom. We will miss her very much. Friends and family were invited to attend calling hours on Sunday, August 14, 2022 from 2-4PM in Pillsbury Funeral Home 44 Gilbert St. North Brookfield. The funeral was held on Monday at 1PM in the Christ Memorial Episcopal Church 133 N. Main St. North Brookfield. Burial will follow in Walnut Grove Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Second Chance Animal Services PO Box 136 East Brookfield MA 01515 or to Christ Memorial Episcopal Church 133 North Main Street North Brookfield MA 01535.

## Susan L. Lacaire, 74

SPENCER- Susan L. (Muzzrall) Lacaire, 74 of Spencer, died Saturday, Aug. 13 at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester, after a brief battle with cancer.



She leaves her husband of 53 years, Donald B. Lacaire, her son; Corey H. Lacaire and his wife Shelly of Spencer and her daughter; Justine L. Barnes and her husband Ronald Barnes, Jr. of E. Brookfield, her grandchildren; Casey, Nolan, Alexis, Kane, Colton and Addison, her sister; Lissa J. Mooradd and her husband Peter of So. Hadley and several nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her son; Lucas M. Lacaire in 2012.

Born in Ware, she was the daughter of Louis J. "Pete" and Loretta V. (Laroche) Muzzrall and later graduated from David Prouty High School in 1966.

Sue worked in the Water department and then was the Town Treasurer/Collector in Spencer for 9 years, retir-

ing in 2018. She previously was the bookkeeper for Lacaire Lumber for many years.

She was a member and former lector at Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish in Spencer. She was a member of the Gaudette-Kirk Post 138 American Legion Women's Auxiliary, and former Spencer Fire Dept. Women's Auxiliary. Sue was a member of the "Sewing Ladies" sewing club.

Sue loved to cook and enjoyed weekly family dinner night. She enjoyed spending time with her family, traveling and going to the casino.

Sue's funeral will be held on Thursday, Aug. 18th. from the J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer with a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 7 Church St., Spencer. Burial will follow in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. Calling hours are Wednesday, from 4 to 7 p.m. in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish, 46 Maple St., Spencer, MA 01562.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

# POLICE REPORTS

## Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3

12:00-12:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:36 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 6:17 a.m.: mv complaint (Pleasant Street), mv passing illegally; 6:36 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:54 a.m.: DPW call (Donnelly Cross Road), tree blocking road; 7:30 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), custody exchange; 7:57 a.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), re: tx control lights; 8:26 a.m.: accident (Main Street), rock fell fr. truck/smashed windshield; 9:06 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: speak to ACO; 9:37 a.m.: illegal dumping (West Main Street), furniture left on property; 9:37 a.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), neighbor blocking d/way; 12:23 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 12:55 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), dog at preschool; 3:00 p.m.: animal complaint (Buteau Road), re: speak to ACO; 3:56 p.m.: fraud (Howe Village), rep. of scam; 4:09 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 4:28 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), mv vs deer; 5:02 p.m.: lost/found (Chestnut Street), c/c found; 5:30 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:34 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road), lift assist; 8:10 p.m.: disturbance (Brown Street), sibling quarrel; 8:12 p.m.: RV complaint (North Spencer Road), dirt bike on roadway; 8:27 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:51 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), mv struck earlier; 9:11 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 10:00 p.m.: disturbance (Valley Street), family dispute; (total daily mv stops - 0).

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

12:26-2:15 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:52 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 2:45 a.m.: medical/general (Pond Street); 8:40 a.m.: medical/general (Washburn Drive); 8:40 a.m.: suspicious persons (Kittredge Road), report/damage to yard; 8:46 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 9:44 a.m.: medi-

cal/general (Church Street); 10:06 a.m.: medical/general (Summit Street); 10:29 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 10:31 a.m.: fire alarm (Chestnut Street), referred; 10:31 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info given; 10:31 a.m.: animal complaint (Earley Street), baby skunk in garage; 10:46 a.m.: DPW call (Browning Pond Road), wire down; 10:47 a.m.: medical/general (G.H. Wilson Road); 1:01 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (South Spencer Road), rail trail/referred; 1:33 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: probate order/custody swap; 1:52 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), harassment/threats; 1:55 p.m.: officer wanted (Oakland Drive), harassed by tenant; 2:09 p.m.: disturbance (Pope Street), noise complaint; 2:45 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), custody exchange; 3:22 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 3:42 p.m.: 911 call (Mercury Drive), open line; 3:48 p.m.: animal complaint (School Street), re: kitten/seizure; 3:56 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), speeding/erratic op.; 4:12 p.m.: disabled mv (Chestnut Street), services rendered; 4:17 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), poss. harassment prevention order violation; 5:08 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), North Brookfield PD req. K9 unit; 5:15 p.m.: 911 call (Polar Springs Road), resolved; 7:11 p.m.: residential alarm (Ashview Drive), services rendered; 7:34 p.m.: juvenile matter (Thompson Pond Road), kids jumping off bridge; 9:26 p.m.: medical/overdose (Maple Street); 11:51 p.m.: medical/general (G.H. Wilson Road); (total daily mv stops - 6).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

12:20-1:13 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:56 a.m.: parking violation (Elm Street), ticket issued; 4:19 a.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 4:33 a.m.: medical/general (Wilson Street); 5:15 a.m.: fraud (West Main Street); rep. of scam; 6:14 a.m.: animal complaint (Shore Drive), barking dog; 7:30 a.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), custody swap; 7:49 a.m.: animal complaint (Holmes Street), skunk

in trap; 9:47 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 10:52 a.m.: medical/general (Route 49); 11:43 a.m.: restraining order service (Oakland Drive); 12:06 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), req. transport to Southbridge; 12:15 p.m.: restraining order service (Jolicoeur Road); 12:24 p.m.: fire alarm (Grove Street), referred; 12:41 p.m.: restraining order service (Mechanic Street); 1:10 p.m.: medical/general (Cranberry Meadow Road); 1:24 p.m.: medical/general (Lakeshore Drive); 1:26 p.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), mv in d/way; 3:03 p.m.: mv lockout (South Spencer Road), services rendered; 3:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), missing cat; 3:36 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Briarcliff Lane), referred; 4:30 p.m.: mv lockout (Cranberry Meadow Road), services rendered; 5:09 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Wall Street), resolved; 6:04 p.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), erratic operator; 7:43 p.m.: juvenile matter (Bixby Road), kids banged on door; 8:15 p.m.: commercial alarm (Ash Street), services rendered; 10:35 p.m.: disturbance (West Main Street), disruptive customer; 11:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley View Drive), missing elderly resident; (total daily mv stops - 3).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

12:14 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (South Street), fire pit reignited; 12:48 a.m.: 911 call (Oakland Drive), resolved; 2:32-3:04 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:36 a.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 5:49 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 9:22 a.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), referred; 9:44 a.m.: medical/sudden death (Park Street); 9:54 p.m.: officer wanted (Oak Lane), unattended jet ski in water; 10:47 a.m.: fraud (Hastings Road), re: PayPal scam; 10:55 a.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), re: letter rec'd; 1:57 p.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Street), dog tied up/hot weather; 3:04 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 3:31 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:48 p.m.: DPW call (Old Farm Road), no water; 4:32 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: trailer; 4:43 p.m.: mv complaint (Greenville Street), erratic operator; 6:40 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 7:36 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 7:46 p.m.: 911 call (Bay Path Road), resolved; 9:54 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 10:35 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Mechanic Street), party walking/setting off fireworks; 11:23 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 11:47 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; (total daily mv stops - 2).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

12:18-1:27 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:47 a.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 10:50 a.m.: RV complaint

(Mechanic Street), dirt bike/wrong way on roadway; 1:29 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 1:47 p.m.: officer wanted (Lake Avenue), req. welfare check; 3:09 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), noise complaint; 4:27 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Smithville Road), resolved; 5:02 p.m.: residential alarm (North Spencer Road), services rendered; 6:16 p.m.: medical/general (Linden Street); 6:22 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:03 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Chestnut Street); 7:21 p.m.: disturbance (Wilson Avenue), male calling/unknown issue; 7:36 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), coyote in area; 8:46 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 9:29 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), info taken; 9:44 p.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), report taken; 10:27 p.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), resolved; (total daily mv stops - 0).

MONDAY, AUGUST 8

1:36-2:17 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:09 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), custody exchange; 7:28 a.m.: medical/overdose (Cherry Street), Justin Michael Savell, 39, 14 Nelson Street, Holden, warrant, arrest; 8:42 a.m.: officer wanted (Elm Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 8:50 a.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 10:04 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 10:38 a.m.: fraud (Pleasant Street), rep. of fraud; 10:58 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 11:19 a.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 11:45 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 12:23 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: restraining order; 1:23 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (R. Jones Road), child w/phone; 2:14 p.m.: restraining order service (Maple Street); 3:38 p.m.: mutual aid (Cherry Street), RMV/immediate threat; 4:59 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), requesting restraining order; 5:16 p.m.: suspicious mv (Smithville Road), investigation; 5:21 p.m.: officer wanted (Adams Street), req. welfare check; 6:22 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 6:24 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 7:58 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), neighbor dispute; 8:13 p.m.: mutual aid (Main Street), Leicester PD bolo/shopping; 8:57 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:09 p.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 9:48 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 10:12 p.m.: residential alarm (Lincoln Street), services rendered; (total daily mv stops - 4).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

1:05 a.m.: 911 call (North Spencer Road), hang-up; 1:20-1:52 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:44 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:54 a.m.: medical/general (South Spencer Road); 7:11 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main

Street), custody exchange; 8:20 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), lg. bear in area of camp; 9:15 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), req. speak w/ACO; 9:57 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:38 a.m.: mv repossessed (North Spencer Road), info taken; 11:08 a.m.: 911 call (Temple Street), open line/m&f arguing; 11:16 a.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 11:25 a.m.: disturbance (Wall Street), neighbor dispute; 11:30 a.m.: larceny (West Main Street), re: sale of tools; 12:07 p.m.: elderly matter (Meadow Road), fem. yelling for help; 12:31 p.m.: medical/general (Old East Charlton Road); 1:37 p.m.: officer wanted (Oakland Drive), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 2:38 p.m.: odor of gas (Old East Charlton Road), referred; 3:09 p.m.: animal complaint (School Street), cat in tree; 4:02 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), spoken to; 4:17 p.m.: 911 call (Wall Street), misdial; 4:37 p.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 5:15 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 5:41 p.m.: medical/general (Woodside Road); 6:23 p.m.: disturbance (Church Street), noise complaint; 6:45 p.m.: residential fire (Franklin Street), referred; 9:47 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); (total daily mv stops - 3)

###

## Leicester Police

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4

12:30 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), resolved; 9:10 a.m.: ambulance (Henshaw Street), transported; 10:11 a.m.: wires down (Stafford Street), resolved; 10:13 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), referred to ACO; 11:49 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 1:44 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 2:20 p.m.: ambulance (Hunton Memorial Highway), transported; 2:49 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 3:04 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 3:19 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:47 p.m.: welfare check (Lake Avenue), spoken to; 9:05 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 9:38 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 9:45 p.m.: disturbance (Virginia Drive), resolved.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5

12:55 a.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), resolved; 12:58 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, arrest; 4:39 a.m.: ambulance (Wilson Street, Spencer), transported; 6:20 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 7:52 a.m.: welfare check (Marshall Street), resolved; 9:51 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), gone on arrival; 11:47 a.m.:

Turn To POLICE page A15

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# Design a bird-friendly landscape

Temperature extremes, drought and storms take a toll on our landscapes. Sometimes a bit of pruning, proper care and patience is all that is needed to help plants recover. Other times, plants need replacing. It is always sad to lose a favorite plant. The memories, time and money invested are lost, but it presents an opportunity to grow something new.



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plants are nature's bird-feeders, eliminating the need to clean and fill traditional feeders.

Include native trees, shrubs, and flowers whenever they are suited to the growing conditions in your yard. Native plants, birds and insects have co-evolved over time, making them a great source of food and shelter for native birds. Audubon's Native Plant Database provides lists of plants suited to your location.

Consider creating a bird-friendly landscape when selecting replacements for failing and dead plants. Working with nature is a great way to support birds without the use of feeders.

Look for seed, berry and nectar producing plants that attract songbirds. You will enjoy the color and motion these birds add to your landscape. Plus, 96 percent of terrestrial North American birds feed upon insects, helping you manage garden pests.

Plant bird-friendly flowers, shrubs, and trees in clusters whenever possible. This creates an impressive display in the landscape and allows birds to gather food more efficiently and waste less energy traveling between plants.

Select a variety of plants to ensure both seasonal and year-round birds have plenty of food. Include a mixture of plants that provide seeds, berries, or nectar from spring through fall. These

Deciduous trees and shrubs – those that lose their leaves in winter – can provide multiple seasons of beauty with flowers, fruit, fall color and interesting bark. Many of these also provide shelter and food for songbirds. Serviceberries have multiple seasons of beauty and produce edible fruit you and the birds will enjoy in June. Dogwoods, including red twig and pagoda, have flowers for pollinators and late summer fruit for the songbirds. Winterberry is



Photo Melinda Myers

Evergreens, like this yew, provide year-round appeal and shelter for birds.

an excellent source of winter food. You will need at least one male for every one to five female plants for pollination and fruit to form. Grow these in full sun to light shade and moist acidic soil.

Reduce the risk of injury and the inconvenience of accidentally knocking out power, cable or other utilities while making bird-friendly additions to the landscape. Contact Diggers Hotline at least three business days before you get started planting. Just call 811 or file a request online at <https://call811.com/811-In-Your-State>. They will contact all the appropriate companies who will mark the location of their underground utilities in the designated work area. August 11 has been declared 811 Day to remind everyone to call 811 prior

to any digging project.

Your efforts now to welcome birds into your landscape are sure to provide much beauty and enjoyment for years to come.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD instant video series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## POLICE

continued from page 14

restraining order service (South Main Street), served; 12:29 p.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 2:28 p.m.: erratic operator (South Main Street), spoken to; 3:45 p.m.: ambulance (Chandler Street, Worcester), call canceled; 4:21 p.m.: mutual aid (Queen Street, Worcester), transported to hospital; 5:14 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 8:38 p.m.: fraud (Woodland Road), spoken to; 8:47 p.m.: assist citizen (Waite Street); 10:13 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 11:44 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 6

12:09 a.m.: assist other PD (Main Street, Spencer), services rendered; 12:13 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:19 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:37 a.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), spoken to; 12:48 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, speeding, citation issued; 1:38 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), resolved; 1:43 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, op w/suspended registration, uninsured mv, criminal application issued; 2:34 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:46 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 6:01 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, uninsured mv, op w/suspended registration, arrest; 6:24 a.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street),

spoken to; 7:42 a.m.: ambulance (Lake Avenue), transported; 10:38 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), gone on arrival; 12:27 p.m.: ambulance (Virginia Drive), transported; 3:39 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Spencer), transported; 5:14 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 5:50 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 6:16 p.m.: summons service (Spring Street), unable to serve; 6:41 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), no action required; 7:01 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 8:49 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 8:59 p.m.: disturbance (Tanglewood Road), assisted; 9:50 p.m.: suspicious person (Clark Street), spoken to; 9:58 p.m.: disabled mv (Clark Street), no action required; 11:33 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 7

12:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 12:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 12:28 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), resolved; 1:09 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), spoken to; 1:31 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 3:19 a.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), resolved; 6:31 a.m.: mutual aid (Main Street, Worcester), transported to hospital; 8:49 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 12:06 p.m.: ambulance (Gates Street, Worcester), transported; 12:27 p.m.: lost/found (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 4:22 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), verbal warning; 5:12 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 5:17 p.m.: mv stop (Mannville Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, criminal application issued; 6:03 p.m.:

mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 6:14 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 6:48 p.m.: residential alarm (Whittemore Street), false alarm; 7:22 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), advised civil action; 10:54 p.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), report taken; 11:47 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.

### MONDAY, AUGUST 8

1:28 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 4:36 a.m.: animal complaint (Rawson Street), referred to ACO; 6:24 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:22 a.m.: summons service (Bottomly Avenue), unable to serve; 11:06 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), resolved; 11:12 a.m.: animal complaint (Soojians Drive), animal complaint; 2:10 p.m.: harassment (Pine Street), report taken; 4:23 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), served; 4:29 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 6:54 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 7:41 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, criminal application issued; name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, criminal application issue; 8:45 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 8:47 p.m.: family problem (Boyd Street), services rendered; 10:15 p.m.: ambulance (Siani Road), transported; 11:31 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:37 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued.

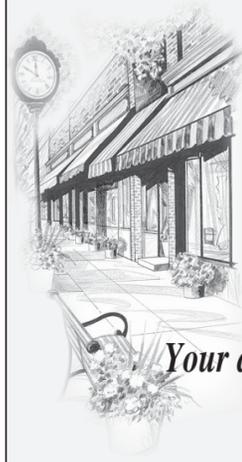
### TUESDAY, AUGUST 9

12:42 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, number plate

violation, report taken; 12:54 a.m.: residential alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 1:35 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:41 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:04 a.m.: residential alarm (Pine Street), false alarm; 11:20 a.m.: malicious mischief (High Street), services rendered; 11:27 a.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 4:36 p.m.: summons service (Bottomly Avenue), unable to serve; 5:13 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), no action required; 5:42 p.m.: assist citizen (High Street), resolved; 6:26 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 6:49 p.m.: family problem (King Street), report taken; 6:55 p.m.: mutual aid (Franklin Street, Spencer), services rendered; 9:29 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street).

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 10

12:48 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), spoken to; 7:02 a.m.: stolen mv (Main Street), services rendered; 9:45 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 10:31 a.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 11:06 a.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 11:27 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 12:55 p.m.: suspicious person (Pleasant Street), unable to locate; 1:24 p.m.: assist citizen (Edward Street); 1:48 p.m.: malicious mischief (Pleasant Street), resolved; 4:31 p.m.: residential b&e (Main Street), report taken; 4:59 p.m.: hit/run accident (Main Street), report taken; 5:04 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 6:24 p.m.: hit/run accident (South Main Street), report taken; 6:56 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), unfounded.



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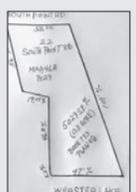
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**DUDLEY:** 2 units, 2, levels, 2 baths, 3 bedrooms in owners unit, 1st floor has 3 bedrooms, 2 car garage  
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# SPORTS

## Worcester South tames shorthanded Tantasqua, then wins Auburn Summer League championship

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN — What a difference five days makes.

The semifinal and final rounds of the Auburn Recreation and Culture Girls' Summer Basketball League were scheduled to be played on Thursday, Aug. 4. An off-the-charts heat index — coupled with National Grid's notification to summer league director Kristen Pappas that, because of the high heat index, power to Auburn High School, site of the games, would be lowered to the point that the air conditioning units at the building would not be able to be turned on — moved the games to Tuesday, Aug. 9.

That rescheduling had a dramatic effect on the seventh-seeded Tantasqua Regional team which, if its semifinal round game with top-seeded and undefeated South High of Worcester had been played on Aug. 4, would have had 15 of its 17 players in attendance.

So, instead of battling the Colonels with an experienced nucleus of players that would have included rising senior Hannah Johnson, rising juniors Nicole Vejack and Elizabeth Thompson, and rising sophomore Maggie Johnson, the Warriors showed up with a seven-player roster that included a rising junior, three rising sophomores and three incoming freshmen.

Tantasqua battled through-



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua Regional was the only Stonebridge Press affiliated school to reach the semifinal round of the Auburn Recreation and Culture Girls' Summer Basketball League. Tantasqua lost to Worcester South in the semis, and South went on and won the championship over Quabbin Regional.

out the game, but the Warriors lost to South, 46-13. South went on to finish the summer league without experiencing the bitter taste of defeat, beating fifth-seeded Quabbin Regional in the championship game, 48-27. Quabbin advanced to the final with a 33-28 victory over third-seeded Sutton High in the semifinal round.

Other area schools which competed in the Auburn

Summer League were: Auburn High; Blackstone Valley Tech; David Prouty Regional; Grafton High; Leicester High; Northbridge High; Quaboag Regional; and Uxbridge High.

"What was so disappointing to us about the decision to reschedule the semifinals and the final was the fact that the last time we played them we had the majority of our regular players and we gave them



their toughest game of the regular season," Tantasqua coach Matt Ezzo said. "The last time we played them we trailed by just six points at halftime and they only won the game by 13 points, after winning most of their games this summer by 30-plus points.

"It was one heck of a good game the last time around," Ezzo continued. "This time was a different story."

Playing for Tantasqua in the semifinal against South were junior-to-be Angie Reno, sophomores-to-be Maya Gidopoulos, Gianna Nichols and Eleanor Leland, and freshmen-to-be Sofie Ezzo (coach Ezzo's daughter), Jules Petersen and Maeve Early. Gidopoulos finished the game with six points, Nichols three, Early two, and Reno and Ezzo one each.

All of the Warriors that

played against South are, or will be, Tantasqua students except for Nichols. Coach Ezzo said Nichols, a Sturbridge resident, attended Marianapolis Prep in Thompson, Conn., last year but is considering returning to Tantasqua this year. According to coach Ezzo, Nichols and her parents have until Aug. 31 to decide where she will attend school for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Matt Ezzo was quite complimentary to South following the defeat.

"That's a tough team, no doubt about it," coach Ezzo said "I don't think I've ever seen a high school team shoot the percentage they shot from the field. Everything they threw up went in the hoop. In the first half I think they hit about 80 percent of their shots. It was amazing."

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# SPORTS

## Millbury gets hot late to beat Quaboag, win Auburn's Summer Basketball League



Nick Ethier photos

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

AUBURN — For the Quaboag Cougars, the championship game of the Auburn Recreation and Culture Boys' Summer Basketball League must have felt like the hoops equivalent of the first time you're allowed to back your father's new car out of the driveway. Everything's going fine and then you step on the gas pedal instead of the brake and you slam dad's new ride into

the massive oak tree across the street.

Thanks to a 7-0 run to end the first half and a quick start to the second half, fifth-seeded Quaboag led Millbury, the No. 13 seed, by two points with 15 minutes remaining in the game, played Aug. 8 at Auburn High.

A not-so-funny thing happened to the Cougars on the way to winning the title, however. At that point, the Woolies went on a 19-4 run, and from there cruised to a 64-48 victory, capturing the school's first-ever Auburn Summer League championship.

Quaboag advanced to the title game with a 61-33 win over third-seeded Uxbridge High in the semifinal while Millbury defeated David Prouty Regional, the No. 2 seed, 40-33, to claim its spot in the final.

Other area schools which competed in the Auburn Summer League were: Auburn High; Bartlett High; Bay Path Regional; Leicester High; Oxford High; Shepherd Hill Regional; Southbridge High; and Tantasqua Regional.

"My kids ran out of gas; they got tired, but we can't use that as an excuse," Quaboag coach Fran Elliott said. "We were happy to make it to the final, but Millbury beat us and I congratulated them for that. There are no sour grapes."

Quaboag trailed, 23-19 with two minutes left in the first half. The aforementioned 7-0 spurt, capped by a Chase Potvin (six points) 3-pointer, gave the Cougars a 26-23 lead heading to the second half. Quaboag led, 34-32, when its shooting touch went cold and Millbury took full advantage.

The Woolies scored in every conceivable fashion — a 3-pointer, a put-back,

Quaboag Regional was the Stonebridge Press affiliated school that reached the final of the Auburn Recreation and Culture Boys' Summer Basketball League. Quaboag lost to Millbury High for the title.

a bank shot, a short jumper, and five layups — to take command of the game, building a 51-38 lead with eight minutes to play in the game.

Ryan Fernandez led the Quaboag attack with 16 points while Owen Stevens added 15 and Matt Tiberi tossed in nine.

"All of these guys are great kids. They're all very coachable. When I say they're coachable it's because you explain something to them one time and they've got it," Elliott said. "Owen, Ryan and Matt, they all lit it up in the first half. In the second half we couldn't make a basket. It all went to heck in a

hand basket in that second half." Quaboag's roster against Millbury featured one rising senior, two rising juniors and four rising sophomores.

"I think this team is going to be good in the regular season," Elliott said. "These kids lost a year to COVID. Some schools played, but we didn't. So this summer league was a learning experience for a lot of our guys. I told the kids to go out and have fun. I told them to experiment and that's what they did. Guys would pass up a good shot because a teammate had a better shot. I was very pleased with the way we played tonight."

### QUAIL HOLLOW GOLF CLUB RESULTS

Greendale Men's League  
Kent Seith, Rick Wheeler, Dick Whipple, Glen Wuerthele (-3)  
Bill Gaudette, Bill Parsons (-1)  
Ken Frost, Louis Gouin, Ken Miller (-1)  
Mike Dyer, Steve Dame, John Tisdell (-1)  
14th Kielbasa Classic  
First place (70): Kevin Nosek  
Second place (71): Colin Nosek  
Pit's Crew  
First place (-13): Joe Desimone, Jim Stewart, Carl Ahonen  
Second place (-10): Jim Kularski, Joe Condelli, Gary Nelson, Charlie Keys  
Third place (-9): Dennis Cooney, Tom Lewandowski, Tim Nideur

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# Leicester Health Department seeks residents' input

LEICESTER — The Leicester Health Department is asking Leicester residents for their input on a Community Health Assessment Survey. Community Health Assessments are used to identify health needs and issues within the community. The Leicester Health Department is spearheading this effort by collecting data from individuals, school age children, First responders, local non-profits and Senior Citizens.

"We are really excited to work on this with the townspeople. The response so far has been tremendous," said Christopher Wilson, Regional Epidemiologist. "Gathering the data is

a really important component of these Community Health Assessments."

Wilson and Director of Human Services, Miriam Nyante have been collecting data for the past four months. "The Community Health Assessments are very important in identifying what the community's needs are. Once we have the data, we can apply for grants that address those issues that are identified in the Community Health Assessment," said Nyante. "So, for example, if the community identifies children vaping as a health concern, we can seek grants specifically tied to vaping cessation and use the data we've

gathered to justify the need for a program in the community. "We have a really good baseline for school kids and senior citizens," said Wilson, in reference to the data collection that has already taken place, "but now we need more input from the general public."

The survey is a brief seven-question survey that can be taken online at [www.leicesterma.org/board-health-0](http://www.leicesterma.org/board-health-0) or [lrphc.net](http://lrphc.net) to take the survey online. People can also fill out the survey in person at the Board of Health office at 3 Washburn Square or at the Leicester Public Library.

## Early voting available for Primary

SPENCER — The town of Spencer is offering early voting for the Sept. 6 Primary election on the following dates:

- Saturday, Aug. 27: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.
- Monday, Aug. 29: 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, Aug. 30: 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, Aug. 31: 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
- Thursday, Sept. 1: 7:30 a.m.-noon

Polls will be open on election day from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. All voting takes place at Memorial Town Hall in the Great Hall, 157 Main St., Spencer.

# New partnership speeds up transcript process for DPHS alumni

SPENCER — David Prouty High School and Parchment, which has helped millions of people and thousands of schools and universities exchange more than 30 million academic transcripts and other credentials, have announced a partnership that will greatly expand the ability for David Prouty High School alumni to order and track transcripts electronically.

Under the new collaboration, alumni can expect faster turnaround times for transcript ordering, enhanced tracking, the capability to order from any smartphone, and the option to pay with a credit card.

Principal Nathaniel Malone believes this is a positive step for David Prouty High School Alumni.

He said, "We are very excited that Alumni will now be able to send their Official High School transcript to colleges and employers via Parchment. This partnership increases the speed and access for our Alumni to their very important transcript, which can more easily connect them to the next step in their educative and career opportunities. The purpose is to create better connections to your experience at David Prouty High School and we believe this is a positive step in the right direction."

For alumni, they can begin the transcript ordering process by visiting the high school's transcript request page or by going directly to [Parchment.com](http://Parchment.com).

## Leicester Senior Citizens Club enjoys turkey and theatre in New Hampshire!

LEICESTER — On Thursday, Aug. 11, the Leicester Senior Citizens Club traveled to Meredith NH for a turkey lunch and a play. Everyone on the trip enjoyed their full course turkey meal at Hart's Turkey Farm. Turkey with all the trimmings plus warm apple crisp for dessert was delicious. After shopping in the gift shop, the group took a 10 minute ride to the theatre.

At the Lakes Region Summer Music Theatre, guests enjoyed the play, "Sister Act." The comedy and music was very entertaining. Overall, everyone enjoyed a very fun day.

The club will be embarking on their next trip to Portland ME for a harbor and seal cruise, plus lunch at the Bull and Claw Restaurant. The all inclusive cost for that trip is \$109. Information about this upcoming trip, and trips through the rest of this year, can be obtained by calling David Wood at 508-330-1118.

forms soldiers exposed to the horrors of war. Prisons are more like finishing school for felons than bulwarks of civil society."

The result is a crowded nationwide prison system fostering the criminality it was designed to remedy, McClintock highlights in his book.

"There is surely no single solution, but housing hardened criminals together is a poor one, and housing those who are not hardened criminals among those who are is still worse," said McClintock, who worked at every major prison in the state, including more than three years spent at the MCI Cedar Junction facility, a maximum security prison in Walpole.

Looking ahead, McClintock hopes his book can eventually serve as a galvanizing force for change. Not only does the memoir examine the impacts of the corrections system on inmates, but also law enforcement personnel.

"The next phase of my project involves devising means of conveying the lessons, insights, and wisdom derived from the cases presented in 'Sin Eater' to those in legislative, judicial, and administrative authority over the institutions by which justice is served. Those institutions are under attack today more than ever before," McClintock said. "Judges, police, correctional officers, and others who run and work in those institutions are subjected to scrutiny and criticism unparalleled in living memory. The toll on those providing service is frequently overwhelming."

Added McClintock, "Cases of suicide and PTSD are rampant in these occupations. Substance abuse and family dissolution are at never-before-seen levels, further undermining the supports needed to sustain those working in the contentious professions so necessary to the proper function of civil society."

McClintock also hopes his book will help prepare students for careers in criminal justice, law enforcement, cor-

rections, and related fields.

"This book does not presume to offer solutions, but does strive to illuminate problems those in authority need to understand with greater clarity," the author said.

The book is available on Amazon.com. Readers can also access an author biography and a list of other published works.



EYE OPENING

## SIN EATER

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names of all individuals referenced in the stories have been changed to protect confidentiality.

In addition to serving as a memoir, the book also accentuates the lesser known gaps and failures in a system widely described as broken. Moreover, the memoir doubles as a cautionary chronicle for individuals considering a career in mental health or criminal justice.

"The book was written to purge personal demons, but another aim has been to illuminate the poorly acknowledged risks anyone entering the mental health profession should be made aware of," McClintock told the New Leader. "Beyond that, it's hoped these stories will inform authorities at all levels of law enforcement about matters that have a profound impact on our institutions, and society at large."

Although crimes and court proceedings are well-documented in the news, the spotlight often goes dark when it comes to the next stage of the criminal justice process. Once they're incarcerated, inmates enter the ambit of a shadowy corrections system that, by its very definition, is meant to punish criminality and correct unlawful behavior.

But in McClintock's experiences at prisons and hospitals across the state, the system fails with disturbing regularity.

"Imprisonment is meant to correct deviant behavior the way an adult might discipline a disobedient child. Punishment is intended to be rehabilitative, not merely punitive. While it works for some, more often the results are very different," the author said. "If the citizenry understood what's going on in most correctional facilities, their expectations would quickly change."

Added McClintock, "Prisons are hotbeds of psychopathology. They nurture all that's wrong with human nature, and propagate a culture of criminality and violence which spreads from inmate to inmate like a viral contagion. That pathology transforms those touched by it as surely as combat trans-

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### MOORE

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