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SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO [NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS](mailto:NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS) Friday, September 15, 2023

# With new school in sight, officials attend groundbreaking ceremony at David Prouty



Officials lead a groundbreaking ceremony at David Prouty High School.

Kevin Flanders photo

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
**NEWS STAFF WRITER**  
**SPENCER** — Last week’s groundbreaking ceremony at David Prouty High School was far more than a community celebration—it was a summit that took decades of tireless work to reach.

On the morning of Sept. 8, with the steady rumbles and clanks of construction equipment heard in

the distance, the school community gathered triumphantly at the top of the hill behind DPHS. The event brought together SEBRSD members, students, local leaders, and state officials to thank everyone who made Prouty’s addition-renovation project possible.

“Today is for the students and the two communities that have

worked so hard in getting us to this place,” said Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Superintendent *Paul Haughey*. “*David Prouty High School has always been a source of tremendous pride for our communities, students, and alumni.*”

The DPHS Building Committee has contributed countless volunteer

hours throughout the process of seeking the needed votes for the project and then preparing for the construction phase. This past summer, the first major component of the multi-year project was completed when the DPHS gym building was demolished.

Additional items will

Turn To **PROUTY** page **A18**

# Leicester athletics enjoy ribbon cutting ceremony



Courtesy photos

Officials and students celebrate the completion of the new Wolverine Snack Shack. Courtesy photo.

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
**NEWS STAFF WRITER**

**LEICESTER** — With an eager crowd of student-athletes looking on, officials completed one of the final steps in the transition from the former Becker College to the new Leicester High School.

It’s been a year since LHS students began attending classes at the former college campus, but not all facets of Becker departed immediately upon its closure. Plenty of remnants can still be found sprinkled across campus, though one of the more salient vestiges was replaced last week during a ribbon cutting ceremony.

Surrounded by 400 guests at the Sept. 5 ceremony, officials celebrated the transition of the turf field logo from the Becker Hawk to the LHS Wolverine. The event also included the unveiling of the newly built Snack Shack.

“It was awesome to see the Leicester school community come together to support our new turf logo and the new Snack Shack,” said Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Brett Kustigian. “The spirit and enthusiasm from our sports teams was off the charts. This event never would have happened without the countless volunteers and support of the community.”

Comprised of dedicated volunteer parents, the LHS Turf Committee secured \$50,000 for the project from community donations, business contributions, and grants. The funds not only allowed for the installment of the new center field logo, but they were also used to purchase a new scoreboard, signage, and the Snack Shack.

School officials thank LHS Turf Committee Chair Jennifer Parissi-Forti and her team for their hard work throughout the process, which culminated with the Sept. 5 ribbon cutting program.

“It was an incredible evening of celebration as our families and school community gathered to honor all our athletes of the Leicester Public Schools,” said School Committee Chair Donna McCance. “It

Turn To **LEICESTER** page **A18**

# Leicester Middle School students, plus first responders, on hand for Sept. 11 remembrance program

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
**NEWS STAFF WRITER**  
**LEICESTER** — Local first responders joined Leicester Middle School students for a program of remembrance on Sept. 11.

Highlighted by performances from the school’s Symphonic Band, the event honored first responders as the nation observed the 22nd anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terror attacks.

Organized by LMS music teacher Kristina Looney, the program provided a chance for the school community to personally thank local first responders for their daily efforts to keep the town safe.

“It’s important to honor first responders on 9/11

Turn To **9/11** page **A18**



Courtesy photo

Leicester Middle School students honor local first responders during a ceremony marking the anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terror attacks.

# Nadia Sukharev paints the North Brookfield Town House



Courtesy photos

Nadia Sukharev

Simply being a triplet with an identical sister and brother is enough to make a person standout. But Nadia Sukharev is also a talented artist willing to put herself “out there” by contributing her creative ability to raise money for the restoration of the North Brookfield Town House. When asked why she spent a good part of the summer before her senior year at North Brookfield Junior/Senior High School painting a portrait of the iconic white building in the center of her town, Nadia answered that painting

Turn To **SUKHAREV** page **A10**

# Brindisi, of ‘The Voice’ fame, brings her talents to Leicester Senior Center

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
**NEWS STAFF WRITER**  
**LEICESTER** — Whether Cara Brindisi is singing on the national stage or right here in central Massachusetts, she always delivers a performance to remember. Most recently, she wowed guests at the Senior Center as part of her local summer tour.

Brindisi, a singer-songwriter who competed on NBC’s “The Voice” last fall, always enjoys visiting her hometown of Worcester and surrounding communities. On Sept. 5, she performed a special concert for a packed house at the Senior Center.

“What a personality this

Turn To **BRANDISI** page **A12**



Courtesy photos

Nationally acclaimed singer Cara Brindisi recently performed at the Leicester Senior Center.



# Love Dogs to close Spencer Summer Concert Series Sept. 17



The Love Dogs

SPENCER— The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission 2023 Summer Concert Series concludes from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, September 17 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and Meadow Roads, Spencer with the Love Dogs.

Take one red-hot horn section, add liberal amounts of barrelhouse boogie-woogie piano, stinging Fender guitar, a funky swinging rhythm section that Blues Review magazine called “the best in the business”, and top it all off with a crazy and charismatic front man with one of the biggest blues voices around and you’ve

got the Love Dogs. The band is seasoned with years on the road tearing up juke joints, concert halls and festivals, while releasing four critically acclaimed CDs. It’s a recipe for music, mayhem, intensity and irreverence. It’s the Love Dogs.

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.

Courtesy photo

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[www.StonebridgePress.com](http://www.StonebridgePress.com)

## Brookfield Cultural Council now accepting grant applications

BROOKFIELD — The Brookfield Cultural Council is now accepting grant applications. Information on the grants is available online at [www.massculturalcouncil.org](http://www.massculturalcouncil.org). The deadline for applying is Oct. 17. Organizations, schools, and individuals are invited to apply for grant funding for events and programs that will benefit the Brookfield community.

The Brookfield Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all cities and towns in the Commonwealth.

The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding source in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences, and humanities each year.

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The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency which then allocates funds to each community.

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## Parade route, road closings announced in Brookfield

BROOKFIELD — Officials have announced the 350th Anniversary Parade route and road closings.

The event will take place on Sept. 17. The staging area will be set up on the west end of Mill Street and the Highway Barn, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The parade will start at 12 p.m. Departing Mill Street, the parade will run up Pleasant Street to Central Street, then turn onto Route 9 and eventually Common Street.

Judges will be stationed in front of Town Hall. The parade will proceed right on Pleasant Street and head back to the Highway Barn.

Mill Street will be closed beginning at 10:30 a.m.

Once the parade gets to the end of Central Street, traffic on Route 9 will detour onto Maple Street until the parade ends.

Once the parade starts, Pleasant Street and Central Street will be closed to traffic.

Local residents and drivers are asked to plan their routes accordingly.

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Gretheline Bolandrina

Courtesy photo

## Celebrate upcoming North Brookfield Elementary Back to School Night

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Students and families are invited to celebrate the upcoming North Brookfield Elementary School Back to School Night with several community partners.

Set for Wednesday, Sept. 20, from 6-8 p.m., the event is a valuable resource for families as they help their children transition to an array of new beginnings.

"This event is a fantastic opportunity for our community to come together and support our students and families as they embark on a new school year," read a statement released by North Brookfield Public Schools Interim Superintendent Tim McCormick.

The event will feature several health-care providers and organizations from throughout the community. Attendees will greet guests and introduce them to a range of services and resources offered to families and students.

Additional activities, programs, and offerings will be provided at vendors' tables throughout the event.

"Thank you for your dedication to our community's wellbeing, and we look forward to seeing you on September 20 at North Brookfield Elementary School," Superintendent McCormick's statement read.

To learn more about the event and its offerings, contact the NBES main office.

CHARLTON — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director, Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN completed her 11th year as a volunteer for the Pan Mass Challenge (PMC, www.pmc.org) helping those who raise funds for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

In August 2012, Bolandrina, and her family, (all of Douglas), husband Joseph, daughter Lilly, and son Max, first volunteered for PMC.

"I was initially with the Medical tent," said Bolandrina, "because of my nursing background." The following year, she joined her children Lilly and Max under the big white tent as volunteers for the dessert table for all the riders. Joseph is a volunteer for bike parking. The following year, Gretheline became the signs and supplies coordinator at the Provincetown Inn finish line and eventually at the Monument Finish line at Provincetown, MA. To coordinate signs and supplies, she is in contact with all crew leaders 90, 60 and 30 days before the event and completes an onsite visit at PMC head quarters in Needham.

According to Gretheline, the Bolandrina family volunteers for PMC because of family and close family friends who are cancer warriors or survivors. Close to their hearts is Rita Thorne of Acton. Thorne, a close family friend passed away early this year of a rare intrahepatic cholangiocarcinoma (bile duct cancer) and Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML). Thorne was a cancer warrior and inspiration to her many followers as she bravely shared her journey through Chemo. Gretheline said, "Rita's strength throughout her fight with cancer was incredible! She was a role model who showed us how to be graceful, philanthropic, kind, empathetic, confident and memorable. Rita was a pillar of the Filipino American community in New England and a dedicated volunteer for the Bay Path Practical

Nursing Academy."

About PMC: The Pan-Mass Challenge is a Massachusetts-based bike-a-thon that raises more money for charity than any other single athletic fundraising event in the country. Always held the first weekend in August, the PMC raises funds for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, a world leader in adult and pediatric cancer treatment and research. Each summer, thousands of riders and volunteers from 43 states and 12 countries participate in the PMC, all with a common goal: to find a cure

for cancer. 100 percent of all rider-raised funds go directly to cancer research and treatment at Dana-Farber and the Jimmy Fund. The PMC is Dana-Farber's single largest supporter and is more than 60 percent of the Jimmy Fund's annual revenue. Since 1980, the PMC has raised \$900 million for Dana-Farber.

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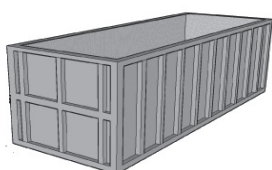


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# Annual Police vs. Fire Baseball Classic raises \$15,750 for Why Me and Sherry’s House



WORCESTER — To launch Childhood Cancer Awareness Month in September, the second annual Police vs. Fire Baseball Classic, presented by Country Bank at Polar Park on Sunday, August 27, raised \$15,750 for Why Me & Sherry’s House, a Worcester nonprofit that provides resources and support to children battling cancer and their families.

The Worcester Police Officers defeated the Worcester Firefighters 14-3 in nine innings.

As the home team, the Worcester Fire Department selected Why Me & Sherry’s

House to benefit from this year’s event in honor of retired Fire Captain Mark Wyco, who lost his daughter Bridget to childhood cancer in 1996.

After the game, the Worcester Red Sox and Country Bank presented the check for \$15,750 to Rebecca Kuczarski, the Executive Director of Why Me & Sherry’s House.

They also presented the 2023 Paul Scully Most Valuable Player Award to Officer Ty Sterner, a southpaw who allowed just two hits and one run in six innings pitched. The Worcester native, who has served in the Worcester Police

Department for two years, was drafted by the Cincinnati Reds in the 23rd round of the 2014 Major League Baseball June Amateur Draft from the University of Rhode Island. However, a pair of Tommy John surgeries cut his professional baseball career short.

As the M.V.P., Officer Sterner won a Country Bank jersey, four V.I.P. tickets to a future WooSox game—at which he



will be honored with the opportunity to throw a Ceremonial First Pitch—and a gift card to The Mercantile Restaurant.

“There was an extraordinary feeling at this year’s event,” said Dr. Charles A. Steinberg, President of the Worcester Red Sox and the WooSox Foundation. “Our first responders are the heart and soul of Worcester, and we believe this friendly but competitive game will continue to grow into a civic treasure. We thank our friends and founding partners at Country Bank for collaborating with us yet again on what has become one of the most fun—and impactful—events of the year.”

“Country Bank is honored to partner with the Worcester Red Sox Foundation in presenting the Police vs. Fire game,” said Paul Scully, President and CEO of Country Bank. “We have been a long-time supporter of the Police and Fire Departments across the many markets we serve. The critical work these departments do each and every day truly makes a difference for our communities. It is also our privilege to support Why Me Sherry’s House with this year’s donation to assist them in the great work they do for Childhood Cancer.”

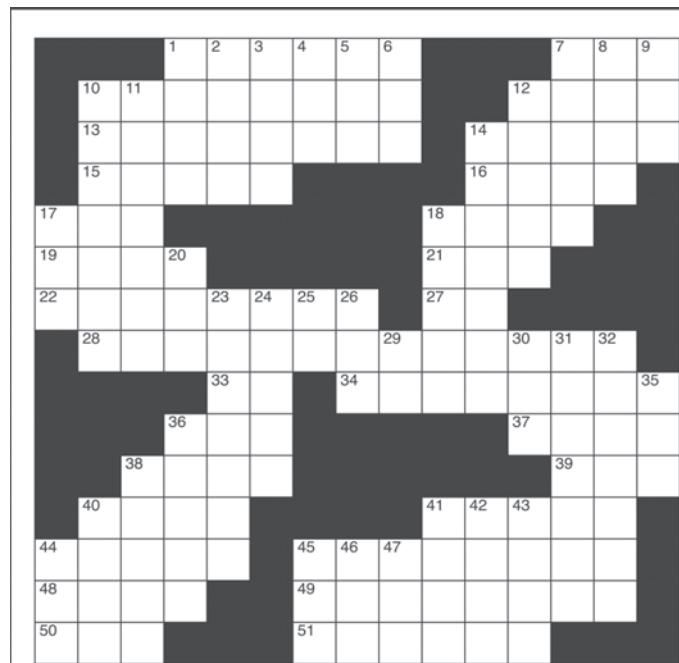
At the inaugural game September 26, 2022, \$15,680 was raised for the Manny 267 Foundation, which honors and celebrates the life of the late Worcester Police Officer Enmanuel “Manny” Familia, who made the ultimate sacrifice June 4, 2021, when he heroically

dove into Green Hill Pond to attempt to save a drowning teenage boy.

In its first two years, the event raised \$31,430 for local causes that hit home for Worcester’s first responders.

Country Bank is one of the WooSox’ 21 founding partners. The WooSox Foundation and Country Bank also collaborate on the “Most Valuable Teachers” (MVTs) program, which recognizes extraordinary teachers in the region, as well as the “WooStars” program, which rewards nonprofits driving social change across Central Massachusetts.

So far in 2023, the WooSox Foundation has donated \$88,760 toward the effort to conquer cancer.

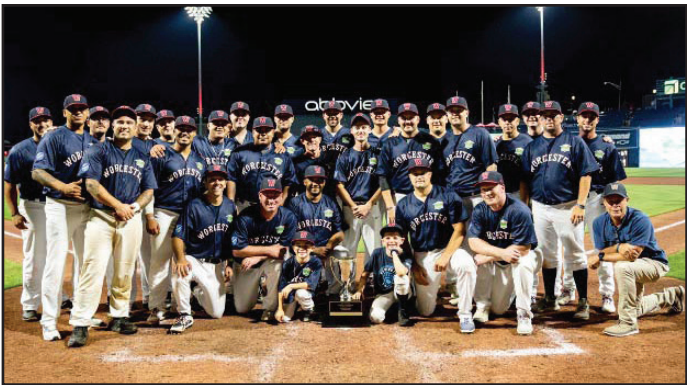
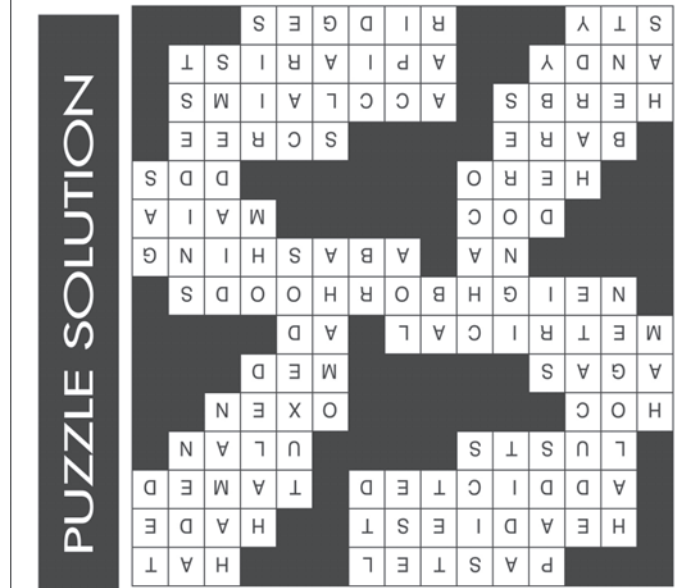


### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Type of crayon
- 7. Fashion accessory
- 10. Most cerebral
- 12. Incline from vertical
- 13. Dependent on
- 14. Broken in
- 15. Strongly desires
- 16. Mounted soldier
- 17. Ad \_\_\_\_ : when necessary
- 18. Cattle
- 19. Ottoman military commanders
- 21. \_\_\_\_ student, learns healing
- 22. Composed in poetic meter
- 27. Promotional material
- 28. Where people live
- 33. Sodium
- 34. Embarrassing
- 36. Medical man
- 37. Mother of Hermes
- 38. One who saves the day
- 39. Tooth caregiver
- 40. Not clothed
- 41. Slope covered with loose stones
- 44. Used to cook
- 45. Praises enthusiastically
- 48. Rooney is a famous one
- 49. Beekeeper
- 50. Pigpen
- 51. Potato chip brand

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Living quarters
- 2. Horizontal passage
- 3. Attacks
- 4. Vietnamese offensive
- 5. Midway between east and southeast
- 6. Confined (abbr.)
- 7. Book of Esther antagonist
- 8. Port in Yemen
- 9. CNN’s founder
- 10. Type of bulb
- 11. Prepare
- 12. Promoted
- 14. Dinner jackets
- 17. Partner to cheese
- 18. Nebraska city
- 20. Human gene
- 23. Pays no attention to
- 24. Lowland South American plain
- 25. Blood group
- 26. Mauna \_\_\_\_, Hawaiian volcano
- 29. Atomic #37
- 30. Unit of electrical resistance
- 31. Jeweled crowns
- 32. Nastiest
- 35. Traditional cars need it
- 36. Bowler hat
- 38. Robust
- 40. Not straight
- 41. Stony waste matter
- 42. Have an interest in
- 43. Jacob \_\_\_\_, journalist
- 44. Maintains possession of
- 45. Swiss river
- 46. Average cost of market goods
- 47. Spanish soldier: El \_\_\_\_



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PUBLISHED BY

STONEBRIDGE PRESS

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

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**LEICESTER**  
\$490,000, 812 Pleasant St, Lavin, Matthew P, and Lavin, Courtney M, to Streight, Erik.  
\$230,000, 30 Burncoat St, Debatis Rachel B Est, and Lavallee, Marie-Anne D, to Golden Lotus LLC.

**NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
\$330,900, 61 Saint John St, Sobaleski Joseph J Est, and Sobaleski, Michael F, to Burritt, Elyse, and Burritt, Steven.  
\$312,000, 35 Saint John St, Mikhalev, Sergey, and Lebedinskaya, Susanna Z, to Golloschi, Emi.

**SPENCER**  
\$330,900, 61 Saint John St, Sobaleski Joseph J Est, and Sobaleski, Michael F, to Burritt, Elyse, and Burritt, Steven.  
\$312,000, 35 Saint John St, Mikhalev, Sergey, and Lebedinskaya, Susanna Z, to Golloschi, Emi.

**WARREN**  
\$330,900, 61 Saint John St, Sobaleski Joseph J Est, and Sobaleski, Michael F, to Burritt, Elyse, and Burritt, Steven.  
\$312,000, 35 Saint John St, Mikhalev, Sergey, and Lebedinskaya, Susanna Z, to Golloschi, Emi.

**WEST BROOKFIELD**  
\$575,000, 85 E Main St, Mckenna Ranch LLC, to East 85 West LLC.  
\$489,000, 274 New Braintree Rd, Soboleski, Seth, to Delia, Matthew R, and Delia, Courtney L.



# Cornerstone Bank offers new checking account designed specifically for students

WORCESTER — With school back in session, Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is pleased to offer a new checking account designed for the unique needs of students. The account offers a variety of features and benefits to help students get a strong start toward financial independence. The best part? It's free for students ages 16 through 25.

"We are big proponents of financial literacy, so we wanted to create an account that makes it easier for students in high school and college to start banking on their own," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "Our RITE Student Checking Account is free for students until they're 26 and comes with many benefits and money-saving perks they will really appreciate."

It only takes \$25 to open the account and there is no minimum monthly balance requirement. Unlimited ATM surcharge reimbursements, as well as online and mobile banking, mean the account works well for students attending school away from home.

Beyond banking benefits, which include rewards for everyday purchases and Early Pay

with direct deposit, the RITE Student Checking Account also boasts valuable non-banking perks that both students and their parents will appreciate. These include discounts from local and national retailers, cell phone protection, roadside assistance, ID Theft Aid, buyer's protection and extended warranty, a health savings card and more.

"We know today's students have a lot of expenses and stress, so we wanted to offer them a checking account that provides the services and security they need," said Cornerstone Bank EVP, Retail Banking, Altaf Ahmed. "For example, if they pay their cell phone bill through their RITE Student Checking Account, the phone is covered for repair or replacement up to \$400 per claim. It's extras like these that can help provide peace of mind for students and parents, especially when students are leaving home for college."

Applicants must be active students ages 16 to 25. Students who are 16 require a parent or guardian as a joint account owner. Monthly maintenance service charges are waived until the student reaches age 26, at which time a \$6 monthly main-

tenance service charge will be assessed.

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 tag line, 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 [cornerstone-bank.com](http://cornerstone-bank.com) or call 800-939-9103.

# Giguere Gymnastics celebrates anniversary with open house

LEICESTER — This year marks the 50th anniversary of Giguere Gymnastics, a gymnastics school in Leicester. On September 17, we will be having a 1-6 PM open house, at Giguere's, 146 Main Street Cherry Valley, where we will be welcoming current and former athletes/employees, friends, and family. There will be gymnastics, martial arts, and dance demonstrations throughout the day.

Opening in 1973, Giguere's has taught and trained not just gymnasts but dancers and martial artists at the same location in Leicester for 50 years. Initially opened by Joanne Giguere, the business has since been sold to her son, David Giguere, and his business partner, Paul McCarthy in 1978. Giguere's has seen multiple generations of families and students come through the doors and continue to support our various programs, which include gymnastics, dance, ninja, martial arts, and daycare.

Giguere's is respected, not just locally, but nationally as well. There have been several hundreds of gymnasts representing Giguere Gymnastics at local, state, regional, and national United States Gymnastics competitions over the past 50 years.

Please feel free to reach out to Paul McCarthy for more information about the Giguere Gymnastics celebration of 50 years.

Paul McCarthy - paulzville@gmail.com (508) 330-8274  
Giguere Gymnastics- 148 Main Street, Cherry Valley MA. 01611 (508) 892-3797

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When they're not exploring every nook and cranny of their kingdom, Sebastian and Versace are masters of the cuddle game! There's nothing like watching them snuggle up together for a cozy catnap. And when play-time rolls around, you won't be able to resist their infectious enthusiasm! Sebastian and Versace have a mellow and independent nature, making them the ideal companions for anyone looking to add some feline charm to their life. They may start off a bit shy, but once they've settled into their new home, their curiosity and friendliness will shine through!

Are you on the lookout for not just one, but TWO furry friends to join your family? Look no further - Sebastian and Versace are the dynamic duo you've been dreaming of! Don't miss your chance to meet these wonderful kitties in person. Visit us today!

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# Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts to welcome hundreds to annual Geek Is Glam

WORCESTER — Hundreds of middle school girls and dozens of high school girls will convene at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) October 14, 2023 to celebrate Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics at the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts Geek Is Glam (GIG) STEM Event and it's not too late to participate.

The day-long interactive STEM conference for girls in grades 4 through 12 is hosted by Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts (GSCWM) and WPI with over 60 area education and adventure collaborators. Participants will be exposed to some of the area's top scientific and engineering minds as they engage in the hands-on aspect of exploration and discovery while they build, explore, assemble and imagine. The day kicks off at 9 AM with Keynote speakers Daisha Ramos-Ortiz, WPI freshman and five-time Geek Is Glam participant and Ms. Massachusetts 2023 Chelsea Vuong.

Participants will spend the day in interactive workshops, demonstrations, and hands-on exhibits presented by: Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, The Discovery Museums, New England Sci-Tech, UMass Amherst Polymer Science and Engineering, WCVB Channel 5 Boston, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, and New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill, to name a few. From Mystic Aquarium to Morse Code, from rain-bows to robots, girls will be engaged in

interactive activities, games and displays.

For more information and to register go to <https://www.gscwm.org/en/discover/activities/special-events.html> or call 413-584-2602. The fee is \$45 per girl in grades 4-8 and \$50 per girl in grades 9-12 and includes lunch, snacks, a Geek Is Glam t-shirt, draw-string backpack, and an exclusive Geek Is Glam patch. Financial assistance is available. No previous Girl Scout experience necessary to attend. Registration closes September 18.

For a Full List of Activities visit <http://www.gscwm.org/en/events/special-events/geek.html>

About Girl Scouts of Central & Western Massachusetts

Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts serves over 5,000 girls in grades K through 12 with the strong support of 3,000 adult volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts. Girl Scouts' mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place. Since 1912, girls have explored new fields of knowledge, learned valuable skills, and developed strong core values through Girl Scouts. Today, Girl Scouts is, as it always has been, the organization best positioned to help girls develop important leadership skills they need to become successful adults.

# Knights of Columbus Council 11080 to sponsor spaghetti dinner

WEST BROOKFIELD — Knights of Columbus Council 11080 is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner this month.

The event is set for Saturday, Sept. 23, inside Dugan Hall at Sacred Heart Church (10 Milk Street).

A take-out dinner option will be made available to guests, beginning at 6 p.m. The sit-down dinner will be served at 6:30.

Dinner includes pasta fagioli; garden salad; meatballs and sausage; spaghetti and sauce; Italian bread; dessert; and water, soda, and coffee.

The event cost is a \$15 donation per guest (\$8 for children under 12).

Proceeds from the event will help provide support to those in need throughout the area.

Admission tickets are also good for entry for a special door prize.

Tickets for a 50/50 raffle and more will also be available. Advance ticket purchase is encouraged. Tickets are available from any Knight, or by calling 508-612-1649.

You can also send an email to [bobfalter@gmail.com](mailto:bobfalter@gmail.com) to learn more about the event or secure tickets for the dinner. Tickets will only be available at the door while they last.

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# Richard Sugden Library to host two shows Sept. 16

Trevor the Games Man is coming to Spencer! Get ready for lots of fun and laughs. The Richard Sugden Library, Spencer, is hosting two shows on Saturday September 16th, one for kids/families and one for adults/teens!

The first “Giants & Giraffes \* Dragons & Detectives”, an uproarious show for children and families, will be held from 10:00am - 11:00am.

The second program will be held for adults and teens: “The Party Game Show” an hour of good clean fun for adults and teens from 11:30am - 12:30pm. Both programs will be held at Powder Mill Park (43 Smithville Rd.) with a rain venue at the Spencer Town Hall.

These programs are supported, in part, by a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Writers Unite is a writers’ group that meets the 3rd Monday of each month. (If there is a holiday on the 3rd the group will meet on the 2nd Monday.) The group meets from 5:30 pm—7:00 pm at the Richard Sugden Library, Spencer. Sign up at

www.spencerpubliclibrary.org/adults or call

the library at 508-885-7513 x1 to sign up for email reminders and correspondence.

Meetings consist of writing prompts, sharing individual work and inspiring writing. Please bring some of your current writing, a pencil and paper. Facilitator: Sharon Legasey

Crafting with the Richard Sugden Library. Create Pine Cone Zinnias with Diane Johnson. Join us in this creative, fun workshop. We will paint pine cones to look like zinnias and make them into a bouquet. Registration required. Space is limited. Sign up on the Richard Sugden Library website: www.spencerpubliclibrary.org. or call the library at 508-885-7513 x1.

The Richard Sugden Library, Spencer, invites you to join us in Book Bites, a book discussion that will be held on Tuesday, September 26th. It is Hybrid (Zoom/In-person at Library). We will discuss the book “Lillian Boxfish Takes A Walk” by Kathleen Rooney, from 11:00a m-12:00pm. The book is “Extraordinary...hilarious...Elegantly written, Rooney creates a glorious paean to a distant literary life and time— and an unabashed celebration of

human connections that bridge past and future. — Publishers Weekly

Register for the Zoom link on the Library website: www.spencerpubliclibrary.org/adults.

Join the Richard Sugden Library, Spencer, for an evening of memories of growing up on small farms in North Brookfield and Spencer. We will hear stories, from author Diane Buzzell, about her book “The Artist, the Farmer, the Hunter, and the Good Guy”. As we go down memory lane, with the Buzzel family’s fun and foolishness, hard work and accomplishments, we’ll be reminded of our own histories and stories growing up. Mark your calendars for Monday, October 2nd from 6:00pm - 7:00pm. To be held in the Reading Room at the Richard Sugden Library, Spencer.

Mark your calendar for a program about life as an army nurse during the war in Iraq. Colonel Leanne Chabior will share stories of her time as an army nurse: the good, the bad, and the ugly. It took years, but she’s ready to share her experiences in Iraq. The talk will take place at the Richard Sugden Library, Spencer, on Monday October 23rd from 6:00pm - 7:00pm.

## SNHU Announces Summer 2023 President’s List

MANCHESTER, N.H. — It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) congratulates the following students on being named to the Summer 2023 President’s List. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.700 and above for the reporting term are named to the President’s List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Brett Barham of Spencer  
Donna Richer of Spencer  
Jennifer Joyce of West Brookfield  
Lauren Wilcox of West Brookfield  
Denis Leo of Spencer  
Johnathan Jones of Leicester  
Emily Alicea of Spencer  
Krysta Rollins of East Brookfield  
Nicole Bousquet of West Brookfield  
Joshua Treadway of Spencer  
Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, non-profit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the “Most Innovative” regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

## Emmanuel Adedeji Named to SNHU Dean’s List

MANCHESTER, N.H. — Emmanuel Adedeji of Spencer has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s Summer 2023 Dean’s List. The summer terms run from May to August.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean’s List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, non-profit institution with a 90-year history of educating traditional-aged students and working adults. Now serving more than 170,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers approximately 200 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as one of the “Most Innovative” regional universities by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at www.snhu.edu.

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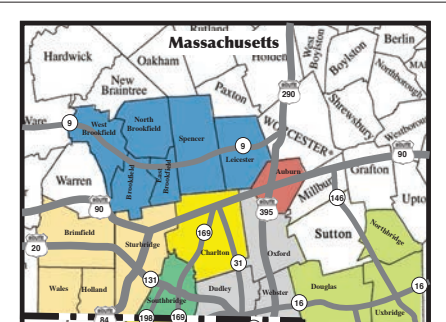
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Beyond Faith:  
Elected Officials  
Must Serve All

In a diverse and pluralistic society, the principle of separation between church and state is fundamental to preserving individual liberties and ensuring that government serves the interests of all citizens, regardless of their religious beliefs or lack thereof. Elected officials have a solemn duty to represent the entire community, making decisions that respect the rich tapestry of religious beliefs that exist in our nation. However, there have been instances where some officials have allowed their personal religious convictions to guide their governance, raising concerns about the fairness and inclusivity of their actions.

One of the cornerstones of democracy is the idea that elected officials are entrusted with the responsibility to serve the interests of all their constituents, not just those who share their religious beliefs. Our society is incredibly diverse, with individuals from various faiths and belief systems coexisting harmoniously. It is imperative that our elected representatives reflect this diversity in their decision-making processes and refrain from imposing their own religious beliefs upon the broader population.

When elected officials allow their personal religious convictions to dictate policy, it can lead to the exclusion of those who hold different beliefs. This is not only unjust but also undermines the very essence of a democratic society that values religious freedom and tolerance. Our nation's history is replete with instances where religious intolerance and discrimination have caused immense harm, and we must not forget the lessons of the past.

Furthermore, the potential for religiously driven governance to teeter into radicalism is a grave concern. While most people practice their faith peacefully, there is a risk that individuals with extreme religious views may seek to impose their beliefs on society through the political process. Such radicalism can lead to policies that not only infringe on the rights of those outside the particular faith but also create an environment of hatred and divisiveness.

It is crucial for elected officials to remember that the separation of church and state is not an attack on religion but a safeguard for both government and faith. It ensures that religious institutions remain free from government interference and that government remains neutral and inclusive. This principle allows people of all faiths and none to coexist peacefully and participate fully in our democracy without fear of discrimination or marginalization.

To uphold the values of fairness, inclusivity, and religious freedom that our nation holds dear, elected officials must commit themselves to serving all their constituents, regardless of their religious beliefs. They must resist the temptation to govern based on personal religious convictions and instead prioritize policies that promote the common good and respect the diverse beliefs of the people they represent.

The importance of elected officials serving all people, irrespective of their religious beliefs, cannot be overstated. Our democracy thrives when it respects the principles of religious freedom, tolerance, and inclusivity. Elected officials must uphold these principles by governing without bias and ensuring that their decisions reflect the diverse and pluralistic nature of our society. By doing so, we can build a stronger, more united, and truly democratic nation where every citizen is valued and protected.

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Salvation is our, your choice,  
responsibility Part 2

To the Editor:

Joshua 1: 8 do not let this book [Bible] of God's moral laws depart from your heart, mouth.

Many believe prosperity, success come from influential people, acquaintances, and person contacts. Let me advice you! True success comes from obedience to God's moral and civil laws. You may not be successful according to the worlds standards, you will be successful by God's standards " and" Gods standards, laws, opinion; last for ever, eternity.

God does not judge people by race, or sex, God judges according to our faith in His Son Jesus. Those who diligently make an honest effort to obey God's will through God's Son Jesus will become rooted in God's moral and civil laws that are established by God and will be blessed by God on earth and eternity. Amen! Psalm 1: 1

Do any of you realize that as Christians, disciples of Jesus, disciples are those of us who profess Jesus and have been given authority over evil; sin, Satan "and" we also have authority to heal. The question we need to ask our self, are we of little faith. Without faith we cannot please God and without Jesus we have no authority. Matthew 10: 1,8.

Jesus is warning us that in the coming days there will be a false teacher the anti Christ and we need to be alert, responsible to stand firm in God's Word and to test the spirit Matthew 24: 24

Luke 10: 19 Jesus is again confirming us, His disciples that we have authority over Satan in the name o Jesus. Mark 6: 7 is also confirming who we are and what our authority is in and through Jesus. Amen!

We are being warned through Jesus Luke 22: 31-32 that we today are just has vulnerable as Peter when standing against Satan apart from Jesus we are eternally dead. We are open house to Satan without Jesus. As Christians, we who accept Jesus in our heart the devil, Satan is not free to do what he wants with those of us who have accepted Jesus in their hearts, God's adopted children. Thank you Jesus.

How much more explicit can it be, you, me have the privilege to become adopted children of God. The only requirement is to believe and receive Jesus in our heart "and" God knows the sincerity of our heart. There is another commitment you should consider and that is to be baptized in the name of Jesus submerged in water John 1: 12

John 6: 68 Peter could not have said it better, it had to have been inspired by the Holy Spirit. Jesus asked His disciples are you going to leave me to? Peter replied to whom should we go? You [Jesus] are the Lamb of God, you are eternal life.

Jesus is giving us sincere warning not to be deceived, Jesus wants us to know apart from Him we do not go to heaven when we die, do not be foolish, ignorant you do not go to heaven when you die apart from Jesus, Jesus is the only way to heaven. John 8: 24-32, & 14: 6.

If you, we are truly committed to God, the Holy Spirit takes the fruits of the spirit which is in Jesus and reveals it to the believer, those who made a confession of faith, love, forgiveness, redemption, sanctification, etc., and through faith our relationship with Jesus [Savior] makes the experience real in our lives. What a beautiful lasting gifts. John 16: 15

We all have the opportunity, to make our choice, the choice we make is eternal life or death, God has given us the privilege to inherit

eternal life, heaven through Jesus His Son, the second person of the Triune God. You know the other choice; your life depends on it. Acts 26: 18.

What this is teaching us "is" we must not take God's love, grace for granted because God cannot and will not overlook sin, we will all stand before God, Jesus on judgment day, God will not be mocked. Romans 3: 7-8 and Galatians 6: 7.

The power and penalty of sin died with Jesus the Son of the living God, the 2nd person of the Triune God on the cross. We have been given a gift from God; we have been freed from Sin Satan's power once and for all through Jesus. Now today it is our choice whether we live or die. Yes, we will continue to have a sinful nature as long as we are in this body and remain vulnerable to Satan apart from Jesus. However! We have a choice in and through Jesus, we have the authority over sin, Satan through Jesus Romans 6: 6-7.

One of many of God's gifts to us is choice, free will, we are all free to choose between two masters, however we are not free to manipulate the consequences of our choice. The choice of sin is death, hell "and" if you should die accidentally there is no second change if you have not repented. Romans 6: 23.

These verses are promises from God, Jesus, if we are truly committed to Jesus. it is impossible to be separated from Jesus. Jesus love and death for us is absolute proof of God's love for us through the presence of Jesus in our life, if we have truly made a confession of faith we have God's eternal assurance. The choice is ours, yours. Amen! Romans 8: 35-39

We as God's adopted children it is our responsibility with the help of the Holy Spirit to live at peace with everyone. There are some people it is just not possible, do not get upset, Just ask Jesus to forgive them, they may be possessed by Satan. Many-rejected even Jesus. [John 15: 18] [1 John 3: 13] Romans 12: 18.

What this is teaching us is we need to love as Jesus loves, forgive and to share God's grace to us with others. We know what grace is, it is undeserved favor, "and" if God gives freely to those who confess and repent we also need to do the same. Romans 12: 18

No one! None of us is going to be perfect in this body and in spite of our faults [sin] we need to b patient, gentle and forgiving each other as God Jesus has forgiving us, and we need to pray for each other daily. Ephesians 4: 1-3

As adopted children of God our daily actions need to reflect our faith in Jesus. Come on people, we know what that means. Obedience, devotion to God through Jesus. Ephesians 5: 8-9

This my neighbors is a very valuable message through Jesus Christ from God to us who are fallible humans, we make mistakes and only through Jesus the Lamb of God do we receive the Holy Spirit, the 3rd person of the Triune God. We receive the Holy Spirit who guides us according to God's will and we receive power and authority to do God's work. 2 Corinthians 4: 6.

My suggestion, advice to you is don't read the Bible like you would read a novel, book, study the Bible intensely, live what it teaches. To some of you I would compare it to listening to your parents, if you ignore them you get the consequences and if you obey you get rewarded. James 1: 22-25 To be continued! Dwell in peace!

ROLAND BLAIS  
BROOKFIELD

Consider  
financial gifts for  
grandchildren



FINANCIAL  
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NIELSEN

If you have grandchildren, you probably enjoy spending time with them and watching them grow. And to help them achieve a bright future, you might like to make some financial gifts — but which ones?

You have several options. Let's look at three of them:

529 plans – When you invest in a 529 education savings plan, any earnings growth is distributed federally tax free, as long as withdrawals are used for qualified education expenses. (Withdrawals used for expenses other than qualified education expenses may be subject to federal and state taxes, plus a 10% penalty.) And in-state residents who invest in their home state's 529 plan may also receive state tax incentives. A 529 plan can be used for college, approved trade school programs, qualified student loan repayments and even some K-12 costs. And if the grandchild you've named as a beneficiary of a 529 plan decides to forego further education, you can generally switch beneficiaries to another immediate family member. You can contribute up to \$17,000 in 2023, per grandchild, to a 529 plan without incurring gift taxes. Furthermore, as of the 2024–25 school year, grandparent-owned 529 plans won't affect financial aid eligibility. However, tax issues for 529 plans can be complex, so consult with your tax advisor about your situation.

Roth IRA – Any earnings growth in a Roth IRA is distributed tax free, provided the owner is at least 59½ and has had the account at least five years. If your grandchildren earn money from babysitting or a part-time job, they can open a Roth IRA with the help of a parent or other adult. You could "match" your grandchildren's contributions, possibly on a dollar-for-dollar basis, to provide them with an incentive for saving. In fact, you could fully fund the Roth IRA, up to the annual contribution limit, which is \$6,500 or the amount of your grandchild's taxable compensation, whichever is less. (The annual limit is \$7,500 for those 50 or older.) And your grandchildren can withdraw the contributions — not the earnings — at any time to pay for college or anything else.

Custodial account – You can open a custodial account, also known as an UGMA or UTMA account, for a grandchild, and fund it with most types of investments: stocks, mutual funds, bonds and so on. For that reason, it can be a good way to teach grandchildren about the nature of investing — risks, returns and the value of holding investments for the long term. Plus, there's an initial tax benefit to custodial accounts: The first \$1,250 of your grandchild's investment income (dividends, interest, capital gains) is tax free, and the next \$1,250 is taxed at the child's rate. Anything above that amount is taxed at the parents' marginal tax rate. However, once your grandchildren reach the age of termination — usually 18 or 21, depending on where they live — they take control of the account and can do whatever they choose with the money. So, while a custodial account could be considered as a funding source for college, it might alternatively serve as a gift that could eventually enable your grandchild to fulfill another desire or goal — take an overseas trip, pay for a car or maybe even start on a path to entrepreneurship.

Making financial gifts to your grandchildren can be rewarding — for them and for you. So, consider the possibilities carefully and put your generosity to work.

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Letter submission policy

Letters to the Editor must include the author's name, address, and a daytime phone number for purposes of verification in order to be considered for publication. Only the author's name and the town in which they reside will be published. Letters submitted without all of the required information will not be accepted.

It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.



# Still a strong fishing season as bird hunting looms



Milo and Graham Alexion, seen here, along with the entire family, enjoys fishing.



The weather sure has been hot for the last few weeks, but it should start to cool off before you read this column. Fishing has been hot on

the saltwater for many species, much like the weather. The tautog bite is getting better every day, and sea bass fishing is also staying strong. Catching limits of sea-bass requires catching a lot of throwbacks, but some impressive fish are being caught.

Reports of schools of false albacore are coming in every day. Galilee, Rhode Island has been hot out in front of the lighthouse and the shores around Matunic, and the Charlestown Breachway are also producing a lot of fish including a few bluefish.

This week's two pictures show Milo Alexion with his bass he caught recently while fishing with his parents. His older brother Graham is shown holding his large brown trout. The Alexion family enjoy fishing and some of the results are shown in this week's two photos. Nice fish!

Striper fishing is good one day and a bit slow on another, but anglers that know where and when to fish have enjoyed some great striper fishing, although most need to be released because of the slot limit size. As always, evening fishing is the best. The canal fishing is not for the elderly, as climbing over the rocks to get down to a good fishing spot can be dangerous, as most anglers know.

Pheasant hunting is only four weeks away, and sportsmen that have a good dog to hunt alongside, have had to do some early morning training before the season opens, and will pay off when the season opens! There are a few Rod & Gun Clubs that are plan-



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
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ning to open a bit earlier, but opening day in Mass. will be on October 14, statewide. This year Upland bird hunting will open on the same day as waterfowl which could see some conflict among hunters. Woodcock hunting opens on October 2, if you can find any birds in the area. The Blackstone Valley continues to lose a lot of the habitat essential for local and migrating birds like woodcock. Local woodcock habitat

in the Blackstone Valley area has taken a hard hit in the past 10 years or more, and open covers continue to dwindle, mainly because of construction of new homes. Going North of Worcester to hunt could provide some better hunting opportunities.

Grouse are almost extinct in the Uxbridge area and surrounding towns. Areas like Petersham, Mass. do have a small population of grouse, and the farther you go North, their populations are still quite good.

If you are looking for an area to hunt quail heading towards the Cape is your best bet. A small

population of Grouse are still providing some good hunting, if you know where to go.

Duck hunting in the valley opens on October 14 along with the regular goose season. The two bird daily limit on geese this year is troublesome, but it is what it is. The early Canada goose season closes September 22. The youth waterfowl hunt opens September 13 and October 7. Early waterfowl season for active military and veterans is scheduled to be September 23 and 29. Always check your hunting abstracts before hunting any wild game.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep them Rods Bending!

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Bizarro World

To the Editor:

In 2016, candidate Trump stated that Hillary was under investigation, and nobody under federal investigation should be running for president. Even though we did not know it, he was himself under investigation at the time. He now stands four times indicted under 91 counts of law breaking. Many times indictments are not done, unless prosecutors believe they can prove their case beyond reasonable doubt. In Georgia, a grand jury looked into the current charges and unanimously found there to be cause to actually take these defendants to trial. Under normal circumstances, prosecution rates are above 90 percent successful. If Donald Trump were found guilty in just a few of the 91 charged crimes, he would likely die in jail.

Joe Biden does have a son with substantive legal issues. In my opinion, careful review of Trump's kids and his son in law, would also not pass a smell test. I grant that they may be too dumb to realize that billion dollar corporations usually pay more than zero or \$150 in taxes I also think the millions Jared will realize from investments by the Saudi king who butchers journalists, will likely far exceed Hunter's ill gotten gains, but none of these issues are charged or sticking to Biden or DJT.

The conspiracy that failed on January 6, 2021, that hoped to void electoral votes and let each state legislature get one vote, realizing more states had GOP ruled legislatures (a fail safe idea devised with 13 total states and 240 years back technology), is now being mined in those states to throw out voters choices with impunity. They are actually passing laws to make fake electors they choose, legal. Taking a lesson from Ron DeSantis, they have now arranged to be able to remove and fire elected state officials like attorney's general. Kemp has stated that he will rest their attempts to fire Fani Willis for just doing her job.

We are still running a deficit, though Biden has reduced the amount of it. The GOP controlled clown show denied funding for enough IRS agents to actually collect what we are due (CBO says it would have added 141 billion to collections) Trump lawyer Michael Cohen says Trump's taxes covered a conference table with foot high stacks of paper. That explains why too few auditors rarely audit the biggest earners and offenders, yet they will call in us poor schlubs for audits.

What has happened to the morality of this country. Setting aside the draconian Handmaids Tale laws being passed, which are not really right to life as much as forced breeding. If we actually cared about kids, we would do a much better job on childcare ,education, nutrition and healthcare.

According to the polls the guy with five kids by three wives he cheated on, who tried to overthrow our government, lies so much, he simply cannot testify under oath was a draft dodging commander in chief, believes Putin over our CIA and loves Kim Jong Un is running neck and neck with the POTUS who actually delivered his campaign promises and has unemployment at lowest level in 60 years.

Trump did deliver on packing the Supreme Court. The lack of ethics closely resembles the Republican majority. Biden dealt with the issue that the GOP ran on to win control of the house, and turned it into the Trump hip pocket sideshow that has marked its entirety. If we could not convict Trump for crimes everyone knows he committed, impeach Joe for thing Hunter did, is a bad joke like everything McCarthy does.

When one party within a democracy believes that only issues where their views prevail, welcome to fantasy land.

KEN KIMBALL  
BROOKFIELD

### Action and reaction

To the Editor:

For those who have the mental capacity to study the sciences you find one relativity. That is "For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction." It's a simple universal law. Everything has to equal out for things to be in equilibrium. For everything done in the name of the good, it also effects someone or something equally in the bad. You buy a scratch ticket and win \$10,000. That means other people must purchase multiple tickets and win nothing. Good for you, bad for them.

In 1930 Dupont by accident developed a plastic now called Teflon. They found this plastic to be almost impervious to all chemicals. Its properties where amazing. It was soon used in almost all valves, pumps, wire coatings, sports clothing, as bearings, and as non-stick coatings. It was a miracle that allowed the world to innovate into the 20th century and enable us to provide processing of foods for the growing population. Now we know another fact. The same properties that make it ideal also make it an extreme hazard for living animals. You see they call this the "Forever Chemical" now. The properties that make it impervious also make it, so it doesn't naturally break down over time. It goes into the soil and our water system. When it gets into your body it cannot be digested or broken down. It builds up and poisons your system over time. For every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. The law of nature.

The Progressive Dems are creating another one with their rush to cancel oil and turn to electricity. You see we don't have the battery technology to make efficient batteries. Currently the only feasible ones are made of Lithium.

Lithium is a highly reactive metal that when released reacts with other chemicals to create hazardous carcinogens. So, in their rush to eliminate gas which makes carbon dioxide (food for plant-based life) they want to flood the world with the hazardous chemicals used in the production of batteries. The outcome will be a reduction of Carbon Dioxide but the poisoning of our planet with these other chemicals. The Lithium and by product chemicals will seep into our groundwater and food system. The effects will be increased cancer in all people. You know the disease that Biden says he eliminated. I myself cry when I see children on those commercials for St. Jude's. You have to wonder why God would allow it. I sure don't want to promote a system where this is going to increase the occurrence. Fix one problem and by doing so create another. Every action has an equal and opposite reaction. Unfortunately, the Progressive Dems don't want you to hear the reality. The indoctrinated Snowflakes like only believe what is told to them by their phone So sad but true.

It's truly astonishing what Biden said at the G20 summit. He stated Global Climate change is worse than a nuclear war. This guy really is out of it. A nuclear war would cause the destruction of all life as we know it. But I am sure his followers agree with him. They obey whatever they are told as long as Trump is not allowed to run. That's their action and reaction. Too bad their brain has become so washed by the constant news from their phone that they cannot be a free thinker.

MARK ROBILLARD  
SPENCER

## ‘If you don’t use it, you’ll lose it’ when it comes to the brain

The maxim "If you don't use it, you'll lose it"—heard so often- it's practically a background track to our lives. But wait! Before you glaze over, have you ever considered the gravity behind this statement? It's not just a snappy saying—it's a golden nugget of wisdom with far-reaching implications.

The workings of the brain are spell-binding. Picture your brain as a thriving tree in a lush forest. Each new piece of knowledge you gain is like planting a seed that eventually sprouts into branches and leaves. This isn't poetic license; it's backed by the science of neuroplasticity—the brain's incredible ability to form new neural connections throughout life.

Each time you learn or practice a skill, you reshape your brain and strengthen neural pathways, fortifying those branches and leaves on your cerebral tree. In this way, your brain doesn't just store information—it evolves, hardwiring itself to flourish when you practice or learn something over time.

I began competitive swimming as a child, which was far from natural, but I was determined, and every lap I swam was like adding another leaf to a growing branch in my "swimming tree" in the brain. Each practice session was a mental workout, a "branching out" in my neural forest, solidifying the pathways that would improve my abilities.

I was learning to cut through the water more efficiently and grasping intricate techniques that required keen mental focus. While athletics is primarily seen as a physical endeavor, the cerebral component is enormous.

If you find the "learning tree" concept captivating, you'll be equally intrigued by the neuroscience of "pruning."

When you neglect other learned abilities or information, those corresponding branches in your brain don't get the same nourishment. Just as a gardener would trim away the dead or overgrown branches to let a tree flourish, your brain also conducts selective maintenance.

Pruning is when the brain cuts out extra connections between neurons. This helps the brain work more efficiently by eliminating pathways it doesn't need.

This is one reason why we forget things that we haven't thought about in a long time.

Every so often, I feel the urge to get in swimming shape again, but let me

POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING  
—  
TOBY  
MOORE  
—

tell you, those first few laps? A downright battle!

So, while my brain still holds the blueprints of a capable swimmer, the lack of recent practice means those finely tuned circuits are no longer firing on all cylinders.

Have you ever had that frustrating "tip of the tongue" moment when you can't recall a word or name?

What about long division after years of not thinking about math? It's like trying to crack the Da Vinci code without a cipher. For me, those branches have been pruned.

If you don't regularly engage your mind and reinforce what you've learned, your mental acuity in those specific subjects may decline.

Brain pruning extends beyond mere skills and talents; it touches the very core of our dreams and ambitions. Your deepest aspirations require constant nourishment and attention. Whether penning poetry, mastering the guitar, or revolutionizing digital design, each dream has its dedicated neural pathway that thrives on focus and diligence.

Another way to think of it is that our brains are like librarians, constantly deciding which books—skills, memories, abilities—deserve prime shelf space and should be stored in the attic.

When you choose not to follow your dreams, you're pruning a part of yourself that once flourished. Keep those neural pathways strong and connected, and watch them grow into full-fledged realities.

The lesson here is to actively nurture the pathways in your brain that matter most to you, whether that's your dreams, goals, or cherished friendships. If you neglect them, your brain might prune these connections away, making it seem as if they never existed. The "use it or lose it" principle is life's ultimate maintenance guide. It's a nudge to action. Your skills, your relationships, your dreams—think of them as a cherished garden. Left untended, even the prettiest rose bushes turn to weeds.

So? What are you waiting for? Exercise that grey matter! You've got nothing to lose but everything you don't use.

y Moore is a columnist, the star of Emmy - Nominated A Separate Peace, and the CEO of Cubestream Inc.



# New Hampshire woman finds ‘life-changing’ painting from thrift shop



The latest auction news begins here in New England, where a New Hampshire woman who purchased old frames from a thrift shop later found that she had walked away with something much more significant. An old white frame she purchased for \$4 from a Saver's store held a painting by renowned artist N.C. Wyeth, according to NPR. Maine conservator Lauren Lewis was called in to help determine the painting's authenticity. She described Wyeth as one of the "preeminent

illustrators in the early 20th century." Wyeth's illustrations appeared in Robert Louis Stevenson's 1911 "Treasure Island" book. He was the father of painter Andrew Wyeth and grandfather of artist Jamie Wyeth. The painting was one of four illustrations that Wyeth did for Helen Hunt Jackson's "Ramona," which is about a Scottish-Native American orphan living in California after the Spanish-American War. After consulting with Christine Podmaniczky, curator emerita of the

Brandywine Museum of Art, Lewis determined it was an authentic Wyeth. The sellers have chosen to remain anonymous, but Lewis did share some information about them. "They are not your typical art collectors," she stated. The auction estimate is \$250,000 and "this would be life-changing for them," she added.

Elsewhere in the United States, a gun created during the 1976 Bicentennial for Elvis Presley recently sold at auction, according to Fox Business News. The Smith & Wesson model 53 was inlaid with silver and gold designs. The gun was heavily engraved with two silver stars. It was designed with an



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES  
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WAYNE TUISKULA

auction.

In news from across the pond, an uncorrected proof copy of "Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone" was recently sold by a British auction house. The proof book published by Bloomsbury Publishing was one of only 200 copies ever printed. The title page misspelled JK Rowling's name as

JA Rowling. A primary school purchased it in a warehouse sale for £1 in 1997. The book had a white cover with a yellow band along the center and didn't stand out among the other children's books that featured brighter, more appealing covers. It appeared to have been barely read when the school pulled it from the shelves in 2002 after realizing that the book might have value due to the popularity of Harry Potter. It was temporarily misplaced and school officials feared it may have been discarded until they found it in 2015. The school recently consigned it to auction. It sold for £15,000 (approximately \$18,697 U.S.), proving the adage that you can't judge a book by its cover.

We'll be auctioning some books soon, but of the comic variety. Our toy and comic book online

auction will begin later this month or in early October. Our next auction after that is scheduled for late October or early November and will include art, sterling silver, and a wide variety of antiques and collectibles. We are still accepting coins and other consignments for that auction. I'll also be teaching my "Evaluating your Antiques" class on Tuesday, October 3rd at Bay Path Adult Evening School in Charlton. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

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

# Brighten your fall landscape with mums



Photo courtesy of MelindaMyers.com

Mums add seasonal color to the fall landscape.

Mums are a favorite fall flower that adds weeks of seasonal color to containers, gardens and fall displays. They are also a popular gift plant in garden centers and floral shops. Choosing the right one for the purpose and providing proper care will help you achieve your desired results. Start by selecting the best mum for your gardening goals. You'll find

mums labeled as garden, perennial, gift or florist mums. All these names for plants that look alike can be confusing. The answer lies in their response to day length, hardiness and use. Mums set flowers based on day length. Growers can force them into bloom by covering them to create shorter days that initiate flowering. Those grown as gift mums, often called florist

mums, usually require the longest periods of uninterrupted darkness or shorter days. When these mums are grown under natural daylight they usually don't flower until late fall or early winter. These late bloomers are usually killed by cold temperatures before or soon after the flowers appear in colder areas. Nurseries selling mums ready to flower in the fall often refer to

them as garden mums. These may be perennial mums or "florist" mums forced to flower for fall displays. The intent is to use them as annuals. Select ones with lots of buds and just a few if any open flowers to maximize the bloom time and your enjoyment. Place one or two mums on the front steps, plant them in vacant spots in the garden or combine them with other fall favorites in containers.

These garden mums may be hardy and suited to the area but since all the energy is directed to the flowers little is left to establish a hardy, robust root system. If you have success overwintering your garden mums, feel free to brag. If your plants don't survive or you don't try, don't worry. You are using them as a fall annual as they were intended. This also provides space for new plants in the spring and an opportunity to try a different color mum next fall.

Those mums sold as perennials are hardy enough to survive the winter and flower in late summer or early



GARDEN MOMENTS  
• • • • •  
MELINDA MYERS

fall providing weeks of color in the garden. They are often sold alongside other perennials, labeled as perennials, or promoted as hardy for the area. Increase your success by planting them in spring. This allows the plant time to develop a robust root system before it begins flowering in the fall which will increase its ability to survive cold winters.

Place mums in an area with full sun and water thoroughly and often enough to keep the soil moist but not soggy wet. Check the soil in containers daily and water when the top few inches of soil are starting to dry. Always use a container with drainage holes or a self-watering pot. Increase overwintering success by leaving the plants intact in the garden over winter. Those gardening in colder regions

may opt to cover the plants with evergreen boughs after the ground freezes, providing extra insulation. Remove the mulch when temperatures begin hovering above freezing. Whether covered or not, prune out the dead stems in spring as new growth appears.

Whatever you call them, add a few colorful mums to your fall displays. You are sure to enjoy the blast of color they provide to your landscape before winter arrives.

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" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her website is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).



## Family Dining & Gift Guide

Too Busy to Cook?  
Ask your favorite local restaurant if they offer dine-in or take-out!  
Treat yourself to a nice dinner out anytime!  
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SAKHAREV  
continued from page A1

the Town House to be used as a Friends of the Town House Oktoberfest raffle prize was a challenge for her. It was a subject that she had not done previously, but she felt that it would be a good way to start introducing her art to the community. "I felt good about donating the painting because the proceeds will be going to a very good cause – the renovation of the North Brookfield Town House. I also liked the idea of someone outside of my family owning a piece of my art," she added. "I view this as a wonderful development for me."

About a year and a half ago, Nadia underwent neurosurgery and for several months was unable to attend school. Her recovery was challenging to say the least. Although she continues to have severe migraines, Nadia works hard to show up and do her best every day. She dedicates much of her time to creating art, a talent she has honed with little formal training. Art is her favorite subject and Nadia loves all forms including drawing, painting, sketching, print making, ceramics, and digital art. After high school she would like to go to college and is also considering art school. Her hobbies include photography, thrifting, and traveling. She really likes cats and spends time enjoying her pets, especially her orange tabby named Fox.

Nadia has completed her painting of the Town House and the raffle prize is presently being professionally framed.

The winner of the Town House painting will be announced on Saturday, September 30 at the Oktoberfest at Common Ground Ciderworks. But it is not necessary to be present at the event from 11 am to 5 pm on the 30th to qualify. Raffle tickets are on sale now at the cost of one for \$5.00 and three for \$10.00. Individuals interested in purchasing tickets in advance can email [friends@nbtownhouse.com](mailto:friends@nbtownhouse.com) with their contact information or call Maureen Caramiello at (508) 596-3582.

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# Spencer Police Department, local partners work to combat local homelessness

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — With housing insecurity and homelessness impacting communities across the state, the Spencer Police Department continues to work with local partners to help residents in need.

“Spencer Police is happy to share that we are partnering with Spencer Senior Center, Open Sky, and Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance to help with homelessness in Spencer,” read a statement released by the SPD.

At the recent multi-day Spencer Fair, representatives from

the Senior Center, Open Sky Community Services, and the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance (CMHA) collected donations from guests to support a newly created account called “Spencer Homeless Emergency Fund.”

The fund will be used to secure temporary housing at hotels for individuals living outdoors during periods of extreme weather.

Local officials have seen an increase in homelessness across the region since the pandemic struck in 2020. Causes include lost jobs; soaring costs for groceries,

rent, and heating oil; and spikes in substance abuse and mental health struggles. For many families and senior residents on fixed incomes, the margin between home ownership and homelessness has become alarmingly thin.

For Spencer Police Chief Michael Befford and his colleagues, addressing homelessness continues to be a team approach. This past winter, the SPD worked with Open Sky representatives to support several assistance projects.

In January, Spencer Police Sgt. Norman Hodgerney partnered

with Open Sky housing team member Ashley Leiton to conduct the “Point in Time Count.” The goal of this annual census program is to document the number of homeless individuals currently living in Spencer.

After 18 homeless community members were identified in town during the January effort—and many more believed to be living unreported in various locations—Spencer residents stepped up in a big way to offer their support.

Most recently, local officials conveyed the seriousness of the issue to guests at the Spencer

Fair. Thanks to increased outreach at local events, more residents have gotten involved in efforts to reduce homelessness.

Since January, relying on the continued support of area residents and organizations, Open Sky has helped nearly 100 local individuals exit homelessness, including five veterans.

“Open Sky has been working tirelessly to help the homeless in Spencer. They are actively seeking landlords that would be willing to make available rentals to Spencer’s homeless that are seeking assistance,” Chief Befford said.

If you would like to support the mission of reducing homelessness in central Massachusetts, visit [www.cmhaonline.org](http://www.cmhaonline.org) and click on the donate button at the top right-hand side of the page.

All donations collected will go directly to those without a home throughout the region.

To learn more about Open Sky Community Services and its assistance provided across the area, visit [www.OpenSkyCS.org](http://www.OpenSkyCS.org).

## Annual Day of Play Family Festival takes place Sept. 16 at Elm Park

WORCESTER — Worcester’s 12th annual Day of Play Family Festival is on Saturday, September 16th from 11:00AM-4:00PM at Elm Park.

Immerse in the power of play with over 50 activities to explore and performers to enjoy.

“This festival brings our community together and it is an honor for Edward Street to host this festival for the 12th year,” said Eve Gilmore, Edward Street CEO. “We look forward to welcoming the children and families of Central Massachusetts once again to join in the joy of play.”

Day of Play was found-

ed by Edward Street in 2010 and continues to be an annual chance to unite the community. The festival features seven key areas of play for children and their families: Active, Construction, Creative Arts, Health & Wellness, Mindfulness, Reading, and STEM. Community volunteers and organizations help bring these play activities to life.

Set to perform are the Joy of Music Program (JOMP), Crocodile River Music, the Traditional Lion Dancers, Chuck & Mud (and Buds), Janoah Bailin, In Da Zone, Cory Scott, and magician Francis Flynn. As well, the South High Marching Band will lead a procession around Elm Park. Featured activi-

ties include an obstacle course, robot coding, bubble making, and rock-et design/build/launch activities. The Worcester Art Museum will provide a watercolor painting project and the SE Asian Coalition (SEAC) will host a face painting and henna tattoo activity for play participants to discover. Local mascot characters including Jake the Lion (The Bravehearts), the Woolfster (WooSox) and Benjie (Bay State Savings Bank) will also be on hand.

Day of Play is a free, volunteer-based event and open to the public thanks to our sponsors including:

Presenting Sponsors: Edward Street, Worcester Family Partnership,

Play Area Sponsors: Harr Automotive Group, Worcester Division of Public Health & the REACH Grant,

Activity Sponsors: Abbvie, Eastern Bank, Guild of St. Agnes, Hanover Insurance Group Foundation, National Grid, Tufts Health Plan, Webster Five Foundation, Wegmans,

Contributing Sponsors: Avidia Bank, Baystate Savings Bank, Berkshire Bank, Country Bank, Middlesex Savings Bank, Seven Hills Foundation, and

Supporting Sponsors: Boys & Girls Club of Worcester, Cornerstone Bank, Herlihy Insurance Group, MAAEYC, Price Chopper | Market 32, Smileland of

Westborough, and the YWCA of Central MA.

This year’s festival is also supported by an ARPA Grant from the City of Worcester.

Rain date is September 23rd.

For more information, visit <http://www.worcesterdayofplay.org> or visit the Day of Play Facebook page.

About Edward Street: Edward Street is a private, non-profit agency that collaborates to improve the quality and impact of early education and care, enhancing the development of young children and strengthening families in Central Massachusetts. Learn

more at [www.edward-street.org](http://www.edward-street.org).

About Worcester Family Partnership:

Worcester Family Partnership is funded through a MA Department of Early Education and Care grant to provide support services to families with children birth to school age. Worcester Family Partnership offers free playgroups, the opportunity to participate in a FREE Screening for your child, and many other programs. Learn more at <https://worcester-schools.org/about/community-partnerships/worcester-family-partnership/>.

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Yomiah  
Age 13

Hi! My name is Yomiah, 13, and I love music!

Yomiah is a happy and inquisitive boy who is described by those who know him best as sweet and kind with a love of music. He sings a variety of songs, from B-I-N-G-O to Lady Gaga, and will often listen to musical toys by holding them up to his ears. Yomiah is an active child who likes to play independently, and will also engage with adults by reaching for their hands and sitting in their laps.

Yomiah receives supportive services to assist him in all areas of development. He communicates using a combination of words, signs, and augmentative communication and is also working with tactile symbols and Braille. Yomiah benefits from individualized attention and support within a predictable and stable routine. He often sings specific songs to specific people, showing awareness and familiarity with them.

Yomiah will be best supported by a family who has a medical background, or a willingness to learn, and who is prepared to support and advocate for him throughout his life. Caregivers who are patient, nurturing, affectionate and strong advocates would be the best match for him.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/5871>

Can I Adopt?

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

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.



BRANDISI

continued from page A1

young woman has—and what talent,” said Senior Center Director Rachelle Cloutier. “She knows how to be a spectacular entertainer. She addresses her audience in a way that makes a person feel as though you are related. She is not afraid of sharing personal experiences.”

Brindisi is no stranger to the Senior Center, having previously performed there on June 6 as part of her “Music Therapy in Concert” tour that brought her to venues across New England.

A Berklee College graduate, Brindisi has been a local leader in music therapy for more than a decade. Long before she impressed a panel of megastar coaches on Season 22 of “The Voice”, her work ranged from individual clients to group sessions.

“The key to achieving the benefits of music therapy is to allow people to be their most authentic self in music, no matter the vulnerabilities, abilities, challenges, or differences everyone brings to the table,” read a statement promoting Brindisi’s summer concert tour.



“Music has the power to create a safe and creative space to allow for healing and progress. These concerts are collaborative, meaningful, and specifically designed for our community members of an elder age.”

Local seniors are still talking about the unforgettable shows performed by a singer who makes sure to never forget her roots.

“Many were here as members of the Senior Citizens Club of Leicester, while others saw the announcement in the paper and came from near and far to listen to her,” Cloutier said of the Sept. 5 concert. “The

entertainment truly surpasses any event we have held here. It is our hope that with the financial assistance of our Local Cultural Council and her availability, we can have her here next year.”

Brindisi is scheduled to perform again next year at the Leicester Senior Center (Dec. 3, 2024, at 10:30 a.m.).

Brindisi is currently working on the release of an album featuring her own compositions. She is also planning an upcoming event at Mechanics Hall.

For Leicester seniors and officials, the countdown to next year’s live

performance is already on.

“When we speak of versatility and talent, she has it all,” Cloutier told the New Leader. “Some of our seniors had special selections, and she adapted quickly and gave each one a version of what they wanted.”

Brindisi’s vocal range was on full display during the special request segment of the concert, performing everything from “Blue Suede Shoes” to “Margaritaville.”

To learn more about the singer and where you can catch her local performances, visit [www.carabrindisi.com](http://www.carabrindisi.com).

LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Division  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO21P0198EA  
Estate of:  
Patricia M Corson  
Date of Death: 08/31/2020  
CITATION ON PETITION  
FOR ORDER OF  
COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Michael C Meloche of Spencer MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a first and final account, First and Final and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/03/2023.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, Hon. Leilah A Keamy,  
First Justice of this Court  
August 31, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate  
September 15, 2023

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS WORCESTER, SS. PROBATE COURT DOCKET NO. WO23E0059PP** To Sharon Jarvis of Warren in the County of Worcester and to all persons interested. A petition has been presented to said Court by Roger Gagnon of Warren, MA, Marc Richard of Warren, MA, Suzanne Paris of South Hadley, MA, and Kristine Booden of FL representing that they hold as Tenants in Common certain land lying in Warren in said County Worcester and briefly described as follows: EXHIBIT A, 1710 Main Street, Warren, MA. A certain tract of with the buildings thereon situated in No. 4 Village, so-called, in the Village of West Warren, Town of Warren, County of Worcester, Massachusetts, on the northerly side of the state highway-leading from said West Warren to the Village of Warren, bounded and described as follows, viz: BEGINNING at a cement bound on the northerly Bide of said state road at the south-easterly of lot being described and at the southwesterly corner of land formerly of one Baker; Thence by land formerly of said Baker, North 5° 50' East one hundred ninety-seven and 5/10 (197.5) feet; Thence North 74° 30' West one hundred fifty-seven (157) feet to center of brook; Thence by center of brook South 16° 40' West one hundred forty and 5/10 (140.5)

feet; Thence by center of brook South 44° West fifty-eight (58) feet plus to the northerly line of said state road; Thence easterly along the northerly line of said state road two hundred eighteen (218) feet to the place of beginning, containing approximately 39, 690 square feet. SUBJECT TO restrictions of record. Being the same premises conveyed to Catherine H. Mack and Pauline S. Gagnon by deed of Robert .T. Fijol, individually and as Executor of the Estate of Sophie Fijol dated December 27, 1989, and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 12542, Page 150. Setting forth that they desire that - all - the aforesaid described part - of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than \$300,000.00 dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid, according to law, and to that end that commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private-sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof. If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the twelfth day of September 2023, the return day of this citation. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court, this fifteenth day of August 2023. Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_, 2023  
September 1, 2023  
September 8, 2023  
September 15, 2023

(SEAL)

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT  
23 SM 003275  
ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO: DonnTodd T. Hartman and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act: 50 U.S.C. c. 50 § 3901 (*et seq*): J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp. claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Salisbury, numbered 116 Elm Street, given by DonnTodd T. Hartman to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Bank of England, dated February 6, 2014, and recorded at Essex County (Southern District) Registry of Deeds in Book 33106, Page 137, as affected by Loan Modification Agreement dated May 3, 2017 and recorded at said Registry in Book 35907, Page 152, as affected by Loan Modification Agreement dated May 1, 2019 and recorded at said Registry in Book 37446, Page 287, as affected by Loan Modification Agreement dated January 1, 2020 and recorded at said Registry in Book 38178, Page 477, as affected by Loan Modification Agreement dated March 24, 2022 and recorded at said Registry in Book 40875, Page 594 and now held by the

plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **October 9, 2023** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the grounds of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of said Court on August 25, 2023.

Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
September 15, 2023

**TOWN OF BROOKFIELD  
MASSACHUSETTS  
CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Notice of Public Hearing**

Pursuant to Mass General Laws, Chapter 131, Section 40, Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act, the Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, September 28, 2023, at 6:30 P.M.**, at the Brookfield Town Hall located in the Banquet Hall, on a Notice of Intent filed by Green Hill Engineering on behalf of Marlaire Burbank for the address listed at 19 Quaboag Street for the replacement of a septic tank. Portions of the proposed project lie within the Riverfront Area. The application is on file and is available for public inspection in the Town Clerks office Monday through Thursday from 9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Chris Kelleher  
Chair, Brookfield Conservation Commission  
September 15, 2023  
September 23, 2023

**Town of West Brookfield  
Zoning Board of Appeals**

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit, for Christine Kiraly-Thomas for the property located at 32 Cottage Street, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to construct a new addition in General District. This requires a Special Permit as per section(s). 1.5 Nonconformity, Use Regulations § 1.52 (a) Nonconforming Structures (a.) (*et al*)  
September 15, 2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO23P3086EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR  
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

Estate of:

Donna I. Schell

**Date of Death: 08/11/2023**To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Joseph A. Kendall of West Warren, MA**

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

**Joseph A. Kendall of West Warren, MA**

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised** administration

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before:

**10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/03/2023.**

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

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

**WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.**

Date: September 01, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

September 15, 2023

**Town of Spencer  
Conservation Commission  
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE**

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, MGL c. 131, s. 40 and the Spencer Wetlands By-Law:

**Alan Stolarczyk** has filed an **RDA** with the Spencer Conservation Commission to reshape an existing patio located at **37 Sherman Grove**, Spencer, MA.

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at which time all persons having an interest may be present or call in remotely to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 6:15 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin  
Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman  
September 15, 2023



# POLICE REPORTS

## Leicester Police Log

THURSDAY, AUGUST 31  
6:01 a.m.: suspicious mv (Washburn Street), unfounded; 7:55 a.m.: welfare check (Burncoat Lane), assisted; 9:45 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 11:08 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:03 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 12:19 p.m.: ambulance (Bond Street), transported; 2:06 p.m.: mv stop (Warren Avenue), verbal warning; 2:34 p.m.: parking complaint (Dale Street), resolved; 4:19 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), no status noted on police log; 4:31 p.m.: assist citizen (Tobin Road); 6:16 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, criminal application issued; 7:58 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), resolved; 8:28 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:03 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 11:20 p.m.: assist citizen (Cricklewood Drive); 11:38 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm.  
FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1  
6:00 a.m.: mv stop (Soojians Drive), verbal warning; 8:41 a.m.: assist citizen (Paxton Street); 9:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:13 a.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), Christine M. Burhans, 63, 30 Lake Avenue, Spencer, OUI liquor, unregistered mv, arrest; 11:16 a.m.: malicious mischief (Clark Street), resolved; 11:50 a.m.: animal complaint (Dolma Lane), referred to ACO; 12:02 p.m.: welfare check (Crestwood Road), resolved; 1:33 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 2:05 p.m.: assist citizen (Waite Street); 2:34 p.m.: accident (Paxton Street), report taken; 3:52 p.m.: welfare check (Crestwood Road), resolved; 4:57 p.m.: harassment (Tobin Road), report taken; 5:31 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 6:21 p.m.: family problem (Mayflower Circle), resolved; 9:37 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), unfounded; 11:31 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Pleasant Street), assisted.  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2  
12:47 a.m.: mv stop (Mulberry Street), spoken to; 1:56 a.m.: accident (Auburn Street), transported to hospital; 8:27 a.m.: investigation (Paxton Street), report taken; 9:05 a.m.: property found (Soojians Drive), resolved; 9:58 a.m.: harassment (Main Street), report taken; 11:27 a.m.: harassment (Tobin Road), investigated; 11:43 a.m.: ambulance (Crestwood Road), report taken; 1:10 p.m.: stolen mv (Westminster Street), report taken; 1:12 p.m.: ambulance (Henshaw Street), transported; 1:56 p.m.: hit/run accident (South Main Street), report taken; 2:51 p.m.: ambulance (Crestwood Road), transported; 4:45 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:16 p.m.: erratic operator (Mannville Street), unable to locate; 8:03 p.m.: disturbance (Sanfred Road); spoken to; 10:15 p.m.: disturbance (Cemetery Road), spoken to; 10:39 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), spoken to.  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3  
12:11 a.m.: family problem (Reservoir Street), spoken to; 12:13 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), services rendered; 1:00 a.m.: suspicious mv (Auburn Street), mv towed; 2:47 a.m.: welfare check (Huntoon Memorial Highway), assisted; 6:21 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:35 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:15 p.m.: ambulance (Pine Street), transported; 12:29 p.m.: ambulance (Brookside Drive), transported; 1:34 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 2:14 p.m.: ambulance (Hemlock Street), transported; 3:27 p.m.: ambulance (Mulberry Street), transported; 6:18 p.m.: (Warren Street), transported; 6:27 p.m.: ambulance (Bunker Hill Road), call canceled; 6:40 p.m.: assist citizen (Tobin Road); 7:47 p.m.: welfare check (Burncoat Lane), services rendered; 10:20 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), spoken to; 11:42 p.m.: disturbance (Soojians Drive), spoken to.  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4  
1:06 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 2:08 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 10:35 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Spencer), transported; 11:06 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 1:33 p.m.: accident (Mill Street), report taken; 5:18 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 5:27 p.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 5:38 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 6:23 p.m.: disturbance (Marshall Street), resolved; 6:41 p.m.: disturbance (Henshaw Street), assisted; 7:35 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 8:02 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), assisted; 8:06 p.m.: gunshots heard (Henshaw Street), unfounded; 8:26 p.m.: ambulance (Mayflower Circle), transported.  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5  
6:34 a.m.: hit/run accident t (Main Street), report taken; 7:47 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), spoken to; 8:10 a.m.: vandalism (Memorial School Drive), report taken; 8:29 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), report taken; 1:46 p.m.: assist citizen (Paxton Street); 3:15 p.m.: accident (Stafford Street), report taken; 4:04 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured

mv, unregistered mv, criminal application issued; 4:13 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 4:32 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 4:51 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, unregistered mv, mv towed; 4:57 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), mv towed; 5:25 p.m.: welfare check (Flint Way), assisted; 5:59 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, unregistered mv, criminal application issued; 6:52 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 8:47 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:12 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:16 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:25 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:48 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), citation issued.  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6  
7:51 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 7:56 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 8:52 a.m.: animal complaint (Charles Street), referred to ACO; 8:57 a.m.: investigation (Hyland Avenue), report taken; 9:44 a.m.: ambulance (Flint Way), transported; 10:27 a.m.: disabled mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), gone on arrival; 10:42 a.m.: restraining order service (Woodland Drive), served; 11:32 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 12:03 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:33 p.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), resolved; 12:38 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:48 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:45 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 3:14 p.m.: ambulance (Gleason Way), transported; 6:09 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 6:26 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 7:39 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:04 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 8:20 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 8:48 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 9:03 p.m.: family problem (Fairview Drive), arrest made.  
# # #  
Spencer Police Log  
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30  
12:00-5:41 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:30 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info taken; 2:15 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:38 a.m.: commercial alarm (Meadow Street), canceled; 7:56 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 8:14 a.m.: suspicious persons (Charlton Road), info taken; 8:24 a.m.: multiple LTC issued/8 (West Main Street), assisted; 8:30 a.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), issued; 9:41 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 10:04 a.m.: medical/general (Old Farm Road); 11:45 a.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), neighbor issues; 12:11 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 12:57 p.m.: fire alarm (Ash Street), referred; 1:22 p.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 1:22 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 1:30 p.m.: fire alarm (Paxton Road), referred; 2:45 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 2:52 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 3:14 p.m.: trespassing (West Main Street), trespass issued; 7:06 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 7:35 p.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 7:47 p.m.: suspicious mv (Holmes Street), investigated; 8:10 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:35 p.m.: medical/general, North Spencer Road); 9:34 p.m.: 911 call (Cranberry Meadow Road), open line; 10:42 p.m.: medical/general (Cranberry Meadow Road); (total daily mv stops – 1).  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 31  
12:13-1:36 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:47 a.m.: parking violation (Grove Street), ticket issued; 4:59-5:14 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:10 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 8:45 a.m.: juvenile matter (Hastings Road), child boarded wrong bus; 9:41 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), female in station/req. ambulance; 10:27 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 11:54 a.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), services rendered; 12:57 p.m.: officer wanted (Temple Street), re: issue w/father; 1:11 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), issue w/neighbors; 1:15 p.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 2:50 p.m.: lost/found (Main Street), found bag w/personal items; 2:57 p.m.: mv complaint (Greenville Street), rep. earlier incident; 3:25 p.m.: DPW call (Tom Casey Road), lines down/pole leaning; 3:36 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), rep. of vandalism; 3:43 p.m.: accident (Main Street), mv vs school bus; 4:25 p.m.: lost/found (Pleasant Street), keys found; 6:55 p.m.: officer wanted (Crestview Drive), bike dumped; 7:28 p.m.: hit/run accident (Valley Street), mv keyed; 7:31 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), rep. threats; 7:49 p.m.: animal complaint (Mechanic Street), injured cat in yard; 8:44 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 9:15 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 10:03 p.m.: suspicious persons (Smithville Road), spoken to; (total daily mv stops – 1).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 1  
12:10 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street), lift assist; 1:42-5:09 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:07 a.m.: parking violation (Temple Street), ticket issued; 2:37 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), report taken; 6:18 a.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 6:28 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Maple Street), accidental; 8:54 a.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), req. welfare check; 9:47 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 10:01 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), trash in roadway/Leicester side of Route 9; 10:12 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 10:37 a.m.: mv complaint (Smithville Road), mv parked on town property; 11:18 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 11:32 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), serve trespass notice; 12:02 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), req. info on kennel license; 1:06 p.m.: officer wanted (Vine Street), re: social media stalking; 1:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Crestview Drive), concerned for husband; 1:51 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 1:52 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 1:58 p.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), wallet found; 2:29 p.m.: officer wanted (High Street), re: custody exchange; 2:25 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 3:51 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: previous disturbance; 4:05 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 4:11 p.m.: illegal dumping (Valley Street), unauth. use of dumpster; 4:35 p.m.: suspicious persons (Elm Street), investigated; 5:02 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 5:04 p.m.: missing person/juvenile (Smithville Road), 11 yo missing 15 min.; 5:11 p.m.: medical/general (Langevin Street), lift assist; 5:28 p.m.: animal complaint (Bixby Road), re: copper head snake; 5:39 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 5:48 p.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), wallet found; 6:08 p.m.: missing person/adult (Smithville Road), services rendered; 6:12 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), UMass cath lab down; 6:18 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 8:12 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:51 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), re: accident; 8:56 p.m.: disabled mv (North Spencer Road), services rendered; 9:18 p.m.: commercial fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 9:23 p.m.: mv complaint (Meadow Road), mvs blocking lot exit; 10:56 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), re: brother left; 10:35 p.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), found debit card; 10:58 p.m.: disturbance (Smithville Road), Kamron Jordan Routhier, 20, no home address recorded in police log, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, resisting arrest, arrest; (total daily mv stops – 2).  
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 2  
1:06-3:11 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:42 a.m.: commercial alarm (Chestnut Street), services rendered; 5:55 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:45 a.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 7:23 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: concern for homeless person; 8:46 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), West Brookfield PD bolo; 9:44 a.m.: medical/general (Sherman Grove); 10:35 a.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 11:05 a.m.: residential alarm (Delude Avenue), services rendered; 11:05 a.m.: animal complaint (Browning Pond Road), loose dogs; 11:34 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 11:58 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), re: cat meowing/3 days; 12:37 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), room entered w/out consent; 12:44 p.m.: lost/found (Main Street), wallet lost; 1:08 p.m.: accident (Charlton Road), report taken; 1:20 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet lost; 2:11 p.m.: parking complaint (Sherwood Drive), mvs parked on lawn; 2:28 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 2:57 p.m.: hit/run accident (West Main Street), report taken; 4:12 p.m.: DPW call (Lyford Road), mattress on roadside; 4:31 p.m.: suspicious persons (Smithville Road), info taken; 4:35 p.m.: accident (Smithville Road), truck hit 2 mcs; 5:10 p.m.: medical/general (Bell Street), lift assist; 5:25 p.m.: 911 call (Franklin Street), accidental; 5:44 p.m.: mv complaint (Pleasant Street), mvs speeding; 7:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dogs; 7:07 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), noise complaint; 7:14 p.m.: disturbance (Smithville Road), fight; 7:16 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), boulders in roadway; 7:22 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 7:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), poss. drug activity in parking lot; 9:20 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Maple Street), info taken; 9:03 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), investigated; 10:30 p.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), cell phone lost; 10:34 p.m.: req. property check (Marble Road), heard noise in attic; (total daily mv stops – 3).  
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 3  
12:38 a.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), cell phone lost; 1:30-1:56 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:46 a.m.: parking violation (Grove Street), ticket issued; 8:31 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), 2 males fighting; 9:13 a.m.: mv lockout (Smithville Road), services rendered; 10:06 a.m.: medical/mental health (Cornfield Road); 11:12 a.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), mv speeding; 11:19 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), info taken; 1:21 p.m.: commercial alarm (South Spencer Road), services rendered; 2:56 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 3:02 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 3:29 p.m.: accident (Greenville Street), report taken; 3:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant/Meadow streets), tx backed up to Paxton line; 3:49 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:57 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), State Police bolo/erratic mc on Route 9; 4:22 p.m.: DPW call (Northwest Road), couch dumped roadside; 4:26 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 4:50 p.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 5:29 p.m.: disturbance (Woodside Road), m/f fighting; 5:42 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), open line; 5:48 p.m.: arrest/adult (Smithville Road), protective custody; 6:01 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), att. shoplifting/bag dropped; 8:06 p.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), purse found; 8:12 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:15 p.m.: officer wanted (North Spencer Road), req. courtesy transport; 9:06 p.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), Nike backpack found; 9:09 p.m.: elderly matter (Smithville Road), can't find family; 9:21 p.m.: disturbance (Smithville Road), fems arguing; 9:38 p.m.: disturbance (Smithville Road), 2 girls fighting; 9:59 p.m.: disorderly conduct (Smithville Road), Kira Janae Colon, no home address recorded in police log, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, arrest; 10:04 p.m.: disorderly conduct (Smithville Road), female moved from grounds; 10:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), windshield cracked at fair; 11:38 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), hit/run Route 9 wb; (total daily mv stops – 0).  
MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4  
12:15 a.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), debit card found; 1:23-1:24 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:48 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 2:24 a.m.: building checked, secure; 3:42 a.m.: commercial alarm (South Spencer Road), services rendered; 6:27 a.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 7:53 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), people in construction area; 9:13 a.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), injured cat/ACO called; 9:21 a.m.: officer wanted (Crestview Drive), req. VIN verification; 10:11 a.m.: disturbance (West Main Street), male causing disturbance; 10:13 a.m.: medical/general (Grove Street); 10:19 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dog; 10:24 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), laundry basket left in area; 10:24 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:25 a.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 10:32 a.m.: 911 call (Charlton Road), accidental; 10:32 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 11:05 a.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), no emergency; 11:30 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:30 p.m.: medical/general (Cottage Street); 12:57 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 1:12 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Route 49), fire on RR tracks; 2:04 p.m.: disabled mv (Maple Street), assisted; 2:13 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 2:46 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Smithville Road), no contact; 3:30 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), open line; 4:02 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Rutland PD bolo; 4:26 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:29 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 6:01 p.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), req. harassment prevention order; 6:07 p.m.: disturbance (West Main Street), rep. of stabbing; 6:54 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), rep. adult hitting young child; 7:07 p.m.: medical/general (Point Eastalee Road); 8:08 p.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), drunk male; 8:24 p.m.: suspicious mv (Grove Street), info taken; 8:54 p.m.: vandalism (Grove Street), poss. att. break-in; 9:26 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:28 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), public drinking; 10:18 p.m.: residential fire alarm (High Street), referred; (total daily mv stops – 0).  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5  
12:10 a.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 1:22-2:43 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:37 a.m.: medical/general (Brooks Pond Cross Road); 6:02 a.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), key found; 7:02 a.m.: commercial alarm (Old Meadow Road), services rendered; 7:48 a.m.: multiple LTC issued/4 (West Main Street), assisted; 9:01 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (Dale Street), illegal burn; 10:38 a.m.: vandalism (Valley Street), dirt bikes tearing up grass; 11:16 a.m.: harassment prevention order service (West Main Street); 11:57 a.m.: medical/general (Browning Pond Road), lift assist; 12:52 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), neighbors yelling/screaming; 12:58 p.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 1:02 p.m.: restraining order service (Brown Street); 1:25 p.m.: domestic abuse (Wall Street), restraining order violation; 2:13 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet found; 5:10 p.m.: residential fire (Main Street), referred; 6:24 p.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 7:29 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:24 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), North Brookfield PD bolo; 8:43 p.m.: medical/general (Browning Pond Road), lift assist; 9:31 p.m.: disturbance (Nottingham Circle), Shauna Valerie Aarden, 22, no home address recorded in police log, negligent operation of mv, arrest; 9:50 p.m.: medical/general (Lake Street); (total daily mv stops – 2).  
# # #



# SPORTS

## Warriors open season strong, top hard working Leicester squad



Leicester's Nora Oliver looks ahead before throwing the ball back onto the field.

By Nick Ethier  
Sports Editor

LEICESTER — Season openers in high school varsity soccer can often-times produce sloppy play. Passes may be off the mark, collecting those passes may be missed and communication may be less than proficient. But, for Tantasqua Regional's girls' squad, it appeared as if the Warriors had been playing all summer when they took on Leicester High on Friday, Sept. 8.

"Coming along well for game one," said Tantasqua head coach Matthew Rickson instead of the alternative, which he called a "nightmare." The Warriors controlled play in the first half and, after a strong period of second half action from the Wolverines, they regrouped and finished off a 3-0 decision.

"We moved the ball well, and we were able to put the ball in the back of the net. Usually, game one is a real tough time

finding frame and causing unforced turnovers. As always, you're going to have those, but they did well moving the ball and did well spreading out," explained Rickson.

Tantasqua got on the scoreboard in the game's 27th minute, when Lilina Shiers' shot was turned aside by keeper Jill Rodrique. That resulted in a corner kick, and Eleanor Colati serviced the ball into Eleanor Leland, whose shot got past Rodrique.

Leicester hardly pressured the Warriors' net in the first half, as keeper Elizabeth Thompson was faced with just one shot as Tantasqua led 1-0 at the break.

"The second half started much better," said Joe Mercier, head coach of the Wolverines. "We made the corrections at halftime. The girls really took ownership of what they needed to focus on and accomplish in the second half, which is play the way that we want to play."

Leicester peppered the Warriors' net to the tune of four shots in the second half, but all were turned aside by Grace St. Laurent, who took over for Thompson in the final 40-minute stanza. The Wolverines' best chance came when St. Laurent dove to her left to stop a shot by Abby Baker.



Mya Benoit of Leicester chases after a loose ball.



Leicester's Alexa Butler slows down the ball's momentum with her right foot while on the run.

The rebound rolled out and Tantasqua defender Nicki Vejack cleared the rebound.

"They were taking it to us, and we weren't getting past half," said Rickson.

But all that changed in the 56th minute when Kaydie O'Neil sent a pass over the Leicester defenders and to Shiers, who then slipped her shot by Rodrique.

"That is huge because that took the gas they had, all that drive," Rickson said of stopping the Wolverines' momentum. "But Leicester did very well that second half. They were just unlucky they couldn't get the ball in the back of the net."

The Warriors then put the game away with a goal in the 64th minute. Shiers nearly scored again, but Isabelle Alden followed up the rebound for her first varsity goal in her first varsity game.

Rickson noted that his team has everything from skilled upperclassmen to inexperienced underclassmen this season.

"I've got a young bench, got some experience on the field, got some injuries in the pocket, so we've got to iron it all out and be moving forward," he said.

Leicester, meanwhile, never quit, a mantra that Mercier expects his squad to always attain.

"The second half urgency, playing wise, was much better. Their fitness is really in a good spot right now," he said. "This team will never

stop working, and we'll never stop running. "I'm super excited for the season," added Mercier. "We're definitely on the younger side

and we have some great senior and junior leadership as well. We have 15 (games) to go and we're just going to go game-by-game."



From left, Tantasqua's Eleanor Colati and Leicester's Hannah Martin battle for the ball.



Eve Van Wickler of Tantasqua collects a pass with her left foot.

## Brookfield native Cipro excels on mound in North Carolina



Courtesy photo

Spencer Cipro

PINEVILLE, N.C. — Brookfield native Spencer Cipro, who played his high school baseball at Tantasqua Regional and for the

suburb of Charlotte, are a member of the Old North State League, a summer league for college players from around the country that plays its games across North Carolina. Managed by Chris Manriquez, the team finished the regular season with a 20-12 record and a bid at the league playoffs.

However, it wasn't an easy road to the tournament as they got off to a rocky start, emphasized by a 13-inning one-run road loss in Marion on opening night. Midway through June, the Pineville squad picked up some much-needed momentum, going 7-3 to finish the month and were able to collect some important wins in heated contests against division rivals.

During this time the pitching staff rose to the occasion, affirmed by sending five pitchers to the league all-star game. Among them was Cipro, who produced for the Porcupines all summer long. The 6-foot-5, 225-pound right-hander finished the regular season 6-0 on eight starts

with 55 innings pitched, 57 strikeouts, only 11 walks, and a 0.94 ERA. During the summer, Cipro also found a new college baseball home, transferring from local Assumption University to top-ranked contender Belmont Abbey College in Belmont, N.C. All-star catcher Jackson Hugus of Presbyterian College was impressive behind the plate and the two formed an electric duo in the regular season. However, Cipro's finest moments of the summer arrived during the playoff push.

When July arrived, the Porcupines had a decent record, but uncertain playoff chances. Manriquez inspired his team to go on a run, defy the odds, and make the playoffs. With three divisions in the league only the top two record-holders of each qualify for the tournament. Division leader Hendersonville sat atop the standings with a 22-9 record, so the Porcupines had to square off directly against rival Lexington who had a narrow lead for second in the standings. The

Porcupines rattled off seven straight wins in the final weeks of the season, leading to a battle with Lexington to decide the final playoff spot. In a true pitchers' duel, Cipro took control, firing eight innings and taking the win while allowing only one run and one walk. This outcome was an exclamation point on an incredible undefeated streak by Pineville to close the regular season.

When the playoffs began, the Porcupine offense became just as much of a force as the pitching staff. In the opening contest against the Sanford Spinners, the Pineville bats plated an unbelievable 17 runs in a blowout that saw pitchers pinch-hitting in the late innings.

Next, the Porcupines faced off against the Brunswick Surfin' Turfs, owners of the best overall record in the league. Cipro got the ball with a chance to send Pineville to the championship series with a win. The game began with a bang for Brunswick though as they hit a surprising

three-run home run off of Cipro in the first inning. Then, in a performance that Cipro said he is most proud of, the right-hander battled back and fired six shutout innings and struck out 10 against a league-best Brunswick offense. The game remained tied late into extra innings when the Porcupines surged ahead to take a heart-stopping 14-8 victory in an incredible comeback effort led by Hugus and shortstop AJ Anderson.

After the drama of the previous night, the Porcupines swept the Clayton Clovers to win the Old North State League championship series. On a road paved by clutch-hit comebacks and huge pitching performances, Pineville arrived at the championship and took care of business with statement win after statement win. For Spencer Cipro and the Porcupines, a fun rollercoaster summer of intense baseball ended with hoisting a trophy above Jack D. Hughes Park in Pineville, N.C. on a perfect summer night.



# SPORTS

## Two goals per half help Bay Path defeat Indians in season opener

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

WEBSTER — Two goals scored in each half, including a hat trick by Ryan Bray, was enough to propel the Bay Path boys' varsity soccer team past Bartlett, 4-0, in the season opener for both on Tuesday, Sept. 5. Bray scored both goals in the first half and, after Trent Szela made it a 3-0 game early in the second half, Bray finished the scoring in the 77th minute.

David Martinson, head coach of the Minutemen, will be able to rely on Bray and Szela, both senior co-captains along with senior Shaun McLaughlin and junior Bryce Hutchinson, for their explosive play in the middle of the field.

"They're very strong," Martinson said of Bray and Szela. "They can control the game for me. Just being seniors and taking it on their shoulders. With the seven or eight seniors that we lost last year, they're stepping into that leadership role."

A majority of the seniors lost included a good chunk of the defensive unit, so Martinson was pleased to see the Minutemen pitch a shut-



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Willis Perrault intercepts a Bartlett ball kicked down the field.

out with new players stepping up.

"Good way to start. Coming back, I lost the majority of my defense.

Trying different defenders in this first game was helpful. They kept it simple," said Martinson.

Keeper Cayden Young

is a first-year starter, and he made 10 saves for the clean sheet.

Bay Path notched the game's first goal in the 26th minute when Dominic Paldino unleashed a shot toward Bartlett's goal. There, keeper Kole Sebastyanski got his right hand on the ball, but Bray followed up the rebound and deposited his shot into the net.

Then, nearing the end of the first half, the Indians' Adrian Tetzner nearly knotted the equalizer, but his shot was turned aside by Young, who dove to his right to make the save.

The Minutemen then made it a 2-0 game just before halftime when

Szela sent a nice pass in toward Bray, who received the ball and ultimately scored.

Szela then opened the second half with his goal, a perfectly placed shot from distance. Bray then got in tight for the final goal with mere minutes remaining.

Martinson, now in his 20th season at Bay Path, has seen his Minutemen qualify for postseason play in 16 of his previous 19 years. He, along with longtime assistant Robin Cotrona, hopes for Bay Path to do the same in 2023.

"That's our goal again. We have Districts and States again this year, as well as the Vocational

Tournament that we want to get into," Martinson said.

Martinson is pleased with the direction the program is taking, which includes the numbers on the junior varsity team.

"We're fortunate that we a lot of freshmen come in, so our JV program we have a lot of players. Getting some depth there is going to be helpful with all of these guys leaving," Martinson said of his seven current seniors.

Bartlett, meanwhile, is under a new regime, with Dan Bengtson taking over for longtime head coach Ryan Renauld. Bobby Phillips and Keith Sebastyanski are Bengtson's assistants.

"We don't have the numbers right now, so we're trying to get the guys who are here to work hard and push as long as they can until they need to come out," said Bengtson, which he believed did happen against Bay Path. "Even as the game went on, as they got tired, some kids that started off slow started working harder."

Bengtson was pleased with Sebastyanski's play and his 25 saves.

"Cayden for the other team has been playing goalie for years. This is Kole's third, so I think he's got great instincts," said Bengtson. "Maybe he made a bad read here or there, but overall I think he has great instincts and knows when to attack it, (and) he has great communication."

Bengtson is adding boys' varsity soccer head coach as one of his many hats, as he also coaches the middle school boys' basketball team in the winter and the boys' tennis squad in the spring.



Bay Path's Trent Szela slides in to gain possession of the ball.

## LOCAL GOLF RESULTS

Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club

Pit's Crew

First place (-10): Jim Stewart, Roger Beland, Tom Emery, Dennis King

Second place (-8): Dan Mitchell, Peter Mimeault, Ron Goulet, Dick LaPierre

Third place (-7): Gary Ward, Paul Boulette, Bill Gaudette, Al Judkins

Hole-In-One

Dean Malin of North Brookfield scored a hole-in-one on the 110-yard 17th hole using a pitching wedge. The shot was witnessed by Marty Leach and Chip Wetherall

Keith Reynolds of Shrewsbury scored his first hole-in-one on the par-4 third hole using a 3-wood. The ace was witnessed by Jocelyn Augustine

1. Ken Paradis, 70  
T2. Paul Maio, 73  
T3. Al Cooper, 73  
4. Andy Gaudet, 75  
5. John Curtis, 76

Kettle Brook Golf Club

Kettle One League  
Week of Sept. 6

First place: Vinny Cloutier and Bob Berthiaume, +9

Second place: Butch Thibault and Jeff Wozniak, +5

High quota: Butch Thibault, +7

Hole-In-One

Butch Thibault recorded an ace on the 147-yard sixth hole, using a 7-iron

Leicester Country Club

Wednesday A.M. Golf League  
Sept. 6

Blue Division

Top Five Low Gross Scores

T1. Harry Kustigian, 87  
T1. Dave Burbine, 87  
T1. Bob Baker, 87  
4. Bill Coffey, 88  
T5. Rich Barton, 94  
T5. Al Ferriera, 94

Top Five Low Net Scores

1. Paul Graham, 67  
2. Paul Landine, 73  
T3. George Keenan, 74  
T3. Tom Wall, 74  
5. Tom DeFeudis, 75

Red Division

Top Five Low Gross Scores

1. Tony Maio, 86  
2. Rich Rollins, 89  
3. Jim McPartland, 90  
T4. Tom Clark, 92  
T4. Rich Irwin, 92

Top Five Low Net Scores

Thursday, Sept. 7

Tantasqua 167, Millbury 197 — Opening its season at Pakachoag in Auburn, the Warriors defeated the Woolies in golf by a combined 30 strokes. Medalist honors went to Tantasqua's Sam Pieczynski, who carded a 3-over par 39.

Saturday, Sept. 9

Marlborough 28, Tantasqua 21 — A fourth quarter rally enabled the Panthers to defeat the Warriors in a season opening football contest. Tantasqua quarterback Adam Howe was 17 of 24 passing for 249 yards and a pair of scores, while Howe added another 100 yards on the ground.

Monday, Sept. 11

Leicester cross-country grabs victories — The Wolverines ran their first meet of the season, and it was one of the strangest meets in school history. The course was shortened to 1.35 miles due to thunderstorms due to the incoming storms. Three minutes after the start of the race, the rain came and ruined the scoresheets, but the Wolverines did win.

For the boys, Jason Fournier was the race winner with a time of 7:30, while Javier Flores (second place, 10:30) and Luke Marjault (third place) rounded out the top three. Joe Ukoh and Zack Couture also scored for Leicester.

In the girls' race, Grace Dias won for her first career victory. Ayla Pederson came in second, while Maddy Schrader took third overall. Ava Petruzzi and Julianna Dahlgren came in fourth and fifth, respectively. Sixth graders Scarlett Dufresne, Lily Schrader, Jolene Boudreau, Mila Cortes, Leah Varney and Elisa Aguirre ran and showed that Leicester has a strong future.

Grafton 166, Tantasqua 169 — The Warriors' golf team hosted the Gators at Hemlock Ridge. There, Grafton outplayed Tantasqua in a very close match, winning by three combined strokes. CJ Chagnon (Grafton) and Sam Pieczynski (Tantasqua) shared medalist honors with 3-over par 39s. The Gators are 6-0, the Warriors 1-1.



Braeden Lapointe of Bay Path controls the ball in the open field.

## HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK



# Spencer residents to participate in Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk

SPENCER — Ten residents from Spencer will participate in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai on Sunday, October 1.

Marcia Doherty, Stephen Shamoian, Michael Befford, Wendy A Miner, Alexis Tice, James Pervier, Paula Hunt, Marylou Cassavant, Balni

Mercado Cabrera, and Norman Hodgerner, along with thousands of other walkers, will participate in the iconic annual event that will unite the community to

raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy

Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 34-year history, raising a record-breaking more than \$8.8 million in 2022.

“Throughout the past 34 years, the Jimmy Fund Walk has continuously supported life-saving research and cancer care at Dana-Farber. The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund’s 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer,” said Zack Blackburn, Director of the Jimmy Fund Walk. “This year also marks the 35th annual Jimmy Fund Walk. We are eager to get out on the course and see all our outstanding walkers and teams come together to support this great cause.”

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon® course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K walk (from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute’s Longwood Medical Campus), 10K walk (from Newton), Half Marathon walk (from Wellesley), and Marathon walk (from Hopkinton).

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to 10 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients – Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes – displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration. All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric. Due to construction in Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line location has been moved to the Fenway neighborhood for 2023. Walkers should know that distances may be slightly shorter as we finish the walk in front of Fenway Park. The finish line will include a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

If walkers wish to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities. Participants can also join the event virtually by “walking their way” from wherever they are most comfortable—in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Materials to support Virtual Walkers are available.

To register to walk or volunteer (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit [www.JimmyFundWalk.org](http://www.JimmyFundWalk.org) or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

About the Jimmy Fund  
The Jimmy Fund, celebrating its 75th anniversary in 2023, is comprised of community-based fundraising events and other programs that, solely and directly, benefit Dana-Farber Cancer Institute’s lifesaving mission to provide compassionate patient care and groundbreaking cancer research for children and adults. The Jimmy Fund is an official charity of the Boston Red Sox, the Massachusetts Chiefs of Police Association, the Pan-Mass Challenge, and the Variety Children’s Charity of New England. Since 1948, the generosity of millions of people has helped the Jimmy Fund save countless lives and reduce the burden of cancer for patients and families worldwide. Follow the Jimmy Fund on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram: @TheJimmyFund.



## Creative Coloring

Celebrate National Hispanic Heritage Month.  
Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



### THIS DAY IN...



### HISTORY

- 1609: HENRY HUDSON REACHES THE RIVER THAT WOULD EVENTUALLY BEAR HIS NAME.
- 1898: HANNIBAL GOODWIN PATENTS CELLULOID PHOTOGRAPHIC FILM.
- 1956: THE IBM 305 RAMAC IS INTRODUCED. IT IS THE FIRST COMMERCIAL COMPUTER TO USE DISK STORAGE.



### HERITAGE

valued objects and qualities passed down from previous generations

## How they SAY that in...

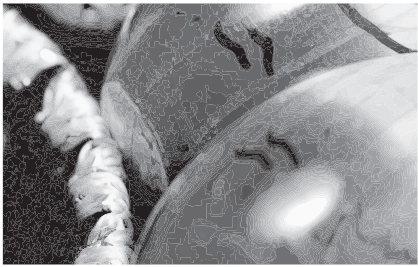
- ENGLISH: Culture
- SPANISH: Cultura
- ITALIAN: Cultura
- FRENCH: Culture
- GERMAN: Kultur

## Did you know?

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH  
BEGAN AS A WEEK-LONG OBSERVATION.  
IT WAS EXPANDED BY PRESIDENT  
RONALD REAGAN IN 1988.



## GET THE PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: MARACAS

## CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to mold awareness.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 25 = E)

A. 4 18 7 16

Clue: Structure fungi can form

B. 4 6 7 16 25 1

Clue: White type of mold

C. 4 18 6 17 5 20 21 25

Clue: Dampness

D. 10 21 25 13 5 8 25

Clue: Inhale/exhale

Answers: A. mold B. mildew C. moisture D. breathe

## SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

### Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:



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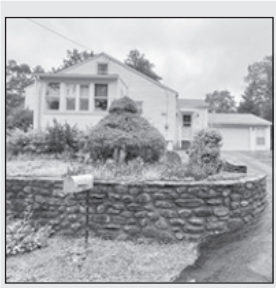
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238 MASHENTUCK RD**  
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**\$225,000**

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**SORRY, SOLD!**  
NEW LISTING! Longtime Family Home for Sale!! 4 Bedroom Cape W/Over 2000SF of Living Space! Living room, Eat- in Kitchen, Main Bedroom, 1/2 Bath. Second Floor 3 Bedrooms, full bath. Economical Gas Heat! New Electrical Panel! Come Take a Look!  
**\$225,000.**

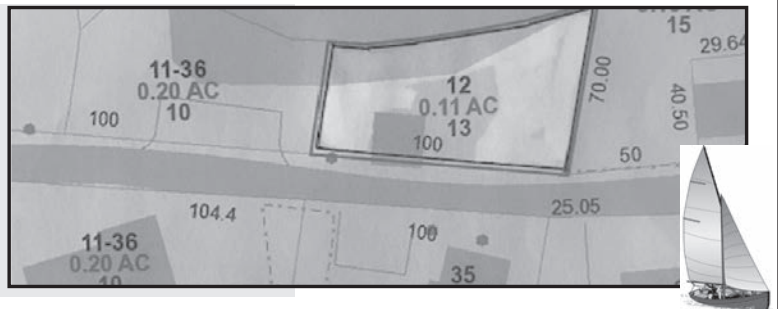
**On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

*Webster Lake  
48 Union Point*  
Make Cherished Memories on WEBSTER LAKE! Beautiful Waterfront Cape! 12,000 sq. ft. lot, sunrises are just astonishing. Fireplaced & Vaulted ceiling, Living Room. 2 zone central air. 2 car garage. assisted sale  
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*Webster Lake  
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100' of frontage on the water & road. An old cement block garage is located on the property. It's location is not Prime. Land area surveyed, DEP approval to build. Property suitable for small craft dockage/off season storage. Town Water & Sewer available  
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PROUTY  
continued from page A1

be checked off the list throughout the fall and winter months ahead of a busy spring.

At the Sept. 8 ground-breaking ceremony, the school community was introduced to the construction team that will meticulously transform a long-held dream into a reality.

The project's OPM is Colliers Project Leaders, while Jones Whitsett Architects, Inc., is serving as the architect. The general contractor for the project is Fontaine Bros., Inc.

Also in attendance at the groundbreaking event were Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Commissioner Jeffrey Riley, as well as officials from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA).

The MSBA is covering \$46.8 million of the project costs, while the two towns will be responsible for the remaining \$64.8 million. During the ground-breaking ceremony, state officials congratulated the school community on advancing its project through a highly competitive process.

"The students, teachers, and community members have been unwavering in their support for this project," Commissioner Riley told guests at the groundbreaking. "It's a competitive process to have schools built or renovated. This is a major accomplishment."

State Representatives Donald Berthiaume and Peter Durant, both Prouty grads from Spencer, shared some of their favorite high school memories with guests. Although it was bittersweet for them to see the historic gymnasium torn down, they look forward to students benefiting from a modern school with a new classroom wing and athletic facilities.

"This has been a long process with many highs, lows, perseverance, and hard work," Rep. Durant said of the repeated efforts over the years to push for a renovation.

"Congratulations to everyone on the work they have done to support this project."

Students will continue attending classes in the existing classroom wing while the new structure is under construction.

Looking long-term, the construction plan calls for a renovation of the football field and track in the spring of 2024. The facilities are expected to be ready for use in 2026.

Meanwhile, the spring and summer of 2025 are slated to see a renovation of the baseball field. The project will include upgrades to the concession stand, and use of the facilities is scheduled for 2027.

The tennis courts will be renovated in the summer of 2026, with use of the facilities expected in the fall of that year.

The summer of 2026 will also feature the demolition of Prouty's current classroom building. By then, the new classroom wing will be fully constructed and ready for student use.

Last fall, residents in Spencer and East Brookfield supported the \$111.6 million addition-renovation project at elections and special town meetings in both communities.

At the groundbreaking ceremony, not only were community members and local officials thanked for their hard work in supporting the project, but also the current Prouty Panthers who passionately advocated for the renovation. Even though they themselves won't benefit from the completed facility, they are thrilled to have paved the way for younger students in the district to attend a modernized school.

"It was amazing to see the communities and our students get behind this project and show their Prouty Pride," said DPHS Building Committee Chairman Michael Ethier.

Added DPHS Principal Nathaniel Malone, "I'm incredibly thankful for the support of our two towns. Everyone here today has helped make this important project a reality."

LEICESTER  
continued from page A1

was exciting to see our Wolverine pawprint on the football field and the new Snack Shack, which was dedicated in memory of our former coach of 40 years, Tom Parissi."

After originally being asked for a lumber donation, Brady Built Sunrooms took its support for student-athletes to the next level by donating the Snack Shack.

Under the direction of the Brady Built Sunrooms team, LHS athletes Jake Cospo (Class of '26) and Mason Griffiths (Class of '24) built the Snack Shack as a summer employment capstone project.

Leaders from Brady Built Sunrooms made the request to donate the shack in memory of the late Tom Parissi. Officials thank the company for its strong support throughout the process.

Also recognized for their instrumental efforts in the project were the LHS Athletic Booster Club, the Leicester Football Parent Association, the Leicester Parks and Recreation Committee, Leicester DPW, Leicester Police

9/11  
continued from page A1

and every other day because they deserve to be appreciated for all the important work that they constantly do within their communities," said seventh grade band member Jaedyn Perry.

Added eighth grade member Lillian Warner, "It truly was an honor to perform for the first responders of our town. I felt like I was giving back a bit to them after they have done so much for our citizens."

Eighth grade trumpet player Russell Baker is thanked for his performance of "Taps" at the event. Additionally, members of Boy Scout Troop 123 presented the American flag.

For first responders in attendance, it was an honor to see the next generation of students offer their thanks and support while memorializing those tragically lost.



Leicester student-athletes unveil the new logo. Courtesy photo.

Department, Joe Dolen Photography, Waterman Painting, LLC, and all officials and volunteers who teamed up for the project.

Representatives from most of these businesses, organizations, and departments were in attendance at the Sept. 5 celebration.

"Looking over the crowd, you could see and feel the Wolverine pride in our students and community," Parissi-Forti said. "My team set out to

kick off the school year and kick in the positive narrative. I think we succeeded."

There has been much to celebrate lately at the new LHS, which opened the Fuller Campus Center and the Borger Building to students within a year of each other.

"This marks the fourth ribbon cutting ceremony in less than two years for the Leicester Public Schools, representing the tremendous growth that

our district has made since the town purchased the Becker campus," McCance told the New Leader. "I'm very excited for our next celebration, as we prove that we truly are better together."

Community sponsors who supported the project include the following: Mercier Electric, McKenna Insurance, Schold Developers, Giguere's Gymnastics, and the Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

musical experience of respect and remembrance.

"I would like to personally thank everyone involved in the orchestration of this event, and for keeping your first responders in your thoughts," added Chief Antanavica, who attended the event along with fellow LPD members Sgt. Samia, Sgt. Brady, School Resource Officer Brooks, and LPD intern Gia Gully.

LMS students, meanwhile, are looking forward to continuing to use their musical abilities to promote community solidarity.

"Musicians can offer their special skills and talents as a way to provide community service," said eighth grader Steven Giaquinto. "For example, you could play a song to help others cheer up during a sad time. Musicians can play songs to help with emotional support."

School officials hope the memorial event will become an annual tradition.

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# India Society of Worcester hosts first Asian Business Pitch Contest

The India Society of Worcester (ISW) is pleased to host the first ever Asian Business Pitch Contest in the MetroWest area on October 10, 2023, at the ISW India Center. Co-hosted with ElevAsian, a nonprofit committed to uplifting Asian entrepreneurs, the contest is open to Asian owned or managed small business owners and home-based businesses. This is an opportunity for them to present their unique ideas, products, or services to a panel of seasoned judges, win prize money, and receive valuable advice on how to grow your business. Contestants have a chance to win prizes from \$500 to \$1000 in two categories – established businesses and new ventures/ideas. The event is FREE and interested applicants can find more information and submit their application at the ISW Website.

ISW's Professional and Entrepreneurial Network (ISW PEN) hosts regular meetings focused on topics relevant to the professional and entrepreneurial community. "We are thrilled to be working with ElevAsian to provide this much needed service to budding Asian businesses in the MetroWest area," said Puneet Kohli, President of ISW. "The Asian community is one of the fastest growing in the suburbs and is seeded with many entrepreneurs and aspiring entrepreneurs. We hope this helps them accelerate their ideas to fruition."

"We are excited about this partnership with ISW and look forward to supporting the entrepreneurs pitching," remarked Andrew Goldberg, Founder/CEO, ElevAsian. "ElevAsian provides a safe space for Asian entrepreneurs to grow from an owner employee to an owner strategist, with the support of instructors, mentors, and peers who genuinely care about you and want to see you succeed."

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