



# SPENCER NEW LEADER

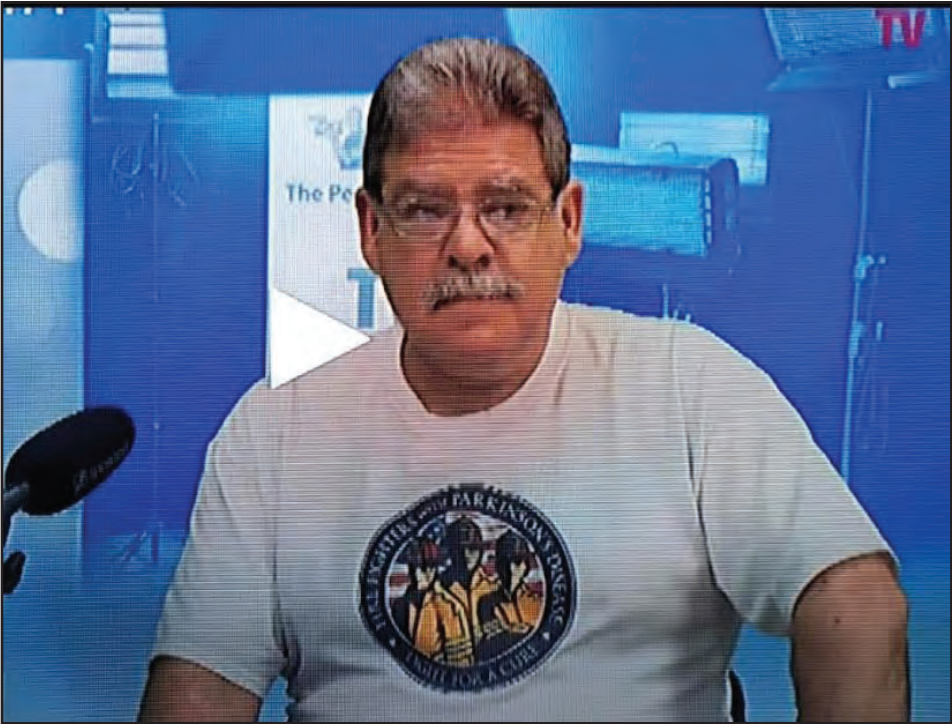
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Friday, March 17, 2023

## Striking out Parkinson's Disease

SPENCER NATIVE TO RAISE AWARENESS  
BY THROWING FIRST PITCH AT WOOSOX GAME



Parkinson's disease advocate Tim MacMillan will throw the ceremonial first pitch at a Worcester Red Sox game next month.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — As part of his mission to strike out Parkinson's disease, Spencer native Tim MacMillan will throw the ceremonial first pitch at a Worcester Red Sox game next month.

In honor of Parkinson's Awareness Month, MacMillan will toss the first pitch at Polar Park before the April 1 WooSox opening weekend game against Syracuse.

Originally from Spencer, MacMillan was diagnosed with

Parkinson's disease in 2014. His father passed away seven years earlier, in July 2007, after suffering from Parkinson's symptoms.

Looking ahead to a promising spring and summer, MacMillan is excited to continue honoring his father's memory while raising awareness through community events and legislative efforts.

"It is a great honor and privilege to be in conjunction with the Parkinson's Foundation on throwing out the ceremonial first pitch to spread awareness to the public, in support

of all those that are afflicted and battle this disease alongside me—also in memory of my dad," said MacMillan, a retired firefighter with the Spencer Fire Department.

In addition to witnessing what his father endured in his battle, MacMillan was also inspired to support Parkinson's disease awareness projects by seeing the efforts of actor Michael J. Fox, a longtime advocate for research to help find a cure.

Currently, MacMillan is working with State Sen. Anne Gobi, of Spencer,

to push forward Bill #SD.78, "An Act Relative to Parkinson's Disease Disability and Death in Firefighters." Filed by Gobi, the bill aims to provide much-needed assistance for fire service members dealing with the effects of Parkinson's disease.

"This bill will give compensation to help firefighters with medical bills if they are diagnosed with Parkinson's," said MacMillan, who resides in North Oxford. "Residents may reach out to their local state representatives and state senators, stating that they support this bill and would love passage to become law."

MacMillan recently became a board member of the American Parkinson Disease Association's Massachusetts chapter. He will serve as a representative for the central Massachusetts area.

Moreover, MacMillan completed the American Parkinson Disease Association's facilitator support group training seminar in Nov. 2022. He will serve as the co-facilitator of the renewed Worcester Parkinson's Support Group once it is up and running.

MacMillan is also a senior advocate with the Massachusetts Parkinson's Advocates.

## Trainer recounts sessions with Spencer PD K9 team

NEW DETAILS EMERGE  
SURROUNDING DEATH OF  
CURTIS

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — Spencer Police Department K9 Curtis, euthanized in November after attacking his handler, showed no signs of concern during a 12-week training program, according to a lead trainer with the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office.

It remains unclear why Curtis twice attacked his handler, SPD Officer Brandon Fullam, in separate unprovoked incidents this past fall. The second attack on Nov. 21, 2022, resulted in Fullam suffering serious injuries and discharging his firearm, striking Curtis in the abdomen, police said. Later that day, Curtis was euthanized at the Tufts veterinary facility in Grafton.

Dwane Foisy, who instructed Officer Fullam and Curtis in 2021 as part of the twelve-week patrol training academy run by the Berkshire County Sheriff's Office, told the New Leader he witnessed no abnormal or alarming behavior from Curtis during the program.

"The team came here to train in the spring of 2021. During the patrol training, there were no incidents," said Foisy, an accredited master trainer with the North American Police Work Dog Association.

Foisy added that it is extremely rare for a police dog to turn on its handler, especially considering the meticulous levels of screening and certification that each dog undergoes during the lengthy process of becoming a K9 officer.

"There is a lot of testing that goes into it," said Foisy, who has worked with hundreds of K9 teams from across the state, some officers bringing multiple dogs for training over the years. "[Before the dogs can advance in the selection process], they are tested for agility, floor sensitivity issues, and their hunt drive. They also have to be matched up well with their handler."

Foisy said the patrol training academy is intended to further hone dogs' discipline in responding to commands. Officers and trainers regularly wear bite suits and sleeves while training the dogs on various commands, Foisy said. Additionally, dogs are trained to respond to multiple instructions while officers are wearing the suits, to ensure that they react correctly to specific commands from their handlers. The intensive patrol academy prepares dogs for an array of situations they might encounter in the field.

"The handlers work with dogs frequently while wearing the bite suits to desensitize them to the equipment," Foisy said. "It teaches dogs that just because someone is wearing a bite suit doesn't mean the dog is going to react. That only occurs on command."

Fullam and Curtis also took a separate narcotics detection course led by Foisy. Upon completion, the duo assumed regular duties in Spencer.

Foisy said the 2022 incidents involving Fullam and Curtis represented the first situation in which a dog attacked its handler after going through one of his training academies.

"This is extremely rare, with the level of obedience training the dogs go through," added Foisy, who began training K9 teams in 1998 and went on to serve as president of the Massachusetts Police Work Dog Association.

The Nov. 21 incident marked the second time Curtis attacked Officer Fullam. Both attacks occurred at Fullam's residence in North Brookfield, police confirmed. A specialized outdoor kennel was set up at the property, paid for as part of a \$27,000 grant funding package the SPD received from the Stanton Foundation.

Following the first attack on Oct. 30, 2022, former Spencer Police Chief David Darrin suspended the department's K9 program on Nov. 1.

"The department was in discussion with the Stanton Foundation in regards to the disposition of Curtis, when the handler was once again attacked on Nov. 21," Darrin explained in a previous interview before his retirement earlier this month. "He [Fullam] sustained serious injuries to his arm in both attacks, requiring stitches and many days of recovery."

Former Chief Darrin said Fullam administered first-aid to Curtis following the Nov. 21 attack, while Sgt. Norman Hodgerney drove them to Tufts.

As more information about the incidents has emerged in recent weeks, questions have mounted from residents over what could have been done after the first attack to potentially prevent the second incident. Darrin confirmed that Curtis was not sent to retraining exercises between attacks.

Following the second attack, Officer Fullam was not placed on leave, police confirmed. He was out of work due to injuries sustained in the attack.

Officials with the Stanton Foundation did not respond to multiple requests for comment on the foundation's policies governing incidents with dogs. One such policy, outlined in a grant document

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## DPHS basketball closes old gym in style

PANTHERS  
DEFEAT  
ROXBURY  
PREP TO  
REACH STATE  
FINAL FOUR

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

SPENCER — What a way to go out.

The David Prouty Regional boys' varsity basketball team sent

the school's Edward R. McDonough Gymnasium into the great beyond with an impressive win, pounding Roxbury Prep Charter School, 71-42, in a Massachusetts Division 5 quarterfinal-round game on Saturday, March 11.

With the win second-seeded David Prouty (24-0) advanced to the tournament semifinals, where it played 14th-seeded Holbrook High (20-4) after press time. Roxbury Prep finished 14-5.

"Closing this gym with a win was important to me," said Panthers' head

coach Pat O'Connor, a member of David Prouty's Class of 2008. "I grew up in this gym; I came to basketball camp here. I played here and I spent a lot of hours alone in this gym working on my game."

"It's funny, I came in today and I was by myself here in the gym and I was thinking about all the people who were going to come in to watch this game and thinking how they didn't realize just how much I've been in here by myself," O'Connor reminisced.

"There is so much history here and I'm really proud we closed this gym with such a big win. This is the equivalent of winning a District championship in this gym. It couldn't have ended a better way."

Prouty's game with Roxbury Prep was an in-person version of must-see TV. Fans started showing up 90 minutes before the 4 p.m. tipoff. At 3 p.m., the gym was half full, and by 3:30 p.m., there wasn't a seat to be had. At game time there were fans standing three-

Turn To **DPHS** page **A7**

## EBES students find fun in math and science at STEAM Night

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD — Science and math are two subjects that require plenty of hard work and studying, but they can also provide their share of fun moments, as discovered last week by students and families at East Brookfield Elementary School.

Organized by the school's art and STEM teacher, Marie Ouellette, EBES held its first family STEAM Night. The March 9 program was facilitated by Michael Bergen, of Top Secret Science, who brought guests along for an exciting journey in

Turn To **EBES** page **A10**



Dan and daughter Reese Wetherbee, age seven, get ready for the program.

Kevin Flanders

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# Never too late to train

## MASSHIRE PRESENTATION AT BAY PATH PRACTICAL NURSING ACADEMY



Photo shows Younis with members of the PN Class of 2023 who received grants, (in alphabetical order) Ramatu Abukari, Elizabeth Agyeiwaa-Asabere, Maureen Bittner, Theresa Boakye all of Worcester; Lizzette Hernandez of Dudley, Ana Hilner of Oxford, Nancy Kamicha, Alice Maina, Fidelis Mensah all of Worcester; Aminat Poku of Southbridge, Emily Rossignol of Dudley, Faith Wanjohi of Westborough, and Lauren Young of Woodstock, Conn.

**C H A R L T O N**  
— Jibrael Younis, MSW, CPRW, Operations Manager for MassHire at 340 Main St., Suite 400, Worcester, MA 01608, recently spoke to the Practical Nursing Class of 2023, Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. Younis personally congratulated members of the PN Class of 2023 who are

MassHire grant recipients. Younis also spoke about the specialized assistance and training programs available to eligible individuals to help them obtain marketable skills and move on to careers in high demand occupations such as nursing. To learn more about opportunities available through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, Trade Adjustment Act, and other programs, such as those that provide support and benefits for Veterans or people living with disabilities, visit <https://masshirecentralcc.com/>.

Younis discussed how eligible individuals may receive financial assistance (when funding is available), to enter job training programs leading to full-time employment. Members of the PN Class of 2023 who attended the training opportunities workshops and then met with

Career Counselors were able to receive grants toward completion of the practical nursing program.

About Bay Path RVTHS Practical Nursing Academy Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Human Services of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing, 239 Causeway St., Boston, MA 02114 617-973-0800 [www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn](http://www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn) The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the: Council on Occupational Education, 840 Roswell Rd.,

Building 300, Suite 325, Atlanta, GA 30350 Telephone: 800-917-2081 [www.council.org](http://www.council.org) Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is fully accredited by the: New England Association of Schools and Colleges, 209 Burlington Rd., Suite 201, Bedford, MA, 01730-1433 781-271-0022 [www.neasc.org](http://www.neasc.org).

About MassHire MassHire brings the best of the community's employment and training resources in two central locations: Worcester and Southbridge. As a federally and state-funded Massachusetts One-Stop Career Center, MassHire provides employment services for both job seekers and employers. The City of Worcester Division of Workforce Development operates the Career Center in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Career Services.

## Emmanuel College announces Dean's List

BOSTON — In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College has named more than 800 students to the Dean's List for the Fall 2022 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester. Local students honored include:

Emma Knight of Rochdale  
Emma O'Coin of Leicester  
Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston's educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and career opportunities throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated faculty, and participation in a dynamic campus community. Emmanuel's more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and substantive learning experiences that honor the College's Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century education.

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# Restoring ‘old growth’ forest needs multiple methods

BY GUS STEEVES  
CORRESPONDENT

REGION — Old forests have developed a kind of wisdom, much like old people have. For Paul Catanzaro of Harvard Forest, such forests need to be protected and encouraged, but they’re now very rare.

Today’s New England forests are “relatively young,” being, on average, “right around the 100-year mark.” To be considered “old,” they need at least another century, maybe half that with some careful management, and to reach “old growth” status, they need a couple hundred years beyond that. Today, just 1119 acres in Massachusetts remain in the latter category (defined as having never seen human impact), most of it in the Berkshires, but prior to colonization, close to 90 percent did.

Much of it is once again forest, but about 70 percent was open farmland around 100 years ago. That change is a distinction that matters ecolog-

ically.

“Once old growth forest has been impacted, we can’t get back to that stage,” he told some Mass. Association of Conservation Commissions conference attendees last week. But we can restore “enough of those measurable, trackable characteristics we can observe that likely function as old growth.”

Some of those traits are fairly obvious to anyone, such as the presence of old, large trees, but true old growth is a more subtle mix of qualities. Among them are many gaps that allow for younger shade-intolerant trees to take root; a wide range of ages, sizes and canopy heights; “lots of vertical and horizontal diversity,” many downed trees that serve as food and habitat, and other “nuance characteristics,” Catanzaro said.

All that variety creates many small environmental niches for a wide range of lifeforms, often including “source populations” for species

that can then expand into other areas.

From a long-term perspective, older forests are “storehouses for carbon” and “our savings bank. ... We’ve had a lot of interaction with our forests,” and need to understand what happens “if we take a hands-off approach,” he said.

Actually, Catanzaro said, we need both active and passive approaches now, and each will favor different tree species. The latter is simply letting nature do its thing, where “disturbances [storms and fires, mostly] are the drivers of succession, drivers of evolution.” The former involves humans mimicking such disturbances with selective cutting practices, browsing animal control, and eliminating invasives. Doing that’s important, he said, because today’s forest is mostly single-age, single-height and not very diverse, often with large stands of the same species (sometimes planted intentionally).

Active management, he added, “can shave off half a century” in the quest to create old growth characteristics. It may also be important in helping forests adapt to climate change’s warming by introducing southern trees here.

The key, he later added, is to “make sure there are elements of the forest still moving through those [seral] stages.” One key type that’s rare in our area is what’s termed “early successional habitat,” where trees that need a lot of light and birds and animals that need open areas can live.

Most of today’s protected forest is state, municipal- or land-trust-owned, but the vast majority of the state’s forest land is in private hands. Catanzaro said anyone can help create old growth characteristics, even in smaller parcels, but some practices work better than others depending on the property’s context. Overall, we “need to continue to pursue conservation-based estate plan-

ning,” because today is seeing “the largest intergenerational transfer of land” in history, he said.

After his talk, several attendees asked questions, but were unidentified from the chat by the session’s moderators who read them. One simply stated “Our unchecked population pressures are the root of all this, and the way we consume habitat.”

Another dubbed the years until 2050 “critical,” saying we live in “a particular moment in time” for protecting the forests’ ability to store carbon. The largest 1 percent of the trees store around half of all carbon, so we “should protect those trees more,” she said.

Catanzaro agreed, but said the key issue is “ensuring the continuous stability of carbon in the forest,” which requires size and age diversity. “We might be setting ourselves up for a big fall if we only have larger trees,” he said, noting we can’t get “too focused

on one product [carbon, water, biodiversity, timber, etc] at the expense of the health of the system.”

Another person asked about the impact of deer and other browsing animals. Catanzaro said that’s “having a real impact.” While he used to think it was “just a matter of which kinds of trees came back,” it’s now “scary.” In some areas, trees don’t return at all due to herbivory, invasive plants and insects, and various pathogens.

There are ways to address that, including purposely cutting some trees to create “slash” that prevents deer from getting into other areas. But he noted some invasives and migrating southern tree species “may be the next important piece of our future forests” over “decades and centuries.” He also said he considers genetically-modified trees a possible “tool” to help re-establish forests.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

## Teaching workshop at Nichols College hosts Michael Roberto, D.B.A., top case study author

DUDLEY — Michael Roberto, D.B.A., professor of management and best-selling author at Harvard Business Publishing, visited the Nichols College campus yesterday to conduct a teaching workshop open to Nichols faculty and organized by the Nichols College Faculty Development Committee.

Roberto is the Trustee Professor of Management at Bryant University in Smithfield, RI, where he teaches leadership, managerial decision making and business strategy. He joined the tenured faculty at Bryant after serving

for six years on the faculty at Harvard Business School.

The workshop focused on teaching and learning using active learning techniques such as the case method to spark curiosity and learning, as well as tactics for keeping students engaged and energized. “Active” learning is a method of teaching where student learn by participating in hands-on exercises; “passive” learning is where students receive and memorize the information that is provided to them.

“At Nichols College, we aim to foster an active

and vibrant educational environment; we understand the powerful impact that faculty can have on student learning and outcomes,” said Nichols College President Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M.

“That is why we were elated to host renowned case study author and award-winning educator, Dr. Mike Roberto. The workshop was a fantastic opportunity for our faculty to share and learn with Roberto and from each other.”

Roberto is recognized for his teaching, writing and research. He has earned several teach-

ing awards, including the Outstanding M.B.A. Teaching Award from Bryant University and Harvard University’s Allyn A. Young Prize for Teaching in Economics. He has published many best-selling case studies and simulations. In 2022, Harvard Business School Publishing ranked his Trader Joe’s case study as the second most popular case in their entire catalog, and they ranked his Everest Leadership and Team Simulation as the bestselling simulation ever developed and distributed by Harvard Business School. The

Everest simulation also won top prize in the eLearning category at the 16th Annual MITX Interactive Awards. Professor Roberto’s newest book, “Unlocking Creativity” was published by Wiley in 2019. He has written two previous books: “Why Great Leaders Don’t Take Yes For An Answer” (second edition, published in 2013) and “Know What You Don’t Know,” published in 2009.

In addition to sharing his techniques for using case studies in an active learning format in the classroom, Roberto also

cited research showing that students learn more in active learning classrooms than they do in traditional lecture classrooms.

This is why the case study method is so successful, suggested Roberto. When used as a hands-on exercise, “the case method is designed to train your mind, to develop understanding of how to think about complex issues,” said Roberto. “It gets students to grapple with the real world and shows them the relevance of the ideas” illustrated by the case.

## Gobi tours local businesses, projects

REGION — Sen. Anne Gobi (D—Spencer) recently welcomed top state leaders to central Massachusetts for a tour of local businesses and projects.

On March 8, Gobi joined several other local officials in welcoming newly elected Gov. Maura Healey, Lt. Gov. Kim Driscoll, and Economic Development Secretary Yvonne Hau.

The housing crisis in Massachusetts was a major focus of discussions during the visit. At a stop in Worcester, officials came together to celebrate the creation of housing on Grand Street. Gobi toured a housing unit with state leaders before attending the Governor’s press conference.

Following Healey’s remarks, Gobi said, “I am glad to see the Healey-Driscoll Administration out and about in the Commonwealth. It is important that issues in central and western Massachusetts receive attention. The presence of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Secretary Hau will not go unrecognized or unappreciated.”

Gobi’s office joined Hau later in the afternoon at PremaTech to tour the Worcester facility and learn about its work.

“PremaTech is a credit to Worcester, to my district, and to Massachusetts as a whole,” Gobi said. “Production onsite is unmatched, with work being done there that benefits NASA, universities, and government programs. I look forward to working with Secretary Hau and business leaders to better the economics of our region.”



Senator Anne Gobi, left, joins local officials in welcoming Governor Maura Healey, right, to central Massachusetts.

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# Kya Birtz makes Dean’s List at Adelphi University in New York

GARDEN CITY, N.Y. — Kya Birtz has been named to Adelphi University’s Fall 2022 Semester Dean’s List.

Birtz, of Leicester, was among a select group of outstanding students recognized by Adelphi’s deans of Arts and Sciences, Education and Health Science, Business, Nursing and Public Health, Social Work and Psychology for superior academic performance. The list comprises full-time students-registered for 12 or more credits-who have completed at least nine graded credits who achieved a GPA of 3.5 or above for the semester. This recognition becomes part of the student’s academic record and is entered into the individual’s transcript.

About Adelphi: A modern metropolitan university with a personalized approach to higher learning

Adelphi University, New York, is a highly awarded, nationally ranked, powerfully connected doctoral research university dedicated to transforming students’ lives through small class-

es with world-class faculty, hands-on learning and innovative ways to support academic and career success. Adelphi offers exceptional liberal arts and sciences programs and professional training at the undergraduate and graduate level with particular strength in our Core Four-Arts and Humanities, STEM and Social Sciences, the Business and Education Professions, and Health and Wellness.

Recognized as a Best College by U.S. News & World Report, Adelphi is Long Island’s oldest private coeducational university. It serves more than 7,250 students at its beautiful main campus in Garden City, New York-just 23 miles from New York City’s cultural and internship opportunities-and at dynamic learning hubs in Manhattan, the Hudson Valley and Suffolk County, as well as online.

More than 119,000 Adelphi graduates have gained the skills to thrive professionally as active, engaged citizens, making their mark on the University, their communities, and the world.

## Swan Tavern announces spring programs

LEICESTER — Guests are invited to immerse themselves in unique programming this spring and summer at the Swan Tavern Leicester Historical Museum.

On Friday, March 24, guests will learn about Bunker Hill hero Peter Salem. The program will take place at 7 p.m.

On Friday, April 14, at 7 p.m., guests are invited to learn about the Lynde Brook flood in town. The presentation will be delivered by Joe Lennerton.

A May 19 presentation at 7 p.m. will be led by Christie Higginbottom. The focus will be 19th century gardening.

For guests interested in King Philip’s War, you won’t want to miss a June 30 presentation at 7 p.m. The program will be led by Michael Tougis.

Additional programs will be held throughout the fall at the Swan Tavern Leicester Historical Museum. Topics will include baseball’s history; women inventors; and the life and legacy of John Hancock.

Programs are supported, in part, by a grant from the Leicester Arts Council, which receives its funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

# Spencer man sentenced for possession of child sex abuse images

SPENCER — A Spencer man was sentenced last month in federal court in Worcester for possessing child sexual abuse material.

Joseph Michael Smith, 60, was sentenced by U.S. District Court Judge Mark Mastroianni to 27 months in prison and five years of supervised release.

In November 2022, Smith pleaded guilty to one count of possession of child pornography.

Investigators received several tips that child sexual abuse material was shared from messenger accounts tied to Smith’s address. During a search of Smith’s residence on Nov. 10, 2021, a drive was seized, and a forensic analysis revealed 35 videos depicting children as young as two years old being sexually abused, investigators said.

Additionally, prosecutors said over 300 images depicting illicit material had been downloaded to, and deleted from, Smith’s USB drive.

The following individuals and organizations led the investigation: United

States Attorney Rachael Rollins; Matthew Millhollin, Special Agent in charge of Homeland Security investigations in New England; and Spencer Police Chief David Darrin.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Kristen Noto prosecuted the case.

“This case was brought as part of Project Safe Childhood, a nationwide initiative to combat the growing epidemic of child sexual exploitation and abuse, launched in May 2006 by the Department of Justice,” read a statement released by investigators.

Led by the U.S. Attorneys’ Offices and the DOJ’s Child Exploitation and Obscenity Section, Project Safe Childhood utilizes federal, state, and local resources to locate, apprehend, and prosecute individuals who exploit children, as well as identify and rescue victims.

For more information about Project Safe Childhood, please visit [www.justice.gov/psc](http://www.justice.gov/psc).

## Alexander Carter of W. Brookfield named to University of Hartford’s President’s Honors List

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. — The University of Hartford is pleased to announce Alexander Carter of West Brookfield has been named to its President’s Honors List for Fall 2022.

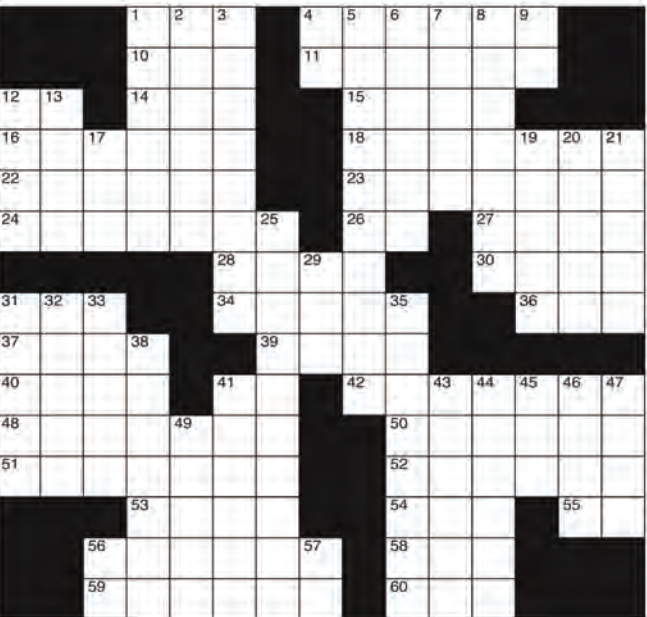
The President’s Honors List is made up of an extremely select group of students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher in the semester. This is the GPA that must be sustained over a full undergraduate career to qualify for a degree summa cum laude.

Spread across seven dynamic schools and colleges, the University of Hartford has been guiding the purpose and passion of students for over six decades. On our 350-acre campus alongside Connecticut’s capital city, approximately 4,000 undergraduate and 1,800 graduate students from 48 states and 45 countries come together for a common purpose: to collaborate across different disciplines, diversify perspectives, and broaden worldviews. We’re a four-year private university focused on advancing the public good through meaningful connections within our communities. Our unique approach to comprehensive education gives us the critical perspectives that lead to impactful change, regionally and beyond. With degree programs spanning the arts, humanities, business, engineering and technology, education, and health professions, we focus on doing the work that matters. Visit [www.hartford.edu](http://www.hartford.edu) for more information.

# Julia Rivera named to dean’s list at Tufts University

MEDFORD — Julia Rivera of Spencer, Class of 2026, was named to the dean’s list at Tufts University for the Fall 2022 semester. Dean’s list honors at Tufts University require a semester grade point average of 3.4 or greater.

Tufts University, located on campuses in Boston, Medford/Somerville, and Grafton, Massachusetts, and in Talloires, France, is recognized among the premier research universities in the United States. Tufts enjoys a global reputation for academic excellence and for the preparation of students as leaders in a wide range of professions. A growing number of innovative teaching and research initiatives span all Tufts campuses, and collaboration among the faculty and students in the undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs across the university’s schools is widely encouraged.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Belonging to a thing  
4. Pass or go by  
10. Partner to cheese  
11. Subjects  
12. U.S. State (abbr.)  
14. Bits per inch  
15. Forest-dwelling deer  
16. Illinois city  
18. A salt or ester of acetic acid  
22. Wholly unharmed  
23. Cuddled  
24. Bane  
26. Global investment bank (abbr.)  
27. Oh my gosh!  
28. Arrive  
30. Famed Spanish artist  
31. Home of “Frontline”  
34. Group of quill feathers
36. Keyboard key  
37. Army training group  
39. Detail  
40. Pole with flat blade  
41. Football play  
42. Makes unhappy  
48. Island in Hawaii  
50. Back in business  
51. Of an individual  
52. Painful chest condition  
53. Tropical American monkey  
54. Matchstick game  
55. For instance  
56. Even again  
58. Popular beverage  
59. Evaluate  
60. Time units (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

1. Stain one’s hands  
2. Nocturnal hoofed animals  
3. Back condition  
4. Popular movie alien  
5. City of Angels  
6. Peaks  
7. Infantry weapons  
8. Left  
9. Atomic #99  
12. Told a good yarn  
13. Vale  
17. Resistance unit  
19. Aquatic plant  
20. Bluish greens  
21. About some Norse poems  
25. Reinforces
29. Egyptian mythological goddess  
31. Supportive material  
32. Subatomic particle  
33. Expired bread  
35. Cereal grain  
38. Goes against  
41. Walkie \_\_\_\_  
43. One who does not accept  
44. Beliefs  
45. Indicates near  
46. Brazilian NBA star  
47. Grab quickly  
49. Romantic poet  
56. College dorm worker  
57. Set of data



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— REAL ESTATE —

### BROOKFIELD

None

### EAST BROOKFIELD

\$495,000, 114 Pondview Rd, Nilsen, Marcia J, and Costa, Deirdre, to Szabelski, Carl, and Szabelski, Susan M.  
\$290,000, 472 E Main St, Grace, Lisa M, and Lovett, James L, to BNR Properties LLC.  
\$290,000, 476 E Main St, Grace, Lisa M, and Lovett, James L, to BNR Properties LLC.

### LEICESTER

\$355,000, 10 Reservoir St, Brookmaple LLC, to Gavin, Keona.  
\$285,000, 85 Pleasant St, Wilmore Daniel B Est, and Biando, Ernest T, to Lambert, Kyle, and Dupuis, Sarah.  
\$202,072, 442 Henshaw St, Supernor Sr, Michael T, and Lkvw Loan Servicing LLC, to Lakeview Loan Servicing.

### NORTH BROOKFIELD

None

### SPENCER

None

### WARREN

\$19,000, High St #2, Gaumond, Macey J, to Regan, Joshua P.  
\$10,000, Forest Ave (off), Everett, Gayle N, to Bell Point LLC.

### WEST BROOKFIELD

\$185,000, 26 Church St, Mosher Irt, and Mosher, Frank N, to Afiri, Sami.

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# The wisdom of Sun Tzu

Unforeseen events can shake our world to the core, leaving us scrambling. COVID-19 lockdowns caught us off guard and demonstrated that even the most meticulous planning could not prepare us for the unprecedented.

While news of the outbreak surfaced months before it reached the USA, many of us remained ignorant until it disrupted our daily lives. It is a stark reminder that life can take unexpected turns, and we must learn to adapt in the face of uncertainty. Rare but catastrophic events can occur, and taking precautions is essential.

Over time, I've seen pursuing my goals as a battle I am committed to winning.

The ancient book, "The Art of War," by Sun Tzu, says: "The general who wins the battle makes many calculations in his temple before the battle is fought. The general who loses makes but few calculations beforehand."

This quote suggests that those who prepare for various potential scenarios will emerge victorious, while those who plan for only one scenario will fail.

It's good to recognize that in order to accomplish our goals, we may need to navigate numerous challenges and obstacles along the way. In other words, success may require us to dodge many bullets.

I run a tech startup and also have friends and acquaintances that work in the tech startup world. One close friend called me in tears because his startup lost all its money

last week. Their money was deposited in Silicon Valley Bank (SVB). There are talks of bailouts, but at this time, there are still questions about how much of their deposit is protected. I've been accused of pessimism when discussing preparations for every scenario. Still, I like to say, "Is it negative thinking to see the Hurricane coming, ensure your house is boarded up, and have extra water and food?"

"In peace, prepare for war," said Sun Tzu.

Is there any preparation that could have been made to prevent the loss of their money? That's tough because if you cannot trust the banks, what are you supposed to do, throw \$10 million under your mattress?

To prepare for such a scenario, you'd have to come to the opinion that we are in economically uncertain times.

As my startup gains more investors, putting all the money in one bank may not be the best idea. As volatile as it is, I am inclined to put some into cryptocurrencies, some into cash, and maybe even into gold and silver, and the rest spread out into multiple banks.

You must build your dreams on a solid foundation, or they can all be blown away when the storms of life arrive.

Sun Tzu said, "Every battle is won or lost before it is ever fought."

Observing my father in business taught me a great deal about preparation. While he was a highly successful businessperson in many respects, I learned the most valuable lessons by watching

him navigate his failures and setbacks.

I've thought a lot about one circumstance where he partnered with a close friend of his from Canada in a new business venture. While things started off promising, it wasn't long before the partner's true colors were revealed. He embezzled nearly a million dollars, leaving my dad reeling and realizing he had been caught off guard.

It's a cautionary tale that underscores the importance of always having safeguards and precautions, even with close friends and business partners.

A crisis could come at a moment's notice. We never know what life will bring.

"Plan for what is difficult while it is easy." — Sun Tzu

A fine line separates preparation and paranoia - it's essential to be ready for anything, but not at the cost of our mental well-being. Making preparations shouldn't lead us to believe that the worst-case scenario is inevitable.

Having a positive mindset in the face of potential trouble is everything. Hardship will come, but you must know in your heart and mind that you have what it takes to overcome it.

Preparing for the worst-case scenario is not a sign of pessimism — it's a necessary aspect of achieving success in the face of unexpected challenges.

Stay informed, prepared, and optimistic; embrace the unknown, and make the most of every opportunity!

# Late winter tent caterpillar management

Start this year's tree pest management with a stroll through the landscape. As you enjoy the scenery, be sure to look for any unwelcome pests that may be overwintering on the twigs of trees.

Look for and remove egg masses of tent caterpillars now through spring. These clusters of eggs look like shiny blobs of mud surrounding the twigs. Each egg mass contains hundreds and in some cases thousands of eggs.

The forest tent caterpillar is the most widely distributed tent caterpillar. It attacks a variety of trees that vary with the region. Check any sugar maples, aspen, cherries, apples, oaks, birch, ash, alder, elm, basswood, or water tupelo trees growing in your landscape.

Trees may suffer damage when large populations of these caterpillars devour the majority of the tree's leaves for several years in a row. This can result in reduced tree growth, top dieback, and tree mortality. There are several natural predators of this insect pest so working with nature is a great way to help reduce damage. Remove the egg masses found on small twigs that are more easily reached on smaller trees. After the eggs hatch, look for the caterpillars in a silken mat, not a tent like the other tent caterpillars. Remove the young caterpillars from branch tips or squash those resting on the main stem in the evening or on cool days.

You may also see similar egg masses of the Western or Eastern tent caterpillars depending on where you live. Their egg masses look similar to those of the forest tent caterpillar. Remove the egg masses of these tent caterpillars in spring before the eggs hatch.

Once the eggs hatch, the caterpillars begin forming a webby tent in the crotch of the tree. As they feed and grow, the tent expands. They remain in the tent during the hot part of the day and rainy weather.

Knock the tents, caterpillars and all,



Melinda Myers

**Eastern tent caterpillars crawling on top of their webby tent.**

out of the tree when the majority of caterpillars are in the tent. Smash or dump the caterpillars in a can of soapy water.

Do not burn the tents.

This old practice is hazardous and the fire can severely damage the tree, much worse than the insects.

Control is usually not needed on healthy and established trees. If you decide to intervene, consider using an organic insecticide

with the active ingredient *Bacillus thuringiensis* var. *kurstaki* (Btk). It is effective when applied to the tents soon after they start to form and when the caterpillars are small. Just spray the tent and the surrounding 1.5 feet of leaves. These products only kill caterpillars and will not harm other insects or birds feeding on these pests.

When working with nature, we have help from predatory insects and songbirds when managing these and other garden pests. Taking time this winter for a bit of prevention can go a long way in reducing damage from tent caterpillars. *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 Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.*

## GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS



# Small renovations that can make a big impact



Home renovations provide a host of benefits. Such projects can increase resale value and improve on the safety, aesthetics and functionality of a home.

Some homeowners may employ the mantra "go big or go home" when they embark on home improvements, thinking that only the largest renovations produce noticeable change. But that's not the case. Various smaller renovations can provide a lot of bang for homeowners' bucks as well.

• **Countertops (and hardware):** A complete kitchen overhaul may stretch some homeowners' budgets. However, changing an older countertop for a new material can provide the facelift a kitchen needs. And while changing the cabinets may be homeowners' ultimate goal, swapping hardware in dated finishes for newer handles and pulls can provide low-cost appeal.

• **Paint:** Painting a space is an inexpensive improvement that adds maximum impact.

Paint can transform dark and drab rooms into bright and airy oases. Paint also can be used to create an accent wall or cozy nooks. Homeowners also can showcase their personalities with their choice of paint colors.

• **Lighting:** Homeowners should not underestimate what a change in lighting can do. When rooms or exterior spaces are illuminated, they take on entirely new looks. It's worth it to invest in new lighting, whether it's a dramatic hanging light over the dining room table or task lighting in dim spaces.

• **Weatherproofing:** Improving windows, doors, weatherstripping, and insulation in a home can offer visual appeal and help homeowners save money. The initial investment may be significant, but those costs will pay off in energy savings. According to One Main Financial, space heating is the largest energy expense the average American homeowner has, accounting for around 45 percent of all energy

costs.

• **Mudroom:** Turn an entryway into a more functional space with the addition of cabinets, benches or custom-designed storage options that perfectly fit the area. Cubbies and cabinets can corral shoes, umbrellas, hats, bags, and much more.

• **Accent updates:** Any space, whether it's inside or outside a home, can get a fresh look with new decorative accents. Invest in new throw pillows and even slipcovers for living room sofas. Use new tile or paint the brick on a fireplace in a den, then update the mantel with decorative displays. Purchase wall art that can bring different colors into a room. Change the cushions on deck furniture and buy color-coordinated planters.

These subtle changes will not cost as much as full-scale renovations, but they can still help homeowners transform their homes.



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# POLICE LOGS

## Leicester Police Log

THURSDAY, MARCH 2  
2:37 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 4:41 a.m.: debris in road (Paxton Street), resolved; 7:11 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 9:10 a.m.: fraud (Foster Court), report taken; 10:38 a.m.: ambulance (River Street), transported; 11:10 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 1:26 p.m.: welfare check (Monterey Drive), services rendered; 4:01 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, number plate violation, criminal application issued; 4:54 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 5:10 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 5:35 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, obstructed/nontransparent window, miscellaneous equipment violations, criminal application issued; 6:18 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians Drive), transported; 6:48 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 7:27 p.m.: suspicious person (Pleasant Street), unable to locate; 7:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Fernando Jose Mukulukosso, 18 Ross Lane, Lancaster, op w/suspended, arrest; 8:20 p.m.: ambulance (Brickyard Road), transported; 8:51 p.m.: debris in road (Main Street), services rendered.

FRIDAY, MARCH 3  
12:05 a.m.: threats (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:19 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), resolved; 2:45 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:27 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 4:49 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), written warning; 8:04 a.m.: residential alarm (Stafford Street), call canceled; 10:58 a.m.: fraud (Second Street), report taken; 1:26 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 3:21 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:34 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 3:45 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 3:57 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:08 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:12 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:44 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:52 p.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), resolved; 4:56 p.m.: assist citizen (Pine Ridge Drive), resolved; 5:32 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, no registration sticker; 5:50 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Hospital), written warning; 5:59 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 6:06 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 6:12 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 6:16 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 6:20 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 6:23 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 8:00 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 9:04 p.m.: animal complaint (Baldwin Street), referred to ACO.

SATURDAY, MARCH 4  
2:40 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), resolved; 7:54 a.m.: ambulance (Tanglewood Road), transported; 8:49 a.m.: accident (Green Street), services rendered; 9:06 a.m.: disabled mv (River Street), services rendered; 11:47 a.m.: ambulance (Edward Street), call canceled; 12:00 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), report taken; 2:54 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Town Beach Road), spoken to; 3:48 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve; 4:01 p.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 5:14 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 6:05 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 8:03 p.m.: family problem (Main Street), assisted; 8:43 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), unable to locate; 9:27 p.m.: mv stop (Auburn Street), Melissa Ann Vail, 53, 241 Charlton Street, #2, Southbridge, marked lanes violation, op w/suspended license, arrest; 11:23 p.m.: accident (South Main Street), report taken.

SUNDAY, MARCH 5  
12:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:32 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 12:41 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 12:53 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 1:00 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:07 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:16 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, unregistered mv, speeding, criminal application issued; 1:49 a.m.: ambulance (Shady Lane), transported; 2:04 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 2:24 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), no action required; 2:27 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:54 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 3:25 a.m.: welfare check (Main

Street), resolved; 5:55 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:25 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 8:15 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:25 a.m.: suspicious mv (Bottomly Avenue), gone on arrival; 9:55 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed; 10:24 a.m.: ambulance (Hammond Hill Road, Charlton), transported; 1:26 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), gone on arrival; 3:51 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate; 5:40 p.m.: family problem (Rawson Street), resolved; 6:48 p.m.: ambulance (Marble Road, Spencer), transported; 7:01 p.m.: welfare check (White Birch Street), resolved; 7:38 p.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), spoken to; 7:59 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 8:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:44 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning.

MONDAY, MARCH 6  
2:23 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), resolved; 5:28 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 5:39 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 6:25 a.m.: mc stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, criminal application issued; 7:52 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 1:26 p.m.: disturbance (Woodland Road), spoken to; 1:41 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 4:01 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 4:23 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), resolved; 4:38 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 5:00 p.m.: restraining order service (Collier Avenue), unable to serve; 5:10 p.m.: restraining order service (McCarthy Avenue), unable to serve; 6:13 p.m.: ambulance (May Street, Worcester), transported; 6:32 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), spoken to; 6:54 p.m.: animal complaint (Cricklewood Drive), referred to ACO.

TUESDAY, MARCH 7  
12:05 a.m.: suspicious activity (South Main Street), resolved; 1:10 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), citation issued; 1:31 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:06 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 9:44 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 10:23 a.m.: animal complaint (Willow Hill Road), referred to ACO; 12:31 p.m.: restraining order service (McCarthy Avenue), unable to serve; 3:11 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 4:30 p.m.: restraining order service (McCarthy Avenue), unable to serve; 5:06 p.m.: mv stop (Mannville Street), written warning; 5:54 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 6:37 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 6:49 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street), unable to serve; 7:45 p.m.: suspicious (Salminen Drive), no action required; 8:11 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 8:19 p.m.: suspicious person (Baldwin Street), no action required; 8:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:50 p.m.: welfare check (Charlton Road), services rendered.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8  
12:11 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:16 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 12:37 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 12:50 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 4:40 a.m.: mv stop (River Street), mv towed; 5:22 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 7:28 a.m.: accident (Paxton Street), assisted; 8:56 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:47 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended registration, uninsured mv, criminal application issued; 10:14 a.m.: debris in road (Paxton Street), referred; 1:12 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 1:45 p.m.: school incident (Paxton Street), report taken; 2:28 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 2:45 p.m.: ambulance (Bond Street), transported; 3:41 p.m.: investigation (Town Beach Road), report taken; 3:43 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 3:50 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 3:57 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street), unfounded; 5:27 p.m.: disturbance (Reservoir Street), gone on arrival; 6:14 p.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 6:17 p.m.: animal complaint (Stafford Street), referred to ACO; 6:22 p.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 6:26 p.m.: suspicious person (Hemlock Street), assisted; 6:39 p.m.: accident (River Street), report taken; 7:26 p.m.: erratic operator (Lexington Avenue), resolved; 8:40 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), resolved.

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## Spencer Police Log

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1  
12:14-2:47 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:46 a.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 2:12 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), rollover Route 49; 10:00 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Old Meadow Road), hang-up; 10:07 a.m.:

disturbance (Northwest Road), father/son dispute; 10:49 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 11:10 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 11:59 a.m.: fire alarm (Wall Street), referred; 1:08 p.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), re: deceased neighbor's cat; 1:31 p.m.: accident/town mv (Cherry Street), plow truck hit fence; 1:46 p.m.: medical/general (Prospect Street); 1:59 p.m.: medical/general (Whittemore Court); 3:02 p.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 3:34 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 3:54 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 4:47 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), req. welfare check; 5:10 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 5:16 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), rep. harassment; 6:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), req. welfare check; 8:50 p.m.: animal complaint (Valley Street), dog stuck in leash; 9:21 p.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); (total daily mv stops – 2).

THURSDAY, MARCH 2  
12:01 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:19 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 12:46 a.m.: mutual aid (Bellevue Drive), MSP req. welfare check; 4:24 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:48 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:16 a.m.: fire alarm (Northwest Road), referred; 7:33 a.m.: DPW call (Greenville Street), tree on wires; 7:39 a.m.: fire alarm (Lake Street), referred; 10:33 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 11:04 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), elevator phone test; 12:16 p.m.: disturbance (West Main Street), unwanted person/fmr employee; 12:46 p.m.: fraud (Lake Street), poss. scam call; 12:58 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), re: missing cat; 1:26 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), elevator phone test; 2:40 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 2:45 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 2:48 p.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), re: stray cat; 3:35 p.m.: juvenile matter (Browning Pond Road), no one home w/child; 4:37 p.m.: restraining order service (Chestnut Street); 5:13 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 5:23 p.m.: identify theft (West Main Street), spoken to; 5:29 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 5:30 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 5:51 p.m.: officer wanted (Old Farm Road), re: missing pkg.; 6:43 p.m.: medical/general (South Spencer Road); 6:46 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), rep. earlier threat; 7:19 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 8:46 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), question re: restraining order; 10:43 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 11:26-11:42 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (total daily mv stops – 0).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24  
12:14 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 12:59-1:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:30 a.m.: medical/general (South Spencer Road); 7:44 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 8:00 a.m.: mv complaint (Meadow Road), erratic operator; 9:35-9:40 a.m.: parking violations (Chestnut, Elm streets), tickets issued; 10:49 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street), fem. wants info on restraining orders; 12:00 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 1:11 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Harrington Webster CT down; 1:35 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), response not reported on police log; 3:16 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), question re: baseball cards; 3:34 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 3:56 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 4:00 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), re: incident at end of school; 4:08 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 4:17 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 5:10 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 5:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Maple Street), found cat/blind w/eye infection; 6:53 p.m.: medical/general (Lake Street); 6:57 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), intoxicated male/door to door; 7:36 p.m.: elderly matter (West Main Street), services rendered; 9:32 p.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), neighbor dispute; 10:28 p.m.: 911 call (Bay Path Road), open line; 10:31 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), response not recorded on police log; 11:10 p.m.: medical/general (Holmes Street); 11:39 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), snow on roads; (total daily mv stops – 5).

SATURDAY, MARCH 4  
12:20 a.m.: officer wanted (Chickering Road), party 1 ½ hour overdue; 12:57 a.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 1:56 a.m.: officer wanted (Cranberry Meadow Road), Jacob M. Burgos, 22, 476 Stafford Street, Charlton, OUI liquor, negligent operation, arrest; 2:10 a.m.: fire alarm (Lake Street), referred; 2:26 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:04 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 3:44 a.m.: disabled mv (School Street), assisted; 5:34 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 5:59 a.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 8:52 a.m.: disabled mv (Maple Street), assisted; 9:27 a.m.: suspicious

persons (North Spencer Road), investigated; 11:21 a.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Street), loose dog; 11:59 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 12:35 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 12:44 p.m.: disabled mv (Maple Street), assisted; 1:42 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: former tenant; 2:14 p.m.: mv lockout (Greenville Street), assisted; 2:24 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 2:57 p.m.: suspicious mv (Chestnut Street), investigated; 4:02 p.m.: medical/general (Linden Street); 4:28 p.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), accidental; 4:50 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), malfunctioning walk signal; 8:01 p.m.: 911 call (Charlton Road), accidental; 9:24 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 11:28 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; (total daily mv stops – 0).

SUNDAY, MARCH 5  
2:07 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 2:27 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Bellevue Drive), hang-up; 2:52-3:17 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:47 a.m.: fire (West Main Street), referred; 7:29 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: issues w/former friend; 8:17 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: issue w/traffic light; 9:53 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 10:48 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 1:35 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Lakeview Drive), response no recorded on police log; 2:11 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), wants ACO for inspection; 4:19 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), rec'd wrong order; 4:45 p.m.: parking violation (Main Street), ticket issued; 6:05 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:29 p.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 6:33 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 6:45 p.m.: medical/general (Marble Road); 6:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), req. welfare check; 8:04 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), loose dog; 8:04 p.m.: elderly matter (Howe Village), rep. harassment; 8:37 p.m.: elderly matter (Howe Village), re: unable to contact; 9:35-9:50 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:52 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), tow coming; (total daily mv stops – 1).

MONDAY, MARCH 6  
12:53-1:32 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:34 a.m.: (Wall Street), details of incident redacted from police log; 6:44 a.m.: 911 call (Pearl Street), misdial; 6:46 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 7:23 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:53 a.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), re: injured skunk in d/way; 8:27 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), items sent to station via mail; 9:01 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 9:12 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:35 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 11:05 a.m.: suspicious mv (Chestnut Street), investigated; 12:15 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (Howe Village); 12:42 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 1:26 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 2:50 p.m.: animal complaint (Wall Street), re: missing cat; 3:15 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 3:59 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:21 p.m.: medical/general (Lakeshore Drive); 4:29 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 4:29 p.m.: suspicious persons (Grove Street), investigated; 4:53 p.m.: medical/general (Crestview Drive); 6:46 p.m.: elderly matter (Main Street), re: elder abuse; 7:35 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Crestview Drive), referred; 8:06 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:24 p.m.: medical/general (Crown Street); 9:50 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:44 p.m.: hazardous material spill (South Spencer Road), mercury spilled in car; (total daily mv stops – 2).

TUESDAY, MARCH 7  
12:59-2:23 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:45 a.m.: lost/found (Main Street), debit card found; 7:47 a.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 8:19 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), req. hazmat to North Brookfield; 9:24 a.m.: mv lockout (Bixby Road), baby locked in mv; 10:34 a.m.: fire/duress alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 11:11 a.m.: medical/general (Washburn Terrace); 12:20 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 12:49 p.m.: medical/general (Chickering Road); 12:49 p.m.: hit/run accident (West Main Street), report taken; 2:57 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 3:14 p.m.: missing person/juvenile (Church Street), daughter not off bus; 3:31 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dog; 4:04 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), wants info/restraining order; 5:42 p.m.: mutual aid (Main Street), req. check female walking; 7:46 p.m.: larceny (Chestnut Street), re: missing items; 8:32 p.m.: medical/general (Garrette Lane); 8:36 p.m.: officer wanted (High Street), req. welfare check; 10:28 p.m.: (Chestnut Street), details of incident redacted from police log; (total daily mv stops – 1).

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## K9

continued from page A1

obtained by the New Leader, requires all incidents involving a K9 unit to be reported to the foundation within 14 days.

The SPD's K9 program was launched in April 2021 after the department received grant funding from the Stanton Foundation in February of that year. The funds included \$8,500 for acquisition and specialized training; \$3,500 to convert a police cruiser for K9 team use; \$3,000 to install outdoor kennels and a doghouse at both the handler's home and the police station; \$2,400 for veterinary care over three years; \$1,500 for equipment; and \$1,800 for dog food over three years.

"All of the training and most of the start-up costs were paid by Stanton," former Darrin said in the previous interview. "In turn, Stanton retains ownership of the animal and property items for five years. They were determining the disposition of Curtis when the second attack took place."

The attacks have not been officially ascribed to a cause.

Following the second attack on Nov. 21, the State Police (MSP) responded to the scene in what the agency described as a secondary role.

"Where MSP assumed a secondary role assisting another agency, a formal report was not generated by State Police-Brookfield Barracks," indicated State Police Trooper Brandon Doherty, of the MSP's Office of Media Relations.

The State Police referred all additional inquiries to the Spencer Police Department.

Meanwhile, Lindsay Corcoran, the Director of Communications for the Office of Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., said she has no details on whether the DA's office was notified of the Nov. 21 incident.

Regarding the status of the grant funding from the Stanton Foundation, new SPD Chief Michael Bofford said there is a balance on the account.

"Chief Darrin had spoken to a representative from Stanton and are waiting on hearing from them," Bofford said.

## DPHS

continued from page A1

deep in every nook and cranny of the old barn.

The Panthers didn't disappoint the clearly partisan overflow crowd, taking a 3-0 lead 18 seconds into the game on a 3-pointer by senior Braeden Cashman and jumping out to a 15-0 lead before a Roxbury Prep shot found the bottom of the basket.

"We want to come right out of the gate with some energy and get the crowd going," senior Braeden White (15 points) said. "That got us going and we just kept it going from there."

Cam Hoekstra, who scored a game-high 23 points, agreed with this classmate.

"In our last game (a 95-65 home win over 15th-seeded Pacific Rim Charter on Wednesday, March 8) we started up in press and we jumped out to a 10-2 lead," Hoekstra said. "We really emphasized the importance of doing that tonight as well and I think we did that."

The Panthers' up-tempo style

of offense continued to fire on all cylinders in the second quarter, closing the period with a 10-3 run and a 37-15 halftime lead.

Of the 29 field goals David Prouty scored against the Wolves, 15 came on layups, lay-ins and put-backs, and 10 came on shots from beyond the three-point arc. Hoekstra and junior Tyler Patchen (15 points) both finished the game with three 3-pointers while White cashed in a pair and Cashman and sophomore Nick Simons drained one each.

The Panthers' white-hot sharpshooting cooled briefly in the third quarter, allowing Roxbury Prep to get within 19 on two occasions, but Patchen hit a 3-pointer from the right corner with two seconds remaining in the period to give Prouty a 52-31 lead as play headed to the fourth quarter.

"We had to take Braeden (White) out in the third quarter because he had three fouls and Braeden hasn't been in foul trouble all year," O'Connor said. "We had a couple of turnovers in the

third quarter, which might have been a result of Braeden being out, but Alec (Fournier), Jay Jay (Neiray), Cam and Tyler really stepped it up without Braeden on the floor.

"Braeden is the best point guard in Central Mass., and without him on the floor it's a little more difficult," O'Connor added. "He does a lot of things that don't show up in the scorebook and I think that was the reason the third quarter played out the way it did."

Prouty's 29-point fourth quarter featured a game-closing 15-4 run to put it away and send the Panthers to the Division 5 Final Four.

A state title is clearly within David Prouty's reach, but it's — not yet — a topic of conversation.

"I haven't really processed it yet," Hoekstra said. "We're going to celebrate getting into the Final Four tonight and then start thinking about our next game, but this (whole season) has just been insane."

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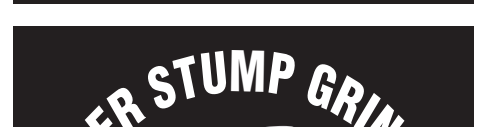
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## Let's end Daylight Savings Time once and for all

Last year, United States Senators voted unanimously to nix daylight savings. The plan is to make daylight savings time permanent. If the bill passes, it will go into effect in November of 2023 to avoid a scheduling nightmare with the travel industry. The bill is called the Sunshine Protection Act. Florida Senator Marco Rubio noted that most people despise the changes, and he questioned why the practice of turning our clocks back or forward one hour at the onset of winter and spring is still, as the younger generations say, a ‘thing.’ The time change first became known to Americans in 1918. Rhode Island Democrat Sheldon Whitehouse noted that the change places New England in complete darkness during afternoon hours, affecting youth sports and leads to depression. A sunset of 4:15 p.m. is not conducive to daily life. Some experts relayed that year-round daylight savings will make people happier and more productive. We are all always happier when it's lighter longer. Most of us. If the bill passes, the rest of the country will join the likes of Arizona, Australia and Hawaii who opt not to spring forward and fall back. Daylight savings time is used in roughly 70 countries across the globe. Here we compiled a list of pro's and con's so you can determine your own thoughts. The idea of DST is to utilize activity during daylight hours. Some benefits include decreased electricity consumption, a decrease in the number of traffic accidents and crime. DST also increases recreational time, hence boosting the economy. According to studies the changes cost \$60 billion. Interesting is the fact that the barbecue industry and small convenience stores increase sales by \$135 billion. As for energy consumption a study in 1997 revealed that no significant effects occurred when DST was observed all year. In all, energy demands were reduced by just 2.6 percent.

Another pro is the decrease in traffic accidents. When more people drive during daylight the risk of accidents decreases due to the simple fact that driving in the dark is typically more dangerous. Pedestrian accidents would also significantly drop. A reduction in crime has also landed on the pro list. When folks finish work, and run errands while it's still light out, the exposure to crime becomes less since more crimes take place at night. The increase in recreational time is a no brainer. The longer it's lighter out, the more time there is to have fun outdoors. As stated above this is also an economy booster. When more people are out and about, they spend more money. The exposure to more vitamin D that the sun provides also proves as a health benefit. On the flip side of the coin, the change may disrupt sleep schedules. The transition can be rough especially for those who don't get more than five hours per night as it is. However, after the initial adjustments no long-term adverse effects on circadian rhythms were noted.

The longer the day, the more fuel consumption takes place in the atmosphere. The increase in evening traffic emits more pollution in the air. It's clear the pros outweigh the cons. In our opinion, the natural cadence of the sun should not be altered. If we stick with longer days and leave it at that, we think a much more positive population would ensue.

### 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.

# VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Out Foxed again

To the Editor:

“You can fool all of the people some of the time, and some of the people, all of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people, all of the time.” Nothing made this clearer than Rupert Murdoch's testimony in the civil suit against Fox News that the Dominion voting machine people filed. It already having been adjudicated that Fox News was not actually news, but only opinions and entertainment, how many of you find using disinformation and flat out lies, supporting confrontation and division, entertaining?

When Murdoch was asked how many at Fox knew they were pushing a lie about who won the presidency, whether there were enough inaccuracies to change any results, or why they continue to provide a platform for Mike Lindell of My Pillow to continue pushing the versions of the big lie.

It was made clear that Hannity, Carlson, Ingraham, et al, knew Biden had won. They knew there was no actual evidence of fraud, (the few instances of fraud they did see the Cyber Ninja's find in Arizona, favored Trump), which he acknowledged he could have stopped, but chose not to.

His comment about Lindell, was that the decision was not Red or Blue, it was green, he being one of their major advertisers.

The tradition of being manipulated has a long and storied history. There have always been ipso-facto royals, and we simply replaced those who were inbred and titled as such, with those who were smart, rich and powerful enough to assume that role. Most of us were just transitioned to cogs in the same wheel. My original migrant to the colonies arrived in Scituate in 1636, where he worked as a wheelwright the rest of his life. The wealthy and influential people, who were already the leaders of the revolt, but were also the framers and financiers of their time. Their discussions and deliberations, much of which is discussed in the Federalist Papers by Madison and Jefferson, concluded that the great unwashed could not be trusted with actual democracy, and they would enact irresponsible giveaways. Of course, we all not only know, but continue contending with their built in controls, many of which still impede, though created in a time of just 13 east coast states, largely sub literate and with no national media.

The new Constitution provided for the white male landowners to elect a house of representatives (one per 30,000 voters when expansion was stopped at 435). The bills they passed would need to be approved by a Senate, made up of two per state, selected by those self same state legislatures (read founding fathers). They did eventually allow the same voters to choose senators, when they realized they pretty much controlled who could run. This same fear of what the unwashed my chose as president, installed the electoral

college under like rules. The fact that each congressman now represents a quarter million voters, while we do nothing about the perversion that the 2 million voters in both Dakotas have 4 senators while California's 40 million, have just 2, is especially twisted by filibusters, which can have the impact of 25 percent overcoming 75 percent of the will of the voters. We have assuredly been out-foxed.

Speaking of which, the enemies who have previously had to expend so much in resources to flood our social media with dis-information, are realizing a giant windfall furnished by the built-in algorithms, the finding Fox News, operating openly as mainstream media and profiting biggly on discord and lies. On a related note, I am aware that most of our population is under 40, and access to actual history is more elusive, but, we waited too long to address Hitler seizing countries, we are still in Korea, committed to a UN charter that finalized integrity of borders. We have not been good about enforcing that, especially because of Israel, who will likely never return Jerusalem or the Golan Heights to Jordan. That said, as one who had one son spend three years in Iraq, and both sons, over a year in Korea, I assure you, Putin having success in Ukraine, is the door to WWII. He would not stop there and China would move on Taiwan. Letting ourselves be out foxed into not supporting Ukraine, will virtually assure not only funding war, but burying our soldiers.

In acknowledgement to Kevin K, while I agree with your debt ceiling comments, having one at all needs repeal. The key to control of spending is an actual budget with restraints, not using a bogus creation from WWI created to limit our war cost exposure. The way to control spending, is to actually control spending, not threaten to not pay what you spend. Has anyone else noticed that now that the GOP is now in a position to submit an actual budget and specify just what fat they want to trim, they refuse to go on record for cuts and are trying to get Dems to select cuts.

Anyone not surprised by the clown show the GOP has become, must get news from Fox. A quick update-Speaker Kevin McCarthy has provided the security footage from January 6, exclusively to Tucker Carlson, an election denier, co-conspirator, Jim Jordan, who ignores congressional subpoenas, now chairs the justice committee, including celebrities like MTG who wants to split the country into red and blue, Gaetz who cites China as a source and Boebert who puts pics of whole family with assault rifles on Christmas cards.

KEN KIMBALL  
BROOKFIELD

### God knows where Brittany Tee is, Part 2

To the Editor:

God's Word teaches us where two or three are gathered, God is with us [Matthew 18: 20]. We may not be able to pray together in person, in the flesh; however, we can pray together in the spirit. I am inviting, welcoming, encouraging you who are reading this to encourage friends and family, starting Friday the 17th when you receive this paper and for one week, seven days, pray daily till Friday the 24th and ask God to bring Brittany home to her family and or bring closure to her family.

From our human understanding,

Brittany has mysteriously disappeared, however, our all knowing God knows exactly where Brittany is “and” we need to do our part, humble our self and sincerely seek God in prayer that God will reveal to us Brittanie's location and or bring her home, bring closure to her family. Amen!

Dwell in peace!

ROLAND BLAIS  
BROOKFIELD

## SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!



## Do you have enough emergency savings?



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Many people would agree that preparation is the key to success in many areas of life. Yet, when it comes to being ready for a financial emergency, a sizable percentage of Americans are feeling distinctly unprepared — and that can lead to problems.

Consider these survey findings from financial services provider Edward Jones and Morning Consult:

Nearly two in five Americans expect that their emergency savings would last no more than a month.

Less than 40 percent of respondents consider their emergency savings account to be fully funded.

It's important to have adequate emergency savings for two key reasons. First, when an unexpected financial need arises, such as a major home or car repair, you may well have to act quickly. And second, if you don't have the funds readily available to meet this sudden need, you may be forced to dip into your long-term investments, including your IRA and 401(k). This typically isn't a good move, as taking money early from these accounts could lead to both taxes and penalties. And even more important, you'd be taking away resources from accounts you will almost certainly need to help provide income for a retirement that could last two, or even three, decades.

So, if you want to be financially prepared for emergencies, how much money should you have available? There's no one right answer for everyone, but generally speaking, it's a good idea to keep three to six months' worth of living expenses — or a full year's worth, if you're retired — in a liquid, low-risk account that's separate from the financial accounts you might use for everyday spending.

Of course, given the high cost of living, it's not necessarily easy to put away several months of living expenses — at least, not all at once. That's why you might want to have a certain amount automatically moved each month from your checking or savings account into the account you've designated for emergency needs. And when you get a financial “windfall,” such as a year-end bonus at work or a tax refund, you might want to use part of this money for your emergency fund, too. You can also use these sources to replenish your emergency fund if you deplete some or all of it.

Here's something else to remember about an emergency fund: Keep it for emergencies. As mentioned above, you should hold this fund apart from accounts that you draw on for daily expenses — but you'll also want to avoid the temptation to use the money for other things, such as investment opportunities that may come your way. That's not to say you shouldn't be prepared for these opportunities, but you can do so by keeping some cash or cash equivalents within your portfolio. And, as an additional benefit, the presence of cash can potentially help reduce the impact of market volatility on a portfolio that's otherwise heavily weighted toward stocks.

Building and maintaining an emergency fund should be an essential part of your overall financial strategy — so, if you haven't started one yet, there's no time like the present.

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

# Acid rain continues to impact local fishermen

I knew if I took my boat out of mothballs, we would get some snow, but I did not expect a Northeaster. By the time you read this column, it will already be melting, so I guess we are over winter. Come on, spring-time! Prior to the snow this week, the birds were singing in my backyard, and I even put on my summer shorts and stretched out on a lawn chair in the sun.

Mass. Fish & Wildlife has started to stock trout in numerous lakes and ponds last week, and it brought out a lot of anglers to catch some for the dinner table. Powerbait is the number one choice of bottom fishermen, and it was literally flying off the shelves at local bait shops and big box stores. Shiners are also popular with some anglers, but they are a bit pricey. What the heck happened to the old worm for fishing?

The latest news on chemically infected fish is not new, and is a problem with all water bodies in Mass. and surrounding states. The major polluters are the western utilities that continue to pollute the atmosphere, and it is carried into the clouds, and travels thousands of miles, and then



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH  
TRUE

deposited in our waters as acid rain. It not only pollutes local waterways, but is responsible for polluting our gardens and farmers' crops. At one time 35 years ago, the western utilities had set aside a million dollars or more, and a company called Living lakes was formed. They were responsible for treating ponds, lakes and reservoirs with lime to bring back the Ph balance that was disrupted because of the acid rain.

This writer sent in an application on behalf of Mass. Fish & Wildlife and we received a communication from Living Lakes, that Wallum lake was chosen to be treated with tons of lime to correct the problem. Approximately 10 huge tankers of lime arrived at Wallum Lake with a slurry of lime that was spread by a large boat, using digital machines that spread an even amount of the lime on the entire lake.

It brought the lakes PH back to a level that would sustain rainbow trout, as Mass. Fish & Wildlife had stopped stocking rainbow trout that they claimed would die if they were stocked. Still, 35 years later, Wallum Lake receives rainbow trout and they do very well. It is hard to believe that the one treatment of lime could last that long!

Bottom feeding fish like hornpout, perch, have the most levels of heavy metals that are dangers for humans to eat, but bass, pickerel and other freshwater fish also have seen an increase in the heavy metals. As a long-time fishing angler in local freshwater ponds I always caught a lot of yellow perch, and brought them home for a good feed. The last 10 to 15 or so years, I stopped eating the fish when I observed black spots on the skin of the fish, and when I removed the skin they had worms crawling out of the flesh. I knew we had a problem, and wrote numerous articles on my findings for many years. Not much was made of it. Saltwater fish like cod and Haddock also are showing signs of worms in their flesh for a number of years now. It

sure wants to make you think about becoming a vegetarian. But wait! All of these heavy metals are also being fed into the plants with acid rain. Beef, pork, chicken, and most other meats are all subjected to heavy metals. As one report I read on the Internet last week quoted: "Eating one fish a month is equal to a month of forever chemicals." You better believe it! Freshly stocked trout should be the safest fish to eat for your family!

What do you expect as factories and mills have dumped their waste into our rivers and streams for years, and many still do. Worcester treatment plant releases raw sewage into Lake Quinsigamond every year, polluting the lake and everything downstream and it ends up into the bay. It seems that it is ok to dump everything into the ocean, but it is now coming back to haunt us. Planet earth cannot take much more before we all suffer the consequences. We sure cannot leave much of a life for our children and future generations. I ate Swordfish twice this week. I can feel my mercury level climbing! The ocean has been a dump-



Courtesy

This week's picture shows a couple of young anglers with some impressive sea bass they caught last year.

ing ground for years, which continues to this day, and when the ocean is overcome with pollution it will be the end of all mankind.

No final limits and sizes of sea bass and Fluke were determined as of last week in both Mass. & Rhode Island,

but sea bass limits are on the chopping block in both states. Strippers and bluefish should remain the same as last year in both states. It Just makes you sick!

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

# For Tasty Meatless Meals, Take a Tip from the Past

Generations of home cooks have taken up the challenge each year to prepare delicious and creative meatless dishes during the Lenten season, or all year round. Some of my fondest childhood memories include helping my mom skewer fish kebobs on metal rods and chopping chunks of Velveeta for her famous macaroni and cheese, both meals made popular courtesy of Catholic meat restrictions!

It was while I was (literally) tossing a frozen fish fillet in the oven last Friday night that I vowed to take time out to rediscover the "comfort meals" of past generations. Since I collect old cookbooks, an accumulation time-tested meals were right at my fingertips. (Yes, the internet would have been quicker, but much less authentic and interesting!) A quick look through a few of the books revealed meatless dishes that were both interesting and easier to prepare than I anticipated.

So - in the interest of uninspired cooks everywhere, this week's column will feature a menu of meat alternatives that promise to bring rave reviews from even the most fussy family meal critic!

This mock "chicken" pie is the epitome of comfort food! I cheated and used a premade refrigerator pie crust; if you are really pressed for time, you can also substitute canned potatoes and carrots.

"California Chicken" Pie (as served by Ruth Wakefield at The Toll House, Whitman, MA in the 1930s)

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Ingredients: one medium sized onion, chopped; one cup peas; two diced carrots; two diced potatoes; one large can tuna fish; 2 T flour; one T butter; one cup milk; 1 tsp. salt; 1/8 tsp. pepper; 1/4 tsp. paprika.

Preparation: Boil the carrots and potatoes. Add peas to chopped onion. Make a white sauce by melting butter, add flour and stir until smooth. Add milk, salt, pepper, and paprika. Cook until thick and smooth. Add one cup tuna, broken into small pieces.

Fill a baking dish with mixture in layers. Cover with an upper crust or buttered crumbs and bake until brown in a 450 degree oven. Serves 6.

Why not start a meatless meal with an elegant appetizer? This original Toll House Onion Soup recipe can be adapted to better serve today's busy cook with the use of canned chicken stock. This is super easy!

Onion Soup - Toll House Style

Ingredients: One pound onions, sliced and cooked in butter; 1 1/2 rich chicken stock; one T flour

Preparation: Cook onions until brown, sprinkle with flour and stir. Add to chicken stock slowly, stirring until smooth. Let stand for several hours or the night before for best flavor.



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

avor. Serve soup with a slice of French bread sprinkled with Parmesan or Romano cheese and toast in the oven the last moment. Serve grated cheese for the soup.

I haven't tried this interesting vegetarian loaf, but it sounds delicious. This is from "The American Women's Cookbook," Culinary Arts Institute, 1947. Readers who try it are encouraged to send in feedback!

Baked Bean Roast  
Ingredients: 4 cups mashed baked beans; 2 eggs, slightly beaten; 2 cups bread crumbs; one cup tomatoes; 2T minced peppers; 2T minced onion; 4 T olive oil; 1/2 tsp. paprika, salt and pepper.

Preparation: Cook pepper and onions in olive oil. Add other ingredients in the order given. Bake (350 degrees) in greased baking dish for 30 minutes. Serve with brown sauce or tomato sauce.

Couldn't resist adding in my all-time favorite

soup recipe! Simple, delicious, and once you make it, you'll never want to buy canned tomato soup again! Pair with a grilled cheese for an old fashioned soup and sandwich supper.

Tomato Soup  
Ingredients: One stick butter; one medium onion; two (28 oz) cans of tomatoes (whole, diced or crushed, it doesn't matter); jar of salsa (optional); one cup of water; spices of choice (I use salt, pepper, and a dash or two of turmeric and cayenne. Preparation: In a saucepan, place butter and onion (cut into quarters) and cook until but-


ter melts. Add tomatoes (and salsa, if desired), and simmer for 40 minutes. Blend with an immersion blender. Add spices to taste.

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not invent-

ing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

Friday's Child



Wyatt  
Age 7

Hi! My name is Wyatt and I like horses!

Wyatt is a happy and energetic boy who loves to run and play! He also enjoys reading books and listening to music. Wyatt does well in school with extra support. His teachers are calling this year "The Year of Wyatt" due to his academic gains! Wyatt gets along well with other children and adults.

Legally freed for adoption, Wyatt would do well in a family of any constellation. He would like to maintain contact with his birth father and siblings. Wyatt's social worker is looking for a family that will help to support his needs. He would do well in a home that is active and can provide structure and routine.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/8053>

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.

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# SPORTS

## HOW THEY GOT THERE

# Panthers dominate defensively, easily beat Pacific Rim

**BY DEAN P. ST. LAURENT**  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

SPENCER — Just over two minutes into regulation, David Prouty junior guard Alec Fournier stole a pass from Pacific Rim’s inbounder and laid it up for an easy two points to give the Panthers an early 10-2 lead, which forced a Pacific Rim timeout. The defensive sequences caused the David Prouty home crowd to erupt.

“It is great, the atmosphere is amazing,” Prouty senior Braeden White expressed. “We have all our students, fans and we feed off of

**EBES**  
continued from page A1

the STEAM subjects (science, technology, engineering, art, and math).

While students often associate these subjects with challenging tests and lots of rigorous homework, the March 9 event featured an array of hands-on activities that brought STEAM to life. Students in grades K-6, along with their families, packed the cafeteria to take part in thrilling lessons, including the combination of two substances to make artificial snow.

“The presenter was very engaging with the audience. It was so exciting to see how much fun the students were having with each of the different activities they participated in,” said EBES teacher Christine Lavin. “You could see the excitement on their faces and hear it in their voices. It was a great night for everyone that attended.”

Bergen, the director of Woburn-based Top Secret Science, has worked with more than one million children over the past 20 years. The nonprofit organization’s work at schools across the state is especially important in today’s classrooms, officials said. After extended periods of remote learning and other pandemic-related challenges, in-person presentations are even more meaningful for students.

“Our vision is to instill a very high level of enthusiasm and inquisitiveness about science and high technology. This will excite children to learn at an early age by opening their minds and increasing their interest to further learning in the future,” read a statement posted to the Top Secret Science Web site.

School officials thank Ouellette for all of her hard work in arranging the program. She was thrilled to see a large audience of students and families.

“Mr. [Ron] Tomlin [EBES Principal] suggested that we do a STEAM night, and it means so much to have our families come together to celebrate science with their children,” Ouellette said.

This is the first year of dedicated STEAM programming at EBES, and Ouellette has been encouraged by the results.

“It’s a blast. The students are very creative, and we do a lot of problem-solving and focus areas,” added Ouellette, who sees students twice a week for classes.

To learn more about the Top Secret Science organization, visit [www.topsecretscience.org](http://www.topsecretscience.org).

them. If we can get them going we are going to get going.”

The Panthers continued their strong full-court press and pushed the pace following defensive rebounds for the rest of the first quarter and ultimately the rest of the contest. The high energy trickled over through the next three quarters and David Prouty led from start to finish to defeat the Academy of Pacific Rim of Hyde Park, 95-65, in the Division 5 State Tournament Round of 16 on Wednesday, March 8.

“It was huge, we have had such a great season, but there are still things that we can do better,” expressed David Prouty head coach Pat O’Connor about his team’s quick start. “It is weird to say



David Prouty's Jay Jay Neiray runs the fast break and looks for a teammate to pass the ball to.



David Prouty's Alec Fournier gets inside the paint and finishes off a layup.



Cam Hoekstra of David Prouty avoids contact with a Pacific Rim defender while soaring through the lane.



Wide open behind the arc, David Prouty's Braeden Cashman takes a 3-point shot.



Braeden White of David Prouty flies past a Pacific Rim defender and heads toward the basket.

because you’re coaching a team that hasn’t lost, but I have not always been pleased with the way we move the ball up the floor and I wanted to push the pace. I wanted to push the floor because I know how good we look when we are out in the open court and moving the ball. I wanted more possessions and to move the ball faster down the floor and, clearly, it was a lot of fun to watch for the first half.”

The Prouty offense was paced by White and Alec Fournier, who each tallied a game-high 20 points. White scored 15 of his 20 in the first half. Cam Hoekstra added 19 points of his own. Jay Jay Neiray made his presence known on the board and also scored 14 points, 10 coming in the first quarter.

David Prouty is a team on a mission and has started the playoffs with two statement wins to

remain undefeated and continue their journey toward a state championship, but this team is not satisfied and that mindset is what is driving this special team.

“This is a very motivated, mature group that wants to get better at basketball every single day and loves to compete,” praised O’Connor. “Compete, that is what it is, they out-compete everybody and that is what we want to do. Sometimes in practice, it can get ugly because we have to separate people because they compete so hard, but it is a good thing. It is good to be competitive and when the game ends you’re friends, brothers, and teammates, but that is how we get better and I think that transfers over to games. That is why they compete so hard in games and they’re just a pleasure to watch every day, game or practice.”



Tyler Patchen of David Prouty sets his feet, bends his knees for momentum and looks at the basket before firing off a 3-pointer.

## SPORTS

## Warriors' season again ended by Dover-Sherborn in Round of 16



Nick Ethier photos

Tantasqua's Gabby Scanlon tries to drive the ball past Dover-Sherborn's Anh Ngo.

BY NICK ETHIER  
SPORTS EDITOR

DOVER — Back on Tuesday, March 8, 2022, the 12th ranked Tantasqua Regional girls' varsity basketball team traveled to No. 5 Dover-Sherborn High for a Division 3 State Tournament Round of 16 contest against the Raiders. The Warriors lost that game, 63-39, to conclude their season.

Nearly a year later and Tantasqua headed back to Dover to take on the Raiders, again in the Division 3 State Tournament Round of 16 and again as the 12 seed against No. 5 Dover-Sherborn on Tuesday, March 7.

Although first-year head coach Andrew Haley wasn't on the sidelines with the Warriors a season ago, he tracked down the game tape and watched the film to ensure that Tantasqua's chances against the Raiders were as high as possible.

"We all kind of thought we were a different team this year. We were not as one-dimensional offensively and I thought we were a little more solid defensively coming into it. We watched film all week and we thought we had good matchups," explained Haley. "We came into it thinking we had a chance."

And the Warriors did have a chance against Dover-Sherborn. The game was tied at the half, 27-27, and Tantasqua led midway through the third quarter, 34-33. But the Raiders ended the frame on a 6-0 run and then won fourth quarter scoring, 20-9, to take the game, 59-43.

"I think in the third quarter we just kind of lost some of the momentum," Haley said. "Things that were falling for us in the first half stopped falling for us in the third quarter."

The Warriors went into the game hoping to contain Dover-Sherborn's Elliana Scalabrino (the daughter of Brian Scalabrino) and Hana Skeary, the Raiders' low post and 3-point shooting

weapons, respectively. And Tantasqua did just that, as Scalabrino scored just 7 points and Skeary added 12 points — 8 coming in the fourth quarter — with no made 3-pointers. But Dover-Sherborn's Erica Hills was the thorn in the Warriors' side. Hills, who scored 30 points against Tantasqua a year ago, went off again, this time to the tune of a game-high 32 points. Hills scored from distance (four 3-pointers), from inside the arc (five interior baskets) and from the line (10-15 on foul shots).

"We didn't let either one of them beat us, but then (Hills) came off and just had a night. They had another girl that was pretty much just as good as they were," Haley said of Hills.

Haley was proud of the way his team played in the first half. The Warriors trailed after the first quarter, 19-12, but then won the second period, 15-8, to be all knotted up.

"The whole first half I thought we played really good basketball. We just couldn't sustain it. They weathered the storm," said Haley.

Gabby Scanlon was the lone Tantasqua player in double figures with 10 points, while Maeve Early added 9, Maya Gidopoulos 7 and Nicki Vejack 6. Gidopoulos was the Warriors' most effective 84-foot player from end line to end line, as she was a nuisance to any Dover-Sherborn player possessing the ball. Gidopoulos routinely came from seemingly out of nowhere to steal the ball away.

"Maya definitely brought the energy tonight. I think tonight was one of her better games," said Haley. "Her contributions tonight were energy, steals, just great team defense — she really did a good job tonight."

The Warriors finished 18-4, while the Raiders 16-7 after losing to No. 4 Rockland High in the Round of 8, 48-37.

Haley is hopeful for an even stronger



Maya Gidopoulos of Tantasqua catches a pass and eyes the rim before shooting a 3-pointer.



Tantasqua's Lizzie Thompson holds the ball away from a Dover-Sherborn defender while possessing it near the top of the key.

season in 2023-2024.

"We're super confident. We have a really good group of JV players coming up. I do feel like we're on the rise," he said. "You never want to look to next year during the season, but you can look down the road and see we're going to be in pretty good shape next year and the next couple years."

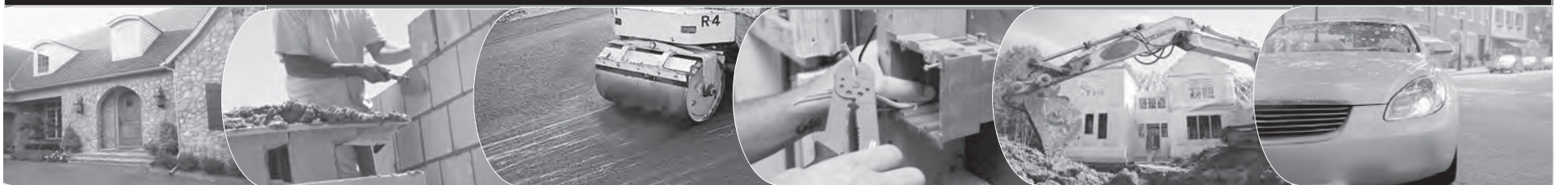
But Haley was also able to reflect on the current season that was, which will lose seniors Kelsie Wotton, Hannah Johnson and Sophia Parker to graduation.

"It was a bummer, we wanted to win this game, but they accomplished a lot this year. They won 18 games, they won the league — they didn't lose a league game all year — so those were some things that we could take away from the season that were really positive," concluded Haley.

## Quaboag girls' basketball reaches Round of 16 before falling to Georgetown

After defeating Old Colony in the Division 5 Round of 32, 44-24, the 12th ranked Quaboag Regional girls' varsity basketball team faced off with No. 5 Georgetown High on Tuesday, March 7 in the Round of 16. The Cougars lost that contest, 53-30. Quaboag finished its season with a record of 15-7.

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OBITUARIES

Donald E Fedler, 91



**N O R T H B R O O K F I E L D** - Donald E Fedler, 91, of North Brookfield, passed away peacefully in his home on February 23, 2023, surrounded by his family after a sudden illness.

He leaves behind his 7 children, Douglas of North Brookfield, Denise of East Brookfield and her 5 children, Nancy of Pepperell and her 2 children, Leslie of Warren, Christine of Barre and her husband and 4 children, Richard of Lowell and his wife and 2 step children, and Donna of West Virginia and her 3 children. He also leaves his brother, Louis of Nebraska, 9 great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews, friends and beloved dogs, Cassie and Mitsie. He was predeceased by his wife, Janet, his grandson, Ben and his siblings, Julian, Helen and Shirley.

Born in East Brookfield, he was the son of the late Doris and Louis Fedler. He moved to North Brookfield in 1958 where he remained for the rest of his life. Donald was a machinist by trade. He was an active member of

the North Brookfield Sportsmens Club, where he raised pheasants and was an avid trap shooter. He was also an NRA gun safety instructor.

Don was also a member of the American Legion. He was in the United States Army and served in Korea post war. He had the honor of receiving the Quilt of Valor in 2021. During his later years, Donald enjoyed restoring vintage tools and making leather crafts. He particularly enjoyed making bird houses and spent many hours birdwatching through the kitchen windows.

A memorial mass will be held at St Josephs Church in North Brookfield. There will be no calling hours per his request. In lieu of flowers, please send donations to The North Brookfield Sportsman's Club, Boynton Road, North Brookfield MA 01535 or North Brookfield Rescue Squad, PO BOX 73, NB 01535.

Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home 44 Gilbert St. North Brookfield.



Roger E. "Lefty" Kowal, 93



**S P E N C E R**: Roger E. "Lefty" Kowal, 93, of Spencer, died Tuesday, March 7th, in St. Vincent Hospital, Worcester.

He leaves his wife of 67 years, Theresa L. (Cournoyer) Kowal, his sons; Robert Kowal and his wife Lori of Spencer and Stephen Kowal and his wife Deborah of Charlton, his daughter; Marcia Toomey and her husband Sean of Reading, 5 grandchildren and 6 great grandchildren, many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his brothers; John, Eugene, Julian and Carol Kowal.

Roger was a sonic inspector at Wyman Gordon Co. in Grafton for 37 years until his retirement in 1991.

He was born in Spencer, the son of Joseph and Anna (Sura) Kowal and later graduated from David Prouty High School in 1949 where he played basketball. He then served his country with the U.S. Army during the Korean War.

"Lefty" was a competitive baseball pitcher in the Blackstone Valley baseball league. He was an avid sports-

man, hunter and fisherman. He was a Lifetime member of the Spencer Fish & Game Club, a member of the Greendale Retired Men's Club and the Gaudette-Kirk Post 138 American Legion in Spencer.

He enjoyed playing cards with his friends. Along with his wife, they spent many winters in Florida over the years. He was an avid gardener.

Roger's funeral will be held on Monday, March 13th from the J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer with a funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in St. John the Baptist Church, No.Brookfield Rd., E.Brookfield. Burial with Military Honors will follow in Mary,Queen of the Rosary Cemetery, Spencer. A calling hour will precede the funeral from 8:30 to 9:30 a.m. Monday, in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Spencer Rescue Squad, Inc., 4 Bixby Rd., Spencer, MA 01562.

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Courtesy

## BAY PATH SENIOR RECOGNIZED AS "ALL-STAR" AT STATE PHCC CONFERENCE

Bay Path Plumbing senior Damion Szaferowicz was recently recognized as Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School's PHCC All-Star Plumbing student at the Massachusetts Plumbing – Heating – Cooling – Contractors (PHCC) of Massachusetts Annual Conference and Trade Show at the Royal Trade Plaza in Marlborough, Massachusetts. All-Star Students were awarded on stage with tool bags from Ferguson and a \$500 scholarship given by the State of Massachusetts Plumbing Board of Examiners. Damion's mother, Justina Szaferowicz, Bay Path Lead Plumbing Instructor Paul Daoust, and Director of Career and Technical Education James Tripp Pockevicius were present at the event. Since 2009, PHCC of MA has been recognizing students for the leadership in shop and other educational classes as well as for their dedication to continue in the trade after graduation.

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# DA’s office receives funding for drug diversion programs

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., recently announced that his office has received significant grant funding to expand drug diversion programs.

The \$1.6 million federal grant was awarded by the Department of Justice to help build a network of supports for children exposed to drug overdoses within their families or their home environments. The funding will assist kids across Worcester County.

“As we continue our work to fight against the opioid epidemic, we want to make sure those suffering from substance use disorder get the treatment they need,” Early

said. “We also know substance use disorder is a disease that affects the entire family, with children often being the forgotten victims who are traumatized when a family member is caught in addiction. Our aim is to provide a soft touch and a helping hand to eliminate long-term trauma to these kids.”

The grant funding will allow for the continuation of court-based drug diversion programs in several area district courts, as well as the expansion of the diversion program to courts in Dudley, East Brookfield, Uxbridge, and Westborough.

Clinicians from AdCare Hospital, a partner on the recently awarded grant, will provide on-site assessment

services to individuals referred to the diversion program in the ten courts across Worcester County. This program will allow low-level offenders to enter a treatment program.

“AdCare Hospital is grateful to be working with the Worcester DA Diversion Program,” said Andrea Dayotas, the executive director of inpatient services at AdCare. “This year, we are expanding our bandwidth of services to court systems throughout central Massachusetts. We are committed to fighting the disease of addiction in our communities.”

The National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children (National DEC) will assist in the advancement of a Worcester

County program to connect community partners and resources from across the county. The National DEC will perform a community needs assessment and provide training and technical assistance to strengthen the local alliance, officials said.

“The National Alliance for Drug Endangered Children is excited to be a collaborative partner in this grant,” said Stacey Read, the organization’s director of network development. “Our staff has worked with DA Early and his office over the past several years by providing training and technical assistance to assist in starting drug endangered children efforts. DA Early and his office are filled with

great knowledge and experience, but most importantly the passion for this work that will in turn help to change the trajectory of children and families’ lives in Worcester County. We are honored to be walking this journey with DA Early and the Worcester County DA’s Office to collaboratively help children and families impacted by parental or caregiver substance use.”

The Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Use Site-Based Program grant was awarded in late 2022, with work set to begin this year.

“I’d like to thank our partners and all those who helped us secure this grant, especially Congressman James

McGovern,” Early said. “These funds will help us save lives and prevent future crime by getting help to those who need it and by protecting children from trauma.”

For legislators at all levels, combating the opioid crisis has been a point of emphasis for well over a decade.

“The opioid epidemic has claimed the lives of thousands in communities across America,” Congressman McGovern said. “These initiatives will provide a hand to those struggling with substance use and their families, helping them create a future of hope and possibilities.”

## LEGALS

**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. W023P0794EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
John Cordiner  
Date of Death: 08/11/2019**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Michael Barnes of Brookfield 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:  
**Michael Barnes of Brookfield 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 04/11/2023.**

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: March 08, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

March 17, 2023

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing on the proposed Tantasqua Regional School District budget for 2023-2024 will be held on Tuesday, **March 21, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Cafeteria of Tantasqua Regional Junior High School, in accordance with M.G.L., Chapter 71, § 38N. A copy of the proposed budget is available at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 320A Brookfield Rd., Fiskdale, MA.

**NOTE: The regular school committee meeting will begin following the Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m.**  
Michael Valanzola  
Chairman  
Tantasqua Regional School District Committee  
March 17, 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. W023P0827EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
David A. Nardone  
Date of Death: 10/06/2021**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Probate of **Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Lana M. LaChance of North Brookfield MA**

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

**Lana M. LaChance of North Brookfield 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 04/11/2023.**

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: March 10, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

March 17, 2023

**ATTENTION SPENCER RESIDENTS**  
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**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
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Docket No. W023P0793EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Michael Joseph Carpenter  
Date of Death: 12/07/2020**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Susan M. Masaw of North Brook-**

**field 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:  
**Susan M. Masaw of North Brookfield 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 04/04/2023.**

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: March 01, 2023

Stephanie Fatman, Register of Probate  
March 17, 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. W023P0656EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
ORDER OF NOTICE  
Estate of:  
Cerina A. Leinonen  
Date of Death: 11/20/2022**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Carrie Leinonen of Spencer 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:  
**Carrie Leinonen of Spencer MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Corporate 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 04/04/2023.**

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. Kearny, First Justice of this Court.**  
Date: March 01, 2023

Stephanie Fatman, Register of Probate  
March 17, 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. W023P0820EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Joseph J. Sobaleski  
Date of Death: 01/15/2023**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Probate of **Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Michael F. Sobaleski of Sutton MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

**Michael F. Sobaleski of Sutton 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 04/11/2023.**

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**WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.**  
Date: March 10, 2023

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

March 16, 2023



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ANSWER: PEANUT BUTTER

Crossword Puzzle

1				2			3
4		5			6		
7							
	8						

ACROSS

- 1. Individuals
- 4. Trash receptacle
- 7. Thanks in advance (abbr.)
- 8. Peas, beans and peanuts

DOWN

- 1. Ground nuts
- 2. Small street
- 3. Containing small, thick pieces
- 5. Split among others
- 6. To flower

ANSWERS:  
Across  
1. People 4. Wastebin 7. TIA 8. Legumes  
Down  
1. Peanuts 2. Lane 3. Chunky 5. Share 6. Bloom

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1912: THE GIRL GUIDES, LATER RENAMED THE GIRL SCOUTS OF THE USA, ARE FOUNDED IN THE UNITED STATES.
- 1918: MOSCOW BECOMES THE CAPITAL OF RUSSIA AGAIN.
- 1989: TIM BERNERS-LEE SUBMITS A PROPOSAL FOR AN INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM, WHICH WOULD LATER DEVELOP INTO THE WORLD WIDE WEB.

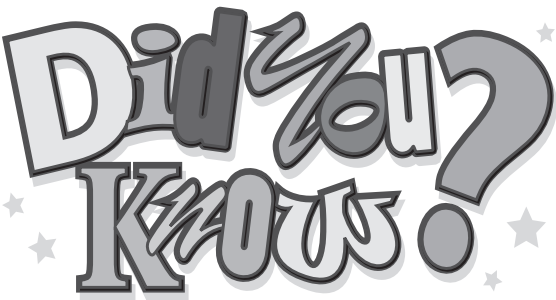


LEGUME

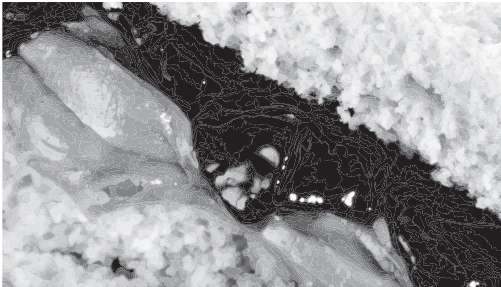
a member of the pea family that includes peanuts and lentils

How they SAY that in...

- ENGLISH: Peanut
- SPANISH: Cacahuete
- ITALIAN: Arachide
- FRENCH: Cacahuète
- GERMAN: Erdnuss



PEANUTS ARE SOMETIMES CALLED GROUND NUTS OR GROUND PEAS BECAUSE THEY GROW UNDERGROUND.



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ANSWER: PB&J SANDWICH

CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to peanuts. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 3 = O)

A. 14 23 3 22 16 21

Clue: We stand upon it

B. 14 23 3 12 8 4

Clue: Measured progress

C. 18 3 3 21

Clue: Sustenance

D. 1 23 3 8 6 20 16

Clue: Essential nutrient

Answers: A. ground B. growth C. food D. protein

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

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**Featured New Listing!**

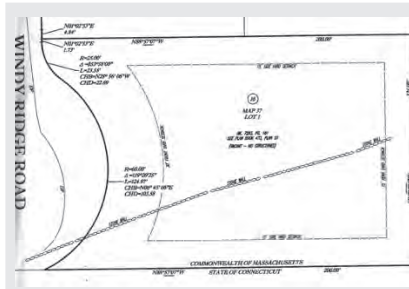
**42 EAST MAIN STREET**

Circa 1900 Cape style 3-4 BR Single Family Home! Very Deep Lot. 1 car detached garage. GB4 (Business) zoned. Updated kitchen/bath. Private rear patio. Large 13x7 laundry room/pantry. Fireplace. Impressive winding open stairway!  
**On Deposit \$249,900**

**DUDLEY - 20 NELCO AVE.**



**NEW LISTING!** A Must See! Cape - Renovated 4 bedroom, 2 bath home. New shingles, gutters, siding, railings, & deck, electrical Service! Gorgeous NEW kitchen, granite counters, island & SS appliances! Fireplace. On Deposit **\$414,900.**



**WEBSTER - LAND WINDY RIDGE RD**

Exploring the possibility of building a new construction? Land on a private Cul de Sac in Brian Acres! Established 40 year +- neighborhood. 1/2 acre w/150' road frontage. Access to municipal water & sewer.  
**On Deposit \$249,900**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

**WEBSTER - 17 ASSELIN AVENUE**

**FIRST TIME OFFERED!** "In Brian Acres" Established 40 year+- Development. SPACIOUS 1,262 SQFT+- ONE LEVEL RANCH HOME! 3 BRs, 1-1/2 Baths, 2 Car Garage & Sunroom. **\$355,000.**



**WOODSTOCK - 4 BARBER RD**

What a Beauty! Circa 1800 Vintage 4 bedrooms. Renovations included kitchen & bath, refinished wood flooring, interior painting & more... Barn, large lot.  
**NEW PRICE \$449,000**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

**WEBSTER - 34 EMERALD AVENUE**

This gem is situated on a well maintained corner lot! Beautiful perennial gardens that bloom from spring through fall. The first floor is freshly painted. 2 bedrooms and living room have hardwood floors. 3rd bedroom is located on the second floor. A 4th bedroom or in home office space. Heat Hot Water Baseboard/Oil. Easy maintenance vinyl siding.  
**\$304,000.**

**WEBSTER - 108 LOWER GORE RD**



**NEW LISTING!** First Time Offered! Cute 2 Bedroom Ranch that needs some Love! Originally a 3 Bedroom home. Master Bedroom has a 1/2 Bath. Flat lot with Storage Shed in the Backyard. Town Water & Sewer.  
**On Deposit \$249,000.**

## On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

- Webster Lake Waterfront Lot - Corner of Black Point Rd & Cedar Point Rd

**SORRY, SOLD!**

Hard to find 6500 +/- Sq Ft corner Lot. Beautiful View & Setting! Sandy Beach! Few tall Pines for shade. Town Water & Sewer Available! Will Custom Build if Preferred!

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Webster Lake  
13 Loveland Rd



**SORRY, SOLD!**

Eastern Exposure & Amazing Sunrises! Beautiful shoreline, 3 bedroom Cape features eat in kitchen w/island, fireplace living & dining room. 2nd floor, 2 bedrooms with 1 1/2 bath!

**\$785,000**

Webster Lake  
27 South Point Road



**SORRY, SOLD!**

OOH! WHAT A VIEW!!! Middle & South Ponds! 80' +/- ft sandy beach! Expansion possibilities! 2 Bedrm, 2 1/2 Bath, Garage,  
**\$811,000.**

Webster Lake  
13 Bates Point Road



**SORRY, SOLD!**

**1st Time Offered!** Impeccable Home! 6 Room, 3 bedroom 2-1/2 Baths. Master bedroom, Master Bath, Level Lot to the Shoreline. Nicely Landscaped!  
**\$705,000**

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# 5 signs it's time to renovate

Homeowners renovate their homes for a variety of reasons. Renovations can increase the value of a property and make homes safer and more comfortable for their occupants. Improvements also can be made to stay current with the times or to give a home a new vibe.

Statista projects \$510 billion will be spent on home improvements in 2024. The home improvement market is generating significant revenue. In fact, nearly a quarter of Americans opting to renovate their homes will spend an average of \$10,000 on their projects. According to a Home Stars Renovation report, 8 percent of Canadian homeowners who have renovated have spent more than \$20,000 on a home improvement project.

Kitchens and bathrooms often get the most attention when it comes to home improvement. However, every room and space in a home may need a renovation at some point, and the following are five signs it's time to renovate.

**1. Age**  
The National Association of Home Builders states that 50 percent of U.S. homes are over the age of 40. That means that age alone could dictate a need to renovate, particularly if some materials are original to the home. For example, asphalt roofs typically last 25 to 30 years, while window frames can last 20 to 50 years depending on how well they have been maintained.

**2. Inconvenient layout**  
Some homeowners scratch their heads when faced with awkward floor plan layouts. While one may live with the inconvenience for some time, typically a floor plan that isn't working for the homeowner is a major driver of renovations.



**3. Outdated looks**  
A home can look dated even if it is a relatively recent build. That's because trends change quickly. For example, dark, cherry cabinets that were popular just a little while ago have now been replaced by lighter color palettes. Homeowners whose homes do not match the looks emulated in design magazines may consider a change, par-

ticularly if they're planning to sell soon.

**4. Deterioration**  
Signs of water, storm or structural damage should be addressed as soon as possible. Any deterioration should be a strong indicator that it's time to renovate.

**5. Efficiency**  
Escalating utility bills could be indica-

tive of an inefficient home. Homeowners can conduct energy audits and then improve the areas where energy loss may be occurring, such as windows, doors, siding, and insulation.

Homeowners can renovate their homes when they see fit, but various signs may warn that it's time consider updating or remodeling a home.

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<p><b>REG \$1299 \$899</b></p>  <p><b>MAYTAG</b></p> <p>MAYTAG 21 CU FT PREMIUM TOP MOUNT REFRIGERATOR WITH FACTORY INSTALLED ICEMAKER MODEL# MRT111SMFZ</p>	<p><b>REG \$1832 \$1399</b></p>  <p><b>LG</b></p> <p>LG 27 CU FT SIDE BY SIDE REFRIGERATOR WITH SMOOTH TOUCH ICE DISPENSER MODEL# LRSXS2704S</p>	<p><b>REG \$2399 \$1599</b></p>  <p><b>GE APPLIANCES</b></p> <p>GE 27 CU FT ENERGY STAR FRNCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH INTERNAL WATER DISPENSER MODEL# GNE27JYMF5</p>	<p><b>REG \$3299 \$2299</b></p>  <p><b>FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY</b></p> <p>FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY 22.6 CU FT COUNTER-DEPTH FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR MODEL# GRFC23S3AF</p>	<p><b>\$3299</b></p>  <p><b>BOSCH</b></p> <p>BOSCH 500 SERIES 21.6 CU FT COUNTER DEPTH REFRIGERATOR WITH VITA FRESH PLUS MODEL# B36C050SNS</p>	<p><b>REG \$4499 \$3399</b></p>  <p><b>KitchenAid</b></p> <p>KITCHENAID 25.8 CU FT MULTI-DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH PLATINUM INTERIOR MODEL# KRMF704ESS</p>
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<b>2017 Ford Edge SEL</b> 3.5L V-6 cyl Engine, Automatic, 62,855 miles, 20/27 mpg City/Hwy, TU10003 .....	<b>\$24,988</b>
<b>2020 Ford Edge ST</b> 2.7L V-6 cyl Engine, Automatic, 34,588 miles, 19/26 mpg City/Hwy, TU10186.....	<b>\$35,888</b>
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