



©2026, Issue #22

Free by request to residents of

East Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield, Brookfield, Leicester and Spencer

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS

Friday, June 5, 2026

LHS bids farewell to Class of 2026



Courtesy

LHS graduates tossing their caps

L E I C E S T E R — Leicester High School held their graduation ceremony on Thursday, May 28 on the turf field at 7 p.m. The weather turned out to be perfect, and it was well attended. School Committee, Board of Selectman, State Rep. Donnie Berthume and Sen. Peter Durrant were in attendance.

LHS Class President Cassidy Poce welcomed the crowd while Natlaia Kallio recited the pledge of Allegiance. Senior Nicole

Tuson sang the National Anthem with flawless pitch and resonant tone. This started what would be an outstanding celebration of the culmination of K-12 education in Leicester.

Rhaegan Perry delivered the Wolverine Spirit Address, saying, “Many changes are bound to happen in our future, and the past four years as Wolverines have definitely prepared us for that. So let it be known that although many things may change, with me, with you, one thing will

always be true- we are wolverines.”

The salutatory address was given by Natlaia Kallio.

She quoted Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and spoke about life as a staircase: “It is not about having everything figured out. Rather, it is about accepting that you will never be completely certain of the outcome of your actions before you take them.”

The valedictory address was given by John Edward Gahagan. He spoke about his experience at LHS, ref-

erenced the movie Good Will Hunting and the importance of always giving your best.

Gahagan concluded, “I hope that long after this speech is forgotten, you can still remember that people are too focused on their own lives to judge yours. So feel free to start, try, fail, and try again.”

LHS Assistant Principal Jennifer Reynolds reminded students to “Be Where Your Feet Are; Seven Principles to Keep you Present, Grounded and Thriving”

based on Author Scott M. O’Neil’s book.

She said, “The next stage of your journey will certainly bring new challenges, so be present for the learning opportunities that will be afforded to you.”

Superintendent Brett Kustigian concluded the speeches thanking families, LPS Staff, town officials, legislators and, most importantly, congratulating the Class of 2026.

His advice for students: “As you go on to college, the military, the workforce to meet all of the incredible opportunities and challenges that await, don’t ever lose that sense of humor and that care free attitude that you have right now.”

In total, LHS graduated 119 students on what will go down as a memorable graduation for the Leicester school community.

Knox Trail Middle School Band secures fourth consecutive Gold Medal at Great East Music Festival



SPENCER — The Knox Trail Middle School Concert Band, under the direction of Mrs. Christina Noble, achieved a historic milestone this week by winning the prestigious Gold Medal at the Great East Music Festival for the fourth consecutive year.

The ensemble competed

Turn To **BAND** page A10

North Brookfield remembers longtime Fire Chief James Black

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The North Brookfield Fire Department and the community at large are mourning the loss of a legendary figure in the department’s history, retired Fire Chief James Black.

Black passed away on May 7 at the age of 87, leaving behind a storied legacy in North Brookfield after spending five decades with the local fire department serving a variety

Turn To **BLACK** page A10

Leicester Special Olympics School Day Games return to LMS



L E I C E S T E R — On Friday, May 22, Leicester Special Olympics School Day Games hosted its annual games event at the Leicester Middle School track and field. Athletes joined us from surrounding school districts including Leicester, McAuley Nazareth, Old Sturbridge Academy, and Assabet Valley Collaborative.

The event kicked off with opening ceremonies featuring the Assabet Valley Marine Corps JROTC color guard leading the athletes around the track along with Special Olympics torch bearer Stephen Jyrinji. Opening remarks were led by committee Vice President and Treasurer



Lenore Rust, and the athlete, coach and volunteer oaths followed. From there each team of athletes rotated through several stations featuring different skills including running, throwing, relay races, jumping, soccer, and an obstacle course. Olympic Town continues to be an athlete destination offering arts and crafts, face painting, and temporary tattoos. All stations included alternative activities to ensure athletes of all abilities could compete and join in the fun. Once competition ended the athletes refueled their bodies with the help of the JROTC which passed out lunches. Closing ceremonies followed with each athlete



being announced and rewarded with their own Special Olympics gold medal in front of the cheering crowd of peers, volunteers, and community members.

These Special Olympics games represent the very best our community has to offer. Our non-profit organization works year-round to coordinate resources and raise funds to provide this special day for athletes of all abilities. With the support of Leicester’s school administration our games event helps our athletes build self-confidence, indepen-

Turn To **GAMES** page A10

Marilynn Borst named Artist of the Month by Friends of the North Brookfield Town House

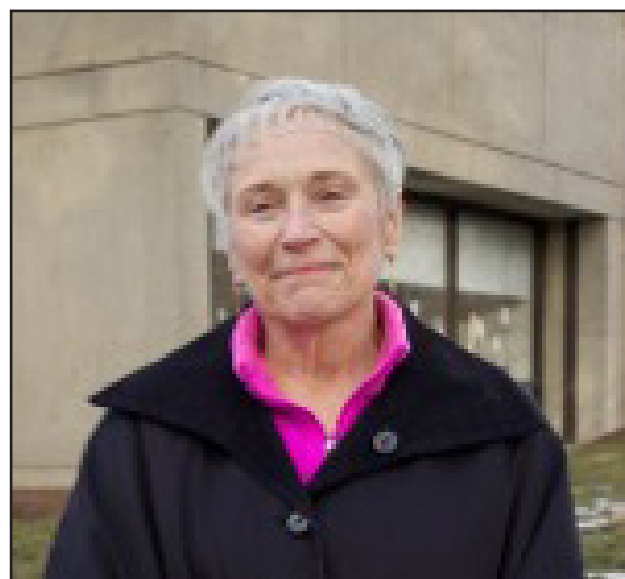
NORTH BROOKFIELD — A former teacher with a Master's degree in education, and a life-long volunteer, Marilynn Borst never thought of herself as an artist. She calls herself a creator who uses words to express her feelings, thoughts, knowledge and experiences.

She began writing in earnest while raising her four children, creating newsletters for several organizations and researching and writing guidebooks for Preservation Worcester house tours. She tried writing radio dramas, parables, and love stories while taking part in WISE classes at Assumption.

The lack of personal get-togethers and public meetings during Covid left Borst more time for reflection and poetry seemed to come naturally to her. She describes returning from a morning walk and sitting on the dock overlooking Brooks Pond, thinking about the beauty of individual snowflakes, the strange sounds coming from the expanding and contracting pond ice, or the calls of owls and hawks in the distance. She started carrying a notebook and a pencil so she could write down thoughts that came into her mind.

As a supplement to the required curriculum, and to call attention to the Town House as the place where residents gathered to discuss and come to agreement on Town matters, Borst created a PowerPoint history program to be used in third grade classrooms in North Brookfield. The program employed a timeline and taught North Brookfield history by simulating a walk down Main Street describing three of the town's most important buildings. The two-session classes ended with the students organizing their own Town meeting.

Borst's two books are devoted to history. She enjoys using the past and present to tell a story, but



Marilyn Borst

her work is not just a retelling of events. She begins each book with a theme. For "George M Cohan Was Here!" it was North Brookfield residents' memories of time spent in the Town House from its opening in 1864 until its close in 2004 and their hopes for its restoration. And for "The True Housewives of Holden," it was the reaction of women from 1915 to town, state, and world events and the work that they accomplished during those years.

Borst's writing has given her the opportunity to meet and learn from people she grew to greatly admire. She credits their direction, suggestions and support for her success. And she doubts that AI ever can replace this personal relationship.

This Artist of the Month describes herself as having been writing all her life: "First, as a child, silly little poems about the seasons; then the diary entries and the newsy holiday letter that somehow turns into a newsletter; and finally, a family history just waiting to be organized and completed."

That's the next chapter of her life.

Brookfield finalizing town volunteer policy

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

BROOKFIELD — The Town of Brookfield is implementing a new policy that will provide a process for confirming volunteers and ensuring that waivers and other measures are handled by appropriate departments.

The Brookfield Select Board approved a draft volunteer policy on May 27 pending review by the town's legal counsel which includes processes for waivers. Select Board member Beth Coughlin provided details about the policy, noting that it will provide guidelines to solidify who the volunteers answer to and how any potential job risk or insurance issues are addressed prior to performing the work.

"Fundamentally, it outlines that this is limited right now to a grounds maintenance program. There's potential in the future to expand it — we've historically done some building cleanup work with volunteers. It covers a scope of permitted activities," said Coughlin.

Occasionally, Brookfield's town departments may depend on volunteers for a variety of functions, most notably lawncare, seasonal cleanup, and beautification. Waivers provide an agreement of understanding between the volunteer and the town covering risks of performing any of these jobs. The policy will better define who establishes these duties and manages the waivers.

The document also clarifies that volunteers are used to supplement town employees, not replace paid labor.

"It makes it clear that the intent is not to replace paid town employees. It's just for times when we find ourselves in a bind. There's a lot of town, but not always a lot of employees," said Coughlin.

While the draft focused heavily on the highway department, who oversees the recreational fields which are a common focus of volunteer work, it was discussed to add language like "the appropriate overseeing board" to the policy permissions to broaden its scope.

The Select Board approved the document unanimously, sending it to their legal representatives for final review before its implementation.

Todd A. Ethier
B·U·I·L·D·E·R

- REMODELING EXPERT
- PROFESSIONAL INSTALLED
- WINDOWS AND SIDING

774-230-3967
Quality Building Since 1985

HARVEY WINDOWS

◆ FINISHED BASEMENTS ◆ ADDITIONS ◆ KITCHENS ◆ BATHS ◆ GARAGES ◆ SIDING
◆ ROOFING ◆ DECKS ◆ WINDOWS ◆ DOORS ◆ AUTHORIZED HARVEY DEALER
◆ LICENSED & INSURED ◆ HONEST, CLEAN & DEPENDABLE

NOW OPEN in Auburn

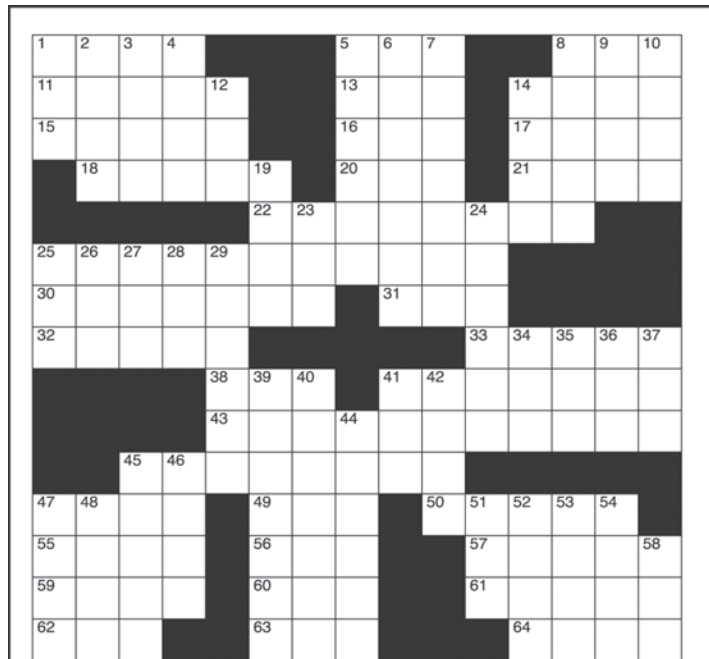
REHABILITATION

GREENDALE PHYSICAL THERAPY

If you're interested in becoming a patient of our new Auburn office scan to receive more info.

440 Washington St./Rt. 20
508-426-8066 • greendalept.com

Where you don't have to be an Olympic athlete to be treated like one.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Egyptian bull-god
- 5. A young canine
- 8. Cologne
- 11. Fictional British P.I.
- 13. Midway between northeast and east
- 14. A place to shop
- 15. Minneapolis suburb
- 16. Single lens reflex
- 17. NY Mets great Tommie
- 18. Informal loan clubs
- 20. Habitual twitching
- 21. Holm oak
- 22. Willing to consent or submit
- 25. In an early way
- 30. Made possible
- 31. Language in Ghana
- 32. Relating to one's birth
- 33. Deep-bodied fishes
- 38. Defunct European currency
- 41. Small American songbird
- 43. One from L.A.
- 45. After tenth
- 47. Hillside
- 49. Red deer
- 50. Partner to "ooohed"
- 55. Indian musical pattern
- 56. Israeli city __ Aviv
- 57. Golden peas plant
- 59. Breezed through
- 60. Midway between east and southeast
- 61. Frameworks
- 62. Danish krone
- 63. Fall back
- 64. Influential Korean leader

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Bridge building degree
- 2. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 3. Large, stocky lizard
- 4. Turkish leader title
- 5. Nag
- 6. Blank
- 7. Closely woven cotton fabric
- 8. A nice shot in golf
- 9. Away from wind
- 10. Evergreen shrub genus
- 12. Large African antelope
- 14. Something you receive
- 19. Satisfy
- 23. Wet dirt
- 24. No longer here
- 25. Writing utensil
- 26. Ribonucleic acid
- 27. Consume food
- 28. Licensed for Wall Street
- 29. Alternative forms of a gene
- 34. Buddy
- 35. We all do it
- 36. Chicken
- 37. No seats available
- 39. Yearned to possess
- 40. Ineffectual
- 41. Explosive
- 42. Turkish title
- 44. Worn near the foot
- 45. Impatient
- 46. Set an example for others
- 47. Actor Pitt
- 48. Instrument of torture
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Grayish white
- 53. A way to print
- 54. Storied college hoops program
- 58. Midway between south and southeast

PUZZLE SOLUTION

3	11	15	18	25	30	32	38	47	55	59	62
E	S	S	H	O	H	O	A	N	A	N	A
S	K	O	V	E	R	E	R	H	E	E	E
S	N	L	O	V	E	R	E	R	E	E	E
O	E	H	V	E	R	E	R	E	E	E	E
O	N	E	T	E	R	E	R	E	E	E	E
H	E	R	E	R	E	R	E	E	E	E	E
S	H	V	E	R	E	R	E	E	E	E	E
E	R	E	R	E	R	E	E	E	E	E	E
X	E	T	E	R	E	R	E	E	E	E	E
E	R	E	R	E	R	E	E	E	E	E	E
T	T	V	M	E	N	E	R	E	E	E	E
U	V	E	R	E	R	E	E	E	E	E	E

ARTHRITIS?

Is your arthritis care all that you would hope it to be? If not we may be able to help.

Osteoarthritis of Hands - Knees - Hips. Back and Shoulder Problems Rheumatoid Arthritis Psoriatic Arthritis - Gout

Charles A. Birbara, MD
Associate Professor of Medicine, Umass-Chan Medical School
25 Oak Ave., Worcester, MA 01605 508-799-2674
"Committed to Advancing appropriate care to people with arthritis"

SPENCER NEW LEADER

TO PLACE AN AD:
MIKAELA VICTOR
(774) 200-7308
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

LEGAL NOTICES:
(508) 909-4127

SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:
KERRI PETERSON
(508) 909-4103
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:
E-MAIL
obits@stonebridgepress.news
CALL: 508-909-4149

OR send to Spencer New Leader
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

TO SUBMIT A LETTER
TO THE EDITOR:
E-MAIL: news@stonebridgepress.news
OR send to Spencer New Leader
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

SPENCER NEW LEADER
PUBLISHED BY
STONEBRIDGE PRESS

PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
frank@salmonpress.news

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
860-928-1818 EXT. 102
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DINICOLA
508-764-6102
jim@stonebridgepress.news

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
508-909-4101
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
508-909-4105
julie@villagernewspapers.com

The Spencer New Leader (USPS#024-927) (ISSN 1945-6603) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, Inc., 25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical postage paid at Southbridge, MA and additional mailing office(s). POSTMASTER: Send address changesto Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall

Explore Prince Edward Island This Summer or Fall This two-bedroom cottage near Tignish provides sweeping views of the ocean, the beach, and the North Cape lighthouse. Enjoy kayaking, bicycling, walking the beach, swimming in the warmer Gulf Stream waters, and exploring the community of Nail Pond and the many PEI attractions. Full Appliances. The cottage sleeps six comfortably. Weekly rent is only \$1,100. Contact Scott, for more information at 603-254-5032, or scottm@plymouth.edu.

YEAR-ROUND SHORT-TERM RENTAL Egrets Landing-31A - LIGHTHOUSE POINT CONDOMINIUMS - TYBEE ISLAND, GEORGIA

Oceanfront 2-bedroom condo. Gated community with pool. Full Appliances. Ocean views of ships and birds with a short walk to the beach. Bookings Contact: Oceanfront Cottage Rentals. (800) 786-5889 https://www.oceanfrontcottage.com/rentals/egrets-landing-31a

SPENCER ALMANAC
REAL ESTATE

BROOKFIELD
\$412,000, 28 Long Hill Rd, Seymour 3rd, Herbert, to Ritter, Joshua, and Smichinski, Alixandra.

EAST BROOKFIELD
\$480,000, 112 Gleason Ave, Davis, Christopher C, to Boulrice, Abigail, and Minnihan, Steven.

LEICESTER
\$699,900, 502 Pine St, Milford Assembly Of God, and Ogunjobi, Benjamin, to Agyarko, Grace Efu, and Appiah, James.
\$699,000, 707 Stafford St, Kachadoorian, John C, to Desouza, Sheslei Martins.
\$565,000, 213 Henshaw St, Laura D Cortes T, and Cortes, Laura D, to Cipro, Braiden Patrick.
\$525,000, 664 Stafford St, Leclair, Stephanie Louise, to Gosselin, Tyson P.
\$325,000, 27 Winslow Ave, Judins, Lisa, and Macintosh Sr, John V, to 4J Real Estate Group LLC.
\$240,000, 21 Siani Rd, Martin Janet A Est, and Martin, Steven P, to 21 Siani Road Rt, and Duran, Michael.

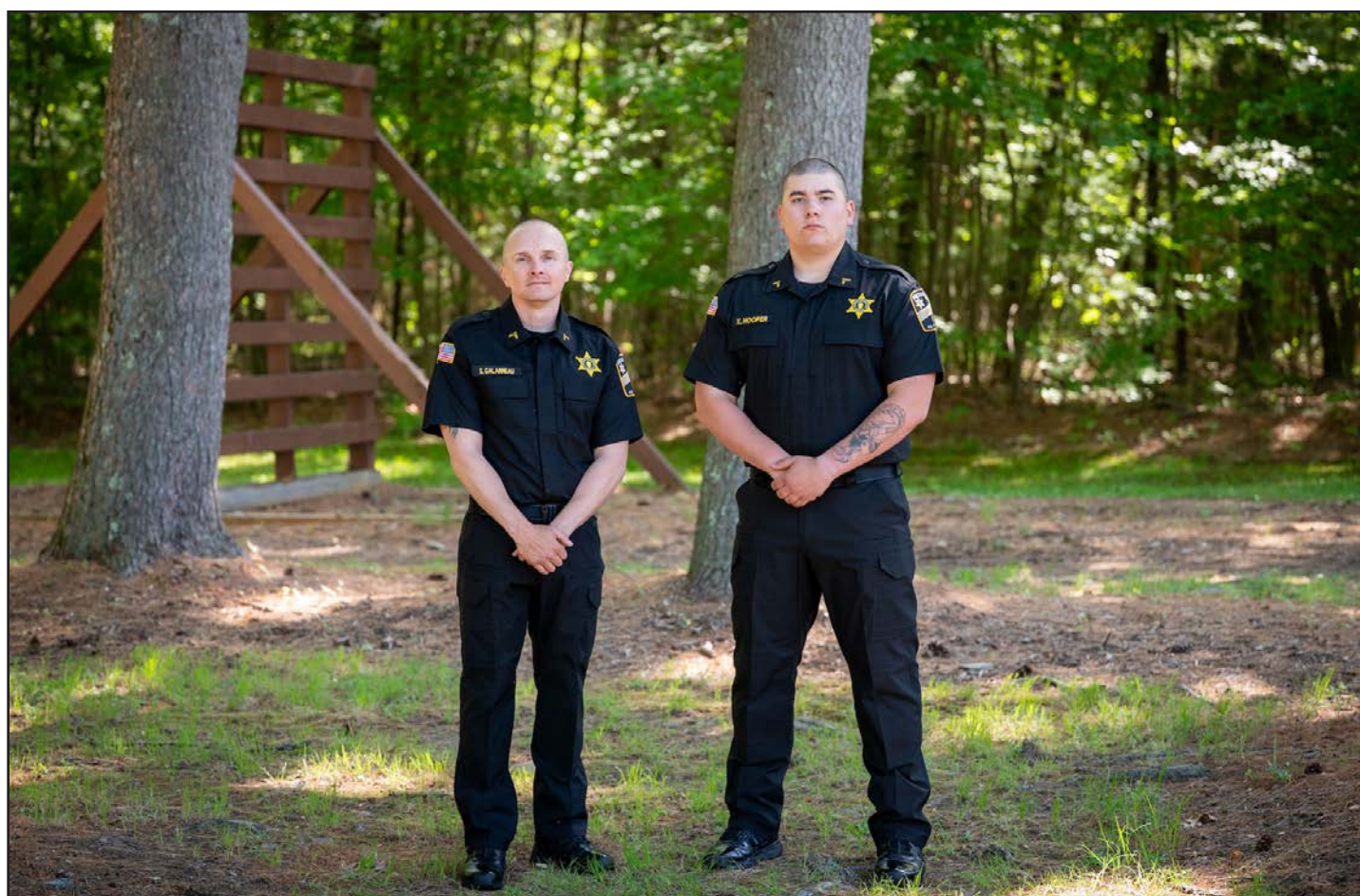
NORTH BROOKFIELD
None

SPENCER
\$690,000, 94 E Charlton Rd, Vowles, Janie Lanza, and Carlson, April, to Wall, Andrew, and Billings, Kerry.
\$225,000, 27 Maple St, Revive Commonwealth LLC, to 27 Maple St LLC.
\$207,500, 27 Maple St, New Silver Lending LLC, to Revive Commonwealth LLC.

WARREN
None

WEST BROOKFIELD
\$350,000, 42 Oak Dr, Dorman, Kevin, to Trombly, Brian, and Dorman, Kiarra.
\$140,000, 188 E Main St, Haskins, Jason D, to Revive Built LLC.

Local residents sworn in as correctional officers



Left to right: Officers Shawn Galarneau of Warren and Xander Hooper of Spencer.

WEST BOYLSTON — Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis recently administered the Correctional Officer Oath to 14 graduates of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office 65th Basic Recruit Training Academy (B.R.T.A.) during a ceremony at the department's Training and Command Center in West Boylston.

Among the graduates were Officers Shawn Galarneau of Warren and Xander Hooper of Spencer, who completed the Sheriff's Office's 13-week correctional officer training program.

The academy prepares recruits for careers at the Worcester County Jail & House of Correction through classroom instruction and hands-on training in areas including de-escalation techniques, defensive tactics, first responder protocols, mental health awareness, suicide prevention, and physical fitness.

This graduating class includes recruits from seven Massachusetts communities, including three active-duty service members or veterans of the United States Army.

"After 13 rigorous weeks of

training, I am proud to present some of the best and brightest future leaders in corrections," said Evangelidis. "I am confident these graduates are prepared to join our ranks and help advance our mission of public safety."

Before entering the academy, applicants must complete a written examination, a physical fitness assessment, a comprehensive background investigation, and a psychological screening. To promote fairness and integrity in the hiring process, Sheriff Evangelidis maintains a policy prohibiting letters

of recommendation from elected officials and provides hiring preference to individuals who have honorably served in the United States Armed Forces.

The Worcester County Sheriff's Office is currently accepting applications for its 66th Basic Recruit Training Academy, which begins in September 2026. For more information, visit: www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com/Careers/Correctional-Officer-Academy/.

Political Advertisement

Let's keep the momentum going!

Re-elect
DONNA McCANCE
LEICESTER
SCHOOL COMMITTEE

Paid for by the candidate
Vote June 9 - Town Hall

P.E.T. of the Week
Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

Meet Otis

Otis is a sweet, gentle boy with a loving personality who enjoys the simple comforts of life—especially curling up in his favorite cat bed and relaxing near his people. He thrives in a calm, cozy environment where he can lounge, nap, and soak up affection. Otis is looking for a home without other cats. He does have a significant heart murmur due to underlying cardiac disease, and he is currently managed on a blood thinner to support his condition. He will need a dedicated caregiver who can continue his medication. Despite his medical need, Otis is a wonderful companion with a warm, easygoing nature, and he brings a quiet kind of joy to those around him.

Second Chance Animal Services
www.secondchanceanimals.org
East Brookfield, MA • 508-867-5525

Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

1205 Main St. Leicester, MA 01524
P: 508-892-9181 • F: 508-892-8791
www.leicesterclinic.com

Wellness exams • Vaccinations • Cat Boarding
Spays, neuters and routine soft tissue surgery
Dentistry • Radiology (Digital)
In-house diagnostic laboratory facilities (I-dexx) • Pharmacy

• Prescription diets Hills, Royal Canin
• Domestic health certificates and much more!

Dr. Colm P. Scanlon
Veterinarian

LHS Culinary hosts breakfast for veterans

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



Courtesy

Bill Moore speaking to veterans at the Wolverine Grill.

LEICESTER — The Leicester High School Culinary program hosted a free breakfast for local veterans on May 19. Superintendent Kustigian thanked LHS students, LHS staff and Project New Hope President Bill Moore for organizing a successful event. He said, "This is just the start and there is much more to come."

Bill Moore (Air Force) credited generous support from the following sponsors:

- Lilac Hedge Farm
- Eller's Restaurant
- Rascals
- A-1 Realty of MA
- Champagne Auto

Moore stated, "Having the support of the entire community allows us to do special events for our veterans because they deserve it." Project New Hope's mission is to foster healing, resilience, and purpose beyond military service—honoring their service while strengthening individuals, families, and communities.

School Committee members and veterans Jim Reinke (Coast Guard) and Paul Messier (Army) were on hand to support the event.

Messier said, "By partnering with Project New Hope, we are creating meaningful opportunities for students to engage directly with the community reinforcing the importance of civic responsibility, gratitude and service."

Jim Reinke, who helped with the construction management of the restaurant concurred and stated, "LHS is building community and highlighting American pride." Chef Andy Aucoin,

assisted by Steven Dahgren, helped students prepare the meals consisting of generous portions of home fries, bacon, scrambled eggs, toast, pancakes, coffee and orange juice.

Vietnam veteran Harry Kustigian (Marines) remarked, "The students are doing a great job, and it is nice to see community support for those who served."

Besides hosting special events, the Wolverine Grill is

open to the public on Thursdays from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. There is always a discount of 15 percent for all veterans active and retired. All veterans are encouraged to let their servers know to receive the discount. Printed receipts from the Grill say, "Thank you for your service."

BEST WINDOW COMPANY
Beautiful, Efficient, Affordable

WINDOWS & DOORS

KUBALA HOME IMPROVEMENT
Your Window & Door Experts

Lifetime Warranty 100% Financing Available

CALL NOW FOR **50% OFF** WINDOW & DOOR INSTALLATION LIMITED-TIME SAVINGS

(508) 784-1550
MA CSL100114 | MA HIC150118 | CT HIC061972

Advertise Here

WANTED TO BUY Antiques & Old Stuff

- Bottles • Crocks •Jugs •Costume Jewelry • Pottery •Toys
- Pewter • Glassware •Sterling Silver • Coins • Gold
- Silver Plated Items •Watches •Typewriters •Sewing Machines
- Tools • Radios • Clocks • Lanterns •Lamps • Kitchenware
- Cookware •Knives •Hunting • Fishing • Military • Masonic
- Video Games • Advertising Signs & Much More

CALL DONALD ROY 860-874-8396



SUMMER-IN-LINE LINE DANCING for Beginners

Thursdays from 5:30 - 8pm (July & August)
Starting July 2, 2026
8 session \$70 •(or pay u go \$10)
at The Hayloft Barn, Sturbridge, MA
To register - email: forty.arroyo@gmail.com
or call 508 461 7247 LL

PEPIN WASTE SERVICE

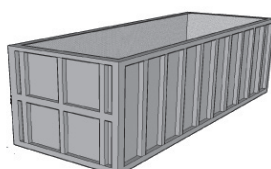
Your Local Roll-Off Specialist

SPRING SPECIAL

10 yd. Rental 1 Ton

\$375

3 sizes available. Call for pricing.



10-15-20 Yd.

508-892-4193 • Leicester, MA
Fully Insured

Roll Off Containers
Weekend Dumpsters for the Homeowner
Houses • Attics • Cellars
Construction Sites



Late 70's, 100% disabled Combat Vet, crippled with extreme mobility issues, requires an individual to Cut grass, shovel and plow.

Year around position for the person with the right fit and RELIABLE!!!!!!

Should have access to mower, and truck with plow. I live on a dirt road in East Brookfield and without some help cannot survive another winter. Above average pay for the right RELIABLE!!!!!! Individual. Call 774-200-1177 for details and appointment to check out the property and job requirements.

RELIABILITY!!!!!! And HONESTY!!!!!!

The only requirements for the job.

Call 774-200-1177 and leave message to contact you

1 8 7 2 - 2 0 0 7



25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550
 Telephone (800) 367-9898
 Fax (508) 764-8015
 www.StonebridgePress.com

FRANK G. CHILINSKI
 PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

EDITORIAL

A milestone worth celebrating

Graduation season arrives every year, but that does not make it any less meaningful.

For the 119 members of Leicester High School's Class of 2026, last week's commencement ceremony marked the end of one chapter and the beginning of another. It was a night filled with pride, accomplishment, reflection and anticipation. Under perfect skies on the turf field, graduates, families, teachers and community leaders gathered to celebrate a milestone that represents far more than a diploma.

High school graduation is one of life's great transitions. It is a moment when years of hard work, challenges, successes and personal growth come together in a single ceremony. It is also a reminder that education is about much more than academics. The lessons students carry forward often have as much to do with resilience, relationships and character as they do with textbooks and exams.

The messages shared during Leicester's commencement reflected that reality.

Student speakers focused not on perfection, but on perseverance. They spoke about embracing change, accepting uncertainty and continuing to move forward even when the path ahead is unclear. Those are lessons that will serve graduates well, whether they are heading to college, entering the workforce, joining the military or pursuing other opportunities.

Perhaps one of the most valuable reminders came from the recognition that failure is not something to fear. In a world that often places tremendous pressure on young people to have every answer immediately, there is wisdom in understanding that growth often comes through mistakes, setbacks and second attempts. Success is rarely a straight line.

The advice offered by school leaders carried a similar theme. Be present. Appreciate opportunities. Maintain a sense of humor. Stay grounded. These may sound like simple ideas, but they become increasingly important as life grows more complicated.

Commencement ceremonies also provide an opportunity to recognize the many people who help students reach this moment. Behind every graduate is a network of support. Parents and guardians have spent years encouraging, guiding and sacrificing. Teachers, counselors, coaches and staff members have invested countless hours helping students learn and grow. Friends and classmates have shared experiences that helped shape one another's journeys.

A graduating class is never the accomplishment of individuals alone. It is the product of an entire community working together.

That community spirit was evident throughout the Leicester ceremony. The presence of local officials, educators, families and residents reflected the pride the town takes in its young people. Communities thrive when they invest in future generations, and Leicester has every reason to be proud of what this year's graduates have achieved.

Of course, the future will not always be easy. Today's graduates are entering a rapidly changing world filled with challenges that previous generations could scarcely imagine. Yet they are also entering a world filled with remarkable opportunities.

The Class of 2026 leaves Leicester High School equipped with knowledge, skills and experiences that will help them navigate whatever comes next. More importantly, they leave with the confidence that comes from completing an important goal and the understanding that they are capable of achieving more.

The diplomas handed out last week represented years of effort. They also represented possibility.

As Leicester's newest graduates take their next steps, they carry with them the support and best wishes of an entire community. Their paths will undoubtedly lead in many different directions, but their accomplishments will always remain a source of pride for Leicester.

Congratulations to the Leicester High School Class of 2026. The future awaits.

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Alternate intelligence

To the Editor:

Much has been mentioned about AI (alternate Intelligence) of late. I must admit, I find much of it a mystery.

For example, I recall the current POTUS promising to release his taxes when the audit was concluded. Eventually, it was released that he had paid \$0 to \$150 over the past few years. I am unsure if it was AI or a lot of write offs that has him paying less than a 77 year old retiree on Social Security who is not wealthy. You can imagine my surprise that the promised release was done without his approval, so he sued the IRS. The interesting part is in charge of both sides of the issue. As I understand it, he dropped a ludicrous \$10 billion damage claim, but would settle for a \$1.8 billion slush fund, which he could dispense as desired to such interests as the Jan. 6 defendants he pardoned. That sure seems like alternate intelligence to me.

This same candidate promised end of Ukraine war on day one, no more useless

middle eastern wars, better cheaper health insurance, lower interest rates, more affordable housing and gasoline. I listened to his Cheshire Cat spokesman on TV this morning, espousing how great things are and it is only Democrats and independents who do not agree.

One fan of this administration thanks AI for expanding his gas tank that only used to hold \$60, to now holding over \$100. I believe alternate intelligence is an apt description.

I think it would be great if the Iran war produces as good an outcome, as Obama achieved by returning the Shahs Iran funds we seized. Of course, as opposed to using their money, we charged billions more to that deficit that was 19 trillion when Trump promised to eliminate it, and well exceed \$40 trillion when he is done. Is that alternate intelligence?

KEN KIMBALL
 BROOKFIELD

Maybe we should try praying for our enemy

To the Editor:

Is Donald Trump our enemy? And are some of us people who pray to God?

Jesus told his followers to pray for their enemies. If Donald Trump is our enemy, maybe we should pray for him, pray for his well-being and for God's guidance for

him in all he does, in whatever way God wishes to guide him. Maybe we should try it, see what happens.

NANCY J. NOWAK
 SPENCER

What General John Kelly learned about how he, and we, can protect America from President Trump

To the Editor:

General Kelly, a rock-solid conservative, long and well served our United States, like for example, the liberal John Kerry.

Born in Boston and the son of a U S Postal Service worker, in 1970, Kelly enlisted in the Marines. Over the next 45 years, in and out of combat, Kelly rose through the ranks to become nominated by Obama's Secretary of Defense — a US Congress confirmed General.

During Trump's first presidential term, Kelly began by serving as the hard-line head of Department of Homeland Security. Then promoted he served as the department's Cabinet Secretary.

Finally in 2017, Trump promoted Kelly to become his White Chief of Staff. Being a very serious person, and having experienced the President's ways for a year and a half, Kelly prepared for his new job in a different way.

He read a book, "The Dangerous Case of Donald Trump: 27 Psychiatrists and Mental Health Experts Assess a President."

A review, by a practicing psychiatrist sums up their conclusions:

Trump Is "one of the most impulsive, arrogant, ignorant, disorganized, chaotic, nihilistic (rejecting morality and truth) self-contradictory, self-important and self-serving."

This 2017 assessment generated much controversy. However now with more than nine years of observing Trump and what he says and does, many more mental health experts agree.

General Kelly and other Trump first term conservative administrative chiefs like Mattis, Tillerson, Conn and many Republicans in Congress came to understand and attempted to control his terrible tendencies. Kelly is quoted as calling him "fascist" thinking.

For this, I and others need to give them, many more thanks than we did at the time.

In this, his second term, Trump has made sure that no such people are around. Rather than the Kelly's and Kerry's of our country he has "Yes Sir" and often corrupt

people like Patel, Hegeseth, Miller, Noem, Musk, Blanche, Kushner, Wycoff, Lutnick, etc. around him.

In reporting a Trump's current corrupt "\$1.8 billion Slush Fund," one respected newspaper article says: "He is destroying pillars of American democracy to empower himself. He claims elections are legitimate only if he wins. He uses federal law enforcement to investigate and prosecute his perceived enemies. He purges his party of officials (like Massie and now Cornyn) who don't (always) agree him. He describes members of the other party and civil society as traitors and enemies. He directs his allies to change election rules to keep his party in power. By now nobody should have illusions about what he is attempting to do."

No longer General Kelly, now It is up to us to save us and our beloved country.

An example of Trump not caring and fellow Americans pushing back is taking place in the small conservative town of Social Circle, Georgia (which voted 75% for Trump). Its' about the size of West Brookfield. Without consulting or caring about the impact on the people, the Trump Administration planned to construct an ICE warehouse prison for up to 10,000 detainees. This is larger than any single prison building in our country.

Reacting the small town has sued the Trump administration for not carrying out an environmental impact assessment, violating a government act that requires government agencies to consider adversely affected interests and reasonable alternatives and because it violates the state public nuisance law meaning it would harm the health, safety and well being of the town's 5,000 people.

Also worthy of mention of, the Trump Administration, with taxpayer dollars, purchased a property assessed at \$29 million for \$128 million.

Trump and his people want to rule like "fascists," not govern America. However, towns and people like those in conservative social circle show us how we can push back.

KEVIN KANE
 SPENCER

Ten financial steps to take before and after your wedding day



FINANCIAL
 FOCUS

TREVOR
 NIELSEN

Getting married is a major decision that comes with a financial to-do list that's arguably more important than choosing a venue or a cake. Talking openly about money can help set

you and your partner up for a stronger future.

What financial conversations should I have with my fiancé?

Head into your marriage with honest conversations about money, including these four topics:

Discuss how your families handled finances when you were young, whether you're a spender or saver and what debt you're willing to take on.

Share how much you each earn, spend, and save. Discuss assets and debts, including mortgages, student or auto loans and credit card balances; your partner's debt can become joint debt after marriage.

Align on a budget as a couple that reflects the life you want to build — where you'll live; what you'll spend on housing, travel and hobbies; and how often you'll review your finances together.

Talk through your goals. Make separate lists of short-, medium- and long-term financial dreams and compare them. You'll likely find some common ground, and where you don't, look for ways to compromise. A financial advisor can help.

Should I ask for a prenup?

Couples with significantly different assets or debts, those expecting large inheritances or those blending families are more likely to want to consider a prenuptial agreement. A prenup outlines how assets, debts, future income, inheritance, and even spousal support will be handled during the marriage and if it ends, but it cannot address child custody.

Should my new spouse and I blend our finances?

Regarding couples blending finances, there's no one right answer. Some couples combine everything; others keep accounts separate and many land somewhere in between. Agree on who pays which bills, how major decisions get made and what spending threshold triggers a check-in.

What financial tasks should we complete after getting married?

Once you're married, these six tasks deserve attention.

Take advantage of the special enrollment period, which typically lasts 30 days after getting married, to update employer benefits such as health insurance. Revisit retirement plan contributions if your combined income has grown.

Review insurance coverage. Combining homeowners or renters, auto and umbrella policies can often reduce costs. Make sure you have enough life insurance.

Update beneficiaries on insurance policies, retirement plans, investment accounts, bank accounts, and real estate.

If you change your name, order multiple copies of your marriage certificate. You'll need them to update your Social Security card, financial accounts, and employer and medical records.

Update your W-4 withholding to reflect your new marital status and ask a tax professional whether filing jointly or separately makes more sense.

Work with an attorney to create or update your will, medical directive, and financial and health care powers of attorney. Your estate plan should reflect your new life together.

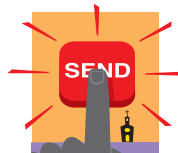
Marriage is a fresh start.

With honest conversations, careful planning, and the right professional support, you can build a financial foundation as strong as your relationship.

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. Edward Jones, Member SIPC.

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

Email Us @



news@stonebridgepress.news

The empty spaces between us

The other day, I arrived early.

Not accidentally. On purpose.

I had an appointment across town, and years of experience have taught me that traffic, road construction, misplaced keys and life's general unpredictability can make even a short trip an adventure. So I left with plenty of time to spare.

Naturally, I arrived about twenty minutes early.

What struck me wasn't the wait. It was what happened next.

Nothing.

I sat in my car.

No radio. No phone. No errand to squeeze in before the appointment. No email to check. No task to accomplish.

For 20 whole minutes, absolutely nothing happened. And it felt strangely unusual.

There was a time when waiting was simply part of life. You waited at the doctor's office. You waited for the barber. You waited for a friend to arrive. You waited for a store clerk to finish helping another customer. Nobody liked waiting, but nobody expected otherwise.

Today, we've become remarkably efficient at eliminating empty moments. Standing in line? Check your phone. Waiting for an appointment? Scroll through headlines. Five spare minutes? Answer brief messages. Ten spare minutes? Watch a video. We're rarely alone with our thoughts anymore.

Now, I'm not criticizing technology. I enjoy many of the same conveniences everyone else does.

LANTERNS ALONG MAIN STREET

By CHARLES

Being able to find information instantly still feels a little miraculous to someone who remembers searching through encyclopedia volumes. But I've begun to wonder whether we've accidentally crowded something out along the way.

The quiet spaces.

The unused minutes.

The little gaps in the day where our minds once wandered.

Some of my best ideas have arrived when I wasn't actively looking for them. Not while working. Not while concentrating. Not while trying to be productive. They showed up while sitting on a park bench, staring out a window or taking a slow walk with no destination in particular.

For reasons I don't fully understand, the mind seems to do important work during those moments. It sorts things out. It makes connections. It notices details. It remembers things that matter.

I suspect that's one reason older generations often appeared comfortable sitting quietly on a porch for an hour. As a young man, I never understood it. How could someone sit there doing nothing?

Now I realize they probably weren't doing nothing at all.

They were thinking. Observing. Reflecting. Watching the world go by.

Those activities may not produce anything measurable, but they are hardly a waste of time. In fact, they may be among the most

valuable uses of time we have.

The older I get, the more I appreciate the difference between being busy and being occupied. Busy is rushing from one thing to another. Occupied can mean simply being present where you are. One creates motion. The other creates perspective.

That afternoon, sitting in my car with twenty unexpected minutes to spare, I watched people come and go. A man walked across the parking lot carrying a box that looked heavier than he expected. A woman stopped to help an older gentleman reach something that had fallen. Two strangers held a door for one another and exchanged a smile.

Nothing remarkable. Nothing that would ever make a headline.

Yet those ordinary moments felt surprisingly interesting once I slowed down enough to notice them.

Maybe that's what those empty spaces in our day are really for. They give us a chance to pay attention. Not to a screen. Not to a schedule. Not to the next thing demanding our attention. To the world directly in front of us.

When my appointment time finally arrived, I went inside and got on with the day. But I've thought about those twenty quiet minutes ever since.

Most of us spend a lot of effort trying to fill every empty space.

Perhaps now and then it's worth leaving one empty.

You never know what might find room to enter.

Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club taking part in A.R.R.L. Field Day

WEST BROOKFIELD — The Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club (QVARC) will be participating in the 2026 A.R.R.L. Field Day on Saturday, June 27, and Sunday, June 28, operating from 2 p.m. Saturday through 2 p.m. Sunday on the West Brookfield Town Common. The public is warmly invited to visit between 2-6 p.m. on Saturday and between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday to explore the world of amateur radio firsthand.

Field Day is the largest on-air amateur radio exercise in the United States, bringing together tens of thousands of licensed operators to demonstrate the reliability, resilience, and public-service value of amateur radio. For QVARC, it's also a chance to welcome neighbors, families, students, and anyone curious about radio, electronics, or STEM activities.

Visitors will be able to watch live radio contacts being made across the coun-

try and around the world, explore the equipment and antennas used for emergency and off-grid communication, and even sit behind a radio to make a contact themselves. Club members will be on hand to explain how amateur radio supports communities during storms, power outages, and public-service events, and why these skills remain relevant in today's interconnected world.

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, recently reflected on the long tradition behind Field Day, noting that "Amateur radio has been part of the American story since the earliest days of wireless communication... For more than a century, the Amateur Radio Service has advanced the nation's communications capabilities by fostering technical innovation, developing a pool of trained and skilled operators, strengthening emergency and public service communications, and promoting international goodwill."

He emphasized that these contributions show why amateur radio remains "a uniquely resilient and volunteer-driven national resource."

QVARC is proud to carry that tradition forward here in the Quaboag Valley. Our members include hobbyists, engineers, emergency volunteers, and newcomers who simply enjoy learning something hands-on and practical. The club meets on the last Tuesday of each month, except for July and August, and welcomes anyone interested in getting involved or learning more about the hobby.

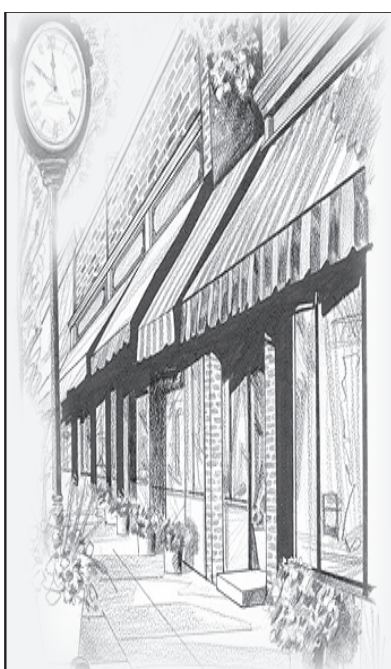
Whether you're interested in emergency preparedness, electronics, shortwave communication, or just want to see what amateur radio is all about, Field Day is the perfect time to stop by. Everyone is welcome, and no experience is required.

For more information about the Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club, please visit www.qvarc.com.

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.



Community Connection

PLUMBING

JOHN DALY PLUMBING
The Homeowners Plumber, SINCE 1988

Faucets, Toilets, Pipe Repair, Garbage Disposals, Sinks, Vanities, Shower Valves, Outside Hose Connections, New Kitchen Sink Strainers and Undersink Re-Pipes, Sump Pumps, Sink Drain Cleaning.

Buy What You Like And I Will Install.

Fully Licensed And Insured, License Number MPL-21763-J
Call 508 304 7816 • jdrainman714@aol.com

For Advertising Information Call 774-200-7308 email: mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

Charlton Oil Propane
508-248-9797

Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL.	PROPANE	PRICE PER GAL.
0-50	\$4.99	301-500	\$2.25
50-75	\$3.49	500 PLUS	\$2.10
76-150	\$2.95	Duel Fuel	\$3.75
151-300	\$2.55	Drop off Tanks	\$3.00

Tanks Filled to 80%
Driver Discretion

DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!
Thursday price 5/28/26 was \$4.59 per gallon*
100 gallon minimum
ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE AT www.charltonoil.com

"Call Us First!"
*prices subject to change

NORTHEAST PIZZA is OUR PIZZA Passion

Fresh ingredients, time-honored recipes, and friendly service. Since 1997

Open 7 Days a Week • We Deliver

JUNE SPECIALS

Ham Pizza or Calzone Sm. \$6.99 Lg. \$9.99	Turkey Sub Sm. 8" \$5.99 Lg. 12" \$6.99 Add bacon \$1 more	Small Cheese Pizza EVERYDAY 11-4 only \$5.00! NO LIMIT!
--	---	--

Cannot be combined with other specials or coupons.

Leicester: 1205 Main St. 508-892-9276
West Brookfield: 208 W. Main St. 508-867-9567

~ Full bar & full liquor license at our Leicester Location ~
~ Serving Beer & Wine at both Locations ~
www.northeastpizza.com

Burdett's Trash Pickup LLC

"Why pay more it's only trash"
508-612-8093
burdettstrashpickupllc.com

Family owned/operated servicing our community for 15+ years -
Spencer, Leicester, Ware, Warren and all of the Brookfields.

Morin JEWELERS Fine Jewelry & Gifts
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

WE BUY GOLD

Specializing in Custom Designs
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA
moringewelers.com • 508-764-7250
Located at CVS Plaza

Crooked Creek Farm
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

Stock up now!

Retail Cuts, Quarter, & Half sides of Beef Available!

To purchase your meat packages
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308
www.crookedcreekfarmma.org

FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!



news@stonebridgepress.news



Brookfields Lions Club honors members for outstanding service and humanitarian contributions

DURKIN & SONS
Trucking Co.



Trash Removal
Weekly Pickups
Cleanouts
~ Reliable ~

www.durkintrucking.com
Spencer
508-885-4499

Courtesy
At right:
Melvin Jones Fellowship Award Winners Geno Waugh, Philip Bricault, Steven Willette, and Jeffrey Hayes, with Brookfields Lions Club Membership Chair, Andy Caron (left) and President Bill Cass (right).

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

Email Us @

news@stonebridgepress.news







Joseph J. Carmada Fellowship Award Winners Marc Kokansky, William Fullam, Douglas Morrison, and Paul Thompson, with Brookfields Lions Club Membership Chair, Andy Caron (left) and President Bill Cass (right).

Sealy
FIND YOUR BEST NIGHT'S SLEEP TODAY

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

SPECIAL SAVINGS!

 Crown Jewel by Sealy® Jewel Nile Queen Mattress Only \$399*	 Crown Jewel by Sealy® Opal House Firm or Plush Queen Mattress Only \$649*
 Upgrade to an Adjustable Base	 Crown Jewel by Sealy® Royal Cove Firm or Plush Queen Mattress Only \$799*

CARRYING THE TOP BRANDS

TEMPUR-PEDIC | Sealy | STEARNS & FOSTER



LAYAWAY • FREE DELIVERY & REMOVAL • FREE FINANCING AVAILABLE*

SUNDEEN FURNITURE

241 Providence Rd. Whitinsville, MA 01588 (508) 234-8777

Mon.-Wed. 9:30 AM-6 PM
Thurs.-Fri. 9:30 AM-7 PM
Sat. 9:30 AM-6 PM/Sun. 11 AM-5 PM

*Terms and conditions apply. See store for details. Copyright 2025 Sealy, Inc. All rights reserved.

TOP-RATED, LOCAL ROOFING CONTRACTOR SERVING CHARLTON AND THE SURROUNDING COMMUNITIES.
Financing available and major credit cards accepted.



ANDREW PORTER
CONTRACTING, INC



ROOFING NO ONE DOES IT BETTER

It's a bold statement. But one that we proudly stand behind—because **trust, quality and affordability** come standard with every job. No gimmicks, no markups and no shortcuts. Just good, honest work.

Call or text 774-452-2129, or visit APCROOFS.com.

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The Brookfields Lions Club recognized eight members for their dedication to community service and humanitarian efforts during the club's annual Awards Banquet held Thursday, May 21, at Hardwick Crossing Country Club in Gilbertville.

Club President William Cass presented Melvin Jones Fellowship Awards to Lion Philip Bricault, Lion Jeffrey Hayes, Lion Geno Waugh and Lion Steven Willette in recognition of their exceptional service and commitment to Lionism.

The Melvin Jones Fellowship, established in 1973 by Lions Clubs International, is considered one of the organization's highest honors. Named after Lions founder Melvin Jones, the award recognizes outstanding humanitarian service and support of the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF).

"Within Lionism, the Melvin Jones Fellowship symbolizes a person who truly embodies the Lions motto, 'We Serve,'" said Cass. "These recipients have consistently gone above and beyond through leadership, community involvement and dedication to helping others."

personalized plaque and lapel pin, recipients of the fellowship also received congratulatory letters from Fabricio Oliveira, LCIF chairperson, recognizing their role in supporting humanitarian causes throughout the world.

The letter noted that LCIF-funded programs support efforts to fight diabetes, preventable blindness and childhood cancer, while also responding to natural disasters, feeding the hungry, empowering young people and protecting the environment.

Membership Chair Lion Andy Caron also presented the Lions District 33A Joseph J. Camarda Fellowship Award to Lion William Fullam, Lion Marc Kokansky, Lion Douglas Morrison, and Lion Paul Thompson.

The Joseph J. Camarda Fellowship, established in 1986 by the District 33A Sight & Hearing Conservation & Treatment Fund, honors individuals who have made significant contributions to sight and hearing initiatives throughout Massachusetts. Named in memory of Past International Director Joseph J. Camarda, the fellowship recognizes exceptional humanitarian service and dedication to improving vision and hearing health in local communities.

Recipients receive a personalized plaque and lapel pin, while fellowship contributions support programs that provide assistance for individuals facing vision and hearing challenges throughout District 33A communities.

"The Lions Club has a long tradition of recognizing members who quietly make a difference year after year," said Caron. "These awards reflect the spirit of service and compassion that continues to define Lionism in our local communities."

In addition to a

DON'T BUY 'TIL YOU SEE US!

GREAT SELECTION! **TV SALE!**

at **THE SPAGS OF SPENCER!**

GREAT SELECTION OF GAS GRILLS!

Great Selection! **A/C's**

MATTRESS SALE!
TWIN: \$199 (REG. \$299) / FULL: \$269 (REG. \$499) / QUEEN: \$299 (REG. \$599)

FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER REG. \$449.99 \$329.99	G.E. STOVE w/AIR FRY REG. \$899.99 \$699.99	SMOOTH-TOP STOVE REG. \$699.99 \$599.99	21 CU. FT. FREEZER REG. \$999.99 \$799.99
G.E. 27 CU. FT. FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR REG. \$1999.99 \$1499.99	5 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER REG. \$699.99 \$499.99	AMANA WASHER OR DRYER REG. \$599.99 \$489.99	ENERGY STAR 18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR REG. \$699.99 \$599.99
FAMOUS-MAKER OVER-THE-STOVE MICROWAVE REG. \$249.99 \$229.99	LG WASHER OR DRYER Front Load - REG. \$1599.99 \$1,399.99	MAYTAG DELUXE WASHER OR DRYER REG. \$699.99 \$499.99	FRIGIDAIRE SIDE BY SIDE REG. \$1,499.00 \$1099.99

BIKE SALE!

1000's IN STOCK! WE REPAIR BIKES!

E-BIKES IN STOCK!

SPRING BIKE TUNE-UP: **\$49.99!**

INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000!

WHITCO

140 MAIN STREET, SPENCER, MA
508.885.9343
SEE WHITCOSALES.COM
FOR 100's OF DEALS!

Store Hours: Mon. thru Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 9am-8pm • Sun: 12 Noon-7pm

Where Everyone Goes For Their Piece Of The Earth!

SPRING IS HERE! LANDSCAPING STONE

Purple • Red • White
Light Gray • Dark Gray
Greige • Blue

- Construction Stone
- Title V Sand • Utility Sand
- Concrete Sand • Pool Liner Sand
- Chicken Coop Sand • Silt
- Stone Dust • Crushed Gravel
- Crushed Asphalt
- Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

SELF PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!

HOME OWNER FRIENDLY
NO MINIMUMS

Bond 508-885-6100
508-885-2480

Sand, Gravel & Asphalt

98 N. Spencer Rd., Rte. 31N, Spencer, MA
www.bondsandandgravel.com

Spencer library plans month of history, crafts, comedy and Dancing Witches

SPENCER — The Richard H. Sugden Public Library is inviting residents of all ages to enjoy a diverse lineup of programs this June, featuring everything from costumed dancing witches and local history presentations to hands-on crafting and live comedy.

The month begins with a unique outdoor performance by the Southern New England Dancing Witches, a Connecticut-based dance troupe known for its entertaining and family-friendly performances.

The Dancing Witches will appear at Powder Mill Park on Saturday, June 6, from 1 to 2 p.m. A rain date has been scheduled for Sunday, June 7. Organizers encourage attendees to wear witch hats, whether created during a recent Crafting with Diane program or brought from home. Costumes are also encouraged.

The event is open to all ages and is funded in part through a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural

Council.

Local history will take center stage on Thursday, June 11, when Spencer Fire Chief Michael Parsons visits the library to discuss one of the town's most significant recent events.

Beginning at 6 p.m., Parsons will share stories and insights about the fire that destroyed the First Congregational Church of Spencer in January 2024. The presentation will offer residents an opportunity to learn more about the response to the devastating

blaze and its impact on the community.

Creative residents will have another opportunity to make something special during Crafting with Diane on Thursday, June 18.

The workshop, titled "Create a Patriotic Star," will be held from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the library. Participants will create a decorative patriotic-themed craft suitable for displaying during summer holidays and community celebrations. Advance registration is encouraged.

The month concludes with a theatrical performance that promises plenty of laughs.

The Delvena Theatre Company will present "Nun of This and Nun of That!" on Thursday, June 25, at 6 p.m. at the Spencer American Legion, 175 Main St.

The interactive comedy features two actresses portraying Catholic sisters attending the 50th class reunion of St. Bartholomew's Parochial School's Class of 1957. Audience members become part of the reunion as the sisters reminisce about school days, reconnect with former classmates, and share humorous stories from years gone by.

Organizers describe the production as a light-hearted comedy filled with nostalgia and audience participation.

Like the Dancing Witches performance, the Delvena Theatre Company presentation is funded in part through a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Library officials encourage residents to take advantage of the varied programming, which offers opportunities for entertainment, creativity, education and community engagement throughout the month.

For information about the June programs or to register for the Patriotic Star craft workshop, contact the Richard H. Sugden Public Library at 508-885-7513, ext. 1, or visit the library at 8 Pleasant St.

LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

BROOKFIELD
Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
St. Mary's Church
4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506
Distribution: Wednesday 9:30 AM-11 AM;
Saturday 9:30 AM-11 AM

CHARLTON
Chip - In Food Pantry
McKinstry Building
37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507
Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

St. Joseph's Church, Charlton
Tuesday 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Wednesday 9-11 a.m.
Everyone is welcome.

LEICESTER
Leicester Food Pantry
St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish
759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

NORTH BROOKFIELD
St. Joseph's Food Pantry
Located in the church hall at 296 North Main St. North Brookfield
Distribution is the 1st Thursday of the month from 5:00-6:30PM
the 3rd Thursday of the month from 12 Noon-1:15PM
Any questions should be directed to the Rectory office 508 867-6469.
St. Joseph's Food Pantry is a community partner affiliated with the Worcester County Food Bank.

First Congregational Church
North Brookfield.
Open every Thursday 10 - 12
located in the church office building at 144 North Main Street.

OXFORD
Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf
Oxford Community Center
4 Maple Road
Oxford, MA 01540
Distribution: Thursday 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

ROCHDALE
The Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry
Greenville Baptist Church
674 Pleasant St.
Rochdale, MA
Distribution: Every Monday from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. Open to everyone.

SOUTHBRIDGE
St. John Paul II Parish Food Pantry
279 Hamilton St., Southbridge
Tuesday 3-5 p.m., Wednesday 9-11 a.m.
(508) 765-0245

Southbridge Food Share
Located at Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, lower level
446 Hamilton St.
Southbridge, MA 01550
Email:
Southbridgefoodshare.org@gmail.com
Phone: 508-764-6583
Open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 10:00 am to 11:15 am.

SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD - RESIDENTS ONLY
Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry
60 Maple St. Spencer, MA 01562
Distribution: Thursday 10 AM-12 Noon

STURBRIDGE
Saint Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry.
Located in the St. Anne Church basement,
16 Church Street, Fiskdale, MA 01518
Stocked by donations
Contact: 508-347-6398

UXBRIDGE
Fellowship Church in Uxbridge.
All are Welcome!
Manna Food Pantry
Open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays.
6 to 8 pm (Doors open at 5:45)
Located on the lower level, right-hand side of the building.
647 Douglas St., Uxbridge, MA

WEBSTER
Webster-Dudley Food Share
4 Church St #2
Webster, MA 0570
Distribution: Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 - 11:00 am. Open to Webster and Dudley residents.
Please call ahead: 508-943-9171

WEST BROOKFIELD
Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry
First Congregational Church
36 North Main Street,
W.Bookfield, MA 01585
Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM
Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM

Elizabeth Manfield of Spencer inducted into Hofstra University's chapter of Phi Beta Kappa

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Elizabeth Manfield of Spencer was one of 49 Hofstra University students recently inducted into Phi Beta Kappa.

Elizabeth, a member of Hofstra's class of 2026, is majoring in Psychology and Criminology at Hofstra.

Phi Beta Kappa is considered America's most prestigious honor society, with the top 10 percent of liberal arts and science graduates invited to join. There are fewer than 300 chapters of the honor society in the country.

To be considered for election to Phi Beta Kappa, a student must attain a high GPA while taking broad and rigorous coursework in the liberal arts and sciences. There is no fixed GPA required, nor is a high GPA alone sufficient for election. In making its decision, the chapter examines a student's entire transcript.

Hofstra University's primary mission is to provide a quality education to its students in an environment that encourages, nurtures, and supports learning. At Hofstra, new ideas take shape through collaboration, engagement, and interaction. Hofstra students create their success with small classes and dedicated faculty, alongside a beautiful campus, plus all the opportunities of New York City within easy reach.

Bring your family's memorial back to its original beauty. Have it cleaned by us professionally.

PEPIN GRANITE INC
MONUMENTS



Specializing In:

Personalized Monuments, Markers, Cemetery Lettering, Cleaning, and Bronze Markers

Call For Appointment

508-892-4193

Family Owned/Operated • Indoor/Outdoor Display
Rt. 9 • 1500 Main St. • Leicester, MA 01524
Leo Pepin Jr. • Chantelle Pepin



LEGALS

Brookfield Conservation Commission Notice of Public Hearing

Pursuant to MGL c. 131, §40, the Wetlands Protection Act, the Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing to consider a **Notice of Intent** filed by **CEP Real Estate LLC for a single-family home, septic system, well, and driveway at 2 Rice Corner Rd Lot D-1R, Brookfield, MA.** Portions of the proposed work lie within wetland resource areas or buffer zone. The hearing will be held in the **Banquet Hall of the Brookfield Town Hall, 6 Central Street, Brookfield, MA on Wednesday, June 17, 5:30 PM** or as soon thereafter as can be heard. The filing is available for public review in the Town Clerk's office during business hours.
June 5, 2026

Notice of Public Hearing

The North Brookfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 6:15PM at the Senior Center, 29 Forest St., North Brookfield, MA. Public opinion will be received for 91 Oakham Road, regarding a proposed large scale commercial solar energy facility (Bylaw Section VI.F.1-5. and Bylaw Section VI.G.1-5.) per the North Brookfield Zoning Bylaws. The property is in the R-66 District and requires a special permit and site plan review. Any person interested in being heard or seeking information should appear at the above stated time and place. A copy of the proposed per-

mit application is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, 215 North Main St., North Brookfield, MA.
William King, Chair
June 5, 2026
June 12, 2026

Notice of Public Hearing— Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a **Public Hearing on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, and the hearing will be conducted in person and remotely on the following items starting at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:**
Public Hearing Stormwater and Scenic Road Permit— Applicant: Land Planning, Inc.; Owner: Bedrosian Realty Trust; Location: William Casey Road, Spencer, MA (street address not yet assigned), Assessor's Map R01-18-01. The applicant is seeking a Stormwater Permit under Article 14 (Stormwater Management Bylaw) of the Spencer General Bylaws and a Scenic Road Permit under M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 15C, to build a new single-family home with septic, well, and a new driveway. The property is located within the Rural Residential (RR) zoning district.
Public Hearing Stormwater and Scenic Road Permit— Applicant: Land Planning, Inc.; Owner: Bedrosian Realty Trust; Location: William Casey Road, Spencer, MA (street address not yet assigned), Assessor's Map

R01-18-02. The applicant is seeking a Stormwater Permit under Article 14 (Stormwater Management Bylaw) of the Spencer General Bylaws and a Scenic Road Permit under M.G.L. Chapter 40, Section 15C, to build a new single-family home with septic, well, and a new driveway. The property is located within the Rural Residential (RR) zoning district.
May 29, 2026
June 5, 2026

Oxford Rochdale Sewer District Invitation for Priced Proposals

The Board of Sewer Commissioners is requesting Priced Proposals for the purchase of Progressive Cavity Pump and Ancillaries. Priced Proposal documents may be obtained at the Oxford Rochdale Sewer District offices, 28 Comins Road, North Oxford, MA 01542, online by emailing garystine6641@yahoo.com or by calling 413-896-7797 between 9 A.M. and 2 P.M. after **Thursday May 28, 2026.** Oxford Rochdale Sewer District will receive Priced Proposals at 28 Comins Road North Oxford, MA 01542 until **10 A.M. Tuesday June 30, 2026** at which time Priced Proposal documents will be publicly opened and read. Priced Proposals for Progressive Cavity Pump and Ancillaries will be opened and recorded for each bidder.
The Board of Sewer Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all Priced Proposals deemed not in the best interest of the Oxford Rochdale Sewer District.

Board of Sewer Commissioners
Oxford Rochdale Sewer District
June 5, 2026
June 12, 2026

Notification of Aquatic Treatment – Lake Lashaway

Lake Lashaway in East Brookfield and North Brookfield will be treated with herbicides to control nuisance aquatic vegetation on the following dates:
June 17, 2026 (SONAR treatment) June 17, 2025 (invasives treatment #2), August 12, 2025 (invasives treatment #3, if required)
Signage will be posted around lake access sites for each treatment. The use of the lake will be restricted as follows for each of the dates above:
Swimming, boating and fishing (1 day)
Livestock watering (Agricultural) (1 day)
Direct drinking (2 days)
Irrigation (5 days)
The work is being funded by lake resident donation and the Lake Lashaway Community Association, Inc., pursuant to permits/licenses issued by Mass Dept. of Environmental Protection (File Nos. 149-0165 & 244-0121) with approval from the East Brookfield & North Brookfield Conservation Commissions. Work is being performed under contract with The Pond and Lake Connection Lake Management, 1112 Federal Rd., Brookfield, CT 06804.
June 5, 2026

Louise Featherstone named to President's List at Jax State

JACKSONVILLE, Ala. — Louise Featherstone of Linlithgow, has been named to the President's List at Jacksonville State University for their outstanding academic performance over the Spring 2026 semester. To be named to the President's List, students must earn a perfect 4.0 GPA for the semester while completing at least 12 hours of GPA course credit.

About Jacksonville State University
Founded in 1883 as a state teachers' college, Jacksonville State University has grown from humble beginnings into the Alabama regional university with the highest percentage of accredited programs. Located in the Appalachian foothills midway between Birmingham and Atlanta, Jax State offers more than 150 courses of study, including over 40 online programs, at the undergraduate and graduate levels. To learn more, visit www.jsu.edu, call 1-800-231-JAX1, or e-mail jaxfacts@jsu.edu.

Leicester Knights of Columbus hosting family dinner Wednesday

LEICESTER — Leicester Knights of Columbus at 91 Manville St., Leicester, will have a Family Dinner on Wednesday, June 10 at 6 p.m. Menu choices are Beef Tips or Baked Fish. Cost is \$15, and includes Salad, Choice of Entree, Dessert and Coffee. Call Don at 508-615-8484 or email at ohno7g7@yahoo.com by Monday, June 8 for reservations. All are welcome.

Leicester Garden Club to hold annual plant sale Saturday

LEICESTER — The Leicester Garden Club will hold their annual plant sale on Saturday, June 6; hours are 9 a.m. to noon. The sale will be held at the Leicester Rod and Club located at 1015 Whittemore St., located in Leicester, rain or shine.

The sale will feature many beautiful pots of annuals, vegetable plants, perennials and many other plants. This is your chance to pick up that plant you need for your yard. All are welcome.

www.StonebridgePress.com

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

Email Us @



news@stonebridgepress.news

Home Spring Auto

AUTO BODY / REPAIRS

KEARNS COLLISION REPAIR
Since 1969
Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers

Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal
Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services
Warrantied Work & Repairs
Diagnostics • A/C Repair
Tune Ups & Engine Repair
Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS
Alignments • Tires...and more

Major Insurance Referral Shop
Honoring All Insurance Estimates

1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)
Northbridge, MA 01534
Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231
www.kearnscollision.com
Fully Certified • RS# 2678

CONTRACTING

Indoor/Outdoor Remodeling
Decks~ Kitchens ~Bathrooms
Door~ Bedrooms ~ Floors ~Painting ~ Etc.
Landscaping
Mowing ~ Leaf Cleanups Plowing
Hedge Trimming ~ Stone/Mulch beds
Tree Work ~Etc

Owner: Seth Goudreau
774-402-4694
Prices beating the competition
Free Estimates Fully Insured

Black Diamond CONTRACTING

LAWNMOWERS

WORCESTER COUNTY LAWNMOWER
ALWAYS THE BEST SERVICE

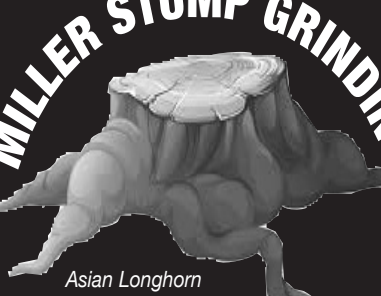


Snowblower & Generator Repair
Tractor Service
Tune-Ups & Repairs
Pickup & Delivery

508-987-2775
492 Main St Oxford
WORCESTER COUNTY LAWNMOWER.COM

Stump Grinding

MILLER STUMP GRINDING



Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified
Fully Insured • Free Quotes
REASONABLE RATES
PROMPT SERVICE
ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER
OWNERS / OPERATORS
508-688-2159

CHIMNEYS/MASONRY

CHIMNEY CLEANINGS
Starting at \$99
ALL KINDS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE WORK
New & Repairs, Repointing, Rebuilding, Re-lining, Waterproofing, Foundation & Chimney Repair, New & Stair Repair, Concrete Walkways, Stonewalls, New Roofs, Construction & Carpentry.
Need to get it done? Call me!
-FREE Estimates-
Quality Chimney
(508)752-1003

ELECTRICIAN

COLONNA ELECTRIC LLC
Lic.# A1-8844

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL ELECTRICAL, GENERATORS, FIRE ALARM & EV CHARGERS

Call (508) 234-4889

GUTTERS

GUTTER CLEANINGS
30+ years exp Licensed & Insured

508-867-2877
508-754-9054
A. Eagle Gutters
aeaglegutters.com

Home Improvement

BONETTI'S Home Improvement
Roofing
Siding
Decks
Remodeling
Windows
Doors
Basement Finishing
Gutters Cleaning
Pressure Washing
Painting Landscaping

Over 25 Years Experience
Residential Specialist
Licensed and Insured
128231
508-347-4906
Cell 508-688-0072

MASONRY

C & J MASONRY HARDSCAPE
RETAINING WALLS
OUTDOOR LIVING CONSTRUCTION

Chimney Repair
Foundation Repair
Steps, Patios
Water Proofing
Walkways
Stone Veneer
Brick and Block Work
Cord Wood

Brian French
(413)222-5542
cjmasonryhardscape@gmail.com

Got Space?

we do.

Contact Mikaela Today
774-200-7308
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

GJ LEDUC PAINTING

Interior and Exterior
Power Washing
Wallpapering
General Repair
Fully Insured
Over 40+ Years Experience
508-764-8548
774-230-8373

PAINTING

Scott Bernard's PRECISION PAINTERS
Finest Craftsmanship Since 1979

Interior-Exterior Paints, Stains, Wallpaper and Fine Faux Finishes

Satisfaction Guaranteed
Free Estimates
774.452.0321

Plumbing

MIKE LAMBERT'S PLUMBING & HEATING INC.
Commercial, Residential, New Construction

369 Main St, Ste 4
Spencer, MA
1-833-969-4330
Fully Insured

MIKELAMBERTSPANDH@GMAIL.COM

ROOFING

David Barbale ROOFING
Roofing/Gutters Repair Work

Fully Licensed and Insured

MA LIC #CS069127
MA HIC. LIC #1079721
INS. # CAC032585

C: 508-397-6709
O: 508-248-6709
davidbarbale.com

Roofing

SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING
Read our reviews at the Better Business Bureau. A+ rating and accredited member since 2009.

Call Bill Toll-Free 1-866-961-Roof
508-765-0100
Lifetime material warranty & 25 yr. labor warranty available

MA Reg #153955
CSL #095459
CT-HIC #0638641
Fully Insured, Free Estimates
Family Owned and Operated
Now Accepting All Major Credit Cards

**For Advertising Information, Call 774-200-7308
email:mikaela@stonebridge press.news**

Advertise on this page for one low price!
Get 7 papers.
Call 774-200-7308

BAND
continued from page A1
against top-tier middle school music programs from across the region. Evaluated by a panel of expert adjudicators, the band received the festival's highest honor for its exceptional tone, technical precision, and expressive performance.
"This fourth consecutive

gold medal is a testament to our students' incredible work ethic and passion for music," said Superintendent of Schools, Paul Haughey. "Achieving this level of excellence year after year requires immense dedication from the students, immense support from our families, and a commitment to the arts from everyone in our school district!"

The Great East Music Festival provides school ensembles with the opportunity to perform before acclaimed music educators and receive constructive evaluations to foster musical growth. Knoll Trail Middle School's consistent top placement cements its reputation as a premier institution for foundational music education.
About Knox Trail Middle

School
Knox Trail Middle School is dedicated to fostering academic excellence, creativity, and community engagement. Located in Spencer, the school offers robust arts and athletic programs alongside a rigorous core curriculum.

BLACK
continued from page A1
of roles. He started his tenure in 1960 with the Civil Defense Unit and served for 50 years rising through the ranks to Captain in 1974, Assistant Chief in 1981, and finally Fire Chief in 1984 eventually retiring in 2010.

Black was honored by the Board of Selectmen on May 19 with a moment of silence and a reading of a special tribute by the newest board member Peter Orsi, who himself is a retired firefighter and the town's current EMS Director.

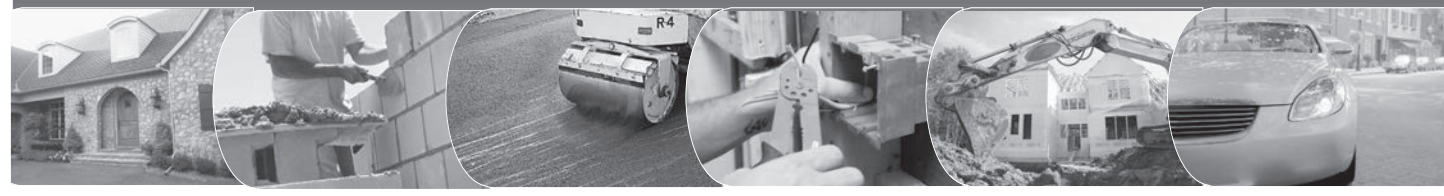
"Throughout his long and distinctive career, Chief Black earned the respect of his fellow firefighters and our community which he faithfully served," said Orsi. "For decades, Jim worked tirelessly to keep the residents of North Brookfield safe. Under his leadership, the fire department experienced significant growth and advancement throughout the '80s and '90s, helping strengthen emergency services for generations to come."

Orsi noted that Black's career is a rare one of longevity and dedication not just to the field of firefighting and public safety, but also to a single town and department.

"Fifty years is unheard of in the fire service," Orsi explained. "I don't think people realize that's 50 years of trainings, 50 years of meetings, 50 years of brush fires, 50 years of terrible car accidents and structure fires. What he had seen in his lifetime over a 50-year career helping the residents of this town, that's unheard of and a lot of people had a lot of respect for him."

The North Brookfield Fire Department posted a tribute honoring Black on social media recognizing him as a committed and dedicated leader during his time with the department.

LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS



Got Space?
we do.
Contact Mikaela Today
774-200-7308
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news
stonebridgepress.news

Jonathan Pasquale
Arborist on Duty
Jonathan.Pasquale@gmail.com
JD PASQUALE TREE
508-769-5489
Stockbridge Alumni
Brookfield, MA
Insured

ASPHALT PAVING
"Quality counts when no one is looking."
Asphalt paving for over 50 years!
A MEMBER FOR 25+ YEARS
Bill Keyes
Driveways, Parking Lots, Pipe Work, Drains, Seal Coating, Free Estimates
SPENCER, MA.
774-261-5181
ESTABLISHED 1963
KeyesPaving.com | 508-347-7499
Fully Insured • Owner/Operator

AUTO & TIRE
Country Auto Body, Inc.
FULL DETAILING Inside & Out
Full Auto Body & Automotive Repair
Oil Changes | Brakes | Batteries | Tires
Check Engine Light
Interstate Batteries in stock
Batteries & Antifreeze Testing
Free w/oil change
Featuring: All Major Brand Name Tires
www.countryautobodyinc.com
69 Donovan Rd., North Brookfield, MA
508-867-9736

BOAT OWNERS
ONSITE CANVAS MARINE
Tops • Interiors • Covers
Marc Bouvier 508-867-8072

HOUSE CLEAN OUTS
CLEAN OUT SOLUTIONS
House Clean Outs • Junk Removal
Basements • Garages • Attics
Whole Houses • Hot Tubs, Pools, Sheds Demo & Removal
Serving Central Mass
Call Skip Gervais
West Brookfield, MA
774-397-6500

TREE SERVICE
McNeely Tree Service
Insured • References
Workmans Comp Insured
• 101' Aerial Lift Rental
• Hazardous Tree Removal
• Stump Grinding
• Bobcat Rental
• Lot Clearing
• Storm Clean-up
• Firewood \$300/cord (2 cord min)
• Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified
H: 508-867-6119 C: 508-523-1175

TREE SERVICE
Young's Tree Service
"Specializing In Dangerous Trees"
35+ years' experience
Fully Insured Free Estimates
John H. Young, Jr
508.885.TREE
1.800.660.5358

Home Town Service, BIG TIME RESULTS
CLASSIFIEDS
774-200-7308
Place your ad today!
VISA MasterCard DISCOVER

The Killdeer Island Club Neighborhood Yard Sale
will be held on
Saturday, June 6th
on Killdeer Island,
Webster
from 8:00 AM
to 2:00 PM.
Raindate is June 7th.

TOWN OF EAST BROOKFIELD TREE WORK BID NOTICE
The Town of East Brookfield Highway Department, 424 East Main Street, East Brookfield, MA 01515, is seeking bids for Town Wide Tree Work. Contractor shall provide a chipper, minimum of two workers, and bucket truck or similar equipment. Bid shall be based on an 8-hour daily rate. Contract term is July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028.
Bids must be clearly marked "Tree Work" and will be accepted until 1:00 PM on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. Bid opening will be held June 17, 2026 at 10:00 AM.
Bid forms are available from the Highway Office at 508-867-6575, ebhighway@eastbrookfieldma.us

The Town of East Brookfield seeks a qualified candidate for a part-time Highway laborer position. 19 hours per week. Tasks for this position will include cleaning of municipal buildings, mowing grass and small projects. Helping with day-to-day jobs for Highway Dept. Must have driver's license and be able to lift 50 pounds. Pay rate is \$20 per hour with experience. East Brookfield is a equal opportunity employer.
Please submit resume and cover letter to ebhighway@eastbrookfieldma.us
Resumes will be accepted until the position is filled.

Hiring? Reach More Local Applicants
Help Wanted
Email: ads@stonebridgepress.news
Phone: (774)200-7308

FREE PICK UP ONLY
Whitinsville, MA
Bureau-10 drawer
Large couch with day bed
Call 508-266-0178

Apartment for rent
7 Lyon Street, SOUTHBRIDGE
first floor, garage included
3 bedroom, no pets, non smoker
Call 508-764-6425
LAWN MOWER MAN WANTED!

WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIRS WANTED:
WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!
Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Flags, Uniforms, etc.
Over 40 years' experience.
Call David (508) 688-0847.
I'LL COME TO YOU!

FOSTER PARENTS WANTED:
Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA to Provide Foster Care To Children In Need.
24/7 Support
Generous Reimbursement, \$1000 Sign-On Bonus.
Call For Details.
Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care.
(508)829-6769
Devereux ADVANCED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



REAL ESTATE



43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570
Finest Realtor Associates to Serve You!

hope2own.com
508.943.4333

Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker
Licensed in MA, CT & RI

**We Want
Your Listings!**



Southbridge
14 Servant Way

Gently used, well maintained RANCH on a cul-de-sac! 1,300 sf +/-, 3 BRs, 2 full baths, gas fireplace, central AC. A comfortable open space w/lots of natural light, private main BR w/California closets, a remodeled Bath w/handicap accessible wide-door roll-in shower. Offers a half acre of land Close to I-84 & Sturbridge. \$459,000

* June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Maureen Cimoch * Bryan Pelletier

Webster - 3 Oakwood Dr
Featured New Listing!



Meticulously maintained Colonial, 2,042 sf +/-, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 baths, 2 car garage, conveniently located on a park-like one acre, picturesque views. Kitchen is a culinary enthusiast's delight, elegant formal living/dining rms offer a sophisticated ambiance enhanced by hardwood flrs, crown moldings & custom built-ins. MLS # 73523347 \$5589,900

Webster - 106 East Main St (Rte 12)
Commercial Opportunity!



Corner Lot, 275' +/- Road Frontage, Extremely High Traffic Count, 6,200 SF (75x80) Commercial Building, Currently 2 Units -> Potential for More. Economical, Efficient Natural Gas FHA Heat & Cooling. Its close proximity to Successful National Franchised Businesses generates Significant Commerce at this Location. Convenient Access. List Price: \$615,000

Featured Listing Webster ~ 33 Slater Street
OPEN HOUSE! SUN. 11 - 2



Sprawling fieldstone faced 1 Level Ranch, located on a +/- 0.5-acre level, w/24'x24' 2 car att'd garage. Offers: 1,860 sf main level plus 1,000 sf +/- finished lower level, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 2 stone fireplaces w/pellet stove inserts, FHW BB heat by oil. Open floor plan kitchen, living rm, dining rm, breezeway w/sliders to rear deck, and 3 season sunroom, hardwood & c-tile floors. \$525,000

Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction - Craftsman Style home



Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lake-side beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 2 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bathr, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage \$649,900.00

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



Webster Lake Waterfront
22 Union Pt Snug Harbor Villa

OPEN HOUSE 6/7 SUN. 11-2
Waterfront Lake Snug Harbor Villa End Unit!
Most Luxurious & Largest on the Lake!

Presenting a distinguished condo residence that will provide an exceptional waterfront lifestyle! Offers an expansive 4600 sf +/- featuring 4BRs, 4-1/2 baths, 3 frplcs & more, all designed for relaxation & convenience! Nothing quite compares! Priced to Sell. MLS # 73507605 \$1,050,000.

Webster Lake Waterfront!
On Indian Point # 10



ASTONISHING Panoramic Views across mid-section of Webster Lake! View the lake from all windows. Located on a peninsula providing 2 Shorelines. Fireplaced Living Room! 2 Baths. FHW Oil Heat! Central Air. Garage. \$900,000.

Webster Lake -
302 Killdeer Island




Lakefront home w/1,700 +/- sq ft. Open kitchen/dining/living w/cathedral ceilings + wall of windows. Full baths. Lower level family room w/ walkout to water. \$775,000


Webster Lake Waterfront -
31 Bayview!!



Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront! \$1,100,000



REAL ESTATE



PUT YOUR TRUST IN US
TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE
Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044
Diane Luong 774-239-2937
Maria Reed 508-873-9254
Bob Berk 508-367-9226
Vicki Bennett, Client Coordinator
ReMax Vision • 25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608
CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT

WORCESTER 3 UNITS
*3 Bedrooms
Each unit
*Replacement Windows
*6/6/6 Rooms
Each Unit
*Hardwood Floors
*In Unit Washer and Dryer
*Gas Heat
25 Almon Ave \$825,000

BROOKFIELD-
55+ COMMUNITY LIVING
*Cathedral Ceilings Throughout *2 Full Baths
Floor to Ceiling Stone Fireplace * New Flooring
Throughout * New Stainless Steel Appliances* Trex Deck
20 Deer Run \$285,000

OXFORD- 7 ROOM COLONIAL
*2 Full Baths
*1st Floor Main Bedroom
*10x35 Potential Great Room
*Updates Include:
Recent Roof, Electric, Heating
3 Elm St. \$445,000

DUDLEY NEW CONSTRUCTION
*Hardwood Floors throughout
*8' Center Island w/ Quartz Countertops
*2.5 Baths
*Privacy Wooded Setting
*1 hr. to Providence, Boston Hartford
126/128 Old Southbridge Rd \$699,000



MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS

Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.

To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

When Experience and Commitment Matter
Mary Vigliatura Stolarczyk
ABR, GRI, CRS, C2EX RE/MAX Hall of Fame
508.612.1382
MESRealty.com
Mary@WillSellit.com

Got Space? we do.
Contact Mikaela Today
774-200-7308
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

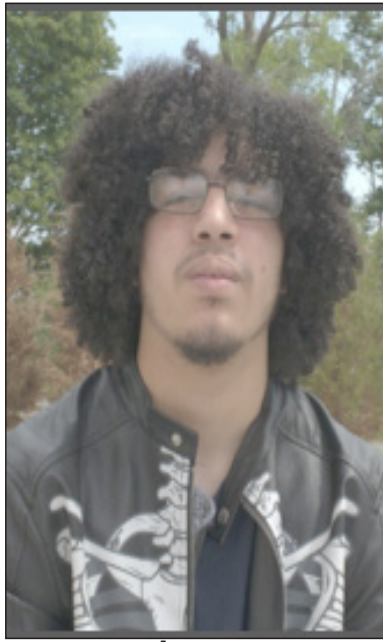
Ready for your next move?
Downsizing, Relocating or Interested in learning the value of your home in this dynamic market? Call me to discuss how we can create an effective plan that will bring results!
Bob Berk REALTOR SRES
Re/Max Vision
Worcester MA
508-367-9226
bobberkrealtor@gmail.com
Call for a free market analysis!

"I SOLVE REAL ESTATE PROBLEMS"
ReMax Professional Associates
Licensed in MA & CT
We need properties to sell - any type!
Conrad Allen
508.400.0438
callen1995@aol.com

ERA Key Realty
Donna Flannery Realtor®
508-612-6771
Donnaflanneryrealtor.com
Donnaflannery@erakey.net
OVER 30 YEARS SELLING LOCAL REAL ESTATE
NATIONAL ERA FINALIST TWICE FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE
TOP AGENT YEAR AFTER YEAR FOR # OF UNITS SOLD & SOLD DOLLAR VOLUME
ERA HALL OF FAME
415B Main Street Spencer, MA 01562

BUILD YOUR DREAM HOME ON 30.2 ACRES IN SOUTHBRIDGE/DUDLEY
Private Wooded Setting
SIMILAR DESIGN
Jo-Ann (Nedoroscik) Szymczak
CRS, GRI, SRES
508-943-7669
774-230-5044
ReMax Vision
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608
CALL JO-ANN FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT

Friday's Child



Jason
Age 20
Registration #9202

I have many hobbies, including playing video games, playing the guitar, cooking, and spending time with friends and family. My favorite movies are Treasure Planet and Pirates of the Caribbean, and I especially enjoy seafood such as shrimp, tilapia, sushi, crab, and lobster. I was part of the Dungeons and Dragons Club in high school, where I enjoyed connecting with classmates and teachers through shared adventures. Since graduating, I have completed a culinary program and am interested in furthering my culinary skills through additional training and courses. In the future, I hope to travel more and explore new places.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/25347643487>

Can I Adopt?

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

The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with. To learn more about adoption from foster care visit www.mareinc.org. Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.



North Brookfield Senior Center announces June activities

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The North Brookfield Senior Center, located at 29 Forest St., has scheduled a variety of activities and programs throughout June, offering opportunities for creativity, entertainment and socializing.

Residents interested in drawing and painting can participate in sessions scheduled for June 4 and June 25 at 11 a.m. An art class will also be offered on June 18 at 11 a.m.

A SHINE counselor will be available by appointment on June 9 to assist seniors with questions related to Medicare and health insurance options.

The center's popular Lunch and Movie program will take place June 10 at noon, providing participants with a meal and an afternoon of entertainment.

Music lovers can test their knowledge and enjoy some friendly competition during Music Bingo on June 15 at 10 a.m.

The month concludes with Bingo and Pizza on June 26 from 6 to 8 p.m. Participants are encouraged to sign up in advance by calling the Senior Center at 508-867-0220.

The North Brookfield Senior Center regularly offers programs designed to promote social engagement, lifelong learning and recreation for local seniors.

Family Dining & Gift Guide

Too Busy to Cook?
Ask your favorite local restaurant if they offer dine-in or take-out!
Treat yourself to a nice dinner out anytime!
Restaurant gift cards make perfect hostess gifts!

Call Mikaela at 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news to advertise on this page.

Breakfast All Day
Lunch
ALL MADE FROM SCRATCH

Farmhouse Diner

15 S. Main St., Leicester • 508-892-3222
Dine-In or Take-Out • Gift Certificates
Hours: Wednesday-Friday 5:30am-12:30pm
Saturday & Sunday 5:30am-11:30am

ONLINE ORDERING
FARMHOUSEDINERMA.COM

CHARLIE'S
Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions

BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

FRIDAY 6/5 & SATURDAY 6/6
WHOLE BELLY CLAMS
AFTER 5PM

HOURS: Wed-Sat 8-9; Sunday 8-8
Closed Mon & Tue
5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562

Gift Cards **508-885-4033**
www.charliesdiner.com

LOGAN AIRPORT'S REMOTE TERMINAL AT FRAMINGHAM

A NEW WAY TO BOSTON LOGAN

CHECK IN. CHECK BAGS. CLEAR SECURITY. THEN HEAD STRAIGHT TO YOUR GATE.

Now available for select Delta and JetBlue morning flights, the Framingham Remote Terminal lets you complete airport check-in, baggage drop, and TSA screening before you arrive at Boston Logan.

Once through security, board a dedicated secured bus and travel directly to your terminal, where you are dropped off airside—just steps from your gate. It's a simpler, more relaxed way to travel.

Morning hours only. Advanced reservation required. Available June through August.



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

