

LES students selected for MMEA All-State Treble Chorus



From left, Leicester Elementary School fourth graders Cristian Guzman, Brynn Wayman, and Camila Pacheco were selected to take part in a major event.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER
LEICESTER — Leicester Elementary School fourth graders Cristian Guzman, Camila Pacheco, and Brynn Wayman recently participated in the Massachusetts Music Educators Association (MMEA) All-State Treble Chorus. Featuring nearly 200 students, the chorus is a teacher-recommended ensemble of the top Massachusetts singers in grades 4-6. "This festival is a celebration of the dedication, passion, and artistry of young singers

from across the state, and it is an experience that will inspire them for years to come," read a statement released by the MMEA. LES students began the process by auditioning with their music teacher, Alyssa Hiltz, to be selected for the ensemble. After students were chosen, they stayed after school several times to learn the music ahead of their first rehearsal with the group. This year, 177 students from 52 Massachusetts elementary and middle schools participated in the ensemble. Students rehearsed for the first time

with the group in late March, then participated in a full-day rehearsal and concert for their families. The program consisted of seven songs in five different languages (English, Spanish, Latin, Arabic, and Swahili). The festival was conducted by composer Jim Papoulis, who wrote "Only I" and "Eneza Upendo," which students performed at their concert. "He was a dynamic and fun conductor who added movement and life to all of the pieces students performed," read a statement released by Hiltz. "During rehearsals, he called

his composer friends Rollo Dilworth and Lise Borel so students could sing their works for them and receive feedback directly from the composers." Students were thrilled to have the opportunity to take part in the program and meet fellow student-musicians from across the state. "The best part of All-State was being able to sing really fun music," Guzman said. Immediately following the performance, Wayman described the event as the most fun she'd ever had.

Turn To **CHORUS** page **A10**

Override questions go before voters at Spencer polls

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER
SPENCER — After receiving approval at last week's Annual Town Meeting, two override questions are headed before voters at the election. Appearing as Article 36 at the May 1 Town Meeting, a contingent appropriation for Override Question 1 was supported by a margin of 87-48. The first question asks whether voters authorize the town to assess an additional \$1,348,390 in real estate and personal property taxes to fund several departmental expenses. These include \$830,000 for the regional school districts' assessment to meet the state-mandated "Required Local Contribution"; \$150,000 to fund contractual expenses for the Spencer Rescue Squad; and \$368,390 for four firefighters in the Spencer Fire Department. Appearing as Article 37 at Town Meeting, a contingent appropriation for Override Question 2 was supported by a margin of 70-45.

The second question asks whether voters authorize \$211,500 to be assessed for added municipal personnel, including \$88,500 for one Highway Department employee and \$123,000 for one police officer for the SPD. "The next step is the ballot questions that authorize the increase in the tax levy authority and enable the use of the appropriations," said Town Administrator Jeffrey Bridges. "That ballot election takes place on May 13, 2025, with the regular election for town officers."

Following a series of public hearings, selectmen unanimously voted in April to place the two override questions on the ballot for the May 13 election. Leading up to the public hearings, the Board's original draft proposals included several additional items. After receiving extensive feedback from residents, selectmen decided to scrap multiple items and split up the requests into two separate questions.

Turn To **OVERRIDE** page **A10**

Busy month ahead at Haston Free Public Library

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER
NORTH BROOKFIELD — Area residents are invited to take advantage of a busy schedule of programs this month at Haston Free Public Library. Craft Night for Adults returns on Thursday, May 22, at 6 p.m. Guests will learn how to make creative book vases. Please register for this event in advance by contacting the

library by phone or email. The library's Book Discussion Group will next meet on May 27 at 7 p.m. This month's featured book is "The Joy Luck Club," written by Amy Tan. Library officials also invite guests to check out a new program called "Cook the Book Club." "Select a recipe from this month's featured cookbook (available at the circulation

desk), cook it up, and bring it to our potluck and discussion," a library-issued statement read. "Let's share great food and conversation." The group will next meet on May 29 at 5:30 p.m. Meanwhile, historical classes will be presented this month by Castle Nitor. A session covering pottery stamping will take place on Thursday, May 15, from 5-7 p.m. This class is free, but registration is required to

attend. Several May story-time programs will be offered to youngsters on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Books will be paired with craft activities covering such topics as flowers and springtime fun. The library continues to host the Children's Art Club on the first and third Monday of each month. All sessions last from 4-5 p.m. The library's youth Lego

Turn To **HASTON** page **A10**

Leicester Senior Center hosts annual "Prom"



Local seniors joined area leaders, volunteers, and students at the annual Senior-Senior Prom.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER
LEICESTER — Residents joined old friends and new acquaintances for a night of dining and dancing at the Senior Center's annual "Senior-Senior Prom." Held last month at Leicester High School, the event drew seniors from throughout the area, as well as local community leaders and officials. As usual, everyone was dressed to the nines, ready for a night of merriment. Guests included State Sen. Peter Durant, State Rep. Donald Berthiaume, and State Rep. David LeBoeuf, in addition to multiple town and school leaders. Local officials always enjoy attending events at the Senior Center and connecting with guests. "As we age, we enjoy every opportunity to feel young again – and what could take us back to our youth better than a prom?" Durant said. "It was so enjoyable to get dressed up, cut a rug, and relive those memories. We had a great evening thanks to the Leicester Senior Center." This year's prom queen was Evelina Piscopo, who celebrated her 99th birthday on April 5.

Turn To **PROM** page **A10**

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Pepe seeks sixth term as selectman



Courtesy
Anthony Pepe is running for re-election to the Select Board.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER
SPENCER — Seeking his sixth term on the

Select Board, Anthony Pepe is focused on helping the town generate momentum toward further economic development. Pepe listed several accomplishments and successful community projects during his latest term. These include continuing the \$19 million paving program to improve roads; supporting the restructuring of the town's contracting procedures to provide greater oversight and transparency; supporting the library improvement project as both a member of the Select Board and the Capital Improvement Planning Committee; and supporting the imple-

mentation of the Spencer Electric Choice program, which will provide lower and more stable electricity pricing for residents and businesses in town. Delivering pandemic relief was also a major Select Board focus during the last term, Pepe said. "We supported our local businesses that were negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic with recovery grants from the town's allocation of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds," Pepe told the New Leader. "We also supported local nonprofit organizations with program grants from the town's allocation of federal American Rescue Plan Act funds."

Pepe and his fellow Board members also worked with town staff leaders to research and acquire multiple grants for town infrastructure

and equipment. These include a \$500,000 EPA Brownfield Grant for the demolition of the former Lake Street School; \$1 million for a new water main on Main Street; and \$500,000 for replacement of the Hastings Road Bridge. "As a board, we continued to work closely with our legislative delegation to continue to bring state funds into the town, such as paving Route 31 North, many fire and police department equipment grants, and the Route 9 resurfacing project," Pepe said. "Though I don't agree with every decision made, we as a board supported our colleagues on the school and building committees for the construction/repair of a new school." Looking ahead, Pepe is committed to promoting pathways for sparking economic development. "We need to restart the economic develop-

ment committee to see if we can spur economic growth in town," Pepe said. Selectmen have also joined officials throughout the Commonwealth in sounding alarms over rising state-mandated education payments for individual communities. These expenses are also known as the "Required Local Contribution." "Education spending has been an area of concern for us. We need to continue to challenge the state-required education contribution and the formula they use to assess it," Pepe said. "We also need to fight for every penny of local aid. In addition, we need to get creative in the way we deliver services. We can do this by streamlining processes and functions, and looking at regionalization opportuni-

ties." Pepe said further downtown revitalization can be accomplished through a strong push toward economic development. Selectmen have enjoyed seeing new buildings and development in town, and they're hopeful to play a role in further momentum moving forward. Pepe also supports implementing improvements to the town's tax bills to provide more details as to where the funds will go. This will make the bills clearer for taxpayers to understand, he said. The Annual Town Election will take place on Tuesday, May 13. Incumbent Selectmen Anthony Pepe and Gary Woodbury will face challenger Jonathan Viner.

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48					49			50	51	52	53	54
55					56			57				58
59					60			61				
62					63							

- CLUES ACROSS
1. Herring-like fish

5. Perform on stage

8. Soda

11. Small growth

13. In support of

14. Step taken when walking

15. Hollyhocks

16. Returned material authorization (abbr.)

17. Feel pain

18. San Diego ballplayer

20. Inches per minute (abbr.)

21. Fat from a pig's abdomen

22. Create again

25. Honors once more

30. Thin coating of gold

31. Welsh river

32. Japanese novelist Mizumura

33. Husks of corn

38. Green vegetable

41. Showing guilt

43. Soldier

45. Photographers

48. Language spoken in Nigeria

49. Mimic

50. Expressed pleasure

55. Ancient Greek sophist

56. Beverage container

57. Night monkey genus

59. Lace bugs

60. Hoghead (abbr.)

61. Framework

62. Keyboard key

63. Greek goddess of the dawn

64. Influential Korean independence figure

- CLUES DOWN
1. A place to unwind

2. Helped (archaic)

3. Razorbill genus

4. Bleached

5. Continent

6. Fruit preserved in syrup

7. Impediment to one's freedom

8. Nocturnal rodents

9. Earthy pigment

10. Relieved oneself

12. Golf score

14. Tech hub __ Alto

19. Sportscaster Andrews

23. Records electric currents

24. Popular Hitchcock film

25. Revolutions per minute

26. NY Giants legend

27. Sports radio host Patrick

28. When you hope to get somewhere

29. French seaport

34. Thai river

35. Rocker's accessory

36. Extra charge

37. Influential American president

39. Pain in the head

40. Great Plains people

41. Consumed

42. Soluble ribonucleic acid

44. Improves

45. Secret clique

46. Behind the stern of a ship

47. Dough made from corn flour

48. Fallow deer

51. Swiss river

52. Grayish white

53. Engrave

54. College's Blue Devils

58. Midway between south and southeast

PUZZLE SOLUTION

E	E	H	R		S	O	E			L	T	V
S	K	C	V	R		D	H	H		V	J	W
S	U	L	O	V		N	V	C		S	V	B
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D	O	D			L	C	V		D	V	H	S

West Brookfield Knights of Columbus sponsor spaghetti dinner

WEST BROOKFIELD — Knights of Columbus Council 11080 is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner this month. The event is set for Saturday, May 17, in Dugan Hall at Sacred Heart Church (10 Milk St., West Brookfield). Proceeds from the dinner will benefit local charitable needs. Dinner includes pasta fagioli, a garden salad, meatballs and sausage, spaghetti and sauce, Italian bread, dessert, water, soda, and coffee. The dinner cost is a \$15 donation per person (\$10 for children under 12 years old). Take-out will be available at 6 p.m. The sit-down dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m. Admission tickets are also good for entry for a special door prize. A 50/50 raffle and other activities will also take place. Advance ticket purchases are encouraged. Tickets are available from any Knight, or by calling 413-813-8100. To learn more about the event and how to obtain tickets, send an email to: wallyconnor122@gmail.com. Tickets will only be available at the door while they last.

Memorial Day Parade details announced

SPENCER — Gaudette-Kirk American Legion Post #138 will hold its Memorial Day Parade and Service on Monday, May 26, starting at the legion and proceeding down Main Street, turning left onto Elm Street, left on to Chestnut, left on to Maple Street, back to Main Street, and ending at Issac L. Prouty Memorial Park. Memorial Day services will take place at the park immediately following the parade. We welcome all groups, youth groups and organizations to participate in the parade and attend this year's services.

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BROOKFIELD

\$316,860, 40 Quaboag St, Yancy, John, to Flint, Christopher M, and Flint, Kylie A.

\$145,000, 14 Central St, Oday, Patrick J, and Oday, Joan E, to Hill, Jake, and Hill, Shelby.

\$145,000, 16 Central St, Oday, Patrick J, and Oday, Joan E, to Hill, Jake, and Hill, Shelby.

EAST BROOKFIELD

\$325,000, 113 Paula Cir, Markopoulos Ft 2024, and Markopoulos, Nicholas, to Desmarais, Melissa A.

LEICESTER

\$1,200,000, 488 Stafford St, K & B Land Holdings LLC, to 488 Stafford Cherry Vly L.

\$165,000, 1024 Stafford St #1024, Marois, Lisa A, to Dp Property Holdings LLC.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

None
SPENCER
\$25,000, Woodbine Ter, Cml Re Development LLC, to Malpass, Andrew.

WARREN

\$600,000, 1300 Bemis Rd, Fountain & Sons Const Co, to Sauve, Michael J, and Sauve, Michelle D.

\$464,000, 128 Walkeen Koziol Rd, Howard-Young, Jordan M, and Howard-Young, Emma L, to Mello, Edward C.

\$415,000, 50 Dean St, Dcmb Properties LLC, to Lcr Ma Properties LLC.

\$280,000, 83 Mechanic St, Amr Real Estate LLC, and North Brkfield Svgs Bank, to North Brkfield Svgs Bank.

WEST BROOKFIELD

\$290,000, 17 Birch St, Morris, Cody, and Pepper, Sabrina C, to Leiton, Ashley A.

Viner looks to spur commercial development in Spencer



Courtesy
Spencer's Jonathan Viner is challenging for a seat on the Select Board.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER
S P E N C E R

— Challenging for a seat on the Select Board, Jonathan Viner is promoting several opportunities to spur commercial and industrial development.

Viner, who has narrowly missed earning a Select Board seat in previous elections, continues to receive strong support from residents.

“My overall commitment to public service will always be the underlying inspiration for running. That said, the amount of overall support I’ve received from Spencer residents really helped me make the decision this year,” Viner said.

Viner sees several zoning adjustments that can be made to increase revenue and relieve some of the municipal strain impacting residents.

“The biggest challenges facing Spencer can be traced back to our financial instability. The solution, as I’ve said in the past, requires a comprehensive zoning and zoning bylaw revision to encourage the appropriate commercial and industrial development to increase our tax revenue,” Viner said. “The keyword being appropriate. Spencer residents live here because they appreciate the rural character and small-town feel. Those qualities can be maintained and still

allow for economic growth; it just requires motivated decision makers to make it happen.”

Added Viner, “If elected, I’d focus on immediately taking the necessary steps to allow for economic growth to create more tax revenue. Active collaboration with Sewer and Water Departments would be another priority. I’d also prioritize finding and establishing a Town Common.”

Having served on multiple town boards and committees, Viner brings a wealth of experience to his bid for the Select Board. His experience includes service on the Planning Board (2012-21); Capital Improvement

Planning Committee (2015-19, then 2020-21); Building and Property Reuse Committee (2016-19); Solar Bylaw Review Committee (2018-20); and Finance Committee (2022 to present).

Additionally, he served as Spencer’s Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission delegate from 2019-21.

Viner has also worked as a resident engineer for MassDOT’s Highway Division, supervising and inspecting construction projects on behalf of the state.

Looking ahead, Viner said changes are needed to municipal leadership philosophies and how officials approach various opportunities.

“Town officials in recent years have done a mediocre job at best. There is just an overall lack of urgency in their actions, and it seems everyone is just worried about maintaining the status quo,” Viner said. “I would strive to create a more forward-thinking atmosphere. We need to eliminate the ‘that’s the way we’ve always done it’ mentality that has been so pervasive in Spencer government.”

The Annual Town Election will take place on Tuesday, May 13. Incumbent Selectmen Anthony Pepe and Gary Woodbury will face challenger Jonathan Viner.

School District partners with MIT’s Day of AI team after adopting new genAI policy

SPENCER — At the April School Committee meeting of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, the policy subcommittee unanimously recommended 3-0 to the larger school committee that they adopt the first-ever policy on the appropriate use of what is known as generative artificial intelligence for teachers and students. The larger School Committee voted unanimously 5-0 in favor of implementing the proposed policy.

The policy adopted at the April 8 meeting speaks to the fact that the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District is innovative and responsive to the needs of an ever-changing world and sees Artificial Intelligence (genAI) as a skill that students should learn; the school committee in their discussion portion of the motion/vote, made clear that it sees this policy as a priority - but is wary of over-legislating given the ever-changing nature of genAI and the lack of expertise that is ever-changing and evolving with genAI. As such, the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee’s newly adopted policy for the district teachers and students states:

“The Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District recognizes the importance of generative artificial intelligence (genAI) as a component of a strong 21st-century education. The availability of genAI provides an opportunity for students and staff to access new and innovative

ways to engage with the world of information, communicate with others, improve the efficiency of various tasks, and create novel artistic and conceptual expressions. Therefore, the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District will incorporate the teaching and use of genAI into relevant aspects of the K-12 curriculum.

Given the nascent and rapidly changing nature of genAI, the Committee expects its administration to create sound, grade-appropriate (procedures or) guidelines to help support the wise and ethical use of genAI by teachers and students. Furthermore, it is expected that these guidelines will be regularly revisited and evaluated to ensure they remain relevant and up-to-date with the changing technology landscape.

The procedures or guidance in effect at this time by the administration of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District on the appropriate and ethical use of AI in our schools includes but is not limited to: a clearly defined purpose; scope; guiding principles for AI use; responsible Use of AI tools; prohibited use of AI tools; special consideration: advancing academic integrity as well as special consideration: safety, security, privacy.”

As a result of adopting this policy in April, Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District administrators have begun working in partnership with Jeffrey C. Riley, the former Commissioner

of Education, and the “Day of AI team” at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

What is Day of AI?

Day of AI is an initiative started at MIT dedicated to helping K-12 students and their teachers thrive in the age of artificial intelligence. Spun out as a standalone not-for-profit, the team at Day of AI, in collaboration with the researchers at MIT, offers curricula and professional development programs designed to enhance students’ and teachers’ understanding of how AI works, as well as the ethical issues around this new technology. Day of AI’s mission is to equip educators with the knowledge and tools needed to integrate AI responsibly into their classrooms, fostering critical thinking and digital literacy among students.

Professional Development

The Day of AI aims to support districts in effectively integrating AI into their classrooms. Day of AI offers professional development workshops, available in both in-person and virtual formats. “The goal of our district partnership with the Day of AI team at MIT is to create a professional development roadmap for faculty and staff filled with AI Literacy training, Demystifying AI, Examining Generative AI Tools with a critical lens as well as making sure that the work of our professionals within the district do daily are aligned to the guiding principles and appropriate use of AI tools now and into the future... MIT’s goal is to

be a world leader in AI, and our goal as a regional school district is to be ready and well prepared for AI as one of their local district partners,” said Superintendent of Schools, Paul Haughey.

Day of AI recently received a grant to support a select number of Massachusetts schools in implementing the Day of AI program and to measure the program’s effectiveness in improving student and teacher AI literacy. As part of this grant, Day of AI is offering free professional development to the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District. It is interested in implementing the Day of AI curriculum

with our faculty and students during the 2025-26 school year.

“We are pretty fortunate to have been provided with this free learning opportunity within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as part of the second cohort, and yet, it speaks to the focus we have as professionals on preparing our faculty, staff, and students for an ever-changing world,”

said Haughey. “Think about where we’ll be in five years as a result of genAI.”

“I know our entire team here in the district is excited to get to work on the professional development aspects of the work, beginning with the Day of AI curriculum,” added Haughey.

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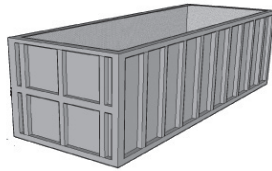


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Celebrate Spring with Old Fashioned Lemonade Recipes

Last week’s record high temperatures remind us that bright sunny days, shade tree breezes and a comfortable backyard chaise are the perfect elements for warm weather “easy living.” And what could be more delightful than taking a well-deserved rest with cool, refreshing drink (even better if you can enjoy it on a porch with a friend or neighbor)!

There’s no doubt about it, nothing quite “hits the spot” on a hot New England spring day better than a tall glass of ice tea or lemonade. The sweet taste and clanging ice cubes of the thirst-quenching drinks have prompted recipe contests, starred at country fair refreshment booths, and spawned generations of young roadside entrepreneurs.

With summer just around the corner, here are some great old-fashioned lemonade and iced

tea recipes guaranteed to refresh both body and spirit.

When people call for Tea Time, this season, it’s usually iced tea - in frosty glasses filled to the brim. Here are a couple of delicious ways to serve up the perennial favorite drink:

Citrus Tea Cooler: The carbonation and orange juice add sparkle and zest to this alternative to traditional iced tea. Perfect for a punchbowl at an outside get-together.

Ingredients: Three bags or one tbsp loose black tea; one and a half cup boiling water; one half cup fresh lemon juice; one bottle (28 oz) lemon-lime carbonated beverage or ginger ale, chilled; three quarters to one cup sugar (or conversion measurement of Stevia or other non-sugar sweetener); one tray ice cubes ;one half cup fresh orange juice.

Directions: Place tea

bags or loose tea in bowl. Pour boiling water over tea. Let stand five minutes. Remove bags or strain to remove leaves. Add sugar and stir until all is dissolved. Place ice cubes in two-quart serving pitcher. Pour hot tea, lemon and orange juice over tea. Stir briskly several seconds until mixture is cold. Stir in chilled lemon-lime carbonated beverage. Pour into glasses and serve at once. Makes two quarts

Lemon Sparkler: Here’s a quick and easy version of a classic lemon sparkler:

Ingredients: Two cups tea, brewed; one half cup lemon juice; one half cup sugar (or conversion measurement of Stevia or other non-sugar sweetener); juice cubes (ice cubes made with lemon juice and a little water); two quarts of ginger ale, chilled.

Directions: In a pitcher,



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

combine the tea, lemon juice, and sugar stirring until sugar is dissolved. Just before serving, add the ginger ale and pour over juice cubes.

Lemonade and sunny days have gone together forever. Many a summer-time memory is sparked by sipping a chilled tumbler of sweet lemonade.

Old Fashioned Lemonade

Most lemonade aficionados agree the secret to a great lemonade is to make a heated syrup as a base. This nostalgic recipe from Hamilton Beach, calls for fresh lemons, oranges and mint

leaves!

Ingredients: Two cups granulated sugar; two and one half cups water; juice of six lemons; juice of two oranges; grated peel of one orange; one cup fresh mint leaves

Directions: In a medium saucepan, combine sugar and water. Bring to a boil; cook over medium high heat five minutes. Let cool.

Add lemon juice, orange juice and orange peel to syrup. Add in mint leaves. Cover and let stand one hour. Strain lemon syrup into a jar or pitcher. Store in refrigerator until ready to use. For each serving: Put one third cup lemon syrup into an eight ounce glass filled with crushed ice and cold water. Mix or shake well.

Quick Old Fashioned Lemonade

No time for the recipe above? Try this easy version:

Ingredients: Two or three ice cubes; two tablespoons lemon juice; one and one half tablespoons lime juice; two tablespoons superfine sugar (or conversion measurement of Stevia or other non-sugar sweetener); six to eight ice cubes; two cups cold water.

Directions: Pour lemon and lime juice into a pitcher, add sugar and stir until dissolved. Add ice cubes and water and stir. Serve in tumblers.

Serves two.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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 renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I’m in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I’m counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

Amtrak Downeaster trip offered for Paxton FOCOA

PAXTON — A delightful way to inaugurate Paxton Seniors one-day bus trips for our 2025 season would be to join us for something new and fun: We are taking Wilson Bus motor coach from Paxton at 7:30 a.m. on Tuesday, June 24, to arrive in Haverhill to board the 9:38 a.m. Amtrak Downeaster train (for the portion of the Boston to Brunswick, Maine run from Haverhill to Portland). Amenities on board include (self-purchased) cafe food and snacks and beverage service, WiFi and plush leather seats. There is a bathroom in every car of the train, and you can move around as desired. Brings back memories of days gone by!

In Portland, Wilson’s bus will meet us and within 15-20 minutes we will arrive at Portland Pie Company in Falmouth, a local Maine chain of restaurants, for a lovely lunch. We will each have previously chosen one from a choice between six entrees: 10-inch Personal Cheese Pizza with 1 Topping, Baked Penne Marinara, Baked Macaroni & Cheese, Caesar Salad, Cobb Salad or Cheeseburger. For your dessert, choose between Key Lime Pie, Brownie Sundae with vanilla ice cream or White Chocolate Cheesecake with Blueberry Swirls.

Back on the bus, we will head to the Town of Freeport, Maine, famous

as the home of the L.L. Bean Flagship Store as well as upscale and off-price stores nearby. L.L. Bean’s main store is under re-construction this year, so they have erected a massive tent-like temporary store they have christened Camp L.L. Bean. The massive tent structure resembles an L.L. Bean Acadia 8-person cabin tent. It was erected early this winter and is expected to remain until sometime in 2026 or later. It houses a fully-functioning store with mens, womens and kids apparel and outerwear. Its unique shopping experience is designed to replicate the L.L. Bean’s brand’s essence. We will have time to shop there and at a few of the many

upscale and off-price stores on streets close by. You are limited only by the amount of walking your feet can handle, much or little, and by time (two hours in Freeport max). We will return to Paxton COA at 8 p.m., having possibly stopped enroute at the southbound Kennebunk Service Plaza for a quick bite.

This delightful day includes Wilson Bus motor coach to Haverhill, the train ride on the popular Amtrak Downeaster from Haverhill to Portland, delicious lunch at Portland Pie Company in Falmouth, resuming motor coach ride to Freeport, free time to shop at L.L.Bean’s tem-

porary store, Camp L.L. Bean, and other stores, and travel home aboard Wilson Bus Motor Coach.

Tour cost is \$137, due June 3. Payments are non-refundable unless ticket(s) can be re-sold.

Tour date is Tuesday, June 24. For reservations, please call Deb Grensavitch at 508.754.6366 or email grensavitchd@aol.com. Please make your payment out to Paxton FOCOA (Paxton Friends of Council on Aging) and send it to Deb Grensavitch at 88 Laurel St., Paxton, MA 01612-1234.



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An ode to teachers

Professor Fowler sat in his home, recently retired, alone with his thoughts—and none of them were kind.

A teacher who had dedicated his entire life to shaping young minds, he now sat convinced he had failed.

Looking back over decades in the classroom, all he could see was the void—the faces forgotten, the lessons lost to time.

He spoke the words aloud, his voice thick with regret:

“I walked from class to class...teaching unhearing ears...unwilling heads...I moved nobody, I motivated nobody, I left no direct imprint on anybody.”

His retirement had not come by choice. It had been forced upon him by an institution eager to make room for the next generation. And now, with his life’s work behind him, he sat in the darkness of his own doubt, convinced his efforts had vanished like chalk dust after the final bell.

This story, by the way, is from an old episode of “The Twilight Zone,” titled “Changing of the Guard.”

And yet, as I think about Professor Fowler, my mind drifts to teachers today—living in the modern world,

dealing with pressures he could scarcely have imagined.

The teacher today faces crowded classrooms, shrinking budgets, endless paperwork, shifting standards, the strain of technology, and the silent burden of wondering if any of it is making a difference.

I wonder if, after long and weary days, teachers ever question whether the hours spent planning lessons, listening to struggling students, breaking up conflicts, inspiring curiosity—if any of it will truly matter.

I wonder if they ask themselves whether their voice will linger, whether their encouragement will echo, whether their belief in a student who didn’t yet believe in themselves will survive the tests of time.

It’s easy in the haze of exhaustion and bureaucracy, to feel invisible.

To feel, like Fowler once did, that no imprint has been left behind.

But here’s the part of Fowler’s story that every teacher today needs to hear: That night, sitting in his despair, something remarkable happened. One by one, the faces of his former students appeared—visitors not of the body, but of the heart.

They came to tell him what he could not see: that he had changed lives.

That a word of encouragement had saved one from despair. That a lesson on courage had inspired another to give their life to a cause greater than themselves. That a belief in decency and kindness had taken root and flourished long after the final grades were given.

They stood before him—not as students he once taught, but as proof that his life had mattered far more than he ever realized.

It’s more than just an old television episode—it’s a truth lived out in classrooms daily.

Some days it feels like you’re shouting into the wind, wondering if you are reaching anyone, if any of it matters.

It does.

Somewhere right now, there is a student who carries a seed you planted—something you said and taught when they needed it most.

And that seed will grow, often quietly, invisibly, sometimes over decades.

You may never see it bloom. But it blooms nonetheless. Every encouraging word. Every ounce of patience. Every lesson, even the ones you think

fell flat. Every moment you chose to believe in someone who didn’t yet believe in themselves—these things matter more than you will ever know.

You are building lives. You are shaping futures. You are winning victories for humanity that no history book will ever fully record.

So, in this week where we celebrate teachers, I want you to know:

You are not invisible. You are not forgotten. You are not wasting your time.

You are changing the world, one student at a time. And for that—for everything—you have my deepest thanks.

I, like so many others, am grateful—forever grateful.

Each of us carries something you gave us: a word, a hope, a strength, a belief.

I want to thank you—for believing in us, for guiding us, for helping to shape who we became.

In the end, teachers have lived a very good life, a very full life, a very rich life.

And I hope, like Professor Fowler came to realize, you wouldn’t have it any other way.

POSITIVELY
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QCC’s Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society shines at international convention



WORCESTER — At this year’s PTK Catalyst 2025 convention, QCC’s Alpha Zeta Theta Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) Honor Society received multiple awards in recognition of

the organization’s dedication, research and community service. QCC’s PTK chapter received the nationwide First Place in Honors in Action Research Project - Distinguished

Theme Award for their project titled “Threads of Dignity,” which analyzed systemic factors contributing to the unhoused population in Worcester, Massachusetts. “We have a very

strong officer team that worked really hard,” said Program Coordinator of PTK Lizette Reid, who traveled with the team to Kansas City for the convention.

The group was also named a Distinguished Chapter, placing it in the top 10 percent of PTK chapters worldwide. This designation is awarded only to chapters that submit outstanding entries for both the Honors in Action Project and College Project Awards. Additionally, the chapter was recognized as a Top 100 Chapter among nearly 1,300 PTK chapters globally, a distinction reserved for chapters that have earned 5-star status.

The chapter’s success extended to the regional level as well, where they were named the Most Distinguished Chapter in New England. They also won Second Place in the 2024 College Project

for the Alpha Zeta Theta Community Closet initiative, which collected clothing and hygiene products for unhoused individuals.

“Winning five awards this year, including the Most Distinguished Chapter in New England, was an incredible affirmation of the commitment, resilience and heart that drove everything we accomplished as a team,” said 2024/2025 P T K President Talissa Goncalves. “This experience taught me that strong leadership isn’t about being the

loudest voice; it’s about listening deeply, uplifting others, and leading with authenticity. That’s the kind of leader I’ve become, and the kind I will continue striving to be.”

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Cornerstone Bank partnering with Greenlight Financial Technology to help parents raise money-wise children



WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is joining forces with Greenlight® Financial Technology, Inc., to help the next generation build healthy financial futures. Customers will have free* access to Greenlight’s award-winning family finance app that teaches children how to earn, save, give and spend wisely—all with parental supervision.

“We’re thrilled to be a part of this effort to arm families with knowledge that will ensure a healthy financial future for their kids,” said Cornerstone CEO Todd Tallman. “Greenlight has come up with a very creative and fun way to instill good habits with money early in life.”

Greenlight offers a debit card and app that allows parents to send money instantly, automate allowance payments, manage chores, set flexible spending controls, get real-time notifications of all transactions and more. Kids get hands-on money management experience along with access to Greenlight Level Up™, an in-app financial literacy game with a best-in-class curriculum, educational challenges and rewards.

A recent survey of families commissioned by Greenlight shows a crit-

ical need for accessible and effective financial education. Only 35 states require a personal finance course for students, and teens nationwide scored an average of 64 percent on the National Financial Literacy Test.

Here are some of the survey’s findings:

- 91 percent of kids and teens say they need financial knowledge and skills to reach their goals
- 94 percent of parents agree
- Parents rank personal finance as the #1 most difficult life skill to teach their children
- 81 percent of parents say they need more financial education resources

Cornerstone customers can find a link to a free* Greenlight subscription on the bank’s website, adding their Cornerstone account as a funding source.

Disclaimers: Greenlight is a financial technology company, not a bank. The Greenlight app facilitates banking services through Community Federal Savings Bank (CFSB), Member FDIC. The Greenlight card is issued by Community Federal Savings Bank, member FDIC, pursuant to license by Mastercard International.

*Cornerstone Bank customers are eligible for the Greenlight SELECT plan at no cost when they connect their Cornerstone Bank account as the Greenlight funding source for the entirety of the promotion. Subject to minimum load requirements and identity verification. Upgrades will result in additional fees. Upon termination of promotion or removal of Cornerstone Bank funding source, customers will be responsible for associated monthly fees. See terms for details. Offer ends March 10, 2028. Offer subject to change or renewal.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Health screenings
are an investment
in your future self

It's easy to put off routine health check-ups. Life gets busy. We feel fine. We assume we're too young to worry. But catching a problem early, when it's most treatable can make all the difference. Preventive health screenings aren't about fearing the worst; they're about giving ourselves the best shot at living well. From your 20s through your 60s and beyond, here's a decade-by-decade breakdown of essential screenings that everyone should prioritize.

In your 20s, the focus is on building a health baseline. This is when your long-term habits start taking shape. Even if you feel great, it's important to get your blood pressure and cholesterol checked. These simple screenings can reveal early signs of heart disease risks. If you're sexually active, regular STI screenings and, for women, a Pap smear starting at 21 are critical. A mental health check-in should be part of the routine too, especially in a decade filled with transitions. It's also smart to begin annual skin checks, particularly if you've had a lot of sun exposure.

By your 30s, it's time to pay closer attention to subtle shifts in your health. Continue monitoring your blood pressure, cholesterol, and STI status. Add in screenings for diabetes risk especially if you have a family history or carry extra weight. If you're trying to conceive or just want to know where things stand, a fertility check can offer insight. Watch for signs of thyroid issues like fatigue or weight changes, and keep up with dental and eye exams every year or two.

Your 40s are when chronic conditions often start creeping in, sometimes without symptoms. This is the decade to stay vigilant. Women should begin mammograms at 40 or earlier if there's a family history of breast cancer. Everyone should consider a baseline colonoscopy by age 45. Diabetes, cholesterol, and heart screenings are more important than ever, and it's a good idea to test for glaucoma during your eye exam. This is also a smart time to check in on your mental health, as burnout and midlife stress can take a toll.

By your 50s, screenings shift from preventive to potentially lifesaving. Colonoscopies should continue every 10 years or as your doctor advises. Women should consider bone density tests, and men should discuss prostate screenings with their doctor. Hearing loss becomes more common, so a hearing test is worth scheduling. This is also the age for a shingles vaccine, and if you've had ongoing risk factors, a cardiac stress test might be wise.

In your 60s, staying ahead of health issues becomes even more important. Annual flu and pneumonia vaccines are recommended, and if you've ever smoked or been around secondhand smoke regularly, you may qualify for a lung cancer screening. Continue yearly vision and hearing checks, and consider cognitive screenings if memory issues arise. Osteoporosis becomes more common in both women and men, and regular skin checks should continue to catch early signs of skin cancer.

No matter your age, health screenings are a way to invest in your future self. They help you catch issues early, manage risks, and stay in control of your well-being. Ask questions, track your numbers, and make time for the care you deserve. After all, staying healthy isn't something that just happens it's something we have to work for. When was your last check-up?

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A time for courage

To the Editor:

Our esteemed Selectman, Ralph Hicks, has acknowledged that the towns in this area get shortchanged by the state on local aid to run the schools. They use last year's town expenses to figure this year's allocations. Priority is given to the sanctuary cities who follow Healy agenda. So, it forces the town to allocate money from public safety to replace these funds. You can get added information on it by watching Mike Urban's YouTube videos (www.youtube.com/watch?v=fxK3a-opbXRg). Watching these, you will see the details of the fiscal mess Healy is putting all towns in. Maybe Mr. Hicks needs to do some learning on how the illegal migration affects town budgets!

Why, may you ask, and how does this happen? Because those in the state controlling the money allocation know one truth. The administrators and the selectmen in the western towns will let it happen. They are all former school department people who have more allegiance to the Democratic run unions than the hard-working townspeople. It's a lot easier to just say "Nuttin' We Can do About It" and proceed increase your taxes with a 2 ½ Override.

Well, there is something they can do if they have enough courage to stand up to the Boston Healy Dems. They can take a page from the play-book of the Dems going after Trump. They could file suit against the Healy administration in federal court. The lawsuit would filed on behalf of the taxpaying citizens of Spencer and East Brookfield. They have suffered harm by her illegal actions. It could read as follows: "We, the leaders of the

towns of Spencer and East Brookfield, sue Governor Healy and her administration of illegally using taxpayer funds intended for the schools for US citizens instead to house, feed, and provide monetary assistance for illegal aliens. We furthermore demand that schools should be fully funded before any taxpayer monies are used for the use of illegal immigration." Are they going to put this as option three on the ballot? I bet they won't.

The town could ask the Trump appointed US Attorney General to adjoin the lawsuit as a plaintiff since federally provided education funds are provided to the state to be used as part of the allocation for our school system. She would have to account for where all the money was spent. If such a lawsuit were filed, you would see Healy's head spin as she tried to justify this in court. She is a politician with greater aspirations. Maybe a Buttillieg/Healy presidential ticket in 2028. My bet is, she would settle with the town ASAP to keep it out of the news.

The only way you can force the leaders in our towns to stand up to Queen Healy is to go out and force the issue. Vote a hard no on any 2 ½ Override until the leaders of the town have filed the lawsuit above. By voting no, you are instructing them to sue the state! Weak leaders change nothing except to place the burden on the townspeople. Let's see what our local leaders are made of! Get everyone you know to vote no! Show them you are more than the hillbilly deplorables they think you are! It's time to see if those you hired work for you or for themselves.

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

A rude awakening

To the Editor:

Apparently, MAGA faithful are still living under a rock, watching Fox "News" or other sources that verify what they already believe. One example I would cite is deportation of illegals from the USA is foreign policy, so our laws do not apply. I know Mitch McConnell is heavily invested in domestic, for-profit prisons, but wonder how many in Trump's inner circle have that investment or graft from El Salvador. It is just another example of deciding our laws do not apply to this administration that ignores court orders when told that they do. I fully understand the misperception, as the Supreme Court has granted the President complete immunity from prosecution and, coupled with pardon power, the similarity to Putin's Russia or Orban's Hungary is notable. It is not surprising that this is the one area where Trump's popularity is still good.

In your youth, did you do connect the dots in numerical sequence, or stand dominoes on end in rows, to watch the sequential toppling? Let us start by talking tariffs. If you were paying as much attention as I, you were given the impression that the indicated percentages might be costly, but do good in the long run. Instead, you are seeing a red light/ green light, squid game, featuring changing percentages, exemptions and negotiations after announcements, instead of before. The bad news is, no major factory will be building here, and some already here are leaving. The reasons are clear. People have made us the world currency, because of our steady reliable government, and years of historic performance.

In just 100 days, the mob boss has reduced the countries net worth 20 percent, abdicated the leadership of restoring the world's economy, endangered the dollar as a world currency, nearly collapsed the bond market that funds our deficit budgets. The 145 percent tariffs will definitely impact China, but with the last freight container shipped due May 10, we are all about to learn a sad lesson about

how heavily reliant we are on China, not just for retail resale goods, but so many components of things we do manufacture, that will soon reduce employment and saleable inventory. They are already laying off longshoremen and container truckers, due to lack of work. Retailers and manufacturing will fall next.

We have already seen DOGE perform a ridiculous exercise that eliminated 121,000 jobs, but audit proves it not only loses not saves money, because even revenue producers were fired, additionally, why lose services and save no money? Each IRS employee brings in over \$1 million. Does anyone really think we do not need a Consumer Protection Agency? The national park service's \$3 billion budget yielded \$55 billion in revenue, when there were clean restrooms and open trails and features. Who, in their right mind, cuts there?

Earlier, I mentioned dominoes. Actual, unemployment figures will be obscured by Severance packages which must expire to fill for unemployment, but make no mistake, continuing this course will make the great depression of the 1930s seem mild. Back then, \$5 or \$10 paid for the doctor to stop by. Watch what happens when hospitals must treat, even though you lost your insurance. When we have to line up to shop, like Russian toilet paper lines. The wide world, thought our supermarkets Disneyland. Now, you will have less choice and availability.

Imagine trashing our economy, idling so many workers, now looking to cut Social Security (Elon already had to restore recipients he removed), Medicare or Medicaid. It may get your attention as care facilities close, and you will need to pick up gramma.

Oh, by the way, we want to put another \$4 trillion on your credit card, 83 percent of which goes to millionaires. I have no worries that our elected reps will vote no, but red states, who will get worst impacts, will prove, you still can't fix stupid. Karma is a bitch.

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD

Pepe's experience matters

To the Editor:

Today, we are writing in support of Tony Pepe and his reelection campaign to the Spencer Board of Selectmen.

Over the course of our tenure as state representatives, we have interacted with numerous Spencer residents who continually comment on Tony's professionalism. We have both known Tony for many years and can say that he is extremely knowledgeable about Spencer, its history, and the issues facing it today. Tony's priorities are public safety, downtown economic development and keeping Spencer moving in a positive direction. He loves Spencer

and makes himself available to his constituents.

Based on our prior experience as selectmen, we understand that it is important to have two hands on the wheel when navigating through financial challenges and this is where Tony's proven experience matters. For this reason, and many others, we are asking for your vote to re-elect Tony Pepe to the Spencer Board of Selectmen.

Thank you, and best regards,

REP. JOHN MARSI
DUDLEY

REP. DONNIE BERTHIAUME
SPENCER

Questions to ask
your financial
advisor



FINANCIAL
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TREVOR
NIELSEN

You should always be able to ask as many questions as you'd like when working with your financial advisor. So, before you have your annual review, think carefully about what you'd like to ask.

Here are a few suggestions:

Are my goals still realistic? When you first began working with your financial advisor, you may well have articulated several financial goals. For example, you might have said that you wanted to pay for most of your children's college education, or that you'd like to retire at age 55, or that you hope to travel internationally every year during retirement. In fact, you could have many different goals for which you're saving and investing. When you meet with your financial advisor, you'll certainly want to ask whether you're still on track toward meeting these goals. If you are, you can continue with the financial strategies you've been following; but if you aren't, you may need to adjust them. The same is true if your goals have changed. You and your financial advisor will want to build a strategy to address any new or different goals such as emergency cash needs, having adequate insurance protection or estate planning.

Am I taking on too much — or too little — risk? Put market declines in perspective. The financial markets always fluctuate, and these movements will affect the value of your investment portfolio. Suppose you watch the markets closely every day and track their impact on your investments. You may find yourself fretting over their value and wondering whether you're taking on too much investment risk for your comfort level. Conversely, if during an extended period of market gains your own portfolio appears to be lagging, you might feel that you should be investing more aggressively, which entails greater risk. In any case, it's important to consult with your financial advisor to determine your risk tolerance and use it as a guideline for making investment choices.

How will changes in my life affect my investment strategy? Your life is not static. Over the years, you may experience any number of major events, such as marriage, remarriage, loss of a spouse, birth of children or grandchildren, changing jobs or illness leading to early retirement. When you meet with your financial advisor, you will want to discuss these types of changes, because they can affect your long-term goals and your investment decisions.

How are external forces affecting my investment portfolio? Generally speaking, you will want to create an investment strategy based on your goals, risk tolerance and time horizon. And, as mentioned, you may need to adjust your strategy based on changes in your life. But should you also make changes based on outside forces, such as interest rate movements, political events, inflation, new tax legislation or news affecting industries in which you have invested substantially? Try not to make long-term investment decisions based on short-term news. Yet, talk with your financial advisor to make sure your investment portfolio and spending strategy are not out of alignment with relevant external factors.

By making these and other inquiries, you can help yourself stay informed about your overall investment picture and what moves, if any, you should make to keep advancing toward your goals. A financial advisor is there to provide you with valuable guidance — so take full advantage of it.

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.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What type of community do you wish to live in?

To the Editor:

I'm writing in support of the Proposition 2½ override as presented by the Spencer Select Board.

I don't like paying more in taxes and fees for public services than anyone else. With increased costs for town water and sewer, paying for the new high school addition, etc., digesting an override is a tough pill to swallow. But costs for everything continue to rise, and that includes those for labor and operational expenses for public services. It's unavoidable.

The American way and our anti-American government President

To the Editor:

As a country and a people, we have benefitted from great leaders and the institutions and ways of governing that they both founded and practiced.

During the early days of our country, these leaders included Washington Jefferson Adams, Madison Hamilton, Franklin, and Marshall. They fought for our freedom. They established an government "by and for the people."

Then, because they knew of the terrible consequences of a king/dictator and what would happen if an all too powerful person might try to rule, they established in our Constitution three equal branches for the government of the Congress, The Courts and the Presidency.

As Importantly, they established a safe and fair way to amend or add to that Constitution.

Over the 250 years since then, we have had other great leaders - Presidents Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Delano Roosevelt come to mind as do Supreme Court Justices Louis Brandeis and Earl Warren and Congressional Leaders like Robert Dole and Tip O'Neill .

They all had in common a love not only of the United States, of the systems and rules that our made our government and country the envy of the world.

The came self-serving Donald Trump.

In the end, Spencer residents have to decide in what type of community they wish to live. Do they want police and fire to be there in their time of need and for an ambulance to arrive in a life or death emergency? What is a life worth when your loved one is in need emergency medical care? How these questions are answered will determine the direction of this town for years to come.

PAT GEORGE
DIRECTOR
SPENCER RESCUE SQUAD

During his first term many conservative members of his government Kelly, Mattis, Esper, Tillerson, Espy, Miley and Congressional leaders such as the former Nancy Pelosi and Republican Vice President's daughter, Liz Chaney, protected us from the worst of him.

In his second term, we see that all those and other protectors have left or been pushed out or replaced not by ones loyal not to the Constitution, but to Donald Trump.

This President believes that rather than the country and government that had become the best in the world before, that he alone can save it, that he "runs the Country and the world," that he doesn't have to "follow" our 250 year successful Constitution, or the judges who enforce it.

Rather, he, a convicted felon, has the delusional belief that he has abilities far above those above our great founders and leaders - so much so that like a king or dictator, he "alone" should rule. (Now over the weekend, he sees himself as the Pope too.)

I very much prefer a democracy "by and for the people" and the great and good leaders that came before him.

I also hope by peacefully pushing, we can soon return that great system of American governance.

KEVIN KANE
SPENCER

Seeds of peace

To the Editor:

Spring gives us an opportunity to plant new creative seeds in our peace garden this year. The magical seeds we will plant are called patience, hope, optimism, understanding, compromise, and results. Yes, spring of each year, the time between winter and fall, is a time for new, bright, and positive beginnings. Our primary goal for the seeds we will plant is to bring all nation leaders to our peace garden, and to have them plant the seeds, allowing them to protect and grow through their creative minds and efforts, bringing peace to our entire world in each flower grown in our special garden.

It's a fact we have a potpourri of

It is for Spencer's voters to decide what kind of town they want

To the Editor:

On Tuesday, May 13, Spencer voters will head to the polls. There will be two ballot questions that ask Spencer voters to decide if they wish to approve a Proposition 2½ Override. The two questions replace the original question and reduce the request by almost three-quarters of a million dollars.

The first question requests \$1,348,390 to pay for the state mandated increases to The Bay Path Regional Vocational School District and the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District. It also funds an additional increase of \$150,000 for the Spencer Rescue Squad and \$368,390 for the continuation of four firefighters as their grant funding is about to expire. A yes vote ensures that ambulance service will not be decreased and the fire station will continue to be manned 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The latter is extremely important so that within two minutes a staffed truck can be on the road and going to the fire. Otherwise, on call firefighters, of which there are fewer every year, have to drive to the station, put their gear on, and then leave to actually go to the fire.

The estimated total increase on the tax rate is \$0.076. If this question does not pass the select board will have to decide to either cut other town services or go back to relying on the on-call firefighters in the evening. Of course, if these firefighters are sleeping, they have to get out of bed, get dressed and then drive to the station, etc.

Please note that not all of these funds

nations, with many cultural and ethnic differences. All nations working in our garden this year, we expect each representative to plant and feed the entire world peace garden. Through their protective care, wisdom, desire, patience, understanding and compromise to create a garden of world peace flowers for all eternity. The desire persists, the need is urgent, the opportunity exists, creative minds are available. The first step is to invite our leaders in Congress to our world peace garden and give them our seeds for planting. Let's do it! Let's do it now! Let's make it happen! Eternal peace.

DONALD L. GAUDETTE, SR.
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will be added immediately to the tax rate. Instead they will be phased in over the next three years as the funds are needed.

Question 2 asks you to raise \$211,500 to fund one police officer and one highway department employee. The police officer would allow us to have a second detective which will asst in getting caught up on cases that SPD has been unable to investigate such as elderly fraud. The second highway worker will be mainly assigned to our parks for we do not have an assigned highway worker. We presently rely heavily on volunteers and some work does not get done. In the winter the new highway worker will primarily assist with snow plowing and removal. The estimated increase on the tax rate is 12 cents.

The choice as to what kind of town we have is up to you, the voter. Thank you for your consideration.

RALPH E. HICKS
SPENCER

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.

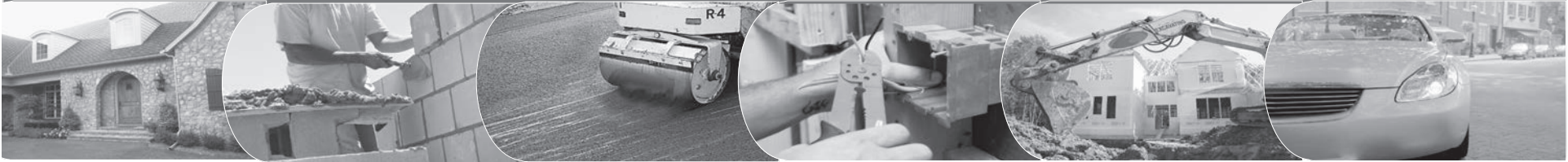
It is the sole prerogative of the Editor to determine whether a submission satisfies our requirements and decency standards, and any submission may be rejected at any time for any reason he or she might deem appropriate.

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Sheriff's Office launches new therapy dog program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — The dog days have arrived early this year, thanks to a new therapy dog program launched by the Worcester County Sheriff's Office (WCSO).

Made possible by an English Labrador Retriever named Milo, the WCSO's Therapy Dog Unit was created to enhance staff wellbeing, reduce workplace stress, and foster an even more supportive environment for employees.

Officer Lindsay McNamara, a 10-year veteran of the Sheriff's Office, serves as Milo's handler. McNamara previously served in various WCSO units, including receiving, classifications, and line operations.

In her new role, McNamara oversees Milo's daily training and responsibilities around the facilities. This will ensure the Therapy Dog Unit provides emotional and mental health support to employees around the clock, officials said.

"We've been looking into this type of program for years," said Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. "After



Courtesy

WCSO Officer Lindsay McNamara is teaming up with English Labrador Retriever Milo to lead a new program.

speaking with partners in corrections across the state who have existing therapy dog programs, we determined this program would bring tremendous value to our daily operations."

Currently employing roughly 600 staff members, the WCSO is dedicat-

ed to maintaining a supportive and positive work environment. Officer McNamara looks forward to taking part in several programs with Milo that assist the staff. These include working alongside teams providing critical incident stress management, military peer

support, and other offerings focused on employee wellbeing.

"I'm honored to step into this role alongside Milo, supporting the team I've worked with for over a decade," McNamara said. "Stressful situations are a daily occurrence

in any jail or house of corrections, but we have systems in place to help employees manage stress. By combining my experience in corrections with the skills that Milo will develop through hundreds of hours of training, we'll be able to respond to various situations to connect with staff and help reduce anxiety and stress."

Studies show that therapy dogs help decrease stress for individuals exposed to high-stress environments or traumatic situations. Nationwide, employees with regular access to these support programs have reported improvements in workplace comfort and overall mental health.

"Just like police, fire, and other first responders, corrections officers have demanding and challenging jobs," Evangelidis said. "Access to mental health resources is crucial for ensuring our employees remain safe, happy, and healthy. Milo has made an immediate impact on the WCSO staff, who work diligently to keep the residents of Worcester County safe."

In addition to various

internal K9 programs, the WCSO partners with Animal Assisted Therapy Services of Massachusetts. Through a contract with the organization, therapy dog handlers visit certain populations within the facility to help lower stress levels and reduce tensions among inmates in the housing blocks.

Evangelidis emphasized that prioritizing the mental health and wellbeing of staff leads to better outcomes for inmates.

"When employees are supported and maintain mental resilience, they can engage with inmates constructively and professionally," read a statement released by the WCSO. "This approach fosters a more rehabilitative environment within the facility. With the establishment of the Therapy K9 Unit, the Sheriff's Office reaffirms its commitment to the wellness of both its staff and the overall mission of rehabilitation."

To learn more about programs run by the WCSO, visit www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com.



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Cornerstone Bank expands with new branch in Worcester’s Tatnuck Square

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, has opened its 12th branch at 1125 Pleasant St. in Worcester.

“This is one of Worcester’s most vibrant neighborhoods with a bustling shopping district near Worcester State University and the Worcester Airport,” said Todd Tallman, CEO of Cornerstone Bank. “We’re so excited to join and serve this com-

munity.”

Cornerstone is inviting the public to a ribbon-cutting and family-friendly grand opening celebration from 10 a.m. until 1 p.m. There will be a bouncy house, ice cream truck, giveaways and games. The ribbon-cutting with Tim Murray, the President and CEO of the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce, will be there.

Complimenting the essence of Tatnuck Square, the exterior of the new branch features an exciting sculpture by popular local artist Jose Criollo. His work has been featured throughout Worcester and is created from locally recycled metals and wood.

Cornerstone Bank has been renovating the property since purchasing it last year. The full-service branch includes two drive-up lanes with ATM capabilities and state-of-the-art drive-up live video tellers available during banking hours. Inside, there will be specialists dedicated to lending and investment consultation, available by appointment only, and even a coffee bar.

The new Tatnuck Square Branch is open Monday- Wednesday from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m., Thursday from 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Friday from 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m., and Saturday from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. The branch is closed on Sundays.



Courtesy
From left: Ashley Rincon, Natasha Rován, and Loise Ngigi.

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy student medalists at SkillsUSA States Conference

MARLBOROUGH — Three Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy students were awarded gold and silver medals at the recent SkillsUSA States Conference. Gold medal winners will be advancing to the SkillsUSA National Conference to be held June 23-28 in Atlanta, Ga.

The Practical Nursing student medalists are as follows: Loise Ngigi of South Grafton, Gold Medal First Aid/CPR; Ashley Rincon of Southbridge, Gold Medal, and Natasha Rován of Worcester, Silver Medical Medical Terminology.

“We are grateful to both SkillsUSA Advisors for Bay Path, Mrs. Pam Staney and Mr. Christopher Staney, and the Superintendent, Mr. Kyle Brenner for his support,” said Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director. “We are proud of our Practical Nursing students and are grateful to our PN faculty and staff who have also shown tremendous support.”

This year’s success continues to increase the number of Bay Path Practical Nursing students who have advanced to national competition over the years; many of whom placed medals nationally.

According to the SkillsUSA Web site, “SkillsUSA’s National Leadership & Skills Conference (NLSC) is the largest gathering of America’s future skilled workforce and the ultimate recognition of excellence in career and technical education. Held in Atlanta each June, the NLSC is a week-long celebration of the skilled trades and the accomplishments of career-ready leaders from across the United States. The event brings together more than 16,000 attendees, including students, instructors, industry partners, government officials, administrators and more. The highlight of the NLSC is the SkillsUSA Championships, where more than 6,000 state champions compete for national gold, silver and bronze medals in 115 skilled and leadership competitions.”

Spencer Democrats to elect delegates to State Convention

SPENCER — On Saturday, May 10 at 11 a.m., Democrats will convene at the Spencer Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main St., to elect five delegates and four alternates to represent Spencer at the 2025 State Democratic Convention.

Individuals aged 16 and above who have registered or pre-registered as Democrats in [Spencer] by Saturday, March 29 may vote and be elected as delegates or alternates during the caucus. Youth (age 16 to 35), people with disabilities, people of color, veterans, members of the LGBTQ+ community not elected as delegates or alternates are encouraged to apply to be add-on delegates at the caucus or by visiting massdems.org/massdems-convention. The 2025 Convention will be in person at the MassMutual Center in Springfield on Saturday, Sept. 13.

Those interested in getting involved with the Spencer Democratic Committee should contact William at youthcommission2000@yahoo.com or (508) 885-2485.

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NOTICE OF DEFAULT AND FORECLOSURE SALE SINGLE FAMILY MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE LOCATION: 53 G H Wilson Road, Spencer, MA 01562

WHEREAS on 08/20/2008 a certain Mortgage was executed by Robert N. Contestabile and Evelyn M. Contestabile as mortgagor in favor of Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation as mortgagee and was recorded on 08/27/2008 in Book 43243 at Page 307 in the Office of the Registry of Deeds of Worcester County; and **WHEREAS** the Mortgage was insured by the United States Secretary of Housing and Urban Development (the Secretary) pursuant to the National Housing Act for the purpose of providing single family housing; and **WHEREAS** the Mortgage is now owned by the Secretary pursuant to an assignment dated 04/29/2021 and recorded on 05/12/2021 in Book 65145 at Page 190 in the office of the Registry of Deeds of Worcester County; and **WHEREAS** a default has been made in the covenants and conditions of the Mortgage in that the B01rnwer is deceased and the property is not the principal residence of at least one other surviving borrower as set forth in Paragraph 9(a)(i) of the Mortgage; and **WHEREAS** by virtue of this default the Secretary has declared the entire amount of the indebtedness secured by the Mortgage to be immediately due and payable; **NOW THEREFORE** pursuant to powers vested in me by the Single Family Mortgage Foreclosure Act of 1994, 12 U.S.C. 3751 et seq., by 24 CFR part 27 subpart B, and by the **SECRETARY'S** designation of me as Foreclosure Commissioner recorded on 03/28/2023 in Book 68958, Page 106, notice is hereby given that on 06/05/2025 at 12:00 PM local tin1e, all real and personal property at or used in connection with the following described premises ("Property") will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder: **THE LAND IN SPENCER WITH THE IMPROVEMENTS THEREON BOUNDED AND DESCRIBED AS FOLLOWS:** The land in Spencer, in the County of Worcester, with the buildings thereon situated on the nmtherly side of G. H. Wilson Road, being lot 13 on a plan of lots of Geneva H Littlefield by Theodore P. Drazek R. L.S. dated March 21, 1966 and filed with Worcester District Deeds, Book of Plans 368, Plan 68, bounded as follows: Northerly by land of Geneva H. Littlefield 150 feet; Easterly by lot 12 on said plan 200 feet; Southerly by G. H. Wilson Road 150 feet; and Westerly by land now or formerly of John Ellis 200 feet. Subject to restriction and covenant that no building or structure of any kind shall be placed on the premises except one dwelling house designed as a residence for one family, costing not less than \$15000. Subject to easement and agreement that the most easterly fifteen feet of the premises shall be used for "green belt" purposes and no building Shall be erected thereon or use made thereof other than for maintaining the land-scaping. For Title see Deed recorded in the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 7643, Page 50. Commonly known as: 53 G H Wilson Road, Spencer, MA Q1562 The sale will be held at **53 G H Wilson Road, Spencer, MA 01562.** The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development will bid approximately \$322,936.20. There will be no proration of taxes, rents, or other income or liabilities except that the purchaser will pay at or before closing his pro-rata share of any real estate taxes that have been paid by the Secretary to the date of the foreclosure sale. When making their bids, all bidders except the Secretary must submit a deposit totaling approximately \$32,293.62 [10% of the Secretaiy's bid] in the form of a certified check or cashier's check made out to the Secretary of HUD. A deposit need not accompany each oral bid. If the successful bid is oral, a deposit of at least \$32,293.62 must be presented before the bidding is closed. The deposit is non-refundable. The remainder of the purchase price must be delivered within 30 days of the sale or at such other time as the Secretary may detennine for good cause shown, time being of the essence. This amount, like the bid deposits, must be delivered in the form of a certified or cashier's check. If the Secretary is the highest bidder, he need not pay the bid amount in cash. The successful bidder will pay all conveying fees, all real estate and other taxes that are due on or after the

delivery date of the remainder of the payment, and all other costs associated with the transfer of title. At the conclusion of the sale, the deposits of the unsuccessful bidders will be returned to them. The Secretary may grant an extension of time within which to deliver the remainder of the payment. All extensions will be for 15-day increments for a fee of \$500 paid in advance. The extension fee shall be in the form of a certified or cashier's check made payable to the Secretary of HUD. If the high bidder closes the sale prior to the expiration of any extension period, the unused portion of the extension fee shall be applied toward the amount due. If the high bidder is unable to close the sale within the required period or within any extensions of time granted by the Secretary, the high bidder may be required to forfeit the cash deposit or, at the election of the foreclosure commissioner after consultation with the HUD representative, will be liable to HUD for any costs incurred as a result of such failure. The Commissioner may, at the direction of the HUD representative, offer the property to the second highest bidder for an amount equal to the highest piice offered by that bidder. There is no right of redemption or tight of possession based upon a right of redemption in the mortgagor or others subsequent to a foreclosure completed pursuant to the Act. Therefore, the Foreclosure Commissioner will issue a Deed to the purchaser(s) upon receipt of the entire purchase piice in accordance with the tenns of the sale as provided herein. HUD does not guarantee that the property will be vacant. The scheduled foreclosure sale shall be cancelled or adjourned if it is established by documented w1tten application of the mortgagor to the Foreclosure Commissioner not less than 3 days before the date of sale, or otherwise, that the default or defaults upon which the foreclosure is based did not exist at the time of service of this notice of default and foreclsure sale, or all amounts due under the mortgage agreement are tendered to the Foreclosure Commissioner in the form of a certified or cashier's check payable to the Secretary of HUD before public auction of the property is completed. The amount that must be paid if the mortgage is to be paid off prior to the scheduled sale is approximately \$315,436.20 as of 4/3/2025, plus all other amounts that would be due under the mortgage agreement if payments under the mortgage had not been accelerated, advertising costs and postage expenses incurred in giving notice, mileage by the most reasonable road distance for posting notices and for the Foreclosure Commissioner's attendance at the sale, reasonable and customary costs incurred for title and lien record searches, the necessary out-of-pocket costs incurred by the Foreclosure Commissioner for recording documents, a commission for the Foreclosure Commissioner, and all other costs incurred in connection with the foreclosure piior to reinstatement. Tender of payment by certified or cashier's check or application for cancellation of the foreclosure sale shall be submitted to the address of the Foreclosure Commissioner provided below. Date: April 7, 2025 Foreclosure Commissioner: Jessica Clarke, Esq. The Law Offices of Jessica Clarke.P.C. Address: P.O. Box 468, Wareham, MA 02571 Phone: (781) 915-4129 Fax: (515) 517-8791 May 9, 2025 May 16, 2025 May 23, 2025 **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. WO25C0239CA CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME** In the matter of: **Jim-Sun Khygh Cambra A Petition to Change Name of Adult** has been filed by **Jim-Sun Khygh Cambra of Spencer MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Jim-Sun Khygh Cambra-Asare** IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 05/23/2025 at 10 a.m. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this

proceeding. WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: April 25, 2025 Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate May 9, 2025 **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: **May 20, 2025 (potamogetan treatment) June 17, 2025 (invasives treatment #1), August 12, 2025 (invasives treatment #2, 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 (License No. WM04-0001761) 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. May 9, 2025 **At the Zoning Board of Appeals special meeting to be held on Wednesday May 21, 2025, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:** **Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals Special Permit Finding– Applicant/ Owner: Ashley L’Esperance: Location: 28 Adams Street, Spencer Assessor’s Map U07-187. The applicant is seeking a Special Permit under Sections 4.8.3.D (Customary Home Occupation) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to teach music lessons out of her residence. The property is located in the Village Residential (VR) Zoning District.** May 2, 2025 May 9, 2025 **Massachusetts Trial Court Superior Court Dennis P. McManus Clerk of Courts Worcester county Worcester Superior Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION DOCKET NUMBER: 2585CV0566 A Country Bank for Savings vs. Terrence Paris TO: Terrence Paris, all in said Commonwealth; and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. App. §501 et seq.: Country Bank for Savings claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Ma, known and numbered as 23 Pleasant St., Spencer, MA given by Terrence Paris to Country Bank for Savings dated 11/19/21 and recorded in Worcester County District Registry of Deeds, in Book 66605, Page 243 has/have filed with this court a Complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemember status. If you now are, or recently have been, in active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Worcester Superior Courton or before 6/9/25 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, Michael D. Ricciuti, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Superior Court at Worcester Massachusetts, this 28 day of April , 2025 Dennis P. McManus Clerk of Courts May 9, 2025 **NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE 104 Pleasant Street, East Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts** By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage from Shakhab LLC to Leader Bank, N.A., dated January 9, 2018 and recorded with the Worcester**

County Registry of Deeds at Book 58297, Page 275 of which the under-signed is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 A.M. on June 5, 2025 on the mortgaged premises located at 104 Pleasant Street, East Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, **TO WIT:** The land in East Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at an iron pin set in the northerly line of Pleasant Street as shown on a plan of property surveyed for Patrick and Christine Ahearn in East Brookfield, Massachusetts surveyed by John Dowgielewicz, Spencer, April 23, 1985 which plan is recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 536, Plan 67 and which is the southeast corner of the lot herein described and the southwest corner of land containing a 1 and ½ story wood structure that is shown on said plan; THENCE S. 70° 16’ 30” W. 104.62 feet along the northerly line of Pleasant Street to a point; THENCE N. 9° 04’ E. 130.85 feet along land conveyed to Neil S. Moreau and Alice M. Moreau by deed of Arthur L. LeDoux et ux dated March 31, 1958 and recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 3933, Page 109 to a point; THENCE N. 79° 02’ E. 24 feet to a point; THENCE N. 83° 57’ E. 93.65 feet to a point; THENCE S. 19° 05’ 10” W. 25.0 feet to a point being the northeast corner of land now or formerly of Ahearn as shown on the above referred to plan; THENCE S. 67° 35’ 55” W. 35.19 feet; THENCE S. 18° 49’ 20” E. 100.53 feet to the point of beginning. For title see deed recorded herewith. These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, leases, tenancies and occupancies any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens, leases, tenancies and occupancies or encumbrances is made in the deed. **TERMS OF SALE:** A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at the office of Bruce E. Linsky, Attorney at Law, 1383 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02465, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. In the event the purchaser at the foreclosure sale defaults in purchasing the above described premises according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder, provided that the second highest bidder deposits with the Mortgagee's attorney, Bruce E. Linsky, Attorney at Law, the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice. The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone this sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and place appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and place appointed for any adjourned sale. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale. Leader Bank, N.A. Present holder of said mortgage By its Attorneys, Bruce E. Linsky Attorney at Law 1383 Washington Street Newton, MA 02465 781-235-3200 bel@blinskylaw.com May 9, 2025 May 16, 2025 May 23, 2025

LEGALS

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS CHERRY VALLEY AND ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT WARRANT ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING

To: Cheryl Balkus, District Clerk
Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District Greetings:

You are hereby directed to notify the VOTERS of the Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District to meet in the Town Hall Auditorium, 3 Washburn Square, Leicester, Massachusetts fifteenth of May, two thousand and twenty-five (May 15, 2025) at seven-thirty P.M. (7:30 P.M.), then and there to act on the following articles:

ONE:MODERATOR

To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting and for a period of one (1) year thereafter.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the Clerk of the District declare that the polls are open to cast ballots for the election of moderator for a term of one (1) Year.

DESCRIPTION:

This article is an annual procedural article as the Moderator is the individual that will preside over tonight's meeting as well as the beginning of the 2026 Annual Meeting at which time the process is repeated. Additionally, the candidates have met the District By-law requirement of which "Candidates for office must notify the clerk of the district in writing at least three (3) days (72 hours) prior to the meeting date before seeking an office for the Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District".

TWO: REPORTS

To act on the reports of the District.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District accept the printed reports of the District as printed in the 2025 Annual Report which is in the hands of the voters present.

DESCRIPTION:

The printed report of the Water Commissioners provides the District members with an annual update of the District's activities during fiscal year 2025 and the report of the District Treasurer provides the District members with an update of the District's audited activity during fiscal year ending 2024, respectively.

THREE: COMMISSIONER

To elect the following officer by ballot: A resident from the Cherry Valley service area to hold the office of District Commissioner for a period of three (3) years.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the Clerk of the District declare that the polls are open to cast ballots for the election of Commissioner representing Cherry Valley area for a term of three (3) Years.

DESCRIPTION:

The Board of Water Commissioners has three members each serving a three year term. One Commissioner is elected representing the Greenville service area, the Rochdale Service area and the Cherry Valley service area. Each Commissioner must reside within his/her representative service area. The District By-laws require Candidates for the Office of Commissioner must notify the Clerk in writing at least three days (72 hours) prior to the meeting date. The winner of the election will take effect when the annual meeting closes. Absent any directive in bylaw or enabling act.

FOUR: PART TERM COMMISSIONER

To elect a Water Commissioner for a term of two (2) years

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the Clerk of the District declare that the polls are open to cast ballots for the election of Commissioner for a term of two (2) years.

DESCRIPTION:

Due to the passing of a commissioner the District needs to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term which is for (2) years in the Greenville service area. The District By-laws require Candidates for the Office of Commissioner must notify the Clerk in writing at least three days (72 hours) prior to the meeting date.

The winner of the election will take effect when annual meeting closes absent any directive in bylaw or enabling act.

FIVE : PART TERM COMMISSIONER

To elect a Water Commissioner for a term of one (1) years

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the Clerk of the District declare that the polls are open to cast ballots for the election of Commissioner for a term of one (1) year Rochdale Service Area.

DESCRIPTION:

The District needs to fill the vacancy for the remainder of the term which is for (1) year in the Rochdale service area. The District By-laws require Candidates for the Office of Commissioner must notify the Clerk in writing at least three days (72 hours) prior to the meeting date. The winner of the election will take effect when annual meeting closes absent any directive in bylaw or enabling act.

SIX: BUDGET

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or free cash, or otherwise provide a sum of money, or any other sum, from any available funding source or other available means, for the operating budget for fiscal year 2026, to provide for the District's annual operating requirements, including but not limited to, salaries, related services, office expenses, maintenance, construction and any other items related thereto; to execute any instruments or documents necessary or appropriate to accomplish said purposes; or take any action in relation thereto.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to appropriate from available funds the sum of \$1,440,087.58 (One million four hundred forty thousand eighty seven dollars and fifty eight cents for the operating budget for fiscal year 2026 as set forth in the 115TH Annual Report, to provide for the District's annual operating requirements, including but not limited to, salaries, related services, office expenses, maintenance, construction and any other items related thereto; to execute any instruments or documents necessary or appropriate to accomplish said purposes.

DESCRIPTION:

This article funds the fiscal year 2026 operating budget, which includes funding all operations of the District, debt service payments and the purchasing of water from the City of Worcester. This will result in a rate increase.

SEVEN: REVOLVING FUND FOR CONSTRUCTION

To see if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to establish a fund to receive and deposit fees paid pursuant to Chapter 105 of the Acts of 1996, and, from which expenditures may be made by the Board of Water Commissioners for legal services, administrative services and engineering services (including but not limited to, design, plan review, and inspection of the project being constructed) in connection with any water system design, review, and construction, or to take any action thereon.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to establish a fund to receive and deposit fees paid pursuant to Chapter 105 of the Acts of 1996, and, from which expenditures may be made, by the Board of Water Commissioners for legal services, administrative services and engineering services (including but not limited to, design, plan review, and inspection of the project(s) being constructed) in connection with any water system design, review, and construction.

DESCRIPTION:

This is a non-money article. This is a house keeping article. This article establishes a "revolving account for review of new construction projects within the service area of the district". It provides the means for the District to collect funds from the proposer of the new construction project to pay costs including but not limited to, design, plan review, and inspection of the project being constructed and associated with new construction projects with no impact to the FY26 operating budget and no expense to the district rate payers.

EIGHT: REVOLVING ACCOUNT FOR METERS

To see if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to establish a fund to receive and deposit fees paid pursuant to Chapter 105 of the Acts Of 1996, and, from which expenditures may be made by the Board of Water Commissioners for the purchase and installation of water meters or take any action thereon.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to establish a fund to receive and deposit fees paid pursuant to Chapter 105 of the Acts of 1996, and, from which expenditures may be made, by the Board of Water Commissioners for the purchase and installation of water meters.

DESCRIPTION:

This article establishes a "revolving account for water meters". It provides the means for the District to collect funds to pay costs as outlined in the motion and associated with new construction projects with no impact to the FY26 operating budget.

This is a non-money article. This is a house keeping article.

NINE: REVOLVING ACCOUNT FOR TERMINATION EXPENDITURES

To see if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to establish a fund to receive and deposit fees paid pursuant to Chapter 105 of the Acts of 1996, and, from which expenditures may be made by the Board of Water Commissioners for the purchase and rental of supplies and equipment associated with the District's Service Termination Process,

including but not limited to construction and excavation equipment rental, police details, backfill materials such as processed gravel and sand, asphalt, pipe, fittings and appurtenances or take any action thereon.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to establish a fund to receive and deposit fees pursuant to Chapter 105 of the Acts of 1996, and, from which expenditures may be made, by the Board of Water Commissioners for the purchase and rental of supplies and equipment associated with the District's Service Termination Process, including but not limited to, construction and excavation equipment rental, police details, backfill materials such as processed gravel and sand, asphalt, pipe, fittings and appurtenances.

DESCRIPTION:

The Board of Water Commissioners are responsible for the financial stability of the district and unfortunately have to implement the termination process in the collection of unpaid water bills. The District would rather work with Individuals in establishing a payment plan to address outstanding water bills. Termination is implemented as the last resort in the collection process.

This article establishes a "revolving account for termination". It provides the means for the District to collect funds to pay costs as outlined in the motion and associated with district's termination program with no impact to the FY26 operating budget.

TEN-FUNDING STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or free cash, or otherwise provide a sum of money, or any other sum, from any available funding source or by available means to fund the Grindstone Well Stabilization account.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District transfer \$30,000 from free cash and move it to the Grindstone Well Stabilization account.

DESCRIPTION:

This will fund the Grindstone Well Stabilization account.

ELEVEN - USE OF STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

To see if the District will allow the use of the Grindstone Well Stabilization account if any issues arise including but not limited to the changing out of the arsenic media, uranium media, pumps, electric parts, etc.. As well as maintenance on the well.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District be allowed to use up to \$25,000 out of the Grindstone Well Stabilization account if work needs to be done on the Grindstone Well.

DESCRIPTION:

This allows the District to authorize the board to use the funds that are set aside for Grindstone Well. THIS REQUIRES A 2/3 VOTE.

TWELVE - SWAMP LEAK

To see if the District will transfer \$300,000 from free cash to cover the cost of the Emergency Swamp leak.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District transfer \$300,000 from free cash to cover the cost of the Emergency Swamp leak.

DESCRIPTION:

Back in October 2024 the District had a leak in the middle of a swamp. We received DOR approval to use these monies in advanced. This is a house-keeping article to ratify the expense.

THIRTEEN-AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISION OF CHAPTER 105 ACTS OF 1996

This will update our enabling acts for the purpose of improving the administration and staffing of the district.

PROPOSED MOTION:

Section 2. Amend section 9 of chapter 105 as follows: Delete the sentence: The district shall also at a legal meeting called for the purpose elect by ballot a district clerk and a treasurer to hold office for the term of one year and until their successors are chosen and qualified.

Section 3. Amend section 9 of chapter 105 as follows: Delete the last sentence in section 9 in its entirety.

Section 4. Insert section 9A following section 9 as amended as follows: The board of water commissioners shall appoint duly qualified individuals to manage and direct the operations and business of the district to serve in the positions of Superintendent, Treasurer and Clerk of the district and to appoint such additional personnel to ensure the proper operation of the water source protection, treatment and distribution systems required to comply with the regulations governing public water suppliers within the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

DESCRIPTION:

Updating the enabling acts for the treasurer, clerk and superintendent will make it match to the District By-laws. It will also ensure that qualified personal are in these positions.

FOURTEEN - FEASIBILITY OF

MERGING THE CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT AND CHERRY VALLEY SEWER DISTRICT

To authorize the board of water commissioners to initiate discussions with the board of sewer commissioners of the Cherry Valley Sewer District to consider the feasibility of merging the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District and the Cherry Valley Sewer District into a single Water and Sewer District within the town of Leicester, and, to draft legislation for consideration of the district's membership for voting in the coming year

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move to transfer \$30,000 from free cash to authorize the board of water commissioners to initiate discussions with the board of sewer commissioners of the Cherry Valley Sewer District to consider the feasibility of merging the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District and the Cherry Valley Sewer District into a single Water and Sewer District within the town of Leicester, and, to draft legislation for consideration of the districts membership for voting in the coming year.

DESCRIPTION:

This article will let commissioners of the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District know if District members are interested in the merging of the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District and The Cherry Valley Sewer District into one District. If this article passes the District's will work together to see what is needed and how to merge the two districts.

FIFTEEN: RISK AND RESILIENCE

To See if the District will vote to raise and appropriate from free cash and/or available funds to fund Risk and Resilience.

MOTION:

I move that the district vote to transfer \$20,000 from free cash to fund Risk and Resilience Assessment.

DESCRIPTION:

On October 23, 2018, America's Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA) was signed into law. AWIA Section 2013 requires community (drinking) water systems serving more than 3,300 people to develop or update risk assessments and emergency response plans (ERPs). The law specifies the components that the risk assessments and ERPs must address, and establishes deadlines by which water systems must certify to EPA completion of the risk assessment and ERP.

This needs to be completed every 5 years.

SIXTEEN: ENGINEERING OF THE MAIN TRANSMISSION LINE

To see inf the District will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from free cash and/or available funds to fund the design improvements of the 8" transmission line in the swamp from Henshaw St to Route 56 servicing all of Rochdale.

MOTION:

I move the District vote to transfer \$175,000 from free cash to fund the design work associated with the improvements and upgrades to the 8" Transmission line servicing the Rochdale Service area.

DESCRIPTION:

In October of 2024 the District responded to a major water main break on the Transmission line servicing the Rochdale Portion of the District. The current 8" Transmission line is the original water main from the early 1900s. This leak exposed the District to a major portion of the infrastructure that is need of updating and replacements. Unlike most of the water mains in Cherry Valley, the transmission main connecting Rochdale to Cherry Valley portion of the system is located in both wooded areas and swamp areas spanning over 1.5 miles. This article will allocate funds to start the design of replacing the current transmission main with a new and possibly larger transmission main to better service the Rochdale service area for years to come.

SEVENTEEN: KETTLEBROOK CROSSING WATER MAIN

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or free cash, or otherwise provide a sum of money, or any other sum, from any available funding source or by available means to enable the District to fund the construction of the replacement of the water main crossing over the Kettle Brook on Main St. and to pay all costs related thereto including engineering services, administrative services, legal services, and construction services, or to take any action thereon

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to authorize the Board of Water Commissioners to transfer funds from free cash not exceeding \$350,000 for the Kettle Brook Crossing Water Main project.

DESCRIPTION:

Last year District voters authorized the design of this project. This article is designed to partially fund the construction and installation of the water line

Always room for tomatoes

Nothing beats the flavor of fresh-from-the-garden tomatoes. Keep them close at hand by growing one or more in containers on your patio, balcony, or front steps.

Any tomato can be grown in a pot, but determinate varieties are shorter and more compact, making them a bit easier to manage in a container. They produce fruit in a relatively short period of time, making them great choices for preserving as well as using fresh. Look for a D or determinate on the plant tag, seed packet or in the catalog description.

Indeterminate tomatoes, often designated with an I, are usually much taller and continue to grow, flower, and produce fruit until frost kills the plant or you pinch out the growing tip. These are usually staked or grown in wire cages to save space, reduce pest problems and make harvesting easier. Many new containers have built-in



GARDEN
MOMENTS
• • • • •
MELINDA
MYERS

trellises or creative gardeners craft their own, making it easier and more attractive to grow these bigger plants in pots.

Semi-determinate varieties are in between these two. They are compact like determinates, often trailing but produce fruit throughout the growing season like indeterminate varieties.

You can now find compact varieties often sold as miniature and dwarf plants that grow well in small four-to-eight-inch pots. They are a great option for those with limited space, gardening on balconies, indoors in a sunny window or just about anywhere. Kitchen Mini tomatoes,

Heartbreakers, Red Velvet and Micro Tom Thumb are just a few. Grow one tomato per container for maximum productivity. Use a five-gallon or bigger container for large varieties and at least a two to three gallon or similar size pot for smaller varieties.

Some research suggests growing tomatoes in a pot that is at least 14 inches but preferably 20 inches wide will yield greater results. Adding flowers and herbs to the container boosts the beauty and diversity of your container garden but will reduce the number of tomatoes produced.

Growing tomatoes in containers also allows you to start the season earlier. Just move the planter inside when the weather is harsh and back outside when the weather is warm and sunny. As the weather turns cold at the end of the growing season, cover the planter or move it into a frost-free

location as needed. Some gardeners even move a pot or two inside to finish off the tomato season.

Plant tomatoes in a container with drainage holes and fill it with a quality potting mix. Reduce the time spent watering with a self-watering pot that has a reservoir to hold water and extend the time between watering. Further reduce the need to water by adding an organic, sustainable soil amendment like certified organic Wild Valley Farms' wool pellets (wildvalleyfarms.com) to the potting mix. Made from wool waste, this product reduces watering by up to 25 percent.

Water thoroughly when the top few inches begin to dry. Mulch the soil with evergreen needles, shredded leaves, or other organic mulch to keep the soil consistently moist and suppress weeds. Consistent soil moisture encourages more flowering and fruiting, while reducing the



Melinda Myers

If gardening space is limited, grow tomatoes in hanging baskets or containers.

risk of blossom end rot, cracking, and misshapen fruit.

Harvest tomatoes when fully colored or leave them on the plant a few more days for an even sweeter flavor. You'll enjoy the convenience of harvesting fresh tomatoes right outside your door for use in salads, sauces, and other favorite recipes.

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* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Wild Valley Farms for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

LEGALS

and cover any additional engineering expenses for the project. The District has applied for a grant to fund this project as well. In the event of receiving the grant successfully the funds from this article will only be utilized to cover any match portion of the grant.

EIGHTEEN - CLOSE OUT OF PRIOR PROJECTS

To see if the district will vote to close-out the below projects that were previously approved at prior annual Water District Meetings,

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District Close out the Sargent Street Water line and Technologies upgrades projects and return to the general fund the unused funds appropriated for said projects in the amount of:

Sargent Street Water Line \$38,276.51
Technology Upgrade \$3,237.50

Total: \$41,514.01

DESCRIPTION:

These projects were completed, and these are the remaining funds left in each account. This article will move the money back into the general fund.

You are hereby directed to serve this WARRANT by posting an attested copy at the Leicester Fire Department, Company No. 2, 226 Main Street, Cherry Valley, MA; Rochdale Post Office, 1138 Stafford Street, Rochdale, MA; at the Church Building, 672 Pleasant Street, Rochdale, MA; at the Leicester Town Hall and the Oxford Town Hall seven (7) days at least before said meeting.

Given under our hands, this 29th day of April, two thousand twenty-five (April 29, 2025). spectfully submitted,
Joseph M. McGinn, Commissioner
Robert H. Lemieux, Sr. Commissioner
A TRUE COPY ATTEST:
Cheryl Balkus Clerk- District Clerk
Donald G. Manseau, Chairman
(SEAL)
May 9, 2025

CHERRY VALLEY SEWER DISTRICT P.O. BOX 138 ROCHDALE, MA 01542 ANNUAL MEETING WARRANT

To: Cheryl Balkus, District Clerk
Cherry Valley Sewer District
Greetings:

You are hereby directed to notify the Voters of the Cherry Valley Sewer District to meet in the Town Hall Auditorium, 3 Washburn Square, Leicester, Massachusetts Thursday, and the 22nd day of May 2025 at 7:00 P.M. then and there to act on the following:

ARTICLE 1: MODERATOR

To elect a Moderator to preside at said meeting and for a period of one (1) year thereafter.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the clerk of the District declares that the polls are open to cast ballots for the election of moderator for a term of one (1) year.

DESCRIPTION:

This article is an annual procedural article as the Moderator is the individual that will preside over tonight's meeting as well as the beginning of the 2026 Annual Meeting at which time the process is repeated.

ARTICLE 2: REPORTS

To act on reports of the District.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to accept the Reports of the District as printed in the 2025 Annual Report, which is in the hands of the voters present.

DESCRIPTION:

The printed report of the Commissioners provides the District members with an

annual update of the District's activities during fiscal year 2025 and the report of the District Treasurer provides the District members with an update of the District's audited activity during fiscal year ending 2024.

ARTICLE 3: COMMISSIONER

To elect a Sewer Commissioner for a term of three (3) years.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the Clerk of the District declares that the polls are open to cast ballots for the election of Commissioner for a term of three (3) years.

DESCRIPTION:

The Board of Sewer Commissioners has three members each serving a three-year term.

The winner of the election will take effect when the annual meeting closed. Absent any directive in bylaw or enabling act.

ARTICLE 4: BUDGET

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate transfer from available funds, or otherwise provide a sum of money from any available means, for the operating budget for Fiscal Year 2026, to provide for the District's annual operating requirements, including but not limited to, salaries, related services, office expenses, maintenance, construction and other items related thereto: to execute any instruments or documents necessary or appropriate to accomplish said purposes: and to take any other action thereon.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to appropriate from available funds (sewer revenue), the sum of \$745,714.50 (seven hundred forty five thousand seven hundred fourteen dollars and fifty cents and transfer from free cash \$100,000 (one hundred thousand dollars) for a total of \$845,714.50 (eight hundred forty five thousand seven hundred fourteen dollars and fifty cents) for the operating budget of Fiscal Year 2026, to provide for the District's annual operating requirements, including but not limited to, salaries, related services, office expenses, maintenance and construction.

DESCRIPTION:

This article funds the fiscal year 2026 operating budget, which includes funding all operations of the District, debt service payments, transportation costs (City of Worcester and Upper Blackstone).

ARTICLE 5: REVOLVING FUND FOR CONSTRUCTION

To see if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Sewer Commissioners to establish a fund to receive and deposit fee paid pursuant to Chapter 33 of the Acts of 1998, and, from which expenditures may be made by the Board of Sewer Commissioners for legal services, administrative services and engineering services, (including but not limited to, design, plan review, and inspection of the project being constructed) in connection with any sewer system design, review, and construction, or take any action thereon.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to authorize the Board of Sewer Commissioners to establish a fund to receive and deposit fees paid pursuant to Chapter 33 of the Acts of 1998, and, from which expenditures may be made by the Board of Sewer Commissioners for legal services, administrative services and engineering services (including but not limited to, design, plan review, and inspection of the project being constructed) in connection with any sewer system design, review, and construction.

DESCRIPTION:

This article establishes a "revolving account for review of new construction projects within the service area of the district". It provides the means for the District to collect funds from the proposer of the new construction project to pay costs including but not limited to, design, plan review, and inspection of the project being constructed and associated with new construction projects with no impact on the FY26 operating budget and no expense to the district rate payers.

For Example, if a new development came into the district our engineer has to review the plans to make sure it will allow us to supply sewer connections to the new development. This warrant article allows us to collect the fees from the new development in order to pay our engineering fees, so the cost is not absorbed by the district subscribers.

ARTICLE 6: PURCHASE OF TRUCK

To see if the District will vote to authorize the Board of Sewer Commissioners to transfer funds from free cash not exceeding eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000.00) to purchase a new¾ ton or 1 ton pickup truck equipped with, but not limited to, plow and associated safety warning systems or to take any action thereon.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to appropriate from free cash the amounts not to exceed eighty thousand dollars (\$80,000.00) to enable the District to purchase a new pickup truck equipped with, but not limited to, plow, and associated safety warning systems or to take any action thereon.

DESCRIPTION:

The District is looking to purchase a new pickup truck to replace a 2006 Ford F350. Vehicles are one of the main pieces of equipment that Staff rely-on daily to continue to maintain and operate the system. The truck manufacturer will be depending on the availability of the chassis due to supply. The truck will be equipped with a snowplow, and amber warning light systems.

ARTICLE 7: FEASIBILITY OF MERGING THE CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT AND CHERRY VALLEY SEWER DISTRICT

To authorize the board of Sewer commissioners to initiate discussions with the board of Water commissioners of the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District to consider the feasibility of merging the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District and the Cherry Valley Sewer District into a single Water and Sewer

District within the town of Leicester, and, to draft legislation for consideration of the district's membership for voting in the coming year

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move to transfer \$30,000 from free cash to authorize the board of Sewer commissioners to initiate discussions with the board of Water commissioners of the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District to consider the feasibility of merging the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District and the Cherry Valley Sewer District into a single Water and Sewer District within the town of Leicester, and, to draft legislation for consideration of the districts membership for voting in the coming year.

DESCRIPTION:

This article will let commissioners of the Cherry Valley Sewer District know if District members are interested in the merging of the Cherry Valley & Rochdale Water District and The Cherry Valley Sewer District into

one District. If this article passes the District's will work together to see what is needed and how to merge the two districts.

ARTICLE 8: STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

To see if the District will establish a Sewer Stations fund account pursuant to Mass General Law Chapter 40 Section 58.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District vote to establish a Sewer Stations fund account pursuant to Mass General Law Chapter 40 Section 58.

DESCRIPTION:

Creating a stabilization account for all of the District's Sewer Stations will allow the District to put monies aside for items such as but not limited to pumps, motors, drives, and communication equipment costs that are outside of the normal operational repairs. The purpose of the Stabilization Account allows the District to have dedicated funds for the specified purpose and not have to carry additional line items and increased costs in the annual operation budget. Once created voters will need to authorize the Commissioners to utilize the account during a given year. If funds are not spent in a given year, they will remain available and rolled over to the next year with a simple vote of the ratepayers.

ARTICLE 9- FUNDING STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate, transfer from available funds or free cash, or otherwise provide a sum of money, or any other sum, from any available funding source or by available means to fund the Sewer stations fund accounts as described in the description under article 8.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District transfer \$40,000 from free cash and move it to the Sewer Stations fund account.

DESCRIPTION:

This will fund the Sewer Stations stabilization account.

ARTICLE 10: USE OF STABILIZATION ACCOUNT

To see if the District will allow the use of the Sewer Stations fund Stabilization account if any issues arise including but not limited to costs associated with pumps, motors, drives and communication equipment that are outside the normal operational repairs.

PROPOSED MOTION:

I move that the District be allowed to use up to \$30,000 out of the Sewer Stations Stabilization account on items such as but not limited to pumps, motors, drives, and communication equipment in the District's Sewer Stations.

DESCRIPTION:

This allows the District to authorize the board to use the funds that are set aside for Sewer Stations. THIS REQUIRES A 2/3 VOTE.

You are hereby directed to give notice of this Warrant by posting attested copies thereof at two public places within the limits of the Cherry Valley Sewer District and with the Clerk of the Town of Leicester seven days before the time of said meeting.

Given under our hands this 17TH of April 2025.

A TRUE COPY ATTEST:

Cheryl Balkus Clerk-Cherry Valley Sewer District
Donald G. Manseau, Chairman
Chairman Robert H. Lemieux, Sr.
Peter Cusolito, Commissioner
(SEAL)
May 9, 2025

POLICE REPORTS

Leicester Police Log

THURSDAY, APRIL 24
1:20 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 9:25 a.m.: ambulance (Ryans Way), transported; 12:55 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:53 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 5:00 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:12 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 5:20 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 5:22 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 5:36 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 8:56 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 9:10 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Street), verbal warning; 9:20 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 9:44 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 10:11 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning.
FRIDAY, APRIL 25
12:49 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:59 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), advised civil action; 1:23 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:26 a.m.: disturbance (Pine Avenue), resolved; 2:12 a.m.: ambulance (Town Beach Road), transported; 5:05 a.m.: assist other PD (Hankey Street), report taken; 6:46 a.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), gone on arrival; 7:10 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), spoken to; 9:06 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Chapel Street), unfounded; 9:46 a.m.: restraining order service (Pine Avenue), unfounded; 10:50 a.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), services rendered; 11:06 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 12:17 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:38 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 12:44 p.m.: investigation (Lake Drive), services rendered; 1:00 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 3:16 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by price tag tampering, criminal application issued; 5:20 p.m.: restraining order service (Pine Avenue), report taken; 4:31 p.m.: ambulance (Howe Village, Spencer), transported; 4:45 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:49 p.m.: open door/window (Deer Pond Road), spoken to; 5:08 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:29 p.m.: missing person (River Street), report taken; 7:14 p.m.: hit/run accident (Soojians Drive), report taken; 9:24 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 9:59 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Street), verbal warning; 10:22 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 10:25 p.m.: disturbance (Hemlock Street), spoken to.
SATUDAY, APRIL 26
12:22 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street),

verbal warning; 1:50 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:39 a.m.: mutual aid (town of Oxford), services rendered; 8:20 a.m.: ambulance (Winslow Avenue), transported; 10:59 a.m.: assist citizen (Auburn Street); 11:01 a.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, larceny under \$1200, report taken; 11:15 a.m.: ambulance (Dale Street), transported; 11:53 a.m.: ambulance (South Street Extension), transported; 1:20 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), report taken; 1:35 p.m.: accident (Towtaid Street), report taken; 1:41 p.m.: accident (Main Street), call canceled; 2:19 p.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), assisted; 3:00 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street, Worcester), call canceled; 3:25 p.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), services rendered; 3:30 p.m.: assist other PD (Hemlock Street), report taken; 3:52 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street, Charlton), transported; 8:57 p.m.: ambulance (Cherry Street, Spencer), transported.
SUNDAY, APRIL 27
3:36 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:47 a.m.: hold-up alarm (Hyland Avenue), false alarm; 8:25 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 10:05 a.m.: welfare check (Hemlock Street), assisted; 12:06 p.m.: restraining order service (Hemlock Street), served; 1:59 p.m.: missing person (River Street), report taken; 2:58 p.m.: ambulance (Atwood Terrace), no action required; 3:21 p.m.: debris in road (Auburn Street), resolved; 6:21 p.m.: family problem (Lake Avenue), spoken to.
MONDAY, APRIL 28
1:19 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 2:51 a.m.: mv stop (Auburn Street), verbal warning; 5:22 a.m.: ambulance (Second street), transported; 6:20 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 8:09 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:42 a.m.: ambulance (Dale Street), transported; 9:37 a.m.: parking complaint (River Street), no action required; 10:06 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:06 a.m.: debris in road (Chapel Street), removed; 10:24 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 10:49 a.m.: commercial alarm (Stafford Street), false alarm; 12:55 p.m.: ambulance (Waite Street), transported; 1:29 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 6:06 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians Drive), transported; 5:05 p.m.: mv lockout (Green Street), resolved; 5:16 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 5:52 p.m.: restraining order service (Hemlock Street), served; 6:25 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), Robert Joseph Dirsas, 58, 45 Burncoat Lane, Leicester, OUI liquor; negligent operation, marked lanes vio-

lation, arrest; 6:28 p.m.: RV complaint (Monterey Drive), services rendered; 7:51 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), Vietnam Minh Dang, 46, 57 Lafayette Street, Worcester, shoplifting by asportation, possession Class A drug, arrest; 11:41 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning.
TUESDAY, APRIL 29
12:14 a.m.: property found (Pleasant Street), resolved; 12:50 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 12:57 a.m.: disturbance (Charlton Street), no action required; 1:16 a.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street), transported (destination not noted on police log); 8:16 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 9:50 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 2:18 p.m.: assist other agency (Flint Way), services rendered; 2:57 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street, Worcester), transported; 3:44 p.m.: restraining order service (Clark Street), served; 3:49 p.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), no action required; 6:10 p.m.: assist other PD (Winslow Avenue), services rendered; 4:25 p.m.: ambulance (Auburn Street), services rendered; 4:39 p.m.: assist other agency (Flint Way), services rendered; 5:36 p.m.: investigation (Winslow Avenue), report taken; 6:05 p.m.: stolen mv (Watch Street), investigated; 6:08 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 6:33 p.m.: ambulance (Virginia Drive), transported; 6:59 p.m.: commercial alarm (Wind in the Pines Way), investigated; 7:08 p.m.: gunshots heard (West Street), investigated; 9:22 p.m.: disabled mv (Paxton Street), assisted; 9:31 p.m.: assist citizen (Paxton Street); 10:19 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning.
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30
1:18 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 5:59 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), referred; 8:20 a.m.: stolen mv (Parker Street), report taken; 9:31 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 12:02 p.m.: ambulance (Rural Drive), transported; 12:18 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 12:36 p.m.: ambulance (Park Lane), transported; 1:00 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:21 p.m.: assist citizen (Pine Street); 1:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Whittemore Street), referred; 2:16 p.m.: investigation (McCarthy Avenue), report taken; 2:21 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 3:53 p.m.: accident (Hyland Avenue), report taken; 4:06 p.m.: RV complaint (Michael Avenue), spoken to; 5:06 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:22 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:20 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), written warning; 7:03 p.m.: disturbance (Pleasant Street), investigated; 8:15 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 8:57 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), trans-

ported; 9:18 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 9:43 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:48 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.

Spencer Police Log
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23
12:54-3:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:25 a.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), req. property check; 7:48 a.m.: officer wanted (May Street), re: social media posts; 8:50 a.m.: entire entry redacted from police log; 8:58 a.m.: disturbance (Lake Street), poss. domestic issue; 9:27 a.m.: 911 call (North Spencer Road), accident; 11:03 a.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 11:20 a.m.: animal complaint (Northwest Road), loose dog; 11:26 a.m.: disturbance (Wilson Street), verbal altercation; 12:07 p.m.: medical/general (Chickering Road); 12:49 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Cranberry Meadow Road), referred; 1:08 p.m.: citizen complaint (Pleasant Street), re: tree company work; 2:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Brooks Pond Road), req. VIN verification; 3:59 p.m.: medical/general (Lake Street), req. welfare check; 4:44 p.m.: animal complaint (Smithville Road), re: injured goose; 4:49 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 5:58 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 6:21 p.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), rep. open door; 6:28 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), req. assistance w/ evaluation; 7:09 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), mv won't leave drive-thru; 8:36 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), rep. poss. theft; 10:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Prospect Street), neighbor issues; (total daily mv stops – 4).
THURSDAY, APRIL 24
12:00 a.m.: assault w/firearm (Wilson Avenue), male making threats; 12:30-3:03 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:09 a.m.: harassing calls (West Main Street), re: texts rec'd; 5:35 a.m.: medical/general (Pine Acres); between 5:35-6:50 a.m.: officer wanted (no location for incident noted on police log), Kevin A. Spencer, 64, assault w/dangerous weapon, possession of firearm w/out FID, threatening to commit a crime, arrest; 6:50 a.m.: accident (Chestnut Street), report taken; 8:59 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Pleasant Street), hang-up; 9:14 a.m.: officer wanted (Wilson Avenue), req. welfare check; 9:57 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 10:14 a.m.: medical/general (Chickering Road); 11:07 a.m.: officer

Turn To LOGS page A16

Town-to-Town Home Town Service, BIG TIME RESULTS

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WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIERS 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!

Advertise Here

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

Sturbridge Fire Department Part-Time/ On-Call Firefighters

Min. req.: HS diploma/GED, non-smoker, MA driver's license

Starting \$19.49 to \$26.06, DOQ

Application and further details: https://www.sturbridge.gov/your-government/pages/job-opportunities

Highway Department Seasonal Laborer

The Town of Brookfield Highway Department seeks a part-time seasonal employee to assist with weekly mowing and weed whacking. Other tasks may be required. Interested parties should submit a resume to Highway@brookfieldma.us

Position will be opened until filled.

Posted 4/28/2025

BOY SCOUT TROOP 273 SPRING YARD SALE Saturday, May 24th

Universal Tag Parking Lot, 36 Hall Road, Dudley

Early Birds (8am to 9am) \$10.00 per person fee 9am until 3pm FREE We accept CREDIT CARDS!"

24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items ONE DAY ONLY

Pick your items and Make an offer!

Grouped Items: Electronics - stereos, speakers, etc. (no TVs) Tools - hand tools, lights, flooring etc. Furniture - Tables, chairs, bed frames, cabinets, hutches, etc. Housewares - glassware, dishes, pictures, mirrors, bowls, cups, small appliances Sporting goods - Bikes, skies, baseball equipment, golf, exercise equipment Clothes - shirts, pants, jackets, shoes, bags Kids toys and baby items - high chairs, bouncy, games, Antiques

Sturbridge Fire Department Firefighter/Paramedic

Starting base salary \$60,777 - \$72,234

24 hour shift, 48 hours/week

Application and further details: https://www.sturbridge.gov/your-government/pages/job-opportunities

Help Wanted Posted 4/28/25

The Brookfield Highway Department seeks an additional full-time operator/laborer to join our team.

Highway Department, Operator II Full-time 40 hours per week, fully benefited position.

Interested applicants, please submit cover letter, and resume to the Highway Department at Highway@brookfieldma.us For additional information, visit our website www.brookfieldma.us

DUDLEY FOR RENT

2 bedroom, well kept, quiet neighborhood, off street parking,

Call 774-230-7731

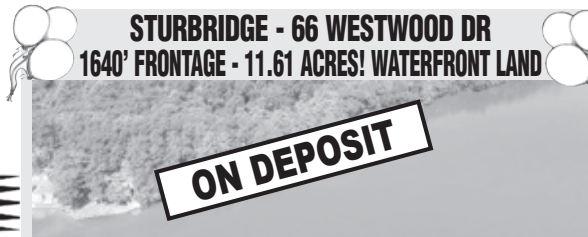
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Licensed in MA, CT & RI

**We Want
Your Listings!**



NEW PRICE!! 1640' direct waterfront on Cedar Lake! Secluded 11.61 Acres - Pristine, Undeveloped, Private & Serene! Potential for up to 5 house lots! 119' road front w/ Gravel Drive Access to Land & Lake! A Once in a Lifetime Opportunity!
\$750,000

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



WEBSTER - 24 COOPER RD
New Featured Listing
NEW CONSTRUCTION Craftsman Style Home! Tucked away on Cooper Rd, Webster Lake w/Access at Lakeside Beach/Boat Ramp. 3rd of 4 Homes being built at this Site. Offers 2,155 SF +/- of Living Area, 7 Rms, 4 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 9' Ceilings. Open Concept Plan. Wood Flooring Throughout w/Ceramic Tile Floors in the 2-1/2 Baths. Spacious Main BR Suite w/Walk-in Closet & Private Full Bath w/5' Tiled Shower, Double-Sink Vanity! Lower level walkout w/Slider. Basement-rough plumbed for future expansion. FHA Heat & Central AC! Garage.
\$649,900.

Featured Listing
WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT LISTING!
Snug Harbor Villa!



**OPEN HOUSE!
SUNDAY
12 TO 2:00**

WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT LIVING AT IT'S FINEST! THIS 4000+/- SF ** THE VILLA'S at SNUG HARBOR! ** END UNIT** IS TRULY A RARE FIND! ONE of ONLY 6 UNITS > Custom Built w/Special Features & Upgrades. Offers 4 BRs - 3 are Primary BR Suites w/private baths, 4-1/2 Baths Total!! The Outstanding direct lakefront location provides exceptional Southern panoramic views across Middle Pond, a boat dock, & full recreation activities like swimming, fishing, kayaking, paddle boarding -- whatever Floats Your Boat :-) ! Perfect setup for entertaining family, friends & guests! Enjoy All 4 Spectacular Seasons! It's more than a home - it's a Life Style!
NEW PRICE \$1,150,000



WEBSTER - 22 COOPER RD.
New Construction! 2nd of 4 Homes to be built! Imagine Yourself in a New Craftsman Style home - Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Near Webster Lake w/Access to Lakeside Beach/Boat Ramp. 4 BRs., 2-1/2 Baths! Walkout slider from Basement. 2 Car Garage!
\$649,900



WEBSTER - 25 SLATER ST
SORRY, SOLD!

Location! Location! This Oversized & Well Maintained 2 Family offers 2,472 sf Total! Apt 1 >1st Floor Unit >has 1,052 sf, 3 BRs & 1 Bath! Apt 2 >2nd & 3rd Floor Unit has 2 levels >1,420 sf, 5 BRs, 2 Baths. Corner lot w/.30 acre, Two Car Garage! Patio.

\$559,900



THOMPSON - 29 WHITTEMORE RD

NEW LISTING

Charming Property Located on a Dead-End, Corner lot!! Well Maintained 2-Bed, 1-Bath Ranch has Great Features! 0.37 Sq Ft Lot! Recent Kitchen Renovation include. Central Air ~ Wood Fireplace! 2-Car Garage
\$329,000

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



Featured Listing!!
**Webster Lake Waterfront
88 Union Point**

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POLICE REPORTS

LOGS
continued from page A14

wanted (Lake Avenue), req. info re: parking; 11:20 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. harassment; 12:25 p.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 12:25 p.m.: lost/found (Dustin Street), rep. weapons found in home; 12:47 p.m.: suspicious persons (Grant Street), info taken; 2:07 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 2:16 p.m.: suspicious persons (Lake Street), kids ran from school; 3:07 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), req. welfare check; 3:10 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 3:29 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 3:34 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:49 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (R. Jones Road), brush fire; 5:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Lloyd Dyer Drive), re: missing cat; 5:22 p.m.: officer wanted (Town House Court), req. welfare check; 6:27 p.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 6:49 p.m.: mv complaint (Briarwood Lane), reckless mc operator; 6:51 p.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 6:25 p.m.: 911 call (South Spencer Road), open line; 7:58 p.m.: animal complaint (Gold Nugget Road), loose dog; 9:16 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), rep. dead cat; 9:46 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), odor/haze at treatment plant; 9:54 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); (total daily mv stops - 4).

FRIDAY, APRIL 25
12:49-12:59 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:30 a.m.: medical/general (East Charlton Road); 4:51 a.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 8:05 a.m.: lost/found (Main Street), wallet found; 8:36 a.m.: medical/general (Pearl Street); 9:17 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 9:51 a.m.: medical/general (Beach Lane); 10:50 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 11:34 a.m.: medical/general (Thompson Pond Road); 1:09 p.m.: fraud (Browning Pond Road), report taken; 2:00 p.m.: animal complaint (Chickering Road), rep. abandoned cat; 2:25 p.m.: juvenile matter (Lake Street), rep. kids in school; 2:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), req. welfare check; 3:48 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 4:07 p.m.: fire alarm (Mechanic Street), referred; 4:11 p.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 4:21 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 4:56 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 6:37 p.m.: lost/found (Roys Drive), bike

found; 9:15 p.m.: lost/found (Main Street), debit card found; 9:34 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); (total daily mv stops - 1).

SATUDAY, ARPIL 26
1:23 a.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), req. property check; 4:01 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 4:42 a.m.: officer wanted (Brown Street), req. welfare check; 6:08 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 6:15 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 7:26 a.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), flooding near Big Y; 9:03 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dog; 12:42 p.m.: parking complaint (Elm Street), mvs blocking d/day; 12:46 p.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road); 12:53 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 1:33 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), apt. lockout; 1:43 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 2:59 p.m.: abandoned mv (Blueberry Hill Road), info taken; 3:20 p.m.: officer wanted (Bellevue Drive), unauth. access to mail/phone; 3:56 p.m.: medical/general (South Spencer Road); 5:17 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 6:53 p.m.: officer wanted (Chickering Road), re: phone calls/email rec'd; 7:03 p.m.: fire alarm (Cherry Street), referred; 8:26 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 8:50 p.m.: fire alarm (Cherry Street), referred; 9:53 p.m.: accident (Bell Street), report taken; 11:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Condon Drive), req. trespass order; (total daily mv stops - 0).

SUNDAY, APRIL 27
12:42 a.m.: accident (Brooks Pond Road), report taken; 8:06 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 9:57 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 10:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), req. welfare check; 10:30 a.m.: officer wanted (G.H. Wilson Road), rep. fem. screaming; 10:33 a.m.: 911 call (Howe Village), accidental; 10:43 a.m.: abandoned mv (G.H. Wilson Road), services rendered; 11:13 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), c/o speeding; 11:16 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 11:52 a.m.: residential alarm (Jolicoeur Avenue), services rendered; 2:04 p.m.: DPW call (Route 49), tree down in road; 4:43 p.m.: medical/general (Sunberg Road); 5:17 p.m.: accident (Thompson Pond Road), report taken; 5:51 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), req. info on restraining order; 6:21 p.m.: mv complaint (Greenville Street), trash fell from mv; 7:22 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 7:22 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Town

House Court), hang-up;7:25 p.m.: mv complaint (Maple Street), c/o tailgating/honking; 8:21 p.m.: officer wanted (Pine Acres), req. welfare check; 9:20 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 11:51 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street), (total daily mv stops - 0).

MONDAY, APRIL 28
12:33-2:42 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:16 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 2:49 a.m.: medical/sudden death (Salem Street); 7:41 a.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 8:05 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 8:58 a.m.: DPW call (North Spencer Road), street sign damaged; 9:01 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), misdial; 11:05 a.m.: fire alarm (Cherry Street), referred; 11:22 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 11:53 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:14 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (North Brookfield Road), hang-up; 2:25 p.m.: medical/general (Summer Street); 2:40 p.m.: medical/sudden death (South Spencer Road); 2:50 p.m.: illegal dumping (Borkum Road), trash/sm. motor bike disposed of; 3:00 p.m.: restraining order service (Elm Street); 3:11 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 4:15 p.m.: suspicious persons (Dale Street), investigated; 4:31 p.m.: juvenile matter (Park Street), rep. dock in water; 4:34 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), someone stuck in storage container; 4:38 p.m.: suspicious persons (Jolicoeur Avenue), info taken;

4:39 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 4:44 p.m.: medical/general (Pond Street), lift assist; 5:15 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. threats; 6:14 p.m.: mv complaint (G.H. Wilson Road), c/o speeding; 7:42 p.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), services rendered; (total daily mv stops - 3).

TUESDAY, APRIL 29
2:05-3:32 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:15 a.m.: officer wanted (Elm Street), spoken to; 4:24 p.m.: 911 call (Mechanic Street), open line; 5:21 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; 5:22 a.m.: 911 call (Richland Avenue), open line; 7:56 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 8:51 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 9:06 a.m.: medical/general (Wm. Casey Road), lift assist; 10:00 a.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 10:06 a.m.: suspicious mv (Borkum Road), investigated; 10:20 a.m.: disturbance (Woodside Road), gunshots heard; 10:23 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 1:00 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), services rendered; 1:31 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), low-hanging wire; 3:26 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 5:27 p.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 6:03 p.m.: fire alarm (Pleasant Street), referred; 11:26 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); (total daily mv stops - 1).

#

Bay Path faculty, staff, LPN, & student volunteers take part in SkillsUSA state competition



Courtesy

From left: J. Peloquin, Dr. A. Healy, H. Bedard D. Bytyqi, S. Celestin, J.Goyer, and K. Hernandez.

UPTON — The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy volunteer faculty, staff, alumni, and nursing students participated as members of the panel of judges for the secondary competition, Basic Healthcare Conference, during the recent SkillsUSA state competition held at the Blackstone Valley Tech.

Dr. Adelina Healy, adjunct faculty at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy served as the Team Lead along with staff, Heidi Bedard, LPN, Financial Aid Administrator for the Volunteer judges. They supervised several stations and prepared presentations. Both were grateful for the continued opportunity and glad at how well everything went at the SkillsUSA State competition. This is the fifth year that Dr. Healy and Bedard worked with Erin Roy, RN Health Careers Instructor at J. P. Keefe Technical High School in Framingham who coordinated the participation of the volunteer judges.

This year's volunteers included Julie Peloquin, Donita Bytyqi, Sandra Celestin, Jessica Goyer, and Kalie Hernandez, LPN.

The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy volunteer judges were thankful for the opportunity to serve. The skills competition included measuring height and weight, labeling human anatomy, and the proper application and removal of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE). SkillsUSA's mission is geared to empower members to become world-class workers, leaders, and responsible American citizens and serves as the blueprint for workplace readiness.

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