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SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO News@StoneBridgePress.newsFriday, March 15, 2024

Stage set for latest large-scale solar installation

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER
SPENCER — Extensive tree clearing off North Brookfield Road has set

the stage for Spencer's next large-scale solar installation. Tree removal work began last month at the

North Brookfield Road site, located within a rural residential zoning district. The project, run by Spencer Solar Farm, LLC, was inspected by Town Planner Lauren Vivier for erosion controls. Construction of a

1.98-megawatt solar array is expected to begin in the spring. Spencer now has 23 approved large-scale, ground-mounted solar projects, with 21 having already been developed. The North Brookfield Road project is in progress, and another project

slated for Hillside Baptist Church was approved but has not yet begun.

Meanwhile, several local residents continue to oppose large-scale solar projects pouring into small, rural communities.

Turn To **SOLAR** page **A13**



Extensive clearing has taken place to make way for a large-scale solar project in Spencer.

Courtesy

North Brookfield schools awarded DESE grant

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD — School officials will use grant funding from multiple awards to augment programming and technology.

North Brookfield Public Schools recently received a \$95,000 grant from the state's Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). The grant award will support programs assisting students with social-emotional learning; behavioral and mental health challenges; and wellness.

The grant will support the following initiatives and programs for students: increased school group counseling; sensory and calming corner supplies for classrooms; K-12 SEL curriculum enhancements; continued professional development opportunities; and rope course upgrades and certification opportunities.

"Our NBES Adjustment Counselor, Staci Macutkiewicz, will be overseeing the grant planning with a team of counselors, teachers, and administration," read a statement released by NBPS Superintendent Tim McCormick. "This grant has the opportunity for renewal/extension for the 2024-2025 school year through the competitive grant process."

Additionally, NBPS received a Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Launch approval for grades K-5. The program aims to spark students' interest in STEM subjects through project-based learning, empowering them to adopt a design-thinking mindset at an early age.

Taking STEM courses at the elementary school level often leads students into similar classes in middle school and beyond. This can open the door to college studies and career opportunities in STEM fields.

"PLTW Launch covers a variety of modules that integrate with traditional subjects and encourage critical thinking, creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving skills," McCormick added. "Each module centers on a real-world problem and includes activities that allow students to explore and apply concepts from across the disciplines of science, technology, engineering, and math, as well as the arts and humanities."

The program is structured to be flexible and adaptable, enabling educators to implement it within their existing classroom schedules.

Finally, the school department will receive just under \$19,000 in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to provide updates to its camera system. These funds will allow the district to transition from an analog platform to a digital platform, officials said.

Selectmen approve ARPA applications from local businesses

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER
SPENCER — Local businesses owners will soon receive ARPA funds now that their applications have been approved by selectmen.

As of press time, 12 businesses in town were approved to receive American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds. A handful of other applications were still under review.

The following Spencer businesses saw their applications green-lighted for ARPA funding at the Feb. 26 Select Board meeting: B.S.D., Inc; Cedarwood Kennel Pet Grooming;

DJ Entertainment and Lighting; E.C. House Cleaning; Four Paws Academy, LLC; Granville's Pub; KMK Catering; Royal Crest Farm, LLC; Spencer Motor Sales; Steve's Bargain Outlet; TCB Realty, Inc; and Top Notch Fence.

"The ARPA project was very thorough in the vetting process. I'm pleased we were able to help a lot of businesses that were devastated by the impacts of COVID-19," Selectman Ralph Hicks told the New Leader. "Hopefully these funds will help them get back on their feet."

Beginning in March 2020, local businesses

across a range of sectors were adversely affected by the statewide pandemic shutdowns and the staggered reopening phases among various industries. As part of the ARPA application submission process, business owners provided several materials to demonstrate their losses during the pandemic.

Spencer's ARPA application review phase took far longer than originally expected. At the Jan. 29 Select Board meeting, business owners questioned selectmen over the delayed disbursement of ARPA funds.

Officials said they initially anticipated the

formation of an ARPA review committee, similar to those used by other area communities to vet and recommend business applicants for funding. The committee never materialized, which caused Town Administrator Jeffrey Bridges and the town accountant to pick up the responsibility of reviewing all applications in addition to their regular workload.

"Jeff has his day-to-day work to do, and this isn't something that would normally be part of his work," Hicks said in a previous interview. "I wish

Turn To **ARPA** page **A13**

Bay Path alum thanks police officers



Genie Biando

EAST BROOKFIELD — Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN congratulates Genie Biando, LPN of East Brookfield for her story's publication in the national magazine Woman's World.

Biando graduated in 2022, passed the NCLEX-PN on her first attempt and is gainfully employed at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center. She is certified in Infusion Therapy and Central line care through Intravenous Edu.

The acts of kindness that Biando does to thank police

officers was acknowledged through the publication of her story in Woman's World Magazine. Kindness takes on many meanings. Everyone knows the Golden Rule: Treat others how you'd like to be treated and most everyone would like to be treated kindly.

"We all know how inspiring such stories are. Sharing a story is likened to telling the world how valuable an act of kindness is," stated Bolandrina. "I am continuously in awe at all the acts of kindness of our practical nursing students, alumni, staff, and faculty."

Bolandrina adds, "even the littlest acts of kindness make a difference in people's lives."

When notified that her story was selected for publication, Biando stated, "That's awesome! Thank you."

While a student at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, Biando was certified in Healthcare Provider / BLS provider CPR and first aid, Dementia Care, Mental Health First Aid, and Stop The Bleed. She completed Domestic Violence training and attended COVID-19

Contact Tracing Training, through the Johns Hopkins University. Biando was a district and state champion for SkillsUSA Health Knowledge Bowl earning a gold medal on both competitions. At the National level, she was a national champion earning a bronze medal for SkillsUSA Health Knowledge Bowl in Atlanta, Ga.

The submitted work of Biando published by Woman's World Magazine was about how she thanked police officers for all that they do. Below is the story as it appeared in the March 11th issue of Woman's World.

"My act of kindness is every time I'm in line at Dunkin's and there is a police officer in line behind me I buy their order to thank them for all that they do. I also do it for random people every now and then but I do it every time for police officers. I've had people who are in front of me buy my order and it always brings a smile to my face because it's an unexpected but a kind thing to do!"

About Bay Path RVTHS

Practical Nursing Academy Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy offers a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is fully approved by the: Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Human Services of Public Health Board of Registration in Nursing, 239 Causeway St., Boston, MA 02114 617-973-0800 www.mass.gov/dph/boards/rn The Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy is accredited by the: Council on Occupational Education 840 Roswell Road Building 300, Suite 325, Atlanta, GA 30350 Telephone: 800-917-2081 www.council.org Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is fully accredited by the: New England Association of Schools and Colleges 209 Burlington Rd, Suite 201 Bedford, MA, 01730-1433 781-271-0022 www.neasc.org



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Haston Library welcomes spring with special activities

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Haston Free Public Library officials invite guests of all ages to welcome spring with special activities.

Craft Night for Adults will take place on Thursday, March 14, at 6 p.m. Aptly themed for the season, a program called “Ireland in a Jar Terrarium” will provide plenty of fun for guests. Please call ahead to register for this event.

The library’s Book Group will meet on March 26 at 7 p.m. This month’s book selection is “Interpreter of Maladies”, written by

Jhumpa Lahiri.

The Movie Discussion Group will meet on Feb. 28 at 6 p.m. This month’s movie selection is “Far and Away”, rated PG-13.

Additionally, kids are invited to attend March story sessions at the library. Held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m., the programs include seasonal books paired with special craft activities. These include sessions focusing on egg decorating; bunny-themed crafts; and creating your very own pot of gold.

Meanwhile, students can attend a special story-time program on Wednesdays from 4-5 p.m. Call the library to learn

more about this opportunity.

The library also has plenty of exciting and educational programs available for guests of all ages this spring. These include programs for teens and adults.

The library’s Art Club meets on the first and third Monday of each month from 4-5 p.m.

The library’s Strategic Planning Committee will next meet on March 21 at 6 p.m. Please contact the library if you are interested in becoming a member of this committee.

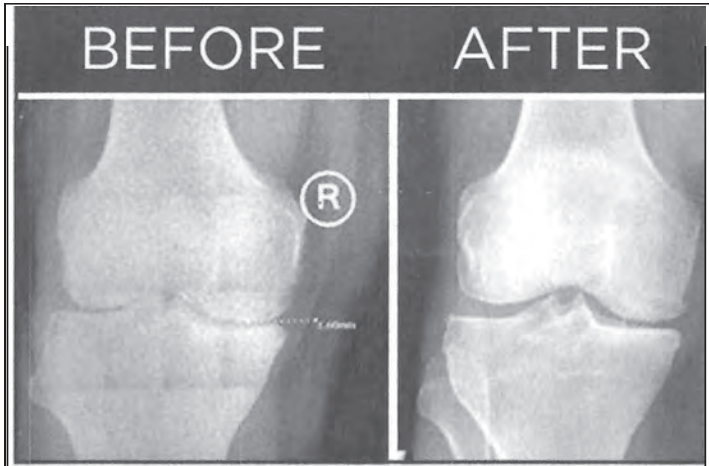
Also, guests are invited to check out

the permanent Friends of the Library Book Sale display near the front door.

“There are some great books, DVDs, and CDs available for purchase,” read a statement released by library officials.

To learn more about library programs this spring, or to register for an activity, call the library at 508-867-0208.

For additional information about library activities, send an email to hastonfreepubliclibrary@gmail.com.



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Attendance is free, but seating is limited, and RSVP is required. Bring a friend or spouse!

To reserve your spot call: 508-892-8150
WWW.LEICESTERSPINEANDWELLNESS.COM

Spencer police investigate mail theft

SPENCER — Police are asking for community assistance as they investigate incidents of stolen mail last month.

On Feb. 26 at approximately 8:45 a.m., officers responded to a call on Paxton Road from a resident who witnessed mail being stolen from mailboxes.

Two adult male suspects are described as wearing dark-colored non-surgical masks. The suspects reportedly operated a full-size U-Haul van with “\$19.95” written on the side.

Residents living nearby are asked to check their camera systems for suspects and/or a vehicle matching those described.

If you have information on the incidents or the suspects, call the police department at 508-885-6333.

Leicester KOC to hold annual ham raffle

LEICESTER — The Leicester Knights of Columbus will hold their annual ham raffle on Sunday, March 24.

Doors will open at noon, and the first game will start at 1 p.m.

Gift baskets will also be raffled off, and a 50/50 raffle will take place.

The location is 90 Manville St.

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LEICESTER

Leicester Food Pantry
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759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

NORTH BROOKFIELD

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

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Southbridge Food Share Pantry
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WEST BROOKFIELD

Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry
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W.Bookfield, MA 01585
Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM - Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM

Saturday, March 16, 5:00-7:00 PM


Charlton City United Methodist Church. We are cooking our scrumptious, corned beef dinner with the fixings, again. Corn beef, potatoes, cabbage, carrots and turnip, plus homemade cake with green sprinkle frosting. \$15.00 for adults, \$7.00 for children 6-12, under 5, free. Max \$50.00 per family. Call in early for seating reservations or to order take out.



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Local students awarded John and Abigail Adams Scholarships

SPENCER — Please take a moment to join the Spencer-North Brookfield Regional School District in celebrating our 2023-2024 John and Abigail Adams Scholarship Award recipients at David Prouty High School on a job well done!

This year's recipients include Eliana Barnett; Ava Maire Bergron; Timothy Charette; Tyler Downes; Kasey Dutter; Madison Ethier; Adrian Foxworthy; Brandon Grenier; David Holup; James McNicol; Ayla Messier; Kmiberly Mora; Stephanie Njenga; Jenna Oberg; Kai Panori; Layne Perchak; Alexander Pinkowski; Jett Reilly; Lillian Roberts;

Kaelyn Wall; Greenly Waugh; and Ethan Woodbury!

The John and Abigail Adams Scholarship is a merit-based program that provides a credit toward tuition for up to eight semesters of undergraduate education at a Massachusetts state college or university. For this scholarship, merit is based on student scores on the 10th grade Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) test.

The purpose of the award is to:

- Reward and inspire student achievement;
- Help attract more high-performing students to Massachusetts public higher education; and
- Provide families of college-bound students with financial assistance.

"We could not be more proud of our scholars (minus a few from this photo) for achieving this honor from the Commonwealth; and we wish them nothing but continued success in all that they do in their future endeavors," said Superintendent of Schools, Paul Haughey.

Webster First Federal Credit Union named to Newsweek's America's Best Regional Banks

WORCESTER — Webster First Federal Credit Union, one of the most well-capitalized credit unions operating in the state of Massachusetts, announced today that it is recognized as one of America's Best Regional Banks and Credit Unions 2024 by Newsweek and Plant-A Insights Group. This survey of over 35,000 individuals included over 140,000 reviews of regional banks and credit unions. Only 250 regional banks and 250 regional credit unions from the entire country made the list.

"Our team at Webster First values honesty and committing to doing our best each day. We believe living up to these values is the cornerstone of our award-winning service and how we've become one of the most well-capitalized credit unions in Massachusetts. We're honored to be recognized as one of America's Best Regional Banks and Credit Unions by Newsweek and for our memberships continued support of our credit union,"

Said Chief Executive Officer Michael Lussier.

"Regional banks and credit unions play a pivotal role in meeting the needs of communities across the nation. Newsweek and market-data research firm Plant-A Insights are proud to introduce America's Best Regional Banks and Credit Unions 2024, highlighting local lenders that are committed to the needs of their communities," added Nancy Cooper,

Global Editor in Chief of Newsweek.

About Webster First

Webster First was founded in 1928 with 24 depositors and a capital outlay of \$350. Now, they've grown to serve over 90,000 members with 13 branches serving Worcester, Middlesex, Essex, and Suffolk counties. They have been voted as the Telegram & Gazette's Best Credit Union of Central Mass for the past five years, and are one of only four credit unions from Massachusetts to make Newsweek's list.

Leicester Senior Center to host indoor flea market

LEICESTER — Guests are invited to attend an indoor flea market at the Leicester Senior Center this weekend. The program will take place on Saturday, March 16, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The event is hosted by The Leicester Historical Society for The May House. "There's something for everyone—Easter baskets, too," read a statement promoting the event.

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May the sun shine upon your face.



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Get schooled on vocational training

High school graduates or individuals looking to explore continuing education at any age have various options. Among the most popular options is enrolling in a college

or university. Studying a trade in a vocational school is another popular option. What are vocational schools? Vocational schools are

sometimes referred to as career or trade schools. Vocational schools tend to offer certificate programs that are much shorter in duration than traditional college degree programs, and train students for skilled jobs. Vocational programs prepare individuals for careers in electrical work, hairstyling and cosmetology, certified nursing aids, automotive work, and HVAC services, among others.

Cost of attendance

Cost of education is an important factor when choosing a career, and the cost of vocational school is no exception. The College Board says trade school costs between \$5,000 and \$15,000 on average for a three- to 18-month program. By comparison, the national average for a two-year degree program at public and private colleges can range from \$3,621 to \$15,333 per year. The cost to attend a four-year college is considerably



higher, though it varies widely by institution.

NerdWallet reports that, as of 2021, total student loan debt in the United States exceeded \$1.61 trillion. Vocational school can be a much more affordable option than attending college, without the specter of large amounts of debt looming once the training is over.

An obvious job path

Many higher education concentrations are confronting low enrollment, while vocational programs are doing quite well, according to The Hechinger Report, which covers innovation and equality in education. The reason may be that vocational training presents a clear career path, and a more secure way to a solid job. Mechanic

and repair trade programs had an enrollment increase of 11.5 percent from spring 2021 to 2022, indicates the National Student Clearinghouse.

“America is lending money it doesn’t have to kids who can’t pay it back to train them for jobs that no longer exist,” says Mike Rowe, television personality and founder of the Mike Rowe Works Foundation, which offers scholarship money to those who are pursuing the trades. Rowe feels that America has convinced people that the best path for most people is an expensive education. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicates there are more than seven million jobs available across the U.S. that do not require a four-year-de-

gree.

Advantages to vocational schools

Trade school students can look forward to some benefits.

- hands-on learning
- more rigid schedule
- efficient time usage
- faster class pace
- small class sizes
- ability for licensure, where needed
- lower costs of attendance compared to other types of schooling
- instructors who are experts in their fields

Vocational schools are an option for students right out of high school or those returning to school later in life. Such schools provide access to millions of rewarding and lucrative jobs that can offer financial security.



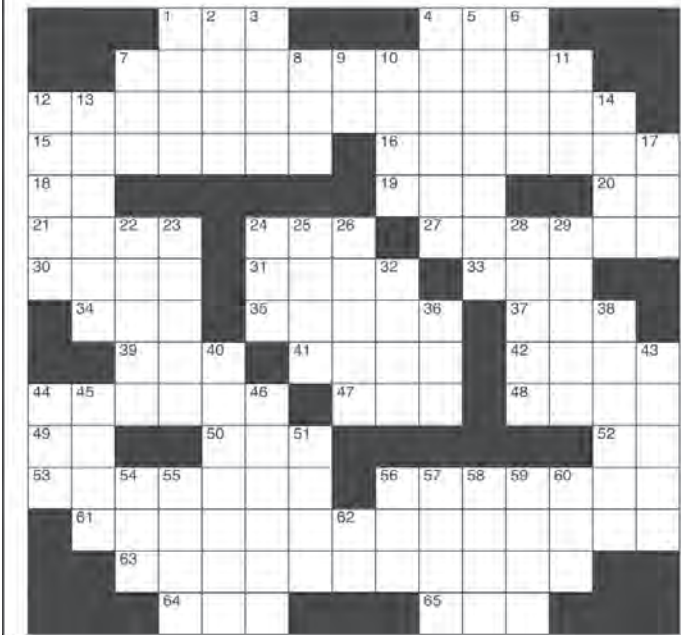
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Helps little firms

4. Political action committee

7. Allowed

12. Olivia Colman played one

15. Open

16. He had a notable lamp

18. Promotional material

19. Domesticated animal

20. Larry and Curly's buddy

21. The best ever

24. TV network

27. Checked for

30. Dry or withered

31. Expression of annoyance

33. Dash

34. Fifth note of a major scale

35. A secret clique
37. Partner to cheese

39. ___ school: where to learn healing

41. City in ancient Syria

42. Gasteyer and de Armas are two

44. Established practice

47. Thanksgiving side dish

48. District in Peru

49. It's becoming more prevalent

50. State in India

52. Measure of illumination

53. Raised platform

56. Japanese warrior

61. R.L. Stevenson novel

63. Transitory

64. Advanced degree

65. Fiddler crabs

CLUES DOWN

1. Prevent from seeing

2. Czech city

3. ___ and Andy, TV show

4. A young pig

5. Removed surgically

6. Covered with

7. Chest muscle (slang)

8. Nigerian City

9. Midway between south and east

10. A way to shut

11. Stop playing

12. Marshy places

13. Takes apart

14. Ten cents

17. A gesture of assent

22. Scent

23. Teletypewriter

24. General's assistant (abbr.)

25. Hillside
26. Taxi driver

28. Semitic Sun god

29. Town in India

32. Traditional rhythmic pattern

36. Fugitives are on the ___

38. Type of dance

40. Two letters, one sound

43. Having a strong, pleasant taste

44. Golf score

45. Mayhem

46. Drenched

51. River in northeastern Asia

54. Drug to treat anxiety (abbr.)

55. Part-time employee

56. A very large body of water

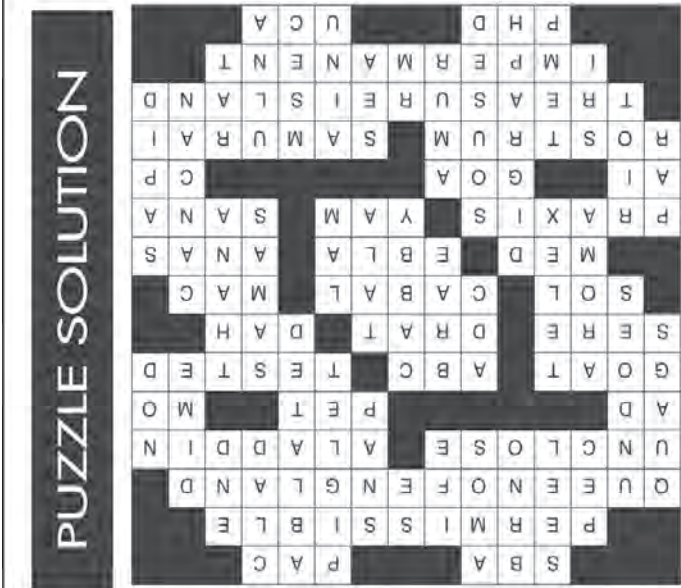
57. Aboriginal people of Japan

58. Millisecond

59. Forearm bone

60. Subway dweller

62. Royal Mail



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None

LEICESTER
\$290,000, 986 Stafford St, Bachman Robert Leon Est, and Bachman, Anna, to Mulhall, Alyssa, and Herzog, Ty.
\$175,000, 402 Stafford St, Mccue Nancy M Est, and Bonin, Karianne, to Andrade, Robert.

**NORTH
BROOKFIELD**
None

SPENCER
\$10,324,000, 95 Main St, Arista Spencer LLC, to Selhi Re Group 2 LLC.
\$250,000, 2 Crestview Dr #52, Lang, Judith G, to Perry 3rd, Joseph E.

WARREN
\$429,000, 123 Keys Rd, Paolucci Properties LLC, to Giroux, Steven, and Giroux, Sarah.

**WEST
BROOKFIELD**
\$65,000, 109 Tucker Rd, Tcc Realty Tti, and Ferrero, Claire E, to Bellerive, Arthur A.

Consider these community college benefits

College is the next natural step for many students after they finish high school. The process of finding a school begins in junior year of high school, and students and their parents may visit many different colleges and universities throughout the next year. Even though the bulk of the focus might be on four-year schools, students who may not yet have everything all figured out should not overlook the many benefits of community colleges.

The United States Department of State's Education USA says community colleges offer two-year programs that lead to the Associate of Arts (AA) or Associate of Science (AS) degree. Some community colleges also have vocational programs. Community colleges are a viable option for students interested in continuing their education. Undergraduate students studying at community colleges can earn academic credit that will eventually go toward a bachelor's degree should they choose to continue schooling. The following are some of the benefits of community college.

- Flexible admissions process: Community colleges do not have the same time restrictions and other requirements as schools offering four-year degrees. Interested parties may be able to

register for classes at any time and not have to worry about being accepted or not.

- Part-time scheduling: Community colleges often offer part-time academic coursework, which means students do not have to take a set number of credits each semester to remain enrolled. This allows students to attend college classes according to their own schedules and work at their own pace.

- More affordable tuition: Lower tuition is one of the major draws to community colleges. The career planning resource Indeed says that many community colleges further discount their offerings to in-state students. This helps make post-secondary education much more affordable, particularly for those who are not sure about what they want to study.

- Relationships with four-

year schools: A number of community colleges have partnerships with sister schools to facilitate the transfer of associate degree credits for a student working toward a four-year degree. Education USA says in this "2+2" process, a student can earn a bachelor's degree with two years of community college, followed by two years of university study. Some community colleges also serve as satellite locations for other schools, meaning one can take

classes for a four-year school right on the community college campus if the location is more convenient.

- Smaller class sizes: Many community colleges have smaller class sizes that make it easier for students to adjust to the pace of college life.

- Proximity to home: As the name implies, community college is a school that serves a particular community. That means it is likely close to home for the majority of students. Students who



may not be willing or able to go away to school may appreciate the convenience and proximity of a community college. Community college is

an option that students may want to explore as they pursue post-secondary education.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

A total eclipse of... the sun

In just a few weeks, on April 8, those who travel to Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Maine will have the extraordinary opportunity to witness a total solar eclipse. This celestial phenomenon, where the moon completely obscures the sun, casting a shadow on the Earth, is a moment of wonder.

For New Englanders, this upcoming eclipse holds particular importance, as the region has not experienced such a spectacle in over a century. The anticipation is palpable, with communities buzzing with excitement and preparations underway to ensure a memorable viewing experience for all.

The corona is a region of superheated gas extending millions of kilometers into space, but it's normally obscured by the sun's intense brightness. During a total solar eclipse, however, when the moon perfectly aligns with the sun, the corona's ethereal glow emerges, creating a spectacle unlike anything else in nature. For those fortunate enough to be in the path of totality, the sky darkens, stars emerge, and the sun's corona—the outermost layer of its atmosphere—becomes visible.

Beyond the scientific implications, a total solar eclipse holds profound cultural and spiritual significance for many. Throughout history, these celestial events have been interpreted as omens, symbols of renewal, or moments of cosmic alignment.

It is essential to prioritize safety when viewing the eclipse. Directly observing the sun, even during an eclipse, can cause permanent damage to the eyes. Therefore, it is crucial to use certified eclipse glasses or other safe viewing methods to protect our vision.

The influx of traffic and people into small towns have caused local safety departments, and even state departments of transportation, to collaborate alongside local hospitals and businesses on how best to prepare.

Letter submission policy

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

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

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The die is cast that only a Blue Wave can change

To the Editor:
It has been clearly demonstrated that the GOP house of representatives , are nothing more than Trump's finger puppets.

Their clown show fails to do the countries business in favor of wasted and ludicrous side shows, like trying to make sure impeachments of presidents in common, even with no supporting evidence, following the political ploy of simultaneously complaining about southern border issues and refusing to take up the negotiated bi-partisan solution, solidifying the Trump pro-Putin position by failing to continue funding against Russian advancing towards rebuilding the USSR. Even if Trump were not a draft dodger who calls our military dead and wounded suckers and losers, former advisers Bolton and Gen. Kelly acknowledge that the man should never be Commander in Chief because he simply is not smart enough to understand the things a POTUS needs to.

NATO is a mutual defense pact. There is no such thing as "dues" The agreement simply states that you need to be spending at least 2 percent of GNP on your own defense. The concept being that you demonstrate commitment to your own defense and security. Like us, these countries are recovering from a worldwide pandemic, and not as well as we have. Then, consider that most of these are European Union countries, so do not enforce separate borders. While we like to claim that our insecure southern border is the worst in the world, in point of fact, Ukrainian, Palestinian, Syrian, and other border countries, are overwhelming capacity and costs, just as they do here. Unless you want to see US military engaged in Europe, we need to continue funding Ukraine and degrading Russia. I am 75 years old, and never expected to see the day we would side with Putin on anything.

I was disgusted when Trump took Putin's word over our intelligence, leaked confidential information to him that makes allies trust us less. When we stop leading, the world will suffer for it. Trust and alliances, formed with so much cost, effort and sacrifice, can be obliterated by simply putting a moron back in charge.

While speaking about puppets, I did not ever expect to see the Supreme Court of this country become a partisan hack job.

Justices appointed for life after stating they considered Roe v. Wade settled law actually overturned it, citing British law from a time when it also addressed witches. A state doing its

own due diligence determined in a five day trial that a candidate for president who had supported an insurrection, disqualified himself from holding that office, and that being true, voters should not waste votes on him. The high court seems to accept that he was a facilitator of an insurrection, but should still be on the ballot, because, although the written law states that he could only hold office if two thirds of congress removed the restriction, the court, by a 5-4 majority, held that the law prohibiting office holding could only be enforced if congress passed it. For any amendment to be adopted, it must go through Congress, be ratified by the state and signed into law. This court has been the most active overreaching body ever, enacting or changing more laws than congress. This is the same court that stopped Florida from counting presidential ballots, and selected George W. Bush as president over actual winner Al Gore by a 5-4 court decision reached in just 5 days. I won't rehash the theft of Obamas last court appointment 11 months before he left office, but replacing RBG in less than two months left in Trump term is equine dung.

The GOP has realized the shortcomings in their conspiracy to steal the last election. The court is cooperating to make sure that neither a trial or verdict can happen before the election. Trump's first official act as POTUS would be ending all federal cases against him. In the meantime, busy beavers have gerrymandered districts, purged as many Democrats from voting rolls as possible, passed state legislation allowing state legislature to select electors, regardless of any votes. Intimidated or removed as many election workers as appear to be committed to free and fair elections, in favor of delivering outcomes (i.e. finding 11,780 votes when needed).

I encourage everyone to get out and vote. Women should take back their bodies. Abortion choice is not a requirement, just addresses one of the many scenarios that cookie cutter laws cannot foresee. If you want to see a border bill passed, Ukraine supported and actual free and fair elections, this could be your last chance to secure them. Donald Trump is a loose cannon. If Biden even dropped dead, the administration and party would have same policies and priorities and seamlessly move forward. Having watched both candidates, if you think just one has lost a step, you best look again.

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD

Rape by another name

To the Editor:

In a 2023 trial of Trump's alleged libel of E. Jean Carroll, a jury ruled that Trump was liable for sexually assaulting her and awarded her \$5 million. It was for sexual assault, since New York law says that penetration with fingers is not rape. We all know from Trump's own words that his habit was to grab women by their privates, so there's no surprise here. She was kicking and punching, so that's as far as he got.

Since he wouldn't stop his libel, there was a second trial in 2024. This jury decided Trump had to pay her \$83.3 million. The jury weighed Trump's sworn deposition to a court that he had \$400 million in cash, as well as many real estate holdings. Given the paltry fine, I thought Trump would continue to verbally abuse her, but he immediately shut up tight, so I guess the jury got the fine right after all.

He has appealed the first verdict, which required posting a \$5.6 million bond. That money came out of his lawyer's corporate account. He did not immediately appeal the second verdict, which also required posting a bond. His lawyers offered to post a \$24.5 million bond and asked the court to trust Trump for the rest. That didn't work. On March 8, he did finally post the \$91.63 million bond. It was paid by the Federal Insurance Company, a subsidiary of the Chubb Group.

The Chubb CEO worked with the White House during the Trump administration, so I guess he's MAGA. If the bond finance is on the up and up, Trump would have posted collateral (e.g. some property or other) for the bond. If he did not, and if it was just a "favor," I would expect the Chubb shareholders to be hopping mad. If Trump wins on

appeal, the money goes back to Chubb. If he loses, that money is gone. That's a serious crapshoot. If they try to collect the alleged collateral, I see endless lawsuits on their horizon. I wonder if the law firm who put up the first \$5 million will ever see their repayment? They may think that it's a small price to pay for the "privilege" of representing a former President in a rape case.

Oh. I spoke too soon. On the night of March 9, Trump smeared her again. He could not keep his misogynistic trap shut. (I) Does this hurt his appeal? (II) Does Chubb realize it was played for a sap? (III) Does this invite a THIRD lawsuit? (IV) All of the above?

I wonder if Chubb will post the \$500 million bond that Trump needs to appeal the Trump Organization fraud verdict? Elon Musk visited Trump at Mar-a-Lago the weekend of March 2 and could have paid that with change from his couch cushions, but the bond has not yet been posted, so I guess that didn't happen. If not Musk, America's richest man, then Russia's Putin, the world's richest man, or MBS, the Saudi Arabian leader, might help him out in return for leverage. Against the advice of the Saudi wealth management group, MBS gave Jared \$2 billion; he has the cash and he loves the Trumps. If Trump does post that bond, we will never know where that money came from.

Trump has taken over the Republican party itself in hopes of using their money. I believe he has a GoFundMe thing going, so if enough people pay into it, maybe he can appeal the second verdict. Trump expects his people to remortgage, cash their retirement savings, sell their blood, and give generously.

ALLAN JOHANNESSEN
LEICESTER

Can you save too much for a rainy day?



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"Save for a rainy day" is an old piece of advice — and a good one. But is it possible to save too much?

To begin with, what defines a "rainy day" in terms of financial needs? It could be any number of things: a temporary loss of employment, a major home or car repair, a large medical bill, and so on.

If you did not have the money readily available to pay for these types of expenses, you might be forced to dip into your IRA, 401(k) or other retirement accounts, incurring taxes and possible penalties, as well as lowering the amount of money you'd have available for retirement. And that's why it's a good idea to build an emergency fund containing up to six months' worth of total expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account that's separate from the accounts you use for your daily spending needs.

An emergency fund is valuable, but many people may be overfunding it. And while this isn't the biggest financial mistake one can make, it could result in some missed opportunities.

For one thing, when you keep money in a low-risk account, you can generally count on your principal being protected, which means the money will be there for you when you need it—but the flip side is that this money likely won't grow very much, if at all. And if you're going to achieve your long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement, you need your investment portfolio to provide you with significant growth potential within the context of your individual risk tolerance. So, any excess dollars kept in your rainy-day fund might be used to help fuel some growth-oriented investments.

You could also use these dollars to help diversify your investment portfolio. If you only owned one type of investment, your portfolio could take a big hit if a market downturn affected just that asset class. But by owning a mix of stocks, bonds, government securities and other investments, you can help reduce the impact of market volatility. (Keep in mind, though, that diversification, by itself, can't protect against all losses.)

Still, before deciding on what to do with extra money you might have in your emergency fund, how will you know if you indeed have too much? Up to six months' worth of total expenses may be adequate for most people—but everyone's life is different. For example, if you have reason to believe your employment—or that of your spouse—may be in jeopardy in the near future, or if you anticipate the need for some renovations to your home, but not for a year or so, you might want more than six months of expenses tucked away in your emergency fund. Also, once you're retired, you may well want to keep a year's worth of expenses in the fund. If you need cash, you don't want to be forced to sell investments when their price may be down, especially since you have less time for them to recover.

Ultimately, when thinking about how much to keep in your emergency fund, review your situation carefully and weigh as many variables as you can. And if you do decide your rainy-day fund is abundant, use any "overflow" in a way that can help you keep moving toward your financial goals.

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.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How much longer will good men do nothing?

To the Editor:

Though spoken by John Stuart Mill more than a century and a half ago, these words seem apt to describe Joe Biden today, albeit generously:

“Bad men need nothing more to compass their ends, than that good men should look on and do nothing. He is not a good man who, without protest, allows wrong to be committed in his name, and with the means which he helps to supply, because he will not trouble himself to use his mind on the subject.”

How many more children, mothers, fathers, newborns must be savagely bombed and deprived of all aid, comfort, food and water, before he decisively acts? His impotent gestures to date, like asking Benjamin Netanyahu to be careful with the bombs we give him as

he drops them on civilian populations, or throwing 38,000 meals from a plane on to two million starving souls, are beyond pitiful. Otherwise, he has stood ineptly by as the policies of his client state move far beyond its usual apartheid, to the wholesale slaughter of innocent civilians. We alone seem to be the apologist for and enabler of what is becoming, to the rest of the world, a pariah state perpetrating the horrors it once swore would never again be permitted.

It is long past time when this country starts to factor decency and humanity into its foreign policy decisions, and accordingly demands the immediate resignation of the Netanyahu government, or, better still, the immediate cessation of military aid to Israel.

ROGER BANKS
SPENCER

My purpose in life

To the Editor:

Philosophers, theologians, scholars, historians, educators have, through their writings, explained what they believe are their reasons for our existence on earth.

According to my research, readings, including professional and personal experiences, I believe my purpose for existence in this life can be described by using the acronym PERFORMANCE as a means of explanation. Using the word ‘performance’ does not mean acting with perfection. My definition is just doing things natural in a non-rehearsed manner.

My purpose in life is to honor and love my parents, to become a loving member of my family, to practice good health habits, to achieve academic success and become successful in a profession, and to become active and productive in the community.

I do not feel comfortable, competent, or qualified to suggest the purpose of life for others.

PLANNING, including performing good deeds, living according to His Ten Commandments.

ENCOURAGING others, including my family, by giving positive advice and assistance as required.

REWARDING people who meet or exceed expectations.

FINDING solutions to challenges, problems and conflicts, then execute solutions.

OFFERING help, by giving moral and financial support to others, contributing to my church and the missions.

REMEMBERING by showing kindness and spreading love, understanding and compassion to others.

MAKING plans, then assisting those in need of my knowledge and expertise.

ACTING as a participant or leader in the community.

NEGOTIATING with patience any conflicts with people and executing any legal contracts in good faith.

CONNECTING each day with family, expressing and giving support and unconditional love.

ENJOYING the journey daily, assisting others, and always giving praise to Him.

DONALD L. GAUDETTE, SR.
SOUTH HADLEY

We live it!

To the Editor:

Biden and his cohorts in the media are trying to convince you that the economy is doing better than it’s ever been done. Most hard-working Americans know that’s the Biden baloney factory at work. We live it and feel it. Your car insurance bills are up 20 percent. Yor rents and mortgages almost doubled. The cost of gas and heating oil went up 30 percent. The cost of electricity has almost doubled. The cost of food is up 20 to 30 percent. Towns are putting 2 ½ overrides on fall ballots to fund the added school positions created by the Dems DEI policies. You don’t have to believe me because you know the truth; you live it every day. All this caused on Day 1 when Biden got in office. Close your eyes and remember the Trump years. Pays increasing with costs staying low. No illegals flooding our towns. No wars draining our taxes. Saving your money for well-deserved trips. Por town coffers full so no overrides. Dealerships brimming with cars that you could get great deals on. The only people that think this Potato head of a president is doing good are potato heads themselves.

If you have a young child entering the workforce, they can get a job that makes \$20 an hour. Sound good until you look at living costs. The take-home for a 40-hour week at \$20 is about \$600. That is \$2,400 a month. With a one bedroom renting at \$1,500 a month, that leaves \$900. Now take out \$400 a month for car and insurance. That leaves \$500. That’s \$125 a week for food, clothes, electricity, heat, and anything else. It is impossible in the Biden Nightmare for your kids to live. So, they can only live at home with you.

In the State of the Union, lying Joe Biden says everything is strong; going great. He is going to improve it by raising corporate taxes and higher taxes for the rich. Even Care Bear Yellen knows this will just increase inflation more on goods and services. Corporations will just increase the cost of the prices on the shelf, making you pay more. Companies you work for will lay off or ship jobs/companies overseas, where costs are lower. It’s basic economics 101. But for the Progressive Socialist puppet Joe it sounds wonderful. Those slackers who live off government handouts love it So, if you’re happy with that vote for Joe Potato head and see how four more years of this will work for you.

Personally, I like Trump’s plan. On day 1, he will start mass deportations of illegals and allow our oil companies to Drill, Baby, Drill. The mass deportations of the illegals living in the low-income housing in your state will be freed up for renting to Americans. The state will save the millions to use instead for your schools and towns. This surplus of housing will drop the rents back down due to supply and demand. His elimination of Biden’s war on oil will drop the price of oil immediately to \$1.50 a gallon. The price of a barrel of oil is controlled by the future markets. You will see it drop from \$90 a barrel to \$40 on Nov. 7 if Trump is elected. Our oil companies will supply the whole of the USA and half the world. Instead of money going to the likes of Venezuela and Iran, it will fill our US Treasury with tax receipts to pay our bills. Less federal borrowing means lower lending rates to borrowers like you. Another effect is it will bankrupt Russia and Iran. Both countries will see their oil bounty created by Biden destroyed by Trump’s Drill Baby Drill. All plastics and paints are made from oil. This will lower manufacturing costs on all goods immediately. Russia will have to negotiate for peace. Our car companies like Ford and GM will then start producing cheaper gas cars at a record pace. Lower car costs for you, and more jobs at the car plants.

So, which plan sounds the best for a hard-working American? Of course, Trump’s does. It means lower costs for everything for you and provides a future for your children. Biden and progressives will call you deplorables, racist, and stupid for believing this. After all, they think people like plumbers, builders, factory workers, and blue collar workers are too stupid to see the economic picture. You didn’t graduate with one of their fake science degrees in Diversity, Integrity, and Equality. You’re just a dummy that should work hard to pay for their policies. This fall shows them you’re a lot smarter than they think. When you’re an American Patriot and you have the choice between a Potato Head or an Orange Man, you’ll take the Orange man every time. Vote Trump 2024 for you and your kids’ futures!

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

The trout trucks are rolling

Spring trout fishing has already begun in the valley, and it is just the start, as Mass. Fish & Wildlife trout stocking trucks are already rolling!

This week’s two pictures show Amelia Sinopoli with an impressive rainbow trout, and her first time fishing partner Jake Boudreau two weeks ago, while attending a birthday party for Logan Henchey. The pair were fishing from a small boat dock using worms as bait when suddenly Amelia yelled out to her mom that she had a big fish on! Mom quickly rushed over to assist her as the large rainbow was causing a lot of excitement for all in attendance. The fish was finally lifted onto the dock where pictures were taken of the happy angler and her prize fish! The trout was quickly released.

Their parents know exactly what to buy their new fishing anglers for the summer outings this year. All the parents need to do is take the kids fishing in any body of water to get their kids hooked



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on fishing!

Black bear are coming out of hibernation and are having their young cubs tagging along! They are nice to see, but the public needs to keep their distance from the bear to stay safe. A recent attack on a woman and her dog seemed to be a danger to the female bear and her cubs. Fortunately, both the woman and dog survived the ordeal, but it could have been a lot worse!

Wild turkey hunting is fast approaching, and sportsmen are already scouting their favorite turkey hunting spots. The youth Turkey hunt is scheduled for April 27 this year, and is open to young hunters aged 12-14! They also need to be accompanied by a licensed adult hunter. The abstracts have all of the regula-



This week’s two pictures show Amelia Sinopoli with an 18 inch rainbow trout caught in Lake Quinsigamond a week ago & Jake Boudreau fishing for the first time, during a birthday party for Logan Henchey!



Courtesy

tions. Be sure to read them before hunting wild turkeys. The regular wild turkey season opens on April 29.

A while back, this writer received a number of fishing lures from Donald Neilsen of Warren! They were made by Donald, and the material that he used to make the lures were quite unusual. I got to use some of the spinning lures last year, and caught numerous trout with them. I apologize for not getting back to him sooner to thank him for the lures. They were quite neat. Some were made out of beer caps! I have decided to donate the remaining lures to young anglers at the next kids fishing derby at Uxbridge Rod & Gun and Whitinsville Fish & Game Club. Thanks again, Don!

The dandelion will be blooming soon, which will signal the start of tautog fishing. Tautog is one of the best tasting fish in the ocean and most fishermen will agree!

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Telepathy is reading others’ intentions

Telepathy is the ability to communicate thoughts directly from one mind to another without the use of words, gestures, or any conventional forms of interaction. The idea of telepathy has intrigued humanity for centuries. Its origins are steeped in ancient lore and psychic traditions, often portrayed as a mystical bridge connecting human consciousness.

An example of telepathy in modern fiction can be seen in the character of Professor Charles Xavier, also known as Professor X, from the “X-Men” series. With his

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MOORE

telepathic powers, Professor X can not only read minds but also project his thoughts onto others.

But does such a profound ability exist outside the realms of fiction? The question leads us to people like Uri Geller, a performer who claimed to possess psychic abilities, including mind reading. Geller’s demonstrations of spoon bending and telepathy captivated audiences worldwide, suggesting a glimmer of reality to the powers depicted in tales and comics.

Much skepticism sur-

rounds Geller’s claims, with critics pointing to sleight of hand and psychological tricks rather than genuine psychic phenomena.

While the allure of telepathy remains potent in our collective imagination, the jury is still out on whether a human being has truly harnessed this extraordinary ability.

Recent advances in artificial intelligence and neuroscience have led to the development of AI systems capable of decoding human brain waves into speech. This groundbreaking technology bridges the gap between thought and communication, allowing

for telepathy mediated by machines. While I’m sure there are benefits to this technology, it’s also terrifying.

Terrence McKenna was an ethnobotanist and author known for his controversial theories on psychedelics, consciousness, and culture.

If you’ve ever listened to one of his lectures, you’d find that he had a different definition of telepathy than the one portrayed in popular media.

In one lecture, he states, “If you’re like me, you think telepathy is hearing other people’s thoughts. It isn’t that; it’s seeing what other people

mean.”

Consider when a friend texted you, “We need to talk.” The immediate sense of dread, the assumption of an impending argument, only to discover they simply wanted advice. The text, devoid of tone and context, became a breeding ground for misunderstanding, showcasing a moment where telepathic clarity — understanding the true intent behind the words — could have spared you the stress.

Or picture this: two travelers, one speaking only Italian and the other only Japanese, trying to find their way in a crowded international airport.

Their attempts to communicate through gestures and broken English spiral into confusion. Misinterpreting each other’s actions, they become increasingly frustrated and offended, convinced the other is being rude. The situation escalates, as neither can grasp the true intention behind the other’s gestures.

A bystander who happens to speak both languages steps in to mediate. The translator breaks down the language barrier and quickly resolves the misunderstanding. The tension dissolves

Planning Ahead for a Flower Garden

Nothing jump starts “garden fever” like planning a bed of blooms! Now that we’ve turned the clocks ahead, thoughts turn to planning a garden. Whether you have visions of an elaborate formal flower garden or favor the simplicity of a side door flower bed, plotting a flowering garden is a labor of love. Prepping for plants allows for an infusion of personality, encourages visual creativity, and paves the way for a spectacular season of blooms! Read on for some easy tips and tricks to help you along.

Blooming Bulbs
Nothing adds color and beauty to a garden for less effort than bulbs. Even if you didn’t have the foresight to plant spring bulbs last fall, you can still enjoy summer blooms. Ideally, you should wait until the danger of spring frosts has passed before planting bulbs. If you think the threat of frost is over, think again. Garden experts give May 30 as the first safe planting date of the season.

Some summer flowering bulbs that have a history of success include Dahlias, Gladiolus, Cannas, Caladiums, and Daylilies. Just keep in mind in our zone you may have to dig up the bulbs and store for the winter for springtime planting next year.

To test whether soil is ready to work, squeeze some in your hand, then poke at the clump. If the clump breaks up easily into small crumbs, the soil is dry enough to till.

Getting a head start on bulb planting by starting them indoors increases your odds of success. Use deep pots and replant them outside once the ground has thawed.

Planning where you want to create “splashes” of color in the garden also includes how dramatic a statement you want your plot to make. Large clumps of flowers demand attention and this method of planting has long been a favorite of gardeners.



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

ing pattern is to “drift” flower varieties, which has been compared to painting the garden with a brush of color. Drifts can encompass waves of complementing bulb varieties bordering each other, or each flower drift can stand on its own, perhaps creeping across an incline or making its way along a stone wall.

To ensure successful drifts, use a generous sprinkling of densely planted bulbs. Or, simply toss or scatter bulbs and plant them where they land for a natural meadow effect.

Perhaps the best rule of thumb for planting bulbs is the most obvious. Plant bulbs where you want to see color. Attractive uses include planting bulbs to border a peren-

nial garden, to fill in a rock garden and as a decorative accent circling a mailbox post or light pole.

Garden experts recommend planting bulbs in crumbly soil with proper drainage, although hardy bulbs often thrive in less than satisfactory soil. Soil that has not been turned over in a while will benefit from loosening it up with a shovel. Your hole should be dug a few inches below where the bulb should sit to allow for fertilizer.

Bulbs should be planted pointed side up. Flat tubers should be planted sideways for best results. Avoid any air pockets in hole which can inhibit growth.

Here are more tips and shortcuts are geared toward cutting time and effort in the garden.

*Plants that grow best in alkaline soil such as geraniums and hydrangea will thank you with better blooms if you water them with a mild mixture of baking soda and water occasionally.

*The first thing to check if your azalea leaves are looking yellow is the soil pH. Azaleas need a soil on the acid side. Alkalinity locks up iron needed for green color.

*Adding Epsom Salt to plants has been reported to enhance the color of blossoms and leaves, promote new flowers and fruit, improve the root system and improve the strength of stems. For roses: Sprinkle one teaspoon of Epsom Salts per foot of plant height and spread evenly around the base for better blossoms and deeper greening. Add 1/2 cup sprinkled around the base and then scratched in, for strong production of new flowering canes and healthy new basal cane growth.

*Did you know most fragrant flowers are lightly colored or white? If you want to add a scent to your garden, be generous with white or pastel blooms.

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 renown 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 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.

Spring garden cleanup with pollinators in mind

Spring cleaning, indoors and out, is a long-standing tradition for many households. But as we learn more about the important pollinators, insect-eating toads, songbirds, and beneficial insects, the more we realize we need to adjust some of our timing and methods.

It is safe to remove winter protection, such as mulch, when the temperatures begin hovering around freezing or your plants are beginning to sprout. Keep some frost protection handy just in case you need to protect any tender plants from a hard freeze.

Always check for frost heaving. When cold winters are interrupted by warm spells, bare soil may thaw and then refreeze. This temperature fluctuation can cause the soil to shift and push spring flowering bulbs, coral bells, daylilies, and other perennials out of the soil. Just gently push them back in place or reset in the soil



GARDEN MOMENTS
MELINDA MYERS

making sure the roots are covered.

Wait for temperatures to be consistently above 50 degrees to start cutting back perennials that were left standing. This allows any beneficial insects overwintering in the hollow stems time to emerge and find a summer home.

Cut some of the stems to the ground and some back to 18 to 24 inches on each plant. These old stems provide summer homes for some of our native bees. As new growth emerges in spring, it will mask the older stems so your garden will look as beautiful as ever.

If you can’t wait, stack the stems out of sight until temperatures

warm and pollinators have a chance to emerge. Then chop and compost the debris in mid-summer.

Tie or bungy cord tall ornamental grass plants before cutting them back to make cleanup easier. Then use a hand pruner for small jobs or a string trimmer or hedge clipper for larger plantings. Wait for new growth to fill in shorter grasses and simply comb your fingers through the plant removing the old brown leaves.

Leave fall leaves on the soil surrounding the plants to serve as mulch, suppressing weeds and conserving moisture. As the leaves break down, they add organic matter and nutrients to the soil. They also provide homes for beneficial insects and insulate the soil for plants, toads, and more.

Mark the location of perennials like butterfly weed and hardy hibiscus that emerge

later than most plants in spring. This helps to avoid accidentally weeding them out. Leave a few stems standing, use plant markers, or next fall plant some spring flowering bulbs near the plants to serve as a colorful placeholder.

Consider leaving some sunny spots bare for ground-nesting bees. Avoid areas like entryways and gathering spots where people and the bees may collide. Although the bees are docile and not likely to sting, people are often fearful leading to their elimination. Setting aside some out-of-the-way spaces for ground-nesting bees allows everyone to coexist more happily.

This is also a good time to tidy up garden beds and lawn edges. You’ll slow the invasion of weeds and grass into garden beds and lawn encroaching onto walks.

Remove weeds as they appear. The smaller weeds are easier to remove and eliminating



Melinda Myers
Adjusting your spring cleanup schedule will help pollinators like this bee on an allium flower.

them before they flower and set seed means fewer weeds you’ll need to pull in the future.

Take advantage of the delay in spring cleaning by cleaning and sharpening your tools. When the temperatures are right, with tools in hand, you will be ready to get busy in the garden.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including 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. Myers’ Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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POSITIVELY

continued from page A7

into laughter and gratitude as they finally understand what each other means.

Misunderstandings involve more than language differences. Even when we speak the same language, we often end up confused and in conflict because of misinterpreting what's meant by what's said.

If we could truly understand the intentions and emotions behind other's words and actions, many misunderstandings that lead to conflict could be avoided.

This is easier said than done, but what if?

What if we just took a breath and tried to understand rather than reacting with a knee-jerk reaction and getting upset?

Could we reduce social divisions, understand that we are all human, and accept that we are all different?

The world is filled with miscommunication; what if we could become a more collaborative and innovative planet by truly looking past what is said and trying to understand what is meant.

Relationships could flourish free from the constraints of misinterpretation, with partners, friends, and family members trying to understand rather than assuming that they know.

Telepathy, as defined by the late Terrence McKenna, could be the key to unlocking a new era of human understanding and cooperation.

Is this possible? I don't know, but I suppose if we stopped jumping to conclusions and practiced more patience, we might be headed in the right direction.



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Quinsigamond Community College receives grant for emergency response device

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College recently received a grant from the Healey-Driscoll Administration to purchase an Automatic External Defibrillator (AED) for one of the college's security patrol vehicles. QCC was one of 80 Massachusetts municipalities, public colleges and universities, and nonprofits chosen to receive part of \$165,000 in grant funding for AEDs to be placed in emergency response vehicles.

"We are close to completing the outfitting of all campus police and security vehicles with an AED. Seconds count in a cardiac situation, which is why we bring these vital life-saving devices on all critical calls," said QCC's Police Chief, Stephen DiGiovanni.

The funding will cover the cost of an AED assigned to one of the college's security vehicles. Currently 12 of the 13 police/security vehicles have AEDs, and the grant will ensure that all vehicles are now equipped with this life-sustaining device. Additionally, two AEDs are assigned to QCC's Police Academy, 21 in fixed locations that include at least one in each building on the West Boylston Street campus, three at the downtown campus and one at QCC's Southbridge location. The college's Athletic Center has four additional AEDs.

OCC's Campus Police Medical Advisor Stephen Rice noted that sudden cardiac arrest causes approximately 350,000 deaths each year in the United States. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) with the use of an automated external defibrillator (AED) can double or triple a sudden cardiac arrest patient's

chance of survival. A person's chance of survival can decrease by 7%-10% for each minute that passes without restoring a normal heart-beat. If the AED determines that it is necessary, it delivers an electric shock through the chest to restore a normal heart-beat. The combination of AEDs around QCC in both fixed locations and patrol vehicles decreases the delay between sudden cardiac arrest and restoring a normal heart-beat.

The \$1,703.20 grant covers the cost of one AED package that includes one set of adult and pediatric pads, one battery pack, a carrying case and an initial warranty.

QCC Campus Police officers and security officers are all certified in Basic Life Support and First Responder. CPR and use of an AED are covered under Basic Life Support certification.

The college's Center for Workforce Development and Continuing Education offers CPR/AED certification classes to the public for a fee. QCC Campus Police also occasionally offers non-certification training in recognizing sudden cardiac arrest, calling 911, Adult hands-only CPR and use of an AED.

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Friday's Child

Lovely
Age 14

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Lovely is an independent and kind girl. As her name suggests, Lovely is a sweet and friendly girl with a great sense of humor. It can take some time to get her to open up, but once she is comfortable she enjoys her connections with others. Lovely is described as a quiet girl with a go-with-the-flow attitude. She enjoys painting and loves to display her art.

Lovely receives some additional support in school. She also puts a great deal of effort into her school-work with the support of her foster family as well. She gets along well with her peers and with the adults in her life.

Lovely would do well with a family of any constellation, with or without other children. While a family of any ethnicity will be considered, she would love to have a family who shares her Caribbean island and Hispanic culture. Lovely would do well with a patient and nurturing family who can take the time to build a trusting relationship.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/8332>

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

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

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POLICE REPORTS

Leicester Police Log

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29
12:57 a.m.: wires down (Pine Street), services rendered; 1:33 a.m.: debris in road (King Street), services rendered; 1:52 a.m.: debris in road (Stafford Street), services rendered; 1:53 a.m.: commercial alarm (Huntoon Memorial Highway), false alarm; 2:14 a.m.: debris in road (Flagg Drive), services rendered; 2:36 a.m.: debris in road (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 2:51 a.m.: debris in road (Stafford Street), services rendered; 4:21 a.m.: debris in road (Mannville Street), services rendered; 4:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 5:54 a.m.: ambulance (Siani Road), transported; 10:49 a.m.: welfare check (Parker Street), name and address redacted from police log, OUI liquor, negligent operation, criminal application issued; 11:46 a.m.: ambulance (Parker Street), transported; 12:34 p.m.: investigation (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 1:08 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), resolved; 2:11 p.m.: erratic operator (Peter Salem Road), services rendered; 4:30 p.m.: fraud (Moose Hill Road), resolved; 5:45 p.m.: suspicious mv (Monterey Drive), resolved; 9:12 p.m.: welfare check (Tobin Road), no action required; 10:37 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1
1:22 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 2:08 a.m.: mv stop (Waite Street), verbal warning; 2:42 a.m.: domestic disturbance (Utica Street), assisted; 5:45 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 6:07 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), citation issued; 8:09 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Putney Court, East Brookfield), unable to serve; 8:14 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 8:23 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:35 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:41 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:43 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 8:51 a.m.: fraud (Marshall Street), report taken; 8:59 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 10:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:42 a.m.: ambulance (Utica Street), transported to hospital; 1:17 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 1:22 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians Drive), transported; 1:37 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, mv not meeting RMV safety standards, lights violation, criminal application issued; 2:05 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), Amy B. Frazier, 43, 29 Aetna Street, #2, Worcester, straight warrant, op w/suspended license, arrest; 4:06 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 4:17 p.m.: summons service (Mannville Street), served; 4:36 p.m.: suspicious activity (Reservoir Street), resolved; 4:42 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 4:50 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (McCarthy Avenue), peace restored; 6:36 p.m.: fraud (Baldwin Street),

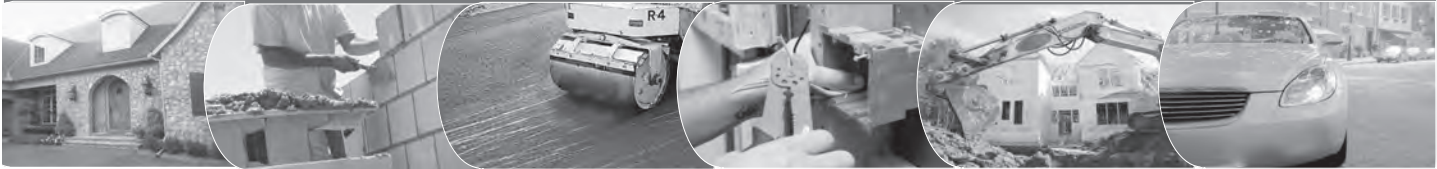
report taken; 9:55 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:10 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), resolved.
SATURDAY, MARCH 2
12:28 a.m.: mv stop (Pine Street), verbal warning; 12:47 a.m.: mv stop (Cross Street), verbal warning; 1:15 a.m.: disturbance (Dale Court), resolved; 1:17 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 2:10 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), resolved; 2:28 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:26 a.m.: ambulance (North Brookfield Road, Spencer), transported; 3:28 a.m.: trespassing (Mulberry Street), unable to locate; 3:42 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 4:44 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Hospital), Nicholas J. Ferrie, 39, 57 Park Street, Oxford, negligent operation, failure to stop/yield at red light; speeding, possession Class B drug, possession Class E drug, arrest; 5:33 a.m.: welfare check (Deer Pond Road), assisted; 9:25 a.m.: welfare check (Deer Pond Road), assisted; 9:45 a.m.: assist citizen (Pine Street); 10:24 a.m.: assist citizen (Craig Street); 1:09 p.m.: trespassing (Main Street), advised civil action; 2:17 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), unfounded; 3:43 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:31 p.m.: assist other agency (South Main Street), resolved; 6:45 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:01 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 7:04 p.m.: disturbance (Tobin Road), transported to hospital; 7:53 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Baldwin Street), spoken to; 8:39 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate.
SUNDAY, MARCH 3
12:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:30 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 12:44 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), resolved; 2:42 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), citation issued; 2:47 p.m.: animal complaint (Soojians Drive), referred; 3:12 p.m.: ambulance (Marble Street, Worcester), transported; 3:28 p.m.: investigation (Brookside Drive), report taken; 4:21 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:11 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 6:10 p.m.: disturbance (Chapel Street), resolved; 6:15 p.m.: illegal dumping (Reservoir Street), investigated; 6:37 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Chapel Street), unable to serve; 6:41 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:51 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:45 p.m.: suspicious person (Chapel Street), James Dias, 42, 118 Chapel Street, Leicester, suspended license, arrest; 9:47 p.m.: investigation (Reservoir Street), report taken.
MONDAY, MARCH 4
12:21 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), no action required; 12:56 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), no action required; 7:19 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 7:21 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 7:28 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 7:36 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 7:43 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 7:49 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:02 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), spoken to; 8:10 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton

Street), written warning; 9:20 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 9:42 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 10:24 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:35 a.m.: ambulance (Flint Way), transported to hospital; 10:45 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 10:47 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Steet); 11:00 a.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported; 12:51 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:21 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Juan Nicolas Guaman Duchi, 34, 191 Newbury Street, Brockton, unlicensed operation, unregistered mv, arrest; 2:48 p.m.: fraud (Mannville Road), report taken; 3:12 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), report taken; 4:45 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:49 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 5:32 p.m.: assist citizen (Hankey Street), advised civil action.
TUESDAY, MARCH 5
12:17 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:58 a.m.: disturbance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 8:15 a.m.: ambulance (Pitcairne Avenue), transported; 9:29 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:46 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:05 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 10:53 a.m.: disabled mv (South Main Street), assisted; 1:48 p.m.: mv stop (McNeil Highway), resolved; 5:45 p.m.: family problem (Rawson Street), resolved; 9:45 p.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), investigated; 10:21 p.m.: welfare check (Wendy Place), assisted.
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6
2:29 a.m.: ambulance (Fairview Drive), transported; 6:20 a.m.: animal complaint (River Street), referred; 8:22 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, no inspection sticker, criminal application issued; 9:57 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:12 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 10:19 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:43 a.m.: ambulance (Laflash Lane), transported; 10:46 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:16 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 11:32 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 11:44 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:44 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Spencer), transported; 1:10 p.m.: mv stop (Mannville Street), spoken to; 1:20 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:28 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:43 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 1:51 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 2:02 p.m.: accident (Stafford Street), report taken; 3:03 p.m.: accident (Pine Street), report taken; 8:10 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:57 p.m.: ambulance (Dale Court), transported; 10:00 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported.

Spencer Police Log

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28

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12:10-2:23 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:24 a.m.: parking violation (High Street), ticket issued; 2:42 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; 5:43 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:50 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:17 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 7:23 a.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 10:10 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 1:55 p.m.: fraud (Greenville Street), report taken; 1:58 p.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), spoken to; 2:43 p.m.: animal complaint (address omitted from police log), loose dogs; 3:58 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Road), services rendered; 4:10 p.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 4:41 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 6:44 p.m.: officer wanted (Pearl Street), req. welfare check; 7:51 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 8:22 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 8:39 p.m.: fire alarm (Buteau Road), referred; (total daily mv stops – 1).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 29
12:14-1:33 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:37 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 12:42 a.m.: commercial alarm (Ash Street), services rendered; 12:54 a.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 1:16 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 1:54 a.m.: DPW call (Greenville Street), tree in road; 1:56 a.m.: DPW call (Meadow Road), icy conditions; 2:00 a.m.: DPW call (Greenville Street), lg. tree in road; 2:32 a.m.: DPW call (Greenville Street), lg. branch in road; 3:10 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (South Spencer Road), wires sparking; 3:35 a.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), xmas tree in road; 5:36 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), re: tree down/Highway 8/North Brookfield; 5:59 a.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 6:08 a.m.: officer wanted (Chickering Road), rep. neighbor damaged boat slip; 6:32 p.m.: DPW call (Roys Drive), tree in road; 7:10 a.m.: DPW call (Rustic Lane), tree leaning on wires; 7:15 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. sale of multiple pistols/revolvers; 7:24 a.m.: medical/general (Mercury Drive); 7:27 a.m.: medical/general (Fourth Avenue); 7:34 a.m.: DPW call (Northwest Road), limb on wires; 8:52 a.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 9:09 a.m.: DPW call (Gale Street), tree on wires; 10:19 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), no emergency; 10:36 a.m.: DPW call (Wire Village Road), wire across road; 10:40 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 11:38 a.m.: open door (Candlewood Drive), bldg. secured; 11:52 a.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), re: cat for ACO; 11:55 a.m.: fraud (Howe Road), report taken; 12:23 p.m.: fire alarm (Route 49), canceled; 12:30 p.m.: 51A rec'd (West Main Street), rep. sexual force/fondling of juvenile; 1:34 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 1:50 p.m.: accident (North Brookfield Road), report taken; 2:55 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 3:50 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 4:45 p.m.: hit/run accident (Church Street), report taken; 4:58 p.m.: DPW call (Paxton Road), stop sign missing; 6:35 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 7:23 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:32 p.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), assisted; (total daily mv stops – 1).

FRIDAY, MARCH 1
12:16-2:26 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:15 a.m.: parking violation (High Street), ticket issued; 7:31 a.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 7:56 a.m.: officer wanted (Chickering Road), re: neighbor issue; 7:56 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 8:37 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:29 a.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), TT struck under bridge; 2:09 p.m.: animal complaint (Browning Pond Road), loose dog; 3:41 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 4:25 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), loose dog; 4:37 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street), Jameson R. Trumble, 29, 234 Moreland Street, Worcester, OUI liquor/3rd offense, negligent operation, failure to stop for police, arrest; 4:50 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:00 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dogs; 10:05 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 10:50 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 11:17 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), unknown male calling; (total daily mv stops – 3).

SATURDAY, MARCH 2
2:11-2:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:39 a.m.: medical/general (North Brookfield Road); 8:43 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), noise complaint; 9:10 a.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dogs; 9:21 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:56 a.m.: medical/general (Marble Road); 2:01 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 4:22 p.m.: illegal dumping (Highland Street), report taken; 6:24 p.m.: lost/found (Cranberry Meadow Road), unspecified item found; 7:56 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 8:39 p.m.: 911 call (Church Street), hang-up; 9:55 p.m.: mutual aid (Main Street), assist Oxford PD; 11:43 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: water coming from upstairs apt.; (total daily mv stops – 0).

POLICE REPORTS

LOGS

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SUNDAY, MARCH 3
12:16 a.m.: lost/found (Main Street), found AmEx card; 2:55 a.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), referred; 3:10-3:19 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:50 a.m.: medical/general (Town House Court); 6:26 a.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), chemical smell in tap water; 7:17 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), mv vs cat; 8:40 a.m.: DPW call (Old East Charlton Road), lg. boulder in roadway; 9:18 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:57 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), tenant/tenant issue; 2:56 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 3:30 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), missing dog/ East Brookfield; 5:41 p.m.: abandoned mv (Wall Street), investigated; 7:34 p.m.: juvenile matter (Bay Path Road), re: texts rec'd by son; 8:39 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 10:07 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), info taken; (total daily mv stops – 2).
MONDAY, MARCH 4
12:20-2:37 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:10-2:41 a.m.: parking violations/3 (Mechanic, Ash street, Old Farm Road), tickets issued; 4:18 a.m.: medical/general (Sampson Street); 8:00 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 8:40 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 8:43 a.m.: officer wanted (Lake Street), req. welfare check; 8:48 a.m.: DPW call (Maple Street), low-hanging wire; 9:19 a.m.: medical/general (High Street); 11:16 a.m.: restraining order service (Lake Street); 11:25 a.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Streets), re: checks from tenant; 11:56 a.m.: odor of gas (Valley Street), referred; 12:50 p.m.: identity theft (Grove Street), report taken; 1:47 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut

Street); 2:06 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), misdial; 3:45 p.m.: juvenile matter (Bixby Road), custody transfer; 4:39 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 5:41 p.m.: medical/general (Treadwell Terrace); 6:19 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), unwanted party; 6:59 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 8:16 p.m.: mv complaint (Greenville Street), c/o mv speeding; 11:13 p.m.: residential fire (Chestnut Street), referred; (total daily mv stops – 7).
TUESDAY, MARCH 5
12:54-1:58 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:32 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:36 a.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street); 6:27 a.m.: medical/general (Town House Court); 8:04 a.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), residential lockout; 8:20 a.m.: mv complaint (Pleasant Street), c/o speeding; 9:05 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 9:58 a.m.: officer wanted (Shore Drive) req. escort for wellness check; 10:04 a.m.: animal complaint (Church Street), loose dog; 10:32 a.m.: animal complaint (Bixby Road), re: neighbor's dog; 11:56 a.m.: mv repossessed (Chestnut Street), info rec'd; 1:26 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), re: missing cat; 2:41 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), noise complaint; 3:42 p.m.: medical/general (Lloyd Dyer Drive); 4:00 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Worcester PD bolo; 4:12 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 5:38 p.m.: suspicious persons (Bay Path Road), investigated; 6:49 p.m.: suspicious persons (Bemis Road), investigated; 7:50 p.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 9:56 p.m.: 911 call (Pearl Street), accidental; 10:26 p.m.: building checked, secure; (total daily mv stops – 2).

#

SOLAR

continued from page A1

nities—but they feel like they're fighting an uphill battle.

"There are many ramifications involved with these projects, and the companies do not present all of the risks. I understand there are two sides to the coin and they can produce benefits, but I believe the risks far outweigh the benefits," said Matthew DeFosse, a resident who has attended multiple meetings over the last decade to discuss his concerns with officials, in a previous interview.
Several other residents and officials have expressed their concerns over solar development in recent years. These include fears regarding hazardous materials inside panels; clear-cutting and deforestation; flooding and runoff; destruction of wildlife habitats; and potential issues that could arise during the decommissioning process.
"I have not been convinced that there will not be adverse effects to the land after solar panels have been removed," wrote resident Carol McPherson.
Looking ahead, regional and state leaders could potentially join the conversation on how much large-scale solar activity in one town is too much.
"I would encourage residents who feel like Spencer is being oversaturated with commercial solar to reach out to their state officials to discuss how the zoning exemption (Dover amendment) and the state's push for clean energy impact rural communities and their land," Vivier said.

Of the 23 solar arrays either already constructed in Spencer or planned for installation, 20 of them are located in the town's rural residential zoning district. One array lies in the industrial zoning district, and two others are in the suburban residential district.

"This has become a pattern of companies seeking to come into town, put up their solar projects without listening to residents' concerns, then move on to the next town," said Selectman Ralph Hicks in a prior interview. "This pattern is very concerning to me as a resident and a selectman."
The Planning Board is currently working on another solar bylaw amendment proposal. A target public hearing date is April 2.

A previous attempt by Spencer officials to implement a cap on large-scale solar arrays in town was blocked by the Attorney General.

To learn more about upcoming dates for meetings involving solar proposals and bylaws, visit www.spencerma.gov.

ARPA

continued from page A1

the process hadn't taken so long, but this isn't a big city where a bunch of people are reviewing them."
Adding to the delays were multiple incomplete applications, as well as those that didn't meet submission requirements, officials said.
"Some of the people didn't put all of the information into the applications, which made the review process longer," Select Board Chairman John Howard told the New Leader in a prior interview.
Officials said an emphasis was placed on having a comprehensive, fair review process. In other communities across the

state, complaints of preferential treatment and conflicts of interest surfaced following ARPA review processes run by committees. Spencer officials told the New Leader they were committed to ensuring that each application was fully reviewed by an impartial authority that has no affiliation with business applicants.
A total of \$500,000 was available from the town's business round of ARPA allocations, with a cap of \$20,000 per business.
Spencer was awarded a total of approximately \$3.5 million in ARPA funding. In addition to providing assistance to businesses, ARPA funding also covered premium pay for first responders and other town officials who worked during the pandemic state of emer-

gency.
The federal ARPA stimulus program provides municipalities across the country with funding to expedite their COVID-19 relief efforts. Once disbursed to the municipal level, ARPA funds can be used for several purposes, including the installation of public health measures; addressing pandemic-related economic impacts on businesses and nonprofits; replacing lost public sector revenue; and investing in infrastructure upgrades.
To help maximize Spencer's use of ARPA funds, officials posted an online survey at the beginning of the process. Survey responses from community members were used to help determine priorities.

OBITUARIES

Julianne Broman, 85



North Brookfield - Julianne (Thomasian) Broman, 85, of North Brookfield, died on Saturday, February 17, 2024 at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center.
She is survived by her son, Eric Broman and his wife Suzanne of North Brookfield, and her daughter, Sema Guntor and her husband Paul of West Brookfield; three grandchildren, Eric Guntor and his partner Carol Trevey of Pennsylvania, Katie Broman Attella and her husband Nate of North Brookfield, and Nicholas Broman of West Brookfield; two very special great grandchildren, Addison and Peyton Attella; as well as many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her son, John "Jack" M. Broman in 2012, and her brothers, Donabet Thomasian, Khrekor "George" Thomasian, Aram Thomasian, Sr., Harbig Thomasian and Peter Giragosian; and her sister, Susan Zabek. She was born in North Brookfield, daughter of the late Hovanes and Sema (Goshgarian) Thomasian and was a life-long resident

of the town.
Julie started her nursing career at the Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center at a young age. She saw the names change over the years from Quaboag Nursing Home, to Quaboag on the Common, to the name it carries today. She worked there for 60 years, starting as an aide, then a CNA, to completing her education to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. Even after she retired from nursing, she continued to enjoy interacting with the residents and others there as the receptionist.
Her family and friends were her greatest joy, and she enjoyed quilting, knitting, and making her famous apple pies for community events.
Julie's family would like to gratefully acknowledge and thank everyone at Quaboag for the wonderful care and company that they provided her.
At her request, services for Julie will be held privately with a burial in Walnut Grove Cemetery in the spring.
Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.
An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Mary L. Sisco, 76



North Brookfield - Mary L. (Glazier) Sisco, 76, of North Brookfield, passed away peacefully on Sunday, March 3, 2024 at St. Mary's Healthcare in Worcester. She leaves behind her daughters, Michelle, Sheila, Theresa, Eunice, Jessica, and Mary, and sons Leon, Jr. and Craig Farley, his wife Pamela and their children, Matthew, Ryan and Johnna with whom she lived, as well as several grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was predeceased by her

husband, Leon in 2016 and a daughter, Earline.
Mary was a homemaker, raising her nine children for many years. After her youngest children reached their teenage years, she worked at the Former Spencer Products Wire Manufacturing until her retirement.
A Celebration of Life for Mary will be held on Saturday, March 16th at 3:00 p.m. at 156 Summer Street, North Brookfield.
Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.
An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Pauline D. Walker, 86



West Brookfield - Pauline "Pinky" D. (Piche) Walker, 86, of West Brookfield, passed away on Saturday, February 24, 2024 at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center.
She leaves behind her son, Robert Walker of West Brookfield; her daughter, Maxine Fairbanks and her husband Scott of West Brookfield; Heika surviving spouse of Clint from Germany; her grandchildren, Nicole, Natalie, Jessica, William, Brooke and Conor; as well as her great-grandchildren, Eileen, Delane, Aiden, Kinsey, Nora and Eli. She was predeceased by her beloved husband, William F. Walker; by her son, Clint Walker; her brother Armand and two sisters Lucille and Gloria. She was born in Ware, daughter of the late Wilfred "Sky" and Lillian (Cloutier) Piche.
Pinky worked in the Activities Department at Quaboag Nursing home for 30 years. She also volunteered many hours there helping with parties, picnics, decorating for holidays and manicures. She also worked with the Hairdresser at Quaboag for many years. Pink enjoyed participating in

the Chimes group at the nursing home. Music was one of her passions. She was a member of the Sacred Heart Church in Brookfield and West Brookfield. She became a Eucharistic minister and provided this service during the Mass, to the residents at Quaboag and homebound parishioners. Pinky volunteered at the Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry for many years. She enjoyed helping people. Pinky also enjoyed traveling, music, camping, and the outdoors. She loved spending time with her family and friends and hosting family gatherings. She was a loving, caring and devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great grandmother and friend. Pinky's family would like to gratefully acknowledge and thank everyone at Quaboag for the compassionate care and company they provided her.
A funeral mass for Pauline will be held on Friday, April 5, 2024 at 11:00am in the Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish in West Brookfield. Relatives and friends are asked to please meet directly at church. Burial will be held in the Brookfield Cemetery following mass.
Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.
An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

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JONAH D. GLICKMAN
Vice President

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LEGALS

Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 9, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit, for Aime Cournoyer for the property located at 95 Shoreline Drive, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to build a garage. A Special Permit is required 4.2 Schedule of Dimensional Requirements and Section 4.3 Modifications to Dimensional Requirements.
March 8, 2024
March 15, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. WO24P0615EA Estate of: Ann M. Blaisdell Date Of Death: February 9, 2024 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner
David W. Blaisdell of Spencer MA
a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
David W. Blaisdell of Spencer MA
has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
March 15, 2024

Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

Michael Tyrrell has filed an **NOI** with the Spencer Conservation Commission to conduct soil borings located at **E5/F6 Transmission Line Right-of-Way on Bixby Road, Meadow Road and Maple Street**, Spencer, MA. Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, March 27, 2024 at which time all persons having an interest may be present or call in remotely to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 6:15 p.m.
Mary McLaughlin
Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman
March 15, 2024

A.C. 78A DOCKET NO. 22P0199PM THECOMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS WORCESTER, SS PROBATE COURT

To all persons interested in the estate of Nancy R. Whittaker of Spencer, in said county, a person under conservatorship. A person has been presented to said Court for authority to sell - private sale -certain real estate of said Nancy R. Whittaker for maintenance. If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney shall file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the twenty-sixth day of March 24, the return date of this citation. Witness Leilah A. Keamy, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-seventh day of February 2024.
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register
March 15, 2024

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing on the proposed Tantasqua Regional School District budget for 2024-2025 will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. in the Cafeteria of Tantasqua Regional Junior High School, in accordance with M.G.L., Chapter 71, § 38N. A copy of the proposed budget is available at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, 320A Brookfield Rd., Fiskdale, MA.
NOTE: The regular school committee meeting will begin following the Public Hearing at 6:30 p.m.
Michael Valanzola
Chairman
Tantasqua Regional School District Committee

March 14, 2024
March 15, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 35 Church Street, Spencer, MA 01562
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by J. C. Allen Gathers to Chase Bank USA, N.A., and now held by **U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2023-NR1**, said mortgage dated July 23, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 41554, Page 185, said mortgage was assigned from Chase Bank USA, N.A. to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association by assignment dated February 1, 2017 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 56707, Page 71; said mortgage was assigned from JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. to US Bank Trust, N.A. as trustee for LSF10 Master Participation Trust by assignment dated May 16, 2018 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 58824, Page 77; said mortgage was assigned from US Bank Trust, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for LSF10 Master Participation Trust to Citibank, N.A. as trustee for CMLTI Asset Trust by assignment dated February 27, 2020 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 62091, Page 392; said mortgage was assigned from Citibank, N.A. as trustee for CMLTI Asset Trust to Greenwich Revolving Trust c/o Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Owner Trustee by assignment dated June 30, 2020 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 62847, Page 71; said mortgage was assigned from Greenwich Revolving Trust by Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity, but solely as Owner Trustee to U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2023-NR1 by assignment dated May 25, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 69350, Page 8; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction on** April 24, 2024 at 12:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:
A certain parcel of land located at 35 Church Street, Spencer, and being

shown on a plan of land, surveyed for Douglas A. Lacroix dated March 17, 1993 by Donald A. Para, R.L.S. and being recorded in Worcester Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 669, Plan 57. Beginning at a point in the northeasterly comer of land now or formerly owned by Claude A. Larcheveque and on the southerly side of Church Street; Thence N. 89° 15' 00" E. along the southerly side of Church Street, 54.0 feet to a point; Thence S. 0° 08' 20" W. along land now or formerly of Paul V. and Holland Daunais, 80.65 feet to a point on the line of a stone retaining wall; Thence S. 88° 36' 30" W. along land now or formerly of David Durgan; 53.74 feet to a point; Thence N. 0° 03' 12" W. along land of said Larcheveque 81.25 feet to the point of beginning. Containing an area of 4,360 square feet, more or less. For title reference see deed recorded May 2, 2006 in Book 38883, Page 302.
The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated April 25, 2006 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 38883, Page 302.
TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.
FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.
Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762
Attorney for U.S. Bank Trust Company, National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Indenture Trustee of CIM Trust 2023-NR1
Present Holder of the Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
March 8, 2024
March 15, 2024
March 22, 2024

Legal Notice Town of Leicester Office of the Treasurer Notice of Sale

Notice is hereby given that on April 8th, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Leicester Town Hall Gym, 3 Washburn Square, Leicester MA 01524, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60 § 77B, Nicholas George, the Treasurer for the Town of Leicester, intends to sell the hereinafter described parcels of land at public auction. Bidding will end promptly at 12:00 pm.

Parcel No.1 "A Parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 1.00 acres being described as parcel 15A-A19 in the office of the Assessors" currently under ownership by the Town of Leicester with Land Court Judgement dated 11/21/2006 and recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds at Book 40206 Page 118. Assessed owner: Town of Leicester
Parcel No.2 "A Parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.22 acres being described as parcel 23C-E14 in the office of the Assessors" currently under ownership by the Town of Leicester with Treasurer Deed dated 4/21/2006 and recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds at Book 38741 Page 372. Assessed owner: Town of Leicester
Parcel No.3 "A Parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.172 acres being described as parcel 25A-E15 in the office of the Assessors" currently under ownership by the Town of Leicester with the Treasurer's Deed dated 04/11/2006 and recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds at Book 38741, Page 371. Assessed owner: Town of Leicester
Parcel No.4 "A Parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.23 acres being described as parcel 25A-E17 in the office of the Assessors" currently under ownership by the Town of Leicester with the Treasurer's Deed dated 04/11/2006 and recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds at Book 38741, Page 371. Assessed owner: Town of Leicester
Parcel No.5 "A Parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.401 acres being described as parcel 33A-A1 in the office of the Assessors" currently under ownership by the Town of Leicester with the Treasurer's Deed dated 04/11/2006 and recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds at Book 38741, Page 371. Assessed owner: Town of Leicester
Parcel No.6 "A Parcel of land with any buildings thereon, containing about 0.12 acres being described as parcel 34B-B4 in the office of the Assessors" currently under ownership by the Town of Leicester with the Land Court Decree dated 07/21/2006 and recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds at Book 39413, Page 121. Assessed owner: Town of Leicester
Parcel No.7 "Land in said Leicester at 755 Stafford Street shown on Assessor's Map 36 Parcel B5, described in Worcester District Deeds Book 6641 Page 266" currently under ownership by the Town of Leicester with the Land Court Decree dated 10/04/2006 and recorded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds at Book 39996, Page 58. Assessed owner: Town of Leicester

Map/Lot	Location	Assessed Value	Sales Price
15A-A19	Chapel Street	\$67,100.00	\$ 19,588.64
23C-E14	Boyd Street	\$8,100.00	\$ 1,713.98
25A-E15	Newfield Street	\$8,100.00	\$ 1,556.90
25A-E17	Somerset Street	\$8,100.00	\$ 1,567.11
33A-A1	Logan Street	\$8,300.00	\$ 1,466.20
34B-B4	Stafford Street	\$6,800.00	\$ 2,000.00
36-B5	Stafford Street	\$30,300.00	\$ 10,000.00

Sale will be made to the highest bidder at an open and competitive auction; however, the Treasurer may reject any and all bids at the sale or any adjournment thereof which the treasurer, in their sole discretion, deems inadequate. The highest bidder on a parcel will be required to make a deposit of \$500.00 on the day of the auction. This deposit must be in the form of cash, certified check, money order or bank check. No personal checks will be accepted. The remainder of the

purchase price must be paid within ten (10) days, by cash, certified check, money order, or bank check. Failure to pay the remainder of the purchase price within ten (10) days will result in the forfeiture of your deposit to the Town of Leicester. If you wish to obtain further information about any parcel listed, you are encouraged to examine the maps and records at the Town Assessors' Office. The terms and conditions listed below are subject to change.

The terms and conditions listed below apply to the sale of the parcel herein advertised:

- The Town of Leicester, its Custodian, employees, representatives, auctioneer and/or agents make NO REPRESENTATIONS AS TO THE INSURABILITY OR MARKETABILITY OF THE TITLE OTHER THAN THE TITLE VESTS IN THE TOWN OF LEICESTER BY LAND COURT DECREE OF FORECLOSURE.
- This parcel is sold "AS IS". The Town of Leicester, its Custodian, employees, representatives, auctioneer and/or agents make NO REPRESENTATIONS AS TO WHETHER OR NOT THIS PARCEL IS SUITABLE FOR YOUR INTENDED USE AND MAKE NO REPRESENTATIONS AS TO THE CONDITION AND/OR HABITABILITY OF ANY STRUCTURE AND/OR BUILDING THAT CURRENTLY EXISTS ON THE PREMISES. Prospective purchasers are responsible for investigating the suitability of this parcel for its intended use prior to auction.
- This parcel is sold subject to any existing environmental or hazardous waste conditions, if any, including but not limited to lead paint, asbestos, underground oil tanks and/or mold, whether in or at the property, which may or may not be in compliance with any applicable laws, policies or regulations.
- This parcel is sold subject to any applicable septic/disposal system inspection/upgrade requirements as set forth in the Department of Environmental Protection's Title 3 310 CMR, Section 15.301(f).
- Any error, misstatement, or omission in the description of the property will not annul the sale or be grounds for any abatement or compensation.
- The following person(s) will not qualify to be a successful bidder: (1) the prior owner of the property and/or his or her agent or straw; (2) any person or entity that was party to the foreclosure action of pertaining to the property; and (3) any person currently delinquent in paying his/her own property taxes and/or other taxes or charges owed to the Town of Leicester.
- The successful buyer will be required to: (1) sign and file a disclosure statement pursuant to M.G.L. c.7, §40J giving the names and addresses of all persons who will have a beneficial interest in the property with the Commissioner of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance; and (2) sign under the penalties of perjury an affidavit indicating that no one who would gain equity in the property has been convicted of a crime involving the willful and malicious setting of a fire, or of aiding, counseling or procuring the willful and malicious setting of a fire, or of a crime involving the fraudulent filing of a claim for fire insurance.
- The balance of the contract sales price, pro forma taxes (to be calculated pursuant to M.G.L. c.44 §63A), a processing fee of \$500.00, and recording fee of \$155.00 must be paid by certified funds within ten (10) days of the auction. Failure to pay the remainder of the balance within ten (10) days will result in the forfeiture of the deposit to the Town of Leicester and the sale will be offered to the second highest bidder.
- The Custodian reserves the right to reject any bid at the auction or any adjournment thereof which, in his or her opinion, does not approximate the fair market value of the property.
- A deposit in the amount of \$500.00 is required to register to bid at the auction. The successful bidder's deposit will be held by the Town as a non-refundable deposit on the sale which shall be forfeited to the Town as liquidated damages in the event the high bidder fails to comply with the terms and conditions of the sale and/or is in default thereof.

Nicholas George
Treasurer Collector
March 15, 2024

SPORTS

‘Our kids played their hearts out and did not give up until the final whistle’

PANTHERS’ SEASON COMES TO A CLOSE AT BOURNE IN DIVISION 4 ELITE 8

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

CLINTON — After edging by No. 7 Clinton in the Round of 16 of the Division 4 State Tournament, 53-50, back on Tuesday, March 5, the 10th ranked David Prouty boys’ varsity basketball team headed to the Elite 8. There, the Panthers’ season came to a close, as they lost at No. 2 Bourne, 71-46, on Friday, March 8.

“Our kids played their hearts out and did not give up until the final whistle,” mentioned David Prouty head coach Pat O’Connor via email. “Credit to Bourne, happened to be better than us.”

In the Panthers’ final contest, Jayden Rubio led the way with 19 points, while Alec Fournier chipped in 16 points and Judelius Neiray added 9 more.

O’Connor noted how important Fournier and Neiray, two senior starters, were to the David Prouty basketball program over the past three years.

“Alec and JJ grew to be two of the best players in



David Prouty’s Jayden Rubio drives the ball into the lane on Clinton’s defense.

the state. Both were SWCL (Southern Worcester County League) First Team All Stars. The best way to describe them is winners,” said O’Connor.

“They played in and won many big-time games over the past three years. Most high school kids would be lucky just to play in one game like that. It was an incredible ride for our seniors.

“Our senior class finished 61-11 in three seasons,” added O’Connor. “Obviously there were great players in the previous classes that had a major part in that.”

The Panthers won the Clark Tournament Small Schools Division

and reached the Division 5 State Championship game a season ago. Losing in the Clark final and advancing to the Elite 8 while playing up a division this winter was a great follow up.

“Only five Central Mass. teams made it to the Elite 8 in their respective divisions. We were one of them,” O’Connor noted. “This season was a legacy season itself for our seniors. I think people thought we would be good, but the kids really believed we could be one of the best teams in Central Mass. Their hard work since the end of last basketball season put them in this elite company.”

O’Connor was also amazed to see the support from the fans, even all the way to Cape Cod versus Bourne.

“David Prouty has an amazing community. The community traveled to Bourne to watch their team play, and they were as loud as the Bourne fans. There is incredible pride in David Prouty, unlike anywhere I have seen,” O’Connor concluded.



Noah LaTour of David Prouty eyes the basket before letting a shot from the corner fly.



David Prouty’s Judelius Neiray puts up a shot in front of a Clinton defender.



File photo



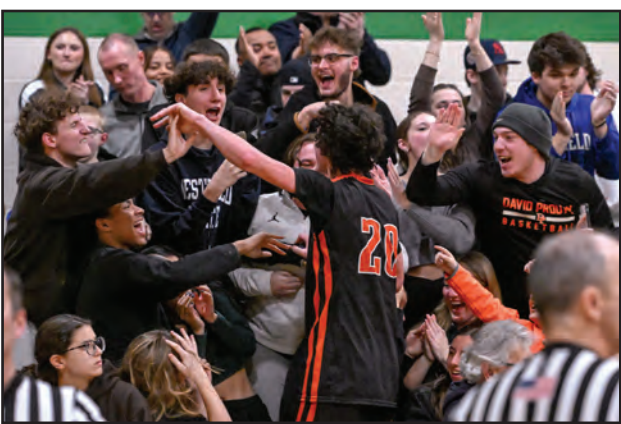
Alec Fournier of David Prouty gets near the hoop on a drive and then takes a layup.

Warriors reach Round of 16, then lose to No. 8 Newburyport

Jack Rapose and the Tantasqua boys’ varsity basketball team advanced to the Round of 16 inside the Division 3 State Tournament. There, the ninth ranked Warriors played at No. 8 Newburyport on Tuesday, March 5. Tantasqua lost the game, 79-58, to finish with a record of 15-8. Their season included winning the Clark Tournament Large Schools Division. Newburyport then lost to top-ranked Charlestown in the Elite 8 round, 87-72.



Owen Granger of David Prouty works the baseline on a dribble-drive.



The David Prouty fanbase, which had a strong showing throughout the postseason run, celebrates with Alec Fournier following the Panthers’ win over Clinton.

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

SPORTS

Second period special teams help Tewksbury defeat Rockets in State Tournament Elite 8



Goalie Ethan LaPlante of Auburn saves the puck versus Tewksbury.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

WOBURN — When taking on the top seed-

ed Tewksbury boys' varsity ice hockey team in the Elite 8 round of the Division 2 State

Tournament, Auburn head coach Glen Bombard made one thing clear:

"A team like that, they're skilled and you can't give them power plays. Point blank. You just can't do it," said Bombard.

The ninth ranked Rockets — a co-op with student-athletes also from Tantasqua, Shepherd Hill and Millbury — allowed a pair of second period power play goals and then the Redmen also scored a shorthanded strike, turning a 3-2 advantage after one period into a 6-2 lead through two.

"We screwed up in the second period," said Bombard, as Auburn eventually lost, 7-2, at the O'Brien Ice Rink on Wednesday, March 6. "That's pretty much what it came down to."

With the game at 3-2 early in the second, the Rockets were awarded a power play. But Auburn took a penalty of their own, and then another a minute later. Now skating five-on-three, Tewksbury took advantage. Tyler Bourgeau made a pass over to Matthew Cooke, who then slapped a pass near the right post to Jeremy Insogna, who tapped the puck into the net. The Redmen made it a 5-2 game a minute later with Bourgeau scoring, and Insogna and

Tyler Barnes grabbing the assists.

With the clock ticking toward the end of the second period, the Rockets went on another power play. But it was Tewksbury who found the net, Bourgeau taking a pass from Barnes and beating Auburn goalie Ethan LaPlante (21 saves).

"We gave up the five-on-three and then the shorthanded, and that kind of put the nail in the coffin," said Bombard.

The Redmen put the finishing touches on their victory with another power play goal — they were three-for-three with the man-advantage — midway through the third period. There, Insogna scored with Cooke and Jake Cunha assisting.

"I thought we played a great third period. We just didn't put anything into the net," Bombard said of the final frame of his team's season.

The first period was a back-and-forth affair. Tewksbury took 1-0 and 2-1 leads (Jason Shreenan and Bourgeau scoring), only for Auburn to battle back to twice tie the score. Nathan Dono beat Redmen goalie David Karlberg (26 saves) twice for both of the Rockets' goals, with Austin Dono and Ethan McDermott assisting on the first, and the second coming unas-

sisted.

Cooke scored later in the first for Tewksbury to take a 3-2 lead into the first intermission, but Bombard wasn't concerned at that point in time.

"I felt pretty confident going into the second period," said Bombard.

But the Redmen took advantage of their opportunities and moved to the tournament's Final Four.

"We just made mistakes that we haven't made

in the last nine games, and those mistakes came back to haunt us," said Bombard.

Tewksbury (21-3) then defeated No. 4 Woburn, 6-4, to advance to the State Final, while the Rockets wound up with a record of 17-6.

"We have a ton of these guys returning next year, so we'll see what happens," said Bombard. "I'm extremely proud. They're awesome kids. We'll keep building."



Nick Ethier photos

After scoring a goal, Auburn's Nathan Dono (4) and Austin Dono (9) jump into the glass to celebrate with the Rockets' faithful.



Auburn's Erik Dupuis, left, gets ready to win a faceoff against Tewksbury.



Wyatt Zalneraitis of Auburn plays the puck along the blue line.

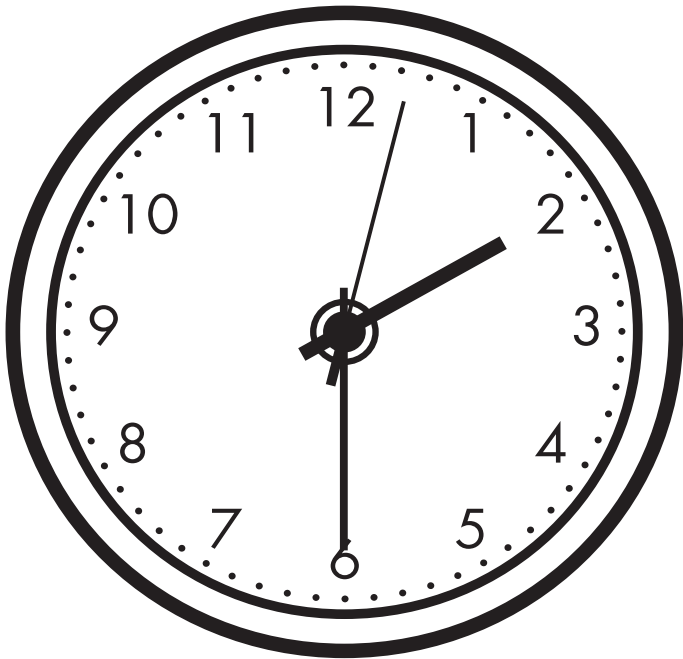


Auburn's Owen Stattenfield handles the puck into Tewksbury's zone.



Creative Coloring

Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



Double Word Puzzle

Unscramble the words to reveal the sentence.

CCLKO [] [] [] [] []
9

MTEI [] [] [] []
7

UHORS [] [] [] [] [] []
10 11 12 2 1

DHGTALIY [] [] [] [] [] [] [] []
8 5 3 4 6

[] P [] [] N [] [] [] [] [] N [] []
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 5 8 9 7

[] [] [] [] []
10 11 12 2

Answers: Clock, Time, Hours, Daylight, Spring ahead one hour.

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- 1820: MAINE IS ADMITTED AS THE TWENTY-THIRD U.S. STATE.
- 1917: TSAR NICHOLAS II OF RUSSIA ABDICATES THE RUSSIAN THRONE, ENDING THE 304-YEAR ROMANOV DYNASTY.
- 2019: AROUND 1.4 MILLION YOUNG PEOPLE IN 123 COUNTRIES GO ON STRIKE TO PROTEST CLIMATE CHANGE.



ADJUST

to alter or move something

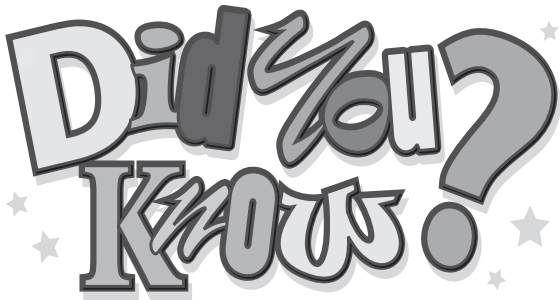


TRUE OR FALSE?
ONLY ABOUT ONE-THIRD OF THE WORLD'S COUNTRIES PRACTICE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME.

ANSWER: TRUE



- ENGLISH: Time
- SPANISH: Tiempo
- ITALIAN: Tempo
- FRENCH: Temps
- GERMAN: Zeit



IN EACH OF THE TIME ZONES WHERE DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME IS OBSERVED, PEOPLE MOVE THE CLOCK AT 2 A.M. LOCAL TIME.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: SUNRISE ON A FARM

CRYPTO FUN



Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to St. Patrick's Day.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 15 = E)

A. 16 7 12 2 15 22

Clue: Little plant

B. 9 22 15 15 26

Clue: Color associated with nature

C. 17 24 8 26 1

Clue: Holy being

D. 11 24 1 22 12 26

Clue: Someone who supports a cause

Answers: A. clover B. green C. saint D. patron

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

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

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

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First Time Offered! 1960 era One Level, Spacious 3 BR Ranch Home on a large, near level, 10,000 SF Lot! 14x28 Carport
\$322,000

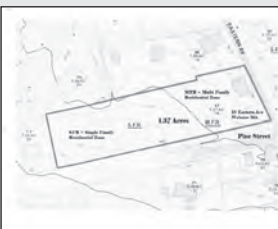
WEBSTER - 40 LINCOLN ST



3 Family ! 9 Bedrooms ! 3 Car Garage !! House Has Good Bones And Straight Lines!!... Owner Occupied. All Natural Woodwork & Solid Doors Reflect "Ageless" Character Throughout This House! Gas & Oil Heat.
\$399,900

WEBSTER - 18 EASTERN AVE.

Featured New Listing



TAKE A CLOSE LOOK AT THIS ONE! This property offers a whole lot more than meets the eye! 2 Family that served the same family for over 65 Years. 2 BRs & 1 Bath, 1st flr. 1 -2 Brs & 1 Bath 2nd flr. Offers a shared front entry porch & a separate finished side entry porch for the 1st floor apt only. A rear open porch provides a private space & scenic views for the 2nd floor. It's situated on an acre plus++ (1.37 Acre) of land on the corner of Eastern Ave. and Pine St. 480' on Pine St. which has DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL.
\$399,000.

WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE



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SPRAWLING 2000 SF ONE LEVEL RANCH HOME! Situated on a level 1/2 acre Lot! OPEN FLOOR PLAN. Living room, dining room, upscaled kitchen with 8' island, 3 bedroom, 2 baths, Beautiful Hardwood Floors! central air. 2 car garage, & shed. **\$615,000**

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\$450,000

WEBSTER - NEW ENGLAND COMMONS

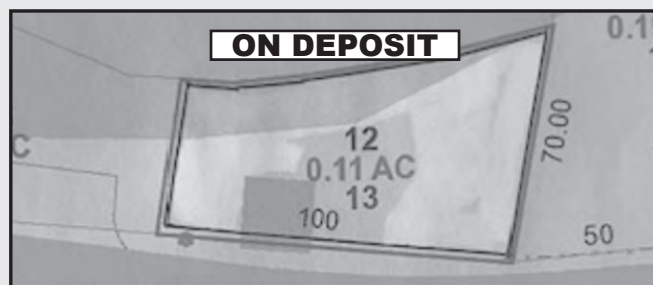


ON DEPOSIT
NEW ENGLAND COMMONS ADULT 55+ COMMUNITY! This Half Duplex home features one level living at its best w/ 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, & 1,274 sq/ft of living space! Gleaming hardwood floors can be found throughout! Cabinet packed kitchen w/breakfast bar and tile floor! Large master bedroom w/ tray ceiling, walk-in closet & full bath w/ low step in shower! Low monthly HOA fees! **\$369,900**

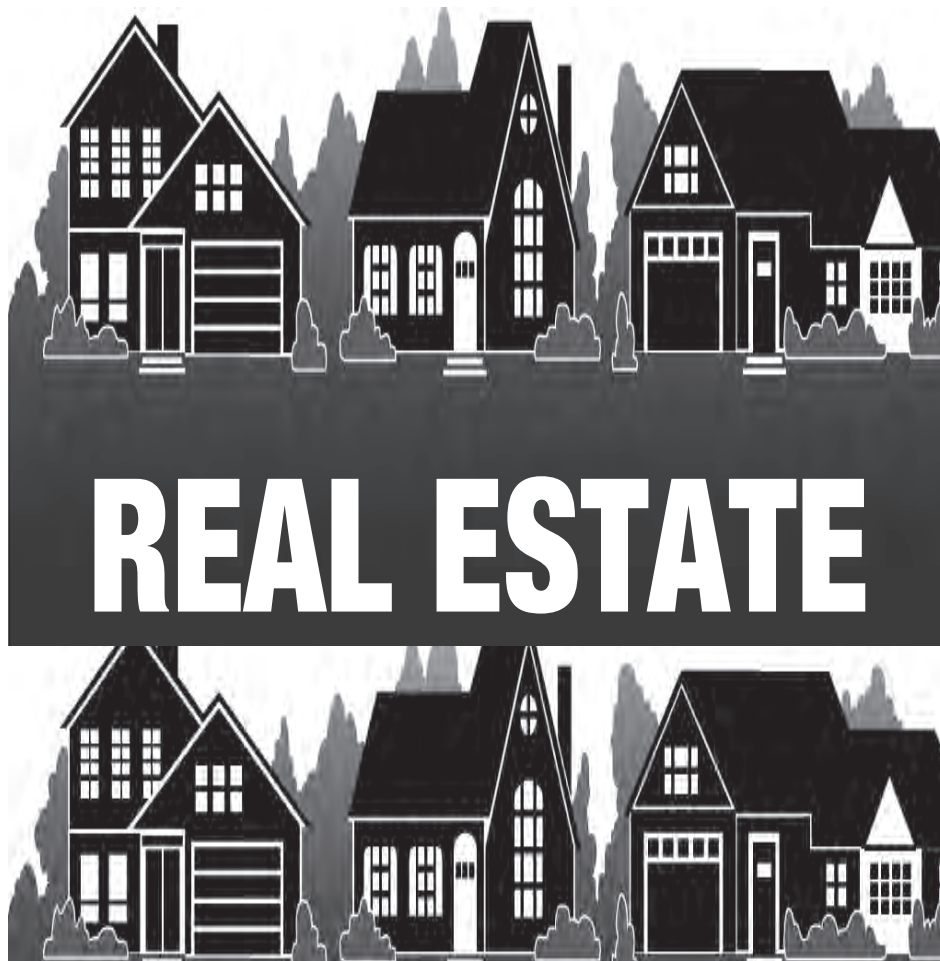
On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

*Webster Lake
13 South Point Rd.*

100' of frontage on the water & road. An old cement block garage is located on the property.. Land area surveyed, DEP approval to build. Property suitable for small craft dockage/off season storage. Town Water & Sewer available
\$195,000



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Home
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*New Septic System
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