



SPENCER NEW LEADER

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Free by request to residents of

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Friday, July 25, 2025

Intersection to be renamed in honor of local Vietnam veteran

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD — The community will come together next month for a special memorial ceremony honoring the life and legacy of Vietnam War veteran James Terry.

On Aug. 23 at 11 a.m., the East Brookfield Historical Commission will officially rename the intersection of Podunk Road, Shore Road, and Draper Road, which is currently known as “Four Corners.”

Following the ceremony, the location will be known as “Terry Corner” in memory of James Terry, a Podunk resident, 1964 graduate of David Prouty High School, and U.S. Marine Colonel.

Born in East Brookfield in 1946, Terry was the son of Philip Terry, a World War II Navy pilot. He graduated from the University of Virginia in 1968 and became a lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps.

He volunteered for service in Vietnam and sustained multiple gunshot wounds as an infantry platoon leader during Operation Virginia Ridge in 1969. As a result of his injuries, he was paralyzed from the waist down. After spending over a year in the hospital, Terry attended George Washington University School of Law and earned multiple doctorates. He went on to spend 42 years in various federal government posts.

In 1992, he became legal counsel to then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Colin Powell. In 2011, he retired as Chairman of the Board of Veterans’ Appeals. He then became a Senior Fellow at the University of Virginia’s Center for National Security Law.

Following his retirement, he wrote several books on constitutional law and international law.

Terry died in 2014 at the age of 68. He is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

In honor of Terry’s valor in service, he earned the following awards and distinctions: a Purple Heart; a Bronze Star with Merit; the Legion of Merit and the Navy’s Commendation Medal; the State Department Superior Honor Medal; the Defense Superior Service Medal; and several other commendation medals.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the memorial program and renaming ceremony. Family and friends of Terry, as well as area residents and community leaders who knew him, are looking forward to the opportunity to celebrate his enduring legacy.

Roadside parking is expected to be available for guests attending the event. A police detail may be assigned to assist with traffic control during the ceremony.

Residents and motorists in the area of the ceremony are thanked in advance for their cooperation as guests take time to honor a town hero.

North Brookfield Senior Center hosts scam awareness program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD

— With area police departments facing surges in scam investigations, several agencies are teaming up to help residents protect themselves through education.

Long gone are the days when scammers relied on outlandish claims involving relatives imprisoned in faraway countries, requiring wired money in order to be released. In recent years, with help from AI and other innovations, scams have become significantly more detailed, localized, and realistic.

Texts warning of unpaid tolls. Emails involving job applications and recruitment. Social media postings about upcoming vendor fairs and other events requiring preregistration and payment.

And those are just a few of the most prevalent scams currently targeting residents’ phones, computers, and other devices, police warn.

“It is important to stay updated on what scams are circulating in your area,” read a statement released by the Worcester County District Attorney’s Office. “Kevin from our Outreach Team visited the North Brookfield Senior Center to share about the latest scam trends to watch out for.”

During the event in North Brookfield, seniors learned about the many tactics scammers use to intimidate or deceive victims. In addition to email and text scams, seniors are often targeted with calls from scammers pretending to represent busi-



Courtesy

The North Brookfield Senior Center recently hosted an event to help educate residents on current scams.

nesses, agencies, even local public safety departments.

Meanwhile, the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) is cautioning the public to be aware of text messages falsely presented as notices sent from the RMV. These messages often request payments or personal information.

These scams fall under the umbrella of the increasingly popular “smishing” strategy, which involves the sending of fraudulent text messages intended to trick victims into providing personal information.

In the case of the RMV scams, messages typically warn residents that the RMV will take action against them due

to unpaid fees.

RMV scam attempts have been made in Massachusetts and several other states, causing victims to share credit card numbers and other sensitive information. The messages also direct victims to fraudulent websites to pay bogus outstanding balances.

RMV leaders encourage residents to avoid clicking links contained in such messages.

“If you receive any kind of message telling you to make a payment, or that you need to act quickly, do not click the link. The RMV will never text you looking for payment,” said Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. “Scammers will often convey urgen-

cy to manipulate you. If you need to perform a Registry transaction online, be sure to only use Mass.Gov/RMV.”

Additionally, a wave of current scam text messages warns of traffic ticket enforcement, indicating that immediate action must be taken to avoid license suspension and vehicle registration revocation that can impact one’s credit score. The texts often reference a false regulation that allows for this enforcement action.

Moreover, these texts are being customized with dates and the word “Massachusetts” to trick individuals into immediate payment.

Turn To **SCAMS** page **A7**

Bus safety program offered to incoming Kindergarteners

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD

— Incoming Kindergarteners and their families are invited

to learn about school bus safety next month during an annual program held by AA Transportation Co., Inc.

For more than 20 years,

the bus company has hosted its First Ride for Safety program. The tradition will continue on Wednesday, August 20, when local youngsters and

their families will visit the AA Transportation yard on Route 9 for a fun, educational event (10 a.m. to noon).

AA Transportation

staff members will once again lead presentations that teach kids about bus safety and the rules they’ll be expected to follow each day.

From the flashing lights and stop signs, to various safety signals and directives given by the drivers, there is a lot for students to learn as they prepare for the year ahead.

“Our drivers are very happy to donate their time to help provide this program to welcome the incoming kindergarteners to bus riding,” said Melody Miller, who manages AA Transportation’s Spencer-East Brookfield and Leicester divisions. “We are thankful for the community involvement to help us keep this program going. I am amazed that we have been doing this for over 20 years.”

In addition to its educational components, the program is also intended to help ease the anxiety youngsters may experience about riding the bus. Having students ride with their parents and siblings for their first trip is a great way to help with the transition, AA Transportation officials said.

“This program is conducted in an open house format. Stop by whenever you can and stay as long as you like,” read a statement released by the AA Transportation leadership team. “Many of our drivers and school personnel from North Brookfield, Leicester, Spencer, and East

Brookfield will be here to answer your questions.”

Bus rides will begin every 15 minutes.

The event also provides opportunities for students and families to meet school officials, public safety leaders, and other guests who attend the program.

“The First Ride organized by AA Transportation is such an important event for our Kindergarteners. It helps ease their nerves, introduces them to bus routines, and, most importantly, teaches the rules of bus safety in a memorable way,” said East Brookfield Elementary School Principal Christine Lavin. “AA Transportation does an amazing job making the experience welcoming and fun, and their drivers are always patient, kind, and incredibly supportive. It’s the perfect first step in building confidence and independence as our youngest students begin their school journey.”

The safety event has even received a certificate of commendation from the Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles.

The AA Transportation team thanks everyone who comes together each year to make the safety program a success, including student volunteers from local middle schools and high schools.

AA Transportation Co., Inc. is located at 174 West Main St., East Brookfield.

Spencer Summer Concert Series continues with Vivi & DaFunk



SPENCER — The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission’s 2025 Summer Concert Series continues from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 27 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and

Meadow Roads, Spencer with Vivi & DaFunk.

Mike Gianfriddo and Alan D’Alessandro founded DaFunk. They decided to add a lead vocalist, Yvette Rhault, in 2015 and expanded their name to Vivi &

DaFunk. The band added Warren Olsen and Glenn Fournier, who both play bass and keyboard, in 2021. As a five piece unit, they are to pull out the pretty amazing music that makes Vivi & DaFunk one of the pre-

mier dance bands in the area. The band performs throughout New England -- and with the talented Yvette “Vivi” Rhault at the helm, they never disappoint!

Next up in this series

Turn To **CONCERTS** page **APB**

Carjacking suspect arrested after multi-town chase

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — A carjacking suspect was arrested earlier this month after leading police on a pursuit through multiple towns. On July 6, a male suspect on probation took a vehicle without permission from a residence in Clinton, striking several people and causing property damage, according to police. “At some point around this first incident, the suspect cut off his probation-ordered GPS monitoring device,” read a statement released by the Leicester Police Department. “Later that day, the same suspect carjacked a woman at the Dairy Queen in West Boylston, where he told

her he had a firearm and threatened to shoot her. The suspect then fled the area in her stolen motor vehicle.” The 55-year-old carjacking victim suffered minor injuries after being thrown to the ground by the suspect upon exiting her vehicle, police said. At approximately 7:45 p.m., Leicester Police officers were notified that members of the Worcester Police Department were pursuing the carjacking suspect in the stolen vehicle, heading west as it approached Leicester on Route 9. Leicester Police Sgt. Matthew Brady observed the vehicle on Main Street in the area of Waite Street, then assumed the pursuit. A short time

later, Detective Travis McCauley and Officer Ives Fisher also followed the vehicle. The suspect traveled down Pleasant Street and eventually onto Hartwell Road in Oxford, police said. “At that time, the vehicle turned around on another person’s front lawn, accelerated, and intentionally rammed Sgt. Brady’s cruiser on the driver’s side as he was attempting to exit, trapping him inside,” the LPD-issued statement read. “Det. McCauley and Officer Fisher immediately took the occupants into custody, detaining them for the West Boylston Police Department.” LPD K-9 handler Matthew Fenuccio and K-9 Cooney also responded

to the scene, as well as officers from Worcester, West Boylston, Oxford, and the Massachusetts State Police. The driver of the vehicle, Cameron Jack Suarez, 26, of Clinton, was turned over to the West Boylston Police Department following his arrest. He was held at the Worcester County House of Correction ahead of his July 7 arraignment at Clinton District Court. Suarez is facing

the following charges: carjacking, robbery, and assault and battery. The suspect will be summoned to East Brookfield District Court and Dudley District

Court for hearings related to several additional offenses that were committed in Leicester and Oxford, police said.

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UMass Amherst announces Spring Dean’s List

AMHERST — The following students were named to the Spring 2025 Dean’s List at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Students are appointed to the Dean’s List at the end of a semester in which they have completed a minimum of 12 graded credits and have earned a grade point average of 3.500 or better.

Brookfield
Ania Bolaske
Michael Casey
Cody Chen
Aiden Earle
Sara Evans
Misako Genest
Abigail Hildick
Samuel Hill
Ayla Iwaniec
Jakob Lanne
Emma McGinty
Sierra Murray

Jacob Peterson
Jared Peterson
Jaymes Quinn
Sydney Warren
Elena Weissman
Leicester
Jacob Altman
Philip Haberstroh
Matthew Tomasino
Rochdale
Sean Brown
Jillian Morrison
Spencer
William Anderson
Rhylee Bishop
Daniel Bowen
Joseph Czechowicz
Zachary Hinman
Rhea Negron
Layne Perchak
Gabriella Saint-Vil
Ashley Wilson

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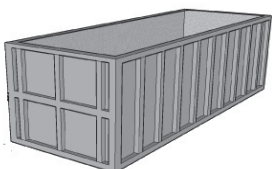


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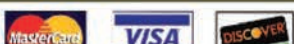
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POLICE REPORTS

Leicester Police Log

THURSDAY, JULY 10
1:09 a.m.: welfare check (Harberton Drive), resolved; 8:40 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:29 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:39 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:54 a.m.: debris in road (Main Street), referred; 10:18 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 12:04 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 12:31 p.m.: disabled mv (Mill Street), gone on arrival; 12:43 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 3:16 p.m.: fraud (Main Street), report taken; 6:03 p.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), spoken to; 7:20 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 10:22 p.m.: ambulance (Flint Way), transported; 9:14 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), services rendered; 9:45 p.m.: suspicious activity (Green Street), services rendered; 10:20 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), no action required.
FRIDAY, JULY 11
2:23 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:27 a.m.: commercial alarm (Huntoon Memorial Highway), false alarm; 8:53 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:57 a.m.: animal complaint (Mulberry Street), referred; 10:32 a.m.: keep the peace (Wesley Drive), resolved; 10:44 a.m.: ambulance (Charlton Street), transported; 10:56 a.m.: animal complaint (Watson Street), referred; 11:06 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 12:01

p.m.: disabled mv (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 1:22 p.m.: accident (Stafford Street), report taken; 2:09 p.m.: assist citizen (Craig Street); 3:04 p.m.: keep the peace (Wesley Drive), services rendered; 3:06 p.m.: ambulance (Richmond Avenue, Worcester), transported; 3:18 p.m.: welfare check (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 3:33 p.m.: accident (Main Street), services rendered; 3:51 p.m.: welfare check (Clark Street), service rendered; 8:43 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.
SATURDAY, JULY 12
1:41 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 7:54 a.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), unfounded; 8:35 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:47 a.m.: assist citizen (Redfield Road); 9:16 a.m.: assist citizen (Carleton Road); 9:55 a.m.: welfare check (Auburn Street), services rendered; 11:02 a.m.: welfare check (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 1:23 p.m.: suspicious person (Crestwood Road), resolved; 1:49 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 2:05 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Stafford Street), Almir Rogerio Desouza, 43, 93 Mulberry Street, Worcester, straight warrant, arrest; 3:25 p.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), report taken; 6:53 p.m.: assist other PD (Stafford Street), services rendered; 7:16 p.m.: assist other agency (Auburn Street), resolved; 9:26 p.m.: debris in road (Mannville Street), removed.
SUNDAY, JULY 13

12:28 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 2:32 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), resolved; 4:07 a.m.: mv stop (Collier Avenue), verbal warning; 9:20 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 9:59 a.m.: assist citizen (Carleton Road); 10:48 a.m.: trespassing (Main Street), resolved; 11:57 a.m.: larceny (King Street), report taken; 12:11 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), call canceled; 12:19 p.m.: harassment (Gerald Court), report taken; 12:31 p.m.: disabled mv (Auburn Street), services rendered; 1:49 p.m.: assist other PD (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 3:05 p.m.: welfare check (Parker Street), services rendered; 5:56 p.m.: ambulance (Queen Street, Worcester), transported; 6:05 p.m.: debris in road (Main Street), removed; 6:22 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 6:46 p.m.: ambulance (High Street), transported; 7:13 p.m.: ambulance (Ferncroft Road), transported; 8:13 p.m.: ambulance (Crestwood Road), transported; 8:52 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported.
MONDAY, JULY 14
12:21 a.m.: assist other agency (Oxford Street), resolved; 12:46 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:12 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 1:17 a.m.: harassment (Main Street), resolved; 9:16 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), spoken to; 10:22 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 10:49 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 11:29 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 1:07 p.m.: accident (Mill Street), report taken; 2:14 p.m.: restraining order service

(Stafford Street), served; 2:26 p.m.: accident (Mill Street), resolved; 3:23 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 4:06 p.m.: family problem (Tobin Road), transported to hospital; 4:41 p.m.: summons service (Chapel Street), unable to serve; 10:28 p.m.: harassment (Main Street), resolved; 11:59 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported.
TUESDAY, JULY 15
12:11 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 3:54 a.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), resolved; 8:32 a.m.: assist other PD (Parker Street), services rendered; 8:40 a.m.: disabled mv (Mill Street), unfounded; 8:56 a.m.: investigation (Craig Street), report taken; 10:14 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), assisted; 10:16 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), services rendered; 10:29 a.m.: parking complaint (Brown Street), unfounded; 10:44 a.m.: investigation (James Street, Worcester), services rendered; 10:57 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 12:57 p.m.: parking complaint (Brown Street), citation issued; 1:00 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 1:16 p.m.: fraud (Henshaw Street), report taken; 2:17 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 2:25 p.m.: mv stop (Church Street), spoken to; 2:29 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 3:15 p.m.: disabled mv (Sargent Street), services rendered; 3:43 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 5:15 p.m.: restraining order service (address not noted on police log), served; 6:31 p.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported; 7:03

Turn To **LOGS** page **A5**



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p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), report taken; 11:07 p.m.: runaway (South Court), services rendered.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

12:45 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:21 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 7:31 a.m.: assist other agency (Tobin Road), no action required; 9:22 a.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 9:45 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 10:13 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), spoken to; 10:29 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), spoken to; 10:56 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), spoken to; 11:01 a.m.: investigation (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 12:57 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 1:09 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:15 p.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), unfounded; 2:01 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 2:50 p.m.: ambulance (South Main Street), transported; 3:04 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), no action required; 3:15 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 4:07 p.m.: fraud (Boyd Street), report taken; 5:16 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Tobin Road), call canceled; 6:07 p.m.: disturbance (Burncoat Lane), services rendered; 7:16 p.m.: disturbance (Burncoat Lane), unable to locate; 8:47 p.m.: disturbance (Upton Street), spoken to; 10:35 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pond Street), investigated.

Spencer Police Log

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

12:01-1:30 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:56 a.m.: 911 call (Cherry Street), resolved; 3:15 a.m.: suspicious persons (Ash Street), investigated; 3:46 a.m.: 911 call (Clark Street), open line; 8:08 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 8:30 a.m.: animal complaint (McCormick Road), re: injured owl; 10:40 a.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 12:36 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Street), assisted; 12:57 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), re: dead animal; 1:04 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), re: dead beaver; 2:04 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), issue w/southbound mc; 2:40 p.m.: mv complaint (Pleasant Street), c/o mvs speeding; p.m.: accident (South Spencer Road), report taken; 4:22 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), kids throwing rocks at bldg.; 6:13 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street); 6:30 p.m.: Brookfield PD bolo; 6:30 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 6:43 p.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), resolved; 7:39 p.m.: animal complaint (Prospect Street), caught loose dog; 9:30 p.m.: 911 call (Lake Avenue), accidental; 10:07 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Street), info taken; 10:07 p.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 10:54 p.m.: disturbance (Condon Drive), family dispute; (total daily mv stops – 0).

THURSDAY, JULY 10

12:41-3:18 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:43 a.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), assisted; 8:02 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 8:06 a.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 8:31 a.m.: officer wanted (Pope Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 8:45 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 9:00 a.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 10:17 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), misdiagonal; 10:40 a.m.: medical/general (North Brookfield Road); 12:54 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. thefts; 1:21 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), unwanted party; 4:02 p.m.: juvenile matter (Park Street), unwanted parties; 3:21 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. crime; 4:25 p.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), rep. animal abuse/dogs; 6:33 p.m.: medical/general (G.H. Wilson Road); 5:45 p.m.: citizen complaint (Pleasant Street), req. more traffic enforcement; 6:16 p.m.: animal complaint (Meadow Road), dog left at fairgrounds; 7:02 p.m.: arrest warrant (North Spencer Road), att. to serve; 7:21 p.m.: arrest warrant (Valley Street), att. to serve; 8:17 p.m.: officer wanted (Greenville Street), dispute re: horse; 8:22 p.m.: officer wanted (Meadow Road), kids w/stolen construction signs; 9:17 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet found; 9:55 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:16 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: harassing texts; (total daily mv stops – 0).

FRIDAY, JULY 11

12:10 a.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), rep. dog bite; 12:52-2:40 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:04 a.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; 2:45 a.m.: fire alarm (Bixby Road), referred; 3:04 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 6:56 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:56 a.m.: mv lockout (Summit Street), assisted; 10:43 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 11:14 a.m.: fire (Jameson Lane), referred; 11:18 a.m.: parking complaint (Ash Street), c/o cars at yard sale; 12:22 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 2:33 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), mv dragging muffler; 3:31 p.m.: suspicious mv (Fairview Drive), investigated; 3:54 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), open line; 6:02 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 8:32 p.m.: animal complaint (Church Street), rep. dog bite; 8:44 p.m.: disturbance (Valley Street), neighbor dispute; 10:18 p.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), investigated; 10:20 p.m.: juvenile matter (Temple Street), eggs thrown at mv; 10:34 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), noise complaint; (total daily mv stops – 0).

SATURDAY, JULY 12

12:09 a.m.: medical/general (Temple Street); 1:15 a.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 1:45-2:19 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:28 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 3:54 a.m.: disturbance (Lyford Road), gunshots heard/poss. jacking deer; 7:22 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 8:03 a.m.: animal complaint (McCormick Road), loose dog; 9:30 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:44 a.m.: 911 call (Charlton Road), hang-up; 11:01 a.m.: animal complaint (South Spencer Road), re: dog left in mv; 11:24 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Barre PD bolo/officer safety; 11:56 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), no contact; 1:06 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: bill not paid; 2:45 p.m.: accident (Charlton Road), report taken; 2:48 p.m.: mutual aid (Grove Street), Charlton PD req. welfare check; 4:01 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 4:07 p.m.: 911

fare check; 9:03 a.m.: medical/general (Bell Street); 9:24 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:56 a.m.: officer wanted (Pearl Street), spoken to; sometime between 11:49 a.m.-12:12 p.m.: entire entry, including time and address, redacted from police log; 12:12 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line/hang-up; 12:20 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (North Street), illegal burn; 12:29 p.m.: disturbance (Temple Street), verbal altercation; 12:31 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), req. welfare check; 12:47 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 1:06 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Holden PD bolo/welfare check; 2:51 p.m.: accident (Wm. Casey Road), report taken; 3:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Washburn Drive), re: unwanted party; 4:47 p.m.: medical/general (North Street); 4:50 p.m.: medical/general (Oakland Drive); 5:36 p.m.: parking complaint (Northwest Road), mv parked in travel lane; sometime between 6:01-7:19 p.m.: entire entry,

including time and address, redacted from police log; 7:19 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Kyle E. Robichaud, 34, 75 Bigelow Street, North Brookfield, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, arrest; 9:37 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), Bianco D. Falsarella, 48, 17 Mechanic Street, Spencer, OUI liquor/2nd offense, negligent operation, marked lanes violation, arrest; (total daily mv stops – 1).

MONDAY, JULY 14

12:20 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 2:20-2:47 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:18 a.m.: suspicious persons (Route 49), investigated; 5:14 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:10 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street), lift assist; 7:16 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 8:26 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant View Road); 9:10 a.m.: animal complaint (Hastings

Turn To **LOGS** page **A7**

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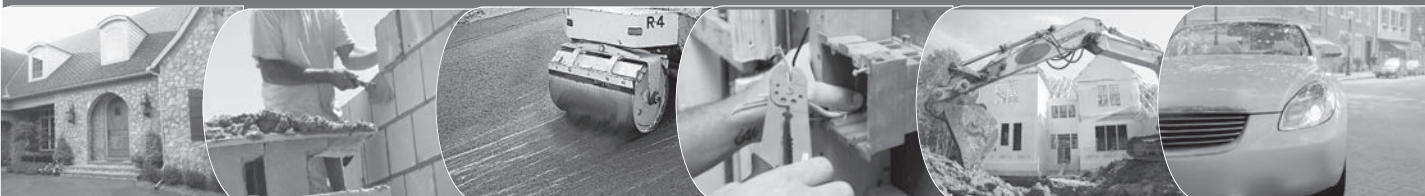
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East Brookfield Library offers fun programs for all ages

EAST BROOKFIELD — Local guests are invited to check out fun programs for all ages at East Brookfield Public Library.

The library’s “Sponsor an Author” program is a great choice for all readers. “Do you have a favorite author? Hate being on the waitlist to check out their newest book? Our Sponsor an Author program is for you,” read a statement released by the library. “Sponsoring the newest book guarantees that you will receive the book first as soon as we get it in. Your price is what the library pays.”

In other news, if you’re interested in helping the library community, stay tuned for details on a Friends Group currently in development. Stop by the library for more details.

“You can be an active member attending meetings, or a member that quietly sits in the wings and works on special projects,” read the library-issued statement.

To learn more about upcoming programs and activities this summer, contact the library.

CONCERTS

continued from page A1

that runs through Aug. 17 will be The Deloreans on Aug. 3.

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and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts.

SCAMS

continued from page A1

Scammers will also sometimes create links that mimic the names and URLs of official websites.

To learn more about ways to avoid scams, visit www.mass.gov.

LOGS

continued from page A5

Road), c/o raccoons in yard; 9:20 a.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 11:01 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 11:43 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: item on phone; 11:47 a.m.: officer wanted (Wilson Avenue), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 12:04 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 2:18 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 2:20 p.m.: animal complaint (Old Darm Road), loose dog; 3:18 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 3:53 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), req. welfare check; 4:22 p.m.: 911 call (Ashview Drive), open line; 5:06 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Lincoln Street), hang-up; 5:06 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), re: deep water in road; 5:17 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 7:32 p.m.: disturbance (School Street), unwanted party; 11:09-11:15 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:20 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), verbal altercation; 11:43 p.m.: building checked, secure; (total daily mv stops – 0).

TUESDAY, JULY 15
12:15-1:41 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:37 a.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; 1:55 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 7:40 a.m.: accident (Clark Road), report taken; 7:40 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. illegal dumping; 8:32 a.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), bear in area; 8:53 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 9:40 a.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), poss. domestic dis-

turbance; 11:24 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 11:35 a.m.: warrant service (Franklin Street), Hailey N. Rannikko, 32, 13 Franklin Street, Spencer, warrant served, arrest; 11:39 a.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 11:44 a.m.: officer wanted (Crestview Drive), req. roadside assistance; 12:02 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 12:15 p.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 12:23 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. harassing texts; 12:45 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Rutland PD bolo; 2:08 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 3:41 p.m.: officer wanted (Gold Nugget Road), tenant/landlord issues; 5:01 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Town House Court), status not recorded on police log; 7:13 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. stolen package; 8:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: legitimacy of insurance company; 8:48 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); (total daily mv stops – 0)

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Friday's Child



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Age 12

Registration # 6228

Alanna is a bright, easygoing, and adventurous young lady who enjoys exploring new experiences. She is often described as a “great kid”—easy to talk to, helpful, and kind-hearted. Alanna loves staying active and dreams of joining a gymnastics team one day. Taking gymnastics lessons is something she's very excited about. Creative and thoughtful, Alanna enjoys arts and crafts, especially making origami. She also has a deep love for babies and often says she would babysit for free just to be around them. Her nurturing side really shines through in moments like these. Alanna is also an animal lover—though she'll pass on snakes, worms, and bees! One of her favorite activities is visiting the library

and picking out books to read, showing her curiosity and love for learning. Alanna would thrive in a supportive, active, and loving family that encourages her many interests and gives her space to grow and express herself.

<https://www.mareinc.org/child/24476869950>

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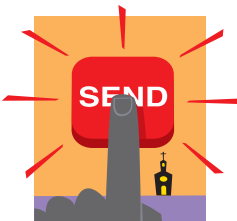
The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with. To learn more about adoption from foster care visit www.mareinc.org. 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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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Make it a summer
of no regrets

As the final days of summer approach, we find ourselves standing at a crossroads. The days grow shorter; the evenings cooler; and the carefree essence of summer seems to slip away. It's time to seize the moment, to cherish every opportunity, and to make August a summer of no regrets.

Living in the picturesque region of New England, we are fortunate to be surrounded by a breathtaking landscape. From majestic mountains to serene lakes, our backyard is a playground of adventures waiting to happen. The time has come to embark on those road trips we have been postponing and explore the hidden gems that lie within our reach.

Whether you're an avid hiker or a casual nature lover, our region's mountains offer an escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Take a day to venture into the wilderness, breathe in the crisp air, and marvel at the natural wonders that lie before you. The memories forged amid the towering pines and breathtaking vistas will last a lifetime.

Equally enticing are the serene lakes scattered across the area. Pack a picnic, gather your loved ones, and head to the waterside. Be it swimming, kayaking, or simply basking in the sun's warmth, lakeside retreats provide a tranquil refuge to unwind and savor the joys of summer.

For those who seek a taste of city life, why not take a drive to the vibrant metropolises of Boston and Portland? These urban centers share a rich cultural heritage, bustling streets, and delectable culinary scenes. Lose yourself in the museums, explore the historic landmarks, and indulge in the local cuisine — each moment a treasure to hold on to.

However, amid our grand adventures, we must not forget the simple joys that have brought us together year after year. Backyard barbecues offer a nostalgic charm that fills the air with laughter and the scent of sizzling goodness. Gather family and friends for a fun filled evening, where the flames of the grill light up not only the darkening skies but also our hearts with warmth and camaraderie.

And as the sun sets lower, take the opportunity to relive the carefree days of youth by playing hoops at the local park. Feel the thrill of competition and the joy of teamwork as you shoot hoops and chase the ball. The courts become a canvas for unforgettable moments and lasting memories. August is our chance to make amends for any missed opportunities from earlier in the summer.

As we look back on this summer, we'll be filled with the contentment of knowing that we embraced the season wholeheartedly. We laughed with abandon, explored with wonder, and lived with joy. When we bid farewell to August, we'll do so with hearts full of cherished memories, knowing that we made the most of every fleeting moment.

So, unite in spirit and determination to make August a summer of no regrets. Whether we climb mountains, swim in lakes, stroll through cities, or gather in backyards, seize the remaining days with gusto.

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

ICE — Trump's Gestapo

To the Editor:
Like it or not, Trump's secret police are here!

They are dressed in military garb, wearing sidearms and body armor and masks to obscure their faces to keep their identities unknown. They also do not wear identifying name tags.

They attack their prey with little regard for civility or due process of law. They grab people off the streets or sidewalks, handcuff and shackle them. They refuse to identify themselves to the public and claim that they don't have to show arrest warrants. They grab and detain high school children, foreign students. They have used flash bang grenades to deter citizens from

pressing their demands for their identities. It's only a matter of time before one (or more) of them use deadly force to complete their missions.

They then indiscriminately exile their prey off to foreign lands and ignore the courts. They even refuse to return or release their prey even after they acknowledge that they "got the wrong guy."

You have to wonder exactly what training and background these people have. Who do they report to? Who directs them? Who controls them?

They are truly reminiscent of the 1940s German Gestapo police.

ANTHONY FERNANDES
WEST BROOKFIELD

Make America Great

To the Editor:

Upon careful review, I think they are misspelling this. I believe Make America Grate is closer to reality. Today, all of the Democratic Senators, attending a committee meeting to decide on a recommendation to confirm Bove, a former Trump defense attorney, as a federal judge. His record with Trump is either delaying or losing, because Trump has won no cases he was indicted on. Bove has been serving as assistant to AG Bondi. A whistleblower has come forward with both allegations and proof, including e-mails that Bove had instructed his underlings to ignore court orders, using an expletive, he was involved in leveraging NYC Mayor Eric Adams to support ICE overreach, and now, over 75 former judges, from both parties, have said this man should never be a judge. Speculation is that Trump wants him ready to fill a seat on SCOTUS if Thomas or Alito retire.

In other news, the Epstein file, that Bondi had on her desk for review before release, has gone missing, including two minutes of video tape of Epstein on suicide watch, and they have just fired the career prosecutor (James Comey's daughter-hired in Trump first term), who was responsible for both the Epstein and Maxwell cases. Nothing to see here folks. Nothing to see here, so back to deporting all those rapists and drug dealers that you just voted to fund 31,000 more masked agents and more Gitmo style concentration camps.

What do you know about our Federal Reserve? Much of our national reputation and people having enough confidence in it to be a world currency, emanates from its consistency by a director and a dozen person committee, monitoring employment and inflation,

and when merited, adjusting interest rates. When Trump chose not to reappoint Janet Yellin, who did a great job, and appointed Jerome Powell, we envisioned, a politically motivated operative. Instead, he has been an excellent director; adhering to those long established norms that inspire the world's confidence. When, at the end of the Biden administration, things were on track for a rate reduction, Doge and Tariffs had enough of a destabilizing impact to hold back on any rate change, up or down. Our currency is already down ten percent in the exchange market, we have already had our bond rating reduced for the first time ever. Anything that takes Powell's capable hand off the rudder will likely bring recession, or depression.

With the situations I just mentioned, the Stock Market is a mystery to me. Nobody will be investing bigly [sic] in building or increasing industry here, largely because climate, both financially and weather is to unstable for risks. While Taco might not be the perfect term, everyone must admit that changes are not long thought out and carefully done.

On the world stage, Mussolini has nominated Hitler for a Nobel peace prize. Bibi Netanyahu, who has annihilated Palestine, and attacked Iran and Syria, convinced the Don to drop bombs on Iran. In the meantime, the anti-Communist country, who stood up to Korea, Vietnam and won the cold war, while negotiating de-nuking Ukraine in agreeing with Russia to sanctify her borders, has lied again.

Nobel and most of our forefathers are spinning in their graves, Making America Grate Again.

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD

Pro-humanity, not antisemitic

To the Editor:

Opposing Israel's actions in Gaza is not antisemitic. It's not even pro-Palestinian. Instead, it's pro-decency, pro-morality, and pro-humanity.

Regardless of past atrocities suffered by Jewish people, nothing can justify the horrors that Israel is inflicting on defenseless civilians in Palestine. Under the leadership of Benjamin Netanyahu (who failed to prevent the Oct. 7 attacks), the Israeli army has pounded Gaza to rubble. It has killed more than 58,000 mothers, fathers, grandparents, children, and babies. It has burned children alive, blown apart their limbs, and orphaned thousands. It has bombed homes, schools, hospitals, makeshift shelters, emergency vehicles, and humanitarian aid convoys, and opened fire on desperate civilians pleading for food.

Israel is using starvation as an instrument of war, denying food to an entire

population and leaving thousands of children to perish. How can anyone who is not blinded by bias not be sickened by such atrocities? How can we not speak out?

It's true that antisemitism is a real and ongoing threat to Jewish people. We must ensure that horrors like the Holocaust are never repeated. But you can't change people's feelings through legislation or by curtailing free speech. You can't gain supporters by pursuing a dark, immoral path. As the world witnesses Israel's relentless assault on the suffering people of Gaza, antisemitic sentiment will likely continue to grow.

It seems to me that if Netanyahu really wanted to fight antisemitism and strengthen Israel's security, he would work toward a lasting peace that honors the dignity of all people.

RACHEL FAUGNO
SPENCER

This isn't the kind of criminal form
Trump's voters had in mind

To the Editor:

Recently, Massachusetts court appointed lawyers stopped accepting new criminal cases as they believe they're vastly under paid in comparison to neighboring states in New England. Here, they receive \$65 and hour for their work, while most other New England states pay them more than \$100 per hour. They just want to be fairly compensated like their counterparts in neighboring states.

As a result of this work stoppage, state judges are starting to release accused criminals from jail, with the threat of dropping criminal charges against them, & releasing them back into the public they're supposedly sworn to protect.

The state legislature had a perfect opportunity to seize the moment & right this wrong, but in true liberal Democratic fashion, they just couldn't

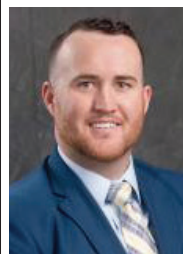
bring themselves to help the law-abiding public when they had the opportunity to further help criminals in Mass.

The legislature passed & gave to Gov. Healy an almost \$61 billion state budget. The legislature had the opportunity to take financial care of the court appointed lawyers by giving them the pay raise they so well deserve, but alas, they just couldn't do that. That would mean protecting the Bay State public from criminals. So the work stoppage continues.

But, as part of this \$61 billion budget, the liberal legislature managed to find & fund about \$5 million for immigration law services for illegal immigrants. According to the news, state tax revenue spent to date on illegal immigrants exceeds \$3 billion and is still growing. I wonder what the infatuation is with liberals protecting criminals. I wonder where our tax dol-

Turn To **LETTER** page **A9**

Does the
4 percent rule
still make
sense for your
retirement?



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You may have heard of the "4 percent rule" when it comes to retirement. The idea is simple: After you retire, you withdraw 4 percent of your investment portfolio each year. In theory, this helps ensure your savings last for your lifetime. While this rule can be a helpful starting point, it's not a one-size-fits-all — and it's not a substitute for a plan tailored to your specific needs, wants and wishes.

The truth is, how much to withdraw in retirement depends on factors like when you retire, if you'll work part time, how long you expect retirement to last, your lifestyle goals, inflation and whether you want to leave a financial legacy to heirs. So, the 4% rule should be viewed as more of a guide than a strict rule.

Let's start with age. The 4 percent rule is often based on someone retiring at 65 and expecting to live until about 92. But if you retire earlier, you may want your portfolio to stretch further. In that case, you might need to start with a lower withdrawal rate, maybe closer to 3 percent. And if you retire later, you might safely withdraw a little more — perhaps 4.5 to 5 percent — depending on your financial situation.

Your retirement lifestyle also plays a big role. Are you planning to travel the world or spend more time at home? If you expect higher spending in the early years of retirement, you may need to adjust your withdrawal rate or plan to reduce spending later to balance things out.

Your financial flexibility matters too. If you have less wiggle room with your expenses, rely heavily on your portfolio for income or want to preserve wealth for your heirs, a more conservative approach might be wise. In this conservative scenario, your portfolio withdrawals may be met from interest and dividends. Think of your withdrawal rate as existing on a spectrum from more conservative to less conservative, with your personal situation determining where you land.

Then there's inflation. A well-built strategy usually includes small annual increases in withdrawals to keep up with rising costs — about 2.75 percent per year. But you don't need to take a raise just because the calendar says so. If the markets have had a tough year or you don't need the extra income, it might be smart to skip an increase. Being flexible can improve the chances your money will last.

It's also important to understand what's known as your "portfolio reliance rate" — how much of your retirement income comes from your investments versus other sources like Social Security or pensions. The higher this percentage, the more conservative you may want to be with withdrawals.

And don't forget the IRS. If you're drawing from a traditional IRA or 401(k), you'll need to take required minimum distributions (RMDs) once you reach age 73. Your RMD for any year is the account balance as of the end of the prior calendar year divided by a life expectancy factor [according to the IRS](#). These RMDs need to be accounted for in your strategy.

The bottom line? The 4 percent rule is a useful starting point, but it's just that — a starting point. A good financial advisor can help you build a strategy that reflects your age, your goals, and your full financial picture. By revisiting your plan regularly and staying flexible, you'll give yourself the best shot at turning your savings into a secure, fulfilling retirement.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielsen, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielsen@edwardjones.com. Edward Jones, its employees, and financial advisors cannot provide tax or legal advice. You should consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How to process grief

To the Editor:
What is grief? Grief is the response to loss. It can come from the death of a loved one, the end of a relationship, losing a job, or simply realizing that a future you once hoped for is no longer possible.

Grief is not just sadness. It is denial, anger, depression and eventually, if we allow it acceptance. But the last step is not resistance. The only way to heal is to feel.

Too many people try to skip the process. They surround themselves with noise and company, avoiding the stillness that grief demands. But if you run from grief, you rob yourself of the very lessons it came to teach you. Healing isn't linear. It can take weeks, months, or years. Sometimes it lasts a lifetime. But healing is possible, and grief is part of that healing.

The best place to face grief isn't where the pain happened. It's not in the house where everything fell apart. It's somewhere peaceful. Somewhere you can sit with your own thoughts, without distraction or pressure. Somewhere you can think clearly and logically about the loss you've suffered, and most importantly, allow yourself to feel every part of it.

Grief can be our greatest teacher if we allow it. If we sit with it instead of pushing it away, it helps us understand

what we went through. It lets us reflect on what went wrong without spiraling into what-ifs, false assumptions, or self-blame. It helps us process reality and see it clearly. The pain doesn't disappear, but it begins to make sense.

Because dodging grief is really dodging responsibility to yourself. And those who avoid it often stay stuck in the loop: denial, anger, depression... only to circle back to denial again. The key is acceptance.

What they don't tell you is this: you have to believe that everything is going to be okay. You have to tell yourself that and mean it. And if you, like me, believe in God or a higher power, then you understand that some losses happen for a reason. That what was taken from you may be clearing space for something new. Because where one door closes, another opens. Acceptance means recognizing that what you lost wasn't meant to stay. And what's meant for you might still be ahead.

People who avoid grief often guard themselves. They harden their hearts and forget how to let love in. But if you allow yourself to truly feel grief can give you thicker skin and a softer heart. It makes it easier to forgive yourself. And once you do that, you can forgive others.

Others may tell you to move on, to get over it, to stop wasting your time and energy on something that's gone. But this can't be further from the truth. That is their opinion about your personal grief. Remember that. This is yours. You don't need the world's permission to feel what you feel.

You only need your own.

VAUGHN SCHLEGEL
NORTH BROOKFIELD



Latest auction news

In my next column, I'll discuss number 1 on our top 10 list. It's been well over a month since I shared the latest auction news, so I'll bring you up to date on that today. A book from the early 1600s and a handbag from the 1980s are two of the things that recently made auction news.

Galileo Galilei's first book from 1604, "Dialogo in perpuositio de la stella nuova" recently sold at auction in the United Kingdom. The book discussed a "new star," which was very controversial when the heavens were considered perfect and unchanging, according to the Antique Trader. Only eleven other editions are known to exist, and all are owned by institutions. It brought £1,129,000 (\$1,535,400 U.S.).

Moving ahead late into the 20th century, Hermès designed and created a handbag for the late actor and singer Jane Birkin in 1984. The Hermès Birkin bag became a symbol of luxury and status. The first Birkin bag originally owned by Jane Birkin that was "scuffed, scratched and stained" recently sold for \$7 million (\$8.2 million), according to CNN.

An antique toy also recently brought good results at auction. The circa 1904 Marklin Ferris Wheel was manufactured by the German company Marklin, known for their precision model



trains. The Ferris Wheel retained "its six original gondolas, attractive stained glass, and original figures," according to WJW TV in Cleveland, Ohio. It went for \$156,000.

Moving later in the 20th century, the 1941 film "Citizen Kane" is considered one of the best films ever made. The film was hailed both for its plot and cinematography. It used a film technique known as deep focus where the foreground, background, and middle are all in sharp focus. Low angled filming and innovative lighting also contributed to the film's acclaim.

Orson Welles directed and acted in the film about a newspaper magnate Charles Foster Kane, who resembled William Randolph Hearst. Kane's dying word "Rosebud" was the name of his childhood sled. It was "a nostalgic callback to the days before wealth and power ultimately ruined the mogul's life," according to Parade Magazine.

It was anything but tough sledding at a recent auction when one of the original sleds showcased in the film sold for \$14.75 million, making it the second highest price paid for a Hollywood prop. As I mentioned in a previous column, a pair of Judy Garland's ruby red slippers from the "Wizard of Oz" set a record when it sold for \$32.5 million in December.

We are still working on multiple online auctions including a Civil War auction, Laurel and Hardy memorabilia auction and a Pennsylvania transportation museum. Other auctions will have gold jewelry, sterling silver, art, and advertising signs, along with a wide variety of other items. We are always accepting valuable pieces and collections for upcoming sales. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

Contact us to consign items or for auction information at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique, Collectibles Auctions and Appraisal Services info@centralmassauctions.com or (508-612-6111).



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
• • • • •
WAYNE TUISKULA

LETTER

continued from page A6

lars are going if not for better roads, police protection and public schools, things that used to be important to Democrats. Remember the recent "Millionaire's Tax" which is "supposed" to fund our state schools & roads? How much of that is going to financially aid illegal immigrants in some way, shape, or form?

It was bad enough criminal illegal immigrants arrested in Massachusetts are let free with ridiculous low bail or no bail at all, but now liberal Democrats, by their "lack of action" with the state budget, are releasing more criminals into the public. When Americans elected President Trump in part because of his criminal reform agenda, this isn't what we had in mind.

JOHN SHOCIK
CHERRY VALLEY



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Cymatics

Through a branch of study called cymatics, scientists discovered something astonishing: Sound doesn't just move air—it shapes matter.

This field emerged in the 18th century with the work of German physicist Ernst Chladni, often regarded as the father of acoustics. In his experiments, he took a metal plate, sprinkled it with fine sand, and ran a violin bow along the edge. The vibration caused the sand to shift and form symmetrical patterns—now called Chladni figures. It was the first glimpse of invisible vibration becoming a visible design.

In the 1960s, Dr. Hans Jenny, a Swiss medical doctor and scientist, gave this field its name: cymatics, from the Greek kyma, meaning “wave.”

Using tones played through a tonoscope, Jenny discovered that different frequencies consistently produced specific shapes: low frequencies tended to create simple shapes—circles, triangles, and lines. But as the pitch increased, the patterns became more intricate. Hexagons appeared. Then mandalas. Even flower-like lattices began to take form. At certain exact pitches, symbols long considered spiritual or mathematical would emerge—not by chance, but repeatedly, predictably.

The sound didn't just move matter. It is organized, formed by frequency alone.

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

TOBY
MOORE

Jenny called this phenomenon “visible music.”

You can see an experiment online where a woman sings, “Una Donna a Quindici Anni,” into a tonoscope and a perfectly symmetrical seven-pointed star is created—not generated by a machine, but by resonance. Sung—with breath, with intention, with the human voice.

This idea—that sound can shape the unseen—was not foreign to the ancients. The Vikings had a word for it: Galdr.

Galdr wasn't just melody—it was spoken intention, sharpened into sound. It was the intentional chanting of runes. Warriors, seers, and shamans would speak or sing these runes aloud, believing they could influence the forces of nature, shield themselves in battle, or open gateways to hidden knowledge.

Each rune had a sound, and each sound had power. To chant a rune was to call a pattern into being, much like the seven-pointed star rising from the sand on the tonoscope.

Galdr was the understanding that the human voice—charged with intent—was not passive. It was a tool for shaping.

In early Chinese tradition, the philosopher Confucius taught that the key to harmony in the kingdom was to “rectify names”—to speak words that accurately reflected truth and order. If names became distorted, if language no longer matched reality, society would unravel. Disorder in words meant disorder in the world.

And this idea? It's not foreign to Christian tradition.

The Apostle James called the tongue “a small part of the body, but it's like a spark that can set a whole forest ablaze. The tongue, he warned, carries disproportionate power.

Paul compared it to a rudder on a ship—tiny, yet able to steer the entire vessel. In other words, your words guide your direction.

But the most striking example comes from the prophet Isaiah.

In a vision, Isaiah finds himself in the throne room of the Almighty. He sees the Lord, high and exalted, surrounded by seraphim.

It is a scene of perfect glory. But Isaiah doesn't feel worthy to join in. He falls to his knees and cries,

“Woe is me! For I am a man of unclean lips...”
He doesn't say, I am unclean because

of what I've done.
He says, I am unclean because of what I've said.

In that moment, a seraph flies to him with a burning coal, taken from the altar. And touches Isaiah's mouth. In this divine encounter, it's not Isaiah's actions that are purified—it's his speech.

It all seems to point in one direction: What we say has power.

Today, in the field of modern psychology, we've rediscovered the same truth. The language we use—especially the words we speak about ourselves—shapes our perception, our emotions, even our identity.

Say “I'm worthless” enough times, and it becomes more than a thought—it becomes a worldview.

Say “I'm loved. I'm here for a reason.” You carry yourself differently, with a spring in your step. You begin to live into the shape of the words you've spoken.

Just as sand arranges itself under sound, your life begins to align with your language.

Your words do not vanish. They echo. Speak with care, for what you say becomes a reality.

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LEGALS

**TOWN OF SPENCER
INVITATION FOR BIDS
REMEDIATION / DEMOLITION;
FORMER LAKE STREET SCHOOL.**
Sealed bids for furnishing for the 'Former Lake Street School Abatement and Demolition' will be received at the Office of the Town of Spencer, Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, Massachusetts 01562 until the time specified below at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read. Specifications and bid forms may be obtained on the Town of Spencer's website at www.Spencerma.gov/bids. Interested parties must register to receive the bid package.

A.C. 108A

Docket Number WO25P0582PO
**THECOMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
WORCESTER, SS
PROBATE COURT**

To Brittany A. Tee an absentee, who last known address was 69 Jolicoeur Avenue, Spencer, MA 01582 having property in the County of Worcester; to the Treasurer and Receiver General of said Commonwealth; to all persons claiming an interest property hereinafter described; and to all whom it may concern
A petition has been presented to said Court praying that Susan M. Tee of Spencer in the County of Worcester, or some other suitable person, be appointed receiver of the following described property of said absentee, and a warrant to take possession thereof has been issued to an officer who has taken and now holds the same, as follows:
PERSONAL ESTATE. LOCATION. VALUE.
2011Jeep Grand Cherokee Spencer \$5,000.00
IRS Tax Refund Spencer \$1,407.00
DOR Tax Refund Spencer \$221.00
Arbella refund Spencer \$41.00
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 nineteenth day of August 2025, the return date of this citation.
Witness, Leilah A. Keamy, Esquire, First Judge for said Court, this thirtieth day of June 2025
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
July 11, 2025
July 18, 2025
July 25, 2025

Bids will be opened in the Office of the Town Administrator on August 14, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. Each Bid must be accompanied by a bid security consisting of a BID BOND, CASH, or CERTIFIED CHECK issued by a responsible bank or trust company in the amount of 5% of the bid price. Pre-Bid Conference and Site Visit will be held at the Former Lake Street School located at 17 Lake Street, Spencer, MA 01562, on August 4, 2025, at 2:00 p.m. It is imperative that all prospective bidders have a representative in attendance.
A performance bond in an amount equal to 100 percent of the total amount

of the contract price with a surety company qualified to do business in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts will be required for the faithful performance of the contract, as well as a labor and materials bond in an amount equal to 100 percent of the total contract price. All bids for this project are subject to applicable public bidding laws of Massachusetts, including, but not limited to G.L. c.30, §39M. Attention is directed to the minimum wage rates to be paid as determined by the Commissioner of Labor and Workforce Development and the weekly payroll record submittal requirements under the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 through 27D inclusive. Selection of the contractor will be based upon bidder qualifications, including evidence of past performance in similar projects, and bid price. The contract will be awarded to the bidder deemed by the awarding authority to be the lowest responsible and eligible bidder.
The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of the bids.
The Town reserves the right to waive any informalities, to accept or reject, in whole or in part any or all bids, or take whatever other action may be deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.
The Town of Spencer
By: Jeff Bridges, Town Administrator
July 25, 2025

**TOWN OF BROOKFIELD
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
6 Central Street
Brookfield, MA. 01506**
Pursuant to the Brookfield Zoning Bylaws, Section 10, Sign Regulations,

Part D, Signs Allowed by Special Permit; the Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on an application from Jeffrey Wexler for a Special Permit for approval of a 35 square foot sign advertising his business at the place of his residence, 34 Fiskdale Road, Brookfield, Massachusetts, in a Rural Residential district.
The hearing will take place on Wednesday, August 6, 2025, in the meeting room of the Brookfield Police Department, 7 Prouty St., Brookfield, MA, starting at 6:00 pm. A copy of the application may be inspected at the office of the Town Clerk at Brookfield Town Hall during normal business hours.
July 18, 2025
July 25, 2025

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday August 12, 2025, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard: Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals Variance Permit Finding– Applicant: Daniel Faulkner; Owner: Richard Young; Location106 McCormick Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R55-12. The applicant is seeking a Variance Permit under Sections 5.2.6 (Detached Accessory Structures) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to build a 36' x 28' detached garage in the front setback. The property is located in the Rural Residential (RR) Zoning District.
July 25, 2025
August 1, 2025

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

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Webster Lake - 53 Colonial Rd



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Webster Lake Waterfront 88 Union Point



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Webster Lake Waterfront 8 Long Island



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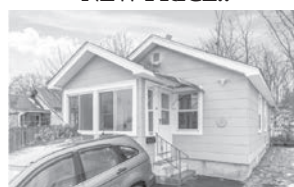
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Community rallies in support of injured officers

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — Support is pouring in for two Leicester Police Department officers recovering from serious injuries after being struck by a drunk driver while riding their motorcycles off-duty.

On July 10, LPD Officers Eddie Santiago and Stephen Kustigian were struck and seriously injured while riding their motorcycles off-duty in Worcester. The

driver of the vehicle that caused the wreck, later arrested and charged with OUI, pulled out in front of the officers at a Summer Street intersection between St. Vincent Hospital and the Post Office.

“Eddie and Stephen were badly injured, one of them even requiring a tourniquet to be applied by a witness on scene,” read a statement released by the Leicester Police Alliance (LPA).

The officers were

transported to UMass Memorial Medical Center on Lake Avenue in Worcester. Their injuries include a shattered pelvis, spinal fractures, a broken arm, a broken leg, a broken scapula, a broken clavicle, a collapsed lung, and facial lacerations.

“Both of these dedicated public servants have long recoveries ahead of them and will need our help,” read the LPA-issued statement. “Thankfully, they’re sur-

rounded by family and friends, and they have an incredible survivor mindset that inspires us all. Even in their extreme pain, they are both anxious to recover fully and return to their beat here in Leicester.”

Police leaders thank the Worcester Police Department, Worcester Fire Department, Worcester Regional Emergency Communications Center, and Worcester EMS for their quick actions and lifesaving care following the wreck.

“We also cannot forget to mention the medical interventions and surgeries by the incredible medical staff of doctors, nurses, technicians, and medical therapists at UMass Memorial Medical Center,” the statement read.

Since the accident, the

LPD’s leadership team has received countless messages of support from community members eager to help. Local organizations and officials are also reaching out to see how they can offer assistance.

“Whenever any of our town family is in need, everyone steps up,” said Select Board Chairman Doug Belanger. “Many separate groups and organizations have offered fundraising events for our injured officers. We at the Select Board level are coordinating with the Union and the individual organizations with the thought of combining our ideas and resources into a smaller number of larger events.”

If you would like to assist the officers in their long road to recovery, check out the Facebook page run by the LPA.

Information on crowd-funding efforts and other fundraising options has been posted.

“We, the members of the Leicester Police Alliance, are here for the long haul to support our officers in their recoveries and their families who support them,” the statement read. “From crash to clearance for duty, we will be here for them and their families.”

Community members can also make a donation by check. Please make your check payable to the “Leicester Police Officer Assistance Fund” and mail it to: Leicester Police Department, C/O LPO Assistance Fund, 90 South Main St., Leicester, MA 01524.

Additional information about fundraising opportunities can be obtained by visiting the LPD Facebook page.

Leicester Public Schools offers meals at no cost for students

LEICESTER — Leicester Public Schools participates in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. As part of this program, all schools offer healthy meals every school day at NO COST to the students due to the implementation of the Community Eligibility Provision for school year 2025-2026. Students receive breakfast and lunch at school without having to pay a fee or submit a household application.

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Reduce maintenance and boost your garden enjoyment

Every gardener has personal reasons for gardening whether it be the hope that their garden brings joy, productivity, beauty, or peace throughout the growing season. Embrace what makes you happy as you tend, view, and enjoy every aspect of your garden.

Weather, busy schedules, and life in general can interfere with the best laid plans for any garden and landscape. Take some time now to evaluate what is working so you can do more of that and decide what needs changing in your garden plantings, designs, and maintenance.

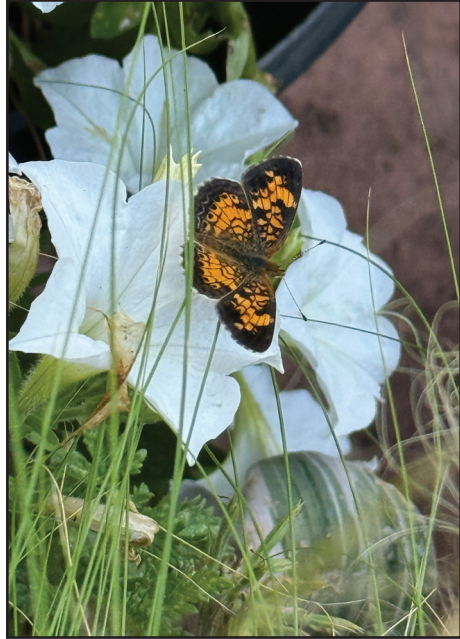
If you are feeling overwhelmed with the maintenance but still want seasonal interest, consider filling garden beds with shrubs. Look for low maintenance varieties suited to your growing conditions and climate. Select those with multiple seasons of beauty from flowers, foliage, fall color, and interesting form and bark. Include some that provide birds with food, shelter, and protection from predators. You’ll appreciate the beauty and motion these winged visitors provide.

Consider using fewer species of low-maintenance perennials and more of each. You’ll have fewer plants to try to identify as the garden comes to life in spring and as you weed throughout the growing season. Look for those that are disease and insect-pest resistant, need minimal or no deadheading and pruning, and attract and support pollinators as well as provide winter interest and food for songbirds in the winter.

Then add season-long color with pockets or containers of annuals. With fewer to buy and maintain you may decide your schedule and budget will allow you to change them out as the seasons change.

Accept and embrace the beauty of a less-than-perfect garden. Most visitors won’t notice the imperfections unless you point them out. Plus, faded flowers and seed pods can provide unique texture and food for songbirds.

Do minimal cleanup that is better for the plants, pollinators and songbirds. Do remove or cut back diseased and insect-infested plant material as needed. Leave fall leaves in the garden to serve as mulch, a home for some beneficial insects, and insulation for toads, queen bumblebees, and others that overwinter underground. Allow perennials to stand for winter, increasing hardiness, providing homes for beneficial insects,



Melinda Myers

A Pearl Crescent butterfly on a firefly petunia.

food for songbirds, and adding winter interest. Leave some of these stems standing throughout the upcoming growing season to serve as homes for some of the native bees.

Ask for or hire help if needed. As much as you love gardening, securing help for some of the larger tasks or those that just aren’t getting done can help boost your enjoyment. It can be hard to find gardening help so you may need to get creative. Consider sharing your gardening space with someone who loves to garden but lacks a garden. Barter your knowledge and skills for help in your garden. Or plan a round robin of fun and gardening with a few friends. Take turns visiting and tending each other’s gardens. You’ll enjoy the time spent together in each other’s gardens as you tackle a gardening task or two. Then top off the visit with a favorite beverage and snack or meal.

Don’t let your list of unaccomplished tasks or weeds stop you from enjoying your garden and what you have accomplished. Relish every bloom, fresh tomato, or visiting bird or butterfly.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the *Midwest Gardener’s Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses “How to Grow Anything” instant video series* and the nationally syndicated *Melinda’s Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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