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Friday, November 18, 2022

A time to be truly thankful

Photos Courtesy – Bruce Mandeville

The view from work and my home that I fell in love with, now just a vacant lot and sand.

BY BRUCE MANDEVILLE
SPECIAL TO THE NEW LEADER

Editor's note: The author is a former resident of Spencer, now living in Fort Myers, Fla., one of the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Ian. He wrote the following piece to express his thanks to his hometown community for their messages of support in the storm's aftermath.

FORT MYERS, Fla. — This year has been a year like no other. One that I have lots to be thankful for, after suffering some of the hardest tragedies in the last few months!

I moved to Southwest Florida 12 years ago, leaving my hometown of Spencer. I thought it was my new forever place. It felt warm and inviting, and was its own tropical paradise.

I first laid eyes on Fort Myers Beach as I drove across Matanzas Pass Bridge. The sun was high in the sky, as I crested the peak of the bridge. On the other side, the Gulf of Mexico!

The water was turquoise, and had boats of every size

Turn To **THANKS**, page **A11**

Voters favor incumbents in midterms

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — With their strong show of support for incumbents at last week's general election, voters signaled their affirmation of the legislative work occurring at multiple levels.

Incumbents across central Massachusetts received ringing endorsements at the polls on Nov. 8. These include Congressman James McGovern, State Rep. David LeBoeuf, and Sen. Anne Gobi, who were all re-elected by comfortable margins.

McGovern captured 65-percent of the votes, nearly doubling the total amassed by Republican challenger Jeffrey Sossa-Paquette. McGovern has served Massachusetts in the U.S. House of Representatives since 1997.

In a rematch of their 2018 general election, LeBoeuf once again easily dispatched Republican challenger Paul Fullen (59-41) to defend his 17th Worcester District seat.

"I'm so thankful I was able to earn the support of voters across the district, and I'm looking forward to continuing to serve the community in Leicester and Worcester," LeBoeuf said. "There are a lot of challenges that face the Commonwealth over the next legislative session. I am excited about the opportunity to continue to deliver for all in our district."

Gobi, a Democrat from

Spencer, saw the closest battle of the local incumbents. She defeated Republican challenger James Amorello 54-46, and she is looking forward to the work ahead in her next term.

"I appreciate the support of people throughout the 22 cities and towns that make up the new district," said Gobi, whose Senate district stretches across multiple counties. "I look forward to continuing to work on a number of issues, including crumbling foundations, working with the State Police on an enhanced move-over law, familial DNA, and greater equity for our rural communities."

Amorello and Fullen could not be reached for comment on the election results by press

time.

Incumbent Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis also cruised to victory on Nov. 8, collecting 59-percent of the vote against Democratic challenger David Fontaine.

In the Governor's race, Massachusetts Attorney General Maura Healey vanquished Republican challenger Geoff Diehl with nearly double the number of votes. Healey, a Democrat, will take over for departing Republican Governor Charlie Baker, who chose not to run again.

Among the ballot mea-

Turn To **RECAP**, page **A4**

Photos Courtesy

State Rep. David LeBoeuf and Sen. Anne Gobi were among the wave of victorious incumbents at last week's election.

Spencer voters support tightened solar restrictions

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — Residents at last week's Special Town Meeting voted to tighten solar restrictions by approving amendments to the zoning bylaws.

The amendments will add clarity to the definitions and requirements for small-scale and large-scale solar installations, officials said. Additionally, the amendments will place a cap on the number of large-scale solar arrays that are allowed in town.

Moreover, the approved bylaw changes include requiring a cash bond rather than an insurance bond.

"The amendments to Spencer's solar bylaw are a welcome addition that will protect the town from having to pay to dismantle and transport the spent solar equipment to a recycling facility, of which the only known one is in California," said Selectman Ralph Hicks, who served on the town's Solar Bylaw Committee. "It also limits the number of large solar arrays to 25—given that much farmland and forests have already been used for large solar arrays. Some communities have no solar arrays."

The amendments approved at the Nov. 10 Special Town Meeting will also establish regulations for energy storage systems at solar installations, including batteries. Currently, there are no regulations in place regarding energy storage systems.

"Ground-mounted solar

energy is becoming an increasingly popular energy source," Town Planner Lauren Vivier told the New Leader in a previous interview.

Tightening solar regulations has been a gradual, deliberate process over the last several years. The town's Solar Bylaw Advisory Committee prepared a 2019 report that formed the foundation for many of the actions approved three years later at last week's Town Meeting.

There are currently 21 commercial solar arrays in town, ten of which are located at Saint Joseph's Abbey. The newly approved amendments will place a cap on the number of large-scale arrays that are allowed in town. Similar caps have been approved in Warren and West Brookfield.

"The intention of this cap is to promote protection of prime farmland soil, wetlands, and open space, which are all vital to Spencer," Vivier added. "With the limited land that can be developed upon, there are opportunities for developments that could provide more benefits to the town, such as housing or businesses that provide job opportunities."

Officials and residents alike have been pleased to see the steady tightening of restrictions in recent years.

"When I served on the Solar Bylaw Committee, we all agreed that what we recommended was only the first step, as it was a complicated

Turn To **SOLAR**, page **A5**



Photo Courtesy

Students and staff members at Leicester Middle School recently honored local veterans with a special presentation on Veterans Day.

LMS students honor local veterans

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — Students and staff members at Leicester Middle School celebrated Veterans Day with a special ceremony honoring those who served.

The Nov. 11 assembly featured 17 veterans who visited the school. The surprise guest speaker was none other than LMS Principal Douglas Daponte, Jr., a veteran himself who served in the U.S. Air Force for ten years and the Air National Guard for another 18 years.

Wearing his uniform for the presentation, Daponte connected the core values of the military with the school's own core values which have been adopted.

Additionally, a few LMS students spoke about the history of Veterans Day and what it means to them personally. Many LMS students and staff members have loved ones, friends, or neighbors who have served, and it meant a lot for the school community to show its appreciation.

"The Veterans Day assembly was a powerful and emotional reminder for all of us. I am eternally grateful to all who served our country," said Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Brett Kustigian.

School officials and students thank all veterans for their service. District leaders were proud to be able to publicly honor veterans again after COVID-19 restrictions limited assemblies in recent years.

The Nov. 11 program was also attended by School Committee members and other district officials who were thrilled to celebrate veterans.

"This presentation was a fine representation of the respect and honor our veterans deserve for serving our country, preserving our freedom, and saving our lives, some at the cost of losing theirs," said School Committee Chair Donna McCance. "The reference to President Reagan's powerful quote brought to light the impact of honoring the veterans on this important day."

HOLIDAY MAKES FOR EARLY DEADLINES

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the submission deadline for any press releases and letters to the Editor intended for publication in next week's edition of the Spencer New Leader has been moved up to Monday, Nov. 21 at 9 a.m. Submissions can be e-mailed to news@stonebridgepress.news.

The staff of the New Leader would like to wish our readers a safe and happy Thanksgiving.

Nichols College to host holiday kickoff celebration

DUDLEY — Nichols College will host its second annual Light up the Hill on Thursday, Dec. 1, at 5 p.m. on the Nichols campus.

Residents from the area towns of Dudley, Webster, Oxford and Charlton are invited to join the campus community in ringing in the 2022 holiday season with several activities, including a tree and Menorah lighting,

Christmas caroling, a winter market featuring student entrepreneurs, firepits, cocoa and cookies.

Non-perishable and personal care items will also be collected for the Bison Pantry to benefit students confronting food insecurity.

For more information, contact Cari Cyr in the Nichols College President's Office at cari.cyr@nichols.edu.

FCC West Brookfield offers food, song and raffles during White Christmas event

WEST BROOKFIELD — During White Christmas on the W. Brookfield Common, Sunday, Dec. 4, noon - 5 p.m., the First Congregational Church of W. Brookfield, UCC, 36 N. Main St., will be open and will feature: Food, Song & Raffles!

Come in from the cold and enjoy delicious, open-faced, hot

turkey sandwiches, chili dogs, warm soups, hot chocolate, fresh cider and homemade pie in our warm & cozy Fellowship Hall. Our festive hall will be filled with beautiful, seasonal items in our Huge Annual White Christmas "Bucket" Raffle. Enjoy a Christmas carol sing-along at 4 pm during "Carols

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Turkey Tips and Tricks

Few holidays compare to a traditional Thanksgiving celebration. Unlike Christmas, which can be a rush of excitement and energy, Thanksgiving provides extended families the perfect pause to relax and simply enjoy each other's company.

Whether you're cooking at home or traveling this Thanksgiving, the highlight of an annual feast is undoubtedly the turkey, served up as a crowning centerpiece of the both the table and the holiday. Read on for some kitchen tips from experts (some old, some new) sure to help you achieve a Norman Rockwell-worthy Thanksgiving celebration.

Not sure how big a turkey to buy? A general rule of thumb is to allow one pound of uncooked turkey per person from an 8 to 12 pound turkey. Larger birds have a larger proportion of meat to bones, so three quarters of a pound per person should serve well when purchasing heavier birds.

Want a more precise estimate? Butterball.com offers a "Plan Perfect Portions Calculators and Conversions" on its website that calculates the exact amount of turkey and stuffing per person, as well as how long it will take to thaw a frozen turkey.

Other tools on the website include a timing checklist, temperature conversions and a weights and measures conversion.

If you buy a frozen turkey, it is important to thaw it safely. The National Turkey Federation offers the following guidelines to properly defrosting frozen turkeys: Like all protein foods, should be thawed in the refrigerator, never at room temperature. When foods are thawed at room temperature, surface bacteria can rapidly multiply to dangerous levels at temperatures of 40 degrees F and above. For safety and superior quality, leave turkey in the original packaging and place in a shallow pan. Thaw, in the refrigerator, using the simple formula: whole turkeys thaw at a rate of four to five pounds per 24 hours. Example: A 15-pound frozen bird will take three to four full days to thaw in the refrigerator. To speed thawing, keep turkey in the original tightly sealed bag and place in a clean and sanitized

sink or pan. Submerge in cold water and change the cold water every 30 minutes. The turkey will take about 30 minutes per pound to thaw. Refrigerate (at 40 degrees F or below) or cook the turkey when it is thawed. Do not refreeze uncooked, defrosted turkey.

Stuffing is a delicious requisite for most Thanksgiving meals, but if you plan on stuffing the turkey it's important not to do so until just before it is placed in the oven for roasting. If preparing the stuffing ahead of time, wet and dry ingredients should be refrigerated separately and combined right before stuffing the turkey. The turkey should be stuffed loosely, with about three quarters of a cup of stuffing per pound of turkey. It's also important to test the internal temperature of the stuffing as well as the turkey. The internal temperature in the center of the stuffing should register 160 to 165 degrees F.

Did you know even a pre basted bird can benefit from hand basting? Basting gives your bird color, crisps the skin and helps hold in juices. Rub the bird with a few tablespoons of softened butter and pour two cups of turkey broth, chicken broth or water into your roasting pan. Baste every half hour or so. And be sure to baste quickly, because the oven temperature will reduce every time you open the oven door.

Love a turkey with crispy skin? The secret is to blot all excess moisture out with paper towels before seasoning and cooking. Otherwise, steam from the moisture creates steam and prevents it crisping up.

Deep frying a holiday turkey is a popular tradition. Experts say turkeys from about eight to 12 pounds are the perfect size for deep frying. And keep in mind the oil you use should have a high smoke toleration. Only oils that have high smoke points should be used. According to the National Turkey Federation, peanut, refined canola, corn



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KAREN
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oil, rice oil and peanut oil are all good candidates.

Here's a tip that's appeared in this column before, but it's worth repeating: Experts claim there are three simple secrets to perfect home-made gravy: 1. Cook the flour in the fat thoroughly before adding liquid to avoid a starchy flavor; 2. Avoid lumps by stirring in the flour with a wire whisk; and 3. The key to best flavor is salting it right.

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 helpful hint or handy

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

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2050 Connections – What Are Your Transportation Goals for Southern Worcester County?

The Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) is working on their Long-Range Transportation Plan (LRTP), called 2050 Connections. This plan is updated every four years to reflect the transportation priorities of residents of Central Massachusetts. As part of the LRTP effort, a financial plan is developed which includes the major infrastructure projects that are candidates for federal funds.

August, September, and October were busy months for CMRPC staff. Between outreach events, regional infrastructure meetings and other methods of targeted outreach, the public participation portion of the LRTP has been quite a success. Nonetheless, we are still hoping to see survey responses roll in throughout the beginning of December. Our 2050 Connections survey can be found on the 2050 Connections Hubsite, <http://www.cmrpc.org/2050Connections>, under the "participate" tab, or on the CMRPC website under the "transportation" tab.

As a part of the public outreach portion of this LRTP, CMRPC staff tabled at many public events. One of the most recurring conversations concerning transportation that we had at these outreach events involved public transit. Regarding public transit, we recognize all the needs of older adults, young children and those living with disabilities and strive to represent them in our plan. CMRPC staff are constantly looking for ways in which we can help our residents, whether that is helping towns find the grants they need for infrastructure improvement or amplifying the voices of those who experience transportation related stressors. If you or someone you know would like to share their opinions and goals related to transportation in the region, we strongly recommend filling out our online survey or reaching out via Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.

Moreover, CMRPC staff have been working together to meet with each town to discuss all topics related to infrastructure that could be incorporated into our LRTP. Specifically, we have met with town officials and infrastructure staff to learn more about their thoughts and experiences with transportation and related topics. Such topics include, but are not limited to, bus systems and bus stops, sidewalks and other pedestrian infrastructure, the East-West rail project, and electric vehicle charging stations. To learn more about these Sub-Regional Infrastructure Summits, please read the CMRPC October newsletter on the CMRPC website under "about us; CMRPC newsletters".

Please consider filling out our survey to tell us what your transportation priorities are and how you envision the future of this region!

Please visit our Hubsite [CMRPC.org/2050Connections](http://www.cmrpc.org/2050Connections) for more information on the development of the LRTP. Additionally, please be sure to fill out the 2050 Connections survey on the Hubsite. Any other questions, please email gjarvis@cmrpc.org to speak with CMRPC's Public Outreach Coordinator.

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donnaflannery@erakey.com or call 508-885-6336. If you are in need of assistance, applications can be picked up at: Spencer Post Office, Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry or ERA Key Realty Services (outside mailbox). You can see updates on Facebook at Spencer Toys for Kids.



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Thank you to these Troop members and their leaders for being responsible citizens and being a great example to others in your community.

*If you would like to nominate a
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Submerged canoes open doors to Nipmuc history



Cheryl Stedtler, known as Watching Crow among the Nipmuc, takes a moment with her model of a mishoon.

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

DUDLEY — For nearly two decades now, Cheryl Stedtler's main fascination has been underwater, specifically a pair of ancient dugout canoes at the bottom of Lake Quinsigamond.

Back in 2001, a diver from Connecticut saw something unusual in the lake and contacted the state about the permitting process to study it. When he found out how complex that is, he did something decidedly modern — he put its location on eBay for auction. Stedtler heard about it and bid, but a Boston antique dealer outbid her.

She talked to him about what the find would mean to the Nipmuc tribe, and he let her have it. She told the story of the

resulting Project Mishoon to about 30 people at the Dudley Grange last week. The project's Facebook page is <https://www.facebook.com/projectmishoon/> and a WPI report on the beginning of this project from 2001 is at <https://digital.wpi.edu/pdfviewer/6f053g42g>.

At that beginning, she recalled, nobody really knew what was there, so she found a state diver willing to go down and take a look. Unfortunately, the original diver never showed up to mark the site, so her diver swam around for an hour and was just about to give up when he saw an odd pattern of rocks that “might be a dugout” just south of the Route 9 bridge.

It was enough for Stedtler to jump through the hoops for a Cultural Resource Management “reconnaissance permit,” which would allow the tribe to inspect the site and identify it, but not move it. Sure enough, it was a mishoon — a centuries-old, heavy Nipmuc dugout canoe made from the bole of a tree, rather than the more famous, light-weight birchbark canoe. Tiny wood samples were dated to the mid-1600s.

In 2007, underwater cameras gave her team a surprise, and she recalls it vividly. The scientist expressed it this way: “How do you feel about twins? There are two there, not one.”

A second mishoon was just 50 feet away. They’ve since found a third, and there are only two other documented historical mishoonash (the Nipmuc plural word) in existence. The other two — one in Weymouth, one from Hubbardston — are “not in great condition” and “not properly preserved,” she noted.

Stedtler said the two closest boats had probably been intentionally sunk with rocks to protect them over winter or to hide them, but they somehow slid from near shore to points about 30 feet deep. Nobody’s sure what happened, and sev-

eral hypotheses exist, including storms, the effect of shifting ice, and even the fact there was a serious earthquake in the 1700s. But whatever did it, she said she’s pretty sure that slide to the cold depths, which left them partly buried, is what preserved the boats for more than three centuries.

Although the rocks themselves are just whatever’s typical of the area, Stedtler said the whole scene “tells us about storage and tradition. ... It’s a thread going from my Ancestors to me to the youth” because she encourages young people to work the site.

That’s also true of the images of the boats themselves. One survey used side-scan sonar to produce the first such “images of mishoonash anywhere.” Although it “looks like a log,” its distinguishing feature is that it’s bright in the center because the sonar reflects more off the harder rocks than the wood, and that can help researchers identify others elsewhere.

As the technology to look at them has improved, they’ve found curious features that raise questions. For Stedtler, one of the more interesting is the fact both of the “twins” have narrow ledges and unusual notches that might show they were used as outriggers or connected catamaran-style by a now-missing central piece.

The third boat, found three months after the second, is “not in good condition.” It did, however, encourage the state to expand the Nipmuc permit to cover the whole lake, and they’ve scanned a lot of it. That’s resulted in finding a lot of strange things including cars, guns, old amusement park devices, a vault, 19th century steamers, a dock, horse carts, and many 55-gallon drums.

Today, the tribe is discussing what to do with the mishoonash — whether to

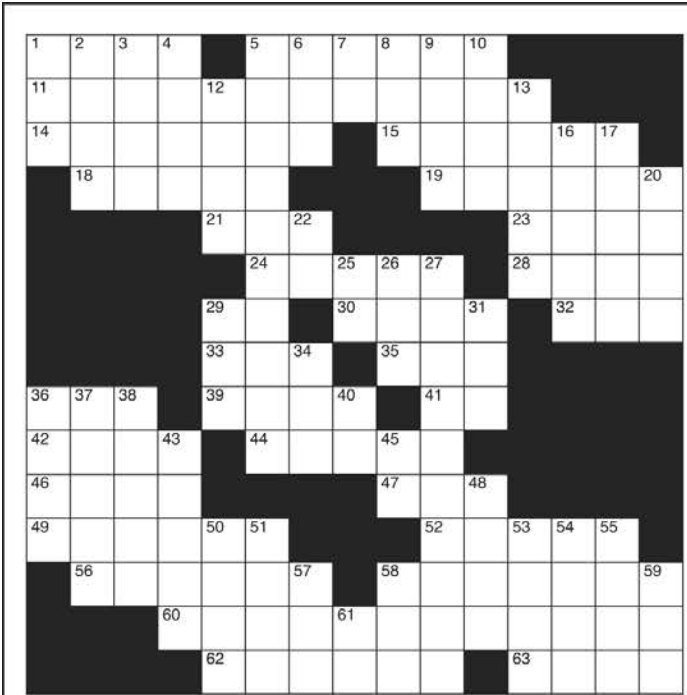
excavate and preserve one or all of them, or just protect them in situ. Stedtler said if they do excavate, they do have a place to store one or both boats in large tanks of lake water while they slowly replace the water in the wood with a preservative (probably propylene glycol). That process can take three to five years, but whether it’s worth doing depends on “how structurally sound it is” after being raised.

More importantly, though, “this whole project has brought attention to relearning this tradition” of making and using mishoonash, she said. “It’s such a tangible connection to our Ancestors” and the water itself. That’s important to the Nipmuc, whose name means “Freshwater People;” many of their pre-colonial villages were on lakes across central Massachusetts and parts of northern Connecticut, and they were closely related (by language, culture and marriage) to the other Algonquian tribes of the region.

The tribe has since started making new ones based on the old designs, creating their first one in centuries last year. It’s a complex, laborious process that requires cutting down a white pine or chestnut tree, burning the tree’s core slowly, and scraping out the ashes over a week of round-the-clock work. The whole community supports the team of workers by providing food, songs, other entertainment, and ceremony, which culminates when the new mishoon is launched.

“Its life has changed from being a tree to being a boat, so it’s introduced to the water” with ritual, Stedtler said. She noted mishoonash were generally built where they were used, because they’re too heavy to carry any distance.

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



CLUES ACROSS

1. Greek mountain

5. One dependent on something

11. Gratitude

14. Glazed ceramic ware

15. Paddling

18. Step

19. More greasy

21. Upper-class young woman

23. Light beige

24. Belief in a supreme being

28. Indigenous people of Scandinavia

29. A beloved princess

30. Transfer property

32. Field force unit

33. Automated teller
35. When you hope to get there

36. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)

39. Politicians Fischer and Conroy are two

41. Blood type

42. Stringed instrument

44. Curses

46. Barbary sheep

47. Belonging to a thing

49. Supporters

52. Leaf-footed bug

56. A shower of water

58. Attribute to

60. Intermittent

62. Soda waters

63. Scottish island

CLUES DOWN

1. Klutz

2. Relaxing places

3. Expel saliva

4. The extended location of something

5. Certified

6. Cease to exist

7. Powerful legal pro

8. The OJ trial judge

9. Popular greeting

10. “90210” actress Spelling

12. ___ Blyton, children’s author

13. “This Is Us” star Fitch

16. Battery cell with a nickel alode

17. Full of bacteria

20. Remains of an old building

22. Exist

25. It gets you into places

26. Witness

27. The spreading of a disease to another part of the body
29. Father

31. Touch gently

34. Licensed for Wall Street

36. Herring-like fish

37. Lute used in N. Indian music

38. Mirabel shouldn’t talk about him

40. Atomic #62

43. Religious

45. Silvery-white metal (abbr.)

48. Influential civil rights organization

50. Acknowledgment (abbr.)

51. Turn away

53. Kidney disease (abbr.)

54. Smooth-feeling fabric

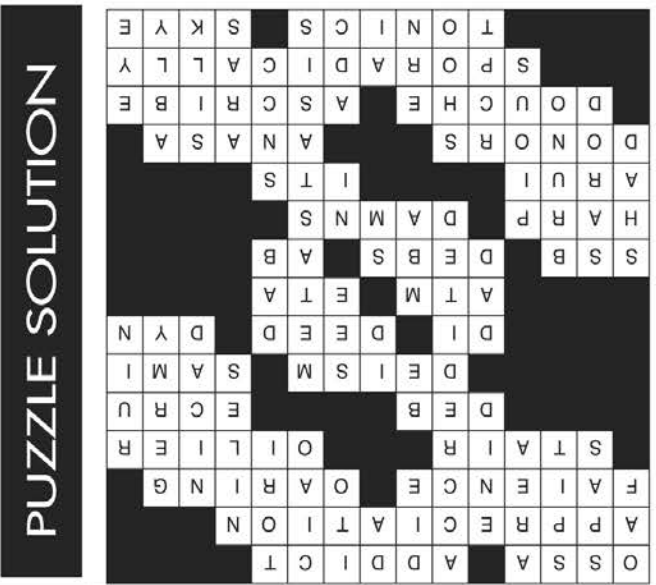
55. Competently

57. Sea eagle

58. General’s assistant (abbr.)

59. It helps you see

61. Emerging technology



CEA program members will not see rate increases

LEICESTER — Residents and businesses enrolled in the Leicester Community Electricity Aggregation (Leicester CEA) will not be impacted by the rate hike recently announced by National Grid.

Leicester, which is under contract with electricity supplier Dynegy, offers electricity program rates that are fixed and will not change through December 2024. The vast majority of Leicester households participate in the Leicester CEA program, officials said.

Earlier this month, National Grid announced that as of Nov. 1, the default residential basic service fixed supply rate will be significantly higher than the standard Leicester supply rate.

“National Grid’s rates change twice a year for residential and small business customers, on May 1 and Nov. 1, but Leicester CEA rates are fixed for

the duration of the municipality’s contract, which expires in December 2024,” read an informational statement shared with the community.

Leicester residents and businesses can confirm that they are enrolled in the Leicester Community Electricity Aggregation by looking at the supply services section of a recent National Grid electric bill. If the section reads, “Supplier: Leicester CEA—Dynegy,” then that account is enrolled. If it reads something else—or if it names a supplier other than Dynegy—then that account is not enrolled.

The Leicester Community Electricity Aggregation offers contract rate options which have been posted to the town website. Contract rates are available to any residential or small business customer that has never participated in the program.

Residents and businesses can enroll in the Leicester Community Electricity Aggregation, or switch rate options at any time, by visiting www.LeicesterCEA.com. You can also call 866-220-5696 for more information.

Residents are reminded that it can take one or two billing cycles for the supplier change to appear on a National Grid bill.

Please note that because National Grid’s basic service rates are not known beyond April 2023 for residential and small business customers—or Oct. 2022 for large business customers—future savings for the Leicester Community Electricity Aggregation cannot be guaranteed.

To learn more about the program and opportunities available, visit www.leicesterma.org.

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THE PITCH!
CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

RECAP
continued from page A1

tures presented at the Nov. 8 election, Question 1 narrowly passed by a 52-48 margin. Its passage will impose an additional 4-percent tax on incomes exceeding \$1 million. The extra money raised is slated to benefit public education and infrastructure.

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

BROOKFIELD
\$246,000, 102 Brunnell Ave #102, Foster, Karol T, and Foster, Robert, to Smith, Christi L.

LEICESTER
\$15,000, Burncoat Ln #55, Dionne, Roland L, and Dionne, Florance A, to Doane, Peter, and Doane, Karla.

NORTH BROOKFIELD
\$279,000, 74 Gilbert St, Ingemi, Theresa M, and Premo, Kathryn A, to Troy, Adam, and Troy, Michelle.

SPENCER
\$607,500, 15 Tom Casey Rd, Cole, Steven W, and Cole, Margaret M, to Le, John, and Hoang, Phiyen.
\$585,000, 40 S Spencer Rd, Rondeau, Kristian, to Khoo, Chye.
\$199,900, 4 Crestview Dr #62, Blodgett, Sandra C, and Blodgett, Bruce R, to Zdunczyk, Richard E, and Zdunczyk, Michelle A.
\$130,000, Eagleton St #A, Kady, Jesse, and Victor, George, to Burt, James P, and Burt, Deborah L.
\$130,000, Eagleton St #B, Kady, Jesse, and Victor, George, to Burt, James P, and Burt, Deborah L.

WARREN
\$180,000, 25 Elm St, Murray, Scott T, to Boudreau, Martin.

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Steal the vote?

To the Editor:

When Donald Trump ran for president in 2016, he often said that if he didn't win the election, we would know it was rigged. (Giving himself an out if he didn't win?) On Election Night, Trump was declared the winner with 306 Electoral College votes. He crowed that was a landslide which was the best a president had ever done.

I Googled the history of Electoral College tallies, where I discovered that many presidents had gotten way up in the 300's, and many had also gotten way up in the 400's. There were four who received over 500. They are FDR, Nixon, Reagan and H.W. Bush. Was Trump lying or just historically deprived? Either way, I must admit, it was with some degree of satisfaction that I found evidence to burst Trump's bubble. Trump also ignored the fact that Hillary Clinton received three million more popular votes than he did. Clinton was gracious and called to congratulate Trump on Election Night and conceded the next day. It was painful for me to see my candidate lose because of an

YOUR TURN

PATRICIA JACKMAN
NORTH BROOKFIELD

antiquated Electoral College vote. I can only imagine how painful it was for Hillary, but she did the honorable thing.

Let's fast forward to the 2020 election. During the campaign, Trump claimed there would be fraud with mail-in voting. He appointed a postmaster general who removed sorting machines from multiple post offices and decreased the number of ballot drop off boxes. Mmm. That sounds like a way to slow down or eliminate mail-in votes. Steal the vote? Since we were in a COVID pandemic, many voters cast their ballot by mail because they didn't want to do so in person at a polling place. That sounded reasonable to me. Whether by mail-in or at a polling place, every vote should count!

On election night, Trump had a slim lead, so he wanted to have the election results called that night. But there were many mail-in votes yet to be counted. States had varying rules for the mail-in votes to be counted. Readers may remember it was several days before the tally was completed. Results were that Trump

received 73 million votes and Biden received 80 million votes. Biden also got 306 Electoral College votes which Trump had declared to be a landslide for him in 2016. Did he graciously concede? Not!

Trump embarked on a way to find votes so he could be the winner. He brought cases to multiple lower courts (some reports say over 50 courts). They all said the cases had no merit to proceed. Even two attempts to the Supreme Court brought the same reply of "no merit" to proceed. He called the Secretary of State in Georgia asking him to find eleven thousand plus votes so he could claim victory by the Electoral College, I guess. The reply was that recounts had confirmed the original count. And how about Maricopa County in Arizona? The Cyber Ninjas took weeks to recount the vote. The results were still in favor of Biden. And they even found 400 more votes for Biden. Did Trump then honor the peaceful transfer of power? Not! Stealing the vote? Looks suspicious to me.

Having no success with finding votes, Trump then went with the alternative, to overthrow the Electoral College vote validation. He asked VP

Pence to "do the right thing." That brought about the terrible insurrection on the Capitol on Jan. 6, 2021. Representatives and Senators were in great danger. Trump didn't seem to care. For hours he did not do his duty as President. Fortunately, Pelosi (third in line to the presidency), and Schumer showed they did care. They tried to get some police or military protection activated. In the wee hours of the morning the House and Senators met and validated the Electoral College votes.

Trump's fragile ego could not admit defeat and be a gentleman who would honor the peaceful transfer of power. Instead, he has spent the two years since the 2020 election spreading the "big lie" that he won with no evidence to prove it. His rhetoric has brought verbal abuse to many poll workers and even threats of physical abuse. His cruel and uncaring nature has fueled hatred, division and conspiracy theories. He didn't seem to care as long as the attention was on him. One hundred percent narcissist! Goodness knows there has been harmful rhetoric in the past but for it to be instigated by a president of our country is shameful.

All afternoon as I wrote this

letter, I listened to the news of a break-in at Nancy Pelosi's California home. Her husband was badly beaten. Was the intruder looking for her? Unfolding evidence indicates that he was. Republicans' replies have been disinformation or jokes which dismiss the seriousness of the attack. I am appalled at their callous response. Several years ago, when Republican Rep. Scalise was shot during a ball game, Nancy Pelosi offered a heartfelt message of concern for him. I do not remember any Democrat laughing or making a joke of the shooting.

We also hear of armed men intimidating voters at ballot drop boxes. In our democracy we cherish the right to vote but so many "Trumpers" have challenged its validity, without evidence I would add. Is there no end to the harm of Trump's rhetoric which seems to be instilling violent means? Whatever happened to disagreeing agreeably? If not voting in a democracy what kind of government should there be? I'm for democracy. What say you?

Haston Library's Testa helps others discover its treasures

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Haston Free Public Library has long been an important part of Lisa Testa's life. Now, with her newly accepted position with the library, she is helping other residents and families discover a community treasure.

Testa was recently named to the library's Saturday morning team as Circulation Assistant. While Youth Services Librarian Brianna Lamb attends class for her Simmons University Library Science Master's program, Testa will fill in and handle various duties. She is currently working alternate Saturdays along with Assistant Librarian Gabby Holmes.

"Lisa is a longtime resident of North Brookfield and a regular library user. She brings a lot of experience working with children and in education, as well as experience in clerical roles," read a statement released by the library. "She loves libraries and has passed that

feeling on to her children. In fact, her daughter Roan was an intern here last summer."

Having seen the positive impact the library has had on her own family, Testa is hoping to help create those same unforgettable experiences for other guests, families, and children.

"The library has been a large part of my history for 22 years of living in North Brookfield. Both of my kids were super active in library activities growing up, from weekly story hour and crafts to summer reading and attending so many other events and programs," Testa said. "I'm so proud and happy to be on the staff there. The other reason I wanted to work there was to continue to be a part of the community, and already I have chatted with old friends and met many new ones during my shifts on Saturday morning. It just feels like it was a natural progression for me to work there."

Testa became a nanny after leaving North Brookfield Elementary School in 2018 following five years of serving as a

paraprofessional. In her current chapter at the library, she is looking forward to continuing to meet new patrons.

"I very much enjoy meeting people, seeing friends, and making new acquaintances. I enjoy all aspects of my time there," Testa told the New Leader.

Since moving to North Brookfield in 2000, Testa has been active in several facets of her community. This includes serving on the NBES School Council, volunteering at the elementary school for years before being employed there, and serving on a number of hiring committees for the school.

She also served as a board member for the Council on Aging in town.

Most recently, in her position as a nanny, Testa has enjoyed the library in a new and exciting way.

"During my years of nannying, I regularly participated in story hour at the library and playgroups put on by Wachusett CFCE," Testa added. "I have just gone back to subbing at the elementary school, in addition to taking this post at the library. I very much enjoy



Photo Courtesy

Lisa Testa is enjoying her new position at Haston Free Public Library.

being involved in the community."

Away from work, Testa is an avid walker who enjoys Wendemuth Meadow and the North Brookfield Rail Trail. She also kayaks at Brooks Pond and reads as often as she can.

Stuff the Bus campaign returns Nov. 26

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Local residents are encouraged to help make the holiday season memorable for area families by supporting AA Transportation's Stuff the Bus campaign.

For the seventh straight year, AA Transportation employees will park their buses at local venues to collect toys for families in need. This year, the campaign will take place at three locations on Saturday, Nov. 26, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"As we approach this holiday season, we are hoping that we can find enough generous people to fill this year's Christmas wish list for families in need," read a statement released by Melody Miller, a division manager for

AA Transportation. "We are trying to make this time of year a little easier for families that find this time of year very stressful and challenging."

In Spencer, AA Transportation will once again work with the David Prouty High School band at DPHS. On Saturday, Nov. 26, guests are invited to visit the school and donate toys for families in need. After you make your donation, feel free to stay and enjoy seasonal music performed by the DPHS band.

In North Brookfield, AA Transportation will team up with the North Brookfield Police Department and Hannaford Supermarket. The donations bus will be parked at the North Brookfield Hannaford Supermarket from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 26. AA Transportation and the North

Brookfield Police Department will be collecting the toys.

For residents looking to assist the donations campaign in Leicester, AA Transportation will partner with the Leicester Police Department, the Leicester Fire Department, and the Leicester Teachers' Association, along with Walmart. The donations bus will be parked in front of Walmart in Leicester.

Community donations are always valued each year, but the financial challenges facing families make the 2022 giving season especially important. Your donated toy could make all the difference for a child in need this holiday season.

"Our employees look forward to this campaign each year. This year, with

prices climbing rapidly, we hope everyone who can possibly give will come out to one of our locations to donate," Miller added.

Residents, local businesses, and municipal departments are thanked for their strong support of the program each year.

"The success of our campaign each year is all because of generous donations made by all the wonderful people in our communities," Miller said. "Every donation counts."

Donations can also be made in advance by visiting the North Brookfield Police Department or the Leicester Police Department. You can also drop off donated toys with your AA Transportation bus driver from Nov. 21-30.

SOLAR

continued from page A1

issue that will continue to evolve as technological advancements continue," Selectman Hicks told the New Leader in advance of Town Meeting.

In a listening session hosted by the advisory committee in 2019, Spencer residents voiced their concerns about the negative impacts of commercial arrays. These include the loss of productive farmland, the destruction of forested lands, the effects on wildlife habitats, and stormwater concerns.

"The amendment will prohibit battery fields from being permitted in town," Vivier said. "It also requires several safety and reporting requirements for residents and corporations looking to add batteries and an accessory to a solar installation, including setbacks specific to energy storage systems. The intentions of the additional setbacks are to keep batteries and other stored energy forms further from property lines and from abutters."



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Evergreen fair

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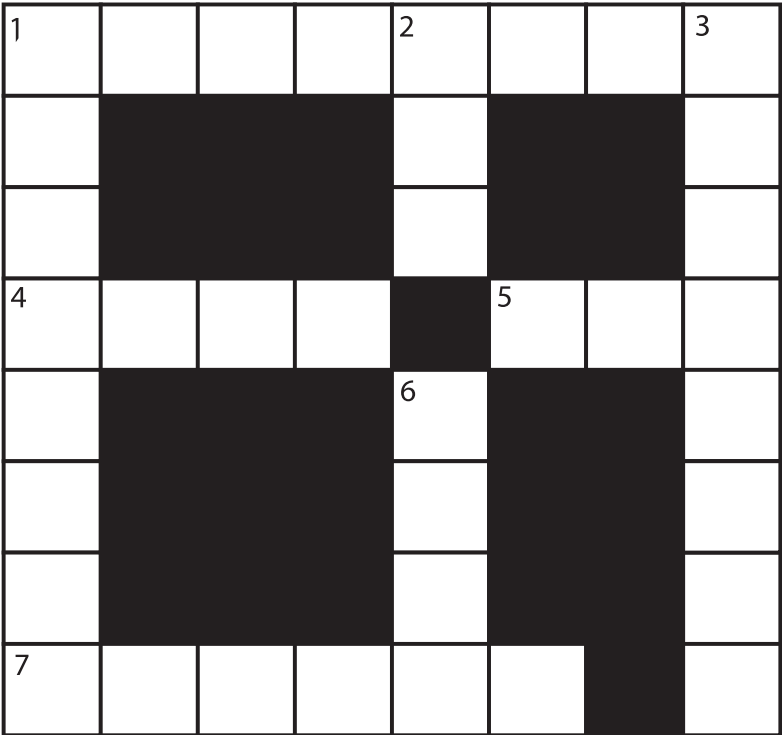
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Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

- 1. Least perceptible
- 4. Notion
- 5. Metal container
- 7. Seasoned and tasty

DOWN

- 1. Relatives
- 2. Brewed drink
- 3. Gratified
- 6. Structure that closes an entrance

THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

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- 1926: THE NBC RADIO NETWORK OPENS WITH 24 STATIONS.
- 1971: INTEL RELEASES THE WORLD'S FIRST COMMERCIAL SINGLE-CHIP MICROPROCESSOR, THE 4004.



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ANSWER: TURKEY



CASSEROLE

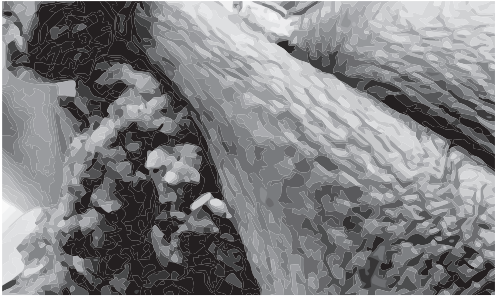
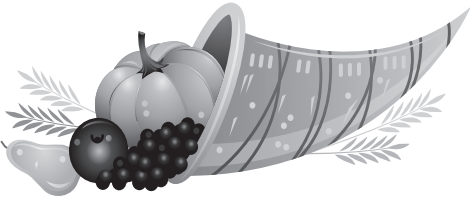
a type of stew or side dish cooked slowly in an oven



- ENGLISH: Pie
- SPANISH: Tarta
- ITALIAN: Torta salata
- FRENCH: Tarte
- GERMAN: Pastete



THE CORNUCOPIA, ALSO KNOWN AS THE "HORN OF PLENTY," IS A SYMBOL OF FALL.



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: STUFFED TURKEY

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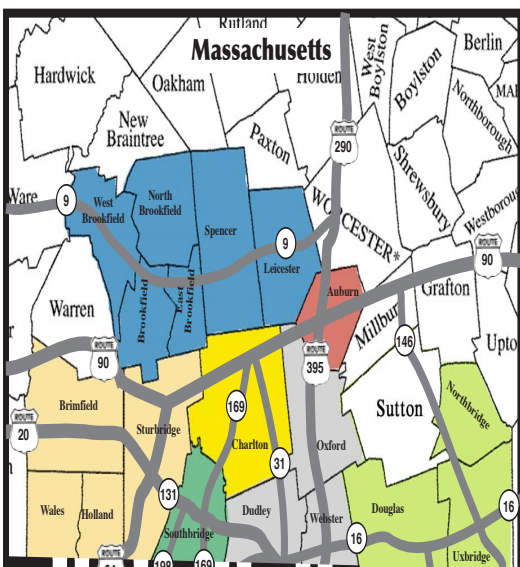
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EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Put a little love in your heart

Alongside the bright red ribbons, boughs of holly, and countless images of Jolly old Saint Nick that seem to greet us everywhere we go during the holidays, those of you who have braved the malls or, better yet, browsed the shops in your own community so far this season have likely encountered another holiday icon in your travels — the dedicated volunteers who bundle up and brave the chilly air to collect donations for organizations such as the Salvation Army.

Always seeming to be ready with a cheerful greeting and a warm smile for the crowds of shoppers who file past them every day, these hearty souls serve as an important reminder to all of us that now, more than any other time of year, is the time to turn our thoughts toward the less fortunate among us ... and that sometimes, the greatest gift of all can be a helping hand in a time of need.

With the cloud of economic uncertainty leading many of us to tighten our belts more than usual when it comes to our holiday shopping this year, and the stress of dealing with family politics or traveling away from home for the holidays occupying our thoughts, it can be all too easy to forget that times are that much tougher for those who have been victimized by the ravages of COVID and its aftermath. Right here in our own backyard, there are a great many families who have fallen on hard times, often through no fault of their own, and have nowhere left to turn for help but the generosity of strangers.

Fortunately, there are no shortage of charitable organizations scattered throughout the area that are prepared to meet the growing demand for assistance, but only with the support of their respective communities. So, whether it be through a donation of canned goods to your local food pantry; a donation of used clothing to your local thrift shop; or simply by slipping a handful of bills into one of the bright red Salvation Army coffers manned by those spirited, bell ringing volunteers, we encourage our readers to think of their fellow man and put a little love in their hearts, as Jackie DeShannon once sang, and remind themselves of the true meaning of the season by offering a helping hand to their neighbors in need.



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We've all been disgusted by something in our lives.

Disgust is a feeling of aversion a person has towards something offensive. It can take the form of a mild dislike or intense loathing. Disgust has the effect of causing a person to physically turn away from what is disgusting to them.

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

Election reflections – strengthening American democracy & shared progress

To the Editor:

Excepting a few close races for Congress and the Georgia Senate, the 2022 elections have ended. Here a few reflections, from local to state to national.

First, among a flurry of recent interesting New Leader editorials, appeared one on Oct. 28., “The head-spinning pace of modern technology.” It wrote about the need to preserve our old historic buildings and places like town commons. We can preserve some with commercial use like the Salem Cross Inn and others for public use like the Leicester Public Library. However, the editorial notes that too many lie in neglect or have been destroyed.

In the 2022 election, the city of Worcester voters, like almost two hundred towns and cities in the state, passed a version of the Community Preservation Act. With financial and other flexibilities, the Act provides state assistance to historic preservation projects, acquire open space, make park improvements - including town commons, and expand a community's housing.

You can find full information at www.communitypreservation.org.

Moving to state level, three ballot questions received approval - the Fair Share Amendment, allowing “undocumented” immigrants to apply for driver's licenses and limiting administrative and similar costs on dental insurance. In the first two - the Fair Share and immigrant licenses - while the Massachusetts as a whole approved the ballot questions, New Leader and surrounding towns votes went against it.

In many ways, especially for the Fair Share amendment, this does not make sense.

To begin, at present the state income tax rate is regressive. This means that we non-millionaires pay more of our disposable taxes than do millionaires. The Fair Share Income tax will help change that.

Second, wealthier towns around Metro-Boston have the ability to spend much more on their children's education and infrastructure than we can. The Fair share tax will help change that.

Third, altogether, our towns have about 25-30 income millionaires. Meanwhile, for example, the population smaller Metro-Boston suburb of Wellesley has close to 700. Also, many in Wellesley are multi-multi and 100 millionaires. The Fair Share approval means we and our children and towns will better share some our state's hard earned prosperity.

Fourth, according to the Boston Globe, Boston area millionaires didn't put up much of a fight when it came to paying 4 percent more tax on their declared income over a million dollars. Compared to other priorities it just wasn't that important. For our far less well-off towns and our children, the Fair Share Amendment will provide important assistance

Next time let's hope our towns' vot-

ers better consider our shared interests,

In our state's elected positions, the Democrats, be they “Baker Democrats” (like Maura Healey and Kim Driscoll) or more liberal ones made a clean sweep. When compared to the Maga Republican ticket option this seems as positive choice, (but give Diehl credit, he gracefully conceded – no election denier he).

However, with the likely ongoing shenanigans and inaction of the state legislature, a Republican auditor would have been a blessing from above.

(Far above any Democratic low-tider swims our Spencer native, Worcester State graduate, and former teacher Sen. Ann Gobi. As a Chair of the Joint Committee on public universities we can expect her to provide a steady hand for Fair Share and other funding assistance).

On to the national 2022 elections mid term election.

One must consider this mid-term election a solid mid-term victory for the Democrats, President Joe Biden, for American democracy and our shared well-being and prosperity .

As a result, Democrats will keep or expand their majority in the Senate and at worst, limit their losses to a few in the House of Representatives.

It is too soon to reach final reasons for this victory, but a list of possibilities exist. They include;

Biden Administration achievements such as: infrastructure development, clean energy and electronic chip manufacturing, fighting climate change, lowering prescription drug prices and student debt, , increasing taxes on the wealthy and corporation, doubling family's child tax credit, and assisting Ukraine,

the MAGA packed Supreme Court decision to overturn Roe vs. Wade and the related maximalist intent of many hard right Republican lawmakers - including having local politicians or committees deciding rape of pre-teens cases

The high quality of most contested Democratic candidates compared to Republican ones – a fact openly admitted by Mitch O'Connell - think Warnock vs. Walker and Shapiro vs. Mastriano

An accurate fear of the weakening of American Democracy by Trump and Maga supporters as evidenced by the Capital insurrection and Trump's obvious admiration for USA adversary autocrats in China, Russia, and North Korea, and

Forward looking young millennial voters hoping for a safe climate, and fairly shared prosperity for all in 2050 – as opposed to a dangerous climate, increasing inequality, and looking back to a make-believe 1950 (I know, I was there) .

Shouldn't we all do the same?

KEVIN KANE
SPENCER

Disgust can be a motivator

If you saw hundreds of maggots worming through your food, you'd feel revolted enough to throw it away and maybe lose your appetite for a while! If you saw someone do something evil, you'd be upset enough to tell someone about it and call the police. If you hear someone say something that offends you, you may feel unpleasant enough never to see them again.

What happens when you've had too much alcohol and have a terrible hangover that ruins your day? Are you disgusted enough to quit and maybe go to rehab?

What happens when you've been eating so much that you're far from achieving your weight loss goals? Does it disgust you enough to get in the gym and watch what you eat?

Do you feel disgusted when you lash out at someone and overreact to something they did or said?

Sometimes, change requires you to be disgusted. Self-disgust with your life, situation, relationship, addiction, and finances can catalyze change.

Jim Rohn tells the story of a married woman whose husband controlled all the money. She'd have to ask him first whenever she wanted to buy something. Every time she did, he acted annoyed and said, “what for?” She felt so low, so disgusted; she said to herself, “Never again!”

She picked up a few books and began to study. She had the plan to start a successful business. After much hard work and probably a little luck, she became

vice president of a very successful company. She never asked her husband for money ever again. The tables had turned, and I'm sure her husband had to ask her for money from time to time!

My father struggled with weight gain his whole life. One day as he visited with the doctor for a checkup, the doctor very seriously said, “do you want to end up like your father and die of a heart attack at 57?” My father replied, “no!” And the doctor said, “then you need to make a change.”

He came home absolutely sick with himself. He didn't want to be overweight any longer but knew all too well that he could not stay disciplined enough to remain on any one diet forever. Determined to make a change, he scheduled a visit with another doctor to get bariatric surgery.

In the face of all the difficulties involved with bariatric surgery, he optimistically decided to change the course of his life. The revulsion he felt awakened a determination that helped him make a lifelong change. Not only did he lose the weight and keep it off, but he may also have extended his life by many years.

A Philadelphia lady had struggled with alcoholism her whole life. She was able to quit periodically, but she always fell off the wagon eventually. When the pandemic hit, she slipped up and started stealing her daughter's alcohol. Her daughter confronted her about it; she was so upset with herself that she entered rehab, where she learned to live

Is a Roth IRA conversion right for you?

Depending on your situation, it might be appropriate to make some year-end financial moves. But there's one in particular that may allow you to take advantage of the current investment climate while providing potential benefits far into the future.

This move is called a Roth IRA conversion — the process of converting all or a portion of a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA. Traditional IRAs are often funded with pre-tax dollars, so contributions can lower your taxable income, and earnings can grow tax deferred. A Roth IRA, however, is funded with after-tax dollars, so you get no immediate tax deduction, but earnings and contributions can be



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withdrawn federally tax free, as long as you meet several requirements, including holding your account for five years and not taking withdrawals until you're at least 59 and a half.

If you're attracted to the prospect of tax-free withdrawals in retirement, you might consider converting some or all of your traditional IRA dollars to a Roth IRA. Yet, there's one major issue to address: taxes. Any deductible contributions to your traditional IRA, and the earnings generated by these contributions, will be fully taxable the year of the conversion. If you've invested in your traditional IRA for many years, this tax bill could be considerable.

But if you were interested in converting some of your traditional IRA funds to a Roth in 2022, you might have one advantage, tax-wise — and that's the state of the financial markets. As you are no doubt aware, it's been a rough year for stocks, so the value of some of the investments in your traditional IRA may have fallen, perhaps substantially. If you were to convert these assets to a Roth IRA, your tax bill might be quite a bit lower than it would have been last year amid the lengthy bull market.

Still, lower taxes aren't the same as no taxes. Ideally, you probably don't want to take money out of the IRA itself to pay the taxes, since this might reduce some of the benefits. So, if you don't have another source from which you can draw, you may find that a conversion might not make as much sense.

However, you could lower this tax bill by making smaller conversions over several years. And you might ultimately find this strategy worthwhile, because moving from a traditional IRA to a Roth IRA can offer some advantages. For one thing, since qualifying Roth IRA withdrawals won't be counted as income, they won't cause additional taxation of your Social Security benefits or bump up your Medicare premiums. (If you wait until retirement before making the conversion, the conversion itself could have these effects, at least for the years in which it takes place.)

Also, with a traditional IRA, you typically must start taking withdrawals once you reach 72, but a Roth IRA doesn't have this requirement. So, if you don't need all your Roth IRA funds to support your retirement lifestyle, you can pass the reminder, tax free, to your beneficiaries. Consequently, a Roth IRA can play an important role in your estate planning.

Whatever the benefits of a Roth IRA, it's essential that you consult with your tax advisor before making a conversion decision. It's a big move — so you'll want to be sure it's right for you.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Trevor Nielson, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or trevor.nielson@edwardjones.com.

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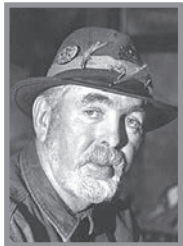
One lady was dumped and cheated on by her boyfriend. Her depression and heartbreak were almost too much to bear. She saw the signs and knew better but chose to ignore them. She was so sick with herself for not speaking up that she made a significant change! Initially, she sought therapy, and as she began unraveling her life, she could identify other things that bothered her and made changes accordingly.

Sometimes, you have to hit a new low to feel strong enough to make a change. Although we all wish we had changed our lives before we felt disgusted. Self-disgust doesn't have to be the end, but it can often be a new beginning that leads to a life you've always wanted.

An exciting time for deer hunters

I need to apologize to my readers for the short column last week. It seems as though someone hacked into my computer, and it was almost impossible to send any e-mail including my column. The hacker managed to send all types of e-mail to people on my contact list. I had online computer repair straighten out my computer, and it is nearly back to normal now! Darn Whackos!

This past week proved to be exciting for sportsmen that did any form of hunting or fishing. Now it is almost time for the shotgun deer season to start, Nov. 28 to be exact. Reports from archers that they are encountering many deer while sitting in their tree stand or ground blind is good news. Hopefully, the weather will cooperate, and provide some great hunting opportunities for all hunters. Because of the lack of acorns in most of the state, deer are sustaining their appetite by eating green grass, which is plentiful this year, and should keep them well fed until deep



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snow covers it all up. They will also forage on tree branches, and young fruit trees, and if things get really bad, they will eat hemlocks, which give them very little nutrition. That is when many deer die! It is not a pretty sight!

A bit more on the pheasant hunting situation that arose a couple of weeks ago at the Westhill dam in Uxbridge and Northbridge. As I stated about the clearing of most prime habitat by the Corps of Engineers at the main field, which is leased by Mass. Fish & Wildlife. There sure had to be no communication by the Corps to MFW about their plans to do some work on the site.

The total destruction of the main field, not only destroyed habitat for pheasant but also was used by deer, wild turkey, and many non-game species of birds, snakes, etc. that was essential to wildlife overall. This same thing happened more than 20 years ago, and sportsmen came to the rescue by acquiring fertilizer from the

state, and the help of the late Dan Cahill of Mendon with his tractor to spread the fertilizer. It took a couple of years to regrow the destroyed habitat, but it did come back. Why did this happen again?

Unfortunately, an incident happened this year at the TriRiver area causing the division to take action, and to stop stocking birds at the site. It only took one incident by an irresponsible hunter to cause the closing of the area, at least for this year. The state will hopefully consider the stocking of the area next year.

Hopefully, ice fishing is not too far away, but if this warm weather persists, it could be another poor year for ice fishing anglers. Ice fishing can be enjoyed by the entire family, and often have sportsmen bringing along numerous types of wild game to cook and feed them. If you are lucky enough to be there when the food is ready, most if not all anglers will offer some to other anglers on the ice. It also gives the sportsmen a chance to tell stories about their hunting and fishing adventure of years past. Most stretch the stories a bit. Like the old saying goes, all fishermen are liars except you and



me! I am not too sure about you! There is no harm done as most stories are basically true! They always are more interesting to hear year after year, with a bit more fabrication.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending

Auction, antiques, and collectibles news



ANTIQUES,
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In a followup to the local news story I wrote about in my last column, I'm excited to announce that the auction of Worcester, New England and other historical memorabilia starts this week. The collection belonged to the Rotman family of Worcester. While the Rotman name is most well-known for their furniture store, the family ran a highly successful sports card and memorabilia business. They also held telephone bid auctions during the 1980s and 1990s. We will be offering nearly 700 lots of items they collected. The Rotman's collection online auction will begin this week, with bidding closing on Wednesday, Dec. 7. There will be a preview at Rotman's Furniture on Saturday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 4. Pickup for local bidders will be held on Saturday, Dec. 10 and Sunday, Dec. 11.

As for other antique news, I shared in a September column that Paul Allen's art collection could bring over \$1 billion at auction. The auction took place earlier this month and far exceeded that estimate, topping \$1.6 billion. CNBC reported that five paintings sold for over \$100 million. The top selling painting was Georges Seurat's "Les Poseuses, Ensemble," which brought



\$149.2 million.

In more noteworthy auction news, CBS News reported that the only known poster for the 1959 Moorhead, Minnesota Buddy Holly concert recently sold. Holly was touring with Richie Valens and the "Big Bopper" (J.P. Richardson) when their plane tragically crashed, killing Holly, Valens, Richardson and everyone on board. The poster had fallen from a telephone pole soon after the show was cancelled and was picked up by a maintenance man who placed it in a closet. After being forgotten for about 50 years, the poster sold for \$447,000 earlier this month, setting a record for a rock and roll poster. The previous record was for a poster from the Beatles 1966 concert at



Shea Stadium.

CoinNews.net reports that Mike Coltrane's estate collection recently went on the auction block. Many of the coins were minted soon after our country's independence. A 1792 President Washington cent went for \$136,000. A 1794 half cent that, according to coinnews.net, was the second or finest example known, brought \$168,000. A half cent from 1793 sold for \$180,000. A "New Jersey Copper" was the top seller at \$192,000. The entire collection sold for \$2.4 million. That's certainly more than just pocket change.

It was nice seeing many of you at our recent Townsend Historical Society, Worcester Senior Center and Leicester

Historical Society appraisal events. We had two online auctions close this week and we have two more sales scheduled for this year. As mentioned, the Rotman's online auction begins this week. We will also have a large auction of art, historical memorabilia and other antiques and collectibles beginning in two weeks. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

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Canning jars, freezer containers, spice cubes and airtight bottles for canning, freezing, and storing dehydrated herbs and vegetables are always welcome gifts. These supplies come in handy throughout the harvest season and are often in short supply when food preservation is at its peak.

Most gardeners grow their own fresh herbs and drying is the easiest way to preserve the harvest. Simply gather stems, secure with a rubber band, and suspend in a warm, dry location. As the stems dry and shrink, the rubber band does as well, keeping the stems secure. Use a spring clothespin to secure the herb bundles to wires or other support. Create your own drying set up or invest in one of the commercial herb drying racks. If space is limited, your gift recipient will appreciate a system like the Stack-it Herb Drying Rack (gardeners.com) that allows them to dry lots of herbs in a very small footprint. The drying

system you purchase or create should provide the needed space for the harvest and allow sufficient air circulation for fast drying.

Herbs with high moisture content like basil, oregano, lemon balm and mints will mold if not dried quickly. If this has been a problem in the past, try placing a small bunch in a paper bag with holes in the side and stems outside the bag. Hang these from a drying rack or speed up the process by using a microwave or food dehydrator.

Many gardeners grow onions, garlic, and potatoes for long-term storage. All three of these vegetables prefer cool, dark storage locations with good air circulation. Separate potatoes from onions that give off pungent gases that can taint the potatoes' flavor.

Avoid plastic bags that retain moisture and can shorten these vegetables storage life. Breathable potato and onion storage baskets have been used by gardeners for centuries. Boost the style and space savings with the Stackable

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Banquet Facilities for Holiday Parties, Surprise Parties, Showers, Etc.

Trivia is Back Sat. Nights at 7pm!

THE BAR IS OPEN!
7 Days at Noon
Join us for a cold drink and some delicious fried food
on Thursday, Friday & Saturday Nights 5-9pm

325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA 01524-1495



(508) 892-9822

Now hiring Cook
Please inquire in the bar to apply.



'Tis The Season

Book your Private Holiday Party at E.B. Flatts

Accepting Bookings for 20 - 45 people

E.B. Flatts
245 W. Main E. Brookfield
508-867-6643 EBFflatts.com



Now taking reservations for Holiday Functions 10-250 guests. Please call to reserve.

Spencer Country Inn



Buy Entree Get 1 1/2 price (dine-in only) Cannot be used on holidays or private parties
With this ad. Exp 12/31/22

Reservations requested for lunch & dinner. Nightly dinner specials.
All Lunch & Dinner Entrees are available to dine-in or take-out!

Fish N' Chips To-Go ~ Fridays Only \$14.95

SUNDAY BRUNCH 10am-1pm
All You Can Eat \$17.95 (plus tax & gratuity)

500 Main St., Spencer, MA
508-885-9036
www.spencercountryinn.com

Lunch: Fri & Sat 11:30-2:00
Dinner: Fri & Sat 5:00-Close
Sun. Brunch: 10am-1pm



LEGALS

(SEAL)

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
No. 14TL148429
COMPLAINT TO FORECLOSE TAX LIEN TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN, and to any former stockholders, officers, creditors and any other persons claiming any interest in George Saad and Sons, Inc., a dissolved Massachusetts corporation formerly located in Spencer, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; Harry Saad, as he was President, and Director of said George Saad and Sons, Inc., deceased formerly of Dudley, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; Lorraine Saad, as she was Treasurer, Secretary, and Director of said George Saad and Sons, Inc., deceased, formerly of Dudley, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; Darryl A. Saad, as he was Senior Vice President of said George Saad and Sons, Inc., deceased, formerly of Dudley, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; Dennis H. Saad, as he was Vice President of said George Saad and Sons, Inc., now or formerly of Spencer, Worcester County and said Commonwealth; Denise J. Abruzzise, now or formerly of Dudley, Worcester, County, or and said Commonwealth; Darlene D. Moseley and Nathan D. Saad, both now or formerly of Webster, Worcester County, said Commonwealth; Daniel E. Saad, now or formerly of Charlton, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth, Jean E. Saad, now or formerly of North Grosvenordale in the State of Connecticut; Zachary K. Saad, now or formerly of Milford, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; Michael R. Salah, now or formerly of Southbridge, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; or their heirs, devisees, legal representatives, successors and assigns

Whereas, a complaint has been presented to said Town of Spencer, Worcester County, said Commonwealth; to foreclose all rights of redemption from the tax lien proceeding described in said complaint in and concerning two parcels of land situate in the Town of Spencer, in the County of Worcester and in said Commonwealth, bounded and described in said complaint as follows:

Parcel I
Property: Land & Building Containing: 9365.00 SF (more or less) Location: 15 Wall St Parcel ID: OU07-00030 Registry: 04717/0136 Land Court: Recorded at: Worcester County Registry of Deeds

Parcel II
Property: Land & Building Containing: 26300.00 SF (more or less) Location: 1 Linden St Parcel ID: OU07-00082 Registry: 03661/0024 Land Court: Recorded at: Worcester County Registry of Deeds

If you desire to make any objection or defense to said complaint you or your attorney must file a written appearance and an answer, under oath, setting forth clearly and specifically your objections or defense to each part of said complaint, in the office of the Recorder of said Court in Boston (at the Courthouse located on Three Pemberton Square, Room 507 in

Boston, MA 02108), on or before the twenty-sixth day of December in the year two thousand and twenty-two. Unless an appearance is so filed by or for you, your default will be recorded, the said complaint will be taken as confessed and you will be forever barred from contesting said complaint or any judgment entered thereon. And in addition to the usual service of this notice as required by law, it is ordered that the foregoing citation be published forthwith once in New Leader a newspaper published in said Spencer.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Esquire, Chief Justice of said Court, this second day of November in the year two thousand and twenty-two. Attest with Seal of said Court. Deborah J. Patterson Recorder

Plaintiff's Attorney: James E. Coppola, Jr., Esq., Coppola and Coppola, 40 South Street, Marblehead, MA 01945 Tel: (781) 639-0140
November 18, 2022

Town of Spencer Public Hearing Cable Television License Renewal

The Spencer Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on December 5, 2022 at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA in the McCourt Social Hall to ascertain the Spencer cable license renewal needs as part of the Town's Spectrum, LLP (also known as Charter) cable license renewal process. Interested persons may attend in person or remotely via: <https://www.gotomeet.me/Townof-SpencerMA/boardofselectmen>, or dial:1 866 899 4679, access code: 479-429-349.

The Spectrum cable license is due to expire January 31, 2023, and the federal Cable Act, 47 USC 546, requires a public proceeding to ascertain the community's cable-related needs as part of the license renewal process. For further information and copies of renewal records available for public inspection, contact Jeffrey Bridges, Town Administrator, Town Hall, 157 Main St. Spencer, MA 01562. Gary E. Woodbury, Chairman, Board of Selectmen
November 18, 2022

Legal Notice Town of West Brookfield Tax Classification Hearing

The Board of Selectmen has scheduled a Public Hearing in accordance with MGL Ch. 40 Sec. 56 on Tuesday, November 29, 2022, at 6:15 PM in the Lower-Level Conference Room located in the West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street, on the issue of the tax levy to be borne by each class of property for FY23. The Public is invited to attend. Information regarding the policy decisions will be available at the hearing. Interested taxpayers may present oral or written information on their views at the hearing.
Board of Selectmen
November 18, 2022
November 25, 2022

TOWN OF SPENCER VALLEY & MILL STREET IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (PHASE I)

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at www.biddocsonline.com. All bidders must complete and submit the electronic bidder registration form (Signature Authorization Form – hard copy) to BidDocs Online, Inc. at least three business days prior to the bid opening/ deadline for processing. Tutorials and instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab in the bottom footer).

The Town of Spencer invites sealed Bids for the Valley & Mill Street Improvement Project (Phase I). The Phase 1 project limits include Valley Street from Chestnut Street to just east of Mill Street, approximately 475 linear feet. Roadway improvements include full depth pavement reconstruction of Valley Street with installation of granite curbing, asphalt sidewalks and asphalt driveway aprons. Accessibility improvements include concrete wheelchair ramps and curb cuts at pedestrian crossings. Traffic control improvements include new pavement markings and signage. Utility improvements will include a new enclosed storm water drainage system and replacement of water lines on Valley Street from Chestnut Street to Mill Street and Mill Street from Valley Street to the North side of the cross culvert with a new 8-inch diameter ductile iron pipe, installation of new fire hydrants, and connection of the new water line to adjoining streets in a manner that allows future improvements to those systems without disturbance to street surfaces.

This project is being administered by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) and funded by the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development, FY2021 Spencer Community Development Block Grant Program. MassDOT pre-qualification of contractors for the project with an estimated value of \$550,000 will be required.

Electronic bids for the Valley & Mill Street Improvement Project (Phase I) shall be submitted to BidDocs Online, Inc. until Thursday, December 8, 2022, at 3:00 PM EST, at which time they will be publicly opened online. Complete instructions for filing bids are included in the project manual.

Contract Documents, including plans and specifications, may be viewed electronically beginning November 10th, 2022, at www.BidDocsOnline.com and hard copies requested at Nashoba Blue, Inc., 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167). There is a refundable deposit of \$50.00 per set payable to BidDocs Online, Inc. Deposits may be electronically paid or must be a certified or cashier's check. Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for \$40.00 per set for UPS Ground (or \$65.00 per set for UPS overnight), payable to the BidDocs Online, Inc., to cover mailing costs.

Bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit in the amount of five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount, considering all alternates, and made payable to the Town of Spencer. All bids for this project are subject to the provisions and minimum wage rates required by M.G.L. c.30, §39M as amended, and M.G.L. c.149, §26

to 27H, inclusive. All applicable Federal minimum wage rates and applicable Federal labor standards shall also apply pursuant to the Davis-Bacon Act. When both State and Federal wage rates are applicable, the higher rate must be paid.

The Awarding Authority encourages, to the extent feasible, the use of minority-, women- and disadvantaged-owned businesses for work under this contract and likewise encourages, to the greatest extent possible, that all bidders take affirmative steps to ensure training and employment for lower-income project area residents and award of subcontracts to HUD-defined Section 3 businesses. Bidders on the work shall make a good faith effort to achieve the goals of the Federal Minority and Women's Business Enterprise (MBE/WBE) policy regarding utilization of MBEs and WBEs in order to be deemed a responsible bidder.

Bids may be changed or withdrawn prior to the bid opening, but not within the sixty (60) days subsequent to the bid opening, by submission of such a change in writing in a sealed envelope, identifying the submitting party and indicating that it contains a correction of the bid for the Valley & Mill Street Improvement Project (Phase I), Spencer, MA.

The lowest qualified responsible bidder shall be awarded the contract subject to availability of funds under the DHCD Block Grant program. The Town of Spencer, the Awarding and Contracting Authority, may cancel this Invitation for Bid (IFB), in whole or in part, at any time that such an act is deemed in its best interest, reserves the right to waive any informality in the bidding or to reject any and all bids in total or in part as may be deemed to serve the best interest of the Town, and will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a bidder in preparing and submitting a bid in response to this IFB.

A pre-bid conference will not be held for this project. Questions regarding the bid specifications should be directed in writing to Steve Savaria at Fuss & O'Neil, at ssavaria@fando.com no later than December 1st, 2022, at 4:00 PM.

November 18, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court

225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200

Docket No. W022P3836EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate of: Mary Baker Date of Death: 12/21/2015

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Mary Baker-Wood of Spencer MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Mary Baker-Wood of Spencer MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

THANKS
continued from page A1

and shape, just cruising along. Jet skis were racing offshore, just out of line with the two boats that were pulling parasailers out on the horizon.

Music filled the air, as bar after bar played their favorite tunes to the passersby.

The smell of fresh seafood and meats being grilled permeated the air. It was hard not to fall in love instantly, but I did.

I had planned to meet up with friends that I had grown up with in Spencer, Paul Perez and Jamie Bejune. They had both relocated to the Fort Myers and Cape Coral area. They too had fallen in love with the area, and soon introduced me to others folks from Massachusetts that had relocated as well.

Long story short, I fell in love with the place and made it my new home.

In the past 12 years, I have lived at three different homes on the beach and worked at four bars/restaurants. I made my legacy there as a bouncer and bartender, and had created a nice niche for myself.

We lived like rock stars! Every day that ended in “Y” was a reason to party. If someone got married, or divorced.. you partied, If someone was leaving town or had just gotten back...you partied. Birth of a newborn, death of someone close, Spring Break, any Holiday, Shrimp Fest, Pirate Fest, Taste of the Island Seafood Fest, the list was endless..

I have given my best to all walks of life, from the homeless, to the struggling shrimpers in our port, to the middle class, to multi Millionaires, movie stars, rock stars and legends. Watched out over the Boston Red Sox and Minnesota Twins players as they came to visit the beach during Spring Training.

I “had” the life. We all “had” the life.

Sept. 28, 2022 changed all of our lives forever!

Hurricane Ian roared mercilessly and destroyed our paradise. Every house or Restaurant that I had ever lived at or worked was gone. I don’t mean like the windows and the doors or parts of roofs weren’t there. I mean totally gone!! Not a stick or piece of wood standing, not a remnant was to be found.

Overnight, our paradise had become a war zone. Hundreds of families without housing, power, food or any hope of help were left in Ian’s wake.

I personally had six feet of water inundate my house and had to swim to the neighbors to ride out the storm with six others. I got out of the house with my roommate and two dogs and the clothes on our backs. We had all lost everything!

The next morning, the devastation was unimaginable. As we sifted through what was left of our lives, we all hoped to be able to find just enough to piece back what once was.

The phone calls from home started coming fast and furious. As did calls from friends that we knew were on Fort Myers Beach as well.

Tears flowed as one connection made another connection. This person was okay..that person was safe.

But then the calls came that no one ever wants to hear. This person is

missing, these people are missing, and worst yet...this person didn’t make it!

For me, it hit hard, like a brick to the back of my skull. I received a call that Bonnie Gauthier had passed. It was inconceivable to me, as just hours before the storm, she and I sat outside the Shamrock Irish Pub and talked for hours.

We had both just gotten back to the beach after spending time in our hometowns. We talked about Spencer and her dad’s passing in Oxford. We laughed for hours about the people that we knew in common.

Around us, people made fun of the two of us. First for our “Boston” accents, second because we could both talk until the cows come home.

It was “Two for Tuesday,” and our drinks were “buy one get one free.” So before I left, I bought Bonnie and I one last round. We received our drinks, with a drink chip good for the second free drink, anytime you wished to use it in the future.

We agreed to go home and batten down the hatches and would see each other soon, to have a drink and talk about the storm. That day will never come. But I still have my drink chip to remind me of better times and a perfect day spent with a dear friend. My first thing to be Thankful for, time well spent with others that matter!

The second thank you is to her family for bringing up such a beautiful woman, who would brighten everyone’s day with her laugh and smile. She is a ray of sunshine that is truly missed.

The Shamrock Irish bar was washed away in that storm, a dear friend was lost as well...all we have left are memories. I am truly thankful for its memories over the past 12 years!

My other thanks have to be to my family and close friends still in Spencer and the surrounding area.

My daughter Carlene, selflessly took it upon herself to go out and get supplies and necessities for not just myself, but also her close friends here as well.

Carly, or ‘CAH-LEE,’ as I say, drove through the night to help others. She was here in no time, with a smile and an SUV so full, she could only use her side mirrors to see behind her. How she made it here unscathed is beyond me.

She had asked me, “Dad, what do you need?”

My reply was simply, “Gloves and tools to rebuild this place. I have two hands and a willpower.all I need are tools. We are going to need it! Don’t bring clothes, I have no way to carry them, or a place to keep them. Don’t bring water, we have that here, save the room and weight.”

To all the people who reached out to her and helped in my and our effort, thank you!

From the bottom of my heart, I can’t express enough gratitude to all of you who reached out to help!

To my other daughters and family, thank you for being my lighthouse in the storm. You kept me grounded and always knowing how to find my way home.

There have been dark days, these last 6 weeks. Primal conditions, death, destruction and limited human contact are all that remain as we try to rebuild.

Yes, in the end I lost a home, a car, investments and dear friends, 5 at last

count.

But the sun rose today and will set tonight. Of that I am thankful!

My family and most of my friends are safe and secure. Of that I am thankful!

I learned that I had too much stuff and the little things in life matter the most. Of that I am thankful!

But knowing that as the sun rises tomorrow and the construction equipment starts to rattle, I know our beach and our lives will come back to life again!

After all, this is still paradise, just paradise with a different view!

I am thankful to be here to see it come.

I am thankful that my loved ones weren’t here to endure it for themselves.

I am just thankful to be able to help my fellow neighbors and friends, and so many others from our area in Massachusetts, who are here as well.

I am thankful to everyone out there

who is working to rebuild our island, for those strangers who stopped and gave water, or a hot meal. To the volunteers that helped us get the small things like hot showers, a hot cup of coffee or just to recharge a phone, a strong salute as well.


Through the last 6 weeks, I have seen the worst in people and the best. I am thankful that the good far exceeds the bad and has rejuvenated my belief in my fellow man.

We all carry the heartache and pain, but thanks to all of you, we will rebuild and thrive!

Thank you, Spencer and close friends; you never left my heart and soul!

I am most thankful just to be alive and able to come back to Spencer for the Holidays. I cannot wait to see snow and play with the grandchildren. It’s not sandcastles and sand men, like on the beach, but either way will warm my heart.

❖❖❖Friday’s Child❖❖❖



Hi! My name is Aiden and I love cats and dogs!

Aiden is a pleasant, inquisitive, and friendly young boy of Caucasian descent. He is enrolled in middle school and is successful with supports. He is healthy and physically active; Aiden loves spending time outdoors. He likes to collect Pokémon cards, ride his bicycle and scooter, and play basketball. Aiden also loves cats and dogs.

Legally freed for adoption, Aiden would do well in a two-parent or single-parent household with no other children. A family with strong understanding of children with a trauma history and the behaviors that follow is needed for Aiden. He is a loving boy who would do best in a structured and nurturing family. A family that loves the outdoors, playing sports, and spending time together would be ideal. Aiden has so much to bring to a family that can offer him the stability, love, and attention that he needs. Aiden visits with his biological mother twice a year per an Open Adoption Agreement and has an older sister he needs to keep in contact with.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/6688>

Can I Adopt?

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

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at (617) 964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. Start the process today and give a waiting child a permanent place to call home.

❖❖❖❖❖❖

LEGALS

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/06/2022.**
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 08, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 18, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO22P3372EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR**

**FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:**
Sheldon W. Burnham
Also known as:
Sheldon W. Burnham
Date of Death: 08/14/2022
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Patricia A. Burnham of Warren MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Patricia A. Burnham of Warren MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/06/2022.**
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the

Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: November 04, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 18, 2022

**THE TOWN OF
EAST BROOKFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**
A public hearing will be held in the Memorial Town Complex, 122 Connie Mack Drive, East Brookfield on Monday, November 28, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. on the application made by Shiloh Patchen for a Cabaret License for Shi’s Pub, LLC., 291 East Main Street, East Brookfield.
All interested parties are invited to attend.
Joseph R. Fish
Chairman
November 18, 2022
November 25, 2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO22P3710GD
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor
In the interests of
Ava Elizabeth Robichaud
of Charlton, MA
Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**
1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **10/31/2022** by

Thomas E Graham of North Brookfield, MA will be held **11/25/2022 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing** Located **Worcester Probate and Family Court**
2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:
File the original with the Court; and
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.
3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.
4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.
5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor’s best interests.
THIS IS A LEGAL NOTICE: An important court proceeding that may affect your rights has been scheduled. If you do not understand this notice or other court papers, please contact an attorney for legal advice.
Date: October 31, 2022
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
November 18, 2022



Countdown to BLACK FRIDAY Window and Door Sale!

★ Our
Biggest
BOGO Deal
Ever ★

ENDS
NOV 28

When it comes to protection from the elements, your **windows** are **as essential** as your roof and walls. Safeguard your home against drafts and replace your windows and doors **before winter**.



November 1st–November 28th only!

Buy 1 window or door, get 1 window or door **50% OFF¹**

Minimum purchase of four.

PAY NOTHING FOR ONE FULL YEAR¹



\$0 Down **0** Monthly Payments **0%** Interest **FOR 1 YEAR¹**

Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 12 months.

It's almost like getting FREE windows and doors for a whole year!¹
Replace your windows and doors this holiday season, and you'll pay nothing until November 2023.¹ It's a gift to yourself that won't put a dent in your wallet this time of year.

Inferior vinyl windows can cost you more in the long run.
Choose a poor-quality vinyl window and you'll be searching for another window sale in a few years! Take advantage of this sale on our Fibrex® windows, and you'll be set for decades!²

We make the holiday season less stressful.
Unlike most other companies, we handle the entire process, from selling to installation to warranty—with no middleman!



Limited appointments available!
Call for your FREE Window and Door Diagnosis
1-800-209-2746

¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 12/10/2022. You must set your appointment by 11/28/2022 and purchase by 12/10/2022. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 50% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 11/1/2022 and 12/10/2022. 50% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender, or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2022 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2022 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. ²See limited warranty for details. ³Review aggregator survey of 5-star reviews among leading full service window replacement companies. December 2020 Reputation.com.

POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 2

2:27 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:37 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 5:33 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), services rendered; 7:55 a.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), blocking lane; 8:37 a.m.: accident (Fourth Street), mv vs deer; 9:33 a.m.: mv complaint (Paxton Road), speeding; 12:42 p.m.: larceny (Lyford Cross Road), wallets missing; 12:46 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 2:26 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 2:26 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 2:58 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 3:07 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), boy can't find mother; 3:37 p.m.: larceny (Lyford Cross Road), wallet/checks taken from mv; 4:25 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 4:31 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 5:26 p.m.: fire alarm (Buteau Road), accidental; 6:40 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 10:20 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); (total daily mv stops – 1).

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

1:20-1:52 a.m.: multiple parking violations (Main, Mechanic, Brown, Chestnut, High, Church, Elm, Cherry streets), flyers issued; 1:56 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:10 a.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 6:55 a.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 7:18 a.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 7:22 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 7:59 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), raccoon in lot; 8:07 a.m.: DPW call (Pleasant Street), low-hanging wires; 8:21 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 10:35 a.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), re: parking flyer; 10:41 a.m.: accident (West Main Street), rep't rec'd/earlier accident; 11:39 a.m.: medical/general (Greenville Street); 12:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), poss. rabid fox; 12:45 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 12:52 p.m.: suspicious mv (Wall Street), investigated; 5:12 p.m.: larceny (South Spencer Road), wallet stolen; 5:41 p.m.: medical/general (Elm Street); 7:24 p.m.: citizen complaint (Main Street), issue w/restaurant; 7:25 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 8:16 p.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; 8:26 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 10:14 p.m.: residential alarm (Wilson Street), services rendered; 11:24 p.m.: medical/general (Bay Path Road); (total daily mv stops – 4).

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

12:05 a.m.: missing person/adult (Lincoln Street), services rendered; 6:46 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 8:47 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), accidental; 9:29 a.m.: medical/general (R. Jones Road); 10:21 a.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), req. periodic checks; 10:59 a.m.: animal complaint (Maple Street), dog bite; 11:33 a.m.: fraud (Lincoln Street); rec'd scam call; 12:28 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 1:23 p.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), mvs speeding; 1:31 p.m.: disabled mv (Main

Street), tt stuck on hill; 2:07 p.m.: medical/general (Donnelly Cross Road); 2:34 p.m.: juvenile matter (Paxton Road), re: custody issue; 2:52 p.m.: lost/found (Grove Street), wallet found; 3:14 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), info taken; 4:34 p.m.: animal complaint (Norcross Road), cat in barn; 4:28 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), req. restraining order; 4:44 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Olde Main Street), no contact; 5:03 p.m.: DPW call (McDonald Street), low-hanging wire; 5:52 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 6:31 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), concerned about individual; 6:36 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 8:12 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 8:24 p.m.: juvenile matter (Maple Street), re: group home; 9:01 p.m.: accident (Pearl Street), report taken; 9:10 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street); unwanted party; 10:22 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); (total daily mv stops – 0).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

12:15-1:01 a.m.: multiple parking violations (Main, Mechanic, Church streets), flyers issued; 12:16 a.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), services rendered; 1:05-3:34 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:12 a.m.: mv stop (Bixby Road), Catiria Ivette Rivera, 30, 19 Bixby Road, Spencer, failure to stop for police, speeding, resisting arrest, assault/battery on police officer, arrest; 3:35 a.m.: fire alarm (Birch Drive), referred; 6:06 a.m.: medical/general (Borkum Road); 9:21 a.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), re: poss. check fraud; 9:25 a.m.: medical/general (Buteau Road); 9:54 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 11:07 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), East Brookfield PD bolo; 12:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Old East Charlton Road), found dog/no tags; 2:18 p.m.: RV complaint (Meadow Road), failure to stop; 2:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), manhole uncovered; 3:16 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), services rendered; 3:29 p.m.: medical/general (Condon Drive); 3:38 p.m.: animal complaint (Cornfield Road), cat in tree; 4:20 p.m.: mutual aid (Bixby Road), mc accident; 4:52 p.m.: juvenile matter (Lake Street), services rendered; 5:08 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 5:36 p.m.: medical/general (Hastings Road); 6:17 p.m.: medical/general (Summit Street); 7:38 p.m.: fire alarm (Chickering Road), referred; 8:18 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), ofc. flagged down; 8:36 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:44 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:50 p.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), req. welfare check; 10:59 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), services rendered; 11:26 p.m.: suspicious persons (Temple Street), investigated; (total daily mv stops – 2).

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

12:24 a.m.: residential alarm (Lake Street), services rendered; 1:01-1:53 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:23-1:35 a.m.: parking violations (Chestnut, Mechanic, Church streets), flyers issued; 1:33 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Worcester PD bolo; 7:16 a.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 7:54 a.m.: DPW call (Jolicoeur Avenue), power out; 10:00 a.m.: parking violation

(Summit Street), ticket issued; 10:55 a.m.: animal complaint (McCormick Road), loose dog; 11:32 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 11:58 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 12:00 p.m.: DPW call (Wilson Avenue), power out; 1:11 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet found; 4:43 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Lake Street), poss. illegal burn; 7:38 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 7:53-9:46 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:06 p.m.: 911 call (Mechanic Street), open line; 10:25 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Auburn PD bolo; 11:55 p.m.: suspicious mv (Lake Street), investigated; (total daily mv stops – 2).

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

12:06-1:40 a.m.: multiple parking violations (Mechanic, Church, Prospect, Adams, South, McDonald, Franklin, Grove, Summit, Pope, Jones streets), flyers issued; 2:25 a.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 2:30 a.m.: commercial alarm (Lake Street), services rendered; 3:14 a.m.: fire alarm (McCormick Road), referred; 3:52 a.m.: suspicious mv (North Spencer Road), investigated; 7:17 a.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), accidental; 7:46 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Charlton PD bolo; 9:49 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), welfare check; 9:53 a.m.: officer wanted (Lake Street), re: threatening messages; 10:32 a.m.: lost/found (Mechanic Street), fuel card found; 11:30 a.m.: suspicious persons (Smithville Road), investigated; 11:45 a.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), welfare check; 11:50 a.m.: disabled mv (Ash Street), services rendered; 1:36 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose puppy; 2:18 p.m.: RV complaint (North Spencer Road), kid/dirt bike in road; 3:23 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), re: photo shoot; 3:32 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), bike found; 4:30 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 7:54 p.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), mental health issue; 8:26-8:48 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:27 p.m.: fire alarm (Ash Street), training; 10:51 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 10:57 p.m.: fire alarm (McCormick Road), referred; 11:27 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 11:59 p.m.: disturbance (Cherry Street), noise complaint; (total daily mv stops – 1).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

12:15 a.m.: parking violation (Cherry Street), flyer issued; 12:18-2:09 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:09 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), flyer issued; 7:31 a.m.: parking complaint (South Spencer Road), req. mv towed; 8:50 a.m.: medical/general (Meadowbrook Road); 9:24 a.m.: officer wanted (Condon Drive), poss. scammed by painter; 9:33 a.m.: fire alarm (Mechanic Street), referred; 9:56 a.m.: medical/general (Salem Street); 11:38 a.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 12:01 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 12:09 p.m.: disabled mv (South Spencer Road), services rendered; 12:14 p.m.: residential fire (Northwest Road), referred; 12:22 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), domestic dispute; 12:25 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 1:54 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: issues w/ex; 3:03 p.m.: LTC issued

(West Main Street), assisted; 3:40 p.m.: fraud (Pleasant View Road), spoken to; 3:46 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 4:17 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), question re: camera in area; 5:37 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:10 p.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 6:41 p.m.: accident (Greenville Street), report taken; 6:47 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 6:48 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (North Brookfield Road), no contact; 8:35 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 9:26 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), req. welfare check; 9:41-10:18 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:02 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Mechanic Street), accidental; 10:13 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; (total daily mv checks – 1).

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Leicester Police

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 3

12:42 a.m.: malicious mischief (Main Street), report taken; 4:22 a.m.: ambulance (Woodland Road), services rendered; 8:40 a.m.: ambulance (Craig Street), transported; 10:46 a.m.: hit/run accident (Charles Street), spoken to; 11:30 a.m.: summons service (South Main Street), served; 1:36 p.m.: investigation (Main Street, Worcester), report taken; 2:08 p.m.: missing person (Burncoat Lane), report taken; 2:14 p.m.: ambulance (Queen Street, Worcester), transported; 2:27 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), gone on arrival; 3:18 p.m.: fraud (Main Street), report taken; 3:26 p.m.: disturbance (Shandy Lane), peace restored; 3:52 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), gone on arrival; 4:20 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), resolved; 4:36 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Winslow Avenue), Shane J. Stanikmas, 22, 25 Winslow Avenue, Leicester, straight warrant, arrest; 5:50 p.m.: assist citizen (Wildwood Lane), report taken; 7:21 p.m.: suspicious person (Charles Street), resolved; 7:32 p.m.: animal complaint (Cricklewood Drive), referred to ACO.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 4

2:17 a.m.: disturbance (Lake Drive), spoken to; 2:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 5:26 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:13 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 9:25 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 10:15 a.m.: ambulance (Shady Lane), transported; 10:53 a.m.: neighbor dispute (Locust Street), report taken; 11:01 a.m.: ambulance (Shady Lane), call canceled; 1:28 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 2:14 p.m.: assist citizen (Deer Pond Road), peace restored; 3:33 p.m.: summons service (Boyd Street), unable to serve; 3:36 p.m.: summons service (Tobin Road), unable to serve; 4:07 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), peace restored; 4:50 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Pine Street), unable to serve; 4:54 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Chapel Street), unable to serve; 5:23 p.m.: summons service (Tobin Road),

Turn To **POLICE** page **A17**

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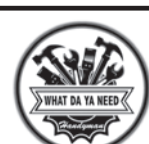
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SPORTS

Hats off to Battista, who scores three for Rams in win over Leicester

NORTHBRIDGE THEN DISPATCHES
MANCHESTER ESSEX IN ROUND OF 8, 4-0



Northbridge's Keira Touhey, left, and Leicester's Jordan Giggey do battle for possession of the ball.

BY NICK ETHIER
SPORTS EDITOR

NORTHBRIDGE — Big time players make big time plays in big time games, and Northbridge High girls' soccer star Karlee Battista continues to prove that time and again.

In helping lead the Rams to the Round of 8 in 2021, Battista scored a pair of overtime goals in the Rounds of 32 and 16, and she's doing it again this season. Battista scored three times against No. 34 Nantucket High in the Round of 32, and then added another hat trick — plus an assist — in No. 2 Northbridge's 5-0 victory against No. 15 Leicester High in a Round of 16 game played at Lasell Field on Wednesday, Nov. 9.

"I think part of it is the system that we play lends itself to her succeeding. I think that her teammates look to her to fill that role," said head coach Kristin Strazzulla. "But 100 percent she was big time last time in the playoffs, scoring two overtime goals to carry us to the Elite Eight. This year, two hat tricks."

Battista has now scored 26 times this season.

Battista got the Rams on the scoreboard in the 12th minute when teammate Rachel Sawyer serviced in a corner kick from the left side. The ball amazingly snuck through five Wolverine defenders.

"It hit off a girl, and then it hit off my knee, hit the post and then went in. That was a beautiful ball," Battista said of Sawyer's kick.

But the game remained 1-0 at half-time. In a matter of moments, the Rams extended the lead to 3-0 with a pair of 44th minute strikes.

First, Battista beat her defender down the left side and launched a shot into the right-hand portion of the goal. Then, Battista sent a pass down to Sienna Mastroianni, whose long ball found the back of the net.

"Coach said during halftime, 'one isn't enough.' We wanted to calm our nerves, and so getting that second goal was huge for us," said Battista.

"Those back-to-back goals were huge," added Strazzulla.

That lead turned out to be more than enough for Northbridge, as they limited Leicester's chances all game long. Defender Delaney Mahoney was tasked

with marking Lily Peterson, a good goal scorer in her own right.

"We talked about the type of player that she was, that we couldn't let her turn," Strazzulla said of Peterson. "Delaney would track her all the way up almost to their offensive third of the field just to make sure that every time she got the ball she wasn't turning."

The Wolverines' best scoring chance came in the 64th minute when Mya Benoit took a free kick from 30-plus yards out. The ball appeared destined to land just under the crossbar, but Northbridge keeper Madison Thibeault made the save.

Battista then put the game away in the 72nd minute, completing her hat trick. There, she stole the ball away from a Wolverine defender and was one-on-one with keeper Sarah O'Connor, and she didn't miss her shot.

Battista credited the entire defensive output for not only shutting Leicester down, but for also getting the ball up to her and fellow attacking players.

"I give credit to Hannah Drenzo, Rachel Sawyer and Delaney Mahoney," said Battista. "They've been the wall this entire season. Since I'm up here, it's awesome to see them being able to get it and also distribute it up to us."

Sawyer finished the scoring in the 79th minute with an 18-yard free kick from the right side.

Northbridge returned to the Round of 8, where they played No. 7 Manchester Essex. The Rams won that game 4-0 — with Battista adding another two goals, and Melissa Sabourin and Jenna Malone also scoring — to advance to the Final Four. In a game that was played after press time, Northbridge (16-3-2) took on No. 3 Littleton High (20-0-1).

"With the crew that we had returning from last year, the expectation was that we would get back here," said Strazzulla.

"I love my team. From the beginning of this year our goal was to win a state championship, and so far it's looking good for us," added Battista.

Leicester finished its season with a record of 7-12-1, but it wasn't all about the wins and losses for first-year head coach Joe Mercier.

"It was a great year. They've worked really hard, a lot of adversity through-



Leicester's Maura Granville runs up to receive a pass down the field.



Lily Peterson of Leicester shields off Northbridge defender Delaney Mahoney while the ball bounces her way.

out the year, and it was a great way for our seniors to experience the postseason again and it's great for our younger ones to really get a taste of what postseason atmosphere is really like," said Mercier. "Regardless of record, we had an outstanding year. The record I don't think indicates how we played. We were

in every single game."

The 5-0 loss was the Wolverines' biggest setback of the entire season.

"We're going to give Northbridge credit: they played really well and they finished their shots. They have skill all over the place. If you lose a possession battle, they have speed up top."

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State Tournament Scoreboard

Wednesday, Nov. 9
Division 5 Girls' Soccer Round of 16
(7) Gardner 5, (10) David Prouty 0 — Another great season by the Panthers came to a close, as they couldn't get past the Wildcats. Prouty, which also reached the final of the Central Mass. Athletic Directors Association's Class D Tournament earlier this month, finished with a record of 11-10.

Thursday, Nov. 10

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Division 5 Boys' Soccer Round of 16
(6) Maynard 3, (11) Quaboag 2 (OT) — The Cougars' dreams of a State Championship were dashed in overtime against Maynard. Nonetheless, Quaboag finished with an impressive record of 13-6-1.
Division 5 Girls' Soccer Round of 16
(6) Georgetown 2, (11) Quaboag 0 — The Cougars' season came to a close with a record of 8-10-2 in the Round of 16.

HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Thursday, Nov. 10
Fitchburg 33, Tantasqua 28 — The Warriors were edged by the Red Raiders during an untimed down in a non-playoff matchup at the Reservation. Tantasqua touchdowns included an Adam Howe 20-yard pass to Landon Rice, a Howe 17-yard run, a Brandon Denham 7-yard run and a Howe 10-yard run. Kicker Luke Marvin added four extra point kicks. The Warriors (4-6) will play at Shepherd Hill Regional (3-7) in their annual Thanksgiving Day matchup.

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OBITUARIES

Gloria R. McTighe, 100

Gloria McTighe (Borinelli), 100, died peacefully in her sleep on Saturday, November 5, the 73rd wedding anniversary of her marriage to Dr. John McTighe who predeceased her twenty-two years ago.



She leaves behind her devoted children, Kathleen Cahill and her husband, Dr. Thomas Cahill of West Brookfield, John McTighe of Boca Raton, FL, and Richard McTighe of New York City, NY; her adoring grandchildren, Thomas Cahill and his wife Kelly of Salem, Jonathan Cahill and his wife Kate of

Providence, RI, Ellen Marshall and her husband Matthew of Salem, and William Cahill and his wife Michelin of Worcester; her twelve darling great grandchildren; her sister Sally Poblocki of Coral Gables, FL; her sister-in-law, Dorothy McTighe of Mount Pleasant, SC; and ten nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her father and mother, Peter and Pierina Borinelli, along with one brother and three sisters. Gloria took great pride in her parents' courageous immigration to build a new and successful life in the USA and reveled in her Italian Alps ancestral homeland and heritage.

She was born in 1922 in Webster and educated in Webster public schools.

A child of the Great Depression, she entered the workforce upon her graduation from high school and was employed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company in Webster and later in Chicago, IL, during the early years of her marriage.

She moved to Auburn in 1954 to raise her family and remained there for 60 years until 2014 when she moved to West Brookfield to be closer to her daughter. She returned to Auburn last year at 99 years of age to an assisted living residence. During her time in Auburn as a homemaker, she was a member of St. Joseph's Parish and League of Catholic Women, Auburn Rotary Anns, and was a consummate volunteer for numerous community

and charitable organizations.

Gloria's family will be forever grateful for her long and healthy life and will always cherish her irresistible charm which remained steadfast and abundant until her final day.

Private funeral services and burial will take place at Hillside Cemetery in Auburn. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the McAuley Nazareth Home for Boys at 77 Mulberry Street, Leicester, MA 01524 or Abby's House at 52 High Street, Worcester, MA 01609.

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

SUDOKU

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

Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

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

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Leicester Public Library hosting author visit

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Guests of all ages are invited to meet local author Donna McCance at an upcoming Leicester Public Library event.

McCance, who co-authored the book “Knowing Me from A to Z: A Child’s Mindset,” is looking forward to meeting local guests at the library. The program is set for Tuesday, Nov. 29, from 6-7:30 p.m.

Free to the public, the event will include a presentation on the book and its insights for parents and educators.

“Learn how you can help children develop their independent, free thinking, and individualistic mindset through self-awareness,” read a promotional statement released by McCance.

Having spent more than 20 years as a Leicester teacher and then earned election to the Leicester School Committee, which she currently chairs, McCance has dedicated her career to advancing education for local students.

McCance co-authored her book with mindset specialist Harry Petsanis. The book was written in two parts to reach children at all learning levels. The first part features a rhyming A-Z mindset section for elementary-aged children, while the second part delivers a vocabulary-sentence section for upper grades.

“Learning should be a process where learners can be who they are, not who they are forced to be, allowing them to pursue a lifelong quest for truth and understanding,” McCance told the New Leader.

Children are encouraged to read the book at the level that best suits them, the authors said. Their book was designed to integrate reading with engaging children in meaningful conversations.

The book also encourages journaling, with pages provided for young readers to write their own notes on mindset.

McCance and Petsanis are currently working on publishing two additional books that focus on mindset development.

“We are handed the precious gift of a child, without any directions or instruc-



tions. It's always good to keep an open mind toward understanding how to help a child develop a healthy mindset so they can become mentally healthy adults,” McCance said.

Library officials are looking forward to an event that will educate parents and youngsters alike.

“The library is always happy to host local authors and events of interest to the community in our meeting rooms,” said Leicester Public Library Director Suzanne Hall.

Copies of McCance’s book will be available for purchase at the event.

Leicester Public Library is located at 1136 Main St. All members of the public are welcome to attend the author event, with no registration or purchase required.

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MYERS

continued from page A9

with fermentation.

For most projects you just need the fruit or vegetables, water, salt, and spices. The desired ingredients are placed in a covered vessel like a Stoneware Pickling Crock. Weights are used to keep the fruit and vegetables submerged in water throughout the fermentation process.

Consider smaller fermentation kits for those with limited space. A three-liter glass jar with an air-lock lid and ceramic weights will allow you to ferment small quantities of vegetables.

Reduce the workload and boost the enjoyment for those making tomato juice, sauces, and soups. Hand crank and electric tomato presses, strainers and sauce makers allow gardeners to separate the skins and seeds from the tomato meat for quicker and easier processing.

Giving a gift that helps preserve flavors from the recipient's garden will be useful and remembered for seasons to come.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening* and *Midwest Gardener's Handbook*, 2nd Edition.

Photo Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company

Tomato press and sauce makers turn garden-ripe tomatoes into a seed-free, skin-free sauce with the turn of a handle.

tion. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the *Melinda's Garden Moment* TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Gardener's Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



POLICE

continued from page A13

served; 6:24 p.m.: ambulance (Brookside Drive), transported; 7:43 p.m.: investigation (Rawson Street), report taken; 8:53 p.m.: disturbance (Wildwood Lane), services rendered; 9:17 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street, Worcester), transported; 9:27 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 9:28 p.m.: suspicious mv (Memorial School Drive), spoken to; 9:33 p.m.: ambulance (Hemlock Street), transported; 10:15 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:36 p.m.: ambulance (Riedl Place, Worcester), transported.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5

1:06 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 1:52 a.m.: residential alarm (Parker Street), resolved; 4:58 a.m.: ambulance (Green Street), transported; 9:45 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 10:33 a.m.: ambulance (White Birch Street), transported; 10:45 a.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported; 11:49 a.m.: accident (Soojians Drive), report taken; 12:33 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), call canceled; 1:17 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 1:19 p.m.:

family problem (Craig Street), services rendered; 3:54 p.m.: larceny (Soojians Drive), report taken; 4:27 p.m.: assist citizen (White Birch Street); 5:57 p.m.: investigation (Pleasant Street), report taken; 6:18 p.m.: ambulance (Parker Street), transported; 9:55 p.m.: suspicious activity (Towtaid Street), spoken to; 10:19 p.m.: assist other agency (White Birch Street), services rendered.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 6

1:54 a.m.: welfare check (Shady Lane), resolved; 7:05 a.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), referred to ACO; 8:12 a.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported; 11:44 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 11:52 a.m.: neighbor dispute (Stone Ridge Drive), resolved; 1:11 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), assisted; 2:49 p.m.: disturbance (Shelter Ridge Road), gone on arrival; 3:53 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 5:13 p.m.: investigation (Stone Ridge Road), report taken; 8:30 p.m.: assist other PD (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 9:52 p.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), gone on arrival.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 7

9:40 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), transported; 11:10 a.m.: ambulance (Second Street), transported;

12:14 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 12:17 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 2:40 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 3:40 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), spoken to; 3:50 p.m.: ambulance (Mayfield Street, Worcester), transported; 4:52 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 4:58 p.m.: family problem (Towtaid Street), spoken to; 5:21 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Grove Street), spoken to; 7:15 p.m.: ambulance (Shady Lane), transported; 8:55 p.m.: ambulance (Whitemore Street), transported; 11:38 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

1:23 a.m.: suspicious mv (Mulberry Street), spoken to; 1:54 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), spoken to; 2:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:57 a.m.: ambulance (Brickyard Road), transported; 8:43 a.m.: ambulance (Winslow Avenue), transported; 10:00 a.m.: mutual aid (Salem Street, Spencer), transported to hospital; 10:42 a.m.: welfare check (Towtaid Street), services rendered; 12:17 p.m.: assist citizen (King Street Extension); 12:21 p.m.: ambulance (Scott Lane), transported; 12:25 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians

Drive), transported; 1:06 p.m.: trespassing (Stafford Street), services rendered; 4:12 p.m.: trespassing (Hemlock Street), unfounded; 4:22 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), resolved; 5:05 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), served; 5:09 p.m.: summons service (South Main Street), served.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9

12:44 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), resolved; 2:00 a.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), unfounded; 9:27 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:45 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 1:17 p.m.: accident (White Birch Street), investigated; 2:12 p.m.: investigation (Paxton Street), report taken; 4:07 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Main Street), unable to serve; 4:20 p.m.: debris in road (Stafford Street), removed; 4:40 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Stafford Street), report taken; 4:44 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 6:28 p.m.: parking complaint (Boyd Street), services rendered; 6:45 p.m.: fraud (South Main Street), referred; 9:59 p.m.: suspicious mv (Towtaid Street), services rendered; 10:35 p.m.: ambulance (Lodi Street, Worcester), transported.

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