



SPENCER NEW LEADER

Spencer police lieutenant honored for assisting the homeless



Courtesy

Spencer Police Lt. Norman Hodgerney (second from left) was recently honored for his efforts to reduce homelessness in town.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – A local organization recently celebrated Spencer Police Department Lt. Norman Hodgerney's commitment to assisting those without a home.

On March 27, Hodgerney was named the "Homelessness Hero of the Year" for 2023 during an awards ceremony held by the Central Massachusetts

Housing Alliance.

Hodgerney was joined at the event by SPD Chief Michael Befford, Spencer Town Administrator Jeffrey Bridges, and fellow first responders from throughout central Massachusetts.

"Lt. Hodgerney epitomizes what it means to be a servant leader in a community," Bridges said. "For many years, Lt. Hodgerney has dedicated himself

to public safety and the effective enforcement of the law. Lt. Hodgerney's recent work with the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, Open Sky, and the staff of the Spencer Senior Center, to laser focus resources on the town's homeless population, shows his strength of character as a person, his compassion, and his leadership on addressing homelessness in Spencer."

Beginning in January 2023, the Open Sky community organization teamed up with the Spencer Police Department to assist homeless populations in town.

During one of the earliest projects of their mission, Hodgerney worked with Open Sky housing team member Ashley Leiton for a "Point in Time Count" initiative. The goal of this annual census program is to document the number of homeless people living in town.

After 18 homeless individuals were identified in Spencer during the count, Hodgerney and his partners from Open Sky, the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance, and the Senior Center worked hard over the next year-plus to offer resources and assistance. Their efforts resulted in all but one of the homeless community members securing a safe place to live.

"With the rising cost of rents and utilities, more and more people and families are falling on hard times. We are just doing our small part in helping to provide resources to help," Senior Center Director April Caruso told the New Leader in a previous interview. "It has been my pleasure to work alongside these other great entities."

Additionally, the community stepped up over the past year to offer donations and support for those in need.

Since the pandemic struck in 2020, homelessness has sharply risen nationwide due to high costs, lost jobs, substance use struggles, and mental health impacts, among others.

In addition to the work done by Hodgerney, Leiton, and Caruso in support of homeless populations, the following officials and community members have also

Turn To **HODGERNEY** page **A11**

Late season storm brings wind, snow, sleet to region



Courtesy

Spencer emergency crews responded to Paxton Road after a fallen tree and wires blocked the road during last week's storm.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Just when it seemed a lackluster winter was ready to fade quietly away, Mother Nature wasn't fooling around in the first week of April.

With shovels having been replaced by rakes in many yards—and bags of rock salt replaced by topsoil and other garden supplies in stores—residents were caught by surprise on April 3 & 4, when a strong storm walloped the region with wind, snow, and sleet.

The storm downed trees and branches across the area, leading to road closures and thousands of power outages.

In Leicester, Parker Street was closed due to a fallen tree. Crews responded to similar incidents across town on April 4.

In Sturbridge, National Grid crews were dispatched to Leadmine Road after trees and power lines came down.

Spencer responders were also kept busy with an array of calls. Among other responses, the fire department was dispatched to Paxton Road for reports of a tree and live wires blocking the road.

A large section of Spencer lost power during the storm, and Town Hall saw a delayed opening on April 4. Other municipal buildings throughout the area were also affected by the storm.

"We have numerous roads closed and impassable due to trees and wires down," read a statement released by the Spencer Police Department on April 4.

In Holland, crews worked quickly after sections of both Wales Road and North Wales Road were closed due to fallen branches, trees, and wires.

Schools throughout the region were also closed on April 4, including the Tantasqua Regional School District, the Quaboag Regional School District, the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, and Leicester Public Schools. After many districts saw

Turn To **STORM** page **A12**

Alleged shooter in Pleasant Street killing faces additional charges

LEICESTER – Already indicted on a murder charge in connection with the fatal shooting at a Pleasant Street business last November, a Leicester man is facing additional charges related to a non-fatal shooting last summer.

Marcel Santos-Padgett, 31, was charged with murder in the death of Yueping Zhang, 34, who was found deceased inside Angie's Body Work Spa at 383 Pleasant St. on Nov. 23, 2023.

Last month, a Worcester County Grand Jury delivered indictments against Santos-Padgett on three counts, including murder, possession of a loaded firearm while not at home or work, and possession of a firearm while not at home or work.

Santos-Padgett was also charged in connection with a shooting incident that occurred on Aug. 20, 2023, at approximately 2:40 a.m. on Illinois Street, according to Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr. A woman was not hurt after being shot at during the incident.

A Worcester Police investigation into the Pleasant Street homicide resulted in evidence that led to the charges against Santos-Padgett in the Illinois Street shooting, officials said.

Santos-Padgett was indicted on the additional charges of armed assault with intent to murder; possession of a loaded firearm while not at home or work; and possession of a firearm while not at home or work.

On Nov. 24, Santos-Padgett was arrested for his alleged involvement in the Pleasant Street shooting on the charge of armed assault with intent to murder. On Dec. 13, he was charged with murder in Worcester Central District Court.

The indictment moves the case to Worcester Superior Court.

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LMS students celebrate music with March Mania

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Epic battles and brackets aren't just reserved for college sports, as local student-musicians discovered by participating in the March Mania program last month.


Hosted by The President's Own Marine Band, the annual "Sousa's March Mania" tournament pits 32 musical marches against each other, with voters deciding which one will ultimately be crowned as the year's champion march.



Courtesy

Turn To **MUSIC** page **A12** Leicester Middle School students celebrate a recent music program.

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Hydrant Flushing**



The West Brookfield Water Department will be flushing hydrants April 22 through May 3rd during the hours of 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Flushing will cause some disturbance in the water mains. The water may appear cloudy but will eventually dissipate. *Please plan water use accordingly.*

Local author teams up with Australian songwriter

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Local author Wendy O’Leary is inspiring readers here at home and internationally, recently receiving a thrilling surprise from the other side of the world.

A few months ago, O’Leary heard from Australian-based singer-songwriter Lyndsie Storer, who was so inspired after reading one of O’Leary’s children’s books that she decided to write a song based on it.

Released late last month, the song hit number one on the Australian iTunes charts in the children’s music category. Aply named “It’s OK” in honor of O’Leary’s book (“It’s OK: Being Kind to Yourself When Things Feel Hard”), the song shares the same positive

messaging with youngsters through a different medium.

“I was so touched when Lyndsie reached out to say she had written a song inspired by my book. To know that my book impacted her as a songwriter, a mom, and a mindfulness teacher enough to share its message in a song meant so much to me,” O’Leary told the New Leader. “I actually got a little teary the first time I listened to it, as I imagined all the children and families this song could help teach about how to be kind to themselves when things feel hard.”

Regardless of whether kids read O’Leary’s book here in the U.S., or listen to Storer’s song more than 10,000 miles away in Australia, they will receive uplifting messages that transcend borders and connect us all.

The unlikely long-distance friendship between the artists also conveys the power of creativity and its ability to reach audiences through translation to multiple forms.

“Music is such a powerful teaching tool, and Lyndsie so beautifully conveys the message in the book—a message I am passionate about and one I believe is so needed,” added O’Leary, who was born in Worcester and now lives in Spencer. “She shares it in such a sweet, kind, gentle way with this very catchy tune.”

O’Leary’s book serves as a helpful instructional tool for families, teaching kids about the importance of self-compassion, especially during challenging times.

“It reminds children that feelings are normal, and sometimes things are hard for everyone,” O’Leary said. “It uses a specific skill to practice being our own kind friend at those times. The skill is repeated throughout the book so that children—and their grown-ups—can practice as they read along and begin making it a habit to be kinder to themselves through the hard times.”

For Storer, who also serves as an author and a children’s mindfulness practitioner, it has been an honor to take the messages in O’Leary’s book and deliver them to children in Australia.

“We share a passion for helping children to deal with big emotions and to show self-compassion and kindness,” Storer said. “Her book, ‘It’s OK,’ is one of my favorites, as it is such a beautiful example of teaching children self-compassion in a gentle way.”

For the release of her song, Storer chose a date with special significance. Both the song and the book continue to get strong feedback from families worldwide.

“It was extra special that she released on March 28, the one-year anniversary of my book’s publication,” O’Leary said. “Though she lives so far away, it is inspiring to work with Lyndsie to share such an important message together.”

The song can be streamed on multiple



Courtesy
Spencer author Wendy O’Leary continues to inspire the community with her writing.

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Friday’s Child



Hi! Our names are Giavanna and Xander and we are so excited to meet our forever family!

Giavanna (Gia) and Xander are sweet, soft-spoken siblings. Gia loves to read, write, and try new things, such as taking piano lessons! She is described as very smart, happy, funny, and often offers help when she sees someone who needs it. Gia gets along well with all her peers, and her teacher says she is an excellent student and a “joy in class.”

Gia’s younger brother Xander loves to play video games, board games, and Legos. He also likes basketball and takes drum lessons. Once you get to know him, Xander is very funny and witty and comes up with great one-liner jokes!

Gia and Xander would do well in a loving, two-parent household. A family for Gia and Xander would support their relationships with their three younger siblings, who they see monthly. Both Gia and Xander do well in the family setting and enjoy activities such as watching movies, playing games, and going out together.

<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/children/8342-8343>

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

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

music platforms, as well as on YouTube.

Looking ahead, O’Leary is eager to reach even more families and continue to spread positive messaging for young people.

“I have had wonderful feedback about this book and how it is helping people. I have been so moved by the number of people sharing stories about times when their children use all or part of the refrain in the book when they are struggling with something,” O’Leary said. “Or they put their hand on their heart, as is suggested in the book, and take some mindful breaths.”

O’Leary has heard from many families who read the book as part of their evening rituals with children. Even adults without children have found the book to be a valuable tool.

“What has been the most surprising—and has impacted me deeply—is the number of adults I have heard from saying that they, too, find this book a powerful tool for their own healing and self-care,” O’Leary said. “Many have said this is the book they needed as a child and one they still need now.”

Storer encourages families to explore both the book and the song to discover positive messaging.

“It is such a beautiful feeling knowing that children are enjoying my music, and I can only hope that this song helps children to treat themselves with kindness and show self-compassion when they are experiencing big emotions,” Storer said.

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Special event aims to connect families with mental health service providers

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Local service providers are invited to participate in a community celebration of learning next month.

Slated for Wednesday, May 8, the event will take place at North Brookfield

Elementary School from 5-7 p.m. The program is designed to strengthen connections between the North Brookfield School District, families, and mental health service providers in the community.

them in our area,” read a statement released by North Brookfield Public Schools Interim Superintendent Tim McCormick.

The event will offer community partners the opportunity to showcase their services and interact directly with members of the school community, providing them with valuable information.

The highlight of the evening will be a keynote speech delivered by acclaimed guest speaker,

actor, and comedian John Morello. The speech is scheduled for 6 p.m.

“John’s unique blend of humor and insight is sure to inspire and entertain all attendees. In addition, we will be serving pizza to ensure that the evening is not only informative but also enjoyable for families attending,” McCormick’s statement read.

If you are a

service provider who would like to take part in the event, please notify Cindy Schofield by Friday, April 19. You

can reach Schofield by email at: cschofield@nbschools.org.

SPENCER ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

BROOKFIELD

\$360,000, 7 Kimball St, Porter, Clement H, to Mccrohan, Paul J, and Mccrohan, Katelynn M.

\$310,000, 1 Lake View Ave, Leavitt, Marissa E, and Leavitt, Dina, to Stamatakis, Keith, and Stamatakis, Theresa.

EAST BROOKFIELD

\$400,000, 116 Howe St, Coran, Colleen E, to Kruzewski, Michael, and Demars, Raimee.

LEICESTER

\$535,000, 18 Pleasant St, Nye, Kenneth, and Nye, Ann M, to Mendez, David.

\$535,000, 20 Pleasant St, Nye, Kenneth, and Nye, Ann M, to Mendez, David.

\$485,000, 25 Pleasant St #A, Ayers & Digioia LLC, to Wang, Yanxiu.

\$405,000, 209 Clark St, Lsf8 Master Part T, and U S Bank TNa Tr, to Wallman, Andrew J, and Wallman, Samuel M.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

None

SPENCER

\$475,000, 2 Sherwood Dr, Johnson, Michael, to Savickas, Casey E, and Thurston, Maxwell E.

\$380,000, 29 Westland Dr, Simonovitch, Richard V, and Simonovitch, Mary A, to Chalifoux, Matthew R.

\$355,000, 10 Linden St, 10 Linden Street Re LLC, to Lawson, Richard.

WARREN

\$290,000, 132 Comins Pond Rd, Walters, Joshua, to Mazzone, Ashley.

WEST BROOKFIELD

\$320,000, 127 W Main St, Hibbard, Ryan, to Desrochers, Cruz, and Desrochers, Layne.

This event promises to be an engaging opportunity for families to celebrate our district and learn more about the resources available to

Volunteers needed to help clean up Spencer

SPENCER – The Spencer Conservation Commission and the David Prouty High School community invite you to join a town cleanup project this month.

The community event will take place on Saturday, April 27. Volunteers will meet at Town Hall (157 Main St.) for registration at 9 a.m.

Cleanup projects will take place from 9 a.m.-noon.

Lunch and refreshments will be provided to volunteers after the cleanup efforts.

To register for participation in advance of the event, please visit the town Web site, www.spencerma.gov.

P.E.T. of the Week

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Hello there, lovely people! My name is Loki, and I'm here to introduce you to the joy and love that I bring into every room I enter. Despite being a senior, I've still got the heart of a puppy and the energy to match! You see, I've got a playful spirit that just won't quit. Whether it's chasing after a ball, going for a brisk walk, or curling up for some cuddles, I'm always ready for some fun and affection. Age is just a number, right? Now, I'll admit it – I can be a bit nervous around men. But with patience, understanding, and gentle care, I know I can overcome my fears and learn to trust again. All I need is someone who's willing to take the time to earn my trust and show me that there's nothing to be afraid of. If you choose to adopt me, you'll gain a loyal companion who will fill your days with endless joy, laughter, and love. I can't wait to find my forever home and become the cherished member of the family that I know I was meant to be. Oh, and did I mention that I love going on hikes? It's true! Exploring the great outdoors is one of my favorite pastimes. However, I do need to work on my leash manners a bit. You see, I get so excited while exploring that I can be quite strong on the leash. So, I'll need someone who can handle my exuberance and help me become the best hiking buddy I can be. So, if you're ready to open your heart and home to a sweet senior like me, please consider giving me a chance. I promise to fill your life with love, laughter, and unforgettable adventures. Let's make each day an exciting new journey together!



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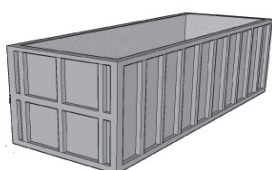


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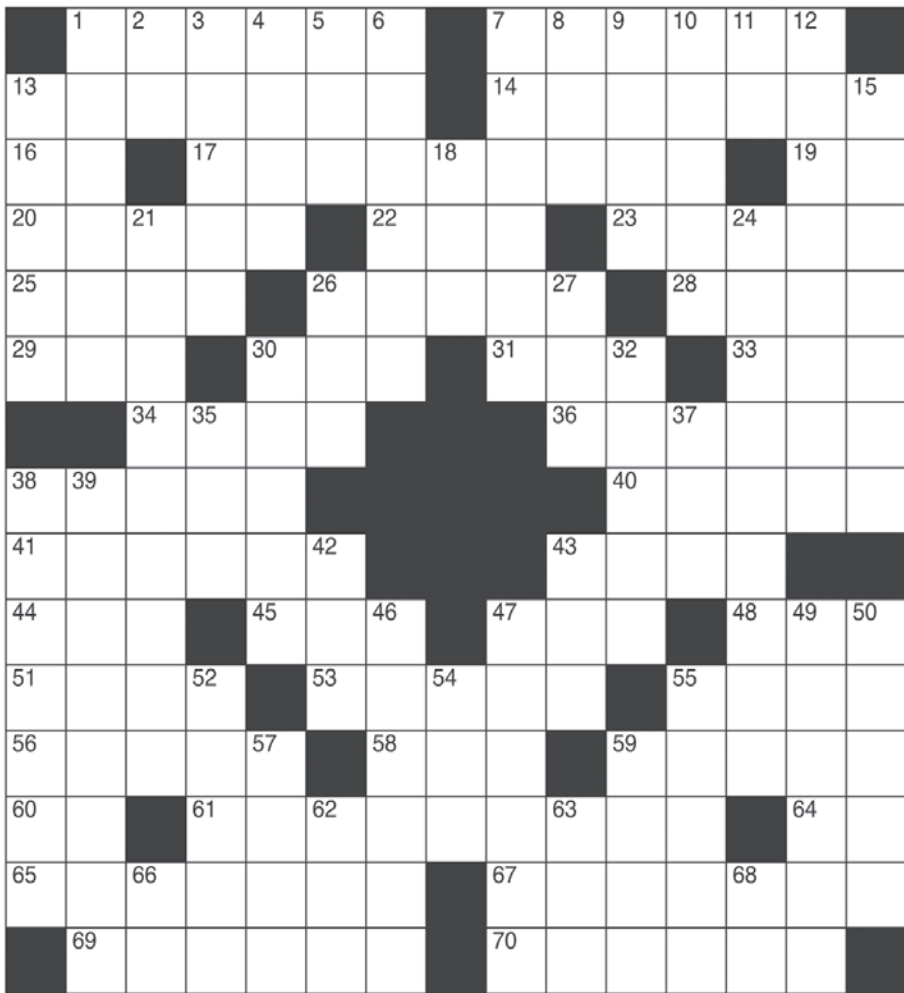
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Island nation
- 7. Platforms
- 13. Project plan
- 14. French fishing port
- 16. South Dakota
- 17. Oakland's baseball team
- 19. Military policeman
- 20. Ornamental stone
- 22. Garland
- 23. Process that produces ammonia
- 25. Mousses
- 26. Music notation "dal _"
- 28. Fail to win
- 29. Peyton's little brother
- 30. Not near
- 31. Some cars still need it
- 33. Lizard genus
- 34. An idiot (Brit.)
- 36. Postponed
- 38. African country
- 40. Gazes unpleasantly
- 41. In a way, traveled
- 43. Ukraine's capital
- 44. Appropriate
- 45. Dash
- 47. Twitch
- 48. Swiss river
- 51. Data file with computer animations
- 53. City in S. Korea
- 55. Particular region
- 56. They have eyes and noses
- 58. Tear
- 59. Large Madagascan lemur
- 60. Not out
- 61. Ornamental saddle covering
- 64. A driver's license is one
- 65. Latin term for charity
- 67. Rechristens
- 69. Objects from an earlier time
- 70. Hindu male religious teachers

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Used as a weapon
- 2. Yukon Territory
- 3. Makes a map of
- 4. An established ceremony prescribed by a religion
- 5. Unnilhexium
- 6. Merchant
- 7. Playing the field
- 8. Folk singer DiFranco
- 9. Something to scratch
- 10. Mexican agave
- 11. Equal to one quintillion bytes
- 12. Session
- 13. North American people
- 15. Ranches
- 18. Electroencephalograph
- 21. A type of compound
- 24. Avenue
- 26. High schoolers' test
- 27. A type of meal
- 30. Gradually disappeared
- 32. Ancient Frankish law code
- 35. Popular pickup truck
- 37. Buzzing insect
- 38. Deal illegally
- 39. Lying in the same plane
- 42. Obstruct
- 43. Related
- 46. Challenge aggressively
- 47. Nocturnal hoofed animals
- 49. Bird's nests
- 50. Forays
- 52. ___ B. de Mille, filmmaker
- 54. Title of respect
- 55. One-time name of Vietnam
- 57. Self-immolation by fire ritual
- 59. Private school in New York
- 62. Political action committee
- 63. A way to fashion
- 66. Email reply
- 68. "The Great Lake State"



Cornerstone Bank honors Leicester Branch Market Manager with TRUST Award

LEICESTER — Every year, Cornerstone Bank awards an employee who goes above and beyond their daily duties with its prestigious TRUST Award. This year, the bank honored Sara Seaver, assistant vice president, senior market manager in Leicester, who has taken on increasing responsibilities throughout her 14-year tenure.

"We bestow our TRUST Award upon employees who truly shine and exemplify Cornerstone's core values of Teamwork, Relationships, User-friendliness, Solutions-based and Transparency," said Todd Tallman, CEO of Cornerstone Bank. "Sara is an incredibly valued employee who demonstrates her commitment to our customers and community every day. She goes out of her way to make everyone feel valued."

A resident of Leicester, Seaver started her Cornerstone career as a part-time teller and progressed through a variety of roles with increasing responsibilities—such as senior teller, customer relations manager and market manager—before becoming an assistant



Sara Seaver

vice president, senior market manager.

Throughout her career, Seaver has received several other recognitions for her length of service and work in her community. She is a member of the Leicester Business Association

and Firefighters Association, serves on the Leicester Harvest Fair and Tree Lighting committees, and is a member of Cornerstone's Scholarship and Employee Wellness committees.

Special guests share love of reading at EBES



Courtesy

Community guests visit East Brookfield Elementary School to share their love of reading with students.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD – Guests from throughout the community recently visited East Brookfield Elementary School to share their love of reading.

On March 28, EBES welcomed more than a dozen guests for Community Reading Day. The event was organized by EBES leaders Christine Lavin and Meaghan Pope.

"Community Reading Day is an exciting event at East Brookfield Elementary School. It is the culmination of our reading month," Lavin said. "We always have a great response when we reach out to the community for readers. This year was no exception. We contacted area businesses and community members, and all were very happy and excited to volunteer their time to come read to the students."

Readers at this year's program included State Representative Donald Berthiaume, Senator Peter Durant, East Brookfield Finance Committee member Mark Carpentier, Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Superintendent Paul Haughey, School Committee members, local business leaders, and a member of the East Brookfield Police Department.

"The students look forward to this day every year. They love meeting different people from the community," Lavin added. "They are captivated as they sit and listen to the readers."

Haughey always enjoys his opportunities to read to youngsters. For this year's book selection, he read "Not Your Typical Dragon" by Dan Bar-el.

"March is designated as National Reading Month—a month to motivate people of all ages to read every day," Haughey said. "This is my favorite time of year in school because we get to read aloud to our students and have community members join us in the festivities and celebrations."

Business leaders also appreciate the opportunity to visit the school, meet students, and share some of their favorite books.

"We are thrilled to have our drivers share their love of reading with the children. Events like this strengthen our EBES community, and we are happy to volunteer for such a wonderful program," said Melody Miller, a member of the AA Transportation leadership team.

School officials thank all guests who visited the school for Community Reading Day. EBES always receives a strong lineup of community guests for its programs, including the annual Field Day and Sixth Grade Sendoff ceremonies.

"We would like to extend our thanks to all the community members that came in to read to the children. This is a perfect example showing what a wonderful, caring community we live in," Lavin told the New Leader.

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Local Applicants Help Wanted

Cierra Rossi named to Champlain College Dean's List

BURLINGTON, Vt. — Cierra Rossi of Brookfield was named to the Champlain College Dean's List for the Fall 2023 semester.

Students on the Dean's List have achieved a grade point average of 3.5 or higher during the semester. Rossi is

currently majoring in Professional Writing.

Making the Dean's List is a tremendous achievement. Many of the high achievers balance their career-focused classes with jobs, internships, clubs, and volunteering. We congratulate them on this great accomplish-

ment and honor.

Founded in 1878, Champlain College is a small, not-for-profit, private college in Burlington, Vermont, with additional campuses in Montreal, Canada, and Dublin, Ireland. Champlain offers a traditional undergraduate

experience from its beautiful campus overlooking Lake Champlain and more than 90 residential undergraduate and online undergraduate and graduate degree programs and certificates. Champlain's distinctive career-driven approach to higher education

embodies the notion that true learning occurs when information and experience come together to create knowledge. Champlain ranks in multiple categories of U.S. News and World Report's "Best Colleges;" is included in The Princeton Review's 2024 list of

"The Best 389 Colleges;" was named a 2023-2024 College of Distinction for Education, Business and Career Development; and was awarded one of America's Best Colleges by Money for combining quality and affordability. www.champlain.edu

Enjoy and protect hydrangeas from hungry deer



Melinda Myers

Hydrangeas are a favorite of hungry deer making them susceptible to severe damage so strategies to protect these plants are recommended.

Low maintenance, beautiful flowers, and plenty of varieties have made hydrangeas a favorite landscape plant. It seems you can't visit a garden center or nursery without being tempted by one of the traditional favorites or newer hydrangea varieties.

Despite their easy-care nature, hungry deer can make it difficult to fully enjoy these plants. Rutgers University rates landscape plants based on their susceptibility to deer damage. According to Rutgers, hydrangeas are occasionally severely damaged by deer, meaning they are a plant preferred by deer and protection is advised. Your experience may be different and can vary from year to year, but it is always wise to be prepared to protect key plants in your landscape.

Deer like to browse leaves, tender shoots, flower buds, and blossoms. Damage is worse when populations are high, food is scarce, and when environmental stresses like cold and deep snow are present. Once deer find a place to dine, they tend to return. Their damage has a rough or torn appearance as opposed to a clean cut like that made by a pruner. Preventing damage is always the best way to maximize your enjoyment. Even if your plants have escaped damage in the past, continue to watch for deer tracks, droppings, and plant damage.

Fencing is one option but not always the most attractive or practical. An eight-foot fence is the recommended height



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

less obtrusive fence. Always check with your local municipality for any fencing restrictions.

Many gardeners report success using high-test fishing line. Create a barrier using strong five-foot posts with the fishing line spaced at two-foot intervals.

Scare tactics may provide some short-term help. Motion-sensitive sprinklers, noise makers, and smells are often used. Several gardeners reported success placing colorful wine bottles inverted over rebar posts. The rattling helped discourage deer browsing and added an ornamental element to the garden. Change scare tactics to increase success.

Place key plants closer to your home, in the back of large beds, or surrounded by less susceptible plants. Making it hard to reach the plants can help discourage damage to hydrangeas.

Repellents are another option. Treat

susceptible plants before the deer start browsing for the best results. Look for a rain and snow-resistant product, like organic Plantskydd (plantskydd.com), which does not need to be reapplied as often. That means you'll save time applying and spend less money.

Maximize results by treating new growth according to the label directions. Most liquid repellents need time to dry and can only be applied when temperatures are above freezing. Always check the label for the product being applied and follow the directions for the best results.

Continue to monitor the landscape for signs of deer presence and damage and adjust your management strategies as needed. Be persistent so you can increase your success.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *The Midwest Gardener's Handbook*, 2nd Edition and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda's Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Tree World Plant Care* for her expertise in writing this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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EDITORIAL

The allure of outer space and eclipses

Humanity's fascination with outer space and celestial events like eclipses stretches back to the dawn of our existence. From ancient civilizations to modern-day space agencies, the allure of the cosmos has captured our imaginations and sparked a colossal sense of wonder and curiosity. But what is it about outer space and eclipses that continues to captivate us?

One of the most undeniable reasons is the utter scale and mystery of the universe. Outer space represents the ultimate frontier, a vast expanse of uncharted territory waiting to be explored. The unfathomable distances between stars and galaxies, the enigmatic nature of black holes, and the possibility of extraterrestrial life all contribute to a sense of awe and intrigue. The exploration of outer space offers us the chance to push the boundaries of our knowledge and understanding, to uncover the secrets of the cosmos, and to answer some of humanity's most weighty questions about our place in the universe.

Eclipses, in particular, hold a special place because they offer a tangible connection to the cosmos. These rare celestial events, where the sun, moon, and Earth align in perfect harmony, produce breathtaking displays of light and shadow that captivate millions of people around the world. Whether it's a solar eclipse, where the moon passes between the sun and Earth, casting a temporary shadow on our planet, or a lunar eclipse, where Earth's shadow falls across the surface of the moon, eclipses remind us of the beauty and grandeur of the universe.

Moreover, eclipses have played a significant role in shaping human history and culture. Ancient civilizations viewed eclipses as omens or portents, often interpreting them as signs from the gods. Today, eclipses continue to inspire awe and wonder, bringing people together to witness these rare cosmic events firsthand. Whether it's through scientific expeditions to observe and study eclipses or community gatherings to marvel at their beauty, eclipses have a way of uniting us in our shared sense of wonder and appreciation for the cosmos.

In addition to their aesthetic appeal, outer space and eclipses also hold immense scientific value. Studying the cosmos allows us to better understand the fundamental laws of nature, from the forces that govern the motion of celestial bodies to the origins of the universe itself. Eclipses provide scientists with unique opportunities to conduct experiments and observations that would be impossible under normal circumstances, offering valuable insights into everything from solar physics to the dynamics of Earth's atmosphere.

Furthermore, our fascination with outer space and eclipses speaks to something deeper within us – a primal instinct to explore, to seek out new frontiers, and to push the boundaries of what is possible.

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

Military suckers and losers

To the Editor:

Richard Beltran wrote "Kimball claims that Trump called veterans 'suckers and losers.' This claim is made by left leaning sites. And cannot be independently corroborated. It's another smear tactic that the looney left uses in their continuous effort to disparage Trump. That's my opinion." It is opinion, not fact. Facts can be corroborated.

In October 2023, Jake Tapper interviewed General John Kelly, Donald Trump's longest serving chief of staff. Kelly described Trump as a "person that thinks those who defend their country in uniform, or are shot down or seriously wounded in combat, or spend years being tortured as POWs are all 'suckers' because 'there is nothing in it for them.' A person that did not want to be seen in the presence of military amputees because 'it doesn't look good for me.' A person who demonstrated open contempt for a Gold Star family – for all Gold Star families – on TV during

the 2016 campaign, and rants that our most precious heroes who gave their lives in America's defense are 'losers' and wouldn't visit their graves in France."

General Kelly lost his son in Afghanistan; Trump's attitudes on military sacrifice must have stung him.

"There is nothing more that can be said," Kelly concluded. "God help us."

This interview was not and will never be reported on by Fox, Newsmax, or OAN, so it's not surprising that Mr. Beltran knew nothing about it.

Trump has since declared Kelly to be a "lowlife with small brain and big mouth."

General Kelly, lifelong Republican, career military, gold star parent, picked by Trump to be his Chief of Staff, knows what he witnessed.

ALLAN JOHANNESSEN
LEICESTER

Disinformation and alternate truth

To the Editor:

It was Kellyanne Conway who coined the term "alternate truth." George Stefanopoulos quickly asked if that did not just mean lies. Brother Belton was quite correct in my having mixed up Orban of Hungary with Bolsinaro of Brasil. Both are largely cut from the same cloth. Regardless of the title you assign to them, like Putin or Kim, as DJT pointed out while hosting Orban at Mara Lago, whatever he says goes "as it should be." He was just acknowledging total control of elections, courts, legislature, press. To my thinking, Prime Minister means something different in different countries.

I won't even bother commenting on what special GOP prosecutor Hur said, because I took the opportunity to watch Biden's entire state of the union speech, which made it quite clear that age and ability are very different things. I am baffled at how any level of the constant barrage of disinformation, that has become the new normal, can distort that the stock market has never been higher, unemployment lowest in 60 years, worldwide inflation post pandemic, slowly coming down, wages up more than inflation rate, more fossil fuel production than ever in history.

Did you ever hear the expression "As the rich get richer, the poor get poorer?" For those who keep flip flopping between acting like dealing with the deficit is vital, sometimes even threatening not to raise debt limit to pay money already spent, but justifying Trump's \$8 trillion deficit, while hoping he can deliver "the largest tax cut ever" which, like his last one, mainly helps millionaires. Does it not occur to you, that the fat cats who control (or do not on purpose) inflation (rents, banks, gasoline and utilities) are just getting richer, and support the party of the rich with that wealth, doing a great job convincing you to vote against your interests. In many cases, because it is your tradition.

One piece of advice I will never retract is "Follow the money." I saw a reference to the Biden family deriving \$24 million from China. What we peons probably do not realize, is how small a number that is in the scale of things. It is probably similar to the Saudi's renting a whole floor in the Trump D.C. hotel for his whole term. Jared's and Menuchin's commissions on the billions of Saudi money they manage will also dwarf that. Watch this space as the Saudis take first the PGA and watch what follows. Who will profit from Saudi financed tournaments at their golf clubs?

Hopefully, the New York Stormy payoff trial will get the felony conviction for individual #1 that it got for Michael Cohen, Trump's lawyer. Do not be confused thinking it is about paying for sex. The crime, much like the Florida documents, is the cover-up of the truth. Truth has proved to

be the enemy of virtually everything about Donald the mob boss Trump. Like everyone who tries to hold him to the same standards, as the rest of us, even winning is bittersweet. E. Jean Carroll is not the only woman he grabbed, but having your life threatened daily and having to move off the grid and live in obscurity, had insufficient appeal for the others. From mere election workers, to judges, prosecutors and jurors, the threats and intimidation just are not worth it. The attorney that Fani Willis hired, whom she had dated, was brave enough to take the job when her other choices refused the risks to them and their families. Some do not need a horse head or black rose, to understand the risk.

I believe it is Arizona where all registered voters are given a mail in ballot and there are no polls to go to. If you are paying any attention, you know that there are many places focused on voter suppression- plain, clear and simple- inadequate numbers and locations and capacity at voting locations, long lines, no water distribution- intimidation at the highest levels. A real democracy would even make election day a holiday. Instead, we celebrate with fireworks hot dogs and beer-not democracy. One of Trumps stolen election claims is vote by mail, during a pandemic that he botched. If you think immigrants are animals, women should not make their own health choices or have a vote — cry for our country. Do not thank anyone for their military service, then vote for this perverted pond scum to command them.

Sorry. I am not changing my position. Trump is a con artist and a traitor. The January 6 committee laid out the details of the conspiracy. Only traitors will vote for him. Two or more grand juries have recommended charges. His puppet show in the house has killed the bipartisan bill to fix our southern border issue. This is true; look it up. He wants the border as a campaign issue, not fixed, so even though more deportations than ever, are happening, without the additional border agents, judges and drug detection equipment needed, nothing will change. Please righties, dispute my facts about the border bill Mitch McConnell called the best the GOP could ever hope for, then voted against. Much like when he voted to acquit Trump, then said it was for the courts to decide Integrity is not a word associated with either party, our courts and even police unions supporting the guy behind 140 brothers in blue being beaten, gassed and trampled.

Indications are that the partisan disinformation network, will add China to Iran and Russia to the cadre of Fox watching disinformation peddlers.

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD

Slow and steady: A smart way to invest



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You've probably heard stories about fortunate investors who "get in on the ground floor" of a new, hot company and quickly make a fortune. But while these things may happen, they are exceedingly rare and often depend on hard-to-duplicate circumstances — and they really don't represent a viable way of investing for one's goals. A far more tried-and-true approach is the "slow-and-steady" method.

To follow this strategy, consider these suggestions:

Start small — and add more when you can. When you're first starting out in the working world, you may not have a lot of extra money with which to invest, especially if you're carrying student loan debt. But one of the key advantages of the slow-and-steady method is that it does not require large investment sums to get going. If you can afford to put away even \$50 or \$100 a month into individual stocks or mutual funds, month after month, you may be surprised and pleased at how your account can grow. And when your salary goes up, you can put away more money each month.

Take advantage of an employer's retirement plan. If your employer offers a 401(k) or similar tax-advantaged retirement plan, try to take full advantage of it. Again, if you're just beginning your career, you may not be able to put away much in this type of plan, but even a small amount is better than nothing. And as soon as you can possibly afford it, try to put in enough to earn your employer's matching contribution, if one is offered. These types of plans can offer some key benefits — and perhaps the biggest one is that investing is automatic, in that the money is moved directly from your paycheck into the investments you've chosen within your 401(k) or other plan.

Be prepared for downturns. The financial markets will always experience ups and downs. So, you need to be prepared for those times when your investment statements may show negative results. By understanding that these downturns are a normal part of the investment environment, you can avoid overreactions, such as selling quality investments with good fundamentals just because their price has temporarily dropped.

Chart your progress regularly. A key element of a slow-and-steady investment approach is knowing how well it's working. But it's important to measure your progress in a way that makes sense for you. So, for example, instead of measuring your portfolio's performance against that of an external stock market index, such as the S&P 500, you may want to assess where you are today versus one year ago, or whether the overall progress you're making is sufficient to help you meet the financial goals you've set for yourself well into the future. Another reason not to use a market index as a measuring tool is that the index only looks at a certain pool of investments, which, in the case of the S&P 500, is simply the largest companies listed on U.S. stock exchanges. But long-term investors try to own a range of assets — U.S. and foreign stocks, bonds, government securities, certificates of deposit, and so on.

"Slow and steady" may not sound like an exciting approach to investing. But it's often the case that a little less excitement, and a lot more diligence, can prove to be quite effective.

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

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An Array of Random Tips & Tricks

Spring is here and it seems the perfect season to start a home project and/or prep for planning that backyard garden. From painting to gardening tips (and a few home remedies), read on for some "semi random" tips that seem especially appropriate to share this time of year!

**

Spring is spruce-up season, and if for you, that includes painting, try these painting pointers from the pros:

Flat Out Frugal Paint: The higher the gloss of the finish, the easier the paint is to clean. However high gloss shows imperfections, that's why flat is used. How do you get a flat finish with "washability"? Just mix a pint of gloss finish paint into each gallon of flat finish.

Timing the Job: Choose warm dry mornings to paint. Cold weather retards drying of paint and the dampness will spoil the gloss. And avoid using paint directly from

the can as this may cause contamination and prematurely age the paint. Pour the amount you expect to use in 30 minutes into a separate container.

**

Backyard gardeners are prepping for planting this month. Read on for some helpful hacks:

Beautiful Blooms: Planning a spring flower garden? For an interesting mix, plan to merge short plants with tall specimens for variety and depth, and differing textures. And don't underestimate the power of fragrance. Plan a pathway of flowers with strong floral scents to welcome visitors up to your door!

See the Light: Starting indoor seedlings and don't have greenhouse light? No worries! It is possible to achieve satisfactory results by utilizing your ordinary LED white shop lights. Gary Pilarchik of therustedgarden.com recommends 5,000 lumens or higher.

Hang the lights about two feet above the seedlings.

**

An old fashioned lore worth repeating: Long ago farmers used to use the cricket's chirp to estimate the temperature, and you can too! Just count how many chirps you hear in 15 seconds, then add 40. This will give the approximate temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

H2O2 for Plants: Hydrogen peroxide. It does much more than soothe a sore throat or clean a cut! Even your plants can benefit from H2O2. Just water or mist plants with an ounce of hydrogen peroxide in one quart water.

Produce Wash for Pennies: 'Tis the season of fresh produce - and pesticides. If you're buying a commercial produce wash, your hard earned cash may be literally going down the drain! Instead, in a spray bottle,



TAKE

THE
HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

mix two tablespoons of baking soda with one cup of water. If you want add a tablespoon of lemon juice. Spray veggies, let sit for a few minutes and rinse!

**

Garden Therapy: Here's a stat worth repeating: If you're planning a garden, you may be reaping more than healthy plants! The Horticultural Therapy Association claims simply looking at trees and vegetation reduces stress, lowers blood pressure and relieves muscle tension. Gardening can produce endorphin highs similar to those experienced when jogging or cycling!

Skip the medicine cabinet and open the kitchen cabinet to try these pan-

try cures:

It's well know that if you're drinking tea, you are boosting your immune system. But did you know studies show tea reduces the risk of some cancers? Actual tea, as opposed to herbal tea, is rich in powerful antioxidants. The National Foundation for Cancer Research reports green tea is 100 times more potent than vitamin C and 25 times more potent than vitamin E at protecting cells from cancer.

**

Have a headache? Mix two tablespoons of apple cider vinegar with two teaspoons of honey in a glass of water, drink it slowly, and get results within a half-hour. Or eat ten to twelve almonds. Experts say the almonds are equal to taking two aspirins but won't irritate your stomach.

**

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send

in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Do yourself a favor - vote for the CPA

To the Editor:

Go ahead, be selfish!

That's not what we were taught by our parents, and it's not what most of us believe or

practice. But sometimes, being selfish and doing the right thing for your town are one and the same. That's exactly the case with voting for Article 20, the Community Preservation Act, at Spencer's annual town meeting on May 4.

I've been a homeowner and taxpayer in Spencer for 40 years. My wife's family owned their family farm for 40 years before that. That's long enough to have seen how development and loss of open spaces are changing this beautiful place. Adoption of the CPA can help to preserve the character of the Spencer we know and love.

Spencer isn't just a dot on the map. It's a state of mind; it's a slice of history, it's a

treasure. And if you own a home or land here, you need to understand that the

projects funded by the CPA won't just make this a better, more wholesome community; they'll do much more than that — they'll protect and increase

the value of your property. Projects to protect open spaces, projects to preserve historic buildings, projects to give the elderly, veterans, young firemen and police officers affordable housing, projects for recreational areas, even dog parks at Luther Hill - just to name a few.

Do the math. The 1 percent CPA assessment is a tiny fraction of the growth in value of your property over the past five years. Sure, the CPA isn't the only thing supporting and increasing property values in Spencer, but it sure makes a difference. A 1% CPA surcharge on property assessed at \$380,000 is just \$32 per year.

So go ahead, be selfish. Compare the very modest cost of the CPA surcharge on your

property tax against the future growth in the value of your home with the CPA in place. And then vote for your self-interest and for the unselfish interest of everyone who lives in Spencer.

Vote for the Community Preservation Act at our annual town meeting on May 4. Vote to help keep Spencer the beautiful and vibrant place it's been for hundreds of years.

ROGER FOSS
SPENCER

When do we come into existence?

To the Editor:

When did I come into existence? I'm not like time; I have not always existed, so when did my existence begin?

I was born on March 19, 1943; did I exist before that? When, before I was born, did I become a viable human being? How long before I was born did that happen? Was it a few days or a few weeks or months? It was some time between my conception and my birthday. When that happened the question of abortion changed from my mother's rights regarding her body to my rights to my life. It's that simple; when we become viable human beings, we are

subject to protection under the law. If we are considered dead when our heart stops, perhaps we should be considered alive when our heart starts. Now, you may believe, as I do, that human life is sacred and begins at conception. That's based on my religion, and I don't believe religious beliefs should be imposed on others. But there is another law that says "Thou shalt not kill." Each of us have to decide what we believe. When would it have been OK to terminate your existence?

LEONARD IVEL
LEICESTER

Citizen Trump

To the Editor:

RFK Jr. hit it on the head. The biggest threat to democracy is the weaponization of the Washington institutions such as the CIA, FBI, and Defense/Pharma industries. They entrap politicians with honey traps and elicit monies to gain advantage over these elected officials. When they are ensnared, they no longer work for your interest, but work for the swamp institutions. They are instructed by their new bosses to fund their wars and spy on US citizens. For this, they in turn provide cover and shade for these corrupted politicians to stay in office.

These groups have extensive dossiers on the career politicians such as Biden, Schumer, Romney, Raskin, and Swalwell. Videos, pictures, and bank records detailing all types of sordid and corruption. Google former North Carolina Rep. Madison Hawthorne. He details how his colleagues tried to involve him in orgies. A guy in a wheelchair, for heaven's sake. They wanted to ensnare him, but he refused, called him nuts, etc. Once they got you on film, that's when they have them do the "Swamp Dance." You can be sure these same groups have evidence on the owners of the Big Tech firms too. These nerds all vacationed at Epstein Island, partied with P. Diddy and Harvey Weinstein. All the while being filmed having relations with young people. You don't need to believe me; you can Google the stories! In Hollywood, this has been going on for quite a while. If you're a Godly man who objects to the child trafficking, they ostracize you. Honest stand-up men like Mel Gibson, Jon Voight, or Jim Caviezel all spoke out against it and the Dem controlled

media attack them as crazy.

What's really astonishing is how little they have on Donald Trump! This man has been subjected to the most intensive investigation of any man in this world. Let's look at the only things they can come up with in that time. Obama, Hillary, Biden, and Trump all took classified records. The only one charged is Trump. You can see clearly that this is a case of selective application of justice. As JFK Jr. has stated, it's a purely political weaponization of the law to go after a political opponent. The fraud case in New York is a made charge never used against any other person. The civil trial by a New York socialite who says he improperly touched her 30 years ago. The blackmail payments to a porn star conflated as hush money.

If this is all these intelligence agencies and Democratic controlled media companies can come up with against Donald Trump, then you know the guy is a pretty stand-up dude. They have nothing to hold over or control him when you vote him into office as president. He cannot be compromised like Biden is. When Trump makes mandates, signs budget, makes foreign policy and passes laws it will those for US citizens who voted him in. If that's what you want, then vote Donald Trump. If you want a President who is a monkey dancing to the music played by his handlers, then vote for Joe. Personally, I stand with a guy I admire for being a stand-up dude. A guy who the Washington Swamp can't make their bitch. I'm voting Trump so we all can "Make America Great Again."

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

Our housing situation

To the Editor:

A couple of months ago, a letter writer complained about many things, including the cost of housing. However, the letter offered few suggestions about how to improve any of the situations. I agreed with the problems that the high cost that the housing created. This letter indicates, in a limited way, my sense of the housing situation. its' causes, and what is proposed and being done to improve the situation

To begin the situation. We have had in a number of ways, a supply and demand problem. Simply put the demand, especially for our large middle and lower income families for exceeds the amount of homes that we need. Reasons for this include the better profits that come from larger more expensive houses, the Covid epidemic, limited supplies of material and manpower and historically low interest rates (which kept mortgage payments low).

Other "big" reasons included larger sized houses and the "stuff" inside them. In terms of the larger size, during the baby boom 1950's, the size of a house stood at about 1,000 square feet. In the 1970s, it had grown to 1,500 square feet; in the early 2020s, it expanded to about 2,500 square feet, making our country "home" to about the largest family houses in the world, and of course much larger than what a family needs.

Of course, the bigger the house, the higher the cost, and probably fewer houses built.

Now let's move to what's inside the house. Back in the 1950s, houses were designed and built to comfortably meet basic shelter needs — a kitchen with a stove and refrigerator, a dining/living room, a simple bathroom and two or three small bedrooms and no garage.

Consider now what a 2020s built house often has. First, a kitchen with many more appliances, an "island" and high cost marble like working areas. Then look at the bedroom suites, with very well equipped individual bathrooms bigger than 1950 bedrooms, two car garages and various kinds of well equipped family entertainment rooms.

Combined or in part, these "extras"

beyond shelter needs cost a lot of money.

Then add on the fact that to control inflation, the Trump appointed, Biden retained, very good chairman and his colleagues at our national bank (Federal Reserve) have raised home loan interest rates, which also has raised monthly costs, as does the bigger and better the house the larger the real estate tax.

So, when it comes to housing, where do we stand now, and in what direction might go?

First the size of our houses has begun to decline, moving towards 2000 square feet.

Second, thanks to the good regulation work of the Federal Reserve, interest rates have levelled off and are projected to go lower, which will lower monthly payments.

Third, with pressure from public good organizations and the government real estate commission rates which have been about 6 percent will no longer be fixed by that industry. Rather, the rates will be determined by the free market, likely about 3 percent. This means, for example, saving \$12,000 on the sale of a \$400,000 home.

Fourth, the home building materials situation has improved. However, we continue to face construction worker shortages, both skilled and less skilled. To fill this gap we will more and more have to rely on additional immigrant workers. Without them less housing will get built and costs will increase.

Moving on, the letter gives no mention of what our now Democratic state and national governments have and are doing to improve the housing and cost situation especially for the less than wealthy majority.

At state level alone, a combination of homeowner etc. tax relief or credits and investment of nearly \$2 billion is projected to add another 44,000 homes to those planned and to rehabilitate another 12,000.

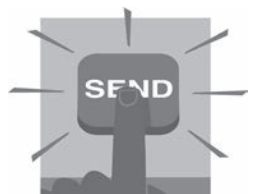
In most fronts, perfect, no, but progress, yes.

KEVIN KANE
SPENCER

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Freshwater fishing heats up



THE GREAT OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH TRUE



Courtesy

Pet is shown here with some nice large lake trout taken from Wachusett Reservoir last week.



A possible catch & release record lake trout caught at Wachusett Reservoir last week.

Wachusett Reservoir was hot last week for numerous anglers, as this week's pictures show. Trout fishing was not bad either, if you could stand the cold wind that was blowing all week.

Wallum Lake opens this Saturday, and should be a great day outdoors. The lake was stocked two times by Massachusetts, and the trout should provide some great fishing. The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club will also open their trout pond to fishing for members only.

Eastman Party boats had some slow fishing last week with spotty fishing for haddock and pollock. There were plenty of Cusks being caught. Mass. saltwater fishing regulations have changed very little from last year, with scaup increasing another inch.

Tautog fishing in both Mass. & Rhode Island should start to improve in the next two weeks. Although a three fish daily bag limit is still in effect, catching a few of these hard fighting fish are all worth the effort. Eating one of these fish can provide a meal like no other ocean fish.

Turkeys are starting to become more active in the last few days. Sightings by local hunters have increased also. The Mass. turkey season opens on April 29.

Striper migration is slowly heading our way, and anglers are only days away from catching them. The one fish daily limit is the same as last year, with a slot limit still in effect.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep them Rods Bending.



Dawn McKeon — Courtesy

As a result of the Nor'Easter, a tree fell on reader Dawn McKeon's daughter Kelley's garage on Paxton Road in Spencer. The garage and breezeway are destroyed, but fortunately, no one was injured.

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LEGALS

Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

Mohammed Nabulsi has filed an **NOI** with the Spencer Conservation Commission to construct a single-family home located at **230 North Spencer Road, Spencer, MA.**

Susan McNulty & Ray Leo have filed an **RDA** with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove a porch & add an addition located at **69 Lakeshore Drive, Spencer, MA.**

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at which time all persons having an interest may be present or call in remotely to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 6:15 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin
Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman
TOWN OF SPENCER
Office of Development & Inspectional Services
April 12, 2024

Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, May 14, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit, for John Leyden. The applicant wishes to operate a salon on his property located at 86 West Main Street.
April 12, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Andrzej Conner to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Prospect Mortgage, LLC, dated May 7, 2012 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 48935, Page 367, as modified by a certain modification agreement dated September 1, 2017, and recorded with said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 57718, Page 180, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Prospect Mortgage, LLC, its successors and assigns to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, recorded on December 8, 2014, in Book No. 53122, at Page 238

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association to Nationstar Mortgage LLC d/b/a Mr. Cooper, recorded on January 16, 2020, in Book No. 61752, at Page 66

for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on May 6, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 5 Treadwell Terrace, Spencer, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
TO WIT:

A certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situated on the easterly side of a proposed road n/k/a Treadwell Terrace, in Spencer, Massachusetts, being Lot #18 on a plan entitled "Plan of Lots 13 thru 23 drawn by Berry Engineering, Petersham," recorded with Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 383, Plan 72, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at a point in the northwesterly corner of the within described premises said point also being the southwesterly corner of Lot #17 as shown on said plan;

Thence S. 60° 02' 06" E. 232.20 feet along the southerly line of lots #13 and 17 to a point at land now or formerly of Ryan;

Thence S. 21° 50' 12" W. 100.30 feet on said land now or formerly of Ryan to Lot #19;

Thence N. 71° 39' 55" W. 251.55 feet along Lot #19 on said plan to a point at said proposed road;

Thence N. 29° 57' 54" E. 150.00 feet along said road to the point of beginning.

Containing 30,007 square feet of land, more or less.

For mortgagor's(s) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 48935, Page 365.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record

which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

NATIONSTAR MORTGAGE, LLC

Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,

HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.

Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500

25168

April 5, 2024

April 12, 2024

April 19, 2024

Notice of Public Hearing

The Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing beginning at 6:05 pm on Wednesday 1 May 2024 at the Brookfield Police Station conference room at 7 Prouty Street. The purpose of the hearing is to consider an application from Charles Wilson requesting a Special Permit for a sign advertising his business at 25 Fiskdale Road in Brookfield according to Brookfield Zoning By-Law Section 10, B-3. Applications can be reviewed at the Town Hall located at 6 Central Street, Brookfield MA 01506.

Tim Simon- ZBA Chairman

April 12, 2024

April 19, 2024

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

225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608

Docket No. WO11P1033GD

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF

PETITION FOR

EXPAND THE POWERS OF A

GUARDIAN FOR

INCAPACITATED

PERSON PURSUANT TO

G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

In the matter of:

Elaina Martin of Spencer, MA

RESPONDENT

Alleged Incapacitated Person

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Dept. of Developmental Services of Palmer, MA** in the above captioned matter requestig that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian
The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **04/23/2024.**

This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 20, 2024

Stephanie K. Fattman

Register of Probate

April 12, 2024

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. WO24P0997EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR

FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Korpo Marly Washington

Date of Death: 06/14/2023

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Saralyn S Smythe of Warren MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:

Saralyn S Smythe 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 04/23/2024.

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: March 26, 2024

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

April 12, 2024

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

225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608

Docket No. WO24P1032PM

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF

PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT

OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER

PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT

TO G.L.c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405

In the matter of:

Barbara K Schultz

Of: Concord, NH

RESPONDENT

(Person to be Protected/Minor)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Sheila Morin of Hillsboro, NH, in the above captioned matter alleging that **Barbara K Schultz** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Sheila Morin of Hillsboro, NH, (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **04/30/2024.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the abovenamed person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 28, 2024

Stephanie K. Fattman

Register of Probate

April 12, 2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a Mortgage dated December 22, 2022 from CEDY2SHOES LLC to Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Three Trust u/d/t dated October 25, 2022 (recorded in Book 68416, Page 212) said mortgage recorded on December 23, 2022 with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 68645, Page 221, as affected by a certain Amendment of Mortgage dated March 27, 2023 and recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of deeds in Book 68965, Page 161, and which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at **2:00 p.m. on the 6th day of May, 2024** at 505 Main Street, Spencer, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

To wit:

Property Address: **505 Main Street, Spencer, Massachusetts 01562**

The land with the buildings thereon, situate in said Spencer, on the northerly side of the State Highway leading from Spencer to Leicester, and bounded and described as follows:

A certain parcel of land, situated in the Town of Spencer, County of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts and shown as parcel "B" on a plan entitled "Land in Spencer, Massachusetts", owned by David G. Parent, 12 Pond Street, Paxton, Massachusetts and John D. Wentworth, 627 Pleasant Street, Paxton, Massachusetts, dated August 7, 2007 and revised February 8, 2008, Scale: 1"=40', Allen F. Paige, Registered Civil Engineer & Land Surveyor, P.O. Box 469, Auburn, Mass., and recoded with the Worcester Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 866, Plan 104.

For title see deed recorded herewith [Book 68645, Page 337].

Premises to be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens and rights of any tenants and parties in possession, if there be any, or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed. The successful bidder will pay all costs of recording the foreclosure deed and any other foreclosure documents including, without limitation, all state and county excise stamp fees, and shall also be responsible for any Title V inspection and repair requirements.

Terms of sale: A deposit of Twenty Five Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$25,000.00) by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check to Baker, Braverman & Barbadoro, P.C., 1200 Crown Colony Drive, Suite 610, Quincy, MA 02169 within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. In the event of an error in this publication, the description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Steven A. Ross, Trustee of QS Lending Two Trust

u/d/t dated May 2, 2022

Present holder of said mortgage

By his Attorneys,

Baker, Braverman & Barbadoro, P.C.

1200 Crown Colony Drive, Suite 610

Quincy, MA 02169

April 12, 2024

April 19, 2024

April 26, 2024

Notice of Special Public Hearing East Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

This Zoning Board hearing will take place at the East Brookfield Town Hall, 122 Connie Mack Drive, East Brookfield, MA on Monday April 29th, 2024. Hearing will commence at 6:30PM or soon thereafter as can be heard. Interested parties can attend in person.

Applicant: Hadley Path, LLC., owner of property at 232 East Main Street, East Brookfield. The applicant is requesting a "Finding" for extended pump area, extended parking lot and interior store expansion as outlined in Section 4 non-conforming uses, paragraph 2 of the East Brookfield Zoning Bylaws. This hearing will determine if the proposed expansion is not more detrimental than the existing non-conforming use is to the neighborhood.

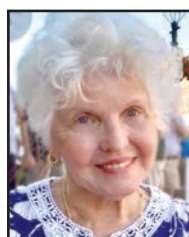
April 12, 2024

April 19, 2024

April 26, 2024

OBITUARIES

Elizabeth "Betty" Anne Gonzalez, 87



SPENCER-Elizabeth "Betty" Anne Gonzalez, 87, of Spencer MA, passed away at home on 19 March 2024 after a brief illness.

Born April 20, 1936, in Waltham MA to Rose and Milton Stinehour, she was a longtime resident of Spencer MA with many ties within the greater community. She lived a remarkable life marked by a determination to overcome life's obstacles, support her family and to hold true to her faith. Betty earned her Masters degree in Social Work and behavioral science, where she was a licensed social work counselor for years helping many clients deal with alcohol and substance abuse with a faith based practice. She was affectionately known by many in her church family, and was a member of quilting and gardening clubs. Steadfast in faith, she was an active member of the Holden Chapel and The Living Word Church in Worcester. Betty enjoyed choir, Bible studies, and extended her

compassion through local ministries, neighborhood, and community advocacy.

Betty is survived by four children: Sarrah Al-Gharabally of Kuwait, Kuwait, Linda Gregoire and her husband John of Spencer, MA, Brian Foley and his wife Debrah of Yorktown, VA, and Lisa Checkoway and her husband Eric of North Andover, MA. She was blessed with six grandchildren; Jessie Gregoire and wife Jannah, Matthew Gregoire, Abdulla and Nejaht Al-Gharabally, Logan Foley and Lauren Allen and her husband Zach; and four great-grandchildren, Jameson, Oliver, Isabella, and Nayvie. Betty is predeceased by her beloved husband Rick, daughter Susan Foley and her grandson Abdulla Al-Gharabally.

The family invites friends and loved ones to attend a graveside burial service Saturday, April 20th at 12pm at Evergreen Cemetery East Brookfield, MA. The J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr, Spencer is assisting the family with arrangements. www.morinfuneralhomes.com

In Loving Remembrance

20TH ANNIVERSARY

John Soboleski III

April 13, 2004 - April 13, 2024

It's been sometime since you left this world but that has not lessened the pain somehow

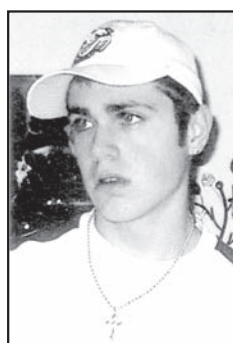
Your memories are still fresh and we remember you everyday. I hope you are watching over us from heaven

We will always cherish the time we had with you.

Our Blue Eyed Angel



We love and miss you,
Your Loving
Family and Friends



HODGERNEY

continued from page A1

been honored recently: Leah Bradley, CEO of the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance; Ron Hayes and Laurel Brazao, of Open Sky Community Services; and Nicole Eccleston, of the Spencer Senior Center.

Town leaders congratulate all officials and volunteers for their hard work over the past year. They were thrilled to

see Hodgerney recognized in front of his fellow first responders.

"We could not be prouder, and we appreciate his continued efforts to address these issues for the welfare of the entire community," Bridges said.

To learn more about the work being done by Open Sky Community Services, please visit www.openskycs.org.

For additional information about programs and initiatives meant to reduce homelessness across Massachusetts, visit www.mass.gov.

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MUSIC
continued from page A1

named in honor of John Philip Sousa (1854-1932), who brought the United States Marine Band to an unprecedented level of excellence. Known as the "March King," Sousa composed 136 military marches during his lifetime. He also served as the director of the Marine Band from 1880-1892.

For Leicester Middle School students, it was a thrill to celebrate Music in Our Schools Month by participating in March Mania. The tournament was held on both a national level and within

individual schools.

Every weekday, marches competed head-to-head in the national tournament, with music fans delivering the votes needed to advance them to the next round.

At LMS, band students in grades 5-8 and general music students in grade seven listened to several marches each day in music class, slowly narrowing down their favorites. Students also had the option of voting online as part of the daily national bracket.

The winning march at Leicester Middle School was "The Imperial March" composed by John Williams. The march is widely recog-

nized as Darth Vader's theme from "Star Wars: The Empire Strikes Back."

The winner of the national bracket was "Cyrus the Great" composed by Karl L. King. This march was popular during the height of the circus, and it also took inspiration from the titular emperor and founder of the Persian Empire.

"LMS participates in March Mania each year because it gives students the opportunity to listen to music they normally would not," said LMS music teacher Kristina Looney. "I would like to thank The President's Own Marine Band for putting together this

event and for providing incentive materials to students around the country."

Music in Our Schools Month was created to celebrate the importance of music education throughout the month of March. Among several other topics, the program helps educate students about the history of marching bands, which served military purposes long before they became staples of sporting events, parades, and entertainment venues.

"I enjoyed learning about the origin of the songs and what the history was behind them. I learned that there is an

importance to every song, and that each song has its own feeling and mood to it," said LMS seventh grader Alexis Dould.

Added fellow student Javier Flores, "I enjoyed predicting which song would win and watching the bands play songs. I learned that there are many people who are important in the making of these songs."

Seventh grader Jack Derrick said he looked forward to listening to several pieces of music during the event. He even created his own personal bracket of songs.

Other students enjoyed being introduced to new types of songs and learning about their histories.

"I enjoyed being able to listen to all different types of marches because I don't typically listen to that type of music," said student Malin Stimson.

Added student Eddy Besse, "I really liked relaxing while listening to awesome music. I also liked voting and seeing what others in my class voted for."

STORM
continued from page A1

no weather-related delays or closures in March, students received a rare day off in April.

It took multiple days for crews to restore electricity in all locations across the state.

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POLICE REPORTS

Leicester Police Log

THURSDAY, MARCH 28
 12:51 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Dale Street), investigated; 6:29 a.m.: welfare check (Henshaw Street), services rendered; 8:42 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:13 a.m.: accident (Soojians Drive), report taken; 9:18 a.m.: animal complaint (Stafford Street), referred; 9:45 a.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), assisted; 10:54 a.m.: ambulance (Auburn Street), transported; 11:08 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 11:32 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 11:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:58 a.m.: ambulance (Lillian Avenue), transported; 1:09 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, using electronic device while driving/1st offense, criminal application issued; 1:18 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 1:40 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), spoken to; 2:05 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 2:18 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 2:19 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), Riley Thomas Hartnagel, 28, 88 Pine Street, #2, Southbridge, op w/license revoked as habitual traffic offender, lights violation, arrest; 2:58 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 3:49 p.m.: assist other PD (Watch Street, Oxford), no action required; 4:02 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve; 5:22 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 8:29 p.m.: hit/run accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:07 p.m.: ambulance (Auburn Street), transported; 11:36 p.m.: b&e/past (Chesnar Drive), investigated.

FRIDAY, MARCH 29
 1:10 a.m.: ambulance (Carleton Road), transported; 1:15 a.m.: shoplifting (Main Street), report taken; 1:29 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Greenville Circle), services rendered; 3:05 a.m.: commercial alarm (Huntoon Memorial Highway), false alarm; 3:59 a.m.: accident (Main Street), Joseph Charles Mascroft, 41, 195 Main Street, #113, Spencer, OUI liquor/2nd offense, arrest; 9:37 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 9:49 a.m.: mv stop (Mill Street), verbal warning; 10:27 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:41 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:23 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:33 a.m.: welfare check (Willow Hill Road), spoken to; 12:09 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 1:05 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:22 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; name and address redacted from police log, operation w/ unlicensed/suspended permit, criminal application issued; 3:18 p.m.: ambulance (Rawson Street), transported; 3:41 p.m.: investigation (Craig Street), report taken; 3:43 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Amir J. Brown-Simmons, 42, 24 Westfield Street, #1, Worcester, unlicensed operation, op w/suspended registration, uninsured mv, arrest; 4:41 p.m.: investigation (Hemlock Street), report taken; 5:34 p.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), spoken to; 6:17 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:52 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 8:09 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 9:23 p.m.: suspicious activity (Birchwood Drive), investigated; 10:05 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), investigated; 10:24 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning;

11:09 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.
SATURDAY, MARCH 30
 1:17 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 1:23 a.m.: welfare check (Cricklewood Drive), investigated; 3:21 a.m.: ambulance (Flint Way), transported; 8:10 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 8:32 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, lights violation, criminal application issued; 9:53 a.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), investigated; 11:42 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 12:30 p.m.: illegal dumping (Moose Hill Road), report taken; 12:43 p.m.: keep the peace (Main Street), services rendered; 2:30 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 3:42 p.m.: gunshots heard (Bottomly Avenue), investigated; 6:37 p.m.: assist citizen (Salminen Drive); 6:51 p.m.: parking complaint (Lake Sargent Drive), resolved; 7:09 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 7:30 p.m.: harassment (South Main Street), spoken to; 7:40 p.m.: fraud (Woodland Road), report taken; 9:08 p.m.: RV complaint (Washburn Street), resolved; 11:50 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:57 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning.

SUNDAY, MARCH 31
 12:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:16 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, op w/suspended registration, unregistered mv, speeding, criminal application issued; 3:51 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), peace restored; 4:07 a.m.: disturbance (Stafford Street), spoken to; 4:33 a.m.: ambulance (Tanglewood Road), transported; 11:09 a.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 11:10 a.m.: vandalism (Soojians Drive), report taken; 11:28 a.m.: investigation (Chestnut Street), report taken; 11:55 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended registration, number plate violation to conceal ID, criminal application issued; 12:22 p.m.: hit/run accident (South Main Street), report taken; 1:31 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 1:40 p.m.: ambulance (Virginia Drive), transported; 2:52 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pine Street), report taken; 3:48 p.m.: residential alarm (Deer Pond Drive), call canceled; 8:44 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 8:57 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 10:42 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported.

MONDAY, APRIL 1
 12:19 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 2:25 a.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 3:21 a.m.: suspicious mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), investigated; 9:28 a.m.: welfare check (Chapel Street), resolved; 10:14 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 10:31 a.m.: ambulance (Fern Street, Worcester), transported; 10:36 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 10:44 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unregistered mv, no inspection sticker, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 11:00 a.m.: welfare check (Henshaw Street), assisted; 3:18 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 3:35 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:37 p.m.: disturbance (Towtaid Street), gone on arrival; 3:40 p.m.: accident (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, leaving the scene of a property damage accident, failure to slow down, criminal application issued; 4:21 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:30 p.m.:

mv stop (Main Street), James Paul Bousquet, 53, 782 Worcester Street, Southbridge, OUI liquor, failure to signal, negligent operation, speeding, arrest; 6:19 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), service rendered; 6:28 p.m.: disturbance (Pine Street), unable to locate; 8:11 p.m.: ambulance (Cricklewood Drive), transported; 11:09 p.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported.

TUESDAY, APRIL 2
 12:31 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 12:42 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:31 a.m.: trespassing (Craig Street), assisted; 8:17 a.m.: disturbance (Stafford Street), services rendered; 9:37 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 10:04 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 12:07 p.m.: disturbance (Mill Street), services rendered; 12:37 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), referred; 1:00 p.m.: ambulance (Hapgood Road, Worcester), transported; 2:49 p.m.: harassment (Oakwood Lane), report taken; 2:59 p.m.: ambulance (Chapel Street), transported; 3:13 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:22 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:44 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:45 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 3:47 p.m.: accident (Mill Street), report taken; 3:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:08 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:16 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:58 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 5:50 p.m.: assist other agency (Green Street), services rendered; 6:11 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 6:25 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), services rendered; 10:19 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 10:36 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street).

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3
 12:00 a.m.: disturbance (Carleton Road), report taken; 2:30 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), spoken to; 3:10 a.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), resolved; 4:36 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 4:48 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 7:41 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 7:52 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 8:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:29 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 8:33 a.m.: investigation (Marshall Street), report taken; 8:40 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:58 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 9:21 a.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), report taken; 11:30 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, obstructed/nontransparent window, criminal application issued; 11:45 a.m.: ambulance (Masonic Home Road, Charlton), transported; 11:46 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 1:08 p.m.: assist citizen (Crestwood Road); 1:18 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), served; 2:04 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Main Street), unable to serve; 2:12 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), report taken; 2:26 p.m.: suspicious mv (Flint Way), resolved; 2:39 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), assisted; 3:03 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:09 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:13 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:17 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:23 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:27 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued;

3:33 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:37 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:46 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:51 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 3:55 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 4:43 p.m.: ambulance (Mill Street, Worcester), transported; 5:07 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 6:19 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:42 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), services rendered; 7:02 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Main Street), unable to serve; 7:08 p.m.: debris in road (Main Street), referred; 9:38 p.m.: accident (Bond Street), report taken; 9:56 p.m.: debris in road (Whittemore Street), referred.

Spencer Police Log

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27
 1:48 a.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 2:00-2:42 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:01 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 9:40 a.m.: suspicious persons (Chestnut Street), investigated; 9:43 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 9:51 a.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), report taken; 10:26 a.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), accidental; 11:09 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: custody issue; 11:18 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 12:44 a.m.: harassment prevention order service (Adams Street); 12:50 p.m.: restraining order service (Brown Street); 1:36 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), re: dog in mv/windows up; 1:58 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 2:43 p.m.: fraud (Cherry Street), report taken; 4:56 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: mother hasn't returned; 5:29 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 5:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), unwanted party; 8:11 p.m.: animal complaint (Point Eastalle Drive), re: missing dogs; 8:36 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 11:26 p.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; (total daily mv stops - 0).

THURSDAY, MARCH 28
 2:06-2:48 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:10 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 2:49 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), rep. injured owl; 3:46 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 7:44 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:39 a.m.: medical/general (School Street); 10:22 a.m.: medical/general (Valley View Drive); 10:37 a.m.: DPW call (Meadow Road), poss. road hazard; 11:00 a.m.: fraud (West Main Street), report taken; 11:32 a.m.: officer wanted (Meadow Road), rep. sale of multiple firearms; 1:07 p.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), stolen mv located; 3:19 p.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), re: previous incident; 3:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Clark Road), req. welfare check; 4:47 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Lamb Grove), referred; 4:47 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 5:35 p.m.: residential alarm (Kingsbury Road), services rendered; 8:53 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), poss. rain damaged roof; 11:14 p.m.: disabled mv (Mechanic Street), repo; 11:21/11:37 p.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; (total daily mv stops - 0).

FRIDAY, MARCH 29
 2:09 a.m.: medical/sudden death (High Street); 7:38 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:58 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street), lift assist; 9:29 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street), citation issued;

Turn To **POLICE** page **A15**

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WEBSTER
38 RAY STREET UNIT#3
OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 12 - 1:30

Condominium Don't Miss this one!! Beautiful & Large! 2 bedroom - 2nd & 3rd floor! Corner Lot. Land area 19,000 Sq. Ft. +/- **ONLY \$249,900.**

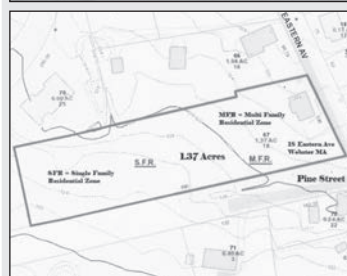
* June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Bryan Pelletier

COMING SOON! WEBSTER-22 HALL RD



1st Time Offered!! Better than new! Young 2200 Sq ft Cape. This one can be your's! Young 2200+ Sq ft Cape/Split 7+ Room, 4 bdrs. 3 full baths! Master bed/Bath! Bonus - finished stairway to the massive unfinished 2nd floor. 3/4 Acre of land mostly Landscaped. beach, boat ramp, Sailing Assoc. very close by. Kitchen w/Island & dining room. Hardwood, ceramic, & carpet flrs. Heated 2 car garage. So much more!
\$599,900

WEBSTER - 18 EASTERN AVE.



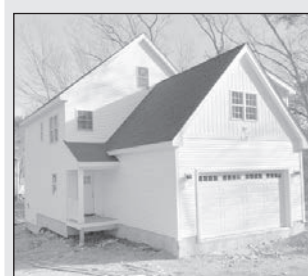
TAKE A CLOSE LOOK AT THIS ONE!
This property offers a whole lot more than meets the eye! 2 Family that served the same family for over 65 Years. 2 BRs & 1 Bath, 1st flr. 1 -2 Brs & 1 Bath 2nd flr. Offers a shared front entry porch & a separate finished side entry porch for the 1st floor apt only. A rear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

WEBSTER - 17 BRODEUR AVENUE



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\$614,500

WEBSTER - 22 COOPER ROAD

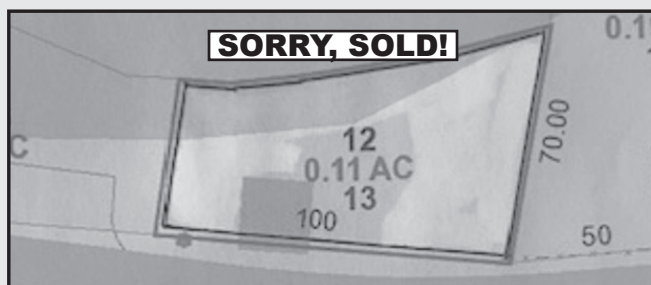


New Construction Gorgeous 2500 SQ FT Colonial. 4 brms, 2-1/2 Bath. Open Concept 1st flr, Crown Moldings, High End Cabinetry w/Island, Granite Counters. Hardwood Flooring throughout, MASTER SUITE - WALK IN Closet, Hugh MASTER BATH! 2 car Garage, Close to Lake-side Beach & Boat Ramp! 2nd one of 4 To Be Built!
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Mount Everest (and your retirement)

Climbing Mt. Everest is a challenge that captures the imagination of adventurers worldwide. It is a daunting feat that pushes ones physical and mental endurance, resiliency, and technical skills to the limit. Standing at a staggering 29,032 feet above sea level, Everest's summit is the highest point on earth. To put that height in perspective, commercial airplanes fly around 31,000 feet.

Climbers daring enough to attempt this challenge will often spend years physically training, planning, and preparing. When they finally arrive at base camp, a successful expedition can still take anywhere between six and 10 weeks — the average being two months. Often, extreme weather conditions can make summiting impossible. Climbers must contend with unpredictably high winds, blizzards, and

sub-zero temperatures, even during the “climbing season”. Sudden changes can turn a promising bid into a perilous situation, forcing climbers to retreat or seek emergency shelter.

The mountain is notorious for its steep ice slopes, deep crevasses, and rocky ridges. It requires the use of ropes, shaky ladders, sherpas, and fixed lines to ascend safely. The Khumbu Icefall, a particularly hazardous section near Everest's base camp, is well known for its unstable ice towers and seemingly bottomless crevasses.

As climbers ascend, the air becomes progressively thinner, leading to reduced oxygen levels. This can cause altitude sickness, characterized by headaches, nausea,

FINANCIAL FOCUS

BY CHRISTOPHER MALLON
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT,
PROGRAM MANAGER
LPL REGISTERED PRINCIPAL, THE
CAPSTONE PLANNING GROUP

and fatigue. Taking just a few steps in these conditions can be utterly exhausting. But for those individuals fortunate enough to reach the top, it is worth the effort to achieve a lifelong goal.

Since 1953 approximately 6,664 different people have successfully summited Mt. Everest. Sadly, the mountain has also claimed many lives (approximately 305). What might be surprising to learn is that 80 percent of those

deaths occurred on the way down — after they successfully reached the summit.

When it comes to financial planning, it may seem your “climb” is done once you've reached retirement. But in reality, a new set of challenges and decisions will present themselves. How long will your portfolio last? Are you withdrawing too much or too little? Do you have a spending plan? How should you adjust your asset allocation? Is your portfolio protected? When should you take Social Security? What about taxes and inflation?

Successfully reaching retirement is a fantastic accomplishment. But there is still plenty of work to be done. A knowl-

edgeable financial planner can help guide you through the vast array of retirement pitfalls.

About The Capstone Planning Group

The Capstone Planning Group is an experienced wealth management team conveniently located at Cornerstone Bank. The team offers comprehensive financial planning, asset management, and insurance. To learn more about the team and schedule a courtesy consultation please visit www.thecapstone.group. Securities and advisory services are offered through LPL Financial (LPL), a registered investment advisor and broker-dealer (member FINRA/SIPC).

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Keep smiling

I waited tables for quite a while in my early acting days. It's a common choice for actors because you can work at night. That leaves your days free for auditions and acting gigs.

Even after I landed a lead role in Showtime's “A Separate Peace,” a film produced by Oscar winners Dustin Hoffman & Michael Sugar and directed by Oscar nominee Peter Yates, I was back at the restaurant working shifts before and after filming.

It surprised a lot of folks. They thought a movie role meant you made it big, but acting jobs can be few and far between. Keeping a steady job, like waiting tables, helped me pay the bills.

Being a waiter is straightforward but challenging. You're always on your feet, rushing around. Customers are only sometimes lovely; some can be downright rude or impatient. And when you're juggling several tables, plus dealing with kitchen mix-ups, guess who customers blame? Yep, the waiter.

Waiting tables is a job packed with stress. There were days when it was written all over my face, days when anyone walking by the kitchen could hear me grumbling under my breath. I was short with the kitchen staff, snappy with my managers, and could have done better at keeping my cool.

Quitting crossed my mind more often than I'd like to admit. I fantasized about making a grand exit, throwing my apron down and shouting, “I QUIT!” for everyone to hear; then striding out the door with my head held high.

Then came the day my managers decided it was time for a chat. They understood that the job was stressful, but they also made it clear that stress comes with the territory in the restaurant world. They told me straight: no matter how tough things got, losing my cool wasn't an option. I was expected to handle it all with a smile, no exceptions.

I remember thinking, How am I supposed to keep smiling? What if a customer yells at me for their steak being overcooked when they asked for it well-done? It seemed impossible at the time. How could I grin and bear it when things were so obviously not my fault, yet I had to act as if they were?

POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

TOBY
MOORE

It didn't matter. Showing annoyance and anger towards a customer, no matter how much they might deserve it, wasn't an option. I was forced to choose.

After many nights of soul-searching, tossing, and turning, with thoughts racing through my head, I reached a decision. No matter what happened during my shifts, I had to keep smiling.

No matter how tempting it was to snap back, showing annoyance or anger towards a customer was off-limits. I had to make a choice, which was definitely challenging.

I found myself smiling at customers who sent back their meals because the soup was “too hot” or complained their ice cream was “too cold.” It seemed absurd, but as I kept my cool and flashed a smile—even when everything in me wanted to do the opposite—something unexpected began to happen. The stress that used to weigh me down started to lift.

As I made smiling a practice, I realized it wasn't about giving in or pretending the stress didn't exist; it was about choosing how I reacted to it.

I realized that my smile wasn't just a courtesy; it was my shield, a powerful defense against the relentless negativity and chaos that threatened to engulf me. No matter how unreasonable the customers were, how baseless the complaints were, or how chaotic the kitchen became, I found something interesting.

I found that smiling, keeping calm, and not reacting to the negativity wasn't me being a fake person. It was changing how I felt on the inside. I started to feel happy and soon enough I didn't have to force it.

I also noticed that the customers found it hard to continue their negativity when confronted with unwavering positivity.

Next time you find yourself about to lose your cool, take a breath and force a smile. It might feel unnatural at first, but give it a moment. That smile will start to work wonders, not just on those around you, but on you as well.

POLICE

continued from page A13

Main Street); 11:10 a.m.: DPW call (Maple Street), no water pressure; 11:48 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:17 p.m.: restraining order service (Irving Street); 2:01 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 3:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Lake Street), rep. harassment; 4:45 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 4:45 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), req. ACO; 6:28 p.m.: 911 call (South Spencer Road), resolved; 6:57 p.m.: medical/general (Fourth Avenue); 7:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 7:53 p.m.: bolo hit/run, issuing department not noted on police log; 8:56 p.m.: medical/general (Wm. Casey Road); 9:12 p.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 9:40 p.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 11:38 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); (total daily mv stops – 1).

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

5:44 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:45 a.m.: DPW call (Hastings Road), lg. potholes; 10:34 a.m.: animal complaint (Buteau Road), loose dog; 10:40 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Leicester PD bolo/domestic incident; 11:02 a.m.: officer wanted (Howe Road), found suitcase in woods; 11:37 a.m.: medical/general (Lake Street); 1:54 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), rep. poss. road rage; 1:59 p.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), req. welfare check; 2:55 p.m.: disturbance (Vine Street), neighbor dispute; 3:17 p.m.: parking complaint (Meadow Road), mv in front of gate; 3:31 p.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 4:42 p.m.: citizen complaint (Charlton Road), sign obstructing line of sight; 5:11 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 5:23 p.m.: medical/general (Dale Street); 6:28 p.m.: mv complaint (Cherry Street), mv/rolling stops; 6:34 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 6:49 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), unresponsive female in mv; 7:05 p.m.: officer wanted (Northwest Road), rep. disable mv; 7:05 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), unwanted party; 7:40 p.m.: RV complaint (Bacon Hill Road), ATV fled Charlton PD/no lights; 8:13 p.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), mv speeding/passing; 8:30 p.m.: medical/general (Wire Village Road); 10:07 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Elm Street), balloons sparking wire; 10:22 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), fight/East Brookfield; 10:34 p.m.: disturbance (Valley Street), neighbor dispute; (total daily mv stops – 0).

SUNDAY, MARCH 31

1:25 a.m.: animal complaint (Pioneer Valley Drive), loose dogs; 2:05 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; 2:20 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:19 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:30 a.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), neighbor making threats; 7:39 a.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), rep. alarm sounding; 9:28 a.m.: lost/found (Lamoreaux Lane), phone lost; 11:03 a.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), mv blocking d/way; 11:13 a.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), req. welfare check; 11:22 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Oakham PD bolo; 1:06 p.m.: suspicious persons (Irving Street), investigated; 1:34 p.m.: animal complaint (Park Street), rep. dog bit dog; 1:56 p.m.: 911 call (Taylor Drive), no emergency; 2:12 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), debris in road; 7:15 p.m.: animal complaint (West Avenue), raccoon walking oddly; 8:14 p.m.: medical/general (Old East Charlton Road); 11:51 p.m.: medical/general (Bell Street); (total daily mv stops – 0).

MONDAY, APRIL 1

2:14-2:46 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:37 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 10:14 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 11:26 a.m.: animal complaint (Browning Pond Circle), loose dogs; 12:30 p.m.: medical/general (High Street); 12:50 p.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), referred; 2:20 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), req. welfare check; 3:16 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), re: person at park; 3:34 p.m.: suspicious persons (Nottingham Circle), investigated; 3:45 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Leicester PD bolo/damaged mv; 4:22 p.m.: officer wanted (Prospect Street), loud explosion heard; 4:40 p.m.: disturbance (West Main Street), unwanted parties/req. trespass; 5:19 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), req. welfare check; 5:54 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), rep. harassing phone calls; 5:54 p.m.: medical/general (Linden Street); 6:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 6:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Luis Belisario Caguana Caguana, 22, 1489 Pippin Orchard Road, Cranston, RI, op w/suspended license, no inspection sticker, arrest; 7:10 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Southbridge PD bolo; 7:48 p.m.: mv complaint (Paxton Road), trucks/burnouts in lot; 7:50 p.m.: illegal dumping (Main Street), investigated; 8:18 p.m.: suspicious mv (Borkum Road), investigated; 8:49 p.m.: parking complaint (Temple Street), resolved; (total daily mv stops – 6).

TUESDAY, APRIL 2

12:22 a.m.: medical/general (Temple Street); 1:20-2:14 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:33 a.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), noise complaint; 1:54 a.m.: mv repossessed (Main Street), info rec'd; 5:51 a.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), services rendered; 8:09 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 10:59 a.m.: medical/general (Fourth Avenue); 11:21 a.m.: disabled mv (Wire Village Road), assisted; 11:24 a.m.: DPW call (Meadow Road), re: item dumped in brush; 12:45 p.m.: animal complaint (Town House Court), rep. animal bite; 1:24 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Laurel Lane), accidental; 2:45 p.m.: intelligence/drugs (Church Street), info rec'd; 5:08 p.m.: juvenile matter (Greenville Street), req. welfare check; 6:09 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 8:27 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), inquiry re: Byrna launcher; 10:06 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); (total daily mv stops – 1).

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LHS student receives Superintendent Scholar Award

LEICESTER – School officials congratulate Leicester High School senior Charolette Libby-Toler, who received the 2024 Superintendent Scholar Award. Libby-Toler was recognized on March 21 at the College of the Holy Cross, along with other Superintendent Scholars from central Massachusetts. “Charolette epitomizes everything that is good at Leicester High School. She is a tremendous student, a good athlete, and a fabulous role model for others,” said Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Brett Kustigian. Libby-Toler plans to attend Northeastern University in the fall and study nursing.



Courtesy

Leicester High School senior Charolette Libby-Toler is congratulated by Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Brett Kustigian.

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