

East Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield, Brookfield, Leicester and Spencer

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Friday, February 28, 2025

Longtime friends travel to Super Bowl

DPHS renovation project on track

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — With winter quickly coming to a close, the David Prouty High School construction team is preparing for warmer weather and a busy slate of projects.

School officials are thrilled with the progress seen over the winter months, as Prouty transitions to the next stages of its \$111.6 million addition-renovation project.

"To date, we are on track, and the project is progressing forward well," said Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Superintendent *Paul Haughey.* "These are exciting times, and we look forward to a rather busy summer preparing for next school year."

Nick Pimentel, a construction representative for Colliers Engineering and Design (the project's OPM), provided a list of recently completed projects. These include significant progress on the roof structures and equipment.

"The roof is weather tight, and the standing seam metal panels at the sloped roofs are underway. Aluminum fascia, along with gutters and downspouts, are being installed at the Pre-K wing," Pimentel said.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER - Friends REGION -

since their youth football days, Nichols College Brennan roommates Ogert and Colin Wallace have made plenty of unforgettable sports memories over the years. Earlier this month, they added a new instant favorite to their list during a trip to New Orleans for Super Bowl LIX.

Ögert and Wallace met when they were six years old, teammates on the Leicester Spencer Raiders. Ogert, of Spencer, went on to attend David Prouty High School, while North Brookfield's Wallace Quabbin studied at Regional High School. After graduation, their roads crossed once again at Nichols College, where they are both majoring in Sports Management.

As members of a class examining the history and gameday operations of the Super Bowl, Ogert and Wallace were thrilled to receive an opportunity to attend the big game along with their classmates.

"This trip has always been a dream for me. I've been a big fan of the Patriots and the NFL my entire life, and have always wanted to be able to go," Ogert told the New Leader. "Once I went to Nichols College, I learned that they had a Super Bowl class that taught you about it and then brings you to the Super Bowl to work and gain the experience."

This past summer, Ogert sent in an application for the Super Bowl experience, eagerly waiting to see if he was accepted. Not only did he receive the great news, but he also learned that Wallace would be join-City Chiefs take on the Philadelphia Eagles for



Local friends Colin Wallace (left) and Brennan Ogert (second from left) enjoy Super Bowl weekend festivities.

the Lombardi Trophy.

Leading up to the game, Ogert and Wallace took part in several work activities around the stadium to gain critical sports management knowledge and experience.

"Once I heard I got accepted by the school and the NFL, I was filled with joy, but the work started there," Ogert said. "We began with said *N*e began with ing him in New Orleans small things like emails to watch the Kansas and creating accounts, until the start of spring semester. We had virtual

meetings and trainings, and then it became time to go to New Orleans."

Ogert and Wallace worked a total of four shifts, three at the Super Bowl weekend experience and one on Super Bowl Sunday. At the Super Bowl weekend experience, they helped run multiple games and events for fans, ensuring a safe and fun environment.

On the day before the Super Bowl, Ogert and Wallace joined other Nichols College students in working at a celebrity pickleball competition. It was a thrill for the students to watch famous athletes and entertainers like Demario Douglas, Ladd McConkey, Flavor Flav, and Tyreek Hill.

"It was a great moment during the trip

ties being normal people, and being able to do my job to create a positive and fun environment for them and all the fans watching," Ogert said.

Courtesy

On Super Bowl Sunday, the students took part in various jobs helping other fans enjoy the experience

"Seeing fans get their chance for a once-in-a-

Ongoing projects include window installations at the Pre-K and gymnasium openings; interior painting throughout the Pre-K wing and the first floor of the Core-West section; the installation of ceramic tile within the first-floor bathrooms at the Pre-K wing; drywall installations; and HVAC, electrical, plumbing, and fire protection projects.

Meanwhile, signif-icant work has taken

place in recent months

at Prouty's athletic

"Painting will begin

in the gymnasium, as

well as the second floor.

The gymnasium equip-

ment (basketball hoops,

divider, batting, etc.)

will be installed,'

Pimentel added. "The gymnasium wood ath-

letic flooring will be installed, with the new

facilities.

summer.

these players and celebri-

Turn To SUPER BOWL page A8

Spencer native tackles Boston Marathon to support disabled veterans

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – As Air Force Captain Dr. Emma Beer prepares to run the Boston Marathon to assist the Homes for Our Troops organization, area residents are invited to join her mission of supporting disabled veterans.

In preparation for her first ever marathon, Beer has been training hard while raising awareness of her critical fundraising effort. The former Spencer resident is honored to support Homes for Our Troops (HFOT), an organization dedicated to building and donating specially adapted homes for severely injured, post 9-11 veterans.

"I have been training with the Air Force for the past seven years. Throughout medical school and residency as an active duty physician and surgeon, I have been learning the pathophysiology of disease and the steps to performing surgical cures," Beer told the New Leader. "But more and more I have seen that there is only so much that can be done for a person in the operating room or hospital ward. Being able to ensure that a person has a safe place to live



Courtesv

Air Force Captain Dr. Emma Beer will run in the Boston Marathon. and accessible housing

for their needs is equally

critical. Homes for Our

Troops not only builds

these homes for disabled

veterans, but also contin-

ues its relationship with

the veterans after the

homes have been built to

Added Beer, "Being able

to be part of the HFOT

help rebuild their lives."

team allows me to more fully participate in the care of the whole human being, which has been such a privilege."

Beer has been supported throughout her mission by her husband, Air Force Captain Dr. Ryan Frazier. They met at Providence College and joined the Air

Turn To BEER page A4

Courtesy

Leicester High School senior Christian Rutter was selected for participation in a major national program.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — Christian Rutter, a senior at Leicester High School, earned the rare and prestigious honor of selection as a Disney Dreamer.

Each year, Walt Disney World selects 100 students from across the United States to participate in an all-expenses-paid trip to Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

Rutter was one of only two students from Massachusetts who earned selection for participation in the Disney Dreamers Academy program. The trip is scheduled for March 24-31.

"It means everything to be accepted," Rutter said. "I believe what you put into the world, you will get right back someday. I guess I put a decent amount of good into this world."

Turn To **RUTTER** page **A8**

bleachers to follow.' The school community can expect to see several projects take place this spring and

"Exterior masonry will be complete at all Phase 1 exterior facades," Pimentel said. "Exterior soffit panels will be installed at all Phase 1 overhangs.'

Additionally, drywall work will soon begin on the third floor of the school's south wing. Flooring projects will Turn To DPHS page A8



LHS student

selected as

Disney Dreamer

Spencer Senior Center hosts scam awareness program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — Earlier this month, local seniors learned about some of the latest scam attempts and how to avoid them.

Members of Worcester **County District Attorney** Joseph Early's outreach team visited the Senior Center to share tips and tools with seniors.

"It is important to become familiar with signs of a potential scam attempt. Kevin from our outreach team was at the Spencer Senior Center's Lunch and Learn to update attendees on the latest scams to look out for," read a statement released by the DA's Office. "Thank you to [Senior Center Director] April Caruso for having us.

As technologies continue to advance, scams are becoming increasingly complex and con-

vincing, officials warn. Many scammers specifically target seniors, and local police departments have seen a steady rise in reported incidents.

For Senior Center leaders, it's important to make sure seniors have opportunities to receive updated information and guidance.

"We are very fortunate to have the District Attorney's Office come in twice a year with the latest scam updates," Caruso said. "The scam-mers are getting better at disguising their scams. A lot of seniors fall prey to these. The Senior Center gets at least two to three calls a week asking about a text or piece of mail they received."

In recent years, artificial intelligence has enabled scammers to create even more convincing content, police said. This includes the use of per-

anning Group

Wealthcare Retirement Income



Members of the Worcester County District Attorney's outreach team recently visited the Spencer Senior Center.

sonal information culled from social media pages, videos, photo descriptions, and public records available online. Many local residents

have reported scammers using and/or texts emails to convey messages related to their families or work. Other scam attempts threaten residents with fake reports of unpaid tolls, packages in need of delivery, and banking issues.

"Scammers are becoming more sophisticated every day," said Leicester Police Chief Kenneth

Full circle moment for **QCC** alum

NEWLY APPOINTED TRUSTEE ALSO FOUNDATION PRESIDENT

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College Foundation President and QCC alum Jorgo Gushi was appointed to the college's Board of Trustees last month by Massachusetts Governor Maura Healey. In October of 2024, Gushi was unanimously elected as president of the QCC Foundation where he continues to support and advocate for community college students.

"I am thrilled that Jorgo has been appointed to serve. His experience in governance and history with QCC brings a new dynamic that is so needed during these challenging times. We welcome his refreshing perspective that energizes all of us in moving the college ahead," said Board Chair Dr. Linda Maykel.

Gushi came to the U.S. from Albania at age 18 and two weeks later started his first semester at QCC. With his sights set on a bachelor's degree in engineering, Gushi made the decision to obtain an associate degree at QCC and then transfer to Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), where he earned both a bachelor's and a master's degree.

plexity of some scams is immense, but there is always something that may not seem right. I tell our seniors, if you feel something is wrong, please call the police department and run it by an officer. We are happy to help."

One common characteristic linking most scams is a sense of urgency and pressure for victims to act immediately. Police recommend taking your time after receiving a suspicious message and never clicking any links.

"These scams often create a sense of urgency to trick people into clicking malicious links or providing personal infor-mation," said Sturbridge Police Chief Earl Dessert. "It's more important than ever for folks, especially seniors, to stay cau-

tious. If you receive an unexpected message requesting payment or personal details. take

Antanavica. "The com- a moment to verify it directly with the company or organization. Never click on suspicious links, and when in doubt, ask a trusted family member or call your local police department for guidance. Raising awareness is key to preventing these scams from succeeding.'

Far too often, residents who believe they have been scammed do not report the incident, police said. This can lead to additional attempts made by the scammer to obtain more money or information.

"If you have already given some money to a scammer and they are now strongarming you for more, there is no shame in that. The scams are sophisticated,' Antanavica added. "Call us. We are here to help."

SPENCER ALMANAC **R**EAL ESTATE BROOKFIELD

\$599,900, 14 Rice Corner Rd, Cep Real Estate LLC, to Burgos, Kimberly, and Burgos, Pedro.

\$433,000, 38 Town Farm Rd, Techntech LLC, to Houston, Taylor, and Bleau, Nicholas.

EAST BROOKFIELD

\$800,000, 174 W Main St, Varney Properties LLC, to Me Realty LLC. \$495,000, 151 Howe St, K & M Inc, to Beer Jr, Darrell S, and Beer, Mckenna N.

LEICESTER

\$565,000, 357 Main St, 424 Realty LLC, to Padilla, Rut, and Lopez, Rozelski P.

\$560,000, 580 Henshaw St, Suprenant, Jayne E, to Tran, Theresa, and Pham, Nghia.

\$340,000, 3 Sunset Dr, Breton, Kristina, to Bartlett, Seth, and Price, Brittany.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$439,900, 16 Fullam Hill Rd, Burgos, Pedro, and Burgos, Kimberly, to Melendrez, Eris A.

SPENCER

\$639,600, 31 Lake Ave, Coleman, Stephen M, and Coleman, Bonnie A, to Ostromecky, Tara M.

\$529,999, 2 Shore Dr, Halloran, Megan

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Greek mythological figure 32. Fights 33. Comedienne Tyler

5. Small amount 8. Play a role

62

- 11. River in Georgia and Alabama 41. Locks 13. Water in the solid state
- 14. Ancient Greek sophist
- 15. Having a strong sharp
- smell or taste
- 16. Fleece
- 17. Writer/actress Dunham
- 18. Behave in a way that belittles 20. Comedienne Gastever
- 21. Zoroastrian concept of holy
- fire 22. Conceits
- 25. Slowed down
- 30. Nourishment
- 31. Midway between east and southeast
- **CLUES DOWN**
- 1. S. American plant
- 2. Soul and calypso song
- 3. Fruit of the service tree
- 4 Continent
- 5. Albania's capital
- 6. Poisonous plant
- 7. Argues
- 8. Assists
- 9. Town in Galilee 10. Russian leader
- 12. Promotional materials
- 14. Wings
- 19. Not odd
- 23. Expression of creativity
- 24. Conceptualize
- 25. A digital tape recording of sound
- 26. Peyton's little brother 27. Cost, insurance and
- freight (abbr.)

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28. Difference in potential

29. Owner

43. Old

- 34. I (German)
- 35. Chinese conception of poetry

38. Standing operating procedure

45. Song sung to one's lover

49. Moved quickly on foot

56. Liquefied natural gas

60. A team's best pitcher

63. Prefix denoting "in a"

61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish

55. Large musical instrument

47. Whale ship captain

50. Volcanic craters

57. Ethiopian town

congregation

59. Not closed

62. Disfigure

64. Sleep

- 36. The world of the dead
- 37. Sign language
- 39. Coincide
- 40. Religious observance
- 41. Confined condition (abbr.)
- 42. Polite interruption sound
- 44. Texas ballplayer

- California
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Hebrew calendar month 53. Easily swindled person
- 54. One point south of southwest 58. Small island (British)

While a QCC student, Gushi was elected as the president

of the Student Government Association and the chair of the Student Advisory Council to the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education. He advocated to advance open educational resources and championed a successful campaign that changed a state law, which now allows part-time students to run for student trustee positions. His advocacy extended to shaping the MA Department of Higher Education's 10-year Strategic Plan for Racial Equity. In 2022, he received citations from the Massachusetts Governor's Office, State Senate, and House of Representatives for his higher education advocacy work. He also received a WPI GOLD Award for community outreach and inclusion.

Gushi is currently a technical account manager at MathWorks, a global company specializing in technical software for engineers and scientists.

'QCC changed the trajectory of my life," said Gushi. "As an immigrant, it gave me the opportunity, community and foundation for success. Now, as a trustee and Foundation president, I'm honored to give back by supporting students, expanding opportunities and ensuring that everyone who walks through QCC's doors feels empowered to chase their dreams, just as I did."

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M, to Dozois, Jeffrey, and Lamarche, Rachel.

\$510,000, 16 Howe Rd, Moschini, Anthony R, and Moschini, Jennifer W, to Keller, Jordan W, and Sullivan, Kylie P.

\$349,900, 21 Pearl St, Corchado, Luisa M, to Gray, Patrick.

\$250,000, 119 Mechanic St, Dion, Scott A, and Dion, Jill E, to Newell, Joshua C, and Morin, Rylee D.

WARREN

\$200,000, 4 Coy Hill Rd, Spain, Fred, to Mckinney, Justin D.

WEST BROOKFIELD None

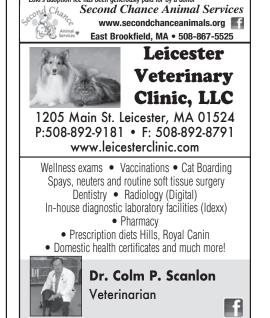
P.E.T. of the Week

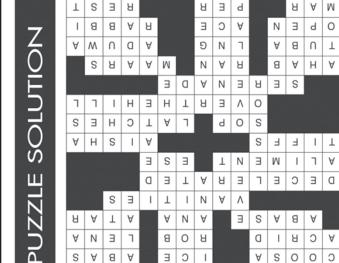
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Meet Loki - This handsome gentleman is a great dog, a true adventure buddy who loves his walks and outside time but will also come back inside for a well deserved nap on his bed/ blanket. Here's the thing. Loki has become nervous when meeting new people so it takes a few meetings for him to trust new friends. He is most nervous around men however, the staff has noticed him displaying standoffish and self-preserving behavior around most new peo-ple - he is just unsure. So, when you come into the shelter please consider giving him a while to get to know you - come for a walk with him and the Adoption staff, bring some cookies, and be prepared for a few visits before he gets used to



your company before a deeper connection can be made. This is also son to remember in home because he won't appreciate new people coming to visit Loki is such a good boy and being in the shelter has made him frustrated but we know his perfect person is out there! He also should be the only pet in the home. Do you have the TLC - time, love, and care - for this wonderful guy Come visit him or call us at the shelter for more information! (508) 867-5525 *Loki's adoption fee has been generously paid for by a donor





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TO SUBMIT A LETTER

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OR send to Spencer New Leader

TO THE EDITOR:

Spencer officials discuss override hearings

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — With town meeting and election season fast approaching, selectmen are preparing for public hearings on an anticipated override request.

Beginning in September of last year, several municipal department heads have presented to the Board during public workshops. These included a session during which Police Chief Michael Befford and Fire Chief Robert Parsons discussed the challenges of their respective departments.

"The Board of Selectmen continue to discuss the amount of the potential override and the uses of the funds," said Town Administrator Jeffrey Bridges. "Public safety is determined to be the most important for the override consideration; other factors are still under discussion. The goal is to have something on the ballot this spring."

If the Proposition 2 ½ override authorization request moves forward, it would likely come before voters at the Annual Town Meeting in May, as well as a ballot question.

On Feb. 20, selectmen discussed the process during a workshop session. Further discussion was slated for the Board's Feb. 24 meeting.

"We want to put as much information out to the public as we can before any vote," said Selectman Anthony Pepe. "We have critical public safety requests for the town moving forward. We need to finalize what we want to present at public hearings."

Public safety priorities listed by selectmen include support for the Spencer Rescue Squad; staffing assistance for the police department and highway department; and funding for the continuation of three fire department positions whose grant funds will expire.

Înfrastructure improvements may also appear in the request, officials said. Moreover, municipal employee insurance assistance has been discussed as an option.

"The problem is that health insurance has gone up, and town employees are paying 60 percent," said Select Board Chairman John Howard.

Not only are selectmen discussing which items to include in the override request, but also the best route for seeking residents' authorization. At recent meetings, officials have mulled whether to aggregate items into a single request whose funds would span a threeyear block, or if items should be presented to voters as individual requests.

"We will have public

hearings, see what the residents feel, and then put forward a final ask," Pepe added. "There are a lot of things residents need to consider for the future."

Officials acknowledge that 2025 is presenting even steeper challenges than previous years, with many factors entering the equation. These include the strain of attempting to fund the school budget while also juggling expanded public safety and infrastructure needs.

"It's a challenging time for all small towns right now," Selectman Gary Woodbury said. "We used ARPA funds to cover the budget last year. We don't have that extra money this year." With time running thin to put together an initial override proposal, officials said certain items may need to be pared down or nixed altogether.

"In this ask, we want to save every penny we can for the taxpayer," Pepe added.

Selectmen hope to move quickly in scheduling public hearings and presenting their initial request to voters. Once feedback is received, the request can be adjusted in advance of a final proposal.

"At the end of the day, the voters are going to decide. We have to give them the opportunity to be fully informed before they make their decision," Woodbury added.

Sheriff's office spreads kindness



Courtesy

Members of the Worcester County Sheriff's Office recently supported several local organizations through the Random Acts of Kindness Initiative.

"Infrared Obsessions" by Bruce Arnold opens at ArtWorks Gallery



ing landscapes and architectural scenes. The body of work in this exhibition represents the culmination of years of Arnold's exploration and experimentation using digital infrared photography. The exhibition highlights how this unique photographic technique is used in fine art, and the overall effect illustrates the expressive potential within this little-known but powerful artistic medium.

REGION — Several community organizations and programs benefited from the annual Random Acts of Kindness Initiative led by the Worcester County Sheriff's Office.

Taking place throughout the week leading up to Random Acts

to Random Acts of Kindness Day, Feb. 17, the initiative brought together multiple organizations and community members.

"With this initiative, the goal is to inspire acts of kindness throughout the entire county," read a statement released by the Sheriff's Office. "We encourage the residents of Worcester County to pass it on and do a random act of kindness of their own."

Sponsors for this year's initiative include CareOne at Millbury, Pepsi of Worcester and Windham, and Polar

res- Beverage. ster The co

The combined efforts of these sponsors, along with members of the Sheriff's Office and the Worcester County Reserve Deputy Sheriff Association, helped obtain and distribute 3,500 goody bags.

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WARE — ArtWorks Gallery announces the March 1st opening of "Infrared Obsessions," an exhibition of infrared photography by Bruce Arnold of North Brookfield. Massachusetts. This exhibition will be on display from March 1 through March 31 at ArtWorks Gallery, located at 69 Main St., Ware. It will open with a reception on March 1 from 1-4 p.m. Gallery hours are Saturdays and Sundays from 1-4 p.m.

"Infrared Obsessions" presents the unique view of the everyday world when seen in the invisible infrared spectrum. This exhibition showcases the creative applications of infrared photography, featurAbout ArtWorks Gallery and Workshop13

ArtWorks Gallery is Workshop13's gallery on Main Street. This space features numerous art exhibitions each year and is also available to rent for individual or group Workshop13 shows. Cultural Arts and Learning Center is a rural non-profit arts innovator located in Ware, Massachusetts and devoted to increasing the appreciation and accessibility of the arts, strengthening the creative life of our community through instruction, collaborations, and artsbased initiatives.



questions and availability.

* * * Friday's Child * * *



Amaury Age 7 Registration # 8839

Amaury is a bright, happy, and energetic boy in search of a family. Grownups in his life describe him as friendly, polite, curious, bright, and playful. Amaury is great at forming and maintaining positive relationships with children in his age group. He is not afraid to seek support from the grownups in his life when he needs it. Amaury loves playing at the park and playgrounds, particularly being swinging on swing sets and going down slides. He also enjoys outdoor games and activities, watching YouTube videos, going to friends' birthday par-

ties, and identifying different types of cars.

https://www.mareinc.org/child/21175660316

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

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care 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.



Growing basil



Fresh on your pizza, added to your favorite Italian and Southeastern Asian dishes, or made into pesto, it's not surprising basil is often called the king of herbs.

MELINDA

MYERS

Look for opportunities to include basil in gardens, containers, and ornamental plantings. Purple varieties add color and combine nicely with other flowers and vegetables. Everleaf Emerald Towers is a very tall and productive plant that adds vertical interest to container and in-ground gardens.

Always wait for the air and soil to warm before moving basil into the garden. Cold air and soil can stunt or damage the plants and increase the risk of downy mildew. You may even see blackened leaves and other damage when tem-

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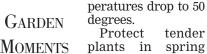
Removal

Weekly

Pickups

~ Reliable ~

Cleanouts



tender plants in spring and extend the harvest in fall with the help of floating row covers. These spun fabrics trap heat around the plants while allowing air, light, and water

through. Lightweight row covers can be used throughout the summer to protect the plants from Japanese beetles.

Keep plants healthy and help reduce the risk of downy mildew disease by growing basil in sunny locations with plenty of room to reach their mature size. The extra space allows sunlight to reach all parts of the plants, and the added air movement quickly dries the leaves.

Avoid overhead irrigation whenever possible. Instead, use soaker hoses, drip irrigation, or a watering wand to apply the water directly to the soil

Red leaf, Thai, and lemon-flavored basil varieties are less susceptible to downy mildew. Relatively new sweet basil varieties

such

Devotion

DMR,

Obsession

Passion

as



add color and interest to containers and gardens.

Thunderstruck DMR. DMR, Prospera Compact DMR, and Prospera are downy mildew resistant.

Purple basil varieties

Watch for slugs that feed at night, eating large, ragged holes in the leaves. Trap them with shallow containers of beer sunk into the ground or use a slug beer trap with a built-in cover. The slugs are attracted to the fermenting yeast, crawl inside, and die.

Unlike slugs, the Japanese beetles feed and DMR, mate in broad daylight. They devour large portions of the leaves, leaving only the veins behind. If you see circular clear or black spots on the leaves the four-lined plant bug is the culprit. The dead tissue may eventually fall out, resulting in small holes.

Manage Japanese beetles and plant bugs by of soapy water or treating the plants with an organic insecticide labeled for controlling these pests on basil. Always read and follow all label directions for safe and effective control.

Harvest basil as need-

Leicester Knights of Columbus invite community to family dinner

LEICESTER — The Leicester Knights of Columbus invite residents to attend a family dinner next month.

The dinner will take place on Wednesday, March 12, at 6 p.m. The location is 90 Manville St.

The dinner cost is \$15 per person. Each meal will include a salad; a choice of corned beef and cabbage or baked fish; dessert; and coffee. To reserve your spot, please call Don at 508-615-8434. You may also send an email to: ohno7g7@yahoo.com.

Please make your reservations by March 6.

ed. Regular harvesting will increase productivity and ensure the best flavor. Remove flower buds as soon as they appear

Melinda Myers

BEER

continued from page A1

knocking them into a can Force together, both eventually chosen to attend Services Uniformed University in Bethesda, Md.

> They married in 2020, at the height of the pandemic, and they are now in their fourth year as resident doctors in San Antonio, Texas.

> Having grown up in Spencer, Beer regularly visits her family in town during leave. She enjoys each opportunity to return to her hometown, and she thanks local residents for their strong support as she embraces the combined challenges of training for a marathon while fundraising.

> 'It has been exciting and often daunting to work toward a new physical goal, but getting to

to maintain foliage flavor. But don't worry if a few blossoms appear, these are also edible and a favorite of beneficial insects.

Plan to grow and harvest extra basil to make pesto or flavored vinegar. Make plenty to enjoy throughout the year and share with family and friends.

Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including Midwest Gardener's Handbook, Revised Edition, and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers. com.

do so alongside my HFOT teammates makes it easier to dig deep and get the work done," Beer said.

Donations currently being made to HFOT will help the organization with its upcoming home build for Navy Lieutenant Commander John Pucillo in Massachusetts.

If you would like to join the mission and support those who served, visit: https://www.givengain. com/project/emma-raising-funds-for-homes-forour-troops-85549.

"These homes provide not just a physical space, but a foundation for independence, comfort, and healing," read a statement posted to Beer's fundraising page. "No amount is too small, and every dollar brings us one step closer to providing a safe home for a hero."





Readers Reveal Tips and Tricks!

It's time to take a peek into the Take the Hint! snail mail and virtual mailboxes. Thanks to the readers who have taken time from shoveling and de-icing to send in their great tips for dealing with the little nuisances in life!

remember readers, And your hints put you in the running for a three course dinner for two at the Publick House!

This simple but ingenious tip is sure to be appreciated by travelers:

Here is how to bring a 16 ounce water bottle through the TSA line without getting it tossed out:

Freeze one 16 ounce bottle of water until solid, drink any excess melted liquid prior to placing it in the tray before

it goes in the machine. Ice is not a liquid so it is allowed.

You will have a free cold bottle of water for the plane ride once it melts.

Darlene Hamilton East Brookfield.

MA

A reader offers a pair of tips that extend the use of garlic saving money while adding flavor:

I have two helpful hints for Garlic.

Chop/mince up fresh 1. garlic cloves and add to melted butter to marinate it. It can be stored in the fridge and used on vegetables, beef, baked potatoes,

TAKE THE HINT KAREN TRAINOR

fish etc. If you 2. grow garlic, in the spring when the garlic bulb sends up the shoot, cut it half way and chop it up to use in salads, scrambled eggs, or any-

where you need a little spice. Steven Rodgers

In a recent Reader Hint column, a submission offered ways to keep donuts from going stale. See below for readers who submitted their own donut tips:

A longtime reader who will be 100 years old next month (Happy Birthday Mary Ann!), shares her tried and true method to up leftover donuts:

I read about the stale donuts in your article. When I have stale donuts, I split them in half. Then I butter them, put them in a flat plan, sprinkle sugar and cinnamon on them, then I place them under the broiler. This make them nice and brown and good –while warm.

My kids loved them and my company once said "the dogs are not getting stale donuts anymore!'

PS: Lord willing, I will be 100 on March 22! Still in my condo and do everything. God is good!

Mary Ann Wiersma

Whitinsville, MA

This reader has the donut trick "in the bag!"

I read with interest the fresh donut suggestion submitted by Sharon, whereas you put individualized donuts in little ziplock baggies to keep them fresh in a box. This is a good idea, however, I have another hint as to how to keep them fresher longer.

I keep them in the original box but insert the box into a plastic bag and wrap it up with a tie. The bag can be any bag you have kept from the bakery or a loaf of bread. This also works when the donuts are in a paper bag, though you should close the bag tightly before securing it in a plastic outer bag

This isn't foolproof, but you get a couple of more days of a fresher donut.

Mariann LoSasso

Spencer, MA

Prize Winner

Congratulations to Mariann LoSasso of Spencer, whose name was drawn for Dinner for Two at the Publick House. She shared the tip for keeping donuts fresh above.

Win a Three Course Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

In memory of heroic police officer, Cornerstone Bank donation helps prevent drownings

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is donating \$5,000 to an organization created in memory of a Worcester police officer who died trying to save a boy from drowning. The Manny 267 Foundation raises funds to donate flotation devices, known as "Manny Tubes," to police departments nationwide.

In June of 2021, Officer Emmanuel "Manny" Familia, whose badge number was 267, responded to a 911 call reporting the drowning of 14-year-old Troy Love in Green Hill Pond, Worcester. Tragically, neither Officer Familia nor Love emerged from the water alive. The officer's family created the foundation to raise awareness about drowning hazards and the importance of water safety for first responders and the community.

"Officer Familia was a hero who selflessly paid the ultimate sacrifice for his bravery,' said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "We are humbled to be able to support the Manny 267 Foundation's work to prevent tragedies like the one that shook our community in Central Massachusetts."

Each of the yellow, 40-by-5inch flotation tubes, which feature Familia's name and signa-

ture, can support the weight of five people during a water emergency. Money raised by the foundation also funds water safety training for officers and swimming lessons for children, in hopes of preventing such tragedies from occurring again. "It's remarkable how this

organization has turned a heartbreaking situation into a positive act to support children and officers across the country," said Tallman. "We are honored to be a part of this tribute to Officer Familia's life and legacv.'



AMHERST — The following students were named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Students are appointed to the Dean's List at the end of a semester in which they have completed a minimum of 12 graded credits and have earned a grade point average of 3.500 or better. Brookfield

Liam Bisson Ingersoll, Ania Bolaske, Sadie Bridges, Michael Casey, Cody Chen, Aiden Earle, Sara Evans, Abigail Hildick, Ayla Iwaniec, Josephine Landon, Jakob Lanne, Kendall LaRiviere, Emma McGinty, Sierra Murray, Jacob Peterson, Jared Peterson, Derrick Shepherd, Sydney Warren, Elena Weissman

Leicester Jacob Altman, Spencer Cote, Zavier Morales, Matthew Tomasino

Rochdale Matthew Brown, Sean Brown, Nabil Elkorchi,

Jillian Morrison Spencer



Area residents named to

Dean's List at Saint Anselm

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Saint Anselm College has released the Dean's List of high academic achievers for the first semester of the 2024-2025 school year. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have achieved a grade point average of 3.4 or better in the semester with at least 12 credits of study which award a letter grade. A total of 622 students representing 23 states and four countries received this honor.

Mark W. Cronin, Dean of the College, announced that Abigail Bernabei of Leicester been named to the Dean's List for the fall 2024 semester at Saint Anselm College, Manchester, New Hampshire.

About Saint Anselm College

Founded in 1889, Saint Anselm College is a fouryear liberal arts college providing a 21st century education in the Catholic, Benedictine tradition. Located in southern New Hampshire near Boston and the seacoast, Saint Anselm is well known for its strong liberal arts curriculum, the New Hampshire Institute of Politics, a highly successful nursing program, a legacy of community service and a commitment to the arts.

William Anderson, Rhylee Bishop, Joseph Czechowicz, Maura Donahue, Zachary Hinman, Alexandra Holmes, Rhea Negron, William Ordung, Jonathan Ostromecky, Gabriella Saint-Vil, Ashley Wilson

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> **FRANK G. CHILINSKI** PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE EDITOR

Editorial

It's okay to change your mind about politics

Politics in America can feel like a team sport. Once you pick a side, there's pressure to stick with it no matter what. But it's okay to change your mind. In fact, it's healthy. If something isn't working whether in your town, your state, or the country as a whole you don't have to keep supporting the same people, policies, or parties just because you always have.

It's easy to get caught up in labels, but at the end of the day, bad is bad and good is good, no matter who says it. A politician can be from your preferred party and still make bad decisions, say harmful things, or push policies that don't align with your values. Likewise, someone from "the other side" can have a good idea or do the right thing. Being honest about that doesn't mean betraying your beliefs it means thinking for yourself.

We all grow, learn, and experience

VIEW POINTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

<u>LETTERS TO THE EDITOR</u> In support of law enforcement

To the Editor:

This letter is presented to voice my disdain for the recent pardons and release of convicted criminals whose deeds and intent was to do bodily harm or worse to law enforcement men and women performing their duty and service.

Any police officer, in any jurisdiction, who is the victim of attack or purposeful injury while doing their duty should never have to witness the unconscionable and capricious washing away of the responsibility of those who committed these heinous crimes.

I can only guess at the anger and disgust that the majority of police officers must feel at this time, but be assured, the majority of Americans also feel it and do so without reservation.

This decision should never have been made, and can never be justified by any self-serving and dictatorial argument.

who worked for him. He claims to

eliminate wasteful government spend-

ing as he cuts funds that would help

protect the environment and provide

some relief for the poor, in this coun-

try and abroad. Of course, he has

no intention of forgoing tax cuts for

himself and his billionaire friends,

or reducing his million-dollar trips to

illustration of himself wearing a gold-

en crown. I think a picture of him sit-

ting on his golden throne, his famous

golden toilet, is more appropriate.

No matter how shiny that toilet is,

we all know what passes through it.

Unfortunately, the verbiage expressed

trouble, and it is my great hope that a

few heroes from the Republican party

will finally step forward and join

Democrats in confronting this gen-

uine threat to democracy and world

peace. What legacy do Republican

legislators want to leave? Will the

image of the U.S. as a champion for

democracy be forever tarnished by

its failure to join our allies abroad in

recognizing and confronting the true

DAVID W. BROWN

NORTH BROOKFIELD

aggressor in the Ukrainian conflict?

Recently Trump posted an

Our country is in serious

speedways or golf courses.

by his mouth is no less foul.

Thank you.

JOE ESPER ROCHDALE

Carefully consider Social Security decisions



Your Social Security benefits can be an important part of your retirement income — but when should you start collecting them? It's a big decision, so you'll want to consider your options carefully.

Essentially, you'll need to decide whether you're going to take your benefits as early as possible — age 62 — or if you should wait until your "full retirement age" or even longer. If you begin accepting benefits at 62, they'll be about 30 percent lower than if you waited until your full retirement age, which is 67 if you were born in 1960 or later. And if you wait until 70, your benefits will be about 24 percent higher than at your full retirement age.

In deciding when to claim benefits, you'll want to weigh these factors:

Income needs — If you need the money to help meet your daily cost of living, then you may not feel you have much of a choice about when to take Social Security. However, if you have sufficient income from other sources, such as your 401(k) or other retirement accounts, you may be able to delay taking benefits until they're much larger.

Employment — If you're still working and you haven't reached your full retirement age yet, it might be a good idea to wait before claiming Social Security because your benefits will be reduced by \$1 for every \$2 earned above \$23,400. In the year in which you reach your full retirement age, your benefits will be reduced by \$1 for every \$3 earned above \$62,160. (But once you reach your full retirement age, Social Security will

What will our legacy be?

To the Editor:

A few days ago, Donald Trump called Zelenskyy a dictator and blamed him for Putin's invasion of Ukraine. In just one month, Trump has managed to alienate our allies and neighbors while attempting to destroy the NATO alliance and enable Putin in his invasion of a sovereign nation. Trump claims to be preventing World War III. His solution - give Putin what he wants. I wonder what his solution would have been to halt the aggression of Adolph Hitler

Trump, the convicted felon, continues to refer to Joe Biden as a criminal, without any evidence of a crime. Closely following the blueprint laid out by Project 2025, he is ignoring the rule of law and introducing chaos in an attempt to remove any checks and balances to his autocratic rule. Already he has committed impeachable offences, claiming the right to 1) reverse the 14th amendment to the Constitution, 2) impound funds and claim the power to line item veto the national budget, 3) threaten and potentially use force to steel Greenland, and 4) offer labor-free months at full pay for those willing to resign from their iobs

Trump has had a long history of making promises he did not intend to keep, often cheating those

A plea for pause

To the Editor:

The last few weeks have been stressful for many of us, and although the rapid changes to our government dismay me, this letter is not about who is right or wrong. Instead, it is a plea to pause and think about what we all might agree on moving forward and what we have lost. It was a pleasure growing up in a small community. Born in Spencer (at home!), I was blessed to be part of a wonderful neighborhood including a dairy farm, easy access to the Seven Mile River, kids my own age, woods and fields to explore and parents who let us be kids, silly, goofy adventurous children with a love of being outside. This meant long bike rides, swimming in the river, spooking each other at the Pine Grove Cemetery, whiffle ball, ice-cold Kool-Aid in a large bucket, berry picking, basketball in the hayloft of the barn, grooming heifers for the Spencer Fair, (and sneaking into the Fair over the fence, a childhood ritual!) And you know what? Our parents may have had different political views, but I never saw loud arguments, anger or friendships ruined. They loved us all which led to a parental conspiracy of holding us all accountable...you did something wrong on their watch, your parents knew! Boy did we hate that! As a child, it took me awhile to identify what that all was about, but now I know. These parents knew that community was important. They had empathy, civility, kindness and valued their neighbors. They helped each other when times were tough, shared childcare and transporting kids to church, sports, etc. They sat through our endless neighborhood plays, supported Girl Scout cookie sales, wiped our tears when we lost beloved pets, survived our adolescence and on and on. So why is this important? Our political views have divided communities, wrecked friendships and families pitting us against each other often with anger and even hatred. In thinking about my community of the past, I have grown to believe that we still have things that many of us can agree on today. And, I know empathy is still alive. I truly believe that community matters. My own neighborhood helped me learn about life in a safe environment with loving support. In fact, two of my very best

friends of that time and I make an effort to get together two or three times per year. When we do, it feels like the years roll away and we are back in our special moments of times past.

life in ways that shape how we see the world. Maybe you've felt the effects of a policy firsthand. Maybe you've had conversations that opened your eyes to something you hadn't considered before. That's part of being human. Staying locked into a political identity just because it's what you've always done doesn't leave room for those experiences to shape your views.

Staying clear-eyed means cutting through the noise. Ignore the team mentality. Ignore the pressure to defend bad behavior just because it comes from "your side." Instead, focus on what's right and what's wrong. Look at leadership decisions, policies, and actions not just the letter next to someone's name.

Most importantly, stay kind and good in the process. When it comes time to vote, vote based on what actually aligns with your beliefs today not what you thought five, ten, or twenty years ago.

Changing your mind isn't weakness. In a world that often demands blind loyalty, thinking for yourself is one of the strongest things you can do.

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. You will see below that I have put together a sample list of some of the things that have come up for discussion in the United States. Please read, add some of your own and perhaps we can put together an informal Community Discussion Group in the future to share our views and ideas of how to move forward, taking back the true community neighborhood spirit. Here is the sample list:

Do we want our friends and relatives, especially seniors, to return to paying over \$400 for life-saving insulin when they can't afford it?

Do we still believe that social security is necessary and should be protected?

Do we desire to see disabled neighbors or children lose their supports?

Do we believe in supporting public education?

Do our neighbors/children who happen to be different from us deserve to be discriminated against?

Do we believe that the rule of law should no longer be supported?

Do we believe that free school lunches for poor children lacking food is government waste?

Can people with different political views find a way to bring our communities together again?

Do we still believe in democracy and our Constitution?

There are many of us who are concerned right now about what is happening in our country, and want to preserve community. There even is a nonpartisan group, Braver Angels, that brings together people with different political views who share a common goal of finding common ground. I believe it is possible to work together to bring back civility, kindness and empathy once again. I expect to experience some anger and disbelief and probably hatred directed at me for writing this letter. However, I know that there are some of you out there who grieve with me for what we once had.

Sincerely,

ANN TOOMEY-DOANE WEST BROOKFIELD adjust your payments to credit you for the months during which your benefits were lowered because of your income.)

Life expectancy — None of us can say for certain how long we'll live — but you may have some hints. For example, if you have a family history of longevity, and you're in good health, you might decide it makes sense to delay taking Social Security until your full retirement age, or even later, as you could potentially have more years of receiving larger checks.

Spouse — If you're married, decisions about when to claim benefits could affect you or your spouse. The spouse with lower Social Security payments may be eligible to receive spousal benefits, which, when combined with their own benefits, can reach up to 50% of the higher-benefit spouse's payment at their full retirement age. To qualify, the lower-benefit spouse's benefit at their full retirement age must be less than half of the other spouse's full-retirement-age benefit. But if the lower-benefit spouse claims their benefits before their full retirement age, their own retirement benefit and the spousal benefit will be reduced. Also, the lower-benefit spouse reaches their maximum benefit amount at their full retirement age — they won't receive additional benefits even if they or the higher-benefit spouse delays taking benefits past their respective full retirement ages.

One other point to keep in mind: If the higher-benefit spouse claims early, the survivor benefit to the other spouse is reduced, but if the higher-benefit spouse delays their benefit beyond their full retirement age, the survivor benefit is increased.

By making the appropriate choices, you can help maximize your Social Security benefits — and possibly enjoy a more comfortable retirement.

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bulldozing American democracy & our Constitution – or protecting them

To the Editor:

Let's start by going back 250 years to the late 1700s, and to two revolutions. The first was ours in America and the other took place in France. Both threw out the rule of kings and formed governments "by and for the people."

During those and later years, people have debated which one of this new tis form of government - democracy - was better, the one France or the one in the United States.

Some, led by John Locke (at the time called "Liberals"), believed the French one better, because it bull dozed out the monarchy system of government and replaced it with a completely new one.

Others, led by Edmund Burke (at the time called "Conservatives"), thought our American approach was better.

Thanks in large part to the brilliance of our "Founding Fathers" Washington, Madison, Adams, Franklin etc. — we took a more "conservative" approach. Rather than bulldozing existing British institutions and traditions, we built upon and improved them.

One important improvement centered on the establishment of "Separate But Equal Powers" — the Presidency, Congress, and the Supreme Court. This allowed for a system of "Checks and Balances" to make sures that one person or power did not override the others. Another was the establishment of a government service - both civil and military - loyal not to a leader, but to our Constitution.

We can easily compare the results of the American and French approaches. Our "Conservative" building on what exists approach has survived and thrived for 250 year and became the envy of the world.

The French 'bulldozer -start a new"

To the Editor:

When you elect a criminal, nobody should be surprised when he acts like one. While not in a position to give the \$19 a month that virtually every charity asks for, I was glad that our USAID program was feeding the starving and preventing polio in the wider world. I am told that the knowledge of our generous outreach has gone a long ways to prevent many places from becoming terrorist recruitment centers. The propaganda that stepping away from doing those things will be a great recruiting tool. I hope DOGE is keeping a good tally of the dedicated people they fire-This one is 10,000 farmers, packers, shippers, manufacturers, missionaries. The rapid shut down has food rotting on docks, in paid storage or being stolen. Being stolen might be the best outcome of Musk's torpedo. It is a good thing we got rid of the Consumer Protection Agency because its half billion-dollar budget only returned \$18 billion to consumers last year. I do not think there are any more cheating banks, card companies, fly by night loan companies or phone fraud operators left, so why would we need protection? Musk and his brown shirts are donating their time. We only cover their \$7 million a week in expenses. If Musk decides to put X in competition with Venmo, we should not worry; after all, the inspector generals are gone, so we saved on that, and agencies that oversee fraud are a waste of money And the many millions of Musk's new contracts are great. Speaking of greatness, Trump thinks Viktor Orban, PM of Hungary, is great Not only does he control the army ,courts, police, legislature, but also the press (so, of course, it is never fake) It is exactly the greatness he wants to bestow on us. Orban also likes to visit Putin and shares similar powers.

approach has not experienced such success. Back in the 1700s it chose a unitary "I alone" leader by the name of Napoleon. He soon became a dictator and within a few years the government collapsed, a war was lost, and French democracy was no more. The last time I counted, France was on its fifth attempt to maintain a Republic

Now let's jump forward from the 1700s to the 1970s to someone called the "American Burke", Daniel Patrick Moynihan. A person of many talents, as a civil servant, he served in the Republican administrations of Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford. Following that, elected as a Democrat, he served 24 years as a Senator.

In these positions he earned much praise and some criticism from both Democrats and Republicans. The criticism did not much bother him as he was more a Burke Institutionalist than "left" or "right." More than anything else Moynihan believed in America's Institutions, including government service and in not bulldozing them but cherishing, protecting and improving them.

In my own small way, I follow Burke and Movnihan

I also strongly disagree with the approaches of Napoleon in France, Hitler in Germany and Stalin and Putin in Russia. I feel the same in America about those who say that "I alone" can rule, America needs "a dictator for a day" (or more), and who demand loyalty not to our Constitution, but to themselves.

In this, I see a kindred spirit in the other "KK."

> KEVIN KANE Spencer

Outer limits

attacked Russia. Putin thought the previously successful USSR tactic they used to seize the Balkans and Poland would work in Ukraine, but instead Ukraine started the war by destroying the thousand tanks he sent. I wonder what we would do? Would we start a war? Would it be OK to give up territory and resources?

No matter how demented this unqualified moron (John Bolton's description) gets, they will not invoke the 25th Amendment because his Cabinet was hand selected for loyalty over experience or qualification for the job. This Congress certainly will not impeach; in fact, I doubt they do anything. I never saw so many people pledged to support and defend the Constitution who don't. It would take a giant blue wave in '26 to impeach, but he may have declared and cancelled elections by then. He has done more damage to world standing in a month than I would have ever thought possible. It is all smoke and mirrors and lies. If you were saving money, you would not have [thrown] away \$30 million for photo ops at the Super Bowl and Daytona events you did not attend. You would not be burning our tax dollars playing golf and charging Secret Service full resort prices. Your unemployment figures will not hit while fired people are on severance pay, so cannot file, but inflation is already a rocket, and tariffs will blow the roof off. Some foreign auto makers, pushed to open plants here have closed because bringing in their own parts is too expensive. Stable genius is not the term you deserve. Every time I think the things you do could not get worse or more bizarre, you prove me wrong.

Rejected, ridiculed, right

I love stories about people who saw the world differently-people who challenged everything society told them was true. These are the people who tend to change history.

At first, their ideas were dismissed as absurd, ridiculous, and dangerous. Yet today, we take their discoveries, beliefs, and courage for granted.

If vou've ever been told to wash your hands before eating, you have Ignaz Semmelweis to thank. But in his lifetime, he wasn't thanked-he was ridiculed.

Semmelweis was a Hungarian doctor in the mid-1800s who noticed something horrifying: women in maternity wards were dying at an alarming rate from something called "childbed fever." And in a baffling twist, women treated by doctors had a much higher mortality rate than those treated by midwives.

Semmelweis had a radical idea—maybe, just maybe, doctors should wash their hands before delivering babies. At the time, doctors would go straight from dissecting cadavers to delivering newborns without so much as rinsing off. Semmelweis implemented handwashing with a chlorinated solution in his hospital, and the mortality rate plummeted.

You'd think this discovery would be celebrated, right? Wrong. His peers mocked him and rejected his ideas, and he lost his hospital position. Frustrated and increasingly combative, he struggled to gain acceptance for his findings. Eventually, he was committed to an asylum, where he died after being severely beaten by guards.

It wasn't until years later, with the rise of germ theory-that the ized Semmelweis had been absolutely, unquestionably right.

If you could time-travel back to POSITIVELY the late 1800s and SPEAKING tell people that one day, the entire world would be MOORE powered by invisible energy moving through the air, they'd probably lock you

TOBY

up. But one man already saw it coming-Nikola Tesla.

Tesla pioneered alternating current (AC) electricity, which is now the global standard, but at the time, many believed it was dangerous and impractical. He envisioned wirecommunication, less free energy, and devices that could send information instantly across the globe. Sound familiar? It should-because today. we call that Wi-Fi and smartphones.

But Tesla was often overshadowed, sabotaged, and financially ruined. His greatest rival waged a smear campaign against him, staging public electrocutions of animals to convince people that Tesla's AC electricity was deadly.

Tesla's dream of wireless energy transmission led him to build the Wardenclyffe Tower, ambitious project an to transmit electricity through the air. However, investors, including J.P. Morgan, pulled funding when they realized it wouldn't be easily monetized.

By the time Tesla died, he was broke, alone, and largely forgotten.

Today, Tesla's work is the foundation of modern electrical power. Wireless charging, radio waves, and even remote-controlled drones all trace back to his ideas. His name is now synonymous with innovation (thanks

medical community real- in part to a particular electric car company), but in his lifetime, people saw him as a mad scien-

tist rather than the genius he truly was.

For decades, it was believed that most stomach ulcers were caused by stress and spicy food. Antacids and relaxation were thought to be the

cure-but ulcers kept coming back. Enter Barry Marshall, a doctor who believed that bacteria, not just stress, was a major cause of stomach ulcers.

The idea seemed absurd-how could bacteria survive in the harsh acidity of the stomach? Research journals rejected his papers, and experts dismissed his findings as nonsense.

Frustrated, Marshall took matters into his own hands—literally.

In 1984, he drank a beaker full of H. pylori to prove his point. Within days, he developed severe gastritis, just as he predicted. A biopsy confirmed the presence of the bacteria, and antibiotics cured him completely.

Suddenly, the world had to take him seriously. His discovery led to a complete revolution in ulcer treatment, proving that many ulcers—though not all-could be cured with antibiotics.

In 2005, Marshall and his colleague Robin Warren won the Nobel Prize in Medicine for their work.

The world has always belonged to those bold enough to challenge it. The ideas that shape the future often sound impossible at first.

If you have a belief, a dream, or a vision that goes against the grain, take heart. The next significant breakthrough won't come from someone who plays it safe-it might come from someone like vou.

Local students named to Emmanuel College Dean's List

BOSTON — In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College has named more than 1,000 students to the Dean's List for the Fall 2024 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

Of course, we all know that Ukraine

Let's say people are fraudulently collecting Social Security. Please claw it back and indict them. In fact, with all the fraud claimed, is just locking doors the right answer?

KEN KIMBALL BROOKFIELD

The following local students were named to the Dean's List:

Emma O'Coin of Leicester. O'Coin is a Nursing major.

Abby Doku of Leicester. Doku is a Criminology & Criminal Justice major.

With more than 80 majors and areas of study, Emmanuel College combines outstanding classroom instruction and real-world experience to prepare students for lives of professional achievement, lifelong learning, and purpose. Voted the #1 college location in America by Niche.com in 2023 and 2024, Emmanuel offers access to world class medical, cultural, and business organizations, all with a tight-knit 17-acre campus and 13:1 student-to-faculty ratio. Learn more at Emmanuel.edu.



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DPHS

continued from page A1

begin at the Pre-K wing, and exterior entrance storefronts will be installed.

Outside, granite curb-ing will be installed throughout the Phase 1 parking lots. Moreover, further work to the athletic facilities will take place this spring.

"The interior renovation of the concessions building at the football field will begin," Pimentel said.

Looking ahead to the summer months, school officials are preparing for several new items to arrive for installation.

"We are in the process of procuring furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the school, and we expect to have items arriving throughout the summer for the new school year, as we anticipate parts of the project to be brought online in late August 2025 for the staff and students," Haughey added.

The renovated football field and track are scheduled to be ready for use continued from page A1 in 2026.

be renovated in the summer of 2026, with use of feeling," Ogert added. the facilities expected in The experience was the fall of that year.

The summer of 2026 will also feature the demolition of Prouty's current classroom building. By then, the new classconstructed and ready for student use.

Whitsett his career. Jones Architects, Inc., is serving as the architect for the project. The general and the entire Leicester contractor is Fontaine school Bros., Inc.

officials can't wait to watch further progress in this very competitive unfold this spring ahead national contest is a tesof a busy summer. When tament to his character, the project eventually reaches its conclusion, look. Anyone who knows students will enjoy stateof-the-art academic and athletic facilities.

For further information about the project, visit <u>www.sebrsd.org</u>.

SUPER BOWL

lifetime opportunity-The tennis courts will and being a part of their experience—is a great

thrilling for all stu-

continued from page A1

Leicester school offiroom wing will be fully cials congratulate Rutter for everything he has done to support the LHS community throughout

"This is an incredible honor for Christian community," said Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Moving forward, school Brett Kustigian. "For Christian to be selected grit, and positive out-

dents on the trip, but for Ogert and Wallace it was especially meaningful. Roughly fifteen years after first playing football together for the Leicester Spencer Raiders, then going their separate ways for high school, they are

Christian also knows that he is an incredibly positive student with a bright future. We are very proud."

Disney Dreamers Academy delivers several educational experiences and programs, including interactive career workshops, motivational talks, and networking opportunities. All activities are designed to inspire students to keep dreaming big.

During their time in Florida, Dreamers meet Disney cast members, celebrities, industry experts, and community leaders showcasing several career disciplines. still enjoying the game they love, most recently at the grandest showcase of all sporting championships.

"He ended up going to Quabbin High School and I went to David Prouty High School. Then we

Dreamers also have the

opportunity to explore

the magic behind the

scenes while enjoying

free time at Walt Disney

LHS officials are thrilled about Rutter's

opportunity to join the

other Dreamers and take

part in unforgettable

Christian and his family

for some time. He has a

strong sense of self and

what he wants to do as

a career. He was able to

begin that journey at

Leicester High School,

and I am excited that his

hard work is being rec-

ognized and rewarded

known

have

World theme parks.

experiences.

"T

years," Ogert said. "And then going to the Super Bowl together, which was a great experience with him."

> beyond our walls," said LHS Principal Theodore Zawada.

> found out we were going

to the same college and

decided to live with each

other on campus for two

To learn more about the Disney Dreamers Academy, visit: https:// www.disneydreamersacademy.com/ be-a-dreamer/about/.

"Each spring, 100 exceptional young people arrive at the Disney Dreamers Academy with ambition, excitement, and hopes for the future. Days later, they return home with the motivation, guidance, and skills to help make those dreams come true," read a statement released by program organizers.

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





POLICE REPORTS

Leicester Police Log

6:15 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 9:37 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), services rendered; 11:11 a.m.: debris in road (River Street), referred; 11:58 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 1:10 p.m.: summons service (Stafford Street), served; 1:25 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians Drive), transported; 3:23 p.m.: ambulance (Northampton Street, Worcester), transported; 4:40 p.m.: mutual aid (Sutton Avenue, Oxford), services rendered; 4:53 p.m.: malicious mischief (Memorial School Drive), report taken; 6:07 p.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve; 6:24 p.m.: summons service (Ingram Road), unable to serve; 9:14 p.m.: suspicious mv (Soojians Drive), investigated.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

4:02 a.m.: debris in road (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 8:28 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:35 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:47 a.m.: drug lab (South Main Street), department business; 9:03 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 9:25 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 9:40 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester). transported; 11:05 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 11:13 a.m.: ambulance (Mechanic Street, Spencer), transported; 11:16 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:38 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 12:43 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 12:47 p.m.: larceny (Washburn Square), report taken; 1:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:47 p.m.: suspicious mv (Grove Street), services rendered; 2:22 p.m.: welfare check (Soojians Drive), assisted; 3:12 p.m.: ambulance (Delaware Street, Worcester), transported; 4:21 p.m.: ambulance (Green Street, Worcester), transported; 5:35 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:11 p.m.: suspicious person (Ingram Road), resolved.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

12:29 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 2:32 a.m.: ambulance (South Main Street), report taken; 8:45 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unfounded; 9:48 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:44 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 11:02 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 11:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:25 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), gone on arrival; 11:33 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), spoken to; 1:16 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 1:22 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:42 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 1:58 p.m.: harassment (Town Beach Road), assisted; 2:02 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 3:32 p.m.: hit/run accident (South Main Street), report taken; 5:04 p.m.: parking complaint (Brown Street), resolved; 6:21 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:18 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 11:35 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 11:38 p.m.: disabled mv (Auburn Street), mv towed. SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16 12:38 a.m.: disabled mv (Stafford Street), assisted; 1:16 a.m.: disabled mv (Rawson Street), assisted; 3:21 a.m.: disabled mv (Folsom Street), mv towed; 3:50 a.m.: disabled mv (Brown Street), no action required; 8:22 a.m.: accident (Main Street), assisted; 9:33 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 11:41 a.m.: disturbance (Mannville Street), call canceled; 11:49 a.m.: mv off road (Paxton Street), assisted; 12:02 p.m.: fraud (Meadow Lane), report taken; 12:40 p.m.: mv off road (Paxton Street), gone on arrival; 1:39 p.m.: ambulance (West Street, Worcester), transported; 1:39 p.m.: keep the peace (South Main Street), assisted; 2:16 p.m.: ambulance (Charles Street), transported; 2:32 p.m.: animal complaint (South Main Street), referred; 3:16 p.m.: debris in road (Huntoon Memorial Highway), referred; 3:34 p.m.: debris in road (Huntoon Memorial Highway), resolved; 3:50 p.m.: debris in road (South Main Street), resolved; 4:30 p.m.: parking complaint (Denny Place), call canceled; 6:35 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 6:38 p.m.: hit/ run accident (Stafford Street), report taken; 7:52 p.m.: welfare check (Charles Street), report taken; 9:21 p.m.: assist citizen (Ferncroft Road); 10:29 p.m.: debris in road (River Street), resolved; 10:36 p.m.: residential alarm (White Birch Street), false alarm; 10:44 p.m.: disabled mv (Pine Street), mv towed; 11:08 p.m.: debris in road (Pleasant Street), resolved; 11:10 p.m.: disabled mv (Marshall Street), report taken.

11:16 a.m.: ambulance (Hastings Road, Spencer), transported; 12:21 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:23 p.m.: ambulance (Collier Avenue), transported; 12:34 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), report taken; 2:13 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 2:32 p.m.: animal complaint (Mulberry Street), referred; 3:58 p.m.: ambulance (Pine Street), transported; 4:32 p.m.: ambulance (Vine Street, Spencer), transported; 6:20 p.m.: disabled mv (River Street), mv towed; 6:54 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unfounded; 7:18 p.m.: parking complaint (Stafford Street), resolved; 9:58 p.m.: ambulance (Dale Street), call canceled.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18

7:29 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:02 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:25 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:17 a.m.: ambulance (Rawson Street), transported; 10:38 a.m.: my stop (Pleasant Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, no inspection sticker, criminal application issued; 11:20 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 12:46 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:54 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:59 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:12 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:15 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:34 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:40 p.m.: ambulance (Woodland Street, Worcester), transported: 1:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:57 p.m.: ambulance (Outlook Drive, Worcester), transported; 2:22 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:30 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 4:37 p.m.: parking complaint (Church Street), resolved; 5:13 p.m.: ambulance (Oberlin Street, Worcester), transported; 5:54 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), unfounded; 7:22 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), no service; 8:44 p.m.: animal complaint (Howard Terrace), referred; 9:16 p.m.: assist citizen (Cricklewood Drive).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

1:00 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:19 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 1:57 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:07 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 8:00 a.m.: ambulance (Park Lane), transported; 8:47 a.m.: ambulance (Collier Avenue), transported; 9:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:21 a.m.: disturbance (Craig Street), report taken; 9:22 a.m.: mv stop (Chapel Street), verbal warning; 9:32 a.m.: ambulance (Craig Street), transported; 10:57 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 11:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:26 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Jorge Romero, 27 Mount Vernon Street, #525, Worcester, straight warrant, arrest; 1:57 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 2:12 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 2:21 p.m.: ambulance (Marshall Street), transported; 3:51 p.m.: ambulance (Mary Scano Drive, Worcester), transported; 4:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Fairview Drive), referred; 4:28 p.m.: ambulance (Belmont Street, Worcester), transported; 5:27 p.m.: ambulance (June Street, Worcester), transported; 7:25 p.m.: missing person (Marshall Street), report taken; 7:48 p.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), message delivered; 8:30 p.m.: ambulance (Green Street), transported; 9:07 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 9:21 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 11:34 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning.

8:40 a.m.: accident (Northwest Road), referred; 8:48 a.m.: medical/general (Irving Street); 8:57 a.m.: firearms dealer license issued (West Main Street), assisted; 9:44 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 9:50 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village): 11:07 a.m.: accident (Northwest Road), report taken; 11:20 a.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road); 11:57 a.m.: parking complaint (McCormick Road), mv blocking roadway; 1:00 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), no response noted on police log; 1:00 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), call at CVS; 1:01 p.m.: restraining order service (Terkanian Drive), 1:06 p.m.: school alarm (Ash Street), fire drill; 2:10 p.m.: medical/ general (North Spencer Road); 2:15 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 3:45 p.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), no response noted on police log; 3:45 p.m.: 911 call (Mechanic Street), accidental; 4:03 p.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 4:17 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no response noted on police log; 6:10 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), out treating roads; 6:12 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 6:24 p.m.: medical/general (Sherwood Drive); 7:16 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 7:24 p.m.: medical/general (Donnelly Road); 8:26 p.m.: medical/ general (Valley Street); 10:00 p.m.: DPW call (Wm. Casey Road), sm. tree in roadway: (total daily my stops -2).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

1:44-3:05 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:52 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 5:57 a.m.: DPW call (Browning Pond Road), rep. icy conditions; 7:44 a.m.: DPW call (Washburn Terrace), rep. icy conditions; 8:18 a.m.: DPW call (Lakeshore Drive), rep. icy conditions; 9:42 a.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 10:12 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street), Christina L. Gomez, 33, 14 Pioneer Valley Drive, Spencer, OUI drugs, negligent operation, possession Class A drug, arrest; 11:09 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 11:46 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 11:55 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 12:03 p.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), c/o van parked illegally; 12:06 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 12:19 p.m.: medical/ general (Chestnut Street); 1:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 2:39 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (West Main Street); 2:44 p.m.: fire/ woods/grass (East Charlton Road), illegal burn; 2:45 p.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), have lost dog: 3:45 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 4:11 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), services rendered; 4:32 p.m.: medical/general (Deer Run Road); 4:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street). services rendered; 4:55 p.m.: officer wanted (Pioneer Valley Drive), RMV immediate threat; 5:47 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 6:19 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 6:55 p.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), req. officers to school; 10:17 p.m.: medical/general (Treadwell Drive); (total daily mv stops - 3). SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 12:49-1:06 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:10 a.m.: medical/general (Highland Street); 3:32 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no response recorded on police log; 4:56 a.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), c/o children running around; 5:41 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village): 9:32 a.m.: animal complaint (Smithville Road), rep. missing cat; 9:40 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), assist Shrewsbury PD; 9:46 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:19 a.m.: suspicious persons (Chestnut Street), investigated; 10:20 a.m.: DPW call (Cherry Street), stop sign down; 11:41 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:06 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Bixby Road), no response noted on police log; 12:42 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), no response noted on police log; 1:51 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), re: restraining order; 3:13 p.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), sand for residents depleted; 3:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road). issue w/landlord; 3:51 p.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), investigated; 4:20 p.m.: residential alarm (Northwest Road), services rendered; 4:24 p.m.: mv lockout (North Spencer Road), assist; 5:13 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 5:26 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 5:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 5:53 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:04 p.m.: accident (Charlton Road), report taken; 6:07 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 6:48 p.m.: odor of gas (Chestnut Street), referred; 7:51 p.m.: accident (Wire Village Road), report taken; 8:07 p.m.: medical/general (Cranberry Lane); 8:17 p.m.: 911 call (Bixby Road), child w/phone; (total daily mv stops - 1).

assist; 12:22 p.m.: accident (Chestnut Street), report taken; 12:52 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Charlton Road), mv off roadway; 2:07 p.m.: DPW call (Bay Path Road), icy/slushy conditions; 2:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), c/o loose dog; 2:23 p.m.: 911 call (Mechanic Street), hang-up; 3:02 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), West Brookfield PD bolo; 3:10 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:14 p.m.: DPW call (Parent Street), drainage grate blocked; 3:57 p.m.: DPW call (First Street), c/o road not plowed yet; 4:23 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), assist State Police; 5:33 p.m.: DPW call (Mechanic Street), street flooded; 5:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Browning Pond Road), mv off road; 5:43 p.m.: medical/general (Terkanian Drive); 5:46 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), mv off road/Route 9; 5:50 p.m.: medical/general (Church Street), lift assist; 5:55 p.m.: DPW call (Lake Street), lg. branch on wires; 7:17 p.m.: medical/ general (Mechanic Street); 7:28 p.m.: fire alarm (Mercury Drive), referred; 7:43 p.m.: DPW call (Charron Street), drain blocked; 9:15 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 9:53 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 10:25 p.m.: DPW call (Cherry Street), lg. tree down/power out; 10:31 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), rep. power out; 11:15 p.m.: 911 call (Thompson Pond Road), rep. power out; 11:31 p.m.: DPW call (Thompson Pond Road), tree across road; 11:40 p.m.: DPW call (Main Street), branches on wires; 11:48 p.m.: DPW call (Main Street), lg. tree blocking d/way; (total daily mv stops -0).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

12:04 a.m.: DPW call (Borkum Road), tree in road; 12:10 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 12:42 a.m.: DPW call (Hastings Road), lg. branches on wires: 12:50 a.m.: DPW call (R. Jones Road), lg. branch in roadway; 12:52 a.m.: fire alarm (Borkum Road), referred; 1:08 a.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 1:26 a.m.: DPW call (Charlton Road), lg. tree in road; 1:36 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), fem. stuck in wheelchair; 2:45 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 3:04 a.m.: residential alarm (Wilson Avenue), services rendered; 3:31 a.m.: DPW call (Main Street), rep. water main break; 3:39 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 4:02 a.m.: accident (Oakland Drive), report taken; 4:06 a.m.: DPW call (Temple Street), tree across road; 5:03 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Verizon 911 not working; 5:20 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 5:26 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), rep. tree in road; 6:19 a.m.: officer wanted (Wilson Street), lg. branches/trees down; 6:31 a.m.: residential alarm (Highland Street), services rendered; 7:26 a.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:38 a.m.: parking complaint (Pleasant Street), truck parked in road; 8:18 a.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), c/o icy roads; 8:30 a.m.: DPW call (Pine Acres), branches on wires; 9:09 a.m.: medical/general (Fourth Avenue); 9:13 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), accidental; 9:24 a.m.: DPW call (Terkanian Drive), line down; 9:36 a.m.: medical/ general (Howe Village); 9:39 a.m.: DPW call (Cedar Road), tree in road; 9:50 a.m.: parking complaint (Maple Street), c/o neighbor's car; 10:00 a.m.: mv lockout (Paxton Road), assist: 10:02 a.m.: DPW call (Temple Street), tree across road; 10:09 a.m.: fire alarm (Candlewood Drive), referred; 10:28 a.m.: DPW call (Greenville Street), tree on wires; 10:49 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 11:06 a.m.: DPW call (Clark Street), low-hanging wire; 11:12 a.m.: medical/general (Hastings Road); 1:14 p.m.: DPW call (street address not note on police log), tree/wires down; 2:14 p.m.: DPW call (R. Jones Road), service pulled from house; 3:09 p.m.: mutual aid (Browning Pond Road), assist Northbridge PD; 3:29 p.m.: school alarm (Ash Street), services rendered; 4:03 p.m.: medical/general (Wire Village Road); 4:28 p.m.: medical/general (Vine Street); 5:24 p.m.: medical/ general (High Street); 6:22 p.m.: suspicious mv (Lambs Grove), investigated; 9:13 p.m.: parking complaint (Mechanic Street), mv wrong side of road; 11:25 p.m.: disturbance (Paxton Road), roommate dispute; (total daily mv stops - 0). TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18 12:08-12:23 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:31 a.m.: medical/general (Sunset Lane); 4:56 a.m.: medical/ general (North Spencer Road); 8:24 a.m.: officer wanted (North Brookfield Road), door open; 8:24 a.m.: parking complaint (Church Street), re: mv in lot; 8:34 a.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), req. assistance accessing school; 9:08 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 9:10 a.m.: DPW call (Paxton Road), water issue; 9:13 a.m.: DPW call (Crestwood Avenue), rep. icy conditions; 9:15 a.m.: officer wanted (R. Jones Road), wire hanging; 9:51 a.m.: medical/general (Thompson Pond Road); 9:57 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 10:23 a.m.: LTC issued (Main Street), assisted; 12:02 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street), lift assist; 2:02 p.m.: parking complaint (Mechanic Street), truck at corner or intersection; 2:20 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued;

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 17

2:43 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 3:17 a.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 5:52 a.m.: disabled mv (Paxton Street), resolved; 6:13 a.m.: disabled mv (Pleasant Street), gone on arrival; 8:31 a.m.: welfare check (Pine Street), assisted; 9:39 a.m.: ambulance (Howe Village, Spencer), transported; 10:24 a.m.: wires down (Mill Street), assisted; 10:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning;

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Spencer Police Log WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

12:21 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; 12:29-1:58 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:27 a.m.: fire alarm (Meadow Road), referred; 8:05 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 10:02 a.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), accidental; 10:11 a.m.: fire alarm (Paxton Road), fire drill; 11:01 a.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 11:16 a.m.: parking complaint (Brown Street), DPW c/o parked mv; 1:00 p.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 1:36 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (Sunset Lane); 1:46 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 2:59 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 4:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), req. detective; 4:26 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 4:48 p.m.: officer wanted (Prospect Street), rep. threats/harassment; 6:49 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), spoken to; 8:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 9:28 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; (total daily mv stops -5).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

12:56-2:32 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:20 a.m.: residential alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 6:42 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 8:06 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 8:07 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check;

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

6:04 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:11 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 8:20 a.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), spoken to; 8:55 a.m.: 911 call (Borkum Road), open line; 9:38 a.m.: suspicious mv (Ash Street), investigated; 9:59 a.m.: DPW call (Wilson Avenue), req. sander; 10:04 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 11:33 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street), lift

LEGALS

Notice of Public Hearing– Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday March 18, 2025 in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, , 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, and the hearing will be conducted in person and remotely on the following items starting at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Major Site Plan/ Stormwater Permit-Applicant: Vertex Towers, LLC/ Owner: Stephanie Underwood: Location: 46 Greenville Street, Spencer Assessor's Map R28-15. The applicant is seeking a Major Site Plan Review under section 7.4 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw and a Stormwater Permit under the Spencer Stormwater Management Bylaw (Article 14 of the Spencer General Bylaws) to install a Wireless Data Transfer Facility to include a 120' tall monopole style tower. The property is in the Suburban Residential (SR) zoning district. February 28, 2025 March 7, 2025

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:

Donna LeCourt has filed an **RDA** with the Spencer Conservation Commission for a proposed detached garage located at **21 Rustic Lane**, Spencer, MA.

Peter Boria, U&F Superintendent for the Town of Spencer, has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission for vegetative clearing around Sugden Dam located at 3 Lakeview 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, March 12, 2025 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 February 28, 2025

PUBLIC NOTICE TOWN OF SPENCER

Vertex Towers, LLC (the "Applicant") has applied for a Special Permit from the Town of Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals and Site Plan Review from the Town of Spencer Planning Board to construct a Wireless Data Transfer Facility including a 120-foot tall monopole style tower at 46 Greenville Street, Spencer, MA 01562 Tax Assessor Map R28, Lot 15. The Applicant will conduct a Visibility Demonstration to illustrate the location and height of the proposed Facility by means of a balloon raised at the proposed location to a height of 120 feet. Said Visibility Demonstration will be held TUESDAY MARCH 4, 2025 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm NOON, weather and wind conditions permitting. In the event of inclement weather on March 4, 2025, the Visibility Demonstration will be rescheduled until the next weekday and each successive weekday until weather and wind conditions permit a successful demonstration. If you have any questions concerning said Visibility Demonstration, please contact Francis D. Parisi, (401) 447-8500, info@visidem.com. Please check the www.visidem.com website after noon on the day before the scheduled date(s) to determine if the balloon will be up the following day. February 28, 2025

Vincent J McCaughey of Paxton 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:

Vincent J McCaughey of Paxton MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve With 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 03/25/2025.**

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: February 11, 2025 Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate February 28, 2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508)831-2200 Docket No. W025C0063CA CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

In the matter of: Alicia Grace Rowland A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by

Alicia Grace Rowland of WarrenMA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: Alicia Grace Andrews Girouard

IMPORTANT NOTICE

within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you. Witness, Hon. Leilah A Keamy,

First Justice of this Court February 13, 2025 Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

February 28, 2025

Notice of Public Hearing– Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday March 18, 2025 in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, , 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, and the hearing will be conducted in person and remotely on the following items starting at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Major Site Plan/ Stormwater Permit-Applicant: Vertex Towers, LLC/ Owner: Stephanie Underwood: Location: 46 Greenville Street, Spencer Assessor's Map R28-15. The applicant is seeking a Major Site Plan Review under section 7.4 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw and a Stormwater Permit under the Spencer Stormwater Management Bylaw (Article 14 of the Spencer General Bylaws) to install a Wireless Data Transfer Facility to include a 120' tall monopole style tower. The property is in the Suburban Residential (SR) zoning district. February 28, 2025 March 7, 2025

Notice of Public Hearing– Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday March 18, 2025 in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, , 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, and the hearing will be conducted in person and remotely on the following items starting at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Re-advertisement-Major Site Plan/ Special Permit/ Stormwater Permit- Applicant: GoVenture Capital Group, LLC; C/O Tom Corbett, Owner: Main Street Realty Trust, Location: East Main Street, Spencer Assessor's Map R35-1-3. The applicant is looking for a Major Site Plan Review under Section 7.4, Special Permit under Section 5.3.10 (Rear Lot Subdivision), and a Stormwater Permit under Article 14 of the Town of Spencer General Bylaws, Section 2 of the Spencer Stormwater Regulations for construction of a Self-Storage Facility. The property is located within the Commercial (C) zoning district.

February 28, 2025

Notice of Public Hearing

The North Brookfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 6:15PM at the Senior Center, 29 Forest St., North Brookfield, MA. Public opinion will be received regarding the amendment of the Accessory Dwelling Unit definition/ bylaw and accessory apartment square footage. The applicable Zoning Bylaw sections are as follows: Section II. "A" Definitions; Section IV.A.2.t.; Section IV.A.1.d.(5)e) . Any person interested in being heard or seeking information should appear at the above stated time and place. A copy of the proposed amendments are on file in the office of the Town Clerk, 215 North Main St., North Brookfield, MA. William King, Chair February 28, 2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO25P0608EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate Of: Marilyn J Flavin Date of Death: 01/15/2025 To all interested persons: A Potition for Eormal Probate of Wil

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Thomas W Kennen of Spencer MA and

Michael P Kennen of Spencer 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:

Thomas W Kennen of Spencer MA and

Michael P Kennen of Spencer 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**

03/25/2025. 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

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. WO24P4426EA **CITATION ON PETITION FOR** FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate Of: **Doris M Fenton** Date of Death: 11/17/2024 To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 03/04/2025 at 10 a.m. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: Febuary 04, 2024 Stephanie Fattman, Register of Probate February 28, 2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. WO22P2317PM Estate of: Mary Dionne CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT A Petition for Order of Complete Set

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Philip W. Summers of Acton MA

requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 **03/18/2025**. 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 objections March 7 , 2025

Notice of Public Hearing– Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday March 18, 2025 in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, , 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, and the hearing will be conducted in person and remotely on the following items starting at 6:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Stormwater Permit– Applicant/Owner: First Congregational Church, Location: 207 Main Street, Spencer Assessor's Map U14-68. The applicant is looking for a Stormwater Permit under the Spencer Stormwater Management Bylaw (Article 14 of the Spencer General Bylaws) to rebuild a church building that was destroyed by a fire on June 02, 2023. The property is located within the Village Residential (VR) zoning district.

February 28, 2025 March 7, 2025

Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 8, 2025, at 8:00 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit, for Jason Butland represented by Steve Leger, for the property located at 90 Lake View Ave., West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to build stairs from the dwelling down to the lake and construction of a second floor. A special permit is required as per section(s) -1.52 Nonconforming structures (a) (et al).

February 28, 2025 March 7, 2025 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: February 20, 2025 Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate February 28, 2025

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2025, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard: Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer

Zoning Board of Appeals Special Permit– Applicant: Vertex Towers, LLC/ Owner: Stephanie Underwood: Location: 46 Greenville Street, Spencer Assessor's Map R28-15. The applicant is seeking a Special Permit under Sections 4.8.5 (Wireless Data Facility) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to install a Wireless Data Transfer Facility to include a 120' tall monopole style tower. The property is in the Suburban Residential (SR) zoning district.

February 21, 2025 February 28, 2025

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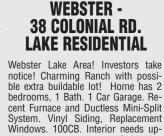
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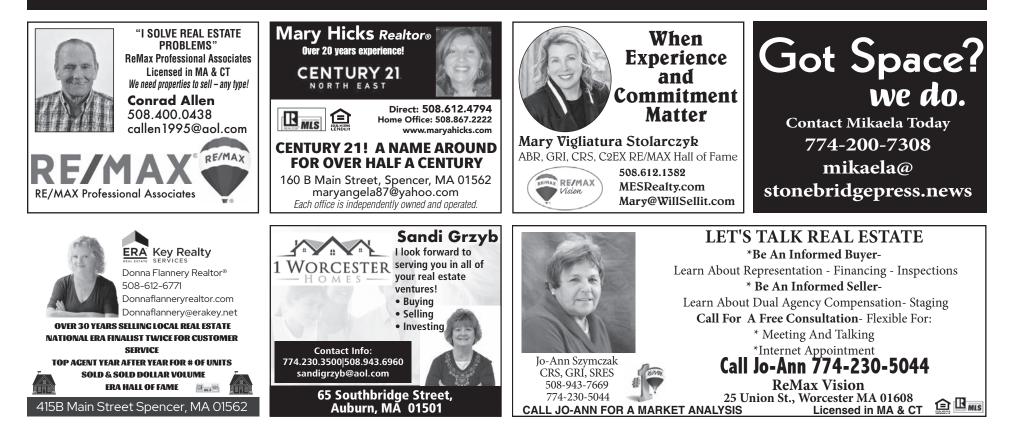


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