

# SPENCER NEW LEADER

©2024, Issue #36

Free by request to residents of

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

SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS

Friday, September 6, 2024

## Thousands enjoy Spencer Fair Massasoit Art Guild

### announces 21st Annual Art Show

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

STAFF WRITER

SPENCER — The Massasoit Art Guild invites local guests to attend its 21st annual Art Show and Sale.

Set for Oct. 12-13, the weekend program will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Spencer Town Hall (157 Main St.).

Free to the public, the show will feature artwork and photography created by members of the guild.

The event will include a reception on Oct. 12 (1-3 p.m.), as well as an awards ceremony that same day at 2 p.m.

A raffle table will feature prizes donated by local businesses. Winners will be announced on Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, a sales table will enable guests to purchase fine art prints and cards.

Live music will be provided by P. E. James on Saturday from 1-4 p.m.

As always, the show will be judged by a pair of acclaimed artists. Top selections will be announced across several categories.

"The guild is excited to announce this year's judges: artist Jill Pottle and photographer James Hunt," read a statement released by the guild.

Pottle, an accomplished artist from Worcester County, has exhibited her paintings locally and nationally. These include exhibits at the Three Stones Gallery in West Concord and the East End Gallery in Provincetown.

"She works mostly in oils and pastels, with a preference for still life compositions. Her work has been described as expressionist realism and has garnered her numerous awards and grants," the guild's statement read.

Pottle was also an art teacher for 38 years and served as the artist in residence at the Fruitlands Museum in Harvard.

Hunt's photography work explores the relationship between human activity and the natural environment. He is a graduate of the Professional Photography Program at the Center for Digital Imaging Arts at BU. He also studied at the International Center of Photography, Maine Media College, and the Griffin Museum of Photography.

"He's been featured in solo and juried exhibitions throughout New England, and had work published in Black and White Magazine," the guild's statement read. "He is an associate professor of management

Turn To ART SHOW page A14



Courtesy

David Prouty High School students attend the Spencer Fair.

SPENCER — Thousands of guests from throughout central Massachusetts and New England enjoyed the annual Spencer Fair.

The Labor Day weekend fair took place from Aug. 30 through Sept. 2, providing families with one last opportunity to enjoy summertime fun.

Several favorite programs returned to this year's lineup, as well as new additions that delivered unforgettable memories for the entire family.

This year's schedule of musical performers included Kings of Southern Rock; Nasty Habits; Liam Coleman; Martin and Kelly; Wheelsmith; Mychael David; and Souls on Fire, among several others.

Additional performers included a juggler; a hypnotist; and a dance group.

The annual event also featured tractor pulls; karaoke sessions; a demolition derby; an array of agriculture exhibits; an antique tractor display; a

kids' tent; a giant pumpkin weigh-off; and several other displays and competitions.

Among the most beloved staples of the fair, the Midway returned for another year. Guests of all ages enjoyed dozens of rides, games, contests, and plenty of tasty treats.

As always, the David Prouty High School community was well-represented on the fairgrounds. The DPHS Class of 2025 ran a Senior Booth at the fair, while the Panthers

Band took part in a dunk tank.

Members of the Spencer Police Department, Fire Department, and other local first responders were also in attendance.

Fair organizers thank all local sponsors and supporters who help make the event possible each year.

To learn more about the fair, visit [www.spencerfair.org](http://www.spencerfair.org).

## Families enjoy Public Safety Day in Leicester



Courtesy

Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., celebrates a donation with Leicester Police Department leaders.

LEICESTER — Local families enjoyed a fun night of community programming last week, as the town's Public Safety Day merged with its Family Fun Day.

Held on Aug. 27, the event featured several first responders, municipal leaders, and community organizations.

The Leicester Police Department gave away more than 50 children's bike helmets. Meanwhile, LPD detectives signed people up for the SAFECAM program and gave out information to residents on scams.

The police department thanks Walmart for funding half the cost of the helmet drive.

"LPD was well-represented with the drone unit, motor unit, free gifts for the kids, and of course K-9 Cooney," said Leicester Police Chief Kenneth Antanavica.

Several first responders from surrounding communities were also represented, including Maverick the bloodhound from Dudley PD and K-9 Rocky from

Turn To SAFETY DAY page A14

## Swimmers raise money for youth programming

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD — Local families closed out summer in style last month, enjoying a refreshing swim while raising money to support youth programming.

Named in honor of the late gold medalist and local swimming legend Bill Yorzyk, the third annual Wild Bill Swim and Paddle Challenge was a major success.

Held on South Pond, the event featured long-distance swims; short-distance swims; and a paddle board challenge.

Additional highlights included homemade treats provided by White's Landing; musical entertainment; and a raffle.

"More than 140 participants from as far as Quebec, and as close as across the lake, gathered for the swim and paddle events, surpassing 2023's numbers of 120 swimmers," said Yorzyk's daughter and event organizer Jennifer Yorzyk Triger.

The event offers a great opportunity for participants to promote water safety while honoring the legacy of Bill Yorzyk (1933-2020), an 11-time world record breaking swimmer.

Throughout his life, Yorzyk always supported programs that introduce youngsters to swimming and water safety. In his memory, the Wild Bill Swim raises funds supporting the Just Get in the Water program, a water safety initiative that provides free swimming lessons during

the school day for local third-graders.

In the years since the Wild Bill Challenge was instituted, more than 120 children have taken part in the month-long water safety and swim instruction program funded entirely by the challenge. From transporting kids to the local YMCA pool, to providing swimsuits and goggles for children, the program helps remove barriers to learning how to swim.

Yorzyk himself didn't learn to swim until he was 16 years old, but under the guidance of Coach Charles "Red" Silvia, Yorzyk quickly developed into one of the world's top talents.

After setting 11 world records and inventing the 2-beat butterfly, Yorzyk returned to Massachusetts and gave back to his sport by mentoring generations of college athletes.

Now, his legacy lives on through teaching the next wave of youngsters to be safe in the water.

"The program is a non-traumatic introduction to water safety and skills, takes place during the school day, and provides all equipment necessary, from goggles to swimsuits if needed," Yorzyk Triger said.

Additionally, the Wild Bill Swim and Paddle Challenge is currently the sole fundraising event for the WaterWise Foundation.

"A certified non-profit, the WaterWise Foundation's mission champions water safety through a fully funded program for children,

supporting open water swimmers of all ages, and actively contributing to initiatives that promote clean and fresh water," stated Yorzyk Triger.

Event leaders thank everyone who made the Wild Bill Swim and Paddle Challenge a success for another year, helping to build friendships while promoting safety.

"Volunteers arrived in the dark, at 5 a.m., to assist with putting up

the buoys for the swim course," Yorzyk Triger told the New Leader. "This is so beyond what we could have ever hoped for—just the fun alone would have been enough."

The event was supported by more than 35 volunteers. Additional assistance was provided by five certified lifeguards; the Brookfield Fire Department's EMT

Turn To SWIMMERS page A14



Courtesy

Local swimmers help raise money for youth programming at an annual event.

# From dental assistant to LPN

CHARLTON — Becoming an LPN changed the career trajectory for Kaitlin Miliauskas, LPN of Worcester. She completed her dental assisting training at the New England Dental in Worcester

(2012). Her past work experience includes being an insurance coordinator.

In June of 2024, Miliauskas completed the rigorous ten-month practical nursing program at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. She passed the NCLEX-PN on her first try shortly thereafter. She is set to embark as a real-world-ready LPN.

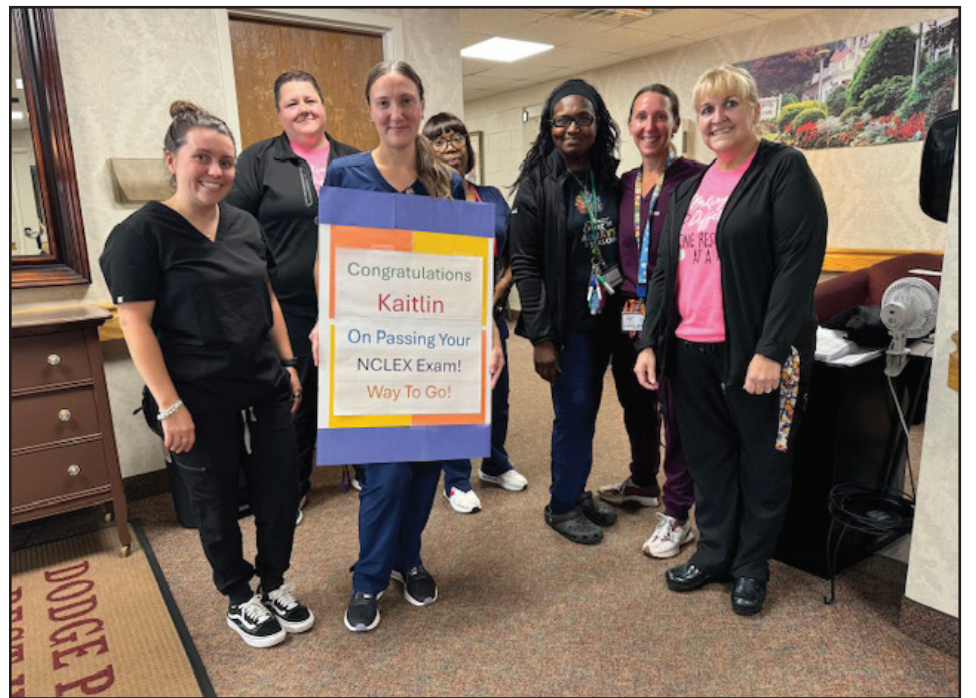
“I was a certified dental assistant trying to make her way for 11 years, I wanted to

help make a difference in the world, a better life for my growing family,” said Miliauskas. “I got the opportunity of going to Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy where it challenged me to realize is this really what I want to do?”

While at Bay Path, she participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer’s with the Bay Path Practical Nursing Team and was the lead for pink ribbon distribution during breast cancer awareness month. She is certified in Mental Health First Aid, Healthcare Provider/BLS Provider CPR, and Dementia care. Miliauskas completed summer workshops I & II, Domestic Violence Seminar, and volunteered for screenings at Shepherd Hill and Charlton Middle School. She is a MassHire grant recipient.

Shortly after graduation Miliauskas graciously took packages of socks from Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy for donation to the Worcester Rehab at 119 Providence St., in Worcester.

According



Courtesy

Photo shows Kaitlin Miliauskas holding a celebratory sign as she was honored by (from left): Courteney Lindberg, ADON, Carrie Bourgeois-Lopez, HR, Merlin Versaint, RP, Rene Maynard, RP, Carrie Lindberg, DON, and Patty Murray, RP.

to Practical Nursing Academy Director, Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, “This is a voluntary decision at the Academy, our students, and alumni as they become more aware of the importance of community need and donating, continue to participate and take leadership roles in worthy initiatives.”

“My nursing journey was not easy,” shared Miliauskas. “It was a tough year, my dad passed away in the middle of the program, but I kept my head up and kept pushing, gave me more inspiration to do better, try harder, and be a better nurse! So, I studied harder, graduated, and passed the NCLEX-PN on the first try.”

“The strengths of Bay Path Practical Nursing

Academy are the staff always willing to help the students thrive and succeed,” Miliauskas said. “The best part of the program is making new friends/support system with new experiences and memories.” She declares, “I have my first job as an LPN, in my profession I was born to be in!”

**DURKIN & SONS**  
Trucking Co.

Trash Removal  
Weekly Pickups  
Cleanouts

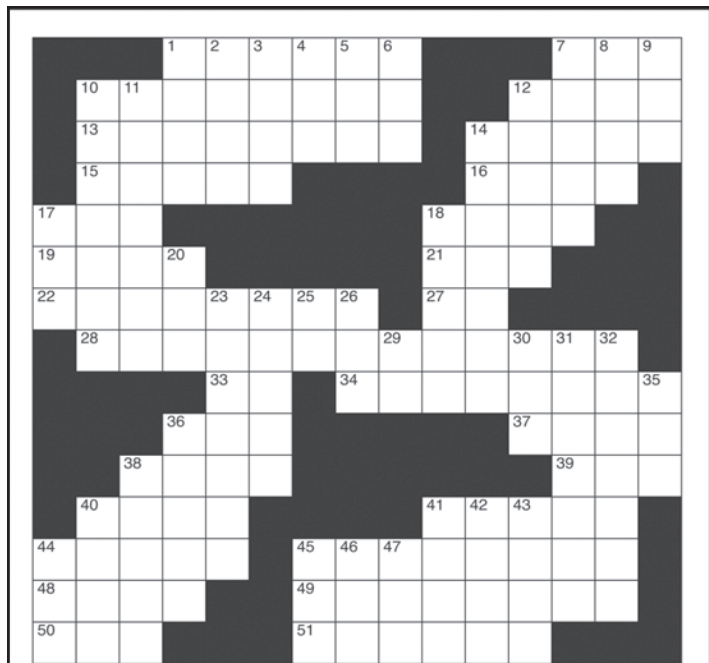
~ Reliable ~

www.durkintrucking.com  
Spencer  
508-885-4499

**WANTED TO BUY**  
Antiques & Old Stuff

- Bottles • Crocks •Jugs •Costume Jewelry • Pottery •Toys
- Games • Glassware •Sterling Silver • Coins • Gold
- Silver Plated Items •Watches •Typewriters •Sewing Machines
- Tools • Radios • Clocks • Lanterns •Lamps • Kitchenware
- Cookware •Knives •Hunting • Fishing • Military • Masonic
- Fire Dept • Musical Instruments & Much More

**CALL DONALD ROY 860-874-8396**



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Current unit
- 7. Reciprocal of an ohm
- 10. God of the sea
- 12. A way to disfigure
- 13. Positioned
- 14. Tall tropical American tree
- 15. Large deciduous trees
- 16. \_\_\_ and ends
- 17. Part of a machine
- 18. Brews
- 19. One who leads prayers in a mosque
- 21. Indian state
- 22. Partisans
- 27. Top lawyer in the land
- 28. Former Dodgers MVP
- 33. Title for women
- 34. Heated and allowed to slowly cool
- 36. Copycat
- 37. Sounds
- 38. One-time Israeli diplomat Abba
- 39. Part of (abbr.)
- 40. Hateful
- 41. Collide
- 44. European football heavyweight
- 45. One who works for you
- 48. Song
- 49. Ancient marvels
- 50. Bridge building degree
- 51. Delivery boys

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Continent
- 2. Submissive
- 3. There’s a lot in a bowling alley
- 4. Sun up in New York
- 5. Court decision \_\_\_ v. Wade
- 6. Finish line
- 7. Young women
- 8. Hives of activity
- 9. Hyman Roth’s right-hand man Johnny
- 10. Eastern U.S. river
- 11. Popular cooking ingredient
- 12. Greek mythological princess
- 14. Scent for men
- 17. Cost, insurance and freight (abbr.)
- 18. Once more
- 20. Irrate
- 23. Triangular spaces above a door
- 24. Norwegian playwright and poet Henrik
- 25. Atomic #58
- 26. Patti Hearst’s captors
- 29. Natural logarithm
- 30. Talk incessantly
- 31. Went by
- 32. Strives
- 35. Fall back
- 36. Manila hemp
- 38. Not easily explained
- 40. Former “Double Dare” host Summers
- 41. Mollusk
- 42. Capital of Togo
- 43. Letter of Semitic scripts
- 44. Founder of Babism
- 45. Indicates near
- 46. Family of regulator genes
- 47. Indicates before

**PUZZLE SOLUTION**

## bankHometown named among most charitable companies in Massachusetts

OXFORD — bankHometown has received the 2024 Corporate Citizenship Award from Boston Business Journal, recognizing the bank as one of Massachusetts’ top cor-

porate charitable contributors. It’s the fifth year in a row that bankHometown has received the honor.

The Business Journal annually publishes this list to show case companies that promote and prioritize giving back to their commu-

nities. Through its sponsorship and charitable giving program, The Giving Tree, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2023, The Giving Tree donated nearly \$400,000 and over the last decade has donated more than \$2.7 million.

“It is with honor that we present our list of the Top Charitable Contributors in Massachusetts – companies who gave \$100,000 or more to Massachusetts-based in charities in 2023. Collectively, they gave \$362 million in cash contributions – a true example of the business community coming together to help those in need,” said Boston Business Journal Market President and Publisher Carolyn Jones.

have qualified for the distinction by reporting at least \$100,000 in cash contributions to Massachusetts-based charities last year as noted above. The honorees this year include companies from such industry sectors as financial and professional services, health care, technology, retail, and professional sports.

About bankHometown  
Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford, Massachusetts. We have \$1.4 billion in assets and offer a complete line of consumer and business deposit and lending products and services through 16 branches located throughout Central Massachusetts and northeast Connecticut. We’re proud to fulfill our community banking mission—providing individualized financial support, a suite of comprehensive products and services, and smart banking technology—all to ensure our customers can unlock their potential and build a successful future.

“We’re so proud to be recognized once again as a good corporate citizen, because it’s truly a reflection of our core values,” said bankHometown President & CEO Robert J. Morton. “We strive to unlock potential in the communities we live and work in and hope we can solve our biggest problems by working together.”

Through our sponsorship and charitable giving program, The Giving Tree, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2023 alone, The Giving Tree donated nearly \$400,000 and over the last decade has donated more than \$2.7 million. bankHometown is proud to be named a Corporate Citizenship Award winner by Boston Business Journal for the past five years. For more information, visit bankhometown.com.

This year, 100 companies

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

**FOLDABLE ELECTRIC BIKE**  
Fits SUV, car trunk, & RV  
Reasonable offer  
Come see, great condition  
Comes with charger, helmet, and lock  
**Oxford, MA**  
**Call 508-439-1234**

**Capstone Planning Group**  
WEALTHCARE | RETIREMENT | INCOME  
www.thecapstone.group  
Located at Cornerstone Bank  
200 Charlton Road (Suite B), Sturbridge, MA  
Visit our website to schedule your courtesy retirement checkup today!

**SPENCER NEW LEADER**

**TO PLACE AN AD:**  
MIKAELA VICTOR  
(774) 200-7308  
mikaela@stonebridgepress.news

**LEGAL NOTICES:**  
(508) 909-4127

**SUBSCRIPTION SERVICES:**  
KERRI PETERSON  
(508) 909-4103  
kerri@stonebridgepress.news

**TO PRINT AN OBITUARY:**  
E-MAIL  
obits@stonebridgepress.news  
CALL: 508-909-4149

OR send to Spencer New Leader  
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

**TO SUBMIT A LETTER**  
**TO THE EDITOR:**  
E-MAIL: news@stonebridgepress.news  
OR send to Spencer New Leader  
P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550

**SPENCER NEW LEADER PUBLISHED BY STONEBRIDGE PRESS**  
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER  
FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
860-928-1818 EXT. 103  
frank@salmonpress.news

**BUSINESS MANAGER**  
RYAN CORNEAU  
860-928-1818 EXT. 102  
ryan@salmonpress.news

**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**  
JIM DiNICOLA  
508-764-6102  
jim@stonebridgepress.news

**EDITOR**  
BRENDAN BERUBE  
508-909-4106  
news@stonebridgepress.news

**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
JULIE CLARKE  
860-928-1818, EXT. 305  
julie@villagenewspapers.com

The Spencer New Leader (USPS#024-927) (ISSN 1945-6603) is published weekly by Stonebridge Press, Inc., 114 Pleasant St., Southbridge, MA 01550. Periodical Postage paid at Southbridge, MA 01550. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

# Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director attends UMass Boston film screening



Courtesy

Pictured from left: Fasha Banson, Evelyn Dusaban, BSN, RN, and Gretheline Bolandrina.

BOSTON — Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN of Dudley (formerly of Douglas), Academy Director for Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy of Charlton enjoyed a night at the movies. The screening of multifaceted mosaics – film project 2024, “Filipino American Experience,” was held at the University of Massachusetts Boston (UMass Boston), campus center ballroom.

The film screening showcased films created by UMass Boston’s Filipino American Beacon Voyages for Service 2023-2024 team. The film screening was hosted by UMass Boston’s Filipino Cultural Club: Hoy! Pinoy! The films highlighted the members’ service trip to the West Coast and their vulnerable connections with their Filipino American and greater identities. The common theme explored at the “by invitation only event” was “what does it mean to be Filipino.”

“Filipino American Experience, at UMass Boston,” explained Dr. Bolandrina, “resonates with our efforts at the Academy for our practical nursing students to honor and celebrate diversity.”

She is grateful to Fasha Banson, President, and Performance Coordinator for Hoy! Pinoy! for the invitation to attend the screening.

According to Banson, “The intention of these films are to demonstrate and honor the diversity found within the context of Filipino American Identities. These films are products of a larger experience—an educational immersive trip that blossomed from the need and desire for Filipina/x/o American studies within the UMass Boston Asian American studies program.”

Further, Banson adds, “The trip, was hosted under UMass Boston’s OSCE Beacon Voyages for service program. The students experienced unforgettable moments of deep learning, reflection, and affirmation while engaging with inspirational Filipino high school youth, expert teachers/mentors, elected officials, and residents of the I-Hote.”

Banson is a nursing student at UMass Boston.

“Perhaps, the invitation extended to me will include the Bay Path Practical Nursing community next time,” said Bolandrina. “Also, the practical nursing students at Bay Path are active with

community service and service learning. Seeing this come together will be truly inspiring. I enjoyed this opportunity to gain experience and insight about the challenges, experiences, and anxieties of the younger Filipino Americans, reflect upon my identity, the nursing profession, and celebrate as a community.”

Banson introduced the screening and thanked all the attendees. After she spoke, and upon viewing her film segment, “Kagandahan (Beauty),” which she wrote, directed, and produced, all were in awe of her work.

“It took me a long time to realize that what it took to feel that way was within me all along. A journey of self-discovery and reclaiming one’s identity in the face of societal pressures,” Banson concluded.

To learn more about their work and view the films visit their YouTube Channel: <https://lnkd.in/qBYA345>.

## YARD SALE

### MULTIFAMILY YARD SALE

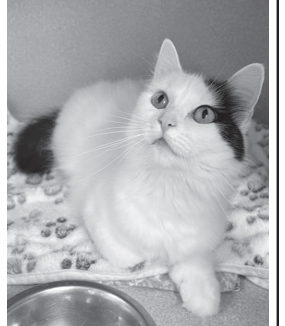
September 7th and 8th  
Rt. 9 on Flatts  
in East Brookfield

Something for everyone!

## P.E.T. of the Week

Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

Meet Lauren!



Meet Lauren, a charming adult cat residing in our shelter. She’s known for her friendly nature, warming the hearts of everyone she meets. Lauren prefers to keep her paws on the ground, so she may not be the best fit for families with young children who might want to carry her around. Instead, she enjoys gentle strokes and quiet companionship. Lauren would make an excellent companion for someone seeking a calm, affectionate friend. If you have questions, please give us a call at 508-867-5525

Roxie’s adoption has been paid for by a generous donor!



Second Chance Animal Services  
www.secondchanceanimals.org  
East Brookfield, MA • 508-867-5525

## Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

1205 Main St. Leicester, MA 01524  
P: 508-892-9181 • F: 508-892-8791  
www.leicesterclinic.com

Wellness exams • Vaccinations • Cat Boarding  
Spays, neuters and routine soft tissue surgery  
Dentistry • Radiology (Digital)  
In-house diagnostic laboratory facilities (Icdex)  
• Pharmacy  
• Prescription diets Hills, Royal Canin  
• Domestic health certificates and much more!



Dr. Colm P. Scanlon  
Veterinarian

## bankHometown promotes Henrichon to senior assistant branch manager



Kimberley Henrichon

MILLBURY — bankHometown recently promoted Kimberley Henrichon to senior assistant branch manager, based in its 109 Elm St., Millbury office.

Henrichon, of Millbury, has more than 35 years of banking experience. She started her career in banking as a teller at Millbury Savings Bank in 1989 and has held various retail and customer service roles at bankHometown throughout her time with the bank.

Henrichon studied business at Quinsigamond Community College and Becker College and has a certificate in Finance/Banking from the American Institute of Banking’s Banking School. She is currently a member of the Elks Club of Auburn.

About bankHometown  
Founded in 1889, bankHometown is headquartered in Oxford, Massachusetts. We have \$1.4 billion in assets and offer a complete line of consumer and business deposit and lending products and services through 16 branches located throughout Central Massachusetts and northeast Connecticut. We’re proud to fulfill our community banking mission—providing individualized financial support, a suite of comprehensive products and services, and smart banking technology—all to ensure our customers can unlock their potential and build a successful future.

Through our sponsorship and charitable giving program, The Giving Tree, bankHometown and the Hometown Bank Community Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Worcester and Windham Counties. In 2023 alone, The Giving Tree donated nearly \$400,000 and over the last decade has donated more than \$2.7 million. bankHometown was proud to be named a 2023 Corporate Citizenship Award winner by Boston Business Journal. For more information, visit bankhometown.com.

**100%** Affordable™ Windows & Doors COMPANY, INC.

MasterCard VISA DISCOVER

HOURS: MON. - FRI. 8-4:30 • SAT. 9-1

1152 Main Street • Route 9  
Leicester, MA • 508-892-9292

**MARVIN**

We Deliver Throughout New England

www.affordablewindows.com

One of the Largest Door and Window Companies in New England!

**\$1848\***  
\*Promotion Price  
Valid when you bring this ad.  
Ends September 21, 2024.

**CELEBRATING 37 YEARS**

Elevate Slider  
Price Includes:  
Ultrax Threshold  
Clad Maintenance  
Free Exterior  
Handle Set  
Low E Argon Gas  
60x80 • 72x80

**BARGAIN BAY** Visit our Online Bargain Bay  
LARGE STOCK SELECTION [affordablewindows.com](http://affordablewindows.com)

**Kitchen Cabinets**

**FREE** Stainless Steel Sink  
With Purchase of a Granite or Quartz Countertop  
\*See store for details.

**PROMOTION ENDS September 21, 2024**

100% We Made The Choice So Simple 100% Visit Our Huge Showroom  
100% Best Price! Best Selection! Best Service!

**PEPIN**  
WASTE SERVICE  
Your Local Roll-Off Specialist

**FALL Special** \$335  
10 yd. Rental 1 Ton  
3 sizes available. Call for pricing.

**Roll Off Containers**  
Weekend Dumpsters for the Homeowner  
Houses • Attics • Cellars  
Construction Sites

10-15-20 Yd.  
508-892-4193 • Leicester, MA  
Fully Insured

# OBITUARIES

Keith C. Spence Jr.  
January 18, 1966- August 10, 2024



On August 10th 2024 Keith C. Spence Jr. lost his battle with an undiagnosed devastating brain ailment. His valiant effort to overcome the effects were evident in his twinkling smile and his strong grip. But, eventually he had to succumb to the symptoms and move his soul into a new wonderful place.

A special thank you to Overlook Hospice and their great services that allowed Keith to live at home in comfort until he was ready. He was predeceased by his beautiful dog Maximus, who died of a broken heart just months before his best buddy. He leaves behind his mother Sydney of Spencer; his father Keith Sr. of Brookfield, his

brother Dale, his wife Mandy, his close nephew Adam, brother Robert, his wife Katherine, their three children, Trevor, Jacob and Malorie all of Spencer.

Keith was self employed and wanted to thank all of his customers through the years. He attended Tantasqua High school and was a gifted tradesman who could fix and do just about anything. If not tinkering or fixing something in his garage he could be found mowing, rototilling or creating something with his hands while wearing his signature bandana, (with Max in the truck). He will be greatly missed by all of his friends and family.

Private services will be held at a later date.

In Keith's memory, please make donations to Second Chance Animal Shelter; 111 Young Road, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

# Country Bank VP Jodie Gerulaitis recognized as Community Hero by Worcester Red Sox

WORCESTER — Country Bank is excited to announce that Jodie Gerulaitis, its Vice President of Community Relations, has been honored as a Community Hero by the Worcester Red Sox. This recognition highlights Jodie's commitment and unwavering dedication to serving the local community.

Gerulaitis' passionate advocacy for educators and local non-profit leaders through Country Bank's partnership with the WooSox Foundation Programs has had a profound impact on the community.

Her support in recognizing leaders and educators throughout the region is evident through the Most Valuable Teacher Program and The WooSox initiative. The Most Valuable Teacher Program celebrates the achievements

of nine exceptional teachers at their schools and the park. Similarly, The WooStars Program recognizes the outstanding work of nine local non-profit leaders. These programs, championed by Jodie, exemplify her passion, dedication, and desire to make a meaningful difference in the community.

"One of the most rewarding aspects of our work in the community is our work with Country Bank," said WooSox President Dr. Charles Steinberg. "Constantly, at the heart of each program, is the omnipresent Jodie Gerulaitis. Wherever we are in the region, trying to make an impact, she's there already, welcoming us to join her. Her passion and pursuit of community impact is inspiring."

For more information about Country Bank and

its community initiatives, please visit [www.countrybank.com](http://www.countrybank.com).

About Country Bank Country Bank is a full-service \$1.8B mutual community bank serving Central and Western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, Springfield and Worcester. With a commitment to personalized service and community involvement, Country Bank offers individuals, businesses, and municipalities a comprehensive range of banking products and services. Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF, and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached at 800-322-8233 or online at [countrybank.com](http://countrybank.com).

Send all obituary notices to Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail to [obits@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:obits@stonebridgepress.news)



Bring your family's memorial back to its original beauty.

Have it cleaned by us professionally.

# PEPIN GRANITE INC

## MONUMENTS



Specializing In:

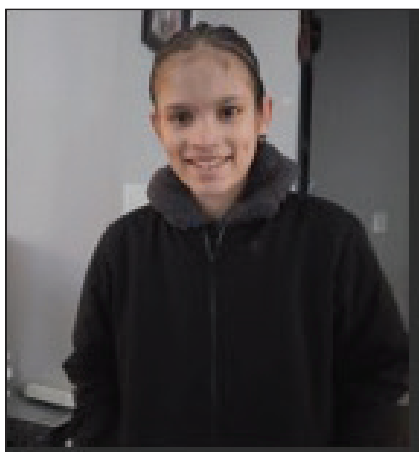
Personalized Monuments, Markers, Cemetery Lettering, Cleaning, and Bronze Markers

Call For Appointment

508-892-4193

Family Owned/Operated • Indoor/Outdoor Display  
Rt. 9 • 1500 Main St. • Leicester, MA 01524  
Leo Pepin Jr. • Chantelle Pepin

## Friday's Child



Hi! My name is Luis and I like to learn!

Luis is a young boy looking for a family that he can grow up in and enjoy a typical childhood. Luis enjoys being outside, riding bikes, playing video games, and being physically active. He is outgoing, inquisitive, and likes to be competitive through sports, especially soccer and basketball, and answering academic questions. Luis quickly takes an interest in his school subjects and likes to show off his math skills. Luis is thoughtful and used his birthday money to buy presents for his sister

Luis  
Age 12  
Registration # 8311

who he is very bonded with.  
<https://adopt.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/8311>

### Can I Adopt?

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

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care visit [www.mareinc.org](http://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.



# Fall brings return of local fairs and festivals

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

STAFF WRITER

REGION — As temperatures slowly drop and the first colors of autumn greet central Massachusetts, residents are looking forward to the return of beloved fall festivals.

Several local towns host fairs and festivals that have attracted thousands of guests for decades. The pandemic shutdowns in 2020-'21 made residents even more appreciative of their fall traditions, and they can't wait for another season of crafting, contests, seasonal foods, and live entertainment.

Leicester will help get the festival season started with the town's annual Harvest Fair on Saturday, Sept. 21. The festival will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Town Common. Festivities will include music and food; children's activities; appearances from local organizations; seasonal crafting selections; and demonstrations of various trades and skills. Area businesses, officials, and municipal agencies will also get involved.

Also on Sept. 21, the Autism in my Pocket

organization will run the sixth annual Harvest Festival in Brimfield. The location is Brimfield Winery (35 Main Street). Set for 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., the event is expected to feature 70 vendors; music and food; children's games; and several other activities.

Admission to this event is free.

Shifting over to Brookfield, the 45th annual Apple Country Fair will take place on Saturday, Oct. 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will bring thousands of guests to the Brookfield Town Common for a day of fun and festivities.

Highlights will include fundraisers; crafters; food trucks; and the famous apple pie contest.

"Fairgoers can browse and buy hand-knit sweaters and blankets, carved wooden bowls and décor; beaded jewelry, specialty soaps and lotions, hand-crafted toys, locally-produced honey, and more," read a statement released by event organizers.

Proceeds from the event will benefit the Brookfield Community Club, a charitable organization that awards grants to enrich community life.

To learn more about the festival and how you can get involved, visit [www.applecountryfair.com](http://www.applecountryfair.com).

Meanwhile, central Massachusetts officials urge residents to think local this shopping season and support vendors at area festivals. As we look deeper into the fall, additional craft fairs will take place at Tantasqua Regional High School in Sturbridge (Nov. 9), Oxford High School (Dec. 7), and Auburn High School (Dec. 14).

Leicester High School will also host its holiday craft fair on Saturday, Dec. 7, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

An array of local church fairs will also take place this fall season. Contact your area church leaders for more information on autumn fairs and holiday festivals.

And don't forget the many antique shows, town tag sales, and other events scattered throughout the area, highlighted by the final leg of the Brimfield Antique Show this month (located on Route 20).

Information on other local events can be found on town Web sites and social media pages.

# Local high school graduates awarded \$2,500 in scholarships from Cornerstone Bank

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is proud to announce the 16 recipients of its 2024 scholarship awards program for local high school graduates. Each was awarded \$2,500 to assist with college expenses, representing a total of \$40,000.

"We are delighted to help local students further their education, and wish these 16 exceptional graduates continued success in their futures," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "We extend our sincere congratulations to all members of the Class of 2024."

The 2024 scholarship recipients are:

Emma Auen from Shrewsbury High School, attending East Carolina University

Nicholas Damelio from Shepherd Hill Regional High School, attending Boston College

Madelyn Dugan from Notre Dame Academy, attending Saint Anselm College

Kaelyn Donovan from

Shepherd Hill Regional High School, attending Marist College

Hailey Dunn from Doherty Memorial High School, attending Union College

Thomas Fenlon from Wachusett Regional High School, attending Villanova University

Nicholas Gillette graduated from Auburn High School, attending Wentworth Institute of Technology

Patrick Harrington from Leicester High School, attending the University of Hartford

Zachary Hebert from Shepherd Hill Regional High School attending Nichols College

Avery Heppenstall from Wachusett Regional High School, attending Miami University

Ellie Hill from Tantasqua Regional High School, attending Bridgewater State University

Benjamin King from Wachusett Regional High School, attending College of the Holy Cross

Emma Lord from Tantasqua Regional High

School, attending Endicott College

Ayla Messier from David Prouty High School, attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst

James Queen from The Greenwood School, attending Gordon College

Michael Rotondo from St. Johns High School, attending University of Cincinnati

To be considered for a scholarship, each student had to:

Be a 2024 high school graduate

Anticipate being a full-time student at an accredited, degree-granting institution of higher education

Anticipate studying in a business or financial field

Demonstrate achievement and high standards in academics, extracurricular activities and community involvement

Submit an official transcript and GPA from their guidance office

Submit a one-page essay To learn more about this year's recipients, visit: <https://bit.ly/3zIY-i0q>.

# Martel celebrates 10-year work anniversary at Bay Path

CHARLTON — Barbara Martel of Sturbridge celebrates her 10-year work anniversary at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. She joined Bay Path as part-time faculty in 2015.

For more than 20 years, Martel worked as a bedside nurse on a medi-

cal-telemetry-surgical unit. She regularly participated in the orientation of new hires as well as served as the preceptor assigned to nursing students. She served as unit resource nurse, participating in planning patient discharge, engaged as a member of various nurs-

ing and organizational committees, and collaborated with other hospital care units for staffing and bed assignments.

"I remember and understand the awesome sense of pride, responsibility, and privilege felt by the fledging nurse and believe I can help edu-

cate, guide, prune, and nurture the nursing students as they prepare to enter the profession of nursing," said Martel.

Martel obtained her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree at Anna Maria College in Paxton, with the honor of Summa Cum Laude. Anna Maria College, a private Roman Catholic college in Paxton, Massachusetts, was founded in 1946 as a women's college, but has

been coeducational since 1973. Anna Maria College is a Leader in Educating Knowledgeable Professionals in the Work Force. Martel completed her Associate degree in Nursing at Quinsigamond Community College.

While raising four children, Martel held several jobs including private hospice care and home health aide. Once her children became young adults, she pursued her

passion and career goal of becoming a Registered Nurse. Martel was a member of the outpatient/inpatient registration working independently to complete assigned tasks including inpatient and outpatient registration, computer entry of outpatient testing appointments, and other related tasks including switchboard operator, charge counting, and preparing same day surgical charts.

# Haston Library offers wide array of fall programming

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD — With children heading back to school and autumn just around the corner, it's the perfect time for guests of all ages to check out programming at Haston Free Public Library.

The library is offering a range of programs and activities for children, adults, and families this month. Whether you're into movies, crafts, or page-turning books, there's something for everyone at Haston.

Craft Night for Adults returns on Thursday, Sept. 12, at 6 p.m. Guests will be able to create a leaf bowl, among other projects. Please register for this event in advance by contacting the library.

The library's Book Discussion Group will next meet on Sept. 24 at 7 p.m. This month's featured book is "River of the Gods," written by

Candice Millard.

The library's Movie Discussion Group will next meet on Sept. 27 at 6 p.m. Group members will watch "You've Got Mail," a 1998 film rated PG.

Several September story-time programs will be offered to youngsters on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Seasonal books will be paired with craft activities celebrating such themes as autumn colors, apple picking, and back to school time, among others.

Additionally, patrons and their families are invited to check out the library's special Back to School display.

Meanwhile, the library continues to host the Children's Art Club on the first and third Monday of each month. All sessions last from 4-5 p.m.

A Lego Club takes place every Thursday at 4 p.m.

Along with the turning of the seasons, the

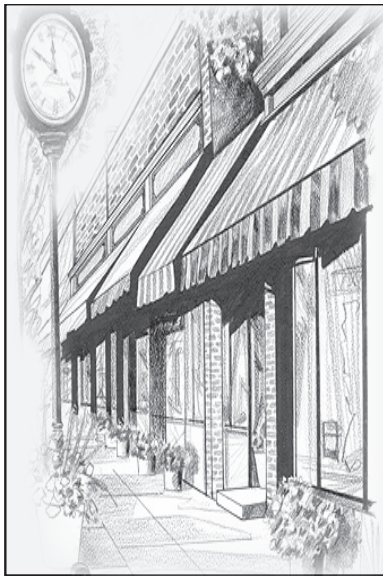
library is also preparing for some staffing changes this fall.

"We would like to recognize Lisa Testa, our circulation assistant, for her passion and dedication to the library. She will be moving on from her work at the library at the end of September, and we want to thank her for all she has done," library leaders wrote in a statement.

Patrons are reminded that the library will once again be open on Saturdays, starting on Sept. 7. Also, library officials are excited to announce that they have acquired a picnic table for all to enjoy on the lawn.

For more information about upcoming library events, or to register for an activity, call 508-867-0208. You may also send an email to: hastonfreepubliclibrary@gmail.com.

The library is located at 161 North Main St.



# Community Connection

**Charlton Oil Company**  
508-248-9797 Propane

Don't Pay Too Much for Propane

| PROPANE | PRICE PER GAL | PROPANE        | PRICE PER GAL |
|---------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| 0-50    | \$5.70        | 300-500        | \$2.55        |
| 50-75   | \$3.40        | 500 PLUS       | \$2.40        |
| 75-150  | \$3.05        | Duel Fuel      | \$3.75        |
| 150-300 | \$2.75        | Drop off Tanks | \$3.00        |

Tanks Filled to 80%  
Driver Discretion

**DON'T PAY TOO MUCH FOR OIL!**  
•Thursday price 8/29/24 was \$3.19 per gallon\*  
100 gallon minimum  
ONLINE ORDERING NOW AVAILABLE AT  
www.charltonoil.com

**"Call Us First!"**  
\*prices subject to change

**Morin JEWELERS**  
Fine Jewelry & Gifts  
The Jewelry store where you buy with confidence

**WE BUY GOLD**

Specializing in Custom Designs  
All types of Jewelry Repairs

MASTER JEWELERS™  
BRILLIANCE YOU DESERVE®

409 Main St. Southbridge, MA  
morinjewelers.com • 508-764-7250  
Located at CVS Plaza

**NORTHEAST PIZZA** PIZZA is OUR Passion

Fresh ingredients, time-honored recipes, and friendly service.  
Since 1997

**Open 7 Days a Week • We Deliver**

**SEPTEMBER SPECIALS**

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>Pepperoni Pizza</b><br>Sm. \$6.99<br>Lg. \$9.99 | <b>Meatball Sub</b><br>Sm. 8" \$5.99<br>Lg. 12" \$6.99 | <b>Small Cheese Pizza</b><br>EVERYDAY 11-4<br>only \$5.00! |
|--|--|--|

Cannot be combined with other specials or coupons.

|  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <b>Barre</b><br>570 Summer St.<br>978-355-4333 | <b>Leicester</b><br>1205 Main St.<br>508-892-9276 | <b>West Brookfield</b><br>208 W. Main St.<br>508-867-9567 |
|--|---|---|

~ Full bar & full liquor license at our Leicester Location ~  
~ Serving Beer & Wine at our West Brookfield Location ~  
www.northeastpizza.com

**Crooked Creek Farm**  
East Brookfield, Massachusetts

**Stock up now!**

**Retail Cuts, Quarter, & Half sides of Beef Available!**

To purchase your meat packages  
CALL/TEXT: (774) 200-7308  
www.CrookedCreekFarmMA.com

**FREE LOCAL DELIVERY!**

Find Us on Social Media

1872-2007



25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550  
Telephone (800) 367-9898  
Fax (508) 764-8015  
www.StonebridgePress.com

FRANK G. CHILINSKI  
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE  
EDITOR

## EDITORIAL

# A salute to workers

As we fire up the grills, enjoy the last days of summer, and maybe even hit the beach one more time, let's learn a bit about the origins of Labor Day.

This holiday isn't just an excuse for a three-day weekend (though we'll gladly take it!). It's a day to celebrate the contributions of workers who have built this country, brick by brick, and to honor the labor movement that fought for the rights many of us enjoy today.

Labor Day has its roots in the late 19th century, at a time when the average American worked 12-hour days, seven days a week, just to make ends meet. Sounds exhausting, right? The labor movement emerged from these tough conditions, with workers organizing for better hours, safer workplaces, and fair pay. In 1882, the very first Labor Day parade was held in New York City, where 10,000 workers took unpaid leave to march for their rights. This courageous stand laid the foundation for the national holiday we now celebrate on the first Monday of September.

But let's not get too bogged down in history. Labor Day is also about appreciating the present and looking forward to the future. It's a time to relax, spend time with family and friends, and enjoy the fruits of your hard work. Whether you're taking a mini-vacation, hosting a backyard BBQ, or just chilling at home, remember that this holiday is a tribute to you—the worker.

We hope that while our readers enjoyed their well-deserved day off this past Monday, they haven't forgotten forget that there is an important election coming up on Nov. 5. After all, what better way to honor the spirit of Labor Day than by exercising your right to vote? It's a chance to have your say in who represents you and to ensure that those in office continue to fight for the rights and interests of all workers.

We hope you enjoyed your Labor Day weekend, everyone—but don't forget that part of getting back to work now is to get out and vote!

## Letter submission policy

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

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

# VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Trump is not fit to govern

To the Editor:

At the risk of seeming to be a prude, I am concerned that 'hell' and 'damn' have become more commonplace in speeches of political candidates (and others). And to say nothing of the "f word," which is really nasty. The latest came when a new VP candidate was cautioning government to stay out of doctors' offices regarding abortion. While I agree, the candidate went on to say there is a "golden rule" that says mind your own damn business! The Biblical Golden Rule came to mind. However, it says "Whatever you wish others to do to you do so to them."

DJT mused recently in the wee hours of the morning, "I love the Ten Commandments in public schools, private schools, and many other places for that matter;" Trump posted in all capital letters on Truth Social at 1:22 a.m., "Read it-how can we, as a nation, go wrong???"

Because we, as a nation, are diverse – politically, religious, nationality, color – but we are all Americans and those who choose to live in this country and can respect each other. But we seem to have lost the ability to disagree agreeably.

I wonder if Trump could name some of the Ten Commandments, let alone where to find them in the Bible.

Do you remember when he ordered Lafayette Square cleared of peaceful protestors who were there to show concern over the death of George Floyd? It was done with mounted police and police with shields and batons so he could go and stand in front of a church he probably did not attend and hold a

Bible (some say upside down) that he probably does not read. What was the purpose? To sell a \$60 Bible with proceeds going to his campaign?

While Trump is not my candidate of choice, I was alarmed at the attempt on his life. Could there have been better security for his protection? Most assuredly. Perhaps more attention needs to be taken for the venue of political rallies.

Donald Trump claimed in past campaigns for president that he would be the fixer. He knew more than the generals. Not! He didn't offer anything of substance for a vision of what he would do for the country. Now he praises Putin for being smart for invading Ukraine and for the hostage swap. He says he will be a dictator only on day one. Starting with day one is more like it. He has shown his admiration for dictators and that he aspires to be one. He has not shown respect for the rule of law, and seems to think he is above it. And the Constitution and democracy? No respect for these basics of our country.

And now Trump professes that there are multiple pronunciations for Kamela Harris's name (there is only one, and he should use it), and that Joe Biden is going to the Democrat Convention and wants his presidential nomination back. President Biden made the altruistic gesture of withdrawing and he is backing the current ticket. What will Trump do then? He is becoming more rambling. He may be entertaining to some, but we need someone who can govern! Go Harris and Walz!

PATRICIA JACKMAN  
NORTH BROOKFIELD

### Makes sense

To the Editor:

To smile more, very contagious, positive action

To re-evaluate personal goals

To avoid ruminating, it serves no purpose

To practice good health habits

To call a friend from the past

To always dress appropriately for the occasion

To listen to music of your choice

To avoid confrontation and conflict

To read or re-read the classics

To say what you mean and mean what you say

To donate to a charity of your choice

To practice patience daily

To attend church services

To volunteer time to community service

To assist a friend in need

To always honor your mom and dad

To establish and monitor a budget

To limit your time watching TV

To live your life according to the Serenity Prayer

To practice His 10 with gusto

DONALD L. GAUDETTE, SR.  
SOUTH HADLEY

*The author was formerly a longtime resident of Brookfield.*

### This is truly alarming

To the Editor:

Every time that I think the behavior of Donald Trump cannot get more surreal or outrageous or demented, he proves me wrong. There is nothing new about his doubling down on his concept of lies that he repeats often enough to what he calls his "Cellar Dwellers" becomes their version of the truth. I do wonder how many of them are repeating his contention that 100 percent, or more, of the new jobs created, went to illegals.

I noticed that the firefighters gathered at their convention gave Tim Walz a warm welcome and J.D. Vance a cold shoulder. You would think those two would at least be smart enough to know that it is the felon who needs several aliases.

In the current events column, DJT claims that the gold star families wanted him to meet them at Arlington National Cemetery for pictures. What really happened was his campaign planned and coordinated an illegal political campaign commercial shoot, at Arlington. When the Old Guard (who live on site and guard the tomb of the unknown soldier 24/7/365), attempted to stop it, he had his finger puppet, Speaker Johnson call them to allow him to proceed (illegal still). The person who tried to stop it, knowing how the cult deals with any who disagree with Trump are treated (Gym Jordan has just subpoenaed the company that one of his judges daughters works for: another prevue of his Stalin like plans for all of us), for which reason, no formal complaint got filed. This letter is one.

Let's set the record straight. I believe he chose graves of Afghan vets killed during the final pullout of American troops I think we need a full account of what circumstances lead to their deaths. Let's start with why we ever went there in the first place. When a band of about 25 radical jihadist (15 or more, who were Saudi, and none were Iraqi or Afghan) we felt the need to respond to the events of Sept. 11, 2001 by attacking someone and getting Osama Bin Laden. Afghanistan being largely a vast wilderness ruled by tribes living largely in caves. Based upon questionable, and some fake intelligence, we attacked and occupied Iraq and Afghanistan, where, much like in Vietnam, we attempted nation building and great costs to us but especially in lives of those we invaded

ed Think much like the eradication of native Americans. like Vietnam, the military industrial complex were the winners

In most instances, we armed and trained troops to carry on after we departed. Having seen how few minutes it took those armies to dissolve, we did not even bother involving the puppets we set up in the surrender that Mike Pompeo, Trumps Secretary of State "negotiated?" Trump had seen the optics of our departures from Vietnam and Iraq. He knew it was an optic he did not want seen before he was re-elected. He did reduce troop strength there to a token force (So few, in fact, that troops had to be added to leave). Does the name Stephen Miller mean anything to you? You might remember him as the man who was the author of Trumps complete Muslim ban. What better person for Trump to put in charge of rescuing those who served as aides during our mission there. Considering that we were surrendering, that would have been the smart time to remove people and equipment, not after you left barely enough troops to hold one airport, so had no access to people or movement.

Although Trump had agreed to a withdrawal date, we needed more time to get people out that Miller had not (I doubt he ever would have). This required time and covert actions that could not be done by agreed date. As we came to the final flight out, anyone who is familiar with jihad, was why we had troops searching evacuees before letting them inside airport gates. I am sure the bomber would have preferred to blow up the plane, but instead settled for our soldiers and hundreds of Afghans seeking transport out. Bush was in a better position to stop the events of Sept. 11 than Biden was to stop this. The Taliban was supposed to pre-search evacuees. What is remedy for that?

It is no coincidence that 40 of Trumps presidential advisors, are not endorsing him to ever be president or commander in chief again. John Bolton said he had cut his hour long daily briefing down to 15 minutes, which he would only sit through of they included pictures or graphs. It was his analysis that he could not even comprehend complex issues and is a moron. What would you call his supporters?

KEN KIMBALL  
BROOKFIELD

## Are you afraid of outliving your money?



FINANCIAL  
FOCUS

TREVOR  
NIELSEN

Do you worry about running out of money during your retirement years? If so, how can you help prevent this from happening?

In the first place, if you have this type of fear, you're far from alone. Consider this: 58 percent of retirement savers from all age groups, including current retirees, say that outliving their assets is their greatest retirement fear, according to a study by Cerulli Associates, a financial services research organization.

This type of fear can certainly affect your quality of life when you retire. Still, there's no need to panic – because you can take steps to help prevent the running-out-of-money scenario.

Here are a few to consider:

Know how much you'll need during retirement. You need to get a clear picture, or at least as good an estimate as possible, of how much money you'll need to support your retirement lifestyle. Once you do retire, some costs, such as transportation or other work-related expenses, might go down, while others – medical expenses, in particular – will likely go up. The fear of running out of money, like many fears, is caused largely by what you don't know, so having a good sense of how much you'll need in retirement can help reduce your anxieties.

Build financial resources before retirement. You're probably at your peak earning capacity in the years close to your retirement, so consider contributing as much as you can afford to your IRA and 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan.

Maximize your Social Security payments. You can start collecting Social Security as early as 62, but your monthly benefits will be larger if you can afford to wait until your full retirement age, between 66 and 67. (Payments will "max out" at age 70.)

Re-enter the workforce. Going back to work in some capacity is one way to possibly help build retirement resources and delay taking Social Security. If you have a particular area of expertise, and you enjoyed the work you did, you might be able to go back to it on a part-time basis or do some consulting. You could boost your cash flow, and potentially extend your contributions to an IRA and to an employer's retirement plan.

Cut costs during retirement. Possibly the biggest cost-cutting measure is downsizing – are you willing and able to move to a less expensive area or scale down your current living space? Of course, this is an emotional decision, as well as a financial one, and downsizing isn't for everyone, but it might be something to at least consider. As for the lesser ways of reducing expenses, take advantage of senior discounts, which are offered in many areas, including entertainment, public transportation, restaurants and retail establishments. And look for other opportunities, such as cutting out streaming services you don't use.

Look for more income from your investments. As you get closer to retirement, and even when you do retire, you might want to adjust your investment portfolio to provide you with more income-producing opportunities. However, even as a retiree, you'll want some growth potential in your investments to help keep you ahead of inflation.

Ultimately, the more you can bolster your financial security before and during retirement, the less fear you may have of outliving your money.

*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.*

# An Array of Late Summer Tips

It's the end of the summer, and time to gear up for another season of tips and tricks to make life a little easier! From late season lawn and garden tips to keeping corn fresh and herbs bright, the following roundup offers an array of timely tips:

And remember readers, send in your favorite hints and you will be in the running to win a three course dinner for two at the Publick House in Sturbridge!

**Herb Helpers:** Harvesting herbs from the fall garden? When chopping fresh herbs such as basil and tarragon, sprinkle the leaves with a few drops of olive oil. This effectively slows the darkening of the chopped leaves.

And, if you want to enhance the flavor of dried herbs, simply chop up some fresh parsley with them!

**Citronella - It's Not just for Bugs:** Before you toss this season's supply of (essential, not

fragrance) citronella oil, take note: Skin-safe citronella oil is effective in soothing aches and pains. The oil produces a subtle sensation of warmth when diluted in a massage oil and applied to the skin. Dilute three drops of skin safe citronella essential oil per teaspoon of massage oil. Try using this mixture in a friction massage to bring relief to painful joints. Note: Only use skin-safe (derived from plants) essential oil on skin.

**Cool Corn:** Want that newly picked ear of late season corn to stay fresher longer? Pick ears early in the morning, immediately husk and plunge in an ice bath, until the ears are cooled to 37 degrees. Then place the corn in plastic bags in the refrigerator where they should stay fresh and sweet for up to two weeks.

**Fall Lawn Tips:** Proper watering can be the key to a fantastic fall lawn.



TAKE THE HINT  
KAREN TRAINOR

Lawn experts claim a healthy lawn with a good root system doesn't require watering more than one to three times per week. The bottom line? Your lawn needs about an inch of water once every seven to ten days to grow strong roots.

**Divide and Conquer:** Not sure if it's time to divide your perennials? It is if they start taking over other plants, the center of a plant looks weak, or when blooms are smaller than they have been in previous years. Spring blooming perennials are best divided in the fall. Mid-summer or fall blooming perennials should be divided the next spring.

**Lure in the Big One:** It's still peak fresh water fishing weather, and all it may take is a few spices from the cupboard to up your odds of catching a big one! Try this old time recipe: Mix together four ounces ground fennel seed and one ounce ground allspice. Sprinkle in two drops oil of cloves. Jar it up to cure for a day or two. Then just put a drop on fish bait, and reel 'em in!

**Sizzling Steak Secrets:** Firing up the grill for a sizzling steak? New York Times 'Minimalist' and cookbook author Mark Bittman claims the five best steaks for grilling are: rib eye, skirt, sirloin, t-bone and flank steaks, one inch thick. His secret? Dry the steaks with paper towels then grill them without turning for three minutes

**Pep Up Indoor Plants:** Has your indoor plants taken a back seat to your

summertime gardening chores? Now's the time to give them some TLC! To make your dull indoor plants glow, feed them a tablespoon of castor oil, mixed with water.

And did you know that simply dusting the leaves of your indoor plants exposes them to more beneficial light?

**More Plant Pointers:** If you are using a flowerpot with large draining holes, you can prevent leaks simply by placing a large coffee filter into the bottom of the pot.

Tired of watering indoor plants every day? Try grandma's old tip: Cut up an old sponge into small pieces and add it to the potting mix to prevent having to water plants as often.

**Win Dinner for Two**  
Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered

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

Do you have a 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 publications? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, c/o Stonebridge Press, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550. Or e-mail kdr@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for a three course dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn!

## The staircase of Loretto

We've all had those moments in life when we turn to prayer. Whether it's a whispered plea in a crisis, a silent wish for something better, or even a habit formed in childhood, prayer seems to be a universal human instinct.

But after the words are spoken, or the thoughts drift off into the void, it's natural to wonder—does it actually do anything? Is anyone or anything really listening? Or is it just a comforting ritual that we hold onto because it makes us feel less alone in an unpredictable world?

While skepticism about prayer's efficacy is common, prayer has been studied extensively.

One study by Dr. Herbert Benson at Harvard Medical School found that heart surgery patients who were prayed

POSITIVELY SPEAKING  
TOBY MOORE

for, even without their knowledge, experienced fewer complications and smoother recoveries. This suggests that prayer may play a role in healing, possibly through the mind-body connection.

Similarly, research led by Dr. Harold Koenig at Duke University showed that regular prayer is associated with lower levels of stress, anxiety, and depression. These studies indicate that prayer could positively influence both physical and mental well-being, even if the exact mechanisms remain unclear.

We could sift through all the scientific data, but where's the fun in that? Sometimes, the real power of prayer is best seen in the mysterious and miraculous—like the legendary staircase at the Loretto Chapel in Santa

Fe, N.M. In the late 19th century, a small group of nuns from the Sisters of Loretto faced a perplexing problem. Their beautiful new chapel in Santa Fe, New Mexico, was nearly perfect. Still, as the final touches were added, one glaring issue became apparent—the choir loft, perched high above the main floor, was inaccessible.

The nuns consulted local carpenters and architects, but each delivered the same grim assessment: building a staircase in such a confined space was impossible.

In their despair, the nuns turned to the one source they knew could offer hope. They began praying for nine days and nights.

Their prayers were simple but earnest, asking

for a solution allowing them to access the choir loft without marring the chapel's elegance.

Just as the sisters were losing hope, a mysterious figure arrived at their doorstep on their final day of prayer.

The man was a humble carpenter, and his appearance was as unassuming as his request. He carried only the most basic of tools with him, yet he claimed he could solve their problem.

The carpenter asked for just one condition—complete privacy while he worked. For days, he toiled behind closed doors, the sounds of sawing and hammering echoing through the chapel.

When the work was finally done, the nuns were called in to see the result, and what they found took their breath away. The staircase the

carpenter had built was unlike anything they—or anyone—had ever seen.

Spiraling gracefully upward in two complete 360-degree turns, it seemed to float in mid-air without any visible support or central column.

It was constructed using a rare wood that no one could identify, and astonishingly, it was held together without a single nail. The wood was joined entirely by wooden pegs and intricate craftsmanship that defied explanation.

Word of the miraculous staircase spread quickly, drawing architects, engineers, and curious onlookers from far and wide. Each visitor examined the staircase, and all came to the same conclusion: it should not be standing.

Adding to the mystery, the carpenter who built

the staircase vanished without a trace as soon as his work was completed. He left behind no name, no request for payment, and no indication of where he had come from or where he was going. The nuns searched for him, wanting to thank him for his miraculous gift, but he was never found.

To this day, the Loretto Chapel remains a pilgrimage site, attracting those who wish to witness the staircase and ponder its origins. Some visitors are drawn by the architectural mystery, others by the spiritual implications.

While the Loretto staircase may not provide definitive proof that prayer works, it certainly leaves you with a sense of wonder and a reminder that some mysteries are best left to faith.

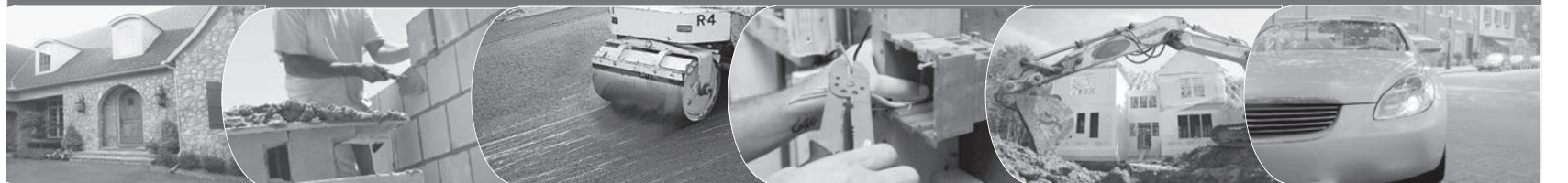
SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!



news@stonebridgepress.news

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

# LOCAL SERVICE PROVIDERS



**ASPHALT PAVING**

"Quality counts when no one is looking!"

Asphalt paving for over 50 years!

**Bill Keyes ASPHALT PAVING INC.**

SPENCER, MA.

**774-261-5181**

ESTABLISHED 1963

KeyesPaving.com | 508-347-7499

Fully Insured • Owner/Operator

**HOUSE CLEAN OUTS**

**CLEAN OUT SOLUTIONS**

No job too small!

House Clean Outs • Junk Removal  
Basements • Garages • Attics  
Whole Houses • Hot Tubs, Pools,  
Sheds Demo & Removal

Serving Central Mass  
Call Skip Gervais  
West Brookfield, MA  
774-397-6500

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

**SEPTIC SYSTEMS**

**R. Barnes & Sons Sanitation**

- Cesspool Pumping
- Title V Certification
- Portable Toilet Rentals
- Reasonable rates

**508-867-3063**  
**508-867-8993**

**TREE SERVICE**

**McNeely Tree Service**  
Insured • References

- 101' Aerial Lift Rental
- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Bobcat Rental
- Lot Clearing
- Storm Clean-up
- Firewood \$280/cord (2 cord min)
- Astroturf For Sale
- Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified

H: 508-867-6119 C: 508-523-1175

**TREE SERVICE**

**Young's Tree Service**

"Specializing In Dangerous Trees"

35+ years' experience

Fully Insured Free Estimates

John H. Young, Jr  
508.885.TREE  
1.800.660.5358

SEND US YOUR NEWS!!!

news@stonebridgepress.news

**HILLSIDE PROPERTY MAINTENANCE**

Excavation/ Site work • Utilities Trenching  
Drainage/ Water Mitigation • Demolition/ Large junk removal  
Land Clearing • Stumping • Farm Services/ Fencing  
Brush Control & Mowing • More...

Hillside Excavation & Property Maintenance

**774-633-0892** HillsideDigging@gmail.com

# Foraging from trees and shrubs



Maureen Doyle and Melissa Morneau look over the table of tree samples and books after the talk.



**BY GUS STEEVES**  
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — As any farmer knows, autumn is the harvest season. But for foragers, it's only one of the harvest seasons, which last all year long.

At Charlton Library last week, Karen Monger, who has been foraging for food 19 years, talked about a long list of food that's naturally available in our forests for free.

(This is part one of two. Part two, on mushrooms and ground-hugging plants, will be next week.)

**A chestnut, once one of the most common nuts in American forests.**



Library Director Karen Wall and forager Karen Monger talk after the presentation.

She started off with a little warning about the information available. "I'm not your mom, and I'm not the foraging police," she said before noting there are a very wide variety of written resources on foraging out there. AI is writing "a lot of bad things to sell on Amazon," so people need to make sure the writer is a real human with some experience foraging.

### Nut trees

Her first food was a major mainstay of the food supply for humans and many other animals until about a century ago — the chestnut. Their nuts are distinctive: a "very painfully spiky" exterior, but it splits by itself when ripe. When that happens, Monger notes, "the only way to beat the squirrels" is to collect in the morning. Cooking them requires slitting the nut itself "or they will violently explode in your oven." But they can be eaten raw, cooked in many dishes and pastries (she likes a "chestnut nutella" spread) and vacuum-packed to freeze. (They do spoil quickly if not eaten, cooked or refrigerated fast, though.)

On the other hand, the far more common horse chestnut is not edible. It has "very, very toxic nuts" that produce a paralytic poison and is used in some laundry detergents, she said.

Today, the chestnuts that grow long enough to have nuts are mostly a Chinese variety, since the chestnut blight wiped out billions of American chestnuts. Store-bought nuts are mostly from Italy. (Because chestnuts grow from rootstocks, we still find some of the American variety in the woods, but they invariably catch the blight and die after a decade or so. There are efforts to hybridize the two and to breed the very rare immune trees that exist.)

Several other native nut trees are also edible. Black walnuts, which grow to "tennis-ball size" are ones "you either love it or you don't like it at all," she said. Those have very hard shells — to open them, you basically have to "run these over with your car slowly." But don't eat them immediately; let them "rest" four to six weeks so the nut meat will shrink and make it far easier to get out of the shell. She noted immature nuts are also useful — they can be tinctured into a medicinal walnut liqueur.

The visually-distinctive shagbark hickory's nuts have green husks with seams, making it easy to open. She advised not to eat those found on the ground and still green — "the tree knows there's something wrong with the nut" and let it fall

to avoid putting energy into it, she said. Once collected, she also advised letting them age a little before cracking; they're in the pecan family and have a similar taste.

Monger later noted her daughter's gotten to be so good at identifying healthy nuts "she can just say 'nope, not this one'" by just looking at it.

Even more common are acorns, which have an undeserved bad reputation. She noted they're often considered "poisonous, which is only a little bit true" — consuming a lot of tannins will bind iron in the blood and cause anemia (drinking a lot of tea can do that, too). Those will leach out when shelled, ground and soaked long enough in water. Monger said she puts the grindings in a large jar, shakes it periodically, and changes the water daily until it stays clear (it'll be brown for several days). After that's done, they can be turned into a flour for baking (a very common Native American food), but she recommended mixing it with some wheat flour, since acorns have no gluten and thus the flour doesn't stick together as well. Once made, the flour should be frozen; "Don't let your acorn flour go bad. Trust me on that," she noted.

Of the many oak species, white oaks — recognizable by their leaves' "softened, rounded lobes" — have the lowest tannin content.

### Other trees

Many areas were once farmed, and its common to find feral apples and pears in the wild. "These fruits are ugly ... but they're free fruit, and they're everywhere," she said. She tends to cook them slightly, then run them through a fruit mill, and noted not to eat the seeds of either species (they contain cyanide).

Another human-planted fruit tree that's unintentionally become even more common is the "very invasive" autumn olive. An Asian species, it's also called the silverberry because its red berries have silvery spots and leaves a silvery underside. Monger notes the state used to give them away, saying "birds love these fruits. They do — they eat them and spread the seeds everywhere."

When ripe, the berries have a rather bitter/astringent taste at first (especially if picked soon after ripening), but their sweetness comes afterward. Their seeds are edible — she noted they have Omega-6 in them — and the fruits themselves have fiber and lycopenes (like tomatoes) with antioxidant properties. They can be eaten raw, used in baking, turned into "fruit

jerky" or jelly, and made into a form of ketchup, among other things.

For non-fruit trees, the sassafras is native and "incredibly common." It's the source of the original root beer flavor, now made chemically because the US government claimed sassafras contains a precursor of the street drug ecstasy. They declared it "carcinogenic" after seriously overdosing rats with it, she said. Wild sassafras, however, is most notable for its roots, which can be ground and simmered into a decoction, although bark and leaves can also be used. (If that sounds odd, Monger noted that's what people do to get cinnamon, too. She also noted commonly available file powder (aka gumbo file) is made from the dried and powdered leaves.)

### Bushes & vines

Dropping a little farther in elevation, Monger cited several edible bushes. One is in many gardens — roses. Their rosehips (the red fruit after the flowers fall off) are very seedy, but if you scoop out the seeds and the little hairs inside, they're high in vitamin C. They don't have much meat, though, and are often best used in teas and a rosehip butter; she noted they taste "like a really nice ripe apricot." The biggest hips are from the non-native, invasive (and super-spiky) Rugosa roses; the also-invasive multifloras have probably the smallest ones.

By contrast, others are native. Grape vines exist in about eight varieties that hybridize in nature very easily. They're usually identifiable by smell, but you should also take time to look for the tiny tendrils that attach it to other plants, trace the vine to its woody root, and make sure the fruit has multiple teardrop-shaped seeds. (There are plants with similarly-colored fruit with just one seed; those are toxic. One example is the Virginia creeper, which is a vine, but looks nothing like a grapevine.) As many know, grapes are edible raw, but they do contain tartaric acid that will precipitate out of juice as a white powder if left to sit a little while.

Spicebush is common in hardwood forests. It's mostly used for making teas from the leaves and twigs; its red berries are edible but only one at a time — she noted if you eat more "your head would probably explode" from the flavor's intensity. (She likes letting one sit in her mouth while hiking, giving it a little nibble periodically.)

Gus Steeves can be reached at [gus.steeves2@gmail.com](mailto:gus.steeves2@gmail.com).



## FIND YOUR BEST NIGHT'S SLEEP TODAY

FOR A LIMITED TIME ONLY

**SPECIAL SAVINGS!**



Crown Jewel by Sealy® Jewel Nile Queen Mattress Only  
**\$399\***



Crown Jewel by Sealy® Opal House Firm or Plush Queen Mattress Only  
**\$649\***



Crown Jewel by Sealy® Royal Cove Firm or Plush Queen Mattress Only  
**\$799\***



Upgrade to an Adjustable Base

**CARRYING THE TOP BRANDS**





LAYAWAY\* • FREE DELIVERY & REMOVAL\* • FREE FINANCING AVAILABLE\*

**SUNDEEN FURNITURE**

241 Providence Rd.  
Whitinsville, MA 01588  
(508) 234-8777

Mon.–Wed. 9:30 AM–6 PM  
Thurs.–Fri. 9:30 AM–7 PM  
Sat. 9:30 AM–6 PM/Sun. 11 AM–5 PM

\*Terms and conditions apply. See store for details. Copyright 2023 Sealy, Inc. All rights reserved.

**For Advertising Information**  
**Call 774-200-7308**  
**email: [mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news)**



# Becker field receives long-awaited logo replacement

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — One of the final vestiges of the defunct Becker College—the hawk logo on the turf field—has officially been changed to the LHS Wolverine paw.

But not without a long, complicated process fraught with delays and other hurdles.

Nearly three years after the town purchased the former college campus following its closure in 2021, the Becker logo still remained at the center of the field. Last month, the blue and gray hawk logo was finally replaced with the maroon LHS paw-print, featuring the letter “L” in white lettering.

The FieldTurf company, based in Montreal, Quebec, applied the finishing touches to the logo on Aug. 21. Now, whenever Leicester athletes race down the field in their respective sports, they’ll be able to charge across their school logo with pride.

“It is just in time for the fall sports season, and the community of Leicester couldn’t be happier,” said Superintendent of Schools Brett Kustigian.

Last year, the Leicester Sports Booster Club



Courtesy

Thanks to a recently completed project, the Leicester logo has been installed at the LHS field.

raised approximately \$25,000 for the logo transition project, which included a single anonymous donation of more than \$20,000.

Originally, the Boosters contracted with another company to replace the turf logo, but school officials said the company did not comply with the contract. Instead, the company painted the

logo on the field, and the paint was washed away, officials said.

A year later, school and town officials reached out to the original builders of the field (FieldTurf), whose leaders said they could replace the logo.

The project was initially scheduled to take place at the end of June, but a series of postponements led officials to worry that

it wouldn’t be completed in time for the fall sports season.

“It was not easy to get them here, but our community deserves better and so many people put so much time into the

logo that it was priority one,” added Kustigian, who called and emailed the company daily over the summer to finalize the rescheduling arrangements.

Kustigian thanks several school officials and community leaders who assisted him in a team effort to get the long-awaited project done. The team included Jenn Parissi, Kate Mercier, Bryce Giggey, Jim Reinke, and Kevin Menard, among others.

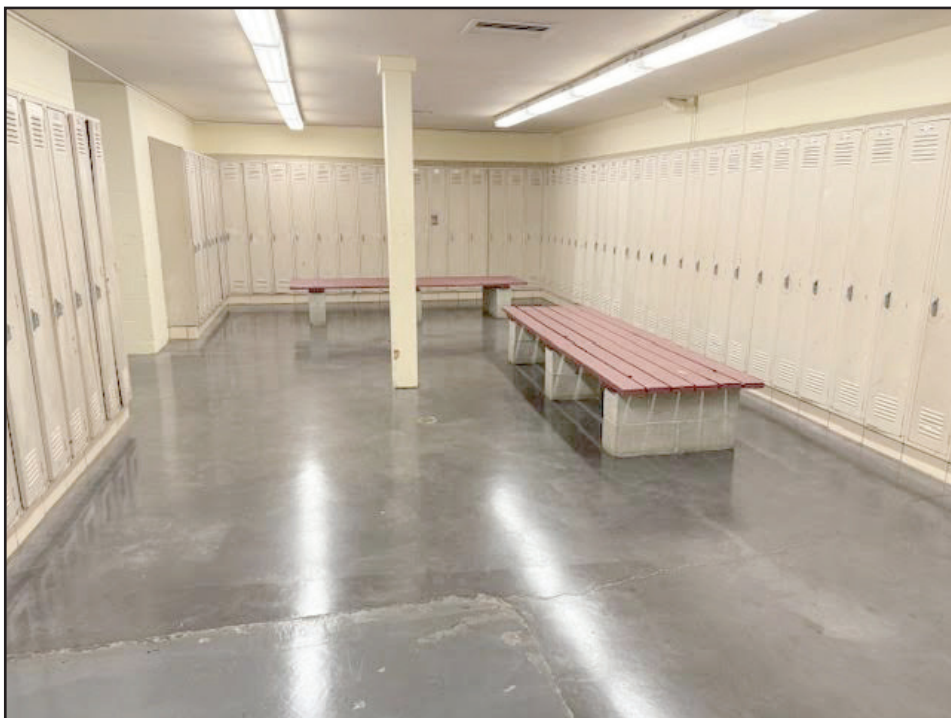
“I am pleased with the steps taken to replace the logo on our beautiful field,” said School Committee Chair Donna McCance. “The Wolverine paw is Leicester High School’s symbol that builds strength and loyalty to our values. It’s great to see the quality and reassuring to know it’s here to stay.”

School leaders are also excited about several other announcements heading into the fall sports season.

“In addition to the new turf logo, LHS students will have newly refurbished locker rooms and a gym entirely in maroon, not Becker blue, thanks to Kate Mercier, Bryce Giggey, and his daughter Jordan Giggey,” read a statement released by school leaders. “Kate, Bryce, and company have painted the girls’ locker rooms and they look amazing.”

School officials thank all parents, volunteers, staff members, town leaders, and community members for their continued support of Leicester student athletics.

# LHS football to make locker room switch



Courtesy

This year, the LHS football team will use newly renovated locker rooms at the Winslow Ave. School.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — The LHS football team will have alternative locker room arrangements this season after officials identified accessibility issues with its previous setup.

Following the high school’s transition to the former Becker College campus, the 2023 LHS football team used the facilities in Knight Hall that once served college students.

But during inspections over this past summer, Fire Inspector Michael Wilson and Interim Building Inspector Duane Amos documented several issues and reported them to Town Administrator David Genereux.

“Knight Hall is approved as business use, according to the State Building Code, which allows for usage of individuals over 18. For school use, the building must meet the code for educational usage, which requires full sprinklers and ADA accessibility,” Genereux said. “Knight Hall does not meet the code, so it cannot be used for those purposes.”

Previously serving as a 66-room dormitory for Becker students, Knight Hall presents a range of accessibility issues, officials said. It remains unclear why the football team was previously authorized to use the facilities at the building, with no accessibility issues raised by inspectors until this past summer.

Wilson could not be reached for comment on the situation by press time.

“There are no plans currently to upgrade the building to meet those particular codes required because it would be cost prohibitive,” Genereux said.

Forced to find new locker room accommodations for the football team, Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Brett Kustigian and his team worked quickly to identify a solution.

This year, the football team will use the newly renovated locker rooms at the Winslow Ave School. Officials thank everyone who took part in efforts to get the locker rooms ready for the fall season.

“The School Department had the Winslow locker rooms professionally cleaned,” Kustigian said. “Once again, the community is coming together to support our students, and I am grateful for their support.”

**NOW OPEN**

**BREEZELANDS ORCHARDS**

**APPLES**

**The Harvest Is In!**

Visit The Farm For:

- Just Baked Pies
- Cider Donuts • Cheese

**FREE** with this coupon and purchase  
Tues.-Thurs. Only

**1/2 Dozen Cider Donuts**

Southbridge Rd., Warren, MA • 413-436-7122  
Open 10am - 6pm  
5 min. from Sturbridge - 148 N. Follow signs

*Where Everyone Goes For Their Piece Of The Earth!*

**FALL IS HERE!**

**LANDSCAPING STONE**

- Blue • Greige
- Purple • Red • White
- Lt Gray • Dk Gray

**SCREENED LOAM STORED IN BUILDING**

- Construction Stone • Chip Stone
- Title V Sand • Utility Sand
- Concrete Sand • Pool Liner Sand
- Chicken Coop Sand • Silt
- Stone Dust • Crushed Gravel
- Crushed Asphalt
- Crushed Concrete • Cold Patch

**SELF PICK-UP OR CALL TO SCHEDULE YOUR DELIVERY TODAY!**

**HOME OWNER FRIENDLY**  
NO MINIMUMS

**Bond** 508-885-6100  
508-885-2480

**Sand, Gravel & Asphalt**

98 N. Spencer Rd., Rte. 31N, Spencer, MA  
www.bondsandandgravel.com

*Back to school blues? Let us tackle the dinner rush! Stop in for our weekly specials.*

**Hearthstone Market & Catering**  
STURBRIDGE, MA

Rt. 20, 630 Main Street  
Sturbridge, MA 01566 • 508-347-7077  
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm

hearthstonemarket1@gmail.com • hearthstonemarketandcatering.com

**weber GRILL SALE!**

**LABOR DAY SALE STILL GOING ON!**

**GIANT BIKE SALE** E-BIKES IN STOCK!

**MATTRESS SALE!**

**TWIN: \$199** (REGULARLY \$299)  
**FULL: \$269** (REGULARLY \$499)  
**FULL: \$299** (REGULARLY \$599)

**ALL TV'S ON SALE!**

50" Vizio ..... \$289.99 (Regularly \$549.99)  
55" Samsung ..... \$379.99 (Regularly \$449.99)  
75" Samsung ..... \$699.99 (Regularly \$799.99)  
85" Samsung ..... \$1199.99 (Regularly \$1499.99)

**INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000**

**FRIGIDAIRE DISHWASHER #7150 \$299.99** WAS \$599.99

**18 CU. FT. REFRIGERATOR \$599.99** WAS \$699.99

**7 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$199.99** WAS \$299.99

**AMANA WASHER OR DRYER \$469.99** WAS \$699.99

**MAYTAG DRYER OR WASHER \$549.99** WAS \$699.99

**WHIRLPOOL FRENCH DOOR BOTTOM FREEZER \$1599.99** WAS \$2,699

**FRIGIDAIRE SIDE-BY-SIDE REFRIGERATOR \$999.99** WAS \$1,599.99

**20 CUBIC FOOT UPRIGHT FREEZER \$799.99** WAS \$999.95

**DELUXE WHIRLPOOL WASHER \$499.99** WAS \$699.95

**AMANA GAS RANGE #AGR1530CBAS • Stainless Steel \$599.99** WAS \$699.99

**GE FRONT LOAD WASHER #GFWS06SNWW \$749.99** WAS \$999.99

**10 CU. FT. CHEST FREEZER \$499.99** WAS \$599.99

**LG SMOOTH TOP ELECTRIC STOVE \$729.99** WAS \$999.99

**OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE \$199.99** WAS \$279.99

**NO CREDIT? BAD CREDIT? NEW EASY FINANCING TERMS ON EVERYTHING IN THE STORE!**

**WHITCO**

140 MAIN STREET  
SPENCER, MA  
508.885.9343

SEE WHITCO SALES.COM FOR 100'S OF DEALS!

Store Hours: Mon. through Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 10am-8pm • Sun: 12pm-7pm

**Advertise Here**



### Math Blocks

Fill in the missing blocks with numbers between 0-20.  
The numbers in each row add up to the totals on the right.  
The numbers in each column add up to the totals on the bottom.

|    |    |    |    |
|----|----|----|----|
| 5  |    | 17 | 22 |
|    | 9  | 3  | 27 |
| 7  |    | 10 | 18 |
| 27 | 10 | 30 |    |

|    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| 01 | 1 | 2  |
| 3  | 6 | 11 |
| 17 | 0 | 5  |

Solution

### Get Scrambled

Unscramble the words to determine the phrase.

RTUN ETH GEPA

Answer: Turn the page

### THIS DAY IN HISTORY



**1882:** The Pearl Street Station in NYC becomes the first power plant to supply electricity to paying customers.

**1972:** Mark Spitz sets a record by winning a seventh medal at a single Olympic Games.

**1998:** Google is founded by Larry Page and Sergey Brin.

### Book FACT:



With 38.4 million catalogued books, this is the largest library in the United States.

Answer: Library of Congress

### NEW WORD CATALOG

#### CATALOG

A complete list of items in some systematic order

### How they say that in...

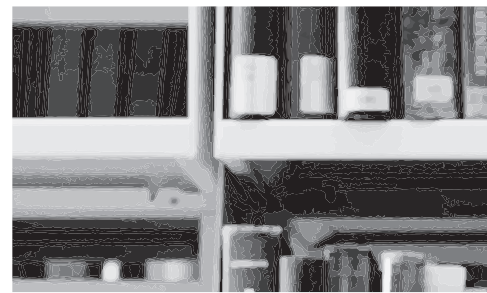
- English:** Text
- Spanish:** Texto
- Italian:** Testo
- French:** Texte
- German:** Wortlaut

### Did You Know?

Libraries use the Dewey Decimal System or the Library of Congress Classification System to organize their books.



### Get the PICTURE?



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

Answer: Library books

⊙ \* ✎ ☺ ✖ ~ ⓪ Ⓜ ✧ ✨ ✕ ✖ ✚ ✛ ✜ ✝ ✞ ✟ ✠ ✡ ✢ ✣ ✤ ✥ ✦ ✧ ✨ ✩ ✪ ✫ ✬ ✭ ✮ ✯ ✰ ✱ ✲ ✳ ✴ ✵ ✶ ✷ ✸ ✹ ✺ ✻ ✼ ✽ ✾ ✿ Ⓜ Ⓝ Ⓞ Ⓟ Ⓠ Ⓡ Ⓢ Ⓣ Ⓤ Ⓥ Ⓦ Ⓧ Ⓨ Ⓩ

### CRYPTO FUN

Solve the code to discover words related to healthy aging.  
Each number corresponds to a letter.  
(Hint: 2 = I)

- A.** 22 19 9 9 23 19 24 24

Clue: Well-being

- B.** 17 18 16 2 7 2 16 11

Clue: Doing something

- C.** 18 13 8 23 2 16 2 13 23

Clue: Mental action

- D.** 19 20 17 4

Clue: Medical test

Answers: A. wellness B. activity C. cognition D. exam

### SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

#### Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:



# Home Fall Auto

## AUTO BODY / REPAIRS



**KEARNS COLLISION REPAIR**  
Since 1969  
Always Going The Extra Mile For Our Customers

Free Written Estimates • Damage Appraisal  
Color Matching Specialists • Rental Car Services  
Warrantied Work & Repairs  
Diagnostics • A/C Repair  
Tune Ups & Engine Repair  
Brakes • Alternators • Starters • ABS  
Alignments • Tires...and more

Major Insurance Referral Shop  
Honoring All Insurance Estimates

1734 Providence Road (Rt 122)  
Northbridge, MA 01534  
Ph: 508-234-5211 • Fax: 508-234-2231  
www.kearnscollision.com  
Fully Certified • RS# 2678

## BEST WINDOW COMPANY



**KUBALA HOME IMPROVEMENT**  
The Door and Window Experts  
MACSL100114 | MAHic150118 | CTHic0619712

Award Winning  
High Performance  
Windows & Doors

100% FINANCING AVAILABLE | Lifetime Warranty

**508-784-1550**

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+ f

## BUILDER



**Todd A. Ethier TAE**

B • U • I • L • D • E • R  
INCORPORATED

**Remodeling Expert**

- ◆ FINISHED BASEMENTS
- ◆ ADDITIONS ◆ GARAGES
- ◆ SIDING ◆ ROOFING ◆ DECKS
- ◆ WINDOWS ◆ DOORS
- ◆ KITCHEN ◆ BATHS

Quality Building Since 1985  
Licensed & Insured

**508-764-2293 • 774-230-3967**

## Cleaning Services

**\*\*Serving the Boston, Worcester, and Surrounding Areas! \*\***

Our services include:

- Recurring Cleaning
- Move-In and Move-Out Cleaning
- Rental Property Cleaning
- Residential Cleaning
- Commercial Business Cleaning
- Decluttering
- Dusting
- Organization

Contact us today for a spotless and organized space!

**CLEANERS WITH CARE**  
774-999-7819  
Contact@cleanerswithcare.com



## Cleaning Services

**HOUSE CLEANING AVAILABLE**

Reasonable rates.  
Weekly, bi-weekly  
or monthly times available.  
~ Bonded ~  
Fully Vaccinated  
Call Wendy for a FREE estimate at:  
**774-262-9166**



## Granite & Marble



**SHREWSBURY MARBLE & GRANITE, INC**

Buy FACTORY DIRECT & SAVE

Biggest Selection of Marble, Granite & Quartz of ANY Fabrication Shop  
300 Colors in Full Slabs to Choose From!

508-842-9800 • shrewsburymarbleandgranite.com  
620 Boston Turnpike (Rte 9 E), Shrewsbury, MA  
(1/4 mi. east of Home Depot - Big Blue Bldg)  
Mon-Thurs 8-5, Fri & Sat & 9-4

## Masonry/Excavation

**Martini Masonry & Excavation**

Michael Martini  
(508) 557-3211

*"specialize in stone masonry and all your excavating needs"*

## LAWNMOWERS



ALWAYS THE BEST SERVICE



**Snowblower & Generator Repair  
Tractor Service  
Tune-Ups & Repairs  
Pickup & Delivery  
508-987-2775  
492 Main St Oxford  
WORCESTERCOUNTY LAWNMOWER.COM**

## PEST CONTROL

**ACCURATE PEST CONTROL**  
Full Pest Control Services  
Over 30 years experience  
Reasonable Rates  
Owner Operated

**508-757-8078**  
Ask for David or Jason Hight  
Auburn MA

## SITE WORK



**AMAZON SITE WORK**  
Excavating  
Landscaping  
Walkways  
Patios

And More Just Ask

**508-667-0581**

Title 5 Inspections

## Stump Grinding




Asian Longhorn Beetle Certified  
Fully Insured • Free Quotes

**REASONABLE RATES  
PROMPT SERVICE**  
ROD MILLER • NICK MILLER  
OWNERS / OPERATORS  
**508-688-2159**

## CHIMNEYS/MASONRY

**CHIMNEY CLEANINGS ONLY \$99**  
ALL KINDS OF MASONRY & CONCRETE WORK  
New & Repairs, Repointing, Rebuilding, Re-lining, Waterproofing, Foundation & Chimney Repair, New & Stair Repair, Concrete Walkways, Stonewalls, New Roofs, Construction & Carpentry.  
Need to get it done? Call me!  
-FREE Estimates-  
Quality Chimney (508)752-1003

## GUTTERS



30+ years exp  
Licensed & Insured

**508-867-2877  
508-754-9054**  
A. Eagle Gutters  
aeaglegutters.com

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

## Home Improvement

**BONETTI'S Home Improvement**  
Roofing  
Siding  
Decks  
Remodeling  
Windows  
Doors  
Basement Finishing  
Gutters Cleaning  
Pressure Washing  
Painting Landscaping

Over 25 Years Experience  
Residential Specialist  
Licensed and Insured  
128231  
508-347-4906  
Cell 508-688-0072

## MASONRY



**C&J MASONRY HARDSCAPE**  
RETAINING WALLS  
OUTDOOR LIVING CONSTRUCTION

- Chimney Repair
- Foundation Repair
- Steps, Patios
- Pool Surrounds
- Pressure Washing
- Property Maintenance
- Water Proofing
- Delivery of Aggregate
- Cord Wood

Brian French  
(413)222-5542  
frenchn45@gmail.com

## GJ LEDUC PAINTING

Interior and Exterior  
Power Washing  
Wallpapering  
General Repair  
Fully Insured  
Over 40+ Years Experience

508-764-8548  
774-230-8373

## PAINTING

**Scott Bernard's PRECISION PAINTERS**  
Finest Craftsmanship Since 1979

Interior-Exterior  
Paints, Stains,  
Wallpaper and  
Fine Faux Finishes

Satisfaction Guaranteed  
Free Estimates  
**774.452.0321**

## Plastering

**Glenn LeBlanc PLASTERING**  
Plastering small jobs; additions, ceilings, bathrooms, remodels, patches.

Over 40 Years Experience.  
Quality Workmanship  
Insured  
CALL  
508-612-9573

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

## PLUMBING

**JOHN DALY Plumbing**  
Water heaters, Faucets, Toilets, New pex water piping, Outside hose connections replaced or added, Dishwashers, Garbage disposals, Water filters, Tub & shower valves, Tub & shower replacements  
Any repair or replacement needed.

Serving Worcester County since 1988  
Lic.#MPL-21763  
Since 1988  
Call John  
**508.304.7816**  
We are home owners' plumbers!  
jdman714@aol.com

## Plumbing



Commercial, Residential, New Construction

369 Main St, Ste 4  
Spencer, MA  
1-833-969-4330  
Fully Insured

MIKELAMBERTSPANDH@GMAIL.COM

## ROOFING

**GUARANTEED BUILDING MAINTENANCE**  
Roofing, siding, gutter cleaning, gutter repairs, Certainteed Shingle Master Certified!

Contact Daniel Truax  
**508-450-7472**  
call or text  
gbmaintco.com

Senior Citizen Discount  
Credit Cards Accepted  
Over 30 years of satisfied customers  
Fully Insured - Free Estimates

Financing Available  
A+ Rating BBB  
Mass CSL #099487  
Mass HIC number 124019  
Connecticut, HIC number 0665243

## ROOFING

**David Barbale ROOFING**  
Roofing/Gutters  
Repair Work

Fully Licensed and Insured

MA LIC #CS069127  
MA HIC. LIC #1079721  
INS. #CAC032585

C: 508-397-6709  
O: 508-248-6709  
davidbarbale.com

## Roofing


**SAUNDERS & SONS ROOFING**  
Read our reviews at the Better Business Bureau. A+ rating and accredited member since 2009.

Call Bill Toll-Free  
**1-866-961-Roof  
508-765-0100**  
Lifetime material warranty & 25 yr. labor warranty available

MA Reg #153955  
CSL #095459  
CT-HIC #0638641  
Fully Insured, Free Estimates  
Family Owned and Operated  
Now Accepting All Major Credit Cards

ACCREDITED BUSINESS A+

## SITE WORK



**Complete Site Work**  
Including:  
Excavating • Bulldozing  
Trucking • Demolition  
• Stump Removal  
• Timber Harvesting  
• Yard Expansions & Tree Removal  
• Lot Clearing  
• Cellar Holes  
• Septic Systems  
• Lawn Installation  
• Retaining Walls  
• Fields Made  
**860-382-5071**  
Field Stone and Firewood for sale



# POLICE REPORTS

## Leicester Police Log

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 22**  
 12:57 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 12:59 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), citation issued; 1:36 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:42 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 4:54 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 5:00 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 5:56 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, speeding, criminal application issued; 8:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:27 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:31 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:51 a.m.: ambulance (Mannville Street), transported; 10:02 a.m.: residential b&e (Sabina Circle), report taken; 10:03 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:22 a.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, trespassing, criminal application issued; name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation/3rd offense, criminal application issued; 11:39 a.m.: suspicious activity (Lake Sargent Drive), spoken to; 1:50 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 2:21 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 2:28 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), report taken; 2:34 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 2:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:46 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 2:54 p.m.: ambulance (Warren Avenue), transported; 2:55 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), Socorro Martinez Santos, 35, 952 Main Street, #31, Leicester, assault w/dangerous weapon, possession Class A drug (fentanyl), arrest; 3:06 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 3:13 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 3:31 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 3:47 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 3:59 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 4:04 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 4:14 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 4:27 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 4:51 p.m.: ambulance (Howe Village, Spencer), transported; 5:40 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:21 p.m.: investigation (Sabina Circle), report taken; 7:05 p.m.: welfare check (Collier Avenue), transported to hospital; 9:32 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:45 p.m.: mv stop (McNeil Highway), verbal warning; 9:57 p.m.: suspicious person (Stafford Street), resolved; 10:34 p.m.: animal complaint (Craig Street), referred; 11:00 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), assisted.

**FRIDAY, AUGUST 23**  
 1:06 a.m.: mv stop (Boyd Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, unregistered mv, criminal application issued; 7:46 a.m.: debris in road (Main Street), referred; 8:12 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:59 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 10:49 a.m.: ambulance (Edward Street), transported; 10:49 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street),

written warning; 11:08 a.m.: ambulance (Park Avenue, Worcester), transported; 12:06 p.m.: fraud (River Street), report taken; 12:23 p.m.: welfare check (Maple Street), transported; 1:42 p.m.: restraining order service (Mayflower Road), unable to serve; 1:56 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Dale Court), Jennifer A. McInnis, 47, 5 Dale Court, Rochdale, failure to appear upon recognition, arrest; 4:02 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 5:03 p.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 7:33 p.m.: ambulance (Wire Village Road, Spencer), transported; 8:36 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), report taken; 8:39 p.m.: restraining order service (Mayflower Road), served; 11:02 p.m.: ambulance (Tobin Road), transported.

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 24**  
 12:19 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 12:26 a.m.: investigation (Upton Street), report taken; 1:31 a.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), resolved; 9:36 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 11:22 a.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 11:44 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 2:57 p.m.: ambulance (Tanglewood Road), transported; 4:22 p.m.: welfare check (River Street), report taken; 8:47 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 9:00 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mannville Street), investigated; 9:24 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), services rendered; 9:57 p.m.: disabled mv (Stafford Street), assisted; 10:22 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 11:47 p.m.: residential alarm (Chesnar Drive), false alarm.

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 25**  
 12:21 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:04 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), unable to locate; 3:19 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), spoken to; 6:00 a.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 7:58 a.m.: investigation (Winslow Avenue), report taken; 10:38 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:53 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street, Worcester), transported; 3:14 p.m.: harassment (Soojians Drive), report taken; 4:08 p.m.: summons service (Brookside Drive), unable to contact; 4:34 p.m.: mv stop (Franklin Street), verbal warning; 6:13 p.m.: suspicious person (Franklin Street), services rendered; 7:16 p.m.: vandalism (Pleasant Street), report taken; 7:44 p.m.: disturbance (Lake Drive), peace restored; 11:52 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning.

**MONDAY, AUGUST 26**  
 12:03 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, w/suspended registration, open container of alcohol in mv, speeding, criminal application issued; 1:48 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 4:04 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 8:29 a.m.: animal complaint (Meadow Lane), referred; 8:58 a.m.: animal complaint (Victoria Drive), referred; 10:19 a.m.: investigation (Pleasant Street), report taken; 11:08 a.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), resolved; 11:21 a.m.: ambulance (Edward Street), transported; 11:38 a.m.: accident (South Main Street), report taken; 12:09 p.m.: mv

stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:23 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), report taken; 12:39 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Rawson Street), spoken to; 1:30 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), report taken; 1:56 p.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported; 2:14 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 3:08 p.m.: investigation (Franklin Street), report taken; 3:13 p.m.: suspicious activity (South Main Street), resolved; 5:18 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), assisted; 5:48 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), report taken; 8:50 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street, Worcester), transported; 9:48 p.m.: ambulance (McCarthy Avenue), transported.

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 27**  
 1:52 a.m.: welfare check (Chesnar Avenue), spoken to; 8:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:34 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 8:52 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 9:12 a.m.: ambulance (Laflesh Lane), transported; 9:31 a.m.: investigation (Henshaw Street), report taken; 9:40 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 9:45 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 9:50 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 9:58 a.m.: investigation (Charlton Street), report taken; 9:59 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), spoken to; 10:15 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 10:25 a.m.: mv stop (Mill Street), written warning; 10:50 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 10:58 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 11:15 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 11:16 a.m.: welfare check (Beech Street), gone on arrival; 11:30 a.m.: mv stop (Burncoat Street), verbal warning; 11:38 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 1:21 p.m.: malicious mischief (Pleasant Street), report taken; 2:25 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), spoken to; 2:42 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 3:05 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 3:50 p.m.: welfare check (Paxton Street), spoken to; 4:58 p.m.: harassment (Deer Pond Road), assisted; 5:56 p.m.: threats (Redfield Road), no action required; 6:45 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 10:01 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 11:14 p.m.: welfare check (Carleton Road), assisted.

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28**  
 1:44 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 2:07 a.m.: disabled mv (Paxton Road), unable to locate; 4:11 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), citation issued; 8:06 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 8:18 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 8:28 a.m.: ambulance (Mannville Street), transported; 8:30 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), spoken to; 9:17 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, improper operation, criminal application issued; 9:36 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:15 a.m.: restraining order service (Carleton Road), served; 11:20 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 1:06 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:13 p.m.: investigation

(Warren Avenue), report taken; 1:22 p.m.: disabled mv (South Main Street), services rendered; 3:05 p.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 3:23 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 4:01 p.m.: ambulance (Laflesh Lane), transported; 4:04 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 4:35 p.m.: suspicious mv (Reservoir Street), unable to locate; 4:39 p.m.: welfare check (Chesnar Drive), services rendered; 6:05 p.m.: accident (Main Street), transported to hospital; 6:47 p.m.: ambulance (Hemlock Street), transported; 10:53 p.m.: assist other PD (Greenville Street, Spencer), resolved.

###

## Spencer Police Log

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21

12:13-1:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:32 a.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 2:12 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:11/3:38 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd/2; 3:45/5:36 a.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered/2; 5:39 a.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 6:30 a.m.: fire alarm (Brown Street), referred; 7:10 a.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), wants to retrieve belongings; 7:45 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 12:15 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), mv ID for RMV; 1:25 p.m.: RV complaint (South Spencer Road), re: dirt bike operation; 3:32 p.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), wallet lost; 3:50 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), raccoon in store; 5:18 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 5:23 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), req. assistance; 5:29 p.m.: animal complaint (Temple Street), re: aggressive pit bull; 5:45 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 6:03 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 6:58 p.m.: juvenile matter (Chestnut Street), att. break-in of mv's; 7:20 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: restraining order; 8:28 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 11:06 p.m.: juvenile matter (Cranberry Meadow Road), son won't return home; (total daily mv stops - 1).

**THURSDAY, AUGUST 22**


12:23-1:49 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:20 a.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 5:12 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; 5:32 a.m.: medical/general (Temple Street); 6:17 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 7:11 a.m.: officer wanted (Meadow Road), rep. sale of multiple pistols/revolvers; 7:14 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:36 a.m.: commercial alarm (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 8:30 a.m.: vandalism (West Main Street), report taken; 9:35 a.m.: medical/general (Lake Street); 10:43 a.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 11:50 a.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 12:39 p.m.: parking complaint (Mechanic Street), mv in front of hydrant; 1:56 p.m.: medical/general

# Family Dining & Gift Guide

**Too Busy to Cook?**  
 Ask your favorite local restaurant if they offer dine-in or take-out!  
 Treat yourself to a nice dinner out anytime!  
 Restaurant gift cards make perfect hostess gifts!

Call Mikaela at 774-200-7308 or email [mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news) to advertise on this page.





**Amazing Stuffed Crepes Everyday!**

**Breakfast & Lunch • BREAKFAST ALL DAY**  
 Daily Specials • Homemade Soups

**MONDAY-FRIDAY LUNCH SPECIALS**

**Mon:** American Chop Suey w/ salad  
**Tues:** Homemade Meat Loaf Dinner  
**Wed:** Yankee Pot Roast  
**Thurs:** Corned Beef & Cabbage  
**Fri:** Fish and Chips

**31 Pleasant St., Spencer, MA**  
**508.885.7705**  
 Open 7 Days • 6:00am-2:00pm

**BOOKING FUNCTIONS OF ALL SIZES FROM 2-300 GUESTS (NO ROOM FEES)**

## Spencer Country Inn

Buy Entree Get 1 1/2 price (dine-in only) Cannot be used on holidays or private parties With this ad. Exp 9/30/24

**Fish N' Chips To-Go ~ Fridays Only \$15.95**

**SUNDAY BRUNCH** 10am-1pm  
**All You Can Eat \$21.95** (plus tax & gratuity)

500 Main St., Spencer, MA  
**508-885-9036**  
[www.spencercountryinn.com](http://www.spencercountryinn.com)

Lunch: Fri & Sat 11:30-2:00  
 Dinner: Fri & Sat 5:00-8:00  
 Sun. Brunch: 10am-1pm

**Breakfast All Day Lunch**  
 ALL MADE FROM SCRATCH

## Farmhouse Diner

15 S. Main St., Leicester • 508-892-3222  
 Dine-In or Take-Out • Gift Certificates  
 Hours: Wednesday-Friday 5:30am-12:30pm  
 Saturday & Sunday 5:30am-11:30am

**ONLINE ORDERING**  
[FARMHOUSEDINERMA.COM](http://FARMHOUSEDINERMA.COM)

**UNCLE SAM'S PIZZA**

400 E. Main St., Rte 9  
 E. Brookfield, MA 01515  
**508.885.5019**

**SEPTEMBER SPECIALS**

|               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| Sausage Pizza | Cheeseburger Sub |
| Sm. \$7.99    | \$7.99           |
| Lg. \$11.99   | any size         |

**2 Lg. Cheese Pizzas \$22.99**

Call or order online for pickup and delivery. To limit contact & speed up food prep times, please order online and prepay. We accept cash for pickup & delivery. Curbside pickup and no contact delivery available. We Deliver To: Spencer, E. Brookfield, Brookfield, & N. Brookfield OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK 11-9  
 Call or Order online: [www.unclesampizzas.com](http://www.unclesampizzas.com)

## CHARLIE'S

Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions  
 BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

FRIDAY 9/6 & SATURDAY 9/7

# PAN SEARED TUNA

HOURS: Wed-Sat 8-9; Sunday 8-8  
 Closed Mon & Tue  
 5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562  
**Gift Cards 508-885-4033**  
[www.charliesdiner.com](http://www.charliesdiner.com)

## CHARLIE'S

Diner • Bar • Grill • Functions  
 BREAKFAST • LUNCH • DINNER

FRIDAY 9/6 & SATURDAY 9/7

# PAN SEARED TUNA

HOURS: Wed-Sat 8-9; Sunday 8-8  
 Closed Mon & Tue  
 5 Meadow Rd., Spencer, MA 01562  
**Gift Cards 508-885-4033**  
[www.charliesdiner.com](http://www.charliesdiner.com)

## Salem Cross INN

RESTAURANT & TAVERN

**FIREPLACE FEASTS**  
 are coming back!  
 Delicious early American Fare,  
 November through April, including New Years Eve!  
 View details and reserve on our website.

**HEXMARK TAVERN SPECIALS-**  
 Thursdays Open Faced Sirloin Steak Sandwich \$20  
 Fridays Fish & Chips \$20

[www.salemcrossinn.com](http://www.salemcrossinn.com)  
 260 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585  
**508-867-2345**

**Come on in for a delicious meal!**  
 Don't forget...  
**TAKEOUT is available!**

Outdoor Dining is back weather permitting!  
 Dining Room: Thursday, Friday & Saturday 4-8;  
 Sunday 12-5  
 Hexmark Tavern:  
 Thursday & Friday 4-8

# POLICE REPORTS

(Main Street); 3:43 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:29 p.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 4:41 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 5:51 p.m.: mv repossessed (Lincoln Street), info rec'd; 6:40 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:46 p.m.: medical/general (Old East Charlton Road), lift assist; 6:56 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 7:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), rep. dog bite; (total daily mv stops - 1).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 23  
12:39 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; 1:37 a.m.: mv complaint (Greenville Street), erratic operator; 1:50-2:28 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:03 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 9:45 a.m.: officer wanted (Grove Street), re: wire on sidewalk; 10:17 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), veterans' flag fell from pole; 11:39 a.m.: 911 call (Monticello Drive), accidental; 12:23

p.m.: mv lockout (Ash Street), assisted; 1:10 p.m.: harassing phone calls (Marble Road), report taken; 1:59 p.m.: 911 call (Prospect Street), accidental; 2:58 p.m.: restraining order service (Cherry Street); 3:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Old Farm Road), cat/poss. rabies exposure; 3:10 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 4:46 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 5:58 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), State Police bolo; 6:11 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 6:15 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), debit card found; 6:58 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), unwanted party; 7:17 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 7:24 p.m.: 911 call (South Spencer Road), hang-up; 7:27 p.m.: medical/general (Wire Village Road); 10:48 p.m.: mutual aid (Bixby Road), assist probation; (total daily mv stops - 4).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 24  
12:33 a.m.: suspicious mv (Smithville Road), investigated; 12:36 a.m.: suspi-

cious mv (Smithville Road), investigated; 12:42-1:07 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:39 a.m.: larceny (Thompson Pond Road), ATC stolen; 10:47 a.m.: animal complaint (Brown Street), loose dogs; 11:21 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 1:25 p.m.: lost/found (Maple Street), wallet found; 1:49 p.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), loose dogs; 1:54 p.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), re: stray/pregnant cat; 2:38 p.m.: disturbance (Lyford Road), noise complaint; 2:43 p.m.: animal complaint (Cranberry Meadow Road), loose horse; 2:44 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 3:03 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 3:51 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:04 p.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), investigated; 7:38 p.m.: residential fire (Main Street), referred; 9:19 p.m.: 911 call (Shore Drive), accidental; 9:20 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 11:49 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; (total daily mv stops - 2).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 25  
12:14-2:23 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:14 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 1:49 a.m.: parking complaint (Linden Street), resolved; 5:22 a.m.: fire alarm (Bay Path Road), referred; 6:37 a.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), investigated; 8:36 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 8:51 a.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 10:02 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:11 a.m.: medical/general (Elm Street); 10:33 a.m.: fire alarm (Lincoln Street), referred; 12:36 p.m.: 911 call (Kittredge Road), open line; 1:25 p.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 2:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Cooney Road), re: items found in shed; 2:56 p.m.: disabled mv (North Spencer Road), mc/assisted; 3:05 p.m.: animal complaint (Browning Pond Road), found cat/may be pregnant; 4:43 p.m.: mv complaint (Pleasant

Turn To LOGS page A14

# LEGALS

(SEAL)  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT

Docket Number: 24 SM 003125  
ORDER OF NOTICE

To:  
Hector N. Perez; Breanna E. LeBrun  
and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):  
Freedom Mortgage Corporation  
claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Spencer, numbered 89 Meadow Road, given by Hector N. Perez, Breanna E. LeBrun to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Evolve Bank & Trust, dated August 7, 2019, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 60846, Page 72, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before October 14, 2024, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.  
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on August 29, 2024.

Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
26392

September 6, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Division  
Docket No. WO24P2646EA  
Estate of:  
Suzanne I. Contacos  
Date Of Death: June 1, 2024  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner

Peter J. Contacos of Warren, MA  
A Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Peter J. Contacos of Warren, MA  
has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
September 6, 2024

Notice of Public Hearing—  
Planning Board  
The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday September 17, 2024 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 7:00 p.m. or as soon

thereafter as can be heard:  
Amendment Stormwater Permit-ApPLICANT: Paul Haughey, Owner: Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, Location: 302 Main Street, Spencer Assessor's Map U05-05. The applicant is looking to amend their Stormwater Permit (originally approved on May 16, 2023) under sections 4.6, Article 5, section 6.1 & 6.3 and section 7.4 of the Spencer Zoning Bylaws and Stormwater Regulations for additional stormwater improvements to help control runoff. The property is located within in the Suburban Residential (SR) zoning district.

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.

Site Plan/Special Permit- Applicant: Stefan Maier, Domestic DC Systems, Owner: Carl Leinonen, Location: 54 R. Jones Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R-25-17. The applicant is looking for a Minor Site Plan Review 7.4.6 (Minor Site Plan) and Special Permit under Section 4.2 (H.9) (Use Regulations/Large Scale Ground Mounted Solar) and 4.8.9 (Solar Photovoltaic Generating Installations) to install a 39.6 kW DC Gound Mounted Solar Photovoltaic System with battery storage. The property is located within the Rural Residential (RR) zoning district.  
August 30, 2024  
September 7, 2024

Notice of Public Hearing

The Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing beginning at 6:05 pm on Wednesday 25 September 2024 at the Brookfield Police Station conference room at 7 Prouty Street. The purpose of the hearing is to consider an application for a Special Permit for a deck modification at 48 Quaboag Street. Property is pre-existing, non-conforming, and in the rural residential district. Applications can be reviewed at the Town Hall located at 6 Central Street, Brookfield MA 01506.  
Tim Simon- ZBA Chairman  
September 6, 2024  
September 13, 2024

A.C. 92A  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
WO24E0069PP

Petition to Partition  
WORCESTER, SS.  
PROBATE COURT

To Sherry L. Goodrich and to all other interested persons.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Jason D. Haskins of Dalton in the County of Berkshire representing that he hold as tenant in common undivided part or share of certain land lying in West Brookfield in said County Worcester and briefly described as follows:  
I JASON D. HASKINS of West Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts

In consideration of less than ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00) AND NO/ZERO CENTS  
Grant to JASON D. HASKINS and SHERRY L. GOODRICH  
As tenants of 188 East Main Street West Brookfield, MA 01585  
with quitclaim covenants

The land in West Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts, being a certain parcel of land with the buildings

thereon situated on the East side of Route 9 and bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point on the east side of said street at land now or formerly of Laughrey; THENCE N. 61 ° 10' E., by said Laughrey land, 240.92 feet to a proposed street;  
THENCE S. 2° 29' W., by said proposed street, 139.80 feet to a point at land now or formerly of one Adams;  
THENCE S. 63 ° 38' W., by other land now or formerly of said Adams, 171.74 feet to said Route 9;  
THENCE N. 26° 49' W., by said Route 9 at a distance of 106.64 feet to a Massachusetts Highway Bound;  
THENCE N. 22° 49' W., by said Route 9 at a distance of 5.44 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 24,550 square feet of land, more or less.

Being the same premises conveyed to GRANTOR by deed dated NOVEMBER 3, 2009 and recor.de with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 45054, Page 267.  
Executed as a sealed instrument this 28th December 2023.  
JSAON D. HASKINS

setting forth that he/she desires that all the aforesaid described part of said land may be sold at private sale for not less than four hundred and twenty thousand (\$420,000) dollars, and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the seventeenth day of September, the return date of this citation.  
Witness, LEILAH A. KEAMY, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twentieth day of August 2024.  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate  
September 6, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO24P2870EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Joseph R Brown  
Date of Death: 08/06/2023

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Annette L Cycz 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:  
Annette L Cycz 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 09/24/2024.  
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

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

Date: August 20, 2024  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
September 6, 2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
(508) 831-2200  
Docket No. WO21P1968EA  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION  
Estate of:  
Charlene M Stavros  
Date of Death: 11/2019

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for S/A - Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment has been filed by

Brydi Ricard 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:  
Brydi Ricard 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 10/01/2024.  
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)  
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: August 297, 2024  
Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate  
September 6, 2024

LEGAL NOTICE  
Jonathan Santos, owner of a 2011, Infinity G37 Plate# 155T82 Vin# JN1C-V6AR5BM355873, has abandoned vehicle on 07/09/24 at Deer Pond Auto/JR'S Towing LLC. Deer pond will seek ownership of vehicle after 21 days of first ad placement if vehicle is not reclaimed and all charges fully paid for.  
September 6, 2024  
September 13, 2024  
September 20, 2024

# Don't let frost end your garden season



Melinda Myers

**Floating row covers protect plants from frost while allowing light, air and water through.**

No matter where you garden there never seems to be enough time to grow and enjoy all your favorite vegetables. Start preparing now to extend your growing season and continue enjoying garden fresh vegetables even after the first frost. Some vegetables like

cabbage, broccoli, cauliflower, kale and Brussels sprouts tolerate frost and even taste better after a slight chill. Most of these can tolerate temperatures as low as 24 to 28 degrees Fahrenheit.

Leeks are another vegetable that thrives in cooler temperature. Many tolerate temperatures as low as 20 degrees Fahrenheit. Just mound some protective mulch around the plants and continue harvesting.

Take advantage of the chilly winter temperatures to store some of your carrots, turnips and parsnips in the ground for winter. Just cover the soil with straw or evergreen boughs after it lightly freezes. Dig as needed or during a winter thaw. You will enjoy their wonderfully sweet flavor.

Those first few fall frosts are often followed

by a week or more of mild temperatures. Protecting frost sensitive plants from the first few fall frosts is one way of extending your season. Cover the plants with old bed sheets, mattress pads, or similar items in late afternoon and remove them as soon as the temperatures climb above freezing. Keep these handy and be ready to cover whenever frost is in the forecast.

Make it easier by using floating row covers. The spun material allows air, light and water through while protecting the plants from frost. You will find different weights of row covers that provide different levels of temperature protection. Just loosely cover the plants and anchor the edges with stones, boards or garden pins. You only need to remove the fab-



GARDEN MOMENTS  
.....  
MELINDA MYERS

ric to harvest ripe vegetables. Otherwise, it can stay in place until the vegetables stop producing or you decide it is time to end the season.

Create a high tunnel over garden beds filled with large plants. Use hoops and row cover to allow easy access for harvesting while protecting the plants.

Cloches have long been used to jump start the season or extend it beyond the first fall frost. You'll find a variety of shapes and sizes available. Select one large enough to cover your plants and protect

them as needed. Look for those with vents to prevent plants from overheating and those that allow water through while trapping in the heat.

Don't let unripe tomatoes go to waste if you are unable or unwilling to protect them from frost. Harvest any that are starting to show color before the killing frost and finish ripening them indoors. The bottom of the tomato should be greenish white or starting to color up. Store your green tomatoes in a cool (60 to 65 degrees) location to extend their storage life.

Spread out the tomatoes on heavy paper or wrap them individually in newspaper so the fruit do not touch each other. They'll ripen over the next few weeks. Speed up the process by moving a few tomatoes to a warm

bright location a few days before they're needed. Enjoy green tomatoes fried, in relish, salsa, pies or many other ways.

And when your season ends, begin planning for next year. Enlist some of these strategies to jump start the season for an earlier harvest. Melinda Myers has written over 20 gardening books, including *Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine. Myers' Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

## POLICE REPORTS

### LOGS

continued from page A13

Street), mcs racing; 4:54 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), c/o speeding; 4:56 p.m.: officer wanted (Vista Lane), juv. locked in restroom/latch broke; 5:28 p.m.: school alarm (Ash Street), services rendered; 7:27 p.m.: 911 call (Prospect Street), accidental; 8:04 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 8:47 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), rep. assault; 10:33 p.m.: officer wanted (Lyford Road), spoken to; (total daily mv stops - 5).

MONDAY, AUGUST 26

12:28-2:30 a.m.: buildings checked,

secure; 12:57 a.m.: residential alarm (Woodland Lane), services rendered; 2:23 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info rec'd; 4:21 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 7:04 a.m.: fire alarm (West Main Street), referred; 7:47 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. sale multiple pistols/revolvers; 8:45 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 9:34 a.m.: parking complaint (Municipal Drive), mv in no parking zone; 10:08 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), tenant/landlord dispute; 12:12 p.m.: animal complaint (Lake Street), re: stray cat; 12:22 p.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), req. file report; 12:31 p.m.:

officer wanted (West Main Street), re: family issue; 12:39 p.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 1:55 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 2:15 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Woodchuck Lane), referred; 2:18 p.m.: mv repossessed (Mechanic Street), info rec'd; 2:51 p.m.: restraining order service (Smithville Road); 3:00 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 3:03 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 3:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Hastings Road), re: stray cat; 4:49 p.m.: juvenile matter (Highland Street), services rendered; 5:51 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), pocketbook stolen; 6:10 p.m.: animal com-

plaint (Pleasant Street), loose dog; 7:01 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 9:53 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 11:55 p.m.: mutual aid (Church Street), Worcester PD req. welfare check; 11:57 p.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); (total daily mv stops - 1).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 27

12:44-2:27 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:01 a.m.: officer wanted (Grove Street), hears alarm sounding; 3:38 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:33 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 8:13 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 9:22 a.m.: disabled mv (Smithville Cross Road), assisted; 10:19 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), resolved; 10:42 a.m.: lost/found (Buteau Road), re: items found; 11:32 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 12:50 p.m.: restraining order service (Church Street); 12:51 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 1:33 p.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), dogs missing; 2:14 p.m.: mv complaint (G.H. Wilson Road), req. radar in area; 2:31 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Ash Street), no emergency; 3:07 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: pkg. not rec'd; 4:04 p.m.: lost/found (Valley Street), ID found; 4:45 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 5:19 p.m.: mv complaint (Cranberry Meadow Road), re: recent incident; 5:29 p.m.: 911 call (North Spencer Road), hang-up; 5:42 p.m.: disturbance (Dustin Street), noise complaint; 8:23 p.m.: lost/found (Lake Street), key fob found; 8:28 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Road), noise complaint; 9:11 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 9:43 p.m.: medical/general (Chickering Road); 10:05 p.m.: medical/general (Marble Road); 10:54 p.m.: disturbance (Grant Street), noise complaint; (total daily mv stops - 4)

### SAFETY DAY

continued from page A1

Gardner PD.

"I think everyone learned a little something about public safety. Life Flight made a grand entrance and let all the kids do a slide through the helicopter," Antanavica said.

Additionally, the Worcester County Sheriff's Office showcased its drone and mobile command unit. Members of the Sheriff's Office attend hundreds of community outreach events each year, enabling youngsters and families to learn more about public safety and career oppor-



Several emergency vehicles were on display during a community event in Leicester.

tunities.

"District Attorney Joe Early was also on hand and presented the LPD with a check to offset the cost of the new mountain bike unit we just rolled out," Antanavica said. "Fire and EMS had many activities going on for kids and adults alike. It was a great time for everyone, with perfect weather conditions."

Members of the Worcester County District Attorney's Office always appreciate the opportunity to attend community events and promote public safety.

"We are happy to support the town of Leicester and the Leicester Police Department as they get a new mountain bike to better serve their town. Thank you for all you do to keep your community safer," read a statement released by the DA's Office.

The event was also attended by State Rep. Donald Berthiaume, State Sen. Peter Durant, members of the Select Board, and several other local officials.

Home Town Service, **BIG TIME RESULTS**

## CLASSIFIEDS

# 774-200-7308

Place your ad today!

### SWIMMERS

continued from page A1

boat; a Sturbridge Police Department boat; and several pontoon boats that served as feeding and hydration stations.

The event's oldest swimmer (82 years old) and its youngest participant (age nine) were all smiles as they finished the one-mile session. Several other athletes were thrilled to make the trip and enjoy an array of offerings.

"One dedicated triathlete, Rob Green from New Hampshire, swam the two-mile butterfly in honor of Wild Bill's contribution to the stroke," Yorzzyk Triger said.

Looking ahead, plans are already underway for the fourth annual Wild Bill Swim and Paddle Challenge.

"While a portion of fundraising will always go back into the clean waters of North and South Pond, the mission and fundraising will extend to more school systems and academies," Yorzzyk Triger said. "The WaterWise Foundation is hoping to fund over 200 third-graders from the surrounding communities this year."

If your school is looking to participate in water safety programming, please ask your principal to contact Jennifer Yorzzyk Triger by email at [jenn@wildbillswim.org](mailto:jenn@wildbillswim.org).

Meanwhile, event organizers thank all local businesses for their continued support of the event.

"They all allowed my vision to become reality. I was grateful every step of the way in planning this event," Yorzzyk Triger said. "And finally, with love, I want to thank the location host—the QQLA members and lake residents."

To learn more about the program and how you can get involved, visit [www.wildbillswim.org](http://www.wildbillswim.org).

### TOWN OF POMFRET

#### POSITION OPENING - HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

Qualified self-starter wanted for Town of Pomfret Highway Department. Must hold Class B CDL license/valid medical card and have a background in operating heavy equipment. Position includes, but is not limited to, assignments on all municipal road work including snowplowing, landscaping, building maintenance, and any other duties as needed and assigned. Five years of driving/equipment operation experience is preferred. Must be available to work nights and weekends as needed, able to lift up to 100 pounds, possess mechanical aptitude in equipment repair, pass a DOT physical and drug screen, and consent to random drug/alcohol testing as required by the DOT. Salary dependent upon qualifications and experience. Attractive benefit package. Interested persons should forward resume/application and three references to the Selectman's Office, 5 Haven Road, Pomfret Center, CT 06259 on or before September 27, 2024. Application form available at [www.pomfretct.gov/first-selectmans-office](http://www.pomfretct.gov/first-selectmans-office). EEO/AA

### FOSTER PARENTS WANTED:

Seeking Quality Homes Throughout Central MA To Provide Foster Care To Children In Need.

- 24/7 Support
- Generous Reimbursement, \$1000 Sign-On Bonus. Call For Details.

**Devereux Therapeutic Foster Care.**  
(508)829-6769

### WAR RELICS & WAR SOUVENIERS WANTED:

**WWII & EARLIER CASH WAITING!**

Helmets, Swords, Daggers, Bayonets, Medals, Badges, Rags, Uniforms, etc.

Over 40 years' experience.

Call David  
(508) 688-0847.  
I'LL COME TO YOU!

For Advertising Information Call  
774-200-7308  
email: [mikaela@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:mikaela@stonebridgepress.news)

### BOY SCOUT TROOP 273

## FALL YARD SALE

Saturday, September 14th

Universal Tag Parking Lot, 36 Hall Road, Dudley Early Birds (8am to 9am) \$10.00 per person fee 9am until 3pm FREE We accept CREDIT CARDS!" 24,000 sq.ft. of yard sale items ONE DAY ONLY Pick your items and Make an offer!

Grouped Items: Electronics - stereos, speakers, etc. (No TVs) Tools - hand tools, lights, flooring etc.. Furniture - tables, chairs, bed frames, cabinets, hutches, etc.. Housewares - glassware, dishes, pictures, mirrors, bowls, cups, small appliances **Sporting goods** - Bikes, skis, baseball equipment, golf, exercise equipment **Clothes** - shirts, pants, jackets, shoes, bags **Kids toys and baby items** - high chairs, bouncery, games, Antiques

## FREE TWO POWER CHAIRS

Great condition Jazz 6 from National Seating & Mobility Need batteries but have all chargers and manuals.

Call 774-287-0599

### ART SHOW

continued from page A1

at Babson College and is currently engaged in a multi-media project on the industrial revolution in the Blackstone Valley."

The Art Show and Sale is supported in part by a grant from the Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council.

If you have questions about the program, please send an email to: [massasoitartguild@gmail.com](mailto:massasoitartguild@gmail.com).

For artists, the deadline for entry in the event is Sept. 15. For complete details and show guidelines, visit the guild's Web site: [www.massasoitartguild.com](http://www.massasoitartguild.com).

The guild's studio in East Brookfield is open to members for painting sessions on Wednesday and Saturday mornings throughout the year.



# REAL ESTATE



**HOPE**  
REAL ESTATE GROUP  
43 East Main Street Webster, MA 01570  
Finest Realtor Associates to Serve You!

**hope2own.com**  
508.943.4333  
Sharon Pelletier - Owner Broker  
Licensed in MA, CT & RI  
**We Want Your Listings!**

*Featured New Condominiums Listing!*  
**NORTH GROVESNORDALE, CT.**  
**5 BUCKLEY HILL RD**  
Brand Spanking New! 4 recently constructed Condominiums! 3 bedrooms 2-1/2 baths! Slider to private deck. Walk out lower level., with great potential for additional living space. Central Air, garage. Soo much more!  
A must see!  
Each \$350,000



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

**ON DEPOSIT**  
**DUDLEY 3 FILO RD**  
Need Your Own Space? ~\*~\*~\* Come Home to this Exceptionally Spacious 1,800 sf+ Ranch ~ situated on a Private 0.35 acre on a 'Dead End' Country Road! 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, year-round Sunroom, 19'x25' Great Room w/cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, large private rear deck & backyard  
**NEW PRICE \$449,900**



**SHREWSBURY 8 BENJAMIN LANE**  
**SORRY, SOLD!**  
Why 8 Benjamin Lane, Shrewsbury? This delightfully quintessential Cape home will fulfill your needs & expectations! 2600sf +/-, 3 very appealing BRs! 2 Baths.  
**\$820,000.**



**ON DEPOSIT**



*Featured New Listing!*  
**WEBSTER - 10 NEW STREET**  
1st Time Offered! An Opportunity "To Have & To Hold" Quality Built, Respectfully Maintained Two Family! This Magnificent Home was Built in 1941 & owned by the same family for 83+ Years. 10 Spacious Rooms! 2 BRs & 1 Bath Per Unit. Hallway w/custom staircase ~ Very Impressive! Hardwood floors! Level lot w/outdoor fireplace!  
**\$499,900.**



**WEBSTER - 6 SLATER ST**  
**SORRY, SOLD!**  
2 family - 3 bedroom apartment & a 1 bedroom apartment. Many new updates. Central Air! Plenty of parking. Centrally Located.  
**\$399,900.**



**OXFORD 25 SUTTON AVE**  
LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION! What's YOUR Vision?! ... Move-in ready Commercial Office &/or Retail Space!! Quickly set up Operations - you can be ready to GO in no time!! 2 Level Free Standing Building is located on a Corner Lot - Second Floor is at "Grade Level" w/Rear Access & Parking! Zoned General Business - .71 ACRE - 26 Parking Spots on 2 Levels. 10 Units! \*\*\*Call Today!\*\*\*  
**\$1,150,000**



**SOUTHBRIDGE - 140 - 152 HAMILTON**  
*New Listing!*  
4 Well Maintained & Updated Multi-Family Buildings with 2 Commercial Spaces... Located within the Central Core District of Downtown Southbridge!! Mixed Use Zoning !! Side by Side Buildings being sold as 1 Package. Off-Street Parking spots. Heated Garage Space - Room for up to 18 Vehicles!! ALL Units Occupied \$ **1,300,000**




**ON DEPOSIT**




**On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg**


*Webster Lake - 24-2 Laurelwood Drive Waterfront Lot!*  
Approximately 11,000 Sq. Ft. of mostly cleared flat land, gentle decline to waters edge. Sandy Shore line! Western views. Call for a viewing!  
**\$695,000**




**WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT 92 BIRCH ISLAND**  
PRICE IS RIGHT ! WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT property Million Dollar View WITHOUT the Million \$\$ Dollar Price Tag!! Level landscape from house to the waters edge. Sandy bottomed shoreline! Spectacular Middle Pond which offers expansive views! 6 rooms, 3 bed, 1 Bath. Strategic placement of existing garage could offer expansion possibilities! Walk out Lower Level! Fire up the grill & Let the Good Tymes Roll !  
**\$669,900!**

# REAL ESTATE



**PUT YOUR TRUST IN US TEAMWORK AND EXPERIENCE**  
Jo-Ann Szymczak 774-230-5044  
Diane Luong 774-239-2937  
Vicki Bennett, Client Coordinator  
**ReMax Vision • 25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608**  
CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT



**AUBURN- 59' Ranch**  
\*Cathedral Ceiling Family Room  
\*2 Baths  
\*Hardwood Floors  
\*Kitchen w Center Island and dining area  
\* Finished Lower Level Garameroom  
**138 Burnett St \$519,000**



**CHARLTON- 4 Bedrooms**  
\*Cathedral Ceiling Family Room  
\*2 Baths  
\*Hardwood Floors  
\*Kitchen w Center Island and dining area  
\* Finished Lower Level Garameroom  
**8 Denfield Rd. \$674,900**



**WEBSTER- 4 Bedroom**  
**BUYERS ONLY**  
\* 3 Baths \* Total Rehabed  
I can offer you Buyer Representations  
Call Jo-Ann 774-230-5044  
**82 Slater St. \$515,000**



**LISTINGS WANTED!!!**  
Buyers are Anxious- NOW is a Great Time to Sell  
Call Jo-Ann  
Ask about the Homes for Heroes Program- Available to both Buyer and Seller

**CHARLTON- Pristine Condition**  
**NEW PRICE**  
\* 4 Bedroom  
\*2.5 Baths  
\*Hickory Cabinet kitchen  
\* 2 Car Garage!  
**93 Haggerty Rd. \$654,900**



**MEET YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE PROFESSIONALS**  
Perfect for Realtors, Mortgage Companies, Banks, Real Estate Attorneys, Home Inspectors, Chimney Inspectors, Lead Removal businesses, Insurance Companies, etc... any business involved in the buying or selling of real estate.  
To join this section, please contact your local sales rep, 774-200-7308 or email mikaela@stonebridgepress.news



**Mary Hicks Realtor®**  
Over 20 years experience!  
**CENTURY 21 NORTH EAST**  
Direct: 508.612.4794  
Home Office: 508.867.2222  
www.maryhicks.com  
**3 BEDROOM RANCH IN WEST BROOKFIELD \$349,900!**  
CALL FOR DETAILS!  
160 B Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562  
maryangela87@yahoo.com  
Each office is independently owned and operated.



**Sandi Grzyb LAER Realty Partners**  
50 Years in the Real Estate Business!  
I look forward to serving you in all of your real estate ventures!  
• Buying  
• Selling  
• Investing  
Contact Info:  
774.230.3500|508.943.6960  
sandigrzyb@aol.com  
**255 Park Avenue, Suite 704, Worcester, MA 01609**



**REAL ESTATE REDEFINED**  
**RE/MAX PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATES**  
49 MAIN STREET, STURBRIDGE, MA  
Patrick Sweeney Realtor License #9529769 (774) 452-3578  
Carrie Alysath Realtor License #904677 (508) 641-0150  
Licensed in MA and CT

**Time for a change?**  
**Mary Vigilatura Stolarczyk**  
ABR, GRI, CRS, C2EX RE/MAX Hall of Fame  
508.612.1382  
MESRealty.com  
Mary@WillSellit.com



**ERA Key Realty SERVICES**  
"Put 39 years of combined real estate experience to work for you!"  
Donna Flannery Realtor® 508-612-6771 Donnaflanneryrealtor.com Donnaflannery@erakey.net  
Kayleen Flannery Sauvageau Realtor® 508-612-9843 Kayleen00@aol.com  
**YOUR LOCAL REAL ESTATE EXPERT SINCE 1991**  
**NATIONAL ERA FINALIST TWICE FOR CUSTOMER SERVICE**  
**TOP AGENT YEAR AFTER YEAR FOR # OF UNITS SOLD & SOLD DOLLAR VOLUME**  
**ERA HALL OF FAME**  
**415B Main Street Spencer, MA 01562**




**Maureen Cimoch Real Estate Consultant**  
Cell 508-769-9211  
**Lake Realty**  
111 East Main St., Webster, MA  
Professional-Personable-Knowledgeable  
Specializing in waterfront property  
Servicing all Central MA • GO WITH MOE!  
maureencimoch@gmail.com



**"I SOLVE REAL ESTATE PROBLEMS"**  
ReMax Professional Associates  
Licensed in MA & CT  
We need properties to sell - any type!  
**Conrad Allen**  
508.400.0438  
callen1995@aol.com  
**RE/MAX**  
RE/MAX Professional Associates



**FEATURE HOME- CHARLTON**  
**NEW Construction- Glenview Estates**  
\*5 Acres \* 3.5 Baths  
\* Oak Floors throughout  
\*Gourmet Kitchen w/ center island  
\* Finished Lower Level w/ Full Bath  
\* Weekly Open Houses or by Appointment  
**12 Elliot Drive \$715,000**  
Call Jo-Ann 774-230-5044  
ReMax Vision  
25 Union St., Worcester MA 01608  
CALL JO-ANN FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS Licensed in MA & CT



# Opera is back in Woodstock, CT!

Salt Marsh Opera Presents  
Gioachino Rossini's

## The Barber of Seville



"What on earth is all this love which makes everyone go mad?"  
- Berta

### LOOS CENTER FOR THE ARTS

150 Route 169, Woodstock, CT

Friday, September 27th | 7pm

For tickets and more info  
[theloos.org/smo](http://theloos.org/smo)



NAI Glickman Kovago & Jacobs

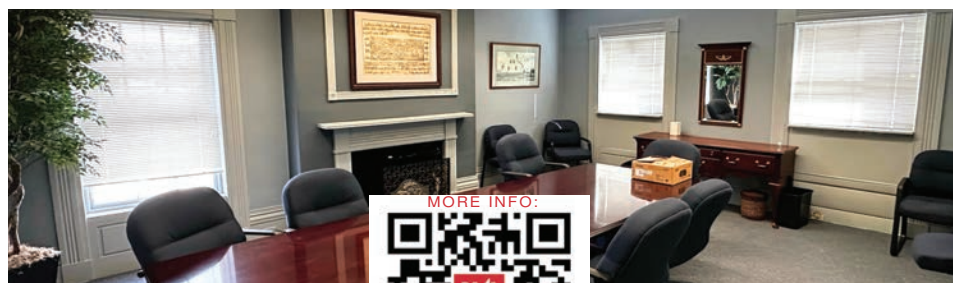
25 ELM STREET | SOUTHBRIDGE, MA



9,536-SF HISTORIC OFFICE BUILDING  
FOR SALE



- Historical building, also known as Tiffany-Leonard House, built in 1832
- Large Executive Offices with Elegant Finishes and High Ceilings
- Large Open Concept Cubicle Areas
- Listing price: \$650,000
- Building size: 9,536 SF
- Lot size: 13,939 SF
- Loading docks: (1) tailgate height
- Basement: partial | Unfinished



JAMES GLICKMAN  
Principal

508-769-5007

[jglickman@glickmankovago.com](mailto:jglickman@glickmankovago.com)

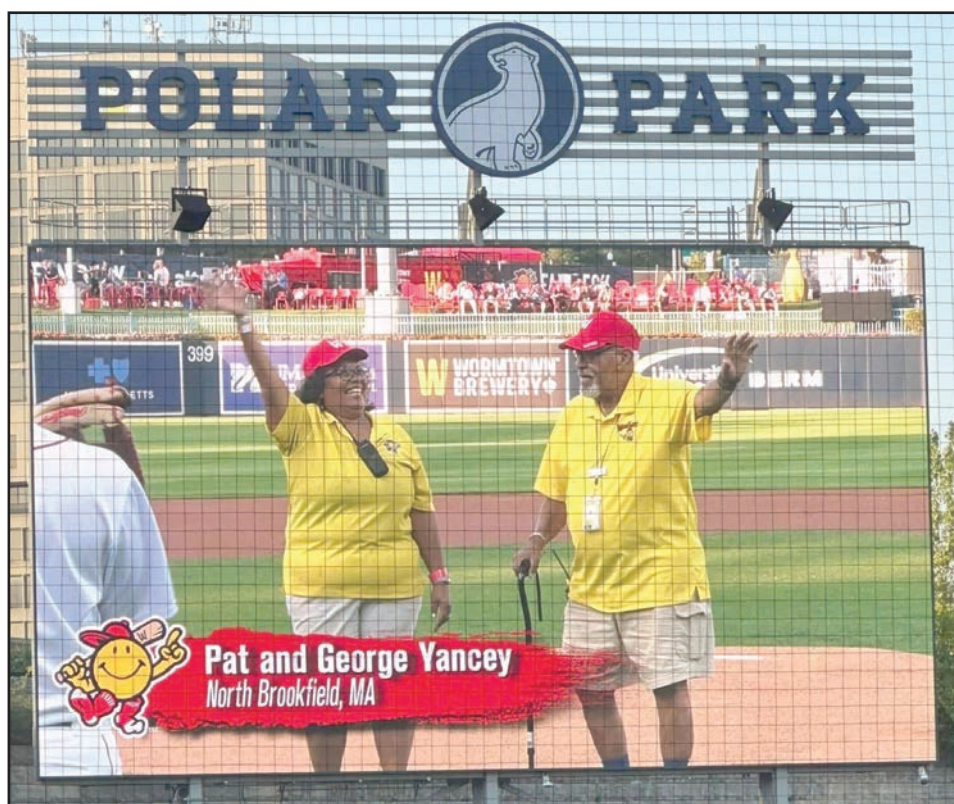


JONAH D. GLICKMAN  
Vice President

508-868-3765

[jdglickman@glickmankovago.com](mailto:jdglickman@glickmankovago.com)

# The Brookfields take over Polar Park

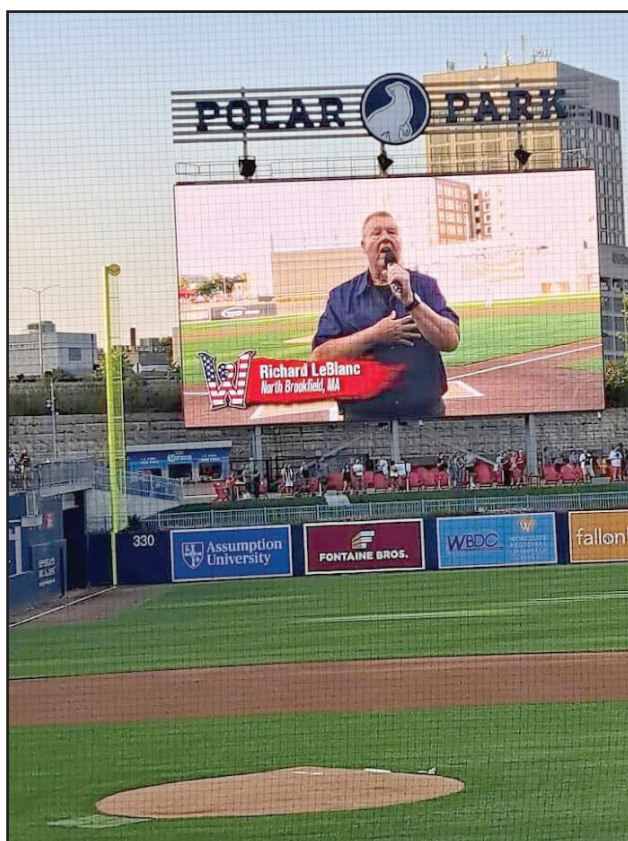


Courtesy

Pat and George Yancey, who attended Camp Atwater in North Brookfield as kids, now work as WooSox employees.



Members of the Brookfields towns celebrate the Town Takeover program at Polar Park.



Fans at Polar Park watch North Brookfield's Richard LeBlanc sing the National Anthem.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

**R E G I O N** — Community members from throughout the four Brookfields towns packed Polar Park last week for the Town Takeover program.

On Aug. 27, the Worcester Red Sox (WooSox) hosted residents, employees, organizations, and elected leaders from the four towns. Several families and friends also took advantage of the opportunity, celebrating the end of summer with a ballgame. Event highlights included North Brookfield's Richard "Tabby" LeBlanc singing the National Anthem, in addition to Hometown Hero Joe Holway throwing out the game's ceremonial first pitch.

Another unforgettable moment celebrated Pat and George Yancey, who attended Camp Atwater in North Brookfield as kids and eventually sent their own children there. They are now employed by the WooSox organization.

Of course, the fun and festivities weren't limited to game night. A week ahead of the Town Takeover game, on Aug. 21, local youngsters and their families were visited by Smiley Ball, the WooSox mascot. The promotional visit helped

build excitement among local fans for the Aug. 27 game.

"Smiley was running around the Little Park with the kids, and he read a book from the little library that is installed at the park. He also went and met people at the Hoston Public Library," said North Brookfield Town Clerk Tara Hayes in a previous statement. In addition to providing a fun night at the ballgame for families, the summerlong Town Takeover series also allows local communities to support select charities and organizations with portions of ticket sales for their respective games.

For the Brookfields Town Takeover game, portions of ticket sales will benefit the North Brookfield Town House and the East Brookfield fireworks display.

"We really appreciate the support from the WooSox organization," Brandon Avery, a member of the Friends of the North Brookfield Town House, told the New Leader during Smiley Ball's visit to the town center.

Several recent improvement projects have taken place at the Town House, including significant exterior paint work. Thanks to strong support

received from residents and businesses, additional work will continue to help restore the historic building. The planned installation of an elevator highlights the list of long-term projects.

"There is a lot more work to be done on the interior, and we continue to apply for grants to help bring it back to its former glory," Avery said.

Town officials in all four Brookfields communities thank the WooSox organization for its continued support of small Worcester County towns. Looking ahead, officials invite local residents to check out the Brookfields for recreation opportunities, dining experiences, shopping, and community events.

"The Board of Selectmen and the Town Administrator are excited to be showcased at Polar Park," said West Brookfield Town Administrator Ron San Angelo. "The Brookfields are all wonderful small towns with great histories. We welcome all visitors to come and enjoy our wonderful small-town atmosphere."

To learn more about the WooSox Town Takeover series and local nonprofit organizations benefiting from the program, visit [www.woosox.com](http://www.woosox.com).

At the end of the WooSox regular season, the local community with the largest turnout on its specified Town Takeover night will receive a trophy and special recognition.

"The town of North Brookfield is thrilled to have its turn to be featured for this event. A lot of folks from around the county attend WooSox games," said North Brookfield Selectman Vaughn Schlegel. "We hope that this helps to promote pride in our town and collect donations for our Town House via ticket sales."

