



SPENCER NEW LEADER

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Friday, June 12, 2026

'Chef Wingman' serves up smiles at Wolverine Grill

LEICESTER — Sophomore Matt Magoun is cooking wings and making people smile every Wednesday at the new Leicester High School restaurant, The Wolverine Grill. He is leaving his mark on the school community in so many more ways than just delivering delicious wings. His story is a real-life triumph and it captures the importance of inclusivity.

While Magoun is a sophomore, much of his academic career has been spent in life skills classes at Leicester.

According to his teacher Anna Curren, "The culinary program has been the first true inclusion experience in the general education setting. This program has totally transformed his personality and he is gaining independence in so many ways."

Paraprofessionals, Jodie Fournier, Amanda Hart, Kellie Booth and Laura Shaw agree with Mrs. Curren. Collectively, they believe the experience has transformed him. In the past, he was apologetic and timid. Now he is trying new things (espe-

cially foods), developing a strong work ethic and he loves school. They joked that Magoun would probably sleep in the kitchen if they let him.

Magoun's smile is ear to ear when he hears the words "Chef Wingman."

He said, "I love to cook and it makes me happy."

Magoun also told me that his culinary skills extend to the weekends.

He continued to say, "I am most happy making pancakes my two favorite people at home (his mom and dad)."

Magoun's parents are extremely proud of how far he has come and the opportunities he has been afforded in the Leicester Public Schools.

His mom said, "Matt has become a culinary professional at home and he aspires to work for McDonald's."

There is no doubt that he is well on his way.

LHS Principal Zawada grew up in Buffalo, N.Y. and some would argue that is the birthplace for wings.

He said, "Matt's wings are better than my hometown!"

Superintendent Brett Kustigian added,



Courtesy

"Chef Wingman," sophomore Matt Magoun. "Chef Wingman is a true success story. Our programs are positively shaping resilient students, building confidence and making our school community a better place."

North Brookfield School Committee completes superintendent's review

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The North Brookfield School Committee made up for lost time on May 18, submitting a review of Superintendent Timothy McCormick from the 2024/2025 school year. The evaluation showed McCormick is meeting expectations as he works to create positive momentum for the district.

McCormick's 2024/2025 evaluation was overdue according to School Committee member Kristen Giangrande who was part of the review team, but the final report provided good news for the superintendent regarding five goals set for him from the previous school year.

"For the 2024/2025 school year, all goals were met with proficiency by Mr. McCormick," Giangrande

said. "Moving forward, the school committee will work diligently to meet the timetables for future evaluations. It should be noted that this evaluation of the 2024/2025 School Year was not completed and delivered until May of 2026."

The evaluation detailed McCormick's goals which were all deemed "met" in the report. The first was a student learning goal to continue improvement through implementation of a strategic plan and working directly with the leadership team towards meeting critical goals.

The second goal was professional practice. The Superintendent participated in the third cohort of the New Superintendent Induction Program (NSIP) and passed the program. McCormick has shown continued efforts to network with other superintendents as he grows as a district leader.

His other three goals were all labeled as district improvement initiatives. The first was the continued alignment and articulation of North Brookfield Public Schools curriculum for K-12. Another was utilizing grant funding to develop alternative science pathways in technology, engineering, and robotics. The district successfully implemented an advanced manufacturing program through grants. The final goal was to create a superintendent advisory board to allow student representatives to meet with the administration to provide a new perspective for school leaders.

For his part, McCormick was soft spoken in response to the review. He expressed a willingness to meet with any subcommittees about policy changes or questions regarding his evaluation and continuing the momentum that carried over from last year.

Leicester High School hosts annual Post-Grad Dance for Special Education students



LEICESTER — On Friday, May 29, Leicester High School hosted the third annual TLC post-grad dance. The event welcomed 60 students and educators from transition classrooms in six neighboring high schools: Tantasqua, Bartlet, Millbury, Wachusett, Auburn, and David Prouty. Participants spent the afternoon dancing, enjoying lunch together, and building connections both socially and professionally.

In Massachusetts, students receiving special education services can continue through public education until age 22. For many schools, students aged 18-22 participate in transition or post-graduate classrooms. These programs focus on developing real-world job skills and building life skills through community-based instruction designed

to support students as they transition into adulthood.

At Leicester High School, this program is called the Transition Learning Center (TLC). Students in the TLC gain valuable work experience through opportunities such as cleaning at the Leicester Public Library, stocking shelves and making deliveries for the Leicester Food Pantry, and delivering mail for the school district. Life skills are also emphasized, with students practicing cooking and participating in weekly grocery shopping trips.

Students in these programs are older than typical high school students, because of this the TLC also provides social opportunities with fellow students from post-grad programs at other local schools. Throughout the past

few years, Leicester's TLC students have participated in activities such as bowling, trips to the Auburn Mall, going out for ice cream, and pumpkin-carving parties with peers from Tantasqua, Shepherd Hill, and Bartlett.

The post-grad dance offers a unique chance for students and teachers to come together in celebration at the end of the school year. Plans are already underway for another dance in the upcoming school year, an event eagerly anticipated by students and educators alike.

Superintendent Brett Kustigian, who attended the dance, said, "Our teachers always go above and beyond for our students and the post grad dance is another example. A special thank you to LHS teacher Hannah Chieffo and all LHS staff."

Hazardous trees raise concerns in Leicester

BY JASON BLEAU
CORRESPONDENT

LEICESTER — Safety concerns over hazardous trees took center stage during a meeting of the Leicester Select Board on June 2, where several challenges were exposed that are keeping the town from prioritizing issues that some consider a matter of public safety.

The topic was brought to the table by resident Bill Robert, who implored town officials to put a plan in place to address downed or aging trees. The past few years have included stories from across the state of individuals being injured or nearly injured by falling branches or entire trees falling onto roadways or public areas.

Robert's concerns were shared by several Select Board members, but officials from the Department of Public Works noted that part of the issue is a lack of funding, manpower, and equipment as well as the

need to prioritize mandated responsibilities and that many problem trees are often on private properties.

Leicester DPW Director Kris Lauzon summarized these limitations for the board.

"We as a department are well versed in tree removal, but I don't have a bucket truck. Even if I did, who are you manning it with? You can't man it with one person. We're shackled by what we have," Lauzon said.

He acknowledged that at one point there were hundreds of trees of concern but addressing all of them would cost hundreds of thousands of dollars. As hard as they work to stay ahead of problem trees, more are added to the list as they resolve what they can. Trees are not a mandated focus by the state, which means the DPW has to ensure its workforce tackles other priorities first with limited funding.

Select Board member Peter Cusolito said the town

has a larger issue with a history of underfunding the DPW.

"This is just another historical thing. We let the DPW rot like a stump for many years," said Cusolito. "We need to do an assessment of the highway department. They don't have a bucket truck. They can rent one but renting a bucket truck is expensive. This doesn't solve this right now, but we do need to take a long-term look."

The Select Board did not take any action to directly add funding for tree removal or address the resource gaps, but acknowledged that falling trees pose a significant risk for everyone and agreed that a good place to start would be to create a long-term plan to examine its feasibility. The board directed the Town Administrator to work with the tree warden and DPW Superintendent to work out a strategic plan to proceed with addressing the concerns.

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Worcester Polytechnic Institute students complete intensive capstone research projects

WORCESTER — Worcester Polytechnic Institute students completed a capstone thesis called the Major Qualifying Project (MQP), a research-driven, professional-level project that challenges students to solve the kinds of problems they would typically encounter in their professional discipline. This project is required of all graduating seniors as part of the university's distinctive project-based educational experience.

"It's inspiring to see the creativity and skills that our students bring to these projects, as well as the professionalism with which they present their research,"

says Arne Gericke, interim dean of undergraduate studies and director of the Office of Undergraduate Research. "Their experience managing a major project like this—including identifying a problem and researching all of the implications and possible solutions while also managing team dynamics over an extended period of several months—sets them up well for success not only in their first jobs after graduation but throughout their careers."

WPI's innovative undergraduate education is centered around project-based learning, a hands-on approach that offers students opportunities to apply their scientific and technical knowledge to real-world, open-ended problems. These projects produce tangible results that affect the quality of people's lives, an experience that changes both the student and their world.

MQPs are usually team-based and often focus on specific issues or needs of an organization that has partnered with the university to sponsor the students' work. In addition to providing practical work experience that proves valuable to future employers, MQPs often lead to publications in peer-reviewed journals, presentations at regional and national conferences, patents, and entrepreneurial ventures. Others become useful innovations and products for their corporate sponsors.

The following local students completed projects:

Alex Shettler of Brookfield, a member of the class of 2026 majoring in Computer Science, completed a project titled "Mapping Global China: Visualization Design and Development."

West Brookfield resident Grace McGovern, class of 2026, majoring in Business, completed a project titled "Strategic Assessment for Launching a Youth Baseball Facility."

Spencer resident Jacob Bergeron, class of 2026, majoring in Computer Science and Data Science, completed a project titled "Mind in the Machine: Enabling LLM Agents with Theory of Mind."

Brookfield resident Madison Laflamme, class of 2026, majoring in Mechanical Engineering, completed a project titled "RBC Quality Assessment Device."

Leicester resident Natalie Gonon Martinez, class of 2027, majoring in Biology and Biotechnology, completed a project titled "Analysis of the SCD Complex and RabE1 in Moss."

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) is a top-tier, STEM-focused university with an R1 research classification and global leadership in project-based learning. Founded in 1865, WPI's distinctive approach integrates classroom theory with real-world practice, preparing students to tackle critical challenges through inclusive education, impactful projects, and interdisciplinary research. With more than 70 Bachelor's, Master's, and doctoral degree programs across 18 academic departments and over 50 global project centers, WPI advances knowledge and innovation in fields such as life sciences, smart technologies, advanced materials and manufacturing, and global innovation. Learn more at www.wpi.edu.

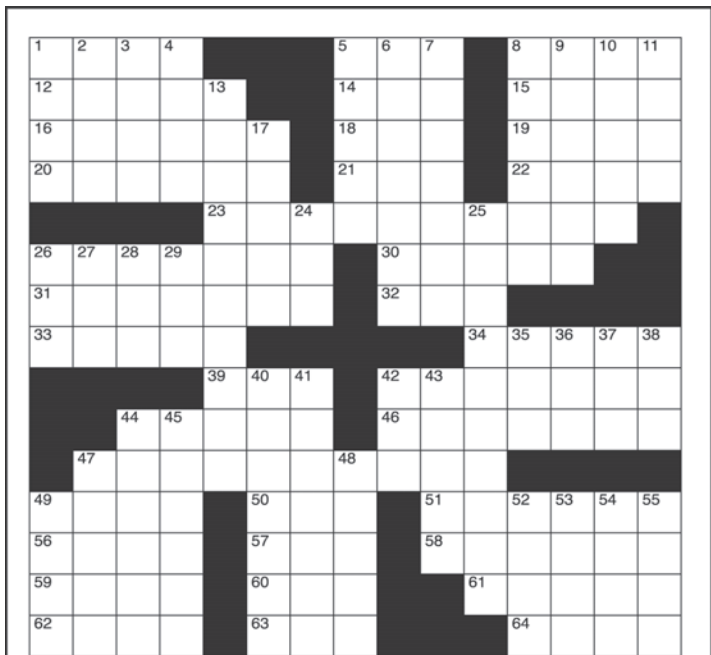


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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Sealed with a kiss
- 5. Large sandwich
- 8. Swiss city
- 12. Japanese persimmons
- 14. When you hope to get somewhere
- 15. Wings
- 16. A name of God
- 18. Elected official (informal)
- 19. Abnormal breathing
- 20. "Seinfeld" character
- 21. Yearly tonnage (abbr.)
- 22. Something for sale
- 23. Gets rid of
- 26. One who toots
- 30. Blemished
- 31. Less than exciting
- 32. Born of
- 33. N. German town
- 34. Notes
- 39. Move away from land
- 42. Vulcanite
- 44. More ignoble
- 46. Child actor Kirk
- 47. Written works
- 49. Sea vessel
- 50. Residue
- 51. Engraved
- 56. Having sufficient skill
- 57. One and only
- 58. Erase
- 59. Broad inlets
- 60. Nightmarish street
- 61. Play again
- 62. Formerly (archaic)
- 63. Add a color to change the color
- 64. Move swiftly and lightly

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Scottish island
- 2. River in the Netherlands
- 3. Asian people
- 4. Fuzzy fruit
- 5. Ninth month (abbr.)
- 6. An idealistic social reformer
- 7. What you owe
- 8. Colorless mineral
- 9. Overjoyed
- 10. Rattling breaths
- 11. Tropical Old World tree
- 13. A citizen of Senegal
- 17. Greek mythological beauty
- 24. Wrath
- 25. Instrument to measure wind speed
- 26. Luxury carmaker
- 27. Bitterly regret
- 28. Not or
- 29. Google certification
- 35. Midway between northeast and east
- 36. Space station
- 37. Relating to the ears
- 38. Congressman
- 40. Yelled at
- 41. Rudely assertive
- 42. Defunct European money
- 43. Shared one's soul
- 44. Onion rolls
- 45. A way to state clearly
- 47. Relating to a lobe
- 48. Underlying message
- 49. Hollywood pig
- 52. Indicates pitch
- 53. Filament of a feather
- 54. Small ornamental ladies' bag for small articles
- 55. Diminish

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WORCESTER — At Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI), all undergraduates are required to complete a research-driven, professional-level project that applies science and technology to address an important societal need or issue.

Known as the Interactive Qualifying Project (IQP), this project is a core part of the innovative undergraduate experience at WPI. Centered around project-based learning, this hands-on approach offers students opportunities to help develop thoughtful solutions to open-ended problems. These real-world problems affect the quality of life for people in the communities where students work, giving students a chance to make a difference in the world before they graduate. All WPI undergraduates are required to complete an IQP, usually in their junior year, through which they apply science and technology to address an important societal need or issue. About two-thirds of WPI students complete their IQP at one of the university's more than 50 off-campus project centers located in more than 30 countries around the world.

"The WPI project-based curricu-

lum's focus on global studies brings students out of the classroom and into their comfort zones and into the global community to apply their knowledge and to solve problems," said Professor Kent Rissmiller, professor of International & Global Studies and associate dean of The Global School. "Students are immersed in all aspects of a different culture—from the way people live and work to the values they hold to the foods they eat, all valuable perspectives for surviving and thriving in today's global marketplace. They also learn the meaning and magic of teamwork; make a real and meaningful difference in their host community; and gain a competitive edge for any resume, or graduate or professional school application."

The following students completed projects in the spring of 2026:

East Brookfield resident Kane Barnes, class of 2027, majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

East Brookfield resident Dylan Stanley, class of 2027, majoring in Civil Engineering.

Spencer resident Jessica Duda, class of 2027, major-

ing in Biochemistry.

Spencer resident Samira Dasilva, class of 2027, majoring in Aerospace Engineering.

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PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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
508-909-4101
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
508-909-4105
julie@villagernewspapers.com

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Local residents receive degrees at Worcester Polytechnic Institute's 157th Undergraduate Commencement

WORCESTER — Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) celebrated the accomplishments of the Class of 2026 during its 157th Commencement exercises, honoring graduates whose innovation, perseverance, and purpose-driven achievements will help shape the future. Ceremonies were held on May 14 and 15 at the DCU Center, where WPI awarded nearly 1,200 bachelor's degrees, over 600 master's degrees, and more than 60 doctoral degrees to graduates across a broad spectrum of disciplines in science, engineering, technology, business, and the humanities. Together, these graduates join a global network of WPI change-makers prepared to lead with knowledge, creativity, and impact.

WPI President Grace Wang and Board of Trustees Chair William Fitzgerald presided over the university's undergraduate Commencement exercises.

In her address, Wang reminded graduates that their WPI education has prepared them not only with technical expertise and ethical leadership skills, but with the resilience, critical thinking, teamwork, and global responsibility needed to thrive in a rapidly evolving world.

"We stand at the dawn of a new technological age," said Wang. "There's a good chance you will do jobs that are yet to be

invented. You will work in companies that are yet to be established. You will address issues that are yet to be defined. This does not mean we should feel uncertain. This means everything can be questioned, and everything can be new. Never before has so much possibility existed to make the world better, the future brighter."

Delivering an inspiring undergraduate address was multiplatinum, Grammy Award-winning artist, tech founder, philanthropist, and STEAM education advocate will.i.am. Known globally for his groundbreaking work at the intersection of music, artificial intelligence, entrepreneurship, education, and through his i.am Angel Foundation, will.i.am challenged graduates to embrace creativity, innovation, and service as they forge their own paths.

"How intentional are you going to be with this technology as you unearth tomorrow's industries?" asked will.i.am "Pick a problem, solve it. That solution is an industry. This is the time for imagination, and AI is not imagining. It's regurgitation of the human imagination. Turn that off."

As part of the undergraduate ceremony, honorary doctoral degrees were bestowed on will.i.am and Paul Covec '64, an entrepreneur and investor who has played a formative role in advancing technologies that

have shaped modern industry.

This year's undergraduate student remarks were delivered by Mena Youssif, who received a bachelor of science in civil engineering. In his speech, "We Didn't See It Coming," he reflected on the pace of change in the world and the unexpected growth and personal changes students experienced.

The following students earned their Bachelor's degree:

Spencer resident Jacob Bergeron, who majored in Computer Science and Data Science.

Brookfield resident Madison Laflamme, who majored in Mechanical Engineering. West Brookfield resident Grace McGovern, who majored in Business.

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) is a top-tier, STEM-focused university with an R1 research classification and global leadership in project-based learning. Founded in 1865, WPI's distinctive approach integrates classroom theory with real-world practice, preparing students to tackle critical challenges through inclusive education, impactful projects, and interdisciplinary research. With more than 70 Bachelor's, Master's, and doctoral degree programs across 18

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WEEKLY POLICE BLOTTER

Spencer
The Spencer Police Department reported the following arrests from May 13 to June 2.

Colin Patrick Sweeney, age 26, of Oakham was arrested on May 13 in connection with multiple warrants.

John A. Laferriere, age 51, of Spencer was arrested on May 16 for Operating a Motor Vehicle after revocation of license and Failure to Stop for Police.

Christopher D. Chappell, age 40, of Spencer was arrested on May 19 for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license, Refusal by the Operator of a Motor Vehicle to Identify themselves, and a Marked Lanes Violation.

Roger Goyes Salvatierra, age 32, of Spencer was arrested on May 23 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor), Endangering a Child While

Operating Under the Influence, and Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Leicester
The Leicester Police Department reported the following arrests from May 13 to June 3.

Josephine Kim Burlingame, age 28, of Leicester was arrested on May 15 for Operating Under the Influence (Liquor), Negligent Operation of a Motor Vehicle, a Marked Lanes Violation, driving at a rate of speed greater than was reasonable and proper, and a Passing Violation.

Douglas Arthur Dunbar, age 62, of Spencer was arrested on May 16 for Operating a Motor Vehicle after suspension of license for OUI/CDL/MVH.

Leon R. Hall-Williams, age 30, of

Worcester was arrested on May 18 in connection with a warrant.

Benjamin Raymond Arrell, age 24, of Cherry Valley was arrested on May 19 in connection with a Default Warrant.

Andrew Nguyen, age 24, of Worcester was arrested on May 19 for Failure to Appear Upon Recognizance and Larceny Under \$1,200.

Jonathan R. McGrath, age 40, of Rochdale was arrested on May 22 in connection with a warrant.

Kristopher A. Curnin, age 43, of Worcester was arrested on May 23 for Shoplifting By Concealing Merchandise and Trespassing.

An individual whose identity has been withheld from publication received a summons in lieu of arrest on May 23 for Unlicensed Operation of a Motor Vehicle.

Leicester Democratic Town Committee members attended Mass Democratic State Convention

LEICESTER — Several members of the Leicester Democratic Town Committee were delegates and alternates at the Massachusetts Democratic State Convention May 29-30 at the DCU Center in Worcester. The high energy and record turnout at the convention culminated with the nomination of candidates who received the endorsement of the Massachusetts Democratic Party in their respective races:

- Governor: Maura Healey
- Lieutenant Governor: Kim Driscoll
- Attorney General: Andrea Joy Campbell
- Auditor: Diana DiZoglio
- Treasurer: Deborah B. Goldberg
- Secretary of State: William F. Galvin

In the race for Massachusetts Senator, Sen. Ed Markey received 72.94 percent of the delegate vote, and Congressman Seth Moulton received 27.06 percent of the delegate vote. Both will appear on the primary ballot this September. Markey received the official Convention endorsement after receiving greater than 50 percent of the delegate vote.



Leicester Democratic Town Committee delegates, left to right: Co-Chair Taryn Rossi, Makenzie Saunders, Chair Elizabeth Zito, State Rep. David LeBoeuf, Becky Benoit, Ferris Bromley, and John Higgins.

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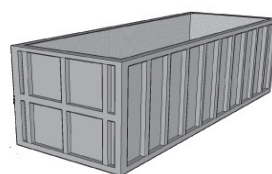


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BRENDAN BERUBE
 EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The power of being included

There are many ways to measure the success of a school system. Test scores, graduation rates and college acceptances often dominate the conversation. While those metrics certainly matter, some of the most meaningful victories cannot be captured on a spreadsheet.

Sometimes, success looks like a student proudly serving chicken wings in a school restaurant.

The story of Leicester High School sophomore Matt Magoun offers a powerful reminder of what education can accomplish when schools focus not only on academic achievement, but also on inclusion, opportunity and personal growth.

According to those who know him best, Matt spent much of his academic career in life skills classes. Today, he is a proud member of Leicester High School's culinary program and a familiar face at The Wolverine Grill. More importantly, he has become a confident young man who looks forward to school, embraces new challenges and takes pride in his work.

That transformation did not happen by accident.

It happened because educators looked beyond limitations and focused on possibilities. They created an environment where a student could develop real-world skills alongside his peers while contributing to the school community in meaningful ways.

The impact extends far beyond the kitchen. Matt's teachers and paraprofessionals have observed changes in his confidence, independence and willingness to try new things. His parents have seen those same changes at home, where he now enjoys cooking for his family and talks about future employment opportunities. Those are life skills that will serve him long after he leaves high school.

Just as important is the lesson being taught to everyone around him.

Inclusion is often discussed in educational circles, but its true value becomes apparent when students work side by side, learn from one another and recognize each other's strengths. Programs like Leicester's culinary initiative help build a school culture where every student has the opportunity to contribute and succeed.

The benefits flow in both directions. Students gain practical skills and confidence, while classmates learn empathy, teamwork and respect. The entire school community becomes stronger as a result.

It is also worth recognizing the role that career and technical education programs play in making these opportunities possible. Hands-on learning environments allow students with a wide range of abilities and interests to discover talents that may not always emerge in a traditional classroom setting. Whether a student's future includes college, the workforce or specialized training, programs that emphasize practical skills can open doors and build confidence.

Matt's story reminds us that success is not always measured by where someone starts. Often, it is measured by how far they have come and how many opportunities they have been given along the way.

The smile behind the nickname "Chef Wingman" says more than any report card ever could.

Communities should take pride when schools create opportunities for all students to thrive. Leicester High School's culinary program is doing exactly that, one meal, one skill and one success story at a time.

And if the wings happen to be excellent as well, that's simply an added bonus.

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

Reality and truth

To the Editor:

These are both issues that have long plagued DJT. After just completing another complete physical that included dementia testing, and claiming to have passed with flying colors, if you read the 57 posts he put out on Sunday, regardless of results he is bragging about, if that is not dementia, it may just hold some other clinical name, but it is not sanity.

Brother Herholz is apparently addicted to the Kool-Aid, as like his hero, two years into controlling the Supreme Court, both houses of congress, turning the DOJ into his hit squad, the best he can offer for the bad situation we are in is to blame Biden and Obama. The less than \$2 billion of the Shah's money Obama used to make a deal, is the source of all Iran issues, not the broken promise of no more unending wars, billions wasted to change players but not the government, whose father, wife and child we killed but now negotiate with, to no end. I heard a figure of 300 billion tax dollars to got to them for reparations.

On mental acuity, while attacking Biden, I hope you read the presidents 57 unhinged posts last Sunday. If you are OK with Trump pardoning the Jan. 6 insurrectionists, are you also fine with paying them millions for lawbreaking? Do you think he will have to pay soldiers to attend his birthday lawn party? (When I say he, I mean we). With his entertainers backing out, I bet him speaking for hours, is just the ticket.

Do you think the company Don Jr. bought into, that was worth \$2 million last year, just got a \$6.5 million government contract, and is now worth \$2 billion, will be investigated? How much grifting is acceptable? Speaker Johnson says members need it to survive. Martha Stewart entitled to large restitution.

What saddens me most is that there are still American voters who support this wannabe dictator, and that is the truth.

KEN KIMBALL
 BROOKFIELD

The last person who knows how

I was standing in a small shop not long ago when I heard a sentence that stuck with me.

"The problem is that he's the last one who knows how to do it."

The speaker wasn't talking about some high-tech computer system or complicated piece of machinery. He was talking about a repair that had been done the same way for decades. The man who knew how to do it was nearing retirement. Nobody had replaced him. Nobody had learned the skill. Suddenly everyone realized that something they had taken for granted might disappear.

That conversation got me thinking. Every town has people like that. They're not usually famous. They don't make headlines. Most folks outside their circle have no idea who they are. Yet they possess a kind of knowledge that doesn't exist in instruction manuals.

They know how things work. Not just machines, but communities. They're the woman who remembers why a tradition started, the volunteer who knows where the spare keys are kept, the carpenter who can look at an old building and immediately understand how it was constructed, or the mechanic who can identify a problem by sound alone. They are the librarian who somehow remembers where every odd document is stored and the farmer who can tell what the weather is likely to do simply by watching the sky.

These people carry enormous amounts of knowledge in their heads. What's remarkable is that much of it was never formally taught. It was handed down. One person learned it from another, who learned it from someone before them. For generations, that was how communities worked. You learned by watching. You learned by helping. You learned by making mistakes while somebody older stood nearby and patiently explained why the mistake happened.

There is something wonderfully human about that process. The information isn't separated from the person sharing it. A lesson about repairing a fence might come with three stories, two jokes, and an opinion about the Red Sox. The knowledge arrives wrapped in personality.

These days, of course, we can find instructions for almost anything in sec-

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 By CHARLES

onds. Need to replace a faucet? There's a video. Need to bake bread? Thousands of recipes are available online. Need to identify a bird? An app can probably help. That's all useful, and I'm glad we have those resources.

But information and wisdom are not quite the same thing. Information tells you what to do.

Wisdom tells you when to do it, when not to do it, and what might happen if you ignore the obvious. That's harder to search for online.

I sometimes worry that we don't always recognize the value of these local experts until they're gone. We assume they'll always be around. Then one day they retire, move away, or simply decide it's time to slow down. Suddenly people are asking questions nobody can answer. How was this event organized every year? Who maintained that old piece of equipment? Why was this tradition started in the first place? The answers often leave with someone who never thought to write them down.

Fortunately, I also see reasons for optimism. Across Massachusetts, there are still people willing to teach. Retired tradesmen help younger workers. Grandparents pass along recipes. Volunteers show newcomers how things are done. Coaches mentor assistant coaches. Gardeners share cuttings and advice over backyard fences. The knowledge continues to move from one generation to the next, just as it always has.

The trick is making sure we pay attention while the teachers are still here. Ask questions. Listen to stories. Learn why things are done the way they are. You might discover that what looks like ordinary conversation is actually the transfer of something valuable.

Every community depends on people who know things that cannot easily be replaced. Their knowledge helps keep traditions alive, solves problems before they become crises, and quietly holds communities together. If we're lucky, somebody is learning from them right now. Otherwise, someday we'll all be standing in a shop somewhere, shaking our heads and saying, "The problem is that she was the last one who knew how to do it."

Sustainable investing means investing with purpose



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When you think about investing, you probably want your money to grow. But maybe you also want it to make a positive difference in the world while you continue pursuing your financial goals. That's the foundation of sustainable investing — an approach that considers environmental, social and governance (ESG) factors alongside traditional financial analysis.

Sustainable investing allows you to support better business practices through your investment choices. It looks at how companies address issues ranging from climate change to worker well-being to corporate ethics. At its core, it's about aligning investments with personal values while still focusing on long-term financial outcomes.

Here are the three main areas of sustainable investing:

Environmental considerations include how companies respond to climate change, use natural resources and manage pollution.

Social factors address workforce well-being, product safety, and efforts to reduce social inequities.

Governance focuses on corporate behavior, ethics policies, and financial transparency.

You may wonder whether investing sustainably means sacrificing returns. Research suggests it doesn't. New York University's Stern Center for Sustainable Business reviewed more than 1,000 studies from 2015–20 and found that incorporating ESG factors does not inherently diminish returns, and in many cases is associated with improved financial performance. As with any investment approach, it's important to focus on high quality investments that help support more consistent long-term returns.

Sustainable investing can take several forms:

ESG intentional strategies spread out your investments and have clear goals for choosing companies that follow strong environmental, social and governance practices.

Sustainable thematic strategies focus on specific issues, such as clean energy or water conservation.

Impact investments go a step further, targeting measurable environmental or social outcomes. Because they prioritize more narrow, specific objectives, they may carry higher volatility and potentially lower returns.

One concern you may hear about is "greenwashing," which happens when companies or funds exaggerate their environmental efforts. To help prevent this, the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission created a rule in 2023 that requires any fund with "ESG" in its name to keep at least 80% of its assets in ESG aligned investments.

Another challenge is data consistency. Today, 99 percent of S&P 500 companies report ESG metrics, according to the Center for Audit Quality, but different rating providers still use different methods. Looking at relative rankings can help you compare companies and mutual funds in a more consistent way.

Deciding whether to include sustainable investments in your portfolio really depends on your values and financial goals. You can build a well-diversified portfolio with or without them. A qualified financial advisor can help you understand whether adding sustainable investments fits your overall strategy and makes sense for your situation.

As more companies disclose ESG data and more funds offer sustainable options, investors have increasing opportunities to align their portfolios with their values — without sacrificing their financial objectives.

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

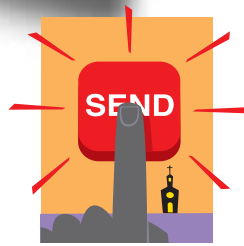
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Richard Sugden Library unveils full slate of summer programs for all ages

SPENCER — From puppet shows and escape rooms to watercolor workshops and live theater, the Richard Sugden Library is preparing for a busy summer season with dozens of free programs designed to engage residents of all ages.

The library's annual Summer Reading Program will feature activities for children, teens and adults throughout June and July, with support from local sponsors, community organizations and state cultural grants.

Adult programming begins June 18 with a patriotic star craft workshop led by Diane, sponsored by the Friends of the Library. Other offerings include a three-part watercolor workshop with artist Debbie Kirk, a wooden spoon carving class presented by Owl Eyes Wilderness Survival, silk scarf painting with Kulina Folk Art, and a succulent turtle creation workshop at Bemis Farms Nursery.

One of the summer's featured events will be a June 25 performance by the Delvena Theatre Company. The interactive comedy, "Nun of This and Nun of That!" will take place at the Spencer American Legion and invites audience members to become part of a fictional 50th class reunion at St. Bartholomew's Parochial School.

Readers will also have opportunities to connect through the library's Adult Book Discussion group and Writers Unite, a monthly gathering for adults

and teens interested in creative writing.

Children and families will find a packed schedule of activities beginning June 22 with face painting by The Birthday Girl. The following day, families can attend Big Truck Day at the Spencer Highway Garage, where children can explore municipal vehicles and meet town employees.

The summer lineup also includes regular crochet and knitting groups, a Peter Rabbit puppet show by Pumpnickel Puppets, and a patriotic centerpiece craft workshop.

For gaming enthusiasts, the Community Gaming Coalition will offer several days of Dungeons & Dragons instruction and tabletop gaming opportunities. Participants can learn how to create characters, build worlds and develop storytelling skills while exploring one of the nation's most popular role-playing games.

Teens can test their knowledge during the annual "Are You Smarter Than a Librarian?" competition on July 6 and participate in a library-wide scavenger hunt later in the month.

Families seeking hands-on experiences can register for the Lost Mummy Escape Room on July 7, while animal lovers can meet Reggie the therapy dog and learn about the training and certifications required for therapy work.

Several programs will take place

outside the library, including nature presentations at the Spencer Fish and Game Club, performances at Powder Mill Park, and a zoo show featuring exotic animals.

Children will also have opportunities to meet princess characters from The Charmings, participate in music and movement activities with Evan Haller, learn drawing techniques from local artist Ralph Masiello, and enjoy a bubble party and ice cream social.

The summer concludes with a visit from Juniper Farms Ice Cream Truck and a comedy and magic performance by Ed Popielarczyk.

Many programs are supported in part by grants from the Spencer Cultural Council, a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Additional support for summer programming comes from the Massachusetts Statewide Summer Library Program, the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners.

Several programs require advance registration due to limited space. Residents can register by visiting the Richard Sugden Library or calling 508-885-7513, ext. 1.

For a complete schedule of events and registration information, visit www.spencerpubliclibrary.org.

East Brookfield Library announces summer movies, free meals program

EAST BROOKFIELD — The East Brookfield Public Library will once again offer free summer activities and meals for local residents during the school vacation season.

Community members are invited to bring their lunch and enjoy a blockbuster movie while meeting friends at the library. Movie screenings will begin at 1 p.m. on June 22, July 6, July 20, Aug. 3 and Aug. 17.

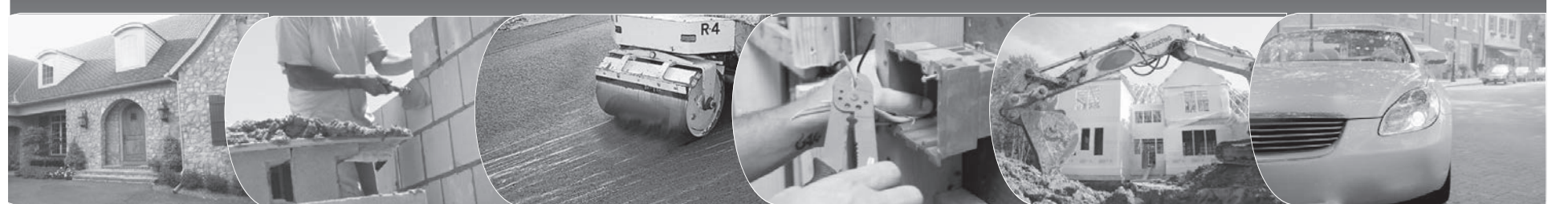
In addition, the library will serve as a host site for the Summer Eats Program from June 29 through Aug. 13. Children are welcome to visit the library between 11 a.m. and noon to receive free breakfast and lunch meals.

The Summer Eats Program helps provide nutritious meals to children throughout the summer months when school is not in session.

Library officials encourage families to take advantage of both the movie series and meal program as a way to stay connected with the community while enjoying free educational and recreational opportunities.

For more information, contact the East Brookfield Public Library.

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Chantce and Halo are energetic, creative sisters who share a very close bond. They enjoy spending time together, being active, and exploring new activities. Both girls love playing outside, getting creative with art projects, and making the most out of every adventure together. Chantce, the older sister, is outgoing, social, and confident. She makes friends easily and enjoys staying active through sports, especially soccer, basketball, and hockey. Chantce also enjoys arts and crafts and loves opportunities to express her creativity. She is caring toward her younger sister and enjoys encouraging and supporting Halo. Halo is a sweet and curious girl who may be shy at first, but once she

feels comfortable, her playful personality shines through. She enjoys swimming, gymnastics, and creative activities like drawing and coloring. Halo loves spending time with people she trusts and values the strong connection she shares with her sister.

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The process to adopt a child from foster care includes training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you. These steps will help match you with a child or sibling group that your family will fit well with. To learn more about adoption from foster care visit www.mareinc.org. Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.



Brandon Allen named to Western New England University Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University (WNE) is proud to recognize Brandon Allen of West Brookfield as one of 805 students who have earned a place on the Spring 2026 Dean's List, reflecting their dedication to academic excellence, perseverance, and commitment to achieving their educational goals.

The WNE Dean's List honors students who earned a semester GPA of 3.30 or higher and who have demonstrated exceptional academic performance during the semester. Their achievements exemplify the hard work, determination, and intellectual curiosity that define the Western New England University student

experience.

WNE congratulates these outstanding students for their accomplishments and applauds their continued pursuit of academic success.

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield, Massachusetts as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,500 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 50,000 alumni have earned degrees through its 90+ undergraduate, gradu-

ate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 26 U.S. states and territories and 7 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Assumption students named to Spring Dean's List

WORCESTER — Assumption University has announced those who have been named to the University's Dean's List for the spring 2026 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on this prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters.

Jenna Abusalah of Leicester

Anne Bisson Ingersoll of West Brookfield

Timothy Cehon of Leicester

Breana Escobar of Rochdale

Dayton Ford of North Brookfield

Samantha Holmes of East Brookfield

Triet Nguyen Minh Mai of Spencer

Braydyn Mercier of Rochdale

Jayla O'Neal of Leicester

About Assumption University

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is a premier New England university for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the

whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption's graduates are known for their intellectual seriousness, thoughtful citizenship, and devotion to the common good. The University offers 37 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing, professional studies, and other areas, as well as graduate degrees and professional credentials. For more information about Assumption University, please visit assumption.edu or follow us @ AssumptionUMA.

Friends of the Library book sale kicks off Saturday

WEST BROOKFIELD — Celebrate the start of the Friends of the Library Book Sale on Saturday, June 13, at the Merriam-Gilbert Public Library, 3 West Main St. in West Brookfield!

From 9 a.m. until noon, join us outside for a fun, family-friendly craft activity. Using Sharpies and rubbing alcohol, participants can create colorful, tie-dye-inspired designs on fabric. The library will provide garden flags to decorate, and you're welcome to bring your own items from home—such as T-shirts, tote bags, shoelaces, ball caps, or other fabric items—to make uniquely your own.

The Friends of the Library

Book Sale begins that day and continues through July 11 during regular library hours. Browse a wonderful selection of gently used books, along with DVDs, CDs, and audiobooks. Whether you're looking for your next great read or a hidden treasure, there's

something for everyone.

We hope you'll join us for a morning of creativity, community, and great bargains. Thank you to the Friends of the Library for making this event possible through their continued support of the library and its programs.

Brookfield COA hosting anti-fraud program

BROOKFIELD — Join the Fraud Squad June 16 at 10:30 a.m. for a program on recognizing fraud at the Brookfield Council on Aging, 8 Common St.

Scammers are getting smarter every day. Are you prepared?

Join us for an interactive, in-person Fraud Squad performance. Watch senior volunteers bring real scams to life. See and hear how scammers use emotional manipulation to create pressure. People leave feeling more confident and informed.

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Cornerstone Bank donates \$7,000 to support Spencer Summer Concert Series

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank is proud to announce a \$7,000 donation to the Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission to support the 2026 Summer Concert Series.

Held on Sundays from 2 to 5 p.m. at Powder Mill Park, the free, family-friendly concert series typically runs from late June through August and features a variety of local bands. Community members are encouraged to bring lawn chairs or blankets and enjoy an afternoon of live

music in one of Spencer's most popular outdoor gathering spaces.

"Supporting local programs like the Summer Concert Series reflects our commitment to strengthening the communities we serve," said Todd Tallman, CEO of Cornerstone Bank. "These concerts create meaningful opportunities for families, friends and neighbors to connect and enjoy shared experiences."

The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission is an all-volunteer board dedicated to serving the recreational needs of Spencer residents. In addition to maintaining town-owned parks and facilities, the Commission develops and supervises a wide range of programs and events that bring the community together.

The Spencer Summer Concert Series remains free to the public thanks to the support of community partners such as Cornerstone Bank.

About Cornerstone Bank
Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone, which is a subsidiary of PeoplesBankCorp, MHC, operating independently under its own name and brand, provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities through a broad range of deposit and loan products and services. Built on Trust is not just a tagline, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone

stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Christ Memorial hosting annual chicken BBQ

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Christ Memorial Episcopal Church will hold its annual chicken BBQ Saturday, June 20 from 12:30-1:30 p.m. at 133 Main St., North Brookfield. The community is invited to enjoy half a chicken with a baked potato, cole slaw, roll, drink, and fresh Strawberry Shortcake. Take-out or eat in. Tickets sold at the door, or call Sandi at 508-867-3272 or Mary at 508-662-8174. \$20 per person.

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Area residents named to dean's list for the Spring 2026 semester at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Conn. — Molly Ledbetter of Leicester and Carly Donohue of Spencer were named to the dean's list for the Spring 2026 semester at Quinnipiac University.

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester. Names followed by an asterisk denotes with honors.

About Quinnipiac University

Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 9,700 students in more than 100 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Education, Computing and Engineering, Health Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts & Sciences. Quinnipiac is ranked 51st in The Wall Street Journal/College Pulse "2026 Best Colleges in the U.S." and is also recognized by U.S. News & World Report and The Princeton Review's "The Best 391 Colleges." The university is expanding innovative programs for both traditional and adult learners and developing dynamic corporate partnerships. Quinnipiac recently completed a significant capital expansion on its main campus, including a state-of-the-art new School of Business and an interdisciplinary science and innovation hub. For more information, please visit qu.edu. Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook and Instagram and follow Quinnipiac on X @QuinnipiacU.

Local student earns Dean's List recognition at Norwich University

NORTHFIELD, Vt. — Norwich University is pleased to announce that Ashley Parker of Spencer has been recognized on the Dean's List at Norwich University for the Spring 2026 semester.

Dean's List recognition is awarded to full-time undergraduate students who achieve a semester grade point average of 3.4 or higher, acknowledging sustained academic achievement and dedication to scholarly success.

About Norwich University

Norwich University is a diversified academic institution that educates traditional-age students and adults in a Corps of Cadets and as civilians. Norwich offers a broad selection of traditional and distance-learning programs culminating in baccalaureate and graduate degrees. Norwich University was founded in 1819 by Captain Alden Partridge of the U.S. Army and is the oldest private military college in the United States of America. Norwich is one of our nation's six senior military colleges and the birthplace of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). www.norwich.edu

Local student earns President's List recognition at Norwich University

NORTHFIELD, Vt. — Norwich University is pleased to announce that Kyle Stapel of Leicester has earned President's List honors for the Spring 2026 semester. Founded in 1819, Norwich University is recognized for its emphasis on experiential education and leadership development.

President's List recognition is awarded to full-time undergraduate students who achieve a semester grade point average of 4.0, acknowledging sustained academic achievement and dedication to scholarly success.

About Norwich University

Norwich University is a diversified academic institution that educates traditional-age students and adults in a Corps of Cadets and as civilians. Norwich offers a broad selection of traditional and distance-learning programs culminating in baccalaureate and graduate degrees. Norwich University was founded in 1819 by Captain Alden Partridge of the U.S. Army and is the oldest private military college in the United States of America. Norwich is one of our nation's six senior military colleges and the birthplace of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). www.norwich.edu

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LEGALS

Notice of Public Hearing

The North Brookfield Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 at 6:15PM at the Senior Center, 29 Forest St., North Brookfield, MA. Public opinion will be received for 91 Oakham Road, regarding a proposed large scale commercial solar energy facility (Bylaw Section VI.F.1-5. and Bylaw Section VI.G.1-5.) per the North Brookfield Zoning Bylaws. The property is in the R-66 District and requires a special permit and site plan review. Any person interested in being heard or seeking information should appear at the above stated time and place. A copy of the proposed permit application is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, 215 North Main St., North Brookfield, MA.
William King, Chair
June 12, 2026
June 19, 2026

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William King, Chair
June 5, 2026
June 12, 2026

Town of Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals 6 Central Street Brookfield MA 01506 Notice of Public Hearing Administrative Appeal Robert Barnes 44 South Maple Street Brookfield MA 01506

The Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing, **Wednesday June 24, 2026 at 6:05pm.** in the Brookfield Town Hall Banquet Room, first floor. The purpose of the hearing is to consider an administrative appeal from **Robert Barnes** requesting relief from a zoning order regarding two violations of **Section 4C Environmental Controls and Districts B Prohibited use all Districts 5:** All uses which are excessively obnoxious, hazardous, or injurious to the neighborhood or to property in the vicinity, and all open air storage of junk, salvage materials, and except as otherwise provided in this by-law, the collection, treatment, storage, burial, or incineration of wastes, including those classified as low level radioactive waste, are expressly prohibited in all zoning districts. **The property is owned by Robert Barnes and located at 44 South Maple Street (District Business A).**

Charles K. Wilson-Chairman
Zoning Board of Appeals
June 12, 2026
June 19, 2026

**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. WO26P1745EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION**
Estate Of:
Kathleen M Gemme
Date of Death: 02/27/2026

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Kara Ann Kennedy of Sturbridge MA and Christine Marie Gemme of Wells ME** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that:
Kara Ann Kennedy of Sturbridge MA and Christine Marie Gemme of Wells ME be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the estate 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 06/23/2026.**

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. Kathryn M. Bailey, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 27, 2026
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
June 12, 2026

Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

Gregory Coffin has filed an **RDA** with the Spencer Conservation Commission to rebuild a deck located at **44 Meadow Road, Spencer, MA.**

Jason Ferreira has filed an **RDA** with the Spencer Conservation Commission for a proposed addition located at **8 I Capen Road, Spencer, MA.**
William Dulmaine has filed an **NOI** with the Spencer Conservation Commission for a proposed deck, septic & detached garage located at **10 Either Drive, Spencer, MA.**
Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at which time all persons having an interest may be present or call in remotely to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 6:15 p.m.
Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman
June 12, 2026

Oxford Rochdale Sewer District Invitation for Priced Proposals

The Board of Sewer Commissioners is requesting Priced Proposals for the purchase of Progressive Cavity Pump and Ancillaries.
Priced Proposal documents may be obtained at the Oxford Rochdale Sewer District offices, 28 Comins Road, North Oxford, MA 01542, online by emailing garystine6641@yahoo.com or by calling 413-896-7797 between 9 A.M. and 2 P.M. after **Thursday May 28, 2026.**

Oxford Rochdale Sewer District will receive Priced Proposals at 28 Comins Road North Oxford, MA 01542 until **10 A.M. Tuesday June 30, 2026** at which time Priced Proposal documents will be publicly opened and read. Priced Proposals for Progressive Cavity Pump and Ancillaries will be opened and recorded for each bidder.

The Board of Sewer Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all Priced Proposals deemed not in the best interest of the Oxford Rochdale Sewer District.
Board of Sewer Commissioners
Oxford Rochdale Sewer District
June 5, 2026
June 12, 2026

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Eva M. Adjoian to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for HarborOne Mortgage LLC, dated November 26, 2019 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61494, Page 1, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from:

Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for HarborOne Mortgage LLC, its successors and assigns to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., recorded on December 1, 2023, in Book No. 69952, at Page 104
Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to NewRez LLC DBA Shellpoint Mortgage Servicing, recorded on February 7, 2024, in Book No. 70172, at Page 364 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 2:00 PM on July 6, 2026, on the mortgaged premises located at 132

North Brookfield Road, East Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,
TO WIT:

The land in East Brookfield, Worcester County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon, situated on the easterly side of the State Highway leading to North Brookfield and bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at a point in the easterly line of said State Highway at land now or formerly of one Snay;
THENCE northeasterly by said Snay land 162.25 feet to land of the North Brookfield Railroad Company;
THENCE northwesterly by said railroad land 77.35 feet to land now or formerly of one Balchunas;
THENCE southwesterly by said Balchunas land 181.25 feet to said highway;
THENCE southeasterly by said highway 75 feet to the place of beginning. Containing about 12,881 square feet of land, and being the premises shown as Lot No. 5 on a plan of House Lots in East Brookfield, owned by Arthur Ledoux", which said plan is recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 41 Plan 54.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 61493, Page 394.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE:

A deposit of Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
NEWREZ LLC D/B/A SHELLPOINT MORTGAGE SERVICING
Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
28366
June 12, 2026
June 19, 2026
June 26, 2026

St. Carlo Acutis Parish to hold first Strawberry Festival

NORTH BROOKFIELD — St. Carlo Acutis Parish will be having its first ever Strawberry Festival on Saturday, June 13 at 5 p.m. in St. Joseph Church Hall, 296 N. Main St., North Brookfield.

The menu offers baked ham, homemade baked beans, homemade potato salad, homemade coleslaw, rolls, Iced tea, coffee, water, and the always delicious strawberry shortcake. Tickets, priced at \$15 for adults and \$7 for children age five to 10 can be obtained by calling the parish office at (508) 867-6469. Take-out is also available.

MENU: Baked Ham, Homemade Baked Beans, Homemade Potato Salad, Homemade Cole Slaw, Rolls, Coffee, Iced tea, and the always delicious Strawberry Shortcake

Tickets: Available by calling the parish office at (508) 867-6469.

TICKETS
ADULTS: \$15.00
CHILDREN 5-10 yrs. old, \$7.00

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL
296 NORTH MAIN ST., NO. BROOKFIELD

Take out is also available

Help for stuttering and cluttering is as close as your library

LEICESTER — Thanks to generous donors, the Stuttering Foundation has donated books and DVDs to public libraries across the country, including the Leicester Public Library.

Stuttering Foundation books are directed to parents of children who stutter or clutter, adults who stutter or clutter, speech pathologists, pediatricians, family physicians, nurses, health care professionals, hospitals, schools, clinics, day-care centers, and all those concerned with the problem of stuttering and cluttering. The DVDs feature some of the world's leading therapists with children who stutter. Since the original publication, Foundation materials have reached millions of individuals worldwide.

More than three million Americans stutter, yet stuttering and cluttering remain misunderstood by most people," said Jane Fraser, president of The Stuttering Foundation. "Myths such as believing people who stutter or clutter are less intelligent or suffer from psychological problems still persist despite research refuting these erroneous beliefs."

Since 1947, the nonprofit Stuttering Foundation has provided free materials to public libraries nationwide. A library that will shelve them can e-mail info@stutteringhelp.org, or download a request form at <http://www.stutteringhelp.org/libraries-information>.

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LEGALS

Town Treasurer's Abandoned Funds Notice

Town of Warren

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Notice of names of persons appearing to be owners of funds held by the Town of Warren, and deemed abandoned

Date of First Publication: June 11, 2026

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 200A Sec 9A, notice is hereby given that certain funds in the custody of the Treasury, as listed below, have gone unclaimed for greater than one year and are considered abandoned. Any person having rightful claim to one or more of these checks must submit a complete and accurate Unclaimed Property Claim form to the Treasurer's office. Claim forms are available on the website (www.warren-ma.gov) and at the Treasurer's office at 48 High Street Warren, MA. Payment will be issued for claims that can be successfully verified based on the information provided. If the checks, to the payees, listed in this notice remain unclaimed 60 days after the June 12, 2026., the funds will escheat to the Town of Warren as provided by law.

Name	Date	Check #	Amount
MELANIE WICKEN	8/15/2005	16015	\$28.00
RAY SAMEK	12/25/2006	19785	\$20.82
RUGG LUMBER WARE	4/30/2007	20725	\$ 2.40
PAULINE SHIRE	4/13/2009	26287	\$50.00
COPART OF CONNECTICUT, INC	5/11/2009	26450	\$21.55
TRAILERS OF NEW ENGLAND, INC	6/22/2009	26825	\$75.47
KENNETH B. LACEY, JR.	12/21/2009	28134	\$55.00
BOO BOO'S BAKERY AND PASTERY	1/4/2010	28193	\$77.20
BOO BOO'S BAKERY AND PASTERY	1/11/2010	28232	\$26.50
BOO BOO'S BAKERY AND PASTERY	1/25/2010	28323	\$23.00
DIVISION OF LOCAL SERVICES	2/15/2010	28499	\$45.00
BOO BOO'S BAKERY AND PASTERY	2/22/2010	28532	\$25.50
MATTHEW J. RICKSON	4/5/2010	28866	\$339.30
KEITH NICHOLAS	6/28/2010	29469	\$62.14
BOWM	2/28/2011	31204	\$156.00
KLEM TRACTOR INC.	3/21/2011	31370	\$38.94
STEVE BACHELER	5/9/2011	31731	\$50.00
DENNIS P MCGARRY, JR.	5/23/2011	31831	\$21.52
UNIFIRST CORPORATION	7/18/2011	32274	\$72.56
TOWN PIZZA	9/19/2011	32744	\$18.15
TOWN PIZZA	8/27/2012	35123	\$101.65
CAROL A. DAMICO	9/3/2012	35141	\$23.33
MASSACHUSETTS ARBORISTS ASSOC	10/22/2012	35581	\$45.00
ARMAND DIMO	12/17/2012	35931	\$36.98
TOWN PIZZA	4/1/2013	36699	\$91.47
IVEY INDUSTRIES INC	4/22/2013	36835	\$34.70
TOWN PIZZA	4/29/2013	36901	\$42.80
EARL D. SPARKS	5/13/2013	36966	\$166.05
WARREN LANDSCAPING	5/13/2013	37001	\$4.87
REUEL PEDRO RIVERA, SR	5/20/2013	37044	\$47.40
HOWE'S FARM & GARDENS	5/27/2013	37083	\$274.90
RONNA SHEA	6/10/2013	37187	\$35.00
TOWN PIZZA	6/10/2013	37190	\$54.28
BRIAN F DENEHY	7/22/2013	37517	\$ 5.30
MACC	1/13/2014	38726	\$11.70
STARREX INC	2/3/2014	38860	\$ 8.09
HOWE LUMBER CO., INC	2/17/2014	38920	\$59.98
DEBRA A FINNERAN	9/8/2014	40362	\$ 6.00
CRYSTAL L CHRISTMAN	9/15/2014	40401	\$10.00
HADDASH SHAMEA CELMER	10/20/2014	40661	\$42.50
DAWN F MILLS	3/30/2015	41761	\$ 5.00
TOWN OF WARREN	4/6/2015	41856	\$30.00
CHARLENE DISLEY	7/6/2015	42509	\$15.94
ALEXIOS & ATHENA VAGELIS	8/10/2015	42787	\$290.00
RONNA SHEA	3/7/2016	44347	\$35.00
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC	3/28/2016	44489	\$64.00
HOWE'S FARM & GARDENS	6/6/2016	45005	\$291.00
DANIEL COURTNEY	6/30/2016	45263	\$25.00
JACQUELINE M RYGIEL	8/22/2016	45648	\$21.87
JEFFREY R GAUDET	9/5/2016	45761	\$31.25
DANIEL COURTNEY	10/3/2016	45964	\$ 2.00
SHIRLEY F BENGLE	11/7/2016	46264	\$10.00
JENNIFER L PIERCE	2/6/2017	46912	\$10.42
DAWN F MILLS	4/10/2017	47343	\$ 5.00
BERTHIAUME & BERTHIAUME	5/15/2017	47590	\$384.31
ALEXANDER SINNI	11/13/2017	48968	\$11.96
JAMES M STOCKLEY	12/18/2017	49224	\$23.75
AMERICAN ARBITRATION ASSOC	1/15/2018	49408	\$150.00
DOUGLAS MONETTE	1/29/2018	49521	\$130.00
CARL A RENAUD	2/12/2018	49589	\$27.84
NAPA AUTO PARTS	3/5/2018	49751	\$549.31
ST PAUL'S PARISH	4/9/2018	49986	\$165.98
GERALD F FOUNTAIN	4/30/2018	50106	\$10.00
LAW OFFICES OF DANIEL W MURRAY	5/14/2018	50203	\$1,078.59
JOHN KENNEY	7/23/2018	50782	\$ 5.40
BETHANY L THIBODEAU	9/17/2018	51129	\$130.52
FRANCIS H BEAUDRY, JR	1/7/2019	51938	\$10.00
GARETH A MANNION	1/7/2019	51939	\$15.00
MARIE-BRIGHID BRESNAHAN	2/18/2019	52266	\$60.00

SCOTT MURRAY	4/11/2019	52571	\$1,143.00
KELLY BERGERON	4/8/2019	52617	\$140.00
KELLY BERGERON	5/5/2019	52863	\$140.00
GLENN T POTHIER	6/3/2019	52981	\$14.57
RICHARD KEARNEY	6/3/2019	52991	\$21.15
EPIC SPORTS, INC	7/23/2019	53340	\$500.00
ALEXANDER SINNI	8/19/2019	53533	\$ 4.89
CARL & MICHELLE BIGOS	9/2/2019	53644	\$ 5.00
WARREN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION	10/14/2019	53966	\$304.00
ALEXANDER SINNI	10/21/2019	53973	\$ 4.88
ANDREW SCHWENKER	11/11/2019	54134	\$18.75
DANIEL COURTNEY	11/18/2019	54183	\$ 9.98
JUDY A. RUSSELL	12/30/2019	54472	\$17.19
LAURA J FITZPATRICK	3/23/2020	55018	\$ 7.50
JUDY PLANKEY	5/11/2020	55300	\$ 5.00
NATASHA CHRISTIAN	5/11/2020	55307	\$774.96
CHRISTOPHER DUNPHY	6/1/2020	55369	\$ 5.35
JOHN & DEBRA HANLEY	6/1/2020	55393	\$16.37
KEITH NICHOLAS	7/22/2020	55821	\$25.00
WESTERN MASS FIRE CHIEFS ASSOC	8/17/2020	56031	\$115.00
TYLER K WATT	11/30/2020	56699	\$ 5.73
SOPHIE STARZYK	12/14/2020	56773	\$375.00
KEITH NICHOLAS	12/21/2020	56802	\$25.00
NEW ENGLAND BIOASSAY, INC	3/15/2021	57353	\$1,775.00
BONNIE J RICHARD	5/24/2021	57793	\$ 9.00
ERIKA ANDREOLI	5/24/2021	57800	\$60.00
DANIEL COURTNEY	6/7/2021	57871	\$25.00
KEITH NICHOLAS	6/7/2021	57889	\$25.00
TOWN OF STURBRIDGE	6/30/2021	58209	\$250.00
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AT&T MOBILITY	12/14/2021	59280	\$43.76
COLUMBIA GAS OF MASSACHUSETTS	12/14/2021	59287	\$87.38
DANIELLE GOLDEN	12/21/2021	59374	\$25.00
ZACHARY RITZER	2/28/2022	59929	\$ 3.12
TRACY L NOLIN	3/21/2022	60076	\$66.19
ERIC A STANLEY	4/11/2022	60228	\$40.68
RONALD NIELSEN	4/11/2022	60255	\$68.75
CRYSTAL ROCK	5/2/2022	60356	\$62.07
LISA DIGRIS	9/12/2022	61343	\$ 1.68
MCDONALDS CORPORATION	10/10/2022	61545	\$31.85
JAMES WARNER	10/25/2022	61648	\$956.02
ZACHARY RITZER	10/25/2022	61682	\$125.00
MCDONALDS CORPORATION	11/7/2022	61740	\$ 8.59
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AT&T MOBILITY	1/23/2023	62246	\$183.12
BHISHAM SHARMA	3/13/2023	62567	\$183.66
DAVID A SHEPARD	3/13/2023	62573	\$ 9.78
ZACHARY RITZER	5/1/2023	62968	\$ 9.00
PAUL A MERRILL	5/8/2023	63017	\$ 6.06
CLEARWAY ENERGY GROUP	5/20/2023	63103	\$1,300.86
SIDNEY R RICHARDSON	5/20/2023	63153	\$500.00
WA MA SOLAR, LLC	5/20/2023	63171	\$971.63
WA MA SOLAR, LLC	6/3/2023	63275	\$929.30
BRASEN SAURIOL	6/26/2023	63408	\$75.00
CADEN PRINSEN	6/26/2023	63411	\$150.00
IZAIAH FLORES	6/26/2023	63428	\$75.00
JONATHAN DUSTY	6/30/2023	63723	\$22.23
Bednarz, Beverly	11/16/2006	121890	\$108.26
Croteau, Jeffrey	9/20/2007	124348	\$36.70
Bedell, Kenneth M	10/04/2007	124451	\$189.08
Lombardo, Vincent	5/20/2010	131784	\$ 8.21
Major, Kate	5/20/2010	131785	\$56.00
Domey, Jr., William R	8/11/2011	135100	\$40.44
Domey, Jr., William R	9/01/2011	135263	\$30.46
Colgate, Ted	4/17/2014	141985	\$54.39
Lent, Stephen A	5/08/2014	142118	\$105.21
Colgate, Ted	6/05/2014	142290	\$68.00
Lowell, Nathan J	8/20/2015	145140	\$36.42
Donovan, Ryan J	8/27/2015	145174	\$262.22
Brooks, Ashley L	11/12/2015	145628	\$35.48
LaMay, Matthew R	9/15/2016	147485	\$38.02
Mellen, Stephen M	10/06/2016	147610	\$24.58
Economos, Christopher D	7/27/2017	149207	\$106.99
Economos, Christopher D	8/24/2017	149369	\$105.43
Londergan, William	4/04/2019	151959	\$40.85
Murray, Michael	1/02/2020	153199	\$28.08
Plante, Sydney	5/14/2020	153641	\$64.87
Early III, James M	6/24/2021	154786	\$ 0.01
Early III, James M	9/16/2021	155001	\$ 0.01
Early III, James M	10/14/2021	155068	\$ 0.01
Soojian, Paul K	10/28/2021	155098	\$ 0.01
Courtney, Daniel M	11/18/2021	155155	\$75.14

June 12, 2026

Local residents earn degrees from Clark University

WORCESTER — Clark University held its Commencement exercises at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass., on Monday, May 18. The University awarded 612 bachelor's degrees and 636 graduate degrees and conferred two honorary degrees during two ceremonies; graduates represented 49 states and 69 countries.

The following students earned degrees from Clark:

in Communication. Anderson is a member of the Alpha Epsilon Lambda honor society. Ray Davis of Leicester graduated with a Master of Public Administration. Davis is a member of the Alpha Epsilon Lambda honor society.

Abigail Gahagan of Leicester graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and with high honors in Psychology.

Vanderbilt of Brookfield graduated cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science.

Clark University President David B. Fithian urged the graduates to be engaged global citizens.

"The world needs you to exhibit the value of higher education, to exercise principles of free expression, to believe in the progress of ideas, and to defend democracy and individual rights - even, and especially, when doing so requires listening across deep differences," President Fithian said.

Dr. Wendy L. Freedman, one of the world's most accomplished astrophysicists, delivered the undergraduate ceremony address. Freedman, currently the John and Marion Sullivan University Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics at the University of Chicago, is widely recognized for her leadership of the Hubble Space Telescope Key Project, which produced the first precise measurements of the Hubble constant (the rate at which the universe is expanding) and dramatically refined scientific understanding of the scale, age, and expansion of the universe.

Early in her career, Freedman told the graduates, her research arrived at a conclusion different than the accepted view of those in her field. She carried on despite opposition. Freedman noted that Clark physicist Robert H. Goddard, who 100 years ago launched the world's first liquid fuel rocket, an advancement that helped pave the way for man to reach the moon, faced similar skepticism. After experiencing multiple failures and widespread derision, Goddard in 1926 launched his rocket, which traveled 2.5 minutes, rose 41 feet into the air, and landed in a cabbage patch.

"From a cabbage field to lunar and even farther missions," said Freedman, "it is an important reminder of the power of persistence."

Dr. Wendy Freedman was awarded the degree of Doctor of Science, honoris causa.

Student speaker William Stafford '26, a political science major and aspiring lawyer, spoke to his peers about how choices shape a person.

"We don't always get to choose our circumstances, but we always get to choose how we respond to them, and who we become because of them," said Stafford. "And now we're about to step into a world that won't always give us clear directions."

There won't always be a syllabus. No one's going to tell you exactly what to do next. But you will always have the ability to choose."

Sir Andrew Steer, one of the world's foremost climate experts, addressed Clark University students receiving master's and doctoral degrees, and encouraged them to act boldly and remain hopeful, no matter their path.

In his address after receiving a Doctor of Humane Letters degree, Steer acknowledged that the students are graduating into a world with several major challenges - among them, AI, the erosion of trust in facts and truth, and dysfunctional governments. The last half-century has seen unimaginable progress and growth - demographically, technologically, and economically. "But this explosion of the human economic footprint has put unprecedented pressure on the planet and created severe inequality and social challenges."

Steer praised Clark's new School of Climate, Environment, and Society for including economics in its interdisciplinary lineup, which "is pointing precisely to the systems change we will need to address climate change." And every single member of the Class of 2026 has a part to play, he said, whatever their field - education, finance, social work, healthcare, the arts.

Steer then turned his gaze fifty years into the future. "What will the world look like? My prediction is that it will be cleaner, greener, healthier, more prosperous, and more just. It's up to you."

Nourhan Beshir Attia, graduating with a master's in environmental science and policy, delivered the graduate student address. A native of Egypt, she shared that the COVID-19 pandemic forced the cancellation of her bachelor's degree ceremony in 2020.

"When I came to Clark, I thought I was looking for acceptance as someone coming from Egypt," Beshir Attia said. "As a modest Muslim hijabi woman, I wondered: Will I belong here? And yes, I found people who respected me. But the most important thing I found was something I wasn't expecting. I found the moment I stopped waiting for permission to be myself."

Founded in 1887, Clark University is a liberal arts-based research university that prepares its students to meet tomorrow's most daunting challenges and embrace its greatest opportunities. Through 33 undergraduate majors, more than 30 advanced degree programs, and nationally recognized community partnerships, Clark fuses rigorous scholarship with authentic world and workplace experiences that empower our students to pursue lives and careers of meaning and consequence.

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REALTOR MLS # 73523347 \$5589,900

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Webster - 24 Cooper Rd
New Construction - Craftsman Style home



Tucked away on Cooper Rd. Webster Lake with access at Lake-side beach/boat ramp. 3rd of 4 homes being built at this site. Offers 2,155 sq. ft +/- of living area, 7 rms, 4 brs, 3 1/2 baths, 9ft ceiling, wood flooring throughout with ceramic tile baths. Spacious main BR Suite w/ walk-in closet, and private full bath, double sink vanity, finished lower level walk-out w/ slider. Central AC, garage
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Webster Lake Waterfront
22 Union Point Snug Harbor Villa

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On Indian Point # 10



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Webster Lake -
302 Killdeer Island



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Webster Lake Waterfront -
31 Bayview!!



Panoramic View, from this absolutely lovely home. 2600 +/- SF 3+ Beds, 2 full baths, 2 car detached garage! 63' +/- waterfront. .37 Acres! Sandy Waterfront!
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131 Pine Ave Sturbridge \$160,000

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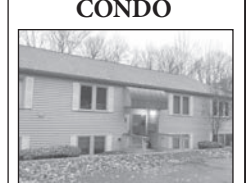
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Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club taking part in A.R.R.L. Field Day

WEST BROOKFIELD — The Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club (QVARC) will

be participating in the 2026 A.R.R.L. Field Day on Saturday, June 27, and Sunday, June 28, operating from 2 p.m. Saturday through 2 p.m. Sunday on the West Brookfield Town Common. The public is warmly invited to visit between 2–6 p.m. on Saturday and between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday to explore the world of amateur radio firsthand.

Field Day is the largest on-air amateur radio exercise in the United States, bringing together tens of thousands of licensed operators to demonstrate the reliability, resilience, and public-service value of amateur radio. For QVARC, it's also a chance to welcome neighbors, families, students, and anyone curious about radio, electronics, or STEM activities.

Visitors will be able to watch live radio contacts being made across the country and around the world, explore the equipment and antennas used for emergency and off-grid communication, and even sit behind a radio to make a contact themselves. Club members will be on hand to explain how amateur radio supports communities during storms, power outages, and public-service events, and why these skills remain relevant in today's interconnected world.

ARRL President Rick Roderick, K5UR, recently reflected on the long tradition behind Field Day, noting that "Amateur radio has been part of the American story since the earliest days of wireless communication... For more than a century, the Amateur Radio Service has advanced the nation's communications capabilities by fostering technical innovation, developing a pool of trained and skilled operators, strengthening emergency and public service communications, and promoting international goodwill."

He emphasized that these contributions show why amateur radio remains "a uniquely resilient and volunteer-driven national resource."

QVARC is proud to carry that tradition forward here in the Quaboag Valley. Our members include hobbyists, engineers, emergency volunteers, and newcomers who simply enjoy learning something hands-on and practical. The club meets on the last Tuesday of each month, except for July and August, and welcomes anyone interested in getting involved or learning more about the hobby.

Whether you're interested in emergency preparedness, electronics, shortwave communication, or just want to see what amateur radio is all about, Field Day is the perfect time to stop by. Everyone is welcome, and no experience is required.

For more information about the Quaboag Valley Amateur Radio Club, please visit www.qvarc.com.

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East Brookfield Library offers summer activities, crafts for children and families

EAST BROOKFIELD — The East Brookfield Public Library is inviting children and families to take part in a variety of summer activities designed to encourage creativity, learning and fun.

The library's weekly Activity and Play program will be held Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. as an extension of the library's story time program. Caregivers are required to remain with participating children, with one adult required for every two children.

A series of special after-

noon activities will begin at 2 p.m. throughout the summer. The schedule includes paper airplane making on June 30, cornhole on July 7, sidewalk chalk drawing on July 14, bubbles on July 21, origami on July 28, bracelet making on Aug. 4, and a guided tour of the library pond on Aug. 11.

The library will also host a summer Arts and Crafts program beginning June 23. Additional sessions are scheduled for July 7, July 21, Aug. 4 and Aug. 18, with all programs starting at 11 a.m.

Registration is required for the Arts and Crafts program. Adult caregivers must attend with children under age 12, with one adult required for every two children. Some projects may continue into the following week's session.

Library officials encourage families to register early and participate in the wide range of educational and recreational activities planned throughout the summer.

For more information or to register, contact the East Brookfield Public Library.

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Western New England University recognizes local students on President's List

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University (WNE) is proud to recognize 597 students who have earned a place on the Spring 2026 President's List, one of the University's highest academic honors.

The President's List celebrates students who have achieved exceptional academic success through their dedication, discipline, and pursuit of excellence by earning a GPA of 3.80 or higher, while the Dean's List honors students who earned a semester GPA of 3.30 or higher. Their accomplishments reflect a strong commitment to learning and exemplify the high standards of achievement that define the Western New England University community.

WNE congratulates these outstanding students on their remarkable academic performance and applauds their continued pursuit of excellence.

Madeleine Johnson of Rochdale
Gabriel Paquette of West Brookfield
Ariana Masterjohn of West Brookfield
Matthew Tiberii of West Brookfield

Western New England University (WNE) is a private, nationally ranked, comprehensive institution with a focus on preparing work-ready and world-ready graduates. Founded in 1919 in Springfield as a division of Northeastern College, WNE's 215-acre suburban campus serves more than 3,700 students, including over 2,500 full-time undergraduates. More than 47,000 alumni have earned degrees through its more than undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs at Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, and Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Law. Students come from 39 U.S. states and territories and 23 countries. Of 45,104 living alumni, 30% remain within the region, residing in the four Western Massachusetts counties and northern Connecticut.

WNE is classified among nationally ranked universities in US News and World Report, and among the Top 100 Undergraduate Engineering programs, and in the Doctoral/Professional Universities category in the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education.

Area residents named to Stonehill Dean's List

EASTON — Stonehill College is pleased to recognize the students named to the Spring 2026 Dean's List. To qualify for this honor, undergraduate students must have achieved a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher with a minimum of 12 credits from courses graded with standard letter grades.

Kelly Daige of North Brookfield
Ryan Miner of North Brookfield
Julianna Rondeau of Spencer
About Stonehill College

Stonehill College, a Catholic institution of higher learning, was founded by the Congregation of Holy Cross in 1948. Located on the beautiful 387-acre campus and former estate of Frederick Lothrop Ames in North Easton, Massachusetts, it is a community of scholarship and faith, anchored by a belief in the inherent dignity of each person.

Through more than 100 academic programs in the liberal arts, sciences, business and pre-professional fields, Stonehill College provides an education of the highest caliber that fosters critical thinking, free inquiry and the interchange of ideas for over 2,500 students.

Stonehill College educates the whole person so that each Stonehill graduate thinks, acts and leads with courage toward the creation of a more just and compassionate world.

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