

# SPENCER NEW LEADER

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Friday, May 6, 2022

## North Brookfield's John Tripp honored with town report dedication

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – At last week's Select Board meeting, a surprise ceremony honored Selectman John Tripp for his countless volunteer efforts made over the years.

To kick off the April 26 meeting, the annual town report was dedicated to Tripp, who'd never imagined that a list of his own achievements for North Brookfield would begin the agenda.

"John has devoted incredible amounts of time and money to projects for the betterment of North Brookfield," Selectman Jason Petraitis read from the dedication statement. "He has worked tirelessly to improve North Brookfield for the future."

Most residents are well aware of Tripp's community leadership. They've often



Photo Courtesy

North Brookfield's annual town report was dedicated last week to Selectman John Tripp.

Please Read **TRIPP**, page **A4**

## Leicester selectmen continue discussion of school funding

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – At one of their final sessions ahead of Town Meeting, selectmen last week continued their deliberation over whether to cut school funds.

Discussion at the April 25 meeting once again centered on the school department's controversial use of funds over the last year. Residents and town officials are particularly upset by their school leaders' decision to dedicate \$18,000 since September 2021 for public relations services.

The school district initially paid Goodwin Consulting \$6,500 for PR services rendered between September and December 2021. It was later discovered that the district was

not only still using Goodwin Consulting as of March 2022, but also paying for services provided by Capistran Leadership, LLC, in recent months.

Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Marilyn Tencza did not respond to multiple requests by the New Leader to explain the specific services provided by Capistran Leadership, LLC. Town Administrator David Genereux confirmed that the district has paid the company a total of \$8,500 since Nov. 3, 2021. The payments were made in four separate invoices.

During the April 25 Select Board meeting, selectmen questioned Superintendent Tencza and School Committee

Please Read **FUNDING**, page **A12**



Photo Courtesy

Local volunteers were recently honored during a program at the Leicester Senior Center.

Please Read **VOLUNTEERS**, page **A12**

## Leicester Senior Center honors local volunteers

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – In celebration of National Volunteer Week, the Leicester Senior Center recently honored dozens of individuals who have given back to their community.

More than 60 local volunteers were recognized during the

April 22 program, which included a lunch and an awards ceremony.

Among the volunteers given special recognition for their services was Bill Moore, who served for many years as the Council on Aging Board Chair. He stepped down from this position to establish Project

New Hope, a program that serves veterans with multiple resources.

"Bill always stayed well connected to the Senior Center. Each year, he is the master of ceremonies for our annual veterans' breakfast," said Senior Center Director Rachelle Cloutier. "Weekly, Bill comes

to the Senior Center with cases of food that are distributed to many in our community who

## Woodbury seeks fifth term on Spencer Select Board

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Seeking re-election to a fifth term, Selectman Gary Woodbury aims to continue his work in addressing community needs.

In addition to his service on the board, Woodbury previously served on the Disability Commission and helped community members in a number of ways. He has also served on the Board of Spencer Cable Access for 12 years and produced "The Talk of the Town" show, which addressed current affairs and community concerns. Woodbury is excited to bring the show back next month after a hiatus due to the

pandemic.

Looking back on the last several years, Woodbury has seen significant progress in Spencer. Major accomplishments include the downtown construction project and the transition of the Senior Center to the former Maple Street School.

"In 2013, the school district gave Maple Street School back to the town. The building needed a new heating system installed, which the town set aside money for to protect the building against frozen pipes and damage," Woodbury recalled. "At that time, Selectman Fritz took the lead. The Senior Center at the time was renting a room locally that just did not fit its needs. I brought this idea to the Town Administrator at the time, along with the board, and worked with everyone to make this come to fruition

for the seniors."

Woodbury helped clean the building with his family, volunteers, and the Sheriff's Department to make it ready for its new role. Thanks to the teamwork displayed by everyone involved, seniors have enjoyed their home ever since.

"We were able to provide a community space for the seniors that could offer more programs and a home to call their own without increasing the financial burden on taxpayers," Woodbury said.

Looking ahead, Woodbury listed public safety as a priority. He is committed to ensuring that first responders have the resources and equipment they need to protect residents.

"I used my experience in the auto indus-

Please Read **WOODBURY**, page **A12**

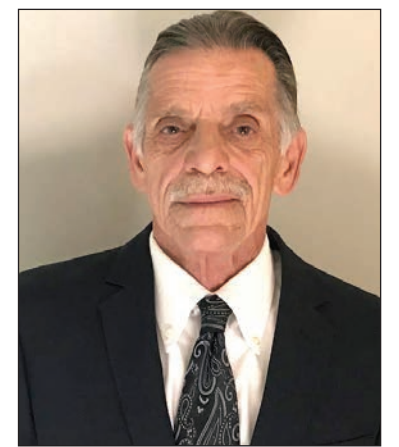


Photo Courtesy

Spencer Selectman Gary Woodbury is seeking re-election.

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POSITIVELY SPEAKING

TOBY MOORE

# There's a difference between selfless and selfish ambition

I write a lot about following your dreams, giving it all you've got, doing your best, and going for the gold. I'm an ambitious person, and I love to see people succeed.

Sometimes, when I write about ambition, I find that some people think all ambition is selfish ambition, and that it's self-serving to be a dedicated person devoted to the accomplishment of big goals and dreams.

That got me thinking about the difference between selfish ambition and selfless ambition. Is there a difference? Is it possible to have selfless ambition? If it is, how does that look? I'm not sure if there is such a thing as selfless ambition; a more appropriate name might be, Conscientious Ambition.

We've all met people who placed success and money above everything else. They didn't care what they had to say or do to accomplish their desire. They'd throw you under the bus in a second if they thought it would get them further up the ladder of success.

I have met these types of people. Unfortunately, you don't always know they are the way they are until it's too late. Contrary to popular belief, people

who don't care about others and will do anything to get to the top are not the majority of successful people. To be sure, some are, but not as many as we might think.

I knew a producer in Hollywood that didn't care whose life he had to ruin to get to the top. Although he did produce a few movies and seemed to be on his way, he's now running from the law and will be doing time once apprehended.

My father's business partner wanted to be rich so bad that he embezzled tons of money, nearly sinking my father's business. He got in trouble and never made it to the prosperous place he envisioned.

I had a business partner that thought he could have a successful business by giving customers a cheap and worthless product while charging a very high price. We went our separate ways, and he is no longer in business.

Are there habits or personality traits that can predict whether an ambitious person can become successful or not? It turns out that conscientiousness is one of the most significant predictors of success. Studies have shown that

conscientious people rise to the top at a staggeringly higher rate than those that are not conscientious.

What is conscientiousness? One definition of conscientiousness is: wishing to do what is right, especially to do one's work or duty well and thoroughly.

Another definition is: governed by conscience; controlled by or done according to one's inner sense of what is right; principled.

Some synonyms for conscientiousness are: just, upright, honest, faithful, devoted, industrious, diligent, and dedicated.

Can conscientious people be ambitious? According to Psychologistworld.com, "Conscientious people are generally more goal-oriented in their motives, ambitious in their academic efforts and work, and feel more comfortable when well-prepared and organized."

Studying conscientiousness will reveal that conscientious people are usually ambitious and try to do what is right; they do the best they can; they are hard workers, trustworthy, and agreeable. They foster productivity and

harmony in the workplace and at home.

While I encourage people to be ambitious and go after their dreams, I would never suggest that you must lie, cheat, and steal to accomplish your goals. On the contrary, I would say that if you're ambitious and want to be successful, you must practice conscientiousness.

How can we practice conscientiousness? Care about others, and care about your job; try to conduct yourself with a good and moral mindset. Don't hurt others on your way to the top, but help them instead. Be faithful, dependable, agreeable, and avoid hostile confrontation. Be a person of integrity.

It's impossible to be perfect, and I certainly have many areas I need to improve upon as I practice conscientious ambition. You may not have been born and raised a conscientious person, but you can change and grow. If you want to become conscientious, you must have a growth mindset. If you're going to be successful, and conscientiousness is one of the most significant predictors of success, it's good to become a conscientious person.

## How to be a good money manager in retirement

If you reach retirement with a significant amount of assets, you've done a great job of saving and investing. But now comes another challenge – making that money last.



FINANCIAL FOCUS  
TREVOR NIELSON

You might think that this task, as important as it is, won't be as hard as accumulating the money in the first place. Yet, a sizable number of people have reached a different conclusion. In fact, 36 percent of retirees say managing money in retirement is more confusing than saving for retirement, and 56 percent say they wish they had budgeted for more unexpected expenses in retirement, according to the Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study.

What steps can you take to help you become an effective money manager during your retirement years? Here are a few to consider:

Set your goals. Your money management needs will certainly depend, to some extent, on what your goals are for the coming years. Will you travel extensively? Stay close to home and pursue your hobbies? Or maybe even open a small business? Once you identify your vision for retirement, you can estimate how much it will cost, which will then dictate much of your spending and saving needs.

Stick to a budget. If you've followed a budget throughout your working years, there's no reason to stop now – in fact, budgeting may be even more essential when you retire. Of course, you don't necessarily want to force yourself to be as frugal as possible – after all, you worked hard, saved and invested so you can enjoy a comfortable retirement lifestyle. Look for reasonable cost-cutting opportunities, such as eating out less often or eliminating streaming services you don't use.

Don't underestimate health care costs. Even when you're on Medicare and pay for supplemental insurance, health care costs could still be one of your biggest expenses during retirement. Initially,

budgeting for \$4,500 to \$6,500 per person annually may be a good starting point for traditional health care expenses in retirement. However, depending on your health, prescription drug usage and other factors, your costs could be higher or lower. And you may also want to estimate long-term care expenses as part of your plan.

Look for senior discounts. Once you're a senior, you may be able to find discounts on a wide range of items and activities, such as movies, transportation, groceries, gym memberships and more. By taking advantage of these discounts, you can save a surprising amount of money and ease pressure on your cash flow.

Establish a sustainable withdrawal strategy. For decades, you've been putting money into your IRA and 401(k). But once you're retired, you will likely need to start taking withdrawals from these accounts. It's essential that you don't withdraw so much early in your retirement that you eventually run the risk of outliving your money. You may want to work with a financial professional, who can analyze your entire situation – assets, expenses, lifestyle, expected longevity, etc. – and recommend a sustainable withdrawal rate. Keep in mind that once you turn 72, you may be required to take out a certain amount each year from your 401(k) and your traditional IRA, so you'll want to incorporate these withdrawals into your overall income strategy.

Do whatever it takes to become a good money manager during retirement. You'll find that it's well worth the effort.

*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.nielson@edwardjones.com.*

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# Basic Gardening Tips



TAKE THE HINT  
**KAREN TRAINOR**

There's no doubt about it, this season is a gardener's favorite time of year. Springtime brings with it not only the promise of warm, sunny weather, but the opportunity to witness the miracle of growth via the tiniest of seeds. While lush, green vegetable gardens and thick, brilliant flower beds are the things backyard gardeners dream of, achieving a successful crop can be a true challenge, even for veteran planters. With this in mind, this week's column highlights some gardening strategies and methods geared toward productive plantings, paving the way for every gardener's goal: to literally enjoy the fruits of your labor!

Planting a vegetable garden can present a host of diverse challenges. However, there are some "golden rules" of gardening that are recited by most experienced gardeners. The following planting advice is heeded for one simple reason: it works:

Experienced gardeners who start seedlings indoors acknowledge "hardening off" seedlings is a vital annual ritual. Seedlings grown indoors

need time to adjust to an outdoor environment. Too much sun too soon will cause healthy-looking plants to wither and die, and a strong wind can even strip young leaves from their stems. This is why bringing seedlings outdoors for increasingly longer periods of time each day, thus "hardening off" the plant, is a necessary chore. Basic procedure: Begin by placing the plants in partial sun (no longer than an hour the first day), then gradually increase the duration of sun exposure over several days until they can safely make the transition to full sun. The plants also need to adapt to cooler night temperatures, so leave them out overnight when weather conditions are favorable. Remember to water thoroughly and frequently. Allow at least two weeks to complete the process. Gardeners know the "thinning out" process is important for seedlings to survive. It prevents over crowding in the garden and promotes hearty growth. Be sure to thin out seedlings when they grow their second set of leaves or "true leaves."

Transplanting shrubs: If you use scissors to snip off spindly leaves, you won't uproot the whole crop. Preparation is the key to proper shrub transplanting. Add a dose of patience and a digging session and you're practically guaranteed success!

This tried and true method reduces transplant shock in shrubs: Three months prior to transplanting dig down around

your shrub one third of the way cutting that section of roots. Six weeks later dig the second third of your hole. And six weeks beyond then, dig the last third and move your shrub. By staggering the cuts to the root system you give two thirds of the plant time to adjust. If you have good soil the same can be accomplished by pushing the shovel straight down into the soil, all the way.

Gardening by the Moon Phases While this age old strategy has been published in this column previously - it bears repeating it again:

Planting by the moon is an idea as old as agriculture, based both in folklore and superstition, but there are scientific ideas to back it up The Earth is in a large gravitational field, influenced by both the sun and moon. The tides are highest at the time of the new and the full moon, when sun and moon are lined up with earth. Just as the moon pulls the tides in the oceans, it also pulls upon the subtle bodies of water, causing moisture to rise in the earth, which encourages growth. The highest amount of moisture is in the soil at this time, and tests have proven that seeds will absorb the most water at the time of the full moon. The moon has four phases or quarters lasting about seven days each. The first two quarters are during the waxing or increasing light, between the new and the full moon. The third and fourth quarters are after the full moon

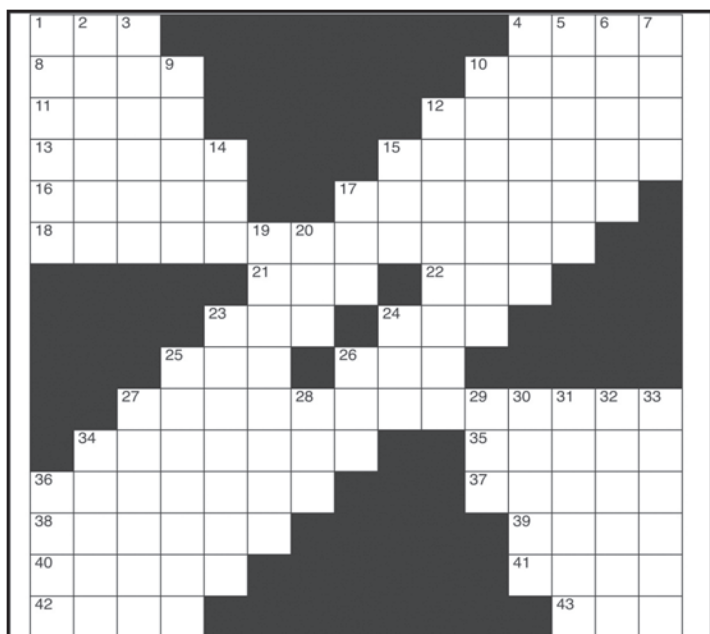
when the light is waning. At the new moon, the lunar gravity pulls water up, and causes the seeds to swell and burst. This factor, coupled with the increasing moonlight creates balanced root and leaf growth. This is the best time for planting above ground annual crops that produce their seeds outside the fruit. Examples are lettuce, spinach, celery, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, and grain crops. Cucumbers like this phase also, even though they are an exception to that rule. In the second quarter the gravitational pull is less, but the moonlight is strong, creating strong leaf growth. It is generally a good time for planting, especially two days before the full moon. The types of crops that prefer the second quarter are annuals that produce above ground, but their seeds form inside the fruit, such as beans, melons, peas, peppers, squash, and tomatoes. Mow lawns in the first or second quarter to increase growth. After the full moon, as the moon wanes, the energy is drawing down. The gravitational pull is high, creating more moisture in the soil, but the moonlight is decreasing, putting energy into the roots. This is a favorable time for planting root crops, including beets, carrots, onions, potatoes, and peanuts. It is also good for perennials, biennials, bulbs and transplanting because of the active root growth. Pruning is best done in the third quarter, in the sign of Scorpio.

In the fourth quarter there is decreased gravitational pull and moonlight, and it is considered a resting period. This is also the best time to cultivate, harvest, transplant and prune. Mow lawns in the third or fourth quarter to retard growth

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House - Contest has resumed!

Your tips can win you a great three course 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 newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, C/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.*



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A power of perception
- 4. Slotted hinged metal plate
- 8. Popular crop
- 10. Siamese fighting fish
- 11. Larval crabs
- 12. South American mammal
- 13. Occur as a result of
- 15. Slavic language
- 16. An electric underground railway
- 17. Transporting
- 18. A direction
- 21. Opposite of start
- 22. Mock
- 23. People love and hate it (abbr.)
- 24. A people of Myanmar
- 25. A Queens ballplayer
- 26. Southern Thailand indigenous person
- 27. Famed actress
- 34. Thin strips
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Ridiculed
- 37. Having the shape of a cube
- 38. Came down
- 39. Indian religious god
- 40. "Bewitched" actress Moorehead
- 41. Leak through slowly
- 42. Buzzing insects
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Skin condition
- 2. Earlier
- 3. Right away
- 4. Vomiting
- 5. Go to
- 6. "The Police" frontman
- 7. Bullfighting maneuver
- 9. Pacific island
- 10. A system of algebraic notation
- 12. A room used for the activities of a group
- 14. The longest division of geological time
- 15. Car mechanics group
- 17. A barrel of liquid (abbr.)
- 19. Bound to do
- 20. Explosive
- 23. Ridicules
- 24. Adult male
- 25. Military personnel
- 26. French and Belgian river
- 27. Found in the sea
- 28. A share lost in default (abbr.)
- 29. Type of medication (abbr.)
- 30. City on the Rhine
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. They're in martinis
- 33. Get away
- 34. Wampum
- 36. Lacking brightness



### TRIPP

continued from page A1

seen him on weekends and early mornings at various venues across town, but few people were aware of just how extensive the selectman's volunteer efforts have been in recent years.

At the April 26 meeting, Petraitis read a list that featured several of Tripp's recent volunteer activities. These include his spearheading of the Rail Trail project; the park installation at the town center; and the ballfield restoration project on Grove Street, with help from the Playground Committee. Tripp has also worked with officials, volunteers, and community organizations on many other projects, in addition to his service on the Select Board and Planning Board.

A lifelong resident, Tripp is always eager to give back however possible. Officials often talk about visions for projects and community upgrades, but Tripp and his fellow selectmen have put their words into action in recent years.

"It was a great surprise," Tripp said of the April 26 dedication. "It's a great little town, and we have a lot of tremendous volunteers who want to help out."

Tripp also helped paint the Town House, took part in cleanup efforts at the Bates Observatory site, and led discussions on remodeling projects for the new highway department and fire station.

Tripp's wife of 44 years, Mindy, has also helped him with several projects across town.

"It is not often that we dedicate a town report to a sitting member of the Select Board. However, John Tripp is a worthy exception," the dedication statement read.

Also at the April 26 Select Board meeting, selectmen heard a proposal for RC racing on Memorial Day. Mark Schreiber, the owner of Good to Go Racing, sought permission to run a three-day racing event culminating on Memorial Day.

Funds from the event would be split between the company and the town. Revenue would be generated through entry fees (\$15 per driver), raffle tickets, food sales, gifts, and donations.

If final approval is granted, the event would include qualifying races and a Memorial Day championship race held directly in front of the Town House (185 North Main St.).

Selectmen on April 26 authorized Schreiber to continue planning for the event and seek the approval of all necessary boards and departments.

The top speed of RC vehicles is 15-20 MPH. Liability insurance will be carried by the company.

Schreiber has spent several years introducing families and kids to the fun and educational elements of RC racing. He has already helped inspire many local fans at various community events, and he told selectmen he looks forward to the opportunity for increased exposure.

"RC racing offers students an opportunity to apply things learned in the classroom, specifically math, engineering, and technology," read a statement provided by Schreiber.

For more information about the company, visit [www.goodtogoracing.com](http://www.goodtogoracing.com).



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## SPENCER ALMANAC

### REAL ESTATE

**BROOKFIELD**  
\$545,000, 31 Molasses Hill Rd, Salls, Jacob A, and Salls, Nora L, to Beck, Rick, and Beck, Rebecca.  
\$125,000, 18 Maple St, Moore, Cherie P, to Schlegel, Wayne A.

**EAST BROOKFIELD**  
\$545,350, 111 Rice Rd, Cormier & Sons Const & Hm, to Skowronek, James, and Pucko, Monica R.

**LEICESTER**  
\$275,000, 2 Oakwood Ln, Gregory, Samuel R, and Gregory, Garrett, to Brindisi, Ryan, and Williams, Alycia.  
\$227,000, 23 King Ct, Brown Donald T Est, and Arsenault, Tracy A, to Higgins, Steven J.

**NORTH BROOKFIELD**  
\$160,000, 45 Bell St, FNMA, to Alexandre, Djimy.

**SPENCER**  
\$1,800,000, 460 Main St, Ahearn Realty LLC, to Ahearn Realty Group LLC.  
\$375,000, 25 Mechanic St, Craig, Anthony, to Quill, Julia, and Paulino, Antonio.  
\$195,000, 4 Crestview Dr #55, Arsenault Maxine Est, and Arsenault, Kenneth, to Gregson FT, and Gregson, Guy P.  
\$157,000, 4 Paxton Rd, Bounphasaysonh, M D, to Mckeon, Kelley.  
\$58,000, 61 S Spencer Rd, Hill, Michael J, to Collette, Matthew M, and Collette, Jessica L.

**WEST BROOKFIELD**  
\$424,900, 17 Pine Trl, Davis, Jon J, and Davis, Phyllis W, to Lehman, Phoebe R.  
\$286,440, 174 E Main St, Mullin, James M, and Mullin, Kasey, to Dube, Kasey, and Boyde, Mackenzie.  
\$45,000, 24 Myrick St, Merrill Jon Carl Est, and Lopato, Erin M, to Kinney, Leroy W, and Kinney, Karen J

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# Spencer Fish & Game Club hosts annual fishing derby



SPENCER – Guests recently spent a weekend on the pond during the Spencer Fish and Game Club’s annual fishing derby.

The two-day program was held on April 23-24, with guests of all ages enjoying prizes and an array of activities.

Even though the second day of the event featured a little rain, guests didn’t let it spoil the party. Both days saw strong attendances of guests from throughout the area.

To learn more about upcoming programs and events run by the club, visit

www.spencerfishandgame.com.

**CAPTIONS:**  
003 (3): Richard Pelouquin, 10, of Worcester, shows off his catch.

004 (3) Spencer’s Faith Doucette enjoys her day at the event.

005 (2): Caitlyn Zacek, 11, traveled all the way from Yarmouth to attend the event.

006 (2): Members of the Zacek and Magierowski families enjoy a morning on the water

Photos Kevin Flanders.

# Nichols College expands CIPA program with new research fellowship opportunity

DUDLEY – Nichols College, a private institute of higher education, announced today the expansion of its prestigious Center for Intelligent Process Automation (CIPA) program with the debut of a new research fellowship program designed to pave the way for the next generation of process automation (RPA) developers. The first two fellows, Kieran Gilmurray (Belfast, Ireland) and Tyler Krimmel (Toronto, Canada) have already embarked on this prestigious journey as they study to innovate the future

of work within the Industrial Revolution 4.0.

Unlike any program currently offered in higher-level academia today, the student-run CIPA is the result of a ground-breaking partnership between the business education specialists at Nichols College and the internationally recognized tech leaders at NICE to bring Robotic Process Automation (RPA) training and implementation to business at every scale. Designed to take the program to new heights, the research fellowship was imple-

mented to contribute to the school’s intellectual life and support the mission of the CIPA: to support global digital transformation by enabling participation and accessibility for all stakeholders.

Having already welcomed its first two fellows this semester, Gilmurray and Krimmel have hit the ground running. Working directly with CIPA faculty on extensive research projects, these two brilliant minds

Turn To CIPA page A11

## ROTARY CLUB OF THE BROOKFIELDS WELCOMES NEW MEMBER



Photo Courtesy

Recently, the Rotary Club of the Brookfields inducted Christine Gagne, of Spencer, as its newest member. Rotarian Linda Lloyd, Christine’s Sponsor, had the pleasure of pinning her with the official Rotary pin. The ceremony took

place at the Ye Olde Tavern in West Brookfield. Gagne presently works in Spencer for Webster First Federal Credit Union as a Member Services Representative. The Rotary Club of the Brookfields is a service organization of Rotary International. The Club’s more than 20 business and professional

leaders provide humanitarian and social services to residents in the Quaboag Valley communities of the Brookfields, Spencer, Ware, and Warren. For more information, visit our Web site at www.brookfields-rotary.org.

# Local author speaks to Leicester Women’s Club

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – A recent dinner meeting of the Leicester Women’s Club was highlighted by a presentation from local author Donna McCance.

The April 20 event represented the club’s final dinner meeting until September. President Elizabeth Maki opened the meeting by introducing McCance, a club member who discussed her recently published book: “Knowing Me From A to Z, A Child’s Mindset.”

McCance, who co-authored the book with mindset specialist Harry Petsanis, was excited to serve as guest

speaker at the dinner held at Pine Ridge Country Club. McCance was invited by program director Carol Ellis to lead a presentation on her book as guest speaker.

“I was thrilled to have Donna present her book. I read it word for word, and I am greatly moved by the important messages of independence and free thinking for all children,” Ellis said. “I especially valued the statement: ‘When children develop their sense of self first and foremost, they will be able to successfully listen to their inner voice, trust in what it’s telling them, and make their way in the world.’”

During her presentation, McCance discussed her 22-year career as an elementary school teacher in Leicester. Over her lengthy career in education, she had many experiences that wound up informing her book.

“Learning should be a process where learners can be who they are, not who they are forced to be, and allowed to pursue a lifelong quest for truth,” McCance said. “We wrote the book as a starting point to create change in behaviors so that children will be allowed to develop their independent, free-thinking, and individualistic mindset through their own self-awareness.”

McCance also explained to guests how she and Petsanis place an emphasis on instruction that is child-centered. To that end, they developed a framework called individualistic mindset awareness.

“Having an individual mindset is being true to who you are, your instincts, and the path of life that you know is best for you,” McCance said.

The messaging of the book resonated strongly with club members, who are eager to learn more about various topics.

“I was especially impressed with how Donna was able to deliver such an important message emphasizing the need to focus first on fostering individual emotional intelligence for children in a way that reached the hearts of all our members. We were all deeply moved by her message,” said Ruth Dowgielewicz, a longtime educator and Chairperson of the Education and Scholarship Committee.

Added club member Linda Granville, who works in early childhood education and human development, “This book was very inspirational and has messages for all ages. I talked to my granddaughter about it who is in college, as it hit so many points about self-esteem. If you don’t have self-esteem and don’t know and like yourself, that’s a big problem. This book addresses where it all starts. Developing the right mindset is something that needs to be nurtured in young children and continued through adolescence and into the adult years.”

The April 20 event was well attended, featuring more than 44 women who enjoyed a feast of stuffed turkey, baked haddock, grilled vegetables, and carrot cake. The tables were decorated with floral centerpieces designed by Donna Bottis and Marilyn Flavin, of the Decorating Committee.

New members of the club were also introduced, including Diane Sanderson, Bri Cole, Rochanna Buckley, Donna



Photo Courtesy

Local author Donna McCance discussed her latest book during a recent Leicester Women’s Club meeting.

Foley, Kathy Marble, and Linda Monahan.

The Leicester Women’s Club was organized in 1962, with a motto of “unity.” The club currently has over 60 members, and it holds meetings on the third Wednesday of the month from September through April.

The Leicester Women’s Club is always welcoming new members. If you are interested in joining, contact June Kemp at 774-451-9770.

For more information about McCance and her book, or if you are interested in taking part in her book tour, contact the author at mcccancedonna@gmail.com.

**ATTENTION WEST BROOKFIELD RESIDENTS Hydrant Flushing**

The West Brookfield Water Department will be flushing hydrants May 9, 2022 thru May 20, 2022 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Flushing will cause some disturbance in the water mains. The water may appear cloudy but will eventually dissipate. Please plan water use accordingly.

**PERSON of the WEEK**

**OWEN McBRIEN**  
Leicester, MA

Owen is being recognized as a stand-out student! He has excelled at his star testing despite missing several days and acclimating with all the changes throughout the last few years of school and Covid. He is in the 4th grade with test scores greater than an average 7th grader. He has mastered math and tricks of knowing numbers. He even has an inclination of which scratch tickets are winners just by feeling them. A junior “rain man!” He is named after his great grandfather who was a mathematician & professor, who also published a book on calculus. I’d say he has the luck of the Irish & his great grandfather’s aura. Owen is naturally educationally inclined, and so proud of his name. I know my grandfather would be proud. He definitely deserves acknowledgement for his dedication.

Submitted by Proud mom  
Keara McBrien

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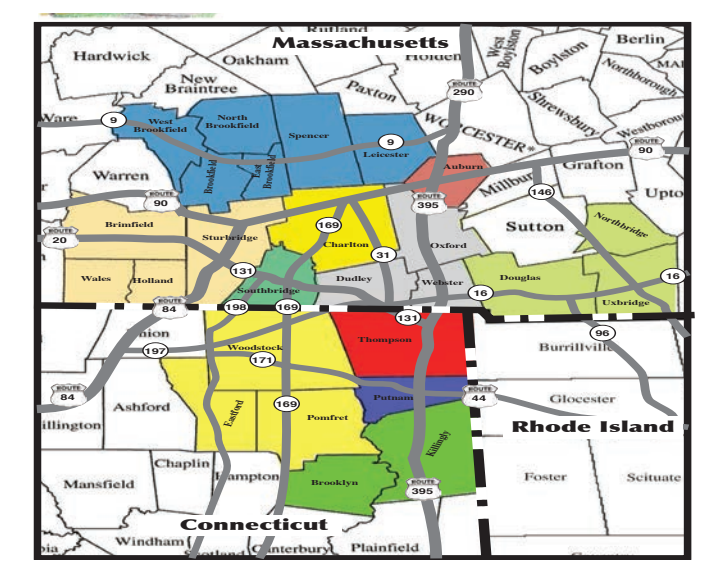
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## EDITORIAL

# It's time to commit

Over the past two years, COVID has contributed to a lack of commitment across the board for things such as hobbies, family obligations, work, extra-curricular activities, social engagements and personal health. Commitment levels were starting to drop before the pandemic hit, and things have only become worse.

There are some individuals who have taken the hard toll the pandemic delivered and have truly appreciated what they have, and have acquired a new lease on life. The pendulum swings both ways. At any level, for anything, commitment is important, it is the glue that bonds us to our goals.

Oftentimes, individuals, including teenagers and younger athletes will have trouble completing a sports season, in part for always wanting instant success. The only way to progress with anything is small, tangible goals.

One expert pointed out that a commitment in a relationship is similar to a commitment in sports or athletics. The longer a person is committed to a sport, or a friendship, the deeper that connections is. Many of us are still in touch with those friends we made while playing youth, high school or college sports.

When you stick with something when the going gets tough, it can teach us who we are. Those moments will shed a light on our strengths and weaknesses. To not stick it out, instead of leaning towards the easy, more comfortable route, could cause many miss opportunities.

When we stay committed to a team, or relationship, we learn to put others first. There's no 'I' in 'team.' This isn't to say that our needs as individuals should come second, this is just stressing the importance of what it means to work in a team environment, whether it is at work or on the field.

Commitments always end in a solid reward, including self pride and satisfaction. Anyone with big goals, must be an expert in commitment.

These days our children are more likely than their parents to quit an extra-curricular activity. During the toddler years, it's important to introduce our children to different opportunities. Typically, these commitments are short, which is completely age appropriate.

During the elementary years, it's important to help our children find what they love. Teaching our children that they don't have to be the best, or perfect in any given activity to truly have a passion for it. Many parents go the route of telling their children they are allowed to sign up for an activity, if they follow through and finish out the season, or course.

Teenagers are tricky, in that conversations in what they are and are not committed to go a long way. It's during these years when the groundwork is really laid for what kind of individual they will be as an adult.

Ways to stay motivated at all ages include setting goals, committing to the process and planning to do the things we say we're going to do. Commit to do the thing you want to do, even when you don't feel like it. Sometimes including others in your plans can work wonders. Start whatever it is you have in mind today, then reward yourself for doing so.

## The Republican Party and the history and future that surrounds us

To the Editor:

A great American writer once wrote that our history never leaves us. The Republican Party stands as an example of this.

In the recent past, other American one term Presidents who lost an election – Republicans like George H.W. Bush and Gerald Ford and the Democrat Jimmy Carter stepped down with dignity and wished their successors well.

After the 2020 election campaign, and his well certified defeat, Donald Trump did not do this. Instead, he encouraged an attack on Congress and, in states, tried to overturn the certified election results. Now, over two years he later,

# VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### What more could you ask?

To the Editor:  
Tony Pepe has been a selectman for many years. Please support him on voting day for selectman. He has vast knowledge of the town and gets the job done.

What more could you ask?  
Warm Regards,

ROBERT KRUSAS, JR.  
SPENCER

### Pepe's experience speaks for itself

To the Editor:  
I'd like to take time to recognize Tony Pepe, a person who has been a devoted public servant in the role as a selectman for many years.

Tony has experience and devotion to the town of Spencer. His experience with finances and economic development is outstanding, and it was Tony who spearheaded the sale

of the Sugden Block, the relocation of a Brewery in town, and the sale of downtown buildings to help rejuvenate our center.

I'd ask you to vote for Tony Pepe on May 10; experience speaks for itself!  
Thank you,

WARREN A. MONETTE  
SPENCER

### Pepe will keep Spencer moving in the right direction

To the Editor:  
I am writing to share my endorsement of Tony Pepe in this year's upcoming town election.

I have had the good fortune to know and work with Tony for more than a decade. His love of Spencer and his approach to common sense government is what we need at all levels of public service. In today's hyper-polarized world of politics, Tony brings a steady hand and a calm voice to our town. His efforts have helped make

Spencer a wonderful place to live and he has helped guide the town in such a way that we can feel confident that we are in good hands.

I ask for you to join me in proudly voting for Tony Pepe on May 10, and keep Spencer moving in the right direction to continue improving the town we love.

REP. PETER DURANT  
SPENCER

### A vote for Pepe will keep Spencer's forward momentum going

To the Editor:  
I am writing today to express my support for Tony Pepe and his re-election to the Spencer Board of Selectmen.

I had the pleasure of serving with Tony on the board of selectmen, and still get to work with him frequently in my current capacity as a state representative. Tony has been a tireless advocate for the overall economic development of Spencer for over 10 years, while at the same time being mindful of the concerns of Spencer's residents. Tony introduced his idea of a financial planning committee to the board of selectmen many years ago and this committee has since gone on to

chart the financial future of the town. He continues to work closely with our regional school district to address the needs of our students and the overall capital health of school district's facilities.

In closing, I would ask my fellow Spencer residents to please cast their vote for Tony Pepe for the Spencer Board of Selectmen on May 10 so that we can keep the forward moving momentum that Tony has been a part of during his time as a selectman.

REP. DONALD BERTHIAUME  
SPENCER

### Booster Club appreciates your support

To the Editor:

We would like to sincerely thank everyone who helped to make our annual Pre-Super Bowl Party Fundraiser a huge success. Your generosity and support is valued, and stands as an example of Prouty Pride. This year our event was held on April 9. COVID caused us to cancel this event last year and postpone our original date of Jan. 29 this year. The flexibility and professionalism of the Spencer Country Inn/Amy Perro and Missy's Music Mix/Missy Bernard in making the night an overall success is appreciated. A special thank you to the David Prouty Marketing Department for creating our dinner/raffle tickets. It was a night in which our Booster Club members and community worked together for a common cause. This event will allow the Booster Club to continue to support the athletic teams and coaching staff at David Prouty High School. Thank you!

We are especially grateful to everyone who attended the event and appreciate all raffle donations & monetary contributions made: Spencer Exchange Club, Spencer Police Association, Worcester County Superior Officers Union, Big Y, Royal Crest Farm, Bayberry Bowling, Sheena's Salon and

Spa, Hair Quarters, Salon Superior ~ Brittnee German, Salon Superior ~ MicroBlading Technician/Trish Kamendulitus, Upscale Salon ~ Chris Hill, Upscale Salon ~ Joielle Pepin, Bob's Auto, Monette Taxidermy, Monette Landscaping, Accurate Asphalt Paving, Casey Lynn Cakes, Gifted Hands, DL & Sons Restaurant, Maple Dragonfly Co., Best Rest Cup, Barnes Enterprise, Midstate Mitsubishi, Paine Construction, Barnes Sanitation, Eric Morin Plumbing and Heating, Village Pizza, Charlie's Diner, Spencer Country Inn, Dairy Queen, Uncle Sam's Pizza, Klem's, 308 Lakeside, Bayberry Bowling, Alfred Morin and Family, The Donohue Family, The Tutlis Family, The Filler Family, The Ordung Family, Eric and Sarah Morin, The Parenteau Family, The Josti Family, Lori Whitney and Family. A special thank you to all the coaches who contributed gift baskets for their respective teams: Girls/Boys Soccer Teams, Golf Team, Girls' Tennis Team, Girls/Boys Cross Country Teams, and Girls/Boys Basketball Teams.

Respectfully Yours,

THE DAVID PROUTY BOOSTER CLUB  
SPENCER

## How to be a good money manager in retirement



FINANCIAL  
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NIELSON

If you reach retirement with a significant amount of assets, you've done a great job of saving and investing. But now comes another challenge – making that money last.

You might think that this task, as important as it is, won't be as hard as accumulating the money in the first place. Yet, a sizable number of people have reached a different conclusion. In fact, 36 percent of retirees say managing money in retirement is more confusing than saving for retirement, and 56 percent say they wish they had budgeted for more unexpected expenses in retirement, according to the Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study.

What steps can you take to help you become an effective money manager during your retirement years? Here are a few to consider:

Set your goals. Your money management needs will certainly depend, to some extent, on what your goals are for the coming years. Will you travel extensively? Stay close to home and pursue your hobbies? Or maybe even open a small business? Once you identify your vision for retirement, you can estimate how much it will cost, which will then dictate much of your spending and saving needs.

Stick to a budget. If you've followed a budget throughout your working years, there's no reason to stop now – in fact, budgeting may be even more essential when you retire. Of course, you don't necessarily want to force yourself to be as frugal as possible – after all, you worked hard, saved and invested so you can enjoy a comfortable retirement lifestyle. Look for reasonable cost-cutting opportunities, such as eating out less often or eliminating streaming services you don't use.

Don't underestimate health care costs. Even when you're on Medicare and pay for supplemental insurance, health care costs could still be one of your biggest expenses during retirement. Initially, budgeting for \$4,500 to \$6,500 per person annually may be a good starting point for traditional health care expenses in retirement. However, depending on your health, prescription drug usage and other factors, your costs could be higher or lower. And you may also want to estimate long-term care expenses as part of your plan.

Look for senior discounts. Once you're a senior, you may be able to find discounts on a wide range of items and activities, such as movies, transportation, groceries, gym memberships and more. By taking advantage of these discounts, you can save a surprising amount of money and ease pressure on your cash flow.

Establish a sustainable withdrawal strategy. For decades, you've been putting money into your IRA and 401(k). But once you're retired, you will likely need to start taking withdrawals from these accounts. It's essential that you don't withdraw so much early in your retirement that you eventually run the risk of outliving your money. You may want to work with a financial professional, who can analyze your entire situation – assets, expenses, lifestyle, expected longevity, etc. – and recommend a sustainable withdrawal rate. Keep in mind that once you turn 72, you may be required to take out a certain amount each year from your 401(k) and your traditional IRA, so you'll want to incorporate these withdrawals into your overall income strategy.

Do whatever it takes to become a good money manager during retirement. You'll find that it's well worth the effort.

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



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Free will, choices

To the Editor:

The following are scriptures that are very clear, explicit about our choices, free will, a gift from God as to whether or not we believe God is alive and Jesus is the Son of the living God, the God of yesteryear, today and eternally

In order for us to be saved from the original sin of Adam and Eve and have eternal life is through Jesus, God, who is a pure spirit, had to come into this world incarnate in the form of a baby — baby Jesus, the Son of the living God, born of a virgin woman, Mary. This may sound impossible to our human thinking, belief; however, when you get to know God better, you will come to realize and understand that nothing is impossible for God, the creator of this universe, world, human life, etc. [Matthew 19: 26] [Mark 10:27] [Luke 1: 37, & 18: 27]

Ezekiel was an Old Testament prophet who was speaking to the people of yesteryear what God was going to do. God was preparing to establish a New Covenant with the people. God was going to come into this world and live with us through His Son Jesus and teach us how to live and love, a new way of life, and teach us and restore us to Himself from the downfall and sin of Adam and Eve. God was coming to earth to destroy what Adam had done through Satan and reconcile us to Himself through His Son Jesus. Jesus was coming to teach us how to restore a new heart and life, and we had to make that choice, we had to decide, choose if we wanted to accept God's

(Jesus') teaching that is explicit to us in the following New Covenant teaching. [Ezekiel 36:26]

Jesus was obedient to God the Father and accepted, obeyed the Father's will to experience humanity, and chose to subject Himself to human life experiences and allowed Himself to be tempted by the Devil, just like we humans are subjected and tempted so that we can learn from Jesus [Matthew 4: 3-4]

Jesus is the Son of God, and came into this world to personally teach us so that we would have no doubt, like Peter, that Jesus is the anointed Son of God, God Jesus incarnate [Matthew 16: 13-16]

There are many people who try to be good, as I have. There are many honest people who do what they believe is right, but we, apart from Jesus, we are no match for Satan. Satan is conniving, deceiving, and offers many tempting situations, and Jesus is the only way. Jesus has authority over Satan, and apart from Jesus, we have no defense [Matthew 28: 18] and [1 Corinthians 10: 13]

This woman who was named Martha also experienced Jesus personally, and we today also have the same opportunity, choice, to experience Jesus if we allow ourself, make that decision to personally do our research, study. [John 11: 27]

Daily, we face the gift of choice, free will, whenever and whoever believes in Jesus shall not perish but have eternal life. Eternal life is not an extension of this life; it is a gift of life

that is extended to us when we accept, confess and profess Jesus as the Lord, Savior of our life in this world, and when we make that choice, we become an adopted child of God and live forever in God's presence, eternal heaven, kingdom.

Let me make perfectly clear, to believe does not mean from our mouth, intellectually; it means from our heart. It means to trust with true conviction. Jesus teaches us in Matthew 15:8 they honor Me with their mouth, some of us believe with their mouth "but" their hearts are far from Him [Jesus] [John 3: 16]

If the Old Testament law of God before God came into this world, as Jesus is not convincing enough for you to decide, chose to live your life in Jesus which Jesus is the an eternal advantage to heaven hopefully the New Covenant will. God Jesus is teaching us that apart from Jesus, we have no eternal life in heaven. Why! Because God has given all authority to Jesus as to the only way to God, Heaven is through Jesus; Jesus is the way to eternal heaven or hell. Our eternal destiny is our choice. [John 15: 5]

When we accept Jesus as our Savior in our life, heart, we become temples of God's Holy Spirit in this life; one day, someday, we will live in God's presence in Heaven as an adopted child of the living God forever in Gods eternal kingdom, Heaven.

[2 Corinthians 6: 16]

We were all created with freedom to choose as we please; this is a gift

from God; however, this freedom is not a license to sin and do as we please. Whichever way you choose to live your life, realize there is a consequence. We were all created to love and serve God; however, we can also choose to live like the world which is presently inhabited by Satan the prince of this world who will make every effort [Galatians 5: 13]

God's law points out sin in us and gives us the opportunity, choice, to ask God's forgiveness [Romans 7: 7-8]. As born again Christians who have been regenerated into God through Jesus, we are now saved by the grace of God, thanks to Jesus! Our salvation through Jesus frees us from sins control, and as true from the heart believers we are free to live as God created us to live. Now! This does not mean that we are free to do as we please [1 Peter 2: 16]; we are free to obey, live as God directs us free from the temptation of sin, Satan [James 1: 25]. This also means we all still have a sinful nature, and with the grace of God, it is our responsibility to control it because Satan has no power over us. Amen!

As I have said many times, we have a free will, choices; it is our responsibility as to whether or not we believe and accept Jesus. [Mark 8: 34]

Our life in this world is short, temporary; however, God's heavenly world eternal, the choice is yours, ours. Shabbat Shalom, dwell in peace.

ROLAND BLAIS  
BROOKFIELD

## Fishing with Captain Mel



THE GREAT  
OUTDOORS  
.....  
RALPH  
TRUE

This week's two pictures show the results of our fishing expedition at Westport River last week during high winds and cold temperatures. Our nephew, Mel True, Jr., offered to take my brother Ken and I fishing for Tautog on his boat at the Westport River. My brother Ken picked me up at 5 a.m. and we arrived at the Westport River boat Ramp at 6:15 a.m.! We sat in the parking lot for a very short time before Mel arrived with his boat and new truck. The wind was howling and the temperature was freezing cold, as I exited the warmth of my brother's car. "We must be nuts heading out to go fishing in this weather" were my first thoughts.

My nephew is always happy and smiling, and was quick to greet us before backing the boat down the boat ramp, and into the water. He quickly parked the truck and hustled down to the boat.

"Hop in, boys," were his first remarks. "It is going to be a great day."

We had no idea how great it was going to be, and the events that were about to become part of our day on the water. The Captain started the 300 hp engine and we were on our way. The first stop was at one of his favorite rock piles that he located with his GPS and fish finder years ago, and has always produced some nice Tautog.

Captain Mel had also added a new electric motor for the boat that mounts on the deck and has all of the GPS capabilities to hold the boat in exact position, making an anchor unnecessary. On this particular day, the fast tide and wind conditions required the boat to be anchored, and the electric motor operational to hold our position on the rock pile. My brother Ken hauled in the first tautog, and we knew we would have a good day of fishing, despite the freezing temperatures and wind conditions.



This weeks picture shows this writer and my brother ken with some nice Tautog from the Westport river last week.

Soon we were catching numerous tautog, until I spotted another boat approaching us.

"We got company!" I stated.

The operator of the boat quickly dropped his anchor approximately 30 yards from the bow of our boat and let the boat drift only a few feet past our boat, bumping the stern of our boat as they drifted by. Capt. Mel quickly pushed their boat away from his boat, and the Captain of the other boat said nothing, and continued to let out more anchor line until his boat was 10 or 20 yards in back of us. He quickly locked up the anchor rope and started to fish. His anchor rope was directly under our boat, which basically restricted us from fishing except on the left side of the boat! I was speechless!

The two fishermen in the boat never made eye contact with us, and acted as though we were not even there. I have never, in my entire fishing career, seen such brazen and outrageous behavior from other anglers. My first words were addressed to our captain. What the

heck are these guys doing! Mel quickly responded to us to say nothing. He does not like confrontations. I agreed, but it still left me with anger and frustration, that another angler would act this way. It was obvious that Mel's boat, with numerous decals on the side stating he was a charter boat, had the two anglers fishing off of his expertise which would produce fish for them also. "Googins." Weekend fishermen!

After a short period of time, I asked our captain if we could please move to another spot. I was no longer having a good time, wanting to say something to the two fishermen, so our Captain agreed to move. I was starting to feel a lot better when we found another location and started to catch a few more fish. It was time to leave after the bite slowed. As we started to leave, the cold wind on my face as the boat increased in speed, was a sign that winter had not finished with New England!

Turkey hunting started to improve locally, with numerous hunters harvesting their two birds. Most bird hunt-



Captain Mel True, Jr. with a huge tautog taken in the Westport river last week.

ers reported very few sightings of hen turkeys in the woods, which is not a good sign. Hopefully, wild turkeys are not in trouble, but I too am concerned about fewer sightings of turkeys in fields and woodlots this year.

This weekend, May 7, two fishing derbies are planned for anyone to participate in. One is the Pout Pond recreation derby, and the second also on May 7, a derby at Louisa Lake in Milford sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. They are both free. Jerry's Bait & Tackle sponsored a fishing derby at Louisa Lake recently that had an attendance of close to 200 men women & children. Nice Job!

The Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club will hold their annual kids fishing derby this Saturday at their club grounds off of West Street for club members' families. The pond was recently stocked with trout for the event. Breakfast will be served starting at 7 a.m., and the fishing derby will start at 8 a.m.!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

## KANE

continued from page A8

Wing" of the Republican Party.

The Republican party also has its "Dixiecrat" wing. The term "Dixiecrat" originally referred to the Democrat party's Southern politicians who supported segregation, social and economic discrimination, and suppressing the votes and other rights of African Americans, including African American soldiers who fought for the United States in World War II.

Not counting Andrew Johnson, famous "Dixiecrats" included George Wallace and Strom Thurmond. Current Republican Dixiecrats include Governors Desantis and Abbott of Florida and Texas. They and others like them, for example, create and approve legislation designed to make it difficult for minorities and "liberals" to vote and/or make their votes count.

Republican "Dixiecrats" such as Hawley, Blackburn, Graham, and especially the vile Ted Cruz exhibited their racism and intentional rudeness during the hearings to confirm the dignified and highly qualified African American woman nominated and approved as a Supreme Court Justice, Ketanji Jackson Brown.

Then we have the "Libertarian-Billionaire" wing (visible and otherwise) of the Republican party. Often owned or supported through organizations and "Dark Money," this wing basically looks to protect and grow its own wealth. It also opposes fair taxing of their wealth for the betterment and growth of us all. Better sharing of this prosperity would contribute to and making the United States a better and more competitive country for us and our children. Now we slide downwards. Rather our Libertarian Billionaires like the Kochs, the Sacklers and Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg and Amazon's Bezos prefer that benefits favor the few at the top. - the kind that mainly benefitted from the Trump/McConnell 2017 tax cuts.

While in shreds, we still have two positive Republican Party wings. One we could call the "Konrad Adenauer" Wing. The name comes the elected Chancellor of Germany following the World War II defeat of the Fascist government of Adolph Hitler. An honorable conservative with deeply held moral beliefs, he resisted Hitler, and steered Germany back to full democracy and social and economic growth. Like mourned heroes John McCain and Robert Dole, and current conservative Republicans like Liz Cheney, Adam

Kissinger and Jeff Flake, Adenauer-like conservatives, could, Republican voters willing, contribute in the same way.

Slightly less shredded, we possess another Republican wing that provides hope. Call it the "Eisenhower - Merkel" wing. The combined name comes named from one of our great Presidents and perhaps the best "Free World" leader of the 21st century, Angela Merkel.

A moderate conservative, Merkle almost perfectly showed how to govern a country that, like us, to succeed needs a diverse coalition of groups cooperating together. That work in the United States has greater challenges, but on the Republican side, one of our greatest, Eisenhower, did it well. Now Romney, Sasse, and Murkowski in the Senate, Hurd, Criss, and others formerly in the House of Representatives, and Governors like Baker, Hogan, and Kasich could contribute to the re-emergence of an Eisenhower/Merkle wing of the Republican Party.

Those coming after us will know, and hopefully will not have to forgive, the history Republicans chose.

KEVIN KANE  
SPENCER

## LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stonebridgepress.news.

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

We don't have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you're going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!

# From the Superintendent's office

BY PAUL HAUGHEY

**SUPERINTENDENT**  
SPENCER-EAST BROOKFIELD REGIONAL  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

I hope this Superintendent Update for May 2022 finds you and yours well. It is that fantastic time of year again. It's May! The important month where we educate, celebrate, and increase awareness of mental health. Mental Health Awareness Month is also referred to as "Mental Health Month" and has been observed in May in the United States since 1949, reaching millions of people in the United States through the media, local events, and screenings.

Mental health is defined as a state of well-being in which every individual realizes his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to contribute to her or his community.

Mental health includes our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. It affects how we think, feel, and act. It also helps determine how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices. Mental health is important at every stage of life, from childhood and adolescence through adulthood.

I will be posting something important about mental health throughout the month of May in an effort to raise awareness... Please partner with us in raising awareness of "Mental Health Month." After all, it will only prove beneficial to each and every one of us to raise awareness - so that we may continue our journey together in a safe and healthy manner focused upon "teaching and learning with purpose!"

**Enrollment:** Our enrollment as a regional school district has steadied. As of this morning, we have 1409 students enrolled within our district. David Prouty High School has 317 students enrolled; Knox Trail Middle School has 404 students; Wire Village School



has 422 students; and East Brookfield Elementary School has 240 students including 98 students enrolled for the "Cubs Corner" Preschool!

**Personnel:** Open positions for summer and fall of 2022 have begun to be posted within the district. If you are interested in becoming a part of our family, please continue to check back and apply at: <https://www.schoolspring.com>

**Covid-19 Update:** As of this morning, we have had a total of 519 confirmed cases of Covid-19 within our schools. We have had 446 students and 73 staff members test positive for Covid-19, to date. Please remain vigilant and adhere to the safety protocols for everyone's benefit so we may keep our school house doors open. Please continue to work together with us - to maintain our health and safety protocols throughout the school year with frequent hand washing, disinfecting, test and stay as well as masking.

**David Prouty High School Update:** Due to the three days of school missed as a result of the roof issues in Building "C," and HVAC issues in "B" Building at David Prouty HS from February, we will be holding our make-up days during exams in the final week of school - as half days - on Friday, June 17, Tuesday, June 21, and Wednesday, June 22... Please look for further

updates from the building administration, guidance department and faculty on the specifics regarding the exam schedule. Given this information, the final day of school for David Prouty High School will be Wednesday, June 22.

**MSBA Update:** Our School Building Committee recently had the honor and privilege of presenting our David Prouty High School "Add/Renovation" Project to the Exchange Club, and Howe Village. Both events provided a great deal of information on our progress with the schematic design. A rendering of our proposed David Prouty High School "Addition/Renovation" Project is illustrated above.

Our School Building Committee meetings take place on the third Thursday of each month. These meetings provide a great deal of information regarding our proposed "Addition/Renovation" of David Prouty High School. Our next meeting of the David Prouty High School Building Committee is planned to take place on Thursday, May 19th, 2022 at 6:00pm at the Wire Village School. All are welcome to these important in-person meetings.

Finally, if you are unable to attend any of our meetings, yet want to learn more and stay informed, our David Prouty High School Building Committee has created an active website filled with our

most up-to-date efforts. You can access this information anytime by going to: <https://dphsbuilding.com>.

**Celebrate Teacher Appreciation Week 2022:** Teacher Appreciation Week is celebrated in the first full week of May, from May 1 through May 8 in 2022, and is when teachers get the extra credit they deserve. The big day is Teacher Appreciation Day on May 5, but teachers are just so great that they get a whole week to savor our appreciation. Whether you have a teacher, know a teacher, or are a teacher, there are endless ways to give a little extra support to teachers and teachers organizations. Teaching is known to be a time-consuming and challenging profession, so this week is our chance to say thank you to those that play or have played such a huge role in our lives. Who doesn't have a fond memory of a teacher who inspired us in some way?

**Teacher Appreciation Day** is described by the National Education Association (NEA), which spearheads the week-long event, as "a day for honoring teachers and recognizing the lasting contributions they make to our lives." Please join us in not only recognizing but thanking our teachers for all they do for our students each and every day here in the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District! #ThankATeacher

**School Lunch Hero Day 2022:** Between preparing healthy meals for America's students, adhering to strict nutrition standards, navigating student food allergies, and offering service with a smile, school nutrition professionals are true heroes.

On Friday, May 6, we will celebrate the 10th Annual School Lunch Hero Day! School Lunch Hero Day is a chance to showcase the difference school nutrition professionals make for every child who comes through the cafeteria. School

Lunch Hero Day provides you with the perfect opportunity to recognize the hardworking professionals in our school cafeterias.

The School Nutrition Association of Massachusetts (SNA) has partnered with author Jarrett J. Krosoczka, of the "Lunch Lady" book series, to remind everyone—directors, managers, parents, students, and school staff—that school nutrition employees are superheroes that deserve recognition. Please take a moment to say, "thank you" to our superheroes on Friday, May 6!

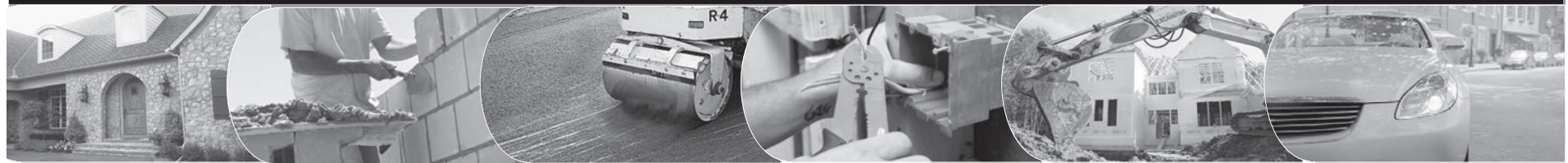
**"Summer Eats" Program Update:** We will be running sites from David Prouty High School, Knox Trail Middle School, Wire Village Elementary and East Brookfield Elementary from June 27-Aug. 19. Breakfast will be served between 7:30-9 a.m., and Lunch will be served between 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Monday - Thursday. The USDA waivers for Non-congregate meals and meal delivery were not extended and will expire the last day of school June 22. So, parents/families would need to pick up meals with students present and can only take one meal at a time. Stay tuned!

Help us cheer on our Wire Village "Girls on the Run" Team! Girls on the Run is a team of coaches and Grade 3 & 4 girls who all inspire to build confidence and make intentional decisions, while fostering care and compassion for self and others. The coaches use physical activity and dynamic discussions to build social, emotional & physical skills while encouraging healthy habits for life. The "Girls on the Run 5K" takes place at Polar Park on Saturday, May 21 at 9:30 a.m.

**MCAS Season Continues!** MCAS has been upgraded to better measure the critical skills students need for success

Turn To HAUGHEY page A12

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# State legislator arrested on drunk driving charges

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION – State Rep. David LeBoeuf was arrested last week after State Police troopers said he drove with a blood alcohol content four times the legal limit.

At approximately 10:25 p.m. on April 26, the State Police received two calls from motorists reporting an erratic driver in a black SUV on Route 93 south in Milton.

“The vehicle was unable to stay within marked highway lanes, according to the callers,” read a statement released by Dave Procopio, the State Police Director of Media Communications. “One of the callers was able to provide the vehicle’s license plate. Patrols responded to the area, and one of the 911 callers, who had stayed on the line, reported that the SUV exited 93 onto Route 3 south and continued onto the Burgin Parkway in Quincy.”

The suspect vehicle, a black 2014 Ford

Escape, eventually came to a stop on the Burgin Parkway. Responding troopers said the vehicle appeared to be disabled and smoking.

LeBoeuf, 32, of Worcester, was the sole occupant of the vehicle.

“Two troopers approached the vehicle and made certain observations of LeBoeuf’s appearance and speech, as well as noting a strong odor of alcohol on his person and emanating from the vehicle,” read the statement released by Procopio. “The troopers assisted LeBoeuf in exiting the vehicle. One of the troopers then attempted to conduct standardized field sobriety tests.”

Police said LeBoeuf was unable to follow instructions regarding the tests. Alleging that LeBoeuf was “extremely unsteady on his feet,” troopers stopped the tests for safety reasons.

During an inventory of LeBoeuf’s vehicle, troopers found nine empty nip bottles in the rear of the vehicle and two cans of wine in the front cupholders,

one empty and the other half full. The vehicle’s right front tire was missing and the rim had sustained damage from grinding on the pavement, police said. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

Troopers arrested LeBoeuf on charges of OUI-liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and a marked lanes violation. He was transported to the State Police South Boston Barracks for booking.

LeBoeuf agreed to submit to a chemical breath test, providing two breath samples that registered a blood alcohol content of 0.329 and 0.317, police said. Drivers with a BAC of 0.08 or higher are considered legally intoxicated in Massachusetts.

LeBoeuf was held until his arraignment the next day at Quincy District Court, where he was released on personal recognizance. He will return to court on June 28.

Just hours before his arrest, LeBoeuf took part in a budget hearing at the State

House. A Democrat representing the 17th Worcester District, which serves Leicester and portions of Worcester, LeBoeuf is up for re-election this fall.

Two days after his arrest, LeBoeuf released an apologetic message on Twitter.

“I am deeply sorry for my egregious lapse in judgment. I am thankful there were no injuries and recognize the pain I have caused my family, friends, and community. I am not making excuses and will work extensively to rebuild people’s trust.”

Added LeBoeuf, “I struggle with addiction and am committed to getting the treatment necessary so that I can be my best self again. I ask that you respect my family’s privacy so I can work on my recovery and continue to provide services to my district. I’ve tried to manage my sobriety on my own, and this is a desperate wake-up call that I need further support.”

## QCC’s Biomanufacturing pilot program making inroads thanks to MBI grant

WORCESTER

— Quinsigamond Community College’s entry-level Biomanufacturing On-Ramp program is gaining traction. Thanks to a \$50,000 grant from Mass. Biomedical Initiatives (MBI) and the Mass. Office of Business Development (MOBD), QCC is running two spring workshops of “Fundamentals of Biomanufacturing” pilot program, designed to provide access to entry-level positions in biomanufacturing. The program began in Fall 2021 and is being funded through the “Building a Diverse Biomanufacturing Pipeline” Challenge Grant Program.

“Biomanufacturing jobs are increasing exponentially in our region and programs such these offer a unique way for people to quickly upskill and reskill, so they can enter a field that is rich with opportunities,” said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. “We want to

thank MBI and the MOBD for supporting a program that is contributing to our economic growth in the Commonwealth.”

During the 10-week program workshops, participants receive a comprehensive overview of the biomanufacturing industry. They are exposed to tasks performed by entry level technicians, fundamental science skills, receive training on “soft skills” needed to be successful in the workplace through the “Bounce” program curriculum (a wrap-around soft skills workforce readiness training program that helps students understand themselves better), support in developing a resume and mock interviews, as well as job search skills.

During Fall 2021, QCC partnered with MBI and AbbVie to offer its first entry-level Biomanufacturing On-Ramp Workshop. The 10-week pilot program enrolled 13 English Language Learners (ELL)

from QCC’s Adult Community Learning Center. Some of these students had postsecondary educational credentials earned in their home countries, and all but one completed the program in mid-December 2021.

“Having had the chance to meet the graduates of QCC’s Biomanufacturing Onramp Technician program, I was amazed to see how the program could alter these students’ lives and fuel the industry’s growth in only 10-weeks. Congratulations to QCC & AbbVie on this great partnership,” said MBI President and CEO, Jon Weaver.

Thus far, four graduates have received offers of employment from AbbVie, one from IPG Photonics Corporation and another student decided to enter QCC’s Future Focus program and work toward a degree.

One graduate of the inaugural class was Lorena Hoxhalli, who came to the U.S. from

Albania with an advanced degree in electrical engineering, on Independence Day, 2020. After she completed the Biomanufacturing On-Ramp pilot program, she was offered a job at AbbVie.

“So much has happened in the past few years. Some of it was planned and some was not. I would not have ever been able to plan that a free training class at QCC through the MBI program would give me a new passion for work. I am so happy that I was able to be a part of that program,” Ms. Hoxhalli said.

For the two spring workshops, QCC reached out to a variety of students including those who stepped away from their academic program during the pandemic and others who recently completed their high school equivalency.

“While this program is still in its fledgling stages we already see great promise. This program sets students up for

success. By the end of June 2022, we expect 36 students to have completed the program. As soon as the students finish they are ready to enter the biomanufacturing industry,” said QCC’s Associate Vice President for Strategic Academic & Workforce Initiatives, Kathy Rentsch, Ed.D. “Thanks to our wonderful community partner, AbbVie (Worcester), and our new partners, Boston BioProducts (Milford) and Charles River Labs (Shrewsbury), many of these students will have their resumes reviewed, be offered interviews, and subsequent jobs. It’s an incredible program and one we hope to have continue and expand.”

For more information about QCC, contact Karen Hutner, Interim Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-2842 or khutner@qcc.mass.edu.

## Valley Friendship Tour returns this year

WORCESTER — After moving the 2021 Valley Friendship Tour to the fall due to COVID concerns, Open Sky Community Services has announced that the 37th Annual Valley Friendship Tour will return to its usual spring schedule on Saturday, June 11 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The event will start and end at the Alternatives Whitin Mill, 50 Douglas Rd. in Whitinsville, with yoga, music, raffles and food on the Dennis H. Rice Community Plaza at the same address.

The Valley Friendship Tour is an opportunity to gather friends, family and coworkers for a day of fun and exercise in the beautiful and historic Blackstone Valley. Participants of all ages and abilities can travel along one of three non-competitive routes: a one-mile walk titled the “Golden Mile,” a 5K walk/run, or a 30-mile bicycle ride. After completing their route, participants will enjoy a complimentary lunch, kid-friendly activities, raffles and live music by Far from Eden. New this year, yoga led by Brave Yoga will be offered on the Plaza. Since it began over three decades ago, the Tour has raised more than \$3 million in support of individuals and families in Central Massachusetts, with \$160,000 being raised in 2021.

For 33 years, the Valley Friendship Tour was the signature fundraising

event for Alternatives Unlimited. In 2018, Alternatives affiliated with The Bridge of Central Massachusetts, another well respected non-profit with a long history in Central Massachusetts, to form Open Sky Community Services. The Valley Friendship Tour continues to be the agency’s largest fundraising event, attracting participants from throughout Central Mass, as well as nearby Connecticut and Rhode Island.

Open Sky has more than 100 programs through Central Mass and serves more than 4,900 individuals each year. The organization provides services and programs for youth, adults and families experiencing mental health challenges, intellectual/developmental disabilities, autism, brain injury, substance use disorders, homelessness or other complex challenges.

Corporate sponsorships are expected to play a major role in the success of the event, led by Champion Sponsor, MSG Staffing.

Both teams and individuals are welcome to register; pre-registration is \$30 while registration the day of is \$35. For more information about the Tour, to become a sponsor or to register online, visit [opensky.org/vft2022](https://opensky.org/vft2022). Contact [vft2022@opensky.org](mailto:vft2022@opensky.org) with any questions.

## Hearing, vision & BMI screening by Bay Path nursing students

CHARLTON

— Professor Lindsay Guertin, MSN Ed, RN, CNE of Spencer lead a group of eight grateful Bay Path Practical Nursing students who volunteered for a hearing, vision and BMI screening to assist the school nurses at the Charlton Middle School. The team included Moreen Barber, Rebecca Lorre, Luciane Lindvay, Darcey Howe, Katie Blanchard, Martha Aboagye, Evalyne Njoroge, and Maryanne Cann.

In an email to Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN Academy Director the school nurse Rachel Goetz, BSN, RN, NCSN thanked the volunteers and stated, “based on how well the Practical Nursing students worked at Shepherd Hill, we completed the screenings on approximately 250 students. We had at least seven stations.”

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy faculty, Professor Guertin who supervised the PN volunteers and stated, “It was

a great experience! The school principal stated he will have more things for us to do in the future. We are welcome anytime!”

The experience at the Hearing, Vision and BMI Screening gives the nursing students the opportunity to work hand in hand with the school nurses.

“This is not the first year that our Practical Nursing students volunteered with the Charlton Middle School. We collaborated with the Lion’s Club in the past for Sightmobile through the coordination of Chairperson Helene Doucette, PDG. Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy prides itself in being a part of the Bay Path community outside of the Charlton campus so having the practical nursing students assist the school nurses and be invited back has tremendous impact in service learning,” said Bolandrina.

“We recognize service-learning and emphasize its importance, to get involved outside the classroom to better pre-

pare themselves for their healthcare careers, and this is something they will definitely remember their whole career,” added Bolandrina.

The practical nursing students assist the healthcare team, assess, give out COVID-19 vaccines, monitor for untoward reactions, and complete tasks efficiently. The training for the future nursing workforce in the Bay Path community and across the region allows practical nursing students to respond to emergencies and assist in community events.

About Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy: Bay Path Practical Nursing is a 40-week, (10-month), full-time, Monday through Friday, evening program. The program begins mid-August and is completed in late June. Graduates receive a Practical Nursing Certificate and are eligible to take the NCLEX-PN licensure exam. Visit [www.baypath.net](http://www.baypath.net).

**READING  
NEWSPAPERS  
IS A QUEST  
LIKE NO OTHER**

CIPA

continued from page A6

are currently exploring the much-debated process of citizen development, which enables non-IT employees to become software developers. They are also working to identify innovative, yet effective practices for using RPA for business analysis.

Glenn M. Sulmasy, President of Nichols College, said, “As technology becomes more accessible and digital transformation becomes a necessity for innovation and marketplace success, the role of citizen developer has emerged to allow business users to take greater control over the changes rather than relying solely on IT departments to generate software solutions for busi-

ness. Through this fellowship program, our hope is to attract the best and brightest within the industry to help us identify best practices and improvements in business analysis. In doing so, we’ll have the ability to identify automation candidates earlier, confidently work to define needs, scenarios, and exceptions to be automated, and establish a living repository of use cases to expedite future automations. These activities will help to reduce the barrier of entry to automation technologies and make the pathway to automation adoption less frightening.

Bringing more than 25 years of experience to the fellowship program, Gilmurray currently serves as an enterprise automation lead at Rapid7, a leading cyber security company.

Blending his extensive background in driving business transformation programs using digital technology, intelligent automation, data analytics, social media and RPA, Gilmurray is focused on working with industry leaders to investigate the competing perspectives on the efficacy of citizen development while also working to successfully adopting new approach that best aligns with the industry’s constantly changing organizational strategy and goals.

The other fellowship is led by Krimmel, a professor at George Brown College in Toronto with more than 15 years of experience designing and delivering training in government, academic, and corporate settings. Focused on supporting the CIPA mission of pairing business partners with Nichols’ stu-

dents, Krimmel has already supported the CIPA team in establishing a baseline approach to conducting business analysis in support of RPA initiatives. Through his research, he will support the team in optimizing the approach, while also tracking the project conditions and details that may impact the requirements delivery and solution definition. His findings will be shared with industry stakeholders to educate and support the use of RPA to address business needs.

For more information about the CIPA research fellowship, visit <https://cipa.nichols.edu/news/cipa-research-fellowship-program/>. For more information about the Center for Intelligent Process Automation, visit <https://cipa.nichols.edu/>.

# OBITUARIES

## Alene Ruth Stuart, 72

CHERRY VALLEY: On April 18, Alene Ruth Stuart, 72, became a “freed soul, now to soar” after a long struggle with pancreatic cancer after having survived breast cancer fifteen years ago. She was a warrior!



Alene was a lifelong resident of Cherry Valley. Born in Worcester, MA to Edmund A. and Doris (Brosky) Stuart. She graduated from St Joseph’s School, Notre Dame Academy and attended Worcester

Art Museum School, Becker College as well as taking numerous classes at local universities, libraries and societies.

After a productive management career of 27 years at Thom McAn, a division of Melville Corp., she retired and went on to focus on a second career with Fuller, Rosenburg, Palmer and Beliveau Law Firm for twenty years. Through the years she made many lifelong friendships that especially mani-

festated during her illness. For all those that were there to help physically and spiritually through this illness she was wholeheartedly grateful.

Alene was a celebrated artist in Worcester County. Notably recognized in the art community as a protégé of Bill Griffiths. Other Interests included watercolor painting; genealogy, because of her proud family heritage; skiing, wine tasting and all craft mediums.

She leaves one sister, Jeanne Stuart Dufresne of North Fort Myers, Florida to cherish her memory as well as many friends.

A Celebration of life will be held at MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main Street, Leicester, MA on Friday, May 6 at 10:00 AM. Burial will follow immediately at Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton, MA. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her memory to Second Chance Animal Services P.O. Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515 or to the charity of one’s choice.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

## Leonard H. Sweeney, 83

SPENCER: Leonard H. Sweeney, 83, of Spencer, died peacefully Sunday, May 1.

He leaves his wife, Luise A. (Mulhall) Sweeney, his sons; Kevin F. Sweeney and John P. Sweeney, and his daughter Anne E. Sweeney, all of Spencer, many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by, a daughter Susan M. Sweeney, a son Brian D. Sweeney who was killed in the attacks in New York City on September 11, 2001, brothers Francis J. Sweeney and Robert T. Sweeney.

Lenny was a corrections officer at the Worcester County Jail & House of Corrections in W.Boylston prior to his retirement.

He was born in Worcester, the son of Michael and Helen (Hamilton) Sweeney.

Private graveside services will be held in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to; Tunnel to Towers Foundation 2361 Hylan Blvd. Staten Island, NY 10306 or T2T.org

The J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer is assisting the family with arrangements.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

### FUNDING

continued from page A1

Chairman Tom Lauder on the decision to use school funds for PR services.

“I have a strong opposition to it, and a lot of people in town have a strong opposition to it,” Selectman Allen Phillips said of the PR usage.

In November 2021, the Select Board sent a list of questions to school officials based on numerous complaints received by residents. Selectmen were unhappy to later discover that the school department had been assisted by PR specialists in supplying its response letter to the Board.

“That letter had to be run through the PR firm before the answers could be given to the Select Board. I wanted a straightforward answer without a PR firm having to approve it,” Phillips added.

School officials continued to defend their use of PR services.

“I know people in this town are upset about that, but it was a small amount of money to help me and the people in my

office to be able to deal with student issues rather than legal issues for public relations,” said Tencza, who will retire at the end of the school year. “Would we do it again? I don’t know, but at the time that was something that was mentioned. One of the School Committee members at a School Committee meeting brought it up, gave us a recommendation, and we tried it.”

Added Lauder: “Certainly, from the blowback we got from it, would we do it again? No, we wouldn’t do it again. It seemed to help at the time, but it wasn’t worth the fallout from it.”

In a broader discussion on the school budget for the upcoming fiscal year, selectmen addressed several major financial needs elsewhere in town, including upgrades needed for deteriorated town fields, the police station roof, and the fire station in Rochdale. At a time when funding is tight across other town departments, selectmen questioned whether recent school department spending decisions indicate a need for cuts.

“If they have the money

to spend for a PR firm, I don’t care how much it is, you have got too much money to spend. Some of that should be coming back to the town,” said Selectman John Shocik.

Added Selectman Herb Duggan, “As a town, we’re in a little bit of a predicament. Some of it has to do with the pandemic, and some of it has to do with many other things. All I would ask is that the whole town be kept in mind when it comes to fiscal decisions. If there is a way, I hope everybody can put differences aside, come together, and find that way. I really want to see us get to that point.”

During an April 11 joint meeting between the Select Board and the Finance Advisory Committee, officials discussed the potential to cut \$1.3 million from the school budget.

The Select Board and Advisory Committee were expected to meet again on May 2 to further discuss the school budget. If no vote was taken then, it was possible the Board’s recommendation could be made the next night at Town Meeting.

### VOLUNTEERS

continued from page A1

are having a hard time with meeting all of their needs financially.”

In honor of Moore’s many community contributions, Senators Michael Moore and Anne Gobi joined Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis and State Representative David LeBoeuf in presenting him with special commendations from the House, Senate, and Sheriff’s Department.

Also receiving special commendations for her service was Joan Wall. For many years, she served as the trip coordinator for the Senior Citizens’ Club of Leicester. She recently retired and moved to Spencer to live with her family.

“Her volunteerism to this group began many decades ago when the club had over 160 members,” Cloutier added. “Today, the group consists of nearly 100. It is a very active club. They have meetings twice a month at our center, during which time they socialize, make friends, and have entertainment and guest speak-

### WOODBURY

continued from page A1

try for leasing and budgeting and applied that to secure the needed equipment and vehicles for the fire, police, and highway departments,” Woodbury said. “I understand that these purchases can drain available funds and burden taxpayers, and we need to be accountable for every penny spent and make sure we do right by them. We were able to lease a new fire truck for the department over five years, and were able to do that within the department budget. We continued this model and have now acquired our second new fire truck for the department, again without the financial burden on the taxpayers. The police department this year was able to get two new cruisers, and the highway department was able to replace broken and aging vehicles and equipment using this model also. I believe we have a fiduciary responsibility to the taxpayers and need to account for everything.”

Woodbury also believes the town

ers.”

Additionally, the group offers various trips, bowling and golf outings, and other programs.

Also attending the April 22 program to honor the volunteers were Leicester Selectmen Dianna Provencher and Allen Phillips, Town Administrator David Genereux, Police Chief Ken Antanavica, and COA Board members Barbara Paszuk, Renee McCue-Hall, Dick Jubinville, Ruth Dowgielewicz, and Jane Todd.

Members of the Board of Directors for the Senior Citizens’ Club of Leicester were also in attendance. These guests included Marguerite Soojian, David Wood, Tony Maio, and Rosemary Nichols.

In addition to the hard work of local volunteers, Cloutier also wished to recognize the dedicated work and long hours put in each week by her staff members. These include Nancy Lamb, RN and outreach coordinator, as well as Genevieve Grenier, the center’s newsletter editor and head of special programs.

should study ways to utilize buildings and properties that are owned by Spencer. Woodbury chaired the Building Reuse Committee, which was tasked with examining properties and formulating a plan to move forward with them. Through the work of that committee—and with the support of the community—he was able to help save the cornerstone of the downtown district: the Sugden Block building. Woodbury was also instrumental in the decision to utilize vacant land at the transfer station for a solar array that generates income at no cost to taxpayers.

“My position has always been to be available to the citizens of our community to answer questions and help them navigate the process of town government,” Woodbury added. “The challenges we are facing require thinking outside of our comfort zone. I love this town and will fight for it to grow and succeed. I ask for your vote on May 10 and thank you for letting me serve our community now and in the future.”

### HAUGHEY

continued from page A10

in the 21st century: deeper understanding; knowledge application; synthesizing; and writing. Most students will take the test on a computer reflecting the digital world we live in today.

MCAS helps the Commonwealth identify schools and districts that need additional support. The next-generation MCAS reports your child’s scores in new categories that better show whether your child is meeting expectations in their grade level.

Beginning in May, your child will be taking the mathematics MCAS. Let’s work together and make your child’s experience a positive and successful one! We’ve been preparing at school. Here are some suggestions you can do to help everyday:

- Ensure your child arrives at school on time.
- Have your child eat a healthy breakfast at home or at school.
- Ensure your child gets a good night’s sleep.
- Gently encourage them to do their best.
- And finally, take a quick moment to write an encouraging note to your child.

To learn more on steps you can take as parents/families, go to the Parents’ Guide to the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System. And as the weather improves this spring, let’s finish the school year strong by putting our best selves forward in support of our staff, students and one another! As always, thank you for your continued partnership and support of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District. #Innovate #Inspire #Achieve

**Elizabeth Baldyga**  
Celebration of Life for Betty will be held Sat, May 7, 2022 from 1-4pm at the American Legion Post 41, 163 N. Main St. in North Brookfield. varnumfh.com

## Friday’s Child



**I love sports and am a big Miami Dolphins fan!**

Kyle is a sweet and active young boy of Caucasian descent. When first meeting Kyle, he is a bit shy. Although upon getting to know him, he is very talkative and opens up easily. Kyle strongly benefits from close connections with others. He is very sweet and cares a great deal about others. Kyle loves sports; he is a big Miami Dolphins fan. Kyle has shown interest in track and field, football, and soccer. He also enjoys being outside to participate in activities such as swimming, hiking, and waterskiing. Kyle also enjoys playing video games and listening to music.

Kyle has established many great connections in his school. He is in the 6th grade at his local public school. Kyle receives average grades and has many positive peer relationships. He also has a great connection with his guidance counselor and teachers and he looks to extra support from them when needed.

Legally freed for adoption, Kyle will do well in a family of any constellation, but would greatly benefit from having a male role model in his life. It is recommended that Kyle only be placed in a home where he is the youngest child; older siblings, especially brothers, will be considered. Currently, Kyle has a connection with his older brother and maternal grandmother that would need to be maintained, as they are very important relationships to him. He has done very well in family settings in the past and is able to thrive with routine and structure.

<https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/8170>

**Can I Adopt?**

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

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

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

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**IT’S GOIN’ DOWN!**  
**CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!**

## Cornerstone Bank appoints two new corporators

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, has announced the appointment of two new corporators, Kwasi Acheampong and Liz Panagiotou. Corporators have a unique position in mutual savings banking, with their chief responsibility being electing the individuals who will serve as members of the board of trustees.

"Corporators have a really important role in helping to find and appoint the best possible candidates to our board," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman.

"Kwasi will bring a great perspective from his work in the nonprofit sector and Liz for her decades of experience in insurance. We warmly welcome them to the team."

Acheampong currently serves as the president and executive director of Our Bright Future, Inc., which provides educational and empowering after-school programs for children in underserved communities. He also serves on the board of The Last Green Valley and Opening the Word Peer Recovery Center.

Panagiotou is the president and owner of Employee Benefit Advisors, Inc., which provides employees benefit planning, product sales and service to clients across New England. She has almost 30 years of experience in the insurance industry, including roles in management and as an independent agent.

## Nichols College names Cynthia Begin to Board of Trustees



Cynthia Begin

DUDLEY — Cynthia A. Begin has been elected to the

Board of Trustees at Nichols College. She will begin her term of service at the board's May 2022 meeting.

Begin, a 1987 graduate of Nichols, is a career financial regulator having served in various roles with the Massachusetts Division of Banks for more than 25 years. She currently serves as first deputy commissioner and has held other positions during her tenure including chief risk officer, senior deputy commissioner, and assistant general counsel. She participates in agency policy development and implementation and has oversight responsibility for agency operations and supervision programs. Previously, she held positions

with the Massachusetts Share Insurance Corporation and at a Worcester-based bank holding company.

Begin serves on the Board of Managers of the State Regulatory Registry LLC and is a past president and board member of the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators for which she received a Distinguished Service Award in 2014.

In addition to a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, from Nichols, she holds a Juris Doctorate from Suffolk University Law School. She and her family reside in Boston.

# LEGALS

### Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday May 17, 2022 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: Site Plan Review & Special Permit—Applicant/Owner: Spooky Realty Trust, Steven Turner, Location: Meadow Road, Spencer Assessor's Map U11-12, 12-1, 12-2, 12-3, 12-4. The applicant is looking for a Major Site Plan Review under section 7.4.2 ( Site Plan Review is required for this use even when there is no new construction or expansion of structures or parking areas) & Special Permit under Section 3.4.1.G (Aquifer Protection Overlay District) and Section 3.4.2.H (Floodplain Overlay District) to . The property is located within the Commercial zoning district.

April 29, 2022  
May 6, 2022

### THE TOWN OF EAST BROOKFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing will be held Monday, May 16, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Town Complex, 122 Connie Mack Drive, East Brookfield; on the application made by Scott & Grace Conner, Gracie's Roadside Café Inc. d/b/a E.B. Flatts 245 West Main Street

For a license to Sell All Kinds of Alcoholic Beverages To Be Drunk on the Premises.  
All interested parties are invited to attend this meeting.  
Board of Selectmen  
April 29, 2022  
May 6, 2022

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court

#### Probate and Family Court Worcester Division

#### Docket No. WO22P1211 EA

#### Estate of:

Jeanne A. Mendala

#### Also Known As:

Jean Mendala

Date Of Death: February 1, 2022

#### INFORMAL PROBATE

#### PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate by Petition of Petitioner **Francis J. Mendala of North Brookfield MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Donna Breton of West Brookfield 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.

May 6, 2022

### Leicester Water Supply District

#### 124 Pine Street PO Box 86

#### Leicester, MA 01524

Sealed Bids for Rehabilitation of North Water Tank – Contract 2022-2 will be received by Leicester Water Supply District at the office of the Leicester Water Supply District, Leicester, MA 01524 until 11AM (Local Time) June 1, 2022 and then at said office publicly

opened and read aloud.

Work to be preformed to include:

**Exterior Surfaces** - Construct & maintain suitable containment system around tank exterior; high pressure water blast exterior tank surfaces w/5000 psi pressure washer w/"zero" oscillating tip, contain environmentally "green" cleaning agent & potable water to remove surface contamination; Remove loose and peeling coating materials; Dispose of materials removed; Lightly sand exterior to de-gloss existing finish; Paint tank exterior as specified; Rehabilitate finial vent; Rehabilitate tank ladder, fall prevention system and handrails to code. Repair roof hatch defects. Rehabilitate foundation grout & caulk; Extend overflow pipe & add 316 SS screen. Adder cost for 30" round manway. Adder cost for new tank ladder, fall prevention system & railings; Perform VOC tests & thickness tests of painted surfaces.

**Interior Water Chamber Surfaces** - Remove & dispose of remaining water & silt. Chemically clean tank interior w/ NSF approved cleaning agent; F&I hydrodynamic mixing system; Spot power tool clean walls & floor. Paint areas w/paint failures; Clean, spot abrasive blast & paint underside of roof, support structure, center column, tank walls where coatings have failed. Perform VOC tests, thickness tests, & disinfect interior surfaces.

Electronic copies of the Contract Documents may be obtained from **Leicester Water Supply District, 124 Pine Street, Leicester, MA 01524 (508) 892-8484** upon request. Hard copies of Bid documents will not be provided.

**Bid security is 5 percent** of the Bid in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders. There will be no pre-bid conference for this project. Questions relative to the Bid shall be directed to the Owner at 508-892-8484. Minimum wage rates apply to this project. Owner reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, including without limitation, nonconforming, nonresponsive, unbalanced, or conditional Bids.  
Robert F. Wilson, - Chairman  
Leicester Water Supply District April 25, 2022  
May 6, 2022  
May 13, 2022

### 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 Alicia Benoit to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation, dated February 28, 2013 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 50517, Page 55 of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation to JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association, recorded on April 2, 2015, in Book No. 53546, at Page 62

JPMorgan Chase Bank, National Association to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, recorded on June 9, 2017, in Book No. 57233, at Page 114  
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to U.S. Bank National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as trustee for the RMAC Trust, Series 2016-CTT, recorded on April 11, 2018, in Book No. 58650, at Page 173 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on June 3, 2022, on the mortgaged premises located at 10 Lyford Road, Spencer, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,  
TO WIT:

Land on the southerly side of Lyford Road in Spencer, Worcester County, Commonwealth of Massachusetts being shown as Lot 5 on a plan entitled

"Plan of Land in Spencer, MA owned by the Estate of Esther Gale, Joy White, Executrix, April 12, 2006, Donald A. Para, Land Surveyor, Inc., New Braintree, MA" which plan is recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 844, Plan 25 and which lot is more particularly bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a solid rod set in the southerly line of Lyford Road at the northeast corner of the lot herein described and the northwest corner of Lot 4 as shown on said plan; THENCE S. 30° 43' 15" W., 282.67 feet along Lot 4 as shown in said plan to a solid rod set; THENCE S. 00° 16' 08" W., 223.26 feet along said Lot 4 to a re-rod set in a pile of stones at land nor or formerly of Burdett; THENCE S. 1° 21' 38" E., 58.37 feet along said Burdett land to an iron pin found at land now or formerly of Roy; THENCE N. 89° 02' 19" W., 170.00 feet along a fence along said Roy land to a solid rod set; THENCE N. 2° 00' 55" E., 389.94 feet along Lot 6 as shown on said plan to a solid rod set; THENCE N. 30° 54' 47" E., 330.00 feet along said Lot 6 to a solid rod set in the southerly line of Lyford Road; THENCE S. 42° 56' 00" E., feet along the southerly line of Lyford Road to a stone bound; THENCE S. 37° 57' 12" E., 82.16 feet along the southerly line of Lyford Road to a solid rod set at the point of beginning. Containing 113,586 square feet (2.608 acres).

For mortgagor's(s) title see deed recorded with Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 50517, Page 53.

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

#### TERMS OF SALE:

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

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

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS TRUSTEE FOR THE RMAC TRUST, SERIES 2016-CTT Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,  
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.  
Newton, MA 02458

(617)558-0500

2016050518

May 6, 2022

May 13, 2022

May 12, 2022

### Notice of Special Public Hearing East Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

This Zoning Board hearing will take place at the East Brookfield Town Hall, 122 Connie Mack Drive, East Brookfield, MA on Thursday May 19, 2022. Hearing will commence at 7:00PM or soon thereafter as can be heard.

Applicant: Ron Lcaire; owner. Property location: 136 North Brookfield Road, East Brookfield. The applicant seeks a front setback variance to expand a

front porch as outlined in Section 5, lot regulations of the East Brookfield Zoning Bylaws. The property owner also seeks a finding to determine that such extension is not more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing non-conforming use.

May 6, 2022

May 13, 2022

### 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 Harold Rondeau and Kristian Rondeau to Jeffrey S. Rodman, Trustee of Plan Investment Trust dated December 8, 2017 and recorded with the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 58162, Page 1 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on the 31st day of May, 2022 upon the mortgage premises at 108 Paxton Road, Spencer, Worcester County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

The land in said Spencer, with buildings thereon, known as Dwelling No. 12, situated in the southerly part of Upper Wire Village, on the easterly side of Upper Wire Village Road, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the southwest corner thereof, on the easterly side of said road at a point 546.3 feet northerly of land now or formerly of Ellen St. Germain;

Thence S. 87 degrees 48' E. by land now or formerly of Walter J. Kane, Tr., 193.3 feet, said line being parallel to and 19 feet distant from the south line of the dwelling on granted premises;

Thence N. 4 degrees 29' E. by land now or formerly of Walter J. Kane, Tr. 65 feet to a corner;

Thence N. 87 degrees 36' W. by land now or formerly of Walter J. Kane, Tr. 193.3 feet to the easterly line of the aforesaid road;

Thence southerly by the easterly line of said road 65.6 feet to the place of beginning.

Containing about 0.41 acre of land.

For Mortgagor's title, see Deed recorded in the Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 58161, Page 399 and Book 58218, Page 260.

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: The highest bidder shall be required to deposit Ten Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$10,000.00) in cash, certified check or bank check at the time and place of the sale. The balance of the purchase price shall be due within thirty (30) days, at the offices of Dunning, Kirrane, McNichols & Garner, L.L.P., 133 Route 28, Mashpee, MA 02649, Attorney for the Mortgagee Others terms to be announced at the sale.

Jeffrey S. Rodman, Trustee of Plan Investment Trust,

Present Holder of said Mortgage,

By Its Attorney,

Christopher J. Kirrane, Esq.

Dunning, Kirrane, McNichols & Garner, L.L.P.

P.O. Box 560

Mashpee, MA 02649

(508) 477-6500

BBO# 660542

ckirrane@dunningkirrane.com

May 6, 2022

May 13, 2022

May 12, 2022

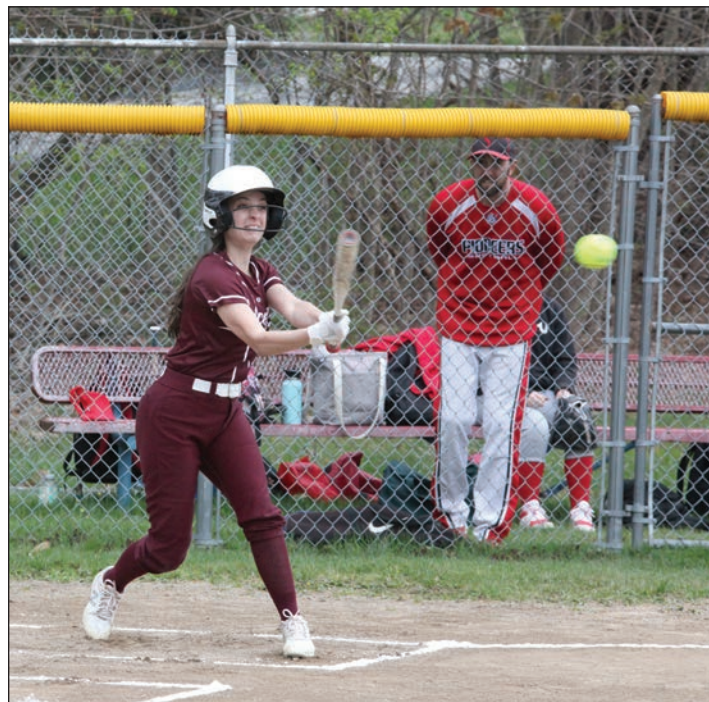
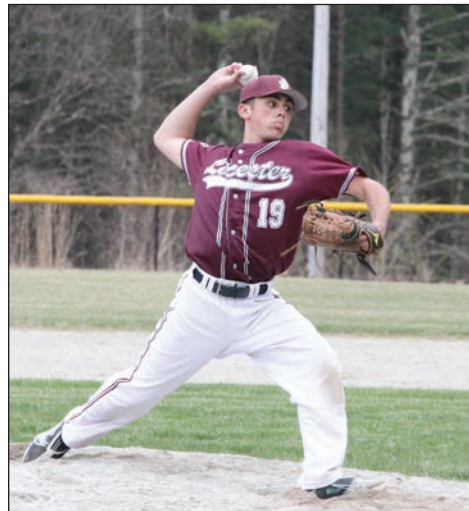
# SPORTS

## Wins for Wolverines in baseball, softball against Southbridge

SOUTHBRIDGE — Monday, May 2 was a successful day for the Leicester High varsity baseball and softball teams, as they visited Southbridge and went home with victories.

In the baseball game, played at the high school, the Wolverines scored early and often in a 14-1 victory that was called early due to the mercy rule. Leicester is now 6-3.

And the softball team, which played at McMahon Field, earned their second win of the season — the Wolverines are now 2-8 — thanks to an 8-3 victory. The game was called after five innings because of a heavy rain that began to pour down.



Leicester's Olyvia Gustafson smacks a single versus Southbridge.

Brier Pedersen of Leicester winds up and delivers a pitch to the plate.

Leicester's Eric Ortiz, who tossed a two-hitter against Southbridge, prepares to release a pitch.

Shortstop Derek Mahoney of Leicester squeezes his glove to catch an infield pop.



### Sturbridge Legion tryout dates

Any baseball players interested in playing Sturbridge Legion Baseball that are born on Jan. 1, 2003 or later are eligible to play. All players that live in Sturbridge or attend Tantasqua Regional High School are all eligible to play for the Sturbridge team, also players from surrounding towns may also be eligible to play. Team will conduct tryouts Saturday, May 21 from 10 a.m. to noon and Sunday, May 22 from 1 to 3 p.m., both tryout dates will be held at Tantasqua Regional High School varsity baseball field. For more information you can contact team manager Jim Rosseel (774) 230-1784, email: jimrosseel@hotmail.com or coach Rich Wetherbee (508) 981-0897, email: qcards@aol.com.

### Quail Hollow Golf Club Results

April 26

Pits Crew  
 First place (-7): Andy Newton, Phil Woods, Steve O'Brien, Rick Laverne  
 Second place (-6): Steve Varnum, Henry Corel, Dick Ullman  
 Third place (-4): John Desimone, Hector Vasquez, Bill Gaudette, Bob Ford

April 30

Tour of Brookfields Country Auto Open  
 Nicklaus Flight  
 First place (62): Chris Depasse, Mike Kularski, Dave Fiske, George Fiske  
 Player Flight  
 First place (63): Jim Kularski, Mark Morin, Wendy Ridley, Joe Nichols  
 Palmer Flight  
 First place (63): Matt Desimone, Tom Savage, Bill Gaudette, Kristen DePasse

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# SPORTS

## Crusaders win wild walk-fest over North Brookfield, 25-20

BY KEN POWERS  
SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

**NORTHBRIDGE** — On a very windy spring day, the Whitinsville Christian School (WCS) softball team outlasted North Brookfield (NB), 25-20, on Friday, April 29, in a game that can be best described as a walk in the park.

The teams combined for more than 30 bases on balls.

"I'd say the wind was a factor in the game being such a walk-fest," Crusaders' coach Lina Avila said. "It was hard for the girls to find good pitches to hit because the ball was moving around a lot. We didn't want to swing at bad pitches. We were really working on our pitch selection. It's something that's good for these girls to work on, but it did lead to a lot of walks."

Avila said so far this season her youthful squad (10 players on the roster are in grades 7-10) has struggled at times with knowing which pitches to swing at and which pitches to let go by.

"The girls get so excited to hit they swing at the first pitch. I was a pitcher in high school and college and that was usually the best pitch to swing at," Avila said. "The pitcher wants to get ahead of the batter by throwing a strike thinking the batter probably won't swing."

"It's a learning process," Avila continued. "A lot of our girls go up there not knowing what a good pitch looks like, or what their good pitch is. It's about making good decisions. But in this game neither team had a lot of good decisions to make."

After senior pitcher Abbi



North Brookfield's Kelly Daige swings away and sends the ball into play.

Cullen set North Brookfield down 1-2-3 in the top of the first inning, the Crusaders went ahead, 7-0, in the bottom of the frame, scoring its runs on two hits, three stolen bases and nine walks. Both hits, singles by senior Emma Johnson and sophomore Chloe Richey, drove in a run.

North Brookfield (1-8) cut the WCS lead to 7-1 in the top of the second inning. Senior Serenity Ayala used her speed to reach base on a ball hit deep in the hole between second and third base, and then stole second base. Ayala moved to third on a groundout and then scored on a wild pitch.

Whitinsville Christian (3-3) extended its lead to 10-1 in the bottom of the second, the runs coming on a groundout by Johnson and RBI singles by

freshman Hannah Ostroff and sophomore Camdyn Forget.

Ostroff made her varsity pitching debut in the third inning, replacing Cullen to start the frame. Her control was not as sharp as Cullen's, and the Indians took full advantage, scoring five times to cut the WCS lead to 10-6. Four of NB's runs scored on bases-loaded walks, the other on a wild pitch.

The Crusaders got two runs back in the bottom of the third inning, taking a 12-6 lead on RBI singles by sophomore Abby Wozniak and Ostroff. Wozniak's hit drove in senior Meghan DeGregorio, who had laced a one-out triple down the left-field line.

North Brookfield scored two runs in the top of the fourth inning to cut its deficit to four runs, 12-8. One run scored on a

groundout, the other on a wild pitch. In the bottom half of the inning the Crusaders scored three times to extend their lead to 15-8.

Forget got things started with a leadoff walk and then moved to second on a walk to Richey. Both moved up a base on a passed ball (Forget to third, Richey to second) and Forget then scored on a wild pitch to push the lead to 13-8.

Richey, who moved to third on the wild pitch on which Forget scored, raced home on a groundout by DeGregorio to extend the Crusaders' lead to 14-8. Eighth-grader Maddi Amati, who walked after Richey and before DeGregorio's groundout, scored to push the WCS lead to 15-8 when Wozniak grounded out to third base for the second out of the inning.

The Indians refused to go quietly however, scoring six times in the top of the fifth to pare their deficit to a single run, 15-14. The big hit in the inning for NB was a two-run single to right field off the bat of senior Zoe Cataldo. Three runs in the inning scored on wild pitches while another scored on a bases-loaded walk.

Whitinsville Christian scored five times in the bottom of the fifth to push ahead 20-14, but North Brookfield tied the game, 20-20, with six runs in the top of the sixth. The Crusaders went back ahead, 25-20, thanks to five runs in the bottom of the sixth.

Cullen re-entered the game in the top of the seventh, returning to the pitching circle where



Catcher Lily Syas of North Brookfield throws the ball down to first base to record an out following a strikeout.

she ended any hope of another Indians' comeback, finishing the game the way she started it, with a 1-2-3 inning.

Avila acknowledged, with the score 7-0 after one inning and 10-1 after two, that she didn't attempt to steal bases or always race home on a wild pitch or a passed ball.

"I don't think that teaches any team a good way to compete," Avila said. "I wanted to give both teams the opportunity to show that they actually know how to play the game instead of just walking in runs. I wanted my girls to earn the win by swinging their bats."

"We play Nipmuc, BMR and Hopedale, and they're all super strong teams, and those are games where my girls are discouraged because we're not at that level; we're still learning to play the game," Avila said. "Half of my team has never played softball before. So, for them to feel successful against a team that is on a level with them is good for our program. I want them to actually learn how to produce runs without relying on the other team's mistakes."

## HIGH SCHOOL NOTEBOOK

Monday, April 25

Wachusett 19, Tantasqua 10 — Kaydie O'Neal scored three goals and added an assist, and Sophia Parker added two goals and an assist, but it wasn't enough for the Warriors to get past the Mountaineers in a girls' lacrosse tilt. Tayler Sexton (two), Kelsie Lucas, Bridget Bellezza and Kylie McDermott also scored for Tantasqua, while Grace St. Laurent notched three assists.

Wednesday, April 27

David Prouty 3, Bartlett 2; Bartlett

3, David Prouty 2 — The Panthers had a girls' tennis doubleheader with the Indians, with each team taking a match. Prouty won the second of the two matches, with Issy Costello and Grace Haftarczuk winning at second doubles. Third singles player Rianna Ortiz and the first doubles team of Ayla Messier and Ava Bergeron won their particular games in both matches.

Leicester 77, Auburn 52; Leicester 87, David Prouty 39 — Competing at Auburn High, the Leicester High girls' track and field team had an impressive day by winning two meets and improving to 3-1 in the process. The Wolverines' top scorers were Breana Escobar, Nina Dykas, Abigail Bernarbei and Jordan Patterson.

Leicester 97, David Prouty 23; Auburn

83, Leicester 54 — The Wolverines had a 1-1 day competing at Auburn High in boys' track and field. Leicester's top scorers were Teddy Miller, Dylan Delage, Jack Ledbetter and Jason Fournier, with Miller setting the school record in the 200-meter dash with a time of 23.1 seconds.

Friday, April 29

Tantasqua 14, Hopedale 13 — In girls' lacrosse action, the Warriors upended the Blue Raiders in an exciting tilt. Goal scorers for Tantasqua were Kylie McDermott (4), Kelsie Lucas (3), Kaydie O'Neil (2), Maeve Ashworth (2), Sophia Parker, Fiona Diamond and Grace St. Laurent, with goalie Celeste Downey making 9 saves.

David Prouty 5, North 0; David Prouty 5, North 0 — The Panthers upended the

Polar Bears in a girls' tennis doubleheader, both by 5-0 finals. Jess Fulmer at first singles (8-2 and 8-6), Rianna Ortiz at third singles (8-2 and 8-2), and Ayla Messier and Ava Bergeron at first doubles (8-3 and 8-1) were double winners. In second doubles, Bella Costello and Grace Haftarczuk won 8-0, and then the team switched to Greenly Waugh and Melany Reil, and they won 8-1 for Prouty.

Monday, May 2

David Prouty 3, Tantasqua 2 — Second singles player Jess Fulmer (6-3, 6-0), the first doubles tandem of Ava Bergeron and Ayla Messier (6-3, 2-6, 6-2) and the second doubles team of Grace Haftarczuk and Bella Costello (6-0, 6-1) gained the points for the victorious Panthers girls' tennis team.



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**WEBSTER LAKE** - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Lake Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bedroom with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet/Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage! Full House Generator! Slate Roof! All Decks & Railings Brazilian Ipe Hardwood! Copper Gutters & Downspouts! It's Time to Reward Yourself! **\$1,749,900.00**

**WEBSTER** - Lower Gore Road! Build Your Dream Home! 2.3 & 5 Acre Approved Buildable Lots! Large Parcels are getting harder to come by! New England Field Stone Walls and beautiful tiger lily wildflowers can be found! Great Commuting Location, Easy Highway Access! Nearby State Boat Ramp for Easy Lake Access! Water & Sewer in the Street! **Each @ \$99,900.00**

**DUDLEY** - 67 Southbridge Road! 6 Rm Ranch Set on 16,875' Lot! Applianced Eat-in Kitchen! Dining Area and Fireplace Living Room w/ Hardwood Floors! 3 Bedrooms w/ Hardwood Floors and ample Closet Space! Spacious 11x14.5 Master! Full Tile Bath! Oil Heat! Garage! **\$279,900.00**

**WEBSTER** - 6 Slater Street! Professionals Take Notice! Ideal Office Setup! 1st Floor w/Waiting Rm, Reception Area, 4 Offices w/Sinks, 3 Alcove/Prep Areas, Handicap Accessible 1/2 Bath, and Hrdwd First! 2nd Floor Currently w/Employee Breakroom w/ Full Kitchen, Cabinets & Closet Storage, 3/4 Bath and additional office/bedroom! C/Airt C/Vac! Security System! **\$349,900.00**

**DUDLEY** - 50 Brandon Rd! 3 Family! 55'4 Rm! 2 1/2! Bedrms! 2 1/2! Bathrms! Investors take Notice! Fully Rented! Solid Rental History! Long Term Tenants! Conveniently Located! Washer & Dryer Hookups in the Basement for Each Unit! Efficient Natural Gas Heating! Two Driveways provide Off Street Parking for up to 5 Vehicles! Dudley's Low Taxes & Desirable School System! **\$336,900.00**

**DUDLEY HAYDEN POND WATERFRONT** - 48 Hayden Pond Rd! Recently Renovated, beautifully appointed, 5 Rm Waterfront Ranch! Enjoy sunsets, fishing & all water sports! Vinyl Composite decking & vinyl railings! Open floor plan! Cathedral ceilings w/ skylights! Din Rm w/slider to covered deck! Kit w/quartz counters & SS appliances! Liv Rm w/stunning views of the Pond! Comfortable Master w/generous closet & half bath! 2nd bedroom or office! Full bath w/washer/dryer hook ups! Full basement for storage or additional living space! Floating Dock! Shed! **\$525,000.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** - 301 Beacon Park! 5 Rm End Corner Garden Unit - One Level Living - No Stairs! 10 Beautiful Acres of Park Like Grounds w/Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 1,100' of Living Space! Ample Room for Year Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Well Maintained! 2 Bedrms! Master Bath, 2 Baths Total! Beautiful Lakeside Pool, Spectacular Beach, Best on the Lake! Detached Garage! **\$320,000.00!**

**WEBSTER LAKE** - 65 Bates Point Rd - Eastern Exposure - Beautiful Sunrises! Year Round - Principle Residence - Second Home - Remodel - Tear it Down and Start Anew! The Choice is Yours! Set on a 12,449' Lot, 50x249', 50.7' Waterfront! Plenty of Area for Expansion! Surrounded by Million Dollar Homes the Parcel is Yours to Create! 5+ Room Ranch with Full Walk-out Expandable Lower Level! Open Floor Plan! Applianced Kitchen, Dining Area and Living Room with Panoramic Lake Views! 3 Bedrooms! Full Tile Bath! Oil Heat! Screened Porch! Detached Garage! Dock! Quick Closing! Summer is Just Around the Corner - Don't Delay! **\$710,950.00**

**WEBSTER LAKE** - 33 Loveland Rd! South Pond - Fantastic 19,243' Waterfront Lot with 125' of Prime South Facing Natural Shoreline which Highlights this 5 Room, 2 Bedroom, 3 Season Cottage! Start Your Lake Memories Here! Cute & Cozy, the Way the Lake Use to Be! Open Floor Plan with Lots of Glass and Panoramic Lake Views! Just Enjoy it as it is, or Add on to it, or Take it Down and Build Your Dream Home Here! Don't Need the Entire Lot, Subdivide it and Bring the Cost Down! Perfect Gentle Slope to the Water! Town Services! **\$949,900.00**



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**Featured Listing!**



**WEBSTER - 98 MINEBROOK RD**  
CAR/BOAT ENTHUSIASTS TAKE NOTE! 1.67 Acre Property Features 3 Buildings & 6 Garage Bays - 8', 10' & 12' Doors! Ample Space for all your TOYS! Close to I-395 & Webster Lake! A MUST SEE! - TOO MANY FEATURES TO LIST! \*Cash or Special Financing due to its "Unfinished" status. **\$565,000.**

**June Cazeault \* Laurie Sullivan \* Matthew Ross \* Lori Johnson-Chause \* William Gilmore II \* Brian Bohenko**

**Featured New Listing!**



**ON DEPOSIT**

**DUDLEY - 7 SHINE AVENUE**  
Better than new! 3100 Sq.Ft. of spacious living! METICULOUS, OVERSIZED CAPE w/CONTEMPORARY FLARE! CLEAN, UPDATED & SPACIOUS! .62 Acre Lot, 120'+ Rd Front, Private Backyard, 9 RMS, Front-To-Back Living Rm w/Frpic & scenic views, Open Flr Plan Kitchen/Dining w/Slider to rear deck, 1st Flr Office, 2 Car Attd Garage, 2nd Flr Great Rm over garage. MSTR BR Suite w/MSTR Bath, 2 more LG BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, LL BATH! AN EXTRAORDINARY OFFERING! Central Air, Central Vac. BEAUTIFULLY landscaped grounds. **\$549,000.**



**WEBSTER LAKE - TREASURE ISLAND #503**  
Magazine Worthy Decor! New Kitchen with island, flooring, baths, gas fireplace, and so much more! Newer Furnace. Completely furnished. 6 rooms, 2-1.2 baths! 2 deeded boat slips. Salt Water Pool, Sandy Beach!  
**\$679,000**



**WEBSTER - 7 BRODEUR AVENUE**  
RARE FIND ~ TO BE BUILT - SPRAWLING 2,200 SQFT+ RANCH HOME! GARAGE Level! 1/2 Acre Lot! FOUNDATION IS IN. Private backyard. GREAT LAYOUT! SOLID HARDWOOD FLOORS THROUGHOUT!



**NEW PRICE**

**WEBSTER - 10 GRANITE STREET**  
CONTRACTORS TAKE NOTICE! Single Family, need of Repair, 1,900 SF 3 BRs, 1-1/2 Baths, 6,200 SF Lot, Oil Heat, City Gas avail. Architectural Character! SOLD "AS IS" - Submit Offers, Cash or Rehab Financing. **\$175,000.**




**LEICESTER - 5 KEEFE COURT**  
CHERRY VALLEY of Leicester. Manageable 2 Bedroom Ranch! One Level Living! Large Dining Room for Entertaining! Detached Garage and Loft Area! 25 of an Acre! Flat side yard. Large Dog Kennel & Shed with Power! Mass Save Improvements. Central Air! **\$275,000**

**LAND: WEBSTER/OXFORD**  
Oxford - GENERAL BUSINESS ZONED! LAND - 124 - Southbridge Road "ROUTE 20" VACANT LEVEL LOT - To be Subdivided from 124 Southbridge Rd LOT# 3 on a Preliminary Survey Plan will be 39,549 SF (0.905 ACRES) with 96.92' of Road Frontage. High Traffic, High Exposure Location. **\$419,000**  
Oxford - 2 Merriam Rd 80+/- Wooded Acres in Oxford & Charlton. **ON DEPOSIT \$329,000.**  
Webster - COOPER RD - 3 BUILDABLE LOTS! Water & Sewer Access! **SORRY, SOLD! \$79,900.**

### On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

**WEBSTER LAKE - 300 KILLDEER ISL.**



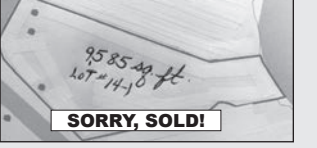
**SORRY, SOLD!**

**Killdeer Circle!** Gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear shoreline. Ranch with 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walkout lower level to patio! Garage! **\$650,000.**




**SORRY, SOLD!**

**TREASURE ISLAND - CONDO**  
Unit 1404 Marina side! of the Complex - with 2 Boat Slips! 6 rooms, 2-1/2 baths, 2 bedrooms, fireplace, garage, Sandy Beach, Heated Salt Water Pool! **\$549,000.**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

**WEBSTER LAKE - BLACK POINT ROAD**  
Buildable Waterfront Corner Lot!, 9500 +/- sq ft. Sandy Beach. Town Water & Sewer Connections on the lot. **\$325,000.**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

**WEBSTER LAKE - 1301 TREASURE ISL.**  
Quiet Summers & Fall Seasons on Big & Beautiful Webster Lake. Completely updated Hardwood & Ceramic. Center Island Kitchen. 6 Rooms. 2-1/2 Baths. a must see. Overlooking the Marina. 2 Deeded boat slips. assisted sale **\$600,000.**




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**NEW LISTING!**



**STURBRIDGE ~ \$299,900**  
Spacious 2 bedroom, 2.5 bathroom condo in Sturbridge Hills! This lovely home offers an open living room with cathedral ceilings, nice dining area and kitchen, 2 good sized bedrooms on the 2nd floor with another full bathroom, Large Finished basement for added extra space, and a private deck area off the dining room. Attached 1 car garage. In sought after Tantasqua school system! Easy access to the MA Pike, Rts 20,9 & 84!

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**WEBSTER:** Victorian, 4,000 sq. ft., 1.5 acres, 4.5 bedroom, 3 + baths, fireplace, Grand stairway  
37 Klebart Ave ~ **\$599,900**



**DUDLEY:** 9.3 acres, 3 structures, House, 2 car garage with attached unit, 4 room workshop  
126 Old Southbridge Rd ~ **\$469,900**



**CHARLTON:** 99 acres, Potential for 41 lots, Great location. Previously approved subdivision  
Freeman Rd ~ **\$1,900,000**

**NEW LISTING**



**OXFORD:** Ranch, 2 full baths, Cathedral ceilings, 3 bedrooms, Office, hardwood floors, Great lot, Great location.  
99 Federal Hill Rd ~ **\$445,000**




**SOLD**

**NORTH BROOKFIELD:** Investment property, 2 units, 1/2 acre lot. Call Maria Reed for assistance in Buyer or Seller - She'll get it done 508-873-9254  
50-52 Ward St ~ **\$350,000**



# POLICE REPORTS

## Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20

12:40-2:20 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:55 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 3:19 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:18 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 6:21 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), George Edward Richards, 52, 117 Main Street, Spencer, op w/suspended license, unregistered mv, uninsured mv, number plate violation, arrest; 6:51 a.m.: suspicious mv (Northwest Road), investigated; 7:02 a.m.: fugitive from justice (West Main Street), George Edward Richards, 117 Main Street, Spencer, fugitive from justice warrant/Rhode Island, arrest; 8:13 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 9:20 a.m.: lost/found (South Spencer Road), scooter found; 10:20 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: VIN verification; 11:22 a.m.: warrant service (Main Street), Benjamin P. Stevens, 7 Gates Court, Auburn, warrants/2, arrest; 12:04 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 1:02 p.m.: residential alarm (Pope Street), services rendered; 2:18 p.m.: medical/general (Greenville Street); 3:15 p.m.: 911 call (Brown Street), accidental; 5:00 p.m.: medical/general (Meadowbrook Road); 5:32 p.m.: chemical/fuel spill (Gold Nugget Road), poss. transmission fluid in road; 5:41 p.m.: animal complaint (I. Capen Road), missing cat; 8:18 p.m.: medical/general (Linden Street); 8:45-8:46 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:04 p.m.: suspicious mv (Smithville Road), investigated; 9:25 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Cherry Street), hang-up; 9:37 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 10:02 p.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 10:13 p.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; (Total daily mv stops - 4).

THURSDAY, APRIL 21

12:14 a.m.: suspicious mv (Mechanic Street), investigated; 12:19-2:15 a.m.:

buildings checked, secure; 1:02 a.m.: juvenile matter (North Spencer Road), multiple kids on bikes; 2:15 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo; 5:16 a.m.: medical/general (Chickering Road); 11:41 a.m.: mv lock-out (Church Street), services rendered; 11:59 a.m.: residential alarm (Pope Street), services rendered; 2:01 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), St. V code black; 2:06 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 2:18 p.m.: trespassing (Linden Street), no trespass order filed; 2:44 p.m.: animal complaint (Church Street), issue w/father's dog; 2:55 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), resolved; 3:39 p.m.: medical/overdose (Starr Street); 5:59 p.m.: 911 call (Mechanic Street), open line; 6:17 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), re: garage door caved in; 6:20 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 7:01 p.m.: mv lock-out (West Main Street), services rendered; 8:14 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 8:18-9:29 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:41 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), wrong-way driver; 10:00 p.m.: parking violation (Elm Street), ticket issued; (Total daily mv stops - 7).

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

12:50-1:36 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:55 a.m.: open door (Main Street), bldg. secured; 7:34 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 8:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 9:24 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 10:09 a.m.: medical/general (Condon Drive); 10:25 a.m.: mutual aid (Kittredge Road), serve RMV suspension notice; 11:35 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 11:40 a.m.: medical/general (Grant Street); 1:44 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 2:17 p.m.: restraining order service (Mechanic Street); 2:35 p.m.: intelligence/drugs (West Main Street), info taken; 3:30 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 3:38 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Charlton Road), accidental; 3:41 p.m.:

officer wanted (West Main Street), re: custody issue; 3:51 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Hubbardston PD bolo; 4:30 p.m.: restraining order service (Howe Village); 4:46 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 4:50 p.m.: fire alarm (Hastings Road), referred; 4:59 p.m.: mv complaint (Washburn Terrace), erratic operator; 6:12 p.m.: citizen complaint (South Spencer Road), noise complaint/trains; 7:40 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:58 p.m.: parking violation (Adams Street), ticket issued; 9:06 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:09 p.m.: suspicious mv (Temple Street), investigated; 9:20-10:10 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:37 p.m.: disturbance (Grove Street), noise complaint; 11:06 p.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), re: bears; 11:43 p.m.: medical/general (Duggan Street); 11:57 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops - 3).

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

12:34-1:11 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:22 a.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), aggressive operator; 7:28 a.m.: commercial alarm (North Spencer Road), accidental; 8:17 a.m.: accident (Greenville Street), report taken; 8:21 a.m.: disabled mv (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 9:27 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: St. V alert message; 9:57 a.m.: medical/general (Borkum Road); 10:24 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (Clark Street), permitted fire/heavy smoke; 12:05 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 12:23 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), cyclist in traffic; 1:30 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), noise complaint; 2:16 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), open line; 2:31 p.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road); 2:53 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street), lift assist; 3:19 p.m.: juvenile matter (Grove Street), kids/bikes impeding traffic; 3:25 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:53 p.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), Shawn P. Clifford, 36, 5 Cornfield Road,

Spencer, possession Class B drug, disorderly conduct, arrest; 5:32 p.m.: 911 call (Chestnut Street), child w/phone; 7:33 p.m.: residential alarm (Wall Street), services rendered; 7:37 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 7:58 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:14 p.m.: residential alarm (Wall Street), services rendered; 9:00 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 11:08 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo; 11:12-11:52 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:34 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Greenville Street), accidental; (Total daily mv stops - 9).

SUNDAY, APRIL 24

12:19-1:08 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:48 a.m.: suspicious mv (Bixby Road), investigated; 1:56 a.m.: vandalism (Elm Street), mv vandalized; 6:51 a.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), bear raided chicken coop; 11:52 a.m.: residential alarm (Pine Avenue), services rendered; 12:51 p.m.: animal complaint (Bellflower Lane), dead chicken in road; 3:00 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (South Spencer Road), referred; 3:26 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 3:33 p.m.: juvenile matter (Lamb Grove), kids/minibikes racing; 4:46 p.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), welfare check/child; 4:47 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: restraining order details; 4:57 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), wellness check; 6:44 p.m.: lost/found (Pleasant Street), found cell phone; 6:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), neighbor's fence leaning; 7:55 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo/failure to stop; 9:39 p.m.: mv lockout (Lloyd Dyer Drive), services rendered; 10:03 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:39 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); (Total daily mv stops - 6).

MONDAY, APRIL 25

12:39-3:03 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:19 a.m.: harassing phone

Turn To **POLICE** page **A18**



### FOR SALE BY OWNER OPEN HOUSE - MAY 15 12-2 SPENCER: 12 and 13 Bellevue Drive

*Year-Round Waterfront cottage  
with detached 1 car garage/ mancave.*

12 Bellevue Drive was built in 1950 & renovated in 2007. 50x100 sloping lot down to Lake Whittemore. Rope swing and 2 big granite steps to the water. Title 5 just done. 1 BR, 1 BA, Kitchen & living room hardwood floors, washer/dryer, dishwasher, deck. Propane and electric heat. Fieldstone fireplace.

Steel roof w/vinyl siding, walk in cellar, 1275 square feet. Across the street is 13 Bellevue Drive a 2 story one car garage, w/new garage door. Steel roof 25x25 with poured concrete floor. Oil heat, bathroom/shower. Storage workshop. 3 outdoor parking spots 2 paved, one not. Call Jeff at 508-331-0701 have videos.



**\$449,000**



## Open House Directory

(C) Condo (B) Business (P) Land	(X) Condo (U) Duplex (L) Mobile Home	(M) Multi-Family (S) Single Family (A) Apartment	(T) Townhouse (D) Adult Community (W) Waterfront
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ADDRESS	STYLE	TIME	PRICE	REALTOR/SELLER/PHONE
<b>SATURDAY, MAY 7</b>				
<b>WARREN</b>				
683 Coy Hill Rd	S	11:00-1:00	\$425,000	Century 21, North East Mary Hicks 508.612.4794 / 508.867.2222

*To have your open house listed in this directory,  
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CALL FOR A MARKET ANALYSIS

# North Brookfield Savings Bank named among nation's top banks

NORTH BROOKFIELD — North Brookfield Savings Bank, a local Central Massachusetts icon, was just named among the top extraordinary banks in the United States by The Institute for Extraordinary Banking™. This award comes on the heels of the Community Choice Central MA Best Bank Award they received for 2021.

North Brookfield Savings Bank was recognized with the Institute's Banky™ Award for its commitment to strong community banking. This recognition is given to top community banks across the country to help people find

the best banks in their communities.

"The team and I are humbled to be included in this group of iconic community banks. We continue to delight our customers with top notch, personal and customizable service so they have a partner to coach them through their financial journey," said Marco Bernasconi, Jr., CEO/President of North Brookfield Savings Bank.

The Extraordinary Banking™ Awards highlight the vital yet often overlooked role that local community banks play in our nation's economy. Without a vibrant local banking indus-

try, our small businesses and families often lack the have-your-back support of a true community bank that makes communities really thrive.

The Extraordinary Banking™ Awards recognize the best of what community banks offer to our cities, towns, and nation: a true commitment to the success of the small businesses and local community they serve.

Roxanne Emmerich, Chair and Founder of The Institute for Extraordinary Banking™, proclaimed during the awards ceremony: "Community banks are the backbone of

America. They are what keeps a community thriving. When a community bank leaves a community, small businesses often struggle to stay, and jobs leave. Every robust community has a strong community bank that understands how to help that community thrive and grow."

To schedule an interview or get more information, call Andrea Healy at 508-637-7423 during business hours or email to ahealy@banknbsb.com.

## POLICE

continued from page A17

calls (Northwest Road), persistent spam calls; 11:09 a.m.: medical/general (Marble Road); 11:20 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; 12:26 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 12:31 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 12:32 p.m.: fraud (G.H. Wilson Road), Amazon scam call; 2:18 p.m.: juvenile matter (Paxton Road), services rendered; 3:12 p.m.: residential alarm (Northwest Road), services rendered; 3:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Cranberry Meadow Road), re: mv on property; 3:47 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:12 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 5:18 p.m.: medical/general (Cranberry Meadow Road); 5:21 p.m.: RV complaint (Lambs Grove), c/o dirt bike; 5:25 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 5:38 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:16 p.m.: disabled mv (North Spencer Road), services rendered; 7:03 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), req. assistance w/mv; 7:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Northwest Road), re: identity theft; 7:36 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:40 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), services rendered; 9:37-9:54 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:20 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), K-9 search/Webster; 11:39 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; (Total daily mv stops - 2).

### TUESDAY, APRIL 26

12:11-2:24 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:29 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 6:44 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 7:17 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Mechanic Street), resolved; 8:18 a.m.: animal complaint (Lyford Cross Road), fox in yard; 10:16 a.m.: medical/general (Oakland Drive); 10:30 a.m.: parking complaint (Casey Street), mv parked illegally; 10:38 a.m.: disturbance (Pleasant Street), party ooc; 11:07 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 11:28 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 11:30 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 12:08 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 12:36 p.m.: mv complaint (Greenville Street), erratic operator; 1:06 p.m.: parking complaint (Cherry Street), mv on lawn; between 2:09-3:28 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 3:28 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 3:55 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 4:44 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 5:00 p.m.: juvenile matter (Charron Street), children home/no adult; 5:01 p.m.: fraud (Donnelly Cross Road), rep. poss. scam; 6:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Donnelly Road), bear/cubs in area; 8:28 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 8:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), re: disagreement w/nurse; 8:53 p.m.: officer wanted (Debbie Drive), req. welfare check; (Total daily mv stops - 1).

###

## Leicester Police

### THURSDAY, APRIL 21

12:25 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, report taken; 1:01 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 1:20 a.m.: mv stop (Colonial Drive), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, unregistered mv, report taken; 4:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:34 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:53 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), Jesus Torres, 37, 353 Charlton Street, Southbridge, failure to appear upon recognizance, arrest; 7:15 a.m.: assist other agency (Main Street), services rendered; 8:07 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), resolved; 8:25 a.m.: ambulance (McCarthy Avenue), transported; 10:15 a.m.: animal complaint (Lakeview Drive), referred to ACO; 11:30 a.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), transported to hospital; 12:32 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 3:46 p.m.: ambulance (Grove Street), transported; 3:51 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), resolved; 4:57 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 5:09 p.m.: assist citizen (Mt. Pleasant Avenue); 5:15 p.m.: investigation (Baldwin Street), services rendered; 5:30 p.m.: assist citizen (Grove Street); 7:10 p.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported; 8:07 p.m.: ambulance (Burncoat Street), transported; 8:43 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 11:40 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 11:46 p.m.: noise complaint (Bond Street), peace restored.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 22

12:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, missing registration sticker, mv towed; 12:19 a.m.: suspicious mv (Charles Street), spoken to; 12:32 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Rawson Street), spoken to; 12:56 a.m.: suspicious mv (Mulberry Street), spoken to; 12:59 a.m.: suspicious mv (Mulberry Street), spoken to; 5:37 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 5:47 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 8:04 a.m.: transport prisoner (Main Street, Spencer), transported; 9:23 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street), resolved; 9:37 a.m.: accident (Church Street), resolved; 11:08 a.m.: ambulance (Mayflower Road), transported; 11:37 a.m.: restraining order service (Winslow Avenue), served; 12:15 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 12:40 p.m.: summons service (Sunset Drive), served; 12:49 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 2:10 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 2:18 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 2:22 p.m.: disturbance (Craig Street), resolved; 2:45 p.m.: ambulance (Baldwin Street), transported; 3:48 p.m.: investigation (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 4:08 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), resolved; 4:57 p.m.: drug violation (Soojians Drive), James Michael Hurley, 34, 10 Lincoln Street, #1, Spencer, carrying firearm w/out a license, shoplifting by aspertation, pos-

session of ammunition w/out FID, arrest; 7:00 p.m.: stolen mv recovery (Stafford Street), report taken; 7:05 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 7:29 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 8:11 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 11:48 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), resolved.

### SATURDAY, APRIL 23

12:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:13 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), resolved; 12:14 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), mv towed; 12:24 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 12:51 a.m.: ambulance (Tanglewood Road), transported; 1:17 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 4:21 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 4:24 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), citation issued; 6:26 a.m.: ambulance (Winslow Avenue), transported; 6:34 a.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), resolved; 9:57 a.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 1:17 p.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 1:43 p.m.: ambulance (Salisbury Street, Worcester), transported; 4:00 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street, Worcester), transported; 4:04 p.m.: investigation (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 4:15 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended registration, uninsured mv, criminal application issued; 8:36 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 8:42 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:11 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:23 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 10:19 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), spoken to; 11:49 p.m.: ambulance (Peter Salem Road), assisted.

### SUNDAY, APRIL 25

12:17 a.m.: suspicious activity (Stafford Street), resolved; 1:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:47 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 9:17 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 10:45 a.m.: domestic disturbance (Stafford Street), resolved; 11:05 a.m.: residential alarm (Birchwood Drive), false alarm; 11:41 a.m.: malicious mischief (Stafford Street), spoken to; 2:41 p.m.: suspicious person (Blueberry Lane), unfounded; 3:13 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), referred; 3:25 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:59 p.m.: ambulance (Deer Pond Road), transported; 6:08 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 8:17 p.m.: ambulance (Town Beach Road), transported; 8:32 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 10:50 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mulberry Street), resolved.

### MONDAY, APRIL 25

1:12 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:04 a.m.: ambulance (Memorial School Drive), transported; 10:05 a.m.: ambulance (Pine Street), services rendered; 11:00 a.m.: ambulance (Whittemore Street), transported; 11:06 a.m.: animal complaint (Soojians Drive), referred to ACO; 11:08 a.m.: assist citizen (Burncoat Street), services rendered; 11:15 a.m.: animal complaint (Soojians Drive), unfounded; 12:30 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), spoken to; 12:48 p.m.: summons service (Huntoon Memorial Highway),

served; 1:44 p.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), services rendered; 1:47 p.m.: assist citizen (Spring Street); 3:39 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 3:52 p.m.: investigation (Mannville Street), services rendered; 3:56 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 4:52 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), resolved; 5:03 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, mv towed; 5:42 p.m.: disturbance (Soojians Drive), spoken to; 9:02 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 10:06 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Stafford Street), resolved.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 26

12:02 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 12:17 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, advised civil action; 12:38 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), resolved; 12:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:46 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 7:02 a.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), Eric Thomas Carlsen, 30, 18 King Street Extension, Leicester, OUI liquor, negligent operation, marked lanes violation, arrest; 12:07 p.m.: fraud (Pleasant Street), report taken; 12:51 a.m.: welfare check (Grove Street), resolved; 3:37 p.m.: animal complaint (Laurelwood Avenue), referred to ACO; 5:03 p.m.: ambulance (Washburn Street), transported; 5:57 p.m.: family problem (Chapel Street), spoken to; 6:47 p.m.: ambulance (Deer Pond Road), transported; 8:51 p.m.: welfare check (Pine Ridge Drive), report taken; 11:45 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, mv lights violation, criminal application issued.

### WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27

12:04 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 7:54 a.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), referred; 11:27 a.m.: disabled mv (Paxton Street), spoken to; 11:42 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street), peace restored; 2:26 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street, Worcester), transported; 2:43 p.m.: welfare check (Grove Street), resolved; 3:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:45 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:54 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:10 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), mv towed; 4:11 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:30 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:38 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:52 p.m.: disturbance (Stafford Street), spoken to; 4:54 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:13 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:16 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:24 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:35 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:40 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:33 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 11:57 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, marked lanes violation, mv towed.

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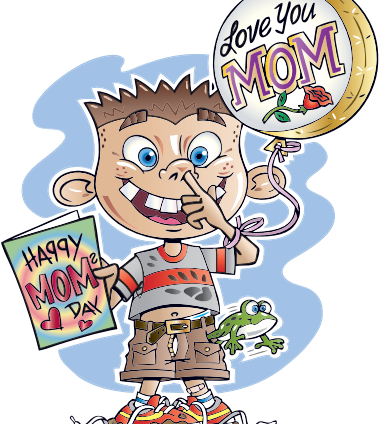
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