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Friday, August 15, 2025

Busy schedule of programs continues at Haston Library

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Guests of all ages are invited to explore a busy schedule of programs this month at Haston Free Public Library.

Craft Night for Adults returns on Thursday, Aug. 28, at 5 p.m. Guests will learn how to make floral lights. Please register for this event in advance by contacting the library by phone or email.

The library's Book Discussion Group will next meet on Aug. 26 at 7 p.m. Members will read and discuss "This Other Eden," written by Paul Harding.

Library officials also invite guests to check out a new program called Cook the Book Club.

"Select a recipe from this month's featured cookbook (available at the circulation desk), cook it up, and bring it to our potluck and discussion," a library-issued statement read. "Let's share great food and conversation."

The group will next meet on Thursday, Aug. 21, at 5:30 p.m.

Meanwhile, the library team invites guests to take part in "Adult Summer Reading Bingo."

You can get involved in this fun program by picking up your Bingo sheet at the library, completing challenges, and claiming prizes.

"Each bingo you complete earns you a prize and an entry into our grand prize drawing," the

Turn To **LIBRARY** page **A10**

Ceremony recognizes Leicester police officers



Courtesy

Community partnerships combat food insecurity



Courtesy

Local residents celebrate the creation of a new food stand in North Brookfield.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative (NBCFC) is working with several partners to provide assistance for those in need.

The NBCFC recently opened a new food stand on the lawn of First Congregational Church of North Brookfield. Several area volunteers came together to make the project happen.

"It was an amazing community effort," said North Brookfield resident Karen Farrington, who leads the NBCFC. "The collaborative at times has a surplus of food that we donate to the community from food that we rescue that is going to get thrown out, so we take enough for the many families who experience food insecurity."

The NBCFC has used a free farmstand in town for food distribution, but its location on a main road created traffic concerns during periods of heavy use. To ensure safety and a smooth traffic flow, organization leaders decided to review opportunities for a new location.

"We researched and

Turn To **PANTRY** page **A10**

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — Several members of the Leicester Police Department were recognized last week for their recent actions protecting the community and fellow first responders.

At the Aug. 5 Select Board meeting, a recognition ceremony honored officers' actions taken during multiple responses this summer.

LPD Det. Sgt. Matthew Brady, Det. Travis McCauley, Officer Ives Fisher, and K-9 Officer Matthew Fenuccio (and K-9 Cooney) were honored for their actions during a July 6 pursuit of a carjacking suspect.

The incident began when a suspect on probation took a vehicle without permission from a residence in Clinton, striking several people and causing property damage.

Later that day, the same suspect carjacked a woman at a Dairy Queen in West Boylston, then fled the area in her stolen vehicle.

At approximately 7:45 p.m. that evening, Leicester Police officers were notified that members of the Worcester Police Department were pursuing the carjacking suspect in the stolen vehicle, heading west as it approached Leicester on Route 9.

Leicester Police Sgt. Matthew Brady observed the vehicle on Main Street in the area of Waite Street, then assumed the pursuit. A short time later, Detective Travis McCauley and Officer Ives Fisher also followed the vehicle.

The suspect traveled down Pleasant Street and eventually onto Hartwell Road in Oxford, police said.

"At that time, the vehicle turned around on another person's front lawn, accelerated, and intentionally rammed Sgt. Brady's cruiser on the driver's side as he was attempting to exit, trapping him inside," an LPD-issued statement read. "Det. McCauley and Officer Fisher immediately took the occupants into custody, detaining them for the West Boylston Police Department."

LPD K-9 handler Matthew Fenuccio and K-9 Cooney also responded to the scene, as well as officers from Worcester, West Boylston, Oxford, and the Massachusetts State Police.

During the Aug. 5 ceremony, local leaders were thrilled to celebrate the officers for their teamwork and rapid response to a dangerous situation.

"To watch this situation unfold from the body camera perspective is unnerving, and this is not

the first time Leicester officers have encountered something like this," said State Sen. Peter Durant, who attended the recognition ceremony. "I feel an immense sense of pride watching these officers as they remain calm and focused in a situation where lives and the safety of the community are at stake."

Also honored during the ceremony was LPD Officer Paul Pepin, who assisted two critically injured colleagues following a serious accident last month.

On July 10, Pepin was enjoying an off-duty motorcycle ride with fellow LPD Officers Edward Santiago and Stephen Kustigian. While riding ahead of them on a road in Worcester, Pepin noticed that the other two officers were no longer behind him.

After reversing direction, Pepin observed that

Turn To **OFFICERS** page **A10**

Local communities take part in National Night Out



Courtesy

Local law enforcement leaders celebrate the annual National Night Out program.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Several local communities recently held National Night Out (NNO) events connecting law enforcement agencies and the residents they serve.

Typically held on the first Tuesday of August, the NNO program is intended to

foster the creation of relationships between community members and law enforcement agencies. Residents often only see police officers and other personnel in uniform during the course of their duties, but NNO events help build familiarity during fun, laid-back settings.

"National Night Out

enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community," read a statement released by NNO organizers. "It provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances."

Turn To **NIGHT OUT** page **A10**

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Bay Path awarded grant to expand adult workforce training

CHARLTON — Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School is thrilled to announce it has been awarded a Career Technical Initiative (CTI) Round 10 grant totaling \$1,337,077.24, a workforce development initiative supported by the Healey-Driscoll Administration and the Massachusetts Workforce Skills Cabinet.

This highly competitive grant will allow Bay Path to deliver no-cost, credentialed training and job placement services to unemployed and underemployed

adults across Worcester County. Training will be provided in Automotive Collision Repair, Automotive Repair Technology, Building Maintenance, Culinary Arts, Diesel Technology, Electrical, HVAC, Manufacturing, and Welding—fields critical to the Commonwealth’s economic growth.

“We’re incredibly grateful to the Healey-Driscoll Administration and the Workforce Skills Cabinet for this CTI grant,” said Superintendent-Director Kyle Brenner. “This fund-

ing allows Bay Path to significantly expand our adult training programs, directly addressing the critical demand for skilled tradespeople in our region. We’re proud to empower individuals with the skills they need to thrive, while helping build a stronger, more resilient workforce across Massachusetts.”

The Career Technical Initiative is designed to meet persistent workforce shortages in the trades and manufacturing sectors by leveraging the state’s vocational school infrastructure. Bay Path will continue its close collaboration with MassHire Career Centers and regional Workforce Boards to provide high-quality training leading to industry-recognized credentials and direct employment pathways.

Eligible participants must be 18 years or older and either unemployed or underemployed—defined as earning less than \$56,100 annually (or \$27 per hour). Most recent high school graduates qualify as underemployed and are encouraged to apply.

Bay Path is building on a record of success. Through previous CTI Rounds 7 and 9, the school trained more than 70 adult learners in trades such as Culinary Arts, HVAC, Manufacturing, and Automotive Collision Repair—many of whom are now working in their chosen industries.


“As a graduate of the

CTI Program I am excited for the new group of students that will be able to take advantage of the hands-on vocational training. This program will provide them the skills and tools needed to acquire jobs and improve their lives. I am working in the auto collision field and am planning on more education to better my current position and enhance my career. The support that Bay Path and MassHire provided throughout the program and after with job assistance was key!” said Pamela Truenow / Long Subaru, CTI Auto Collision class of 2025.

Bay Path’s CTI employer partners include Masonic Health System/The Overlook, ckSmith Superior, C&C Temp Control, Inc., Kinefac Corporation, Upper Blackstone Clean Water, Dexter, MassDOT, Sheet Metal Workers’ Local #63, BAPS, The Arc, Primetals, HVAC/R Service Contractors, Table 3 Restaurant Group, Fuller Collision Center, Long Subaru, Harr Motor Group, UMass, and Flexcon.

As the need for skilled tradespeople continues to grow, Bay Path and its network of employer partners remain committed to building opportunity, strengthening local economies, and supporting the success of working families across the Commonwealth.

Interested participants can learn more or apply by visiting masshirecentralcc.com/baypathcti.

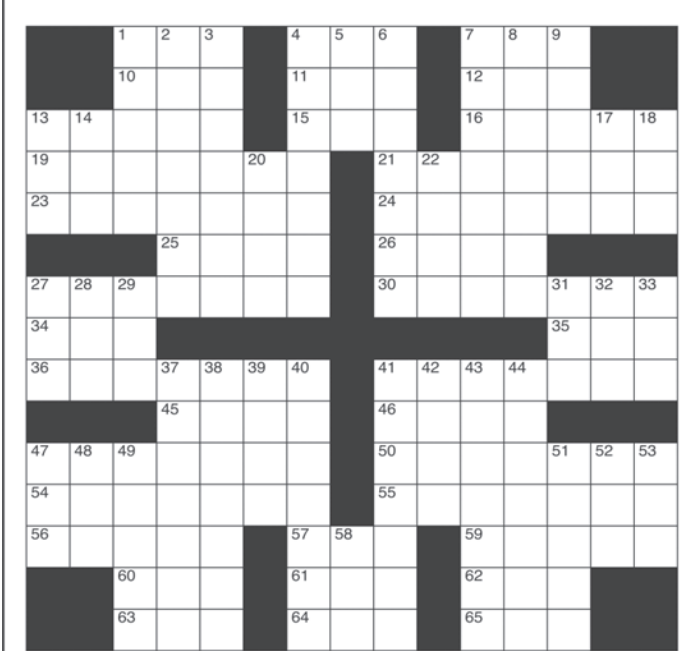


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- ### CLUES ACROSS

 - 1. Auto manufacturer
 - 4. The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet
 - 7. Two-year-old sheep
 - 10. Member of indigenous people in Asia
 - 11. Airborne (abbr.)
 - 12. Actress de Armas
 - 13. Not moving
 - 15. Cool!
 - 16. Plants of the arum family
 - 19. Perceptible by touch
 - 21. Rorschach test
 - 23. Monetary units
 - 24. Art
 - 25. Cardinal number
 - 26. Dueling sword
 - 27. Hates
 - 30. Fixed in one place
 - 34. Pie ___ mode
- 35. Moved on foot
 - 36. Passenger’s spot on a motorcycle
 - 41. A way through
 - 45. “Rule, Britannia” composer
 - 46. Leader
 - 47. Flowing
 - 50. Common greetings in Arabic countries
 - 54. Solution for all difficulties
 - 55. Soft clothing fabric
 - 56. Building material
 - 57. Sea bream
 - 59. A way to cause to be swollen
 - 60. One and only
 - 61. Skin color
 - 62. Wreath
 - 63. Nevertheless
 - 64. They ___
 - 65. Sea eagle

- ### CLUES DOWN

 - 1. Policemen (French)
 - 2. Toy dog
 - 3. Inflamed colon disease
 - 4. Muscular weaknesses
 - 5. Helps little firms
 - 6. References
 - 7. Takes down
 - 8. Facilitates
 - 9. One-time empress of the Roman Empire
 - 13. Engine additive
 - 14. Chemistry solution
 - 17. Written account
 - 18. Consumed
 - 20. Coming after all others
 - 22. No (slang)
 - 27. Government lawyers
 - 28. Super Bowl winner Manning
 - 29. Small amount
- 31. A way to save for your future
 - 32. A way to travel behind
 - 33. Midway between northeast and east
 - 37. Head pain
 - 38. Loud lawn insect
 - 39. Actress Hathaway
 - 40. Boat race
 - 41. About fish
 - 42. Nursemaid in India
 - 43. Marketable
 - 44. Tinier
 - 47. Parts per billion (abbr.)
 - 48. Paddle
 - 49. Oneness
 - 51. Bitter compound
 - 52. Not around
 - 53. Very fast airplane
 - 58. Swiss river

PUZZLE SOLUTION

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Cornerstone Bank tees up big donation to support senior living

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is donating \$7,500 to the Briarwood Continuing Care Retirement Community with a gold sponsorship in the Briarwood Golf Outing Sept. 25 at Cyprian Keyes Golf Club in Boylston. It's the third year in a row the bank has donated that amount to Briarwood.

“We look forward to this fun event every year,” said Tim Gardell, VP, commercial lender at Cornerstone. “It’s become a great tradition for a worthy cause.”

The Briarwood Community in Worcester provides residential living ranging from independent living to assisted living, memory care and full-service nursing home care.

About Cornerstone Bank

Cornerstone Bank was formed in 2017, born of a long history of supporting the community, and providing a strong foundation to help people and businesses thrive. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank’s local presence and community-based banking model enables a unique ability to deliver outstanding service, with a personal touch. Cornerstone, which is a subsidiary of PeoplesBankCorp, MHC, operating independently under its own name and brand, provides the highest level of service and expertise for individuals, businesses, and community organizations with branch locations throughout Central Massachusetts. Cornerstone works to connect customers with opportunities through a broad range of deposit and loan products and services. Built on Trust is not just a tagline, but also one of our guiding corporate values. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone stands on the foundation that relationships are built on trust. To learn about Cornerstone Bank’s personal and business banking offerings, please visit cornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

Family Fun Day returns to Leicester Tuesday

LEICESTER — The town’s public safety departments will once again team up with Leicester Parks and Recreation during the annual Family Fun Day program.

On Tuesday, Aug. 19, a special Public Safety Day session will take place from 4-6 p.m. on the Town Common.

The event will allow guests to meet members of the police department, fire department, Worcester County District Attorney’s Office, Senior Center, school department, and Worcester County Sheriff’s Office, among others.

Activities for the whole family will be available.


To learn more about the event, check out the LPD’s social media pages.

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\$544,000, 284 N Sturbridge Rd, Dicenso, Carmine A, and Dicenso, Elizabeth F, to Donovan Rt, and Donovan, Anneliese.

LEICESTER

\$415,000, 74 Clark St, Harmon Karol J Est, and Harmon, Matthew S, to Forsman, Jeffrey, and Forsman, Ashley.

\$350,000, 13 Deer Pond Dr, Carlson, David W, and Carlson, Lillian M, to Carlson, Benjamin D.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$395,000, 50 Town Farm Rd, Sjogren, Cheryl L, to T-C-P Enterprises Inc.

\$336,900, 53 Old East Brookfield Rd, Perrault, Colby R, and Perrault, Kristen, to Marois, Lisa A.

\$210,000, 101 School St, Ttr Operations LLC, to Equity TCo.

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\$550,000, 7 Dolma Ln, Greenwood, Katelyn O, and Greenwood, Jeffrey E, to Creelman, Kyle.

WARREN

\$644,000, 31 Jolicoeur Ave, Anderson Ft, and Anderson, Bryan E, to Anderson, Bryan E, and Peterson, Kristin.

\$550,000, 7 Dolma Ln, Greenwood, Katelyn O, and Greenwood, Jeffrey E, to Creelman, Kyle.

WEST BROOKFIELD

None

Local officials go the extra mile in support of Pan-Mass Challenge

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

STAFF WRITER

STURBRIDGE — Local public safety agencies are thanked for once again teaming up to ensure a safe Pan-Mass Challenge.

Held on Aug. 2 & 3, the event brought together thousands of riders, volunteers, and guests in support of the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

The annual ride requires countless hours of preparations from participants, including physical training and fundraising. The same level of commitment is invested in the event from a public safety standpoint, with multiple agencies working together to plan logistics for the big weekend.

“I’d like to thank all of our public safety partners for their tremendous support during this year’s PMC event,” said Sturbridge Police Chief Earl Dessert. “As always, this operation would not be possible without the collaboration and dedication of our fellow law enforcement agencies, support teams, and volunteers.”

The following agencies and departments teamed up to ensure a safe ride: Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency; Sturbridge Emergency Management; Sturbridge Fire Department and EMS; Massachusetts State Police; Worcester County Sheriff’s Office; CEMLEC SWAT and the

CEMLEC Motor Unit; the Environmental Police; East Brookfield Police Department; Sturbridge Police Department; Quincy Police Department; and the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

“I also want to thank PMC staff members Sue Brogan and Matt McGuiness for their continued partnership, communication, and leadership throughout the planning and execution of this massive event,” Chief Dessert added.

The 2025 PMC marked the end of an era, as riders departed from the Sturbridge Host Hotel start line for the final time. Beginning next year, the start line will be moved to the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester.

For Sturbridge residents and public safety leaders, watching the final launch from the traditional start line brought a range of emotions, with riders pouring onto Route 20 in town for the last time.

“As this marks the final year the PMC will kick off from Sturbridge, it is bittersweet. While I am saddened to see the event move on, I am extremely proud of the many years we hosted the start of this ride without a single major safety issue,” Dessert said. “Our top priority has always been the safety of the riders, and I know we delivered

the level of security they deserved—from full intersection coverage to detailed coordination across jurisdictions.”

Added Dessert, “To the men and women of the Sturbridge Police Department—thank you for always going the extra mile. The behind-the-scenes coordination and commitment each of you demonstrates every year is a point of pride for our agency and our community.”

To ensure a safe ride, local departments begin planning far in advance of the event, coordinat-

ing everything from traffic control operations to rider and spectator supports.

“A heartfelt thank you to Lieutenant Larry Bateman and Matthew Wyke (Sturbridge Emergency Management), who has overseen the security planning for the PMC for many years. Their work starts months in advance and is a major reason why this event has consistently gone off without a hitch,” Dessert said.

The PMC is a fully supported bike-a-thon that provides riders

with fundraising tools and guidance; meals and snacks at hub sites; water stops along routes; and mechanical and medical assistance.

The PMC raises more money for charity than any other single athletic fundraising event in the country. All funds raised by the event support the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, a world leader in adult and pediatric cancer treatment and research.

“I want to wish all PMC riders many more years of safe and successful rides,” Dessert said.

“Lastly, I extend my deepest gratitude to the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The PMC has raised an extraordinary amount of money for patients and families, and we are proud to have played a small role in supporting that mission.”

The PMC is Dana-Farber’s single largest supporter. Since 1980, the event has raised roughly \$1.05 billion for Dana-Farber.

To learn more about the PMC and how you can join the fight against cancer by making a donation, visit www.pmc.org.

Annual flowers that take the heat

As temperatures rise, some annuals slow down or stop flowering due to heat stall. They will recover as temperatures cool but may leave your gardens or containers looking less colorful.

Take some time now to evaluate annual flowers that are thriving in your garden and those that may need to be left off the plant list for next year’s garden.

Start looking for more heat-tolerant plants and cultivars to use in the future. A visit to your local botanic garden and viewing gardens in your neighborhood can help provide insight and inspirations for plants suited to your summer weather.

Zinnias are known for their heat and drought tolerance. These long-blooming annuals come in a variety of colors and heights. Wheat, plume, and crested celosia not only add color, but also interesting flower shapes to gardens and arrangements.

Angelonias, also known as summer snapdragons, are upright plants that make great vertical accents and add season-long color to containers and gardens. Granvia strawflowers are taller, more vigorous plants with larger flowers than older strawflower varieties. Enjoy them in the garden and for months after in arrangements, dried wreaths, and other decorations.

Annual vinca, Catharanthus, with its shiny leaves and long-lasting flowers, thrives in hot, dry weather. The dainty flowers of the Soiree® Kawaii series and the fringed, ruffled flower petals of the Soiree® Flenenco series provide a unique flare. Include pentas with their star-shaped flowers to help attract and support butterflies. You’ll find plants with white, red, pink, lavender, violet, and bicolor flowers, and even a few trailing varieties.

Cupheas are not only heat tolerant but are magnets for hummingbirds. These season-long bloomers are covered with flowers and do not need deadheading. Mandevilla is another long-blooming, heat-tolerant plant that thrives in sunny locations. You’ll find upright, trailing, and tall climbing varieties to include in gardens, containers, and hanging baskets.

If you are looking for a heat-tolerant, trailing plant, consider bidens. The BeeDance® series is an earlier and continuous flowering variety. Moss roses and other portulacas are also trailing and low-growing plants that can be used as annual groundcovers, edging plants, and trailers in containers.

Look for more heat-tolerant cultivars of your favorite annuals that tend to stop blooming during hot weather. Heatopia™, Hot® Waterblue, Techno®, and Laguna® lobelias show more heat tolerance than many older lobelia cultivars. White Stream™, Snow Princess®, and Frosty Knight® are a few alyssum cultivars to consider. They tolerate the heat but prefer moist well-drained soil.

Hot Pak™ French marigolds have been bred for increased hot weather tolerance. The triploid marigolds like Endurance™ and Zenith™ are a cross between the African and French marigolds. They have the longer bloom time of the French marigold and the heat tolerance of the African species.

Don’t give up on heat stalled annual plants in your garden and containers. Continue to water the heat-stressed plants as needed but wait for them to recover before fertilizing if needed.



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS



Trim back leggy plants and once the temperatures cool, the plants will start flowering.

Continue to watch for, try, and evaluate new, more heat-tolerant additions for your gardens and contain-

Melinda Myers

Heat-tolerant Sun Parasol® Giant Peach Sunrise Mandevilla and Blue Tiara™ Supertunia®.

ers. Finding the right plants for your growing conditions and garden design can help boost your garden’s beauty and your enjoyment even as temperatures rise.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the *Midwest Gardener’s Handbook*, *2nd Edition* and *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* “How to Grow Anything” instant video series and the nationally syndicated *Melinda’s Garden Moment* radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.



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QCC’s respiratory care program wins national award

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College’s Respiratory Care program recently received the Distinguished RRT (Registered Respiratory Therapist) Credentialing Success Award from the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (CoARC). This is the third time QCC has received this award.

The award is given by CoARC to accredited programs that have a three-year running average of 90 percent of students passing both required credentialing exams and earning their Registered Respiratory Therapist certification after graduation. QCC is one of 75 respiratory care programs in the country that won an award out of more than 400 programs.

“I am incredibly proud of our respiratory care students and faculty. With the growing demand for respiratory therapists, QCC graduates are well-prepared to meet workforce needs thanks to the strong clinical training they receive, as reflected by this award,” said Assistant Dean of the School of Healthcare Shanan Stratis.

The Respiratory Care program at QCC is a 20-month associate degree program that prepares students to enter the workforce as a licensed RRT. Graduates from the program are often employed at QCC’s clinical affiliates such as UMass Memorial Medical Center and Mass General Hospital.

“Our program strives to see our students succeed while they are with us and after they graduate and sit for their exams, so that they can become successful respiratory therapists and fill vital positions to serve our local communities,” said Respiratory Care Program Coordinator and QCC alum Daniel Marsala.

QCC’s Respiratory Care program began in 1967, and is the oldest respiratory program in the state. For more information, visit qcc.edu/respiratory-care.

Berthiaume announces local office hours

REGION — State Rep. Donnie Berthiaume and Chief of Staff, Donna, invites Constituents and town officials to meet them to express any concerns, ideas, or issues that they may need assistance with. Please feel free to contact Donna if you would like a private meeting. 774-402-4742

Tuesday, Sept. 9 — In the Town of Ware at the Senior Center, 9 – 9:45 a.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 9 – In the Town of West Brookfield, at the Senior Center, 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Tuesday, Sept. 9 — In the Town of Brookfield at the Town Hall, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 10 — In the Town of Leicester at the Senior Center, 9 – 9:45 a.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 10 — In the Town of Spencer, at Senior Center, 10- 11 a.m.- With Tammy Ruda from Rep. Marsi’s Office.

Wednesday, Sept. 10 — In the Town of East Brookfield at the Senior Center, 11:15 a.m. – noon.

Thursday, Sept. 11 — Town of North Brookfield – Town Hall, 11 a.m.-noon

MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Mercury is an element that can be harmful to human health and the environment if not disposed of properly.

Mercury is found in products such as:



Thermostats



Thermometers



Mercury Switches



Fluorescent Lamps

Please contact your local Board of Health or Department of Public Works for information on where to safely dispose of these items.

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100 YEARS AGO THIS MONTH

100 Years Ago This Month: Historical events from August 1925 (551 words, US, UK, CAN)

- The month of August has been home to many historical events over the years. Here's a look at some that helped to shape the world in August 1925.
- The National Football League awards franchises to four new teams on August 1. Among the newly minted franchises is the New York Giants, a team that remains in the league today.
- The Fascists win local elections in Sicily on August 3. The Blackshirts, an all-volunteer militia loyal to Fascist leader Benito Mussolini, are stationed at voting booths throughout Sicily during the election.
- The last United States Marines are withdrawn from Nicaragua on August 4. The U.S. occupation of the country began thirteen years prior.
- The President of Turkey, Mustafa Kemal, divorces his wife of less than two years on August 5. Kemal is upset that his wife, Latife Usaki, publicly promoted emancipation of women and encouraged their independence in regard to choice of clothing.
- The Dallas Hilton opens on August 6. It is the first high-rise hotel to bear the Hilton name.
- Tens of thousands of Ku Klux Klan members march down Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. on August 8. Heavy rains force the cancellation of a planned ceremony that had been scheduled to begin at the conclusion of the march.
- Twin brothers Norris and Ross McWhirter are born in Winchmore Hill, Essex, England on August 12. The brothers would eventually create The Guinness Book of World Records.
- American sculptor Gutzon Borglum is invited to the Black Hills region of South Dakota on August 14. Borglum, who is now best known for his work on

- Mount Rushmore, visits the region to scout for a location for carving a monument on the side of a mountain.
- The Cuban Communist Party is founded in Havana on August 16. The party eventually merged with Fidel Castro's Integrated Revolutionary Organizations in 1961.
- The Fourteenth World Zionist Congress opens in Vienna on August 17. Protests by Austrian fascists outside the Congress turn violent and result in injuries to 30 people and 50 arrests.
- Fidel LaBarba defeats Frankie Genaro in a 10-round decision to win the vacant World Flyweight Championship in Los Angeles on August 22.
- A boxing match between welterweight champion Mickey Walker and William "Sailor" Friedman ends in a no-decision in Chicago on August 24. In a dressing room meeting prior to the match, Walker was advised by Al Capone to go easy on Friedman.
- A Spanish naval bombardment effectively levels the Moroccan city of Rif during the Rif War on August 25.
- African American singer Marian Anderson first achieves fame after performing with the New York Philharmonic orchestra on August 26. Anderson would go on to perform with renowned orchestras throughout the United States and Europe in a decades-long career; all the while serving as an important figure as African Americans struggled to overcome racial prejudice in the U.S. in the mid-twentieth century.
- Several notable Nicaraguan politicians are kidnapped in Managua on August 28. Armed men ultimately take the hostages to La Loma, a mountain-top fortress.
- Babe Ruth is fined \$5,000 and suspended for one week by New York Yankees manager Miller Huggins on August 29. Ruth was disciplined after failing to show up for batting practice.

What to do if your home is damaged in a storm



- Natural disasters and severe storms can leave a trail of devastation in their wake. When such events occur, people are left to pick up the pieces, and that may involve assessing damage to their homes.
- The aftermath of a storm is a difficult time for individuals whose homes were damaged or lost. Knowing what to do in the aftermath of a storm that damaged or destroyed their homes can start victims on the road to recovery that much sooner.
- Check to confirm everyone is alright. The first step anyone can take after their home is damaged is to confirm everyone is safe. That includes residents of the home as well as neighbors. Check to ensure elderly residents and neighbors or those with mobility issues made it through the storm safely. A 2011 study published in the journal Medical Anthropology found that the greatest mortality during and immediately after Hurricane Katrina in 2005 was among the elderly. The study noted individuals over age 60 accounted for 75 percent of the bodies found immediately after the storm.
- Assess and document the damage. Once everyone is safe, assess the damage from a reasonable distance. It's necessary to keep your distance because the property may still be vulnerable to further damage, including collapse. If it's safe to do so, you can then begin to document the damage, utilizing a smartphone to take photos and videos of the property. If it's safe to enter the property, take as many photos and videos of the interior of the home as possible, making sure to upload them to cloud storage soon thereafter. Photos and videos taken immediately after a storm can facilitate the claims process with your insurance provider.
- Contact your insurance provider. If conditions allowed for safe assessment and documentation of the damage, contact your insurance provider to report it and begin the claims process. Chances are many others will be contacting the same provider, so it's best to begin the claims process as soon as possible. It also helps to recognize patience will be necessary. Many insurance providers now allow policy holders to file claims through apps on their mobile phones, and doing so can be invaluable if tablets, laptops and other devices were damaged or destroyed during the storm.
- Ask your provider what you can do. Insurance policies may only cover damage that occurred during the storm. Post-storm damage, such as water issues that arise because windows or doors were damaged during the storm, may not be covered. That's why it's a good idea for homeowners and others to call their insurance providers and ask what to do to prevent further, potentially uncovered damage.
- Recognize criminals pose a new threat. The Federal Emergency Management Agency encourages survivors to be cognizant of fraudulent schemes that often arise in the aftermath of a storm. Examples of scams include housing inspectors claiming to represent FEMA, fake offers of local or federal aid and fraudulent building contractors. Always ask for identification and do not work with anyone asking for cash in return for assistance.
- Knowing what to do in the aftermath of a devastating storm can help survivors get on the road to recovery more quickly.

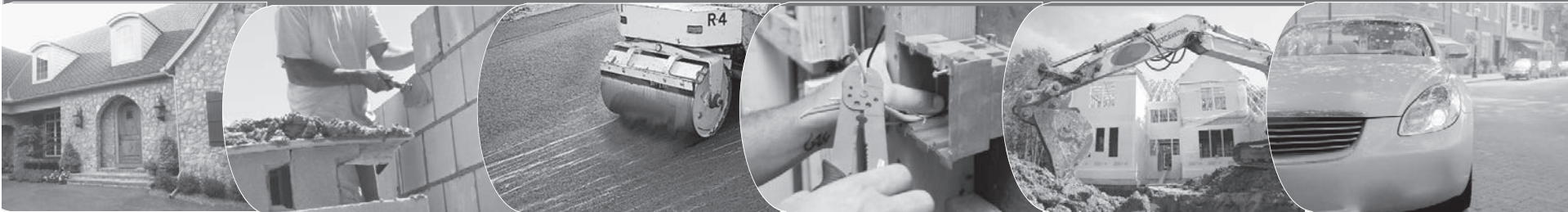


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BBQ chicken & family picnic planned at St. Joseph Church

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Blessed Carlo Acutis Parish, St. Joseph Church, North Brookfield, will hold a Chicken BBQ & Family Picnic Saturday, Sept. 6 & Sunday, Sept. 7 at Saint Joseph's Church, 296 North Main Street.

Come join us for plenty of Fair food on Saturday evening and a delicious BBQ Chicken dinner served on Sunday from 12:30-1:30 p.m. Cost of the Chicken dinner is \$15/adults and \$8/children 12 & under:

Music will be provided by DJ Richard "Tabby" LeBlanc on Saturday and Sunday. We will also have assorted raffles including a scratch ticket raffle which features the grand prize of a book (50) \$30 lottery scratch tickets, and lastly a delicious bake sale!

Schedule:

Saturday
5 p.m.: The Family Picnic begins on the church lawn after the 4pm Mass

5-7 p.m.: Music by DJ Richard "Tabby" LeBlanc, Lawn games, Fair style food, and plenty of raffles

Sunday
Noon to 3 p.m.: Music by DJ Richard "Tabby" LeBlanc, Lawn games, Bake Sale, and plenty of raffles

12:30-1:30 p.m.: Chicken dinners served (eat in & take out!)

*Note: Music and Raffles available both days! For chicken dinner tickets and more info, please call the parish office Monday – Thursday from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at (508)-867-6469.

UMass Amherst announces spring graduates

AMHERST — Approximately 5,000 students received bachelor's degrees in over 100 majors at the University of Massachusetts Amherst's Undergraduate Commencement on May 16, 2025 at the McGuirk Alumni Stadium.

Below is a list of students from your area that received a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts Amherst:

Brookfield
Ania Louise Bolaske
Sara K Evans
Samuel R Hill
Daniel Ambrose Sickenberger

Elena Marie Weissman

Leicester
Philip Haberstroh
Allison Noreen Virzi
Rochdale
Matthew Francis Brown
Sean Michael Brown

Spencer
Rhylee Bishop
Daniel Paul Bowen
Maura Rose Donahue
Rhea Elora Negron
William Ordung
Peter Anthony Sobosik Jr
Ashley Catherine Wilson

Edward Jones hosting seminar on health care & retirement

AUBURN — Join Edward Jones Financial Advisors for a free seminar on "Health Care & Your Retirement" Thursday, Sept. 18 at Brookdale Eddy Pond West, 669 Washington St., Auburn.

Medicare Open Enrollment begins Oct. 15. The increasing cost of health care is a growing concern for current and future retirees. In fact, 30 years ago, retirees spent almost twice as much on food as on health care; now the amounts are nearly equal.

Join speakers Dennis Antonopoulos (Financial Advisor for Edward Jones) and Lynne Mussulli (Medicare specialist) for our presentation where we will discuss:

- Medicare coverage and traditional medical expenses
- Long-term medical care expenses
- Strategies for addressing out-of-pocket expenses

Registration begins at 5:45 p.m., with the seminar following at 6 p.m. To register, please call Karen Rieser at (508) 832-5385 or e-mail karen.rieser@edwardjones.com by Sept. 17.

P.E.T. of the Week

Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

Meet the handsome and sweet Barracuda - this handsome slinky "house-panther" is part of the 52 kitty intake we conducted about a month ago. While he is shy/cautious at first, Barracuda is very willing to be friends, he enjoys calm company and a gentle approach. Like most cats Barracuda is not a "hold me" kind of guy but he's very polite about squiggling/melting down to the ground. When he's not chatting with you Barracuda enjoys a cozy kitty tower perch where he can feel tall and safe while overlooking his space. Because of where he came from we think he would appreciate another mellow kitty friend, so slow and proper introductions will be necessary. He has no history with dogs of kids but he did meet some visiting teenager-aged kids while at PetSmart earlier this month. Come adopt this lovely boy, you won't regret it!!

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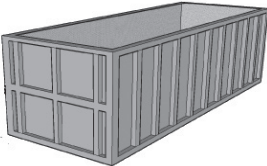
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Friday's Child



Elvin
Age 13
Registration #9084

Elvin is a unique and thoughtful child. He is naturally shy and prefers to avoid confrontation, finding comfort in calm and familiar environments. Although he loves sports, Elvin chooses not to join sports teams, enjoying physical activity in his own way. He has a special love for toys, especially locks and keys, and always carries a heavy set of them with him. Along with his locks and keys, Elvin also treasures a set of walkie-talkies that he enjoys using. When he grows up, Elvin hopes to become a custodian, inspired by the custodian at his school. Elvin attends an after-school program where he takes Taekwondo classes, an activity he truly enjoys and looks forward to.

His quiet strength, unique interests, and dedication make him a remarkable child with a lot to offer.

https://www.mareinc.org/child/22664085795

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

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



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Striving for a world free from stereotypes

In a world where information is at our fingertips and connections span continents, it is baffling to us that stereotyping still prevails. We pride ourselves on progress, yet we allow preconceived notions to shackle our understanding of each other. It's high time we collectively recognize the damage of assumptions and vow to liberate ourselves from the confines of stereotypes.

Stereotyping is the enemy of empathy, born from our innate need to categorize and simplify complex realities. It's natural for the mind to seek shortcuts, but these shortcuts often lead us astray, blinding us to the richness of human diversity. When we assume we know someone based on their appearance, background, or a single characteristic, we deny them the depth of their individuality and inadvertently perpetuate ignorance.

Let's face it, we've all been victims of stereotypes. Whether it's being judged by our nationality, gender, appearance, or hobbies, we know the frustration of not being seen for who we truly are. So, why do we continue this harmful practice? Fear, laziness, or perhaps a lack of awareness? Regardless of the reasons, it's time to shatter this cycle.

Consider the story of the introverted librarian who's also a salsa dancing champion, or the tattooed artist who spends weekends volunteering at a shelter or going to classical music concerts. These are glimpses into the lives that stereotypes fail to capture. It's not enough to say, "Don't judge a book by its cover." We must actively seek to turn the pages, engaging with the stories beneath the surface.

The path to change begins with acknowledging our biases. Recognizing that we all hold them allows us to confront them head-on. Education is a formidable weapon against stereotypes. By learning about different cultures, histories, and experiences, we open the door to a more inclusive perspective. It's a journey toward realizing that our world is a mosaic of vibrant, individual lives, each with its own colors and textures.

But this change isn't just about self-improvement; it's a societal shift. By resisting stereotypes, we create an environment where empathy flourishes. We extend the hand of understanding to those who've been marginalized and silenced. We pave the way for collaboration that's based on shared goals rather than preconceived judgments.

It's time to rewrite the script of our interactions. Let's ask questions and listen attentively. Let's engage in conversations that bridge gaps and build bridges. Let's be curious about the people we encounter, seeking to understand their unique perspectives.

As we strive for a world free of assumptions and stereotypes, let's remember that change is gradual. But every step taken is a step closer to a society where each person is seen, heard, and valued for who they truly are. Let's be the generation that breaks the chains of stereotype, forging connections that are genuine, lasting, and transformative.

Letter submission policy

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

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

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Something has got to give

To the Editor:

How is the country ever going to unite when even a local newspaper like the Spencer new Leader's Viewpoint spews so much vitriol. And this hatred is all aimed at one man, Donald Trump.

It's as if hating this one man is going to change anything. It's not.

You hate him. You didn't vote for him. But people did vote for him, and he's the President. Oh, I know, he's not your President. Sadly, some of you hate the people who voted for him as well.

Again, that's not going to change a thing. Some people weren't enamored with the performance and outcome of the previous administration, but yet, here we are. If you are fortunate to know exactly how all of President

Trump's policies are going to affect us by the end of his term, by all means, enlighten us. Am I saying that his current decisions are the end all, be all? No, I'm not. However, in the interim, hate has no purpose except to perpetuate violence and social turmoil.

On a side note, if you are so disheartened, when filing your taxes this year, you won't want the recently passed \$6,000 deduction for Social Security that you may be entitled to, and if you are a waitress, the up to \$25,000 deduction for qualifying tips, and you probably won't look into the additional child care credit that you could take advantage of.

Because, after all, you hate Trump.

SYLVIA LITTLE
SPENCER

Finding, capturing, and embracing happiness

To the Editor:

It's what we seek, desire, need, and ask for. It's what we will capture and nurture. It's more than cultivating a state of well being and contentment. It generates a feeling of peace and harmony in our minds and hearts. If people are safe, successful, and lucky, they feel success. It is the epitome of life.

Gives a feeling of personal joy and contentment.

Allows social interaction with people we meet.

Ensures pleasure received through laughter.

Impacts our social and physical well being.

Reduces stress and anxiety.

Enhances our mental health.

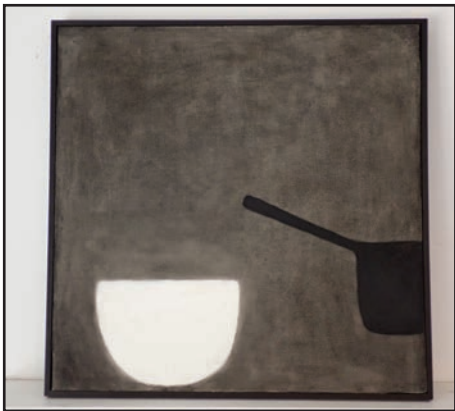
Fuels our motivation to achieve goals.

Creates lasting memories.

Happiness is a personal journey that can be explored with family, friends, and community. Always captured and experienced with positive upbeat results. It's a subjective experience that includes feelings and emotions. It can be influenced by external circumstances and personal values. It's an intangible concept. Happiness is not just a word describing our personal hopes, wishes, desires and feelings, it is the essence of what life is all about.

DONALD L. GAUDETTE, SR.
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Art



We've reached number 1 on the top 10 list of antiques and collectibles that regularly sell well for us. As a refresher, here's the rest of the top 10 list that we've covered in previous columns.

10. Transportation memorabilia
9. Old Chinese antiques
8. Vintage and antique posters and advertising signs
7. Vintage and antique cars
6. Historical memorabilia
5. Comic books
4. Baseball cards and sports memorabilia
3. Gold and Silver Coins and Sterling Silver
2. Estate jewelry, gold, and diamonds, gold watches

And finally, art is number 1 on my top 10 list. Art encompasses a wide variety of styles and mediums. There are paintings, metal sculptures, stone sculptures, pottery, folk art in wood and metal, and many other forms. Art of course has a long and varied history ranging from cave drawings dating back to around 40,000 years ago to a 2019 piece of conceptual art featuring a banana taped to a wall.

Unlike most antiques, older isn't always better when it comes to art. A 2019 Art Newspaper article reported declining sales in Old Masters paintings while contemporary art was seeing an increase in value.

In general, we have seen strong values for many works by listed artists over the past year. A J. L. (French sculptor Jean Leone) Gerome, "Gold leaf on Bronze Statue of Woman - Green Alabaster base" sold for \$6,300 last year. An Italian born artist Arnoldo Pomodoro "Gold Patinated Bronze Sculpture" brought \$7,800. Bessie Potter Vonnob was born in S. Louis, MO, and worked in New York. Her "In Arcadia" bronze statue brought \$11,400 last year.

Paintings also brought good auction

results last year. An untitled oil on canvas landscape by Charles Gruppe went for \$2,100. Gruppe was born in Canada but painted in Rockport, Massachusetts, a hotbed of artists. The Rockport Artist Association was formed in 1921, and the town is home to the Rockport Art Museum. An abstract oil on canvas painting by French born artist Jacques Doucet titled "La Promenade de Kafka" fetched \$5,400 last year. A Julian Onderdonk, a Texas Impressionist painter known for painting bluebonnet flowers, "A Glow Sky" signed oil on board painting sold for \$9,600 last year.

A Boston estate modern art collection featuring many paintings by United Kingdom artists was part of our January 2024 auction. A 1967 Craigie Aitchinson fish still life oil on canvas brought \$16,800. Barbara Hepworth's "Rhythmic Form" Abstract oil and ink on board sold for \$37,200.

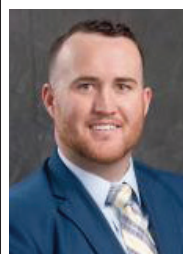
The two most valuable paintings were by United Kingdom artist William Scott. Scott was a Senior Lecturer at the Bath Academy of Art in Bath, England, from 1946 to 1956. During a trip to New York, he met Jackson Pollock, Elaine de Kooning, Mark Rothko, and Franz Kline. Their influence changed his painting method completely and he became an abstract impressionist like them. A William Scott "Grey Theme I" oil on canvas painting reached \$105,000. William Scott's "Nine Pears on a White Plate," c. 1956 oil on canvas fetched \$141,000.

Maurizio Cattelan's "Comedian," the artwork of a banana duct taped to a wall that I alluded to earlier, sold for \$6.2 million last year. The piece includes instructions on replacing the banana when it goes bad, although some have chosen to eat the banana before it rots.

Our online auction of the Harlansburg Transportation Museum in Pennsylvania starts this week. We continue to work on the Laurel and Hardy memorabilia auction and Civil War memorabilia auction. We are accepting quality consignments for other upcoming auctions. Please visit our website <https://centralmassauctions.com> for links to upcoming events.

Contact us to consign items or for auction information at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique, Collectibles Auctions and Appraisal Services info@centralmassauctions.com or (508-612-6111).

Let a financial advisor help plan for life's curveballs



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No matter what stage of your life you're in — caring for children, working toward retirement or planning your legacy — unforeseen events like a job loss, a major illness or even a stock market drop could derail what you're working so hard to achieve financially.

With your future at stake, you may want to get guidance from a financial professional who can develop a personalized financial strategy to help you navigate life's curveballs.

Here are specific ways a financial advisor can help.

Create a customized long-term strategy. This is the first step to weather unforeseen events. You may have several long-term investing goals — your retirement, your child's education or perhaps a dream vacation. A financial advisor can help you build a strategy specific to your goals and risk tolerance. This will include prioritizing those goals, building a path toward each and pivoting your strategy as markets shift and needs change.

Set realistic expectations. Successful investing requires discipline and patience — most individual investors make their money over time, not overnight. Start by setting realistic timelines to reach each of your goals. And don't be surprised if you need to make trade-offs, like working an extra year to help fund your retirement dream home. It's realistic to expect you'll hit some bumps in the road. Perhaps the markets will drop and the value of your portfolio may follow. (It's also realistic to expect they will rebound, as they have historically. Of course, past performance of the markets is no guarantee of what will happen in the future.) A financial advisor can help you keep your emotions in check no matter what comes your way and stay focused on the long term, knowing you have a customized strategy in place.

Diversify your investments. The foundation for your portfolio is your asset allocation, or how you divide your assets among stocks, bonds, cash and other investments. Different investments behave differently in various market conditions, so maintaining a good mix can help better weather market fluctuations than putting "all your eggs in one basket." Finding the right diversification mix, and keeping it balanced despite what the market does, can get complicated, but it's almost second nature for a good financial advisor. All investments don't ensure a profit or protect against loss in a declining market.

Keep a long-term outlook. It's easy to become distracted by the latest headline, expert prediction or market swing. However, if these events don't change your long-term outlook, there probably isn't a reason to make changes to your strategy. In fact, these declines often present good opportunities if you're a long-term investor, so use them to your advantage — your financial advisor can show you how.

Keep your emergency savings well-funded. This is your "rainy day" fund, and an unexpected event may constitute a rainy day. For most people, maintaining three to six months of total expenses in emergency savings is appropriate. The specific amount depends on factors like your risk of unexpected expenses or temporary loss of income, and how much you value being confident that you can weather financial emergencies. A financial advisor can help you determine what your emergency savings should look like.

Unexpected events are part of life. You can't predict them, but you can prepare for them. No matter what is going on around you, having a professional by your side can help set you up to navigate them confidently.

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

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Tried and True Fishing Tips

Whether relaxing on the shore of still waters, or wrangling in a temperamental trout, the sport of fishing remains a simple pleasure lifelong memories are made of. With several popular waterways in our area, fishing is an outdoor activity enjoyed by locals both young and old alike.

Planning to drop your line into the waters this weekend? Read on for an array of classic tips from successful anglers - all geared to help make your time at the fishing hole more productive!

Successful fishers make it a habit to change their line. Fishing line has memory- it will retain the twist, nicks scrapes, and it gets weaker every time it is used. Don't chance losing the "big one" to brittle line!

And be sure to match

your hook size to your bait: small for small, large for large. It makes a difference in holding your bait, and in how many strikes you will get.

Take a valuable fishing tip from old timers who say "if you find the bait you'll find the fish." To do this efficiently, they make it a habit to scan the water for bird activity. Follow the birds, who follow the bait, and you'll likely find the fish!

When throwing into the wind, drop your rod tip to the water right after making the cast. You'll get more distance and will also get the slack out of your line in case you get bit just when the bait hits the surface. If you leave the rod held high, the wind will make an arc out of your line and you'd lose control of the bait.

Still no bites? It could be your bug repellent. Never handle bait after applying it as the scent will keep the fish away.

Tips to Track Trout

Did you know Rainbow Trout favor 56 degree water? Find that temperature and you're sure to find the fish! If it's cold out, trout can typically be found on the surface of a lake. If it's hot out, they'll be deeper in the water.

Remember, trout have tough mouths. Keep your hooks sharp - and use a number 4 hook for best results!

Want to up your odds of trout for supper? When lake fishing, dip your crawler in the oil from a can of smoked oysters!

Trying to tempt the best trout? Try this secret recipe from anglers:

Combine two ounces of cod liver oil with 20 drops oil of anise. Mix well. Dip your bait in the mixture and string up the trout!

These old fashioned bait recipes are tried and true secret weapons from successful fishermen - but best of all, you can whip them up with ingredients from your kitchen cupboards!

Anglers swear refrigerator biscuit dough is a great bait for trout. Just pull a raw biscuit apart and start reeling in the "big one!"

Even fish love spicy food, as this super lure recipe will attest. Mix together 8 ounce ground aniseed or fennel seed and two ounces ground allspice. Sprinkle 1/16th oz. oil of cloves over the above and mix. Store in tightly sealed jars for a few days while the odors

blend. Put a drop on fish bait.

If you're fishing with salmon eggs or worms, don't forget to add a miniature marshmallow to the hook to keep your bait buoyant!

Try this quick tip: dip your crawler in the oil from a can of smoked oysters! Fish love it!

Win a Three Course Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month (or whenever I receive enough tips for a column) will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the renowned restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because



TAKE THE HINT
KAREN TRAINOR

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.

Don't pray like a beggar!

Stop praying like you're begging for scraps.

That's why your plans fall apart. That's why the world ignores your voice.

You kneel, you whisper, you plead—but all it shows is a lack of faith.

You weren't made to beg. You were made to command.

Don't get me wrong—prayer is a form of faith. But if you pray like someone who doesn't believe... if you doubt, if you're just hoping for a miracle you secretly think will never come... if you're waiting, crying, complaining—then it's not faith at all. It's a broadcast of fear and lack.

Neuroscience tells us your brain listens to the story you repeat. It takes

POSITIVELY SPEAKING
TOBY MOORE

your words as marching orders. Pray like a beggar, and your brain wires itself to expect scraps. Pray like a commander, and you activate the networks in your mind that seek solutions, recognize opportunities, and pull you toward what you claim.

Scientists found that just watching tiny particles changed how they behaved. Prayer works the same way—what you focus on with expectation shapes what shows up.

Life works the same way. If you expect little, you'll get little. If you expect abundance with unwavering certainty, you start tuning into the version of reality where it's already yours.

You're not here to plead for crumbs—you're here to speak as if the feast is

already set before you.

The master put it plain: "If anyone says to this mountain, 'Go, throw yourself into the sea,' and does not doubt in their heart but believes that what they say will happen, it will be done for them." That's authority! It's knowing reality bends to conviction.

He also said, "According to your faith, let it be done to you." In other words, you don't get what you want; you get what you expect.

And "Whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours." That's the mental blueprint—see it done before it's done.

Begging mode doesn't just feel weak—it makes you weak. Neuroscience calls it a low-agency mindset. When you approach your goals from desper-

ation, your brain flips into survival mode. You become less capable of spotting opportunities or making bold moves. You're programming your reality to deliver the same disappointments, over and over.

Flip the lens, and everything changes. When you speak and act with certainty, your nervous system recalibrates. Dopamine and serotonin rise, your motivation climbs, and your tolerance for risk increases. You start scanning for proof that what you've declared is already unfolding. It's not magic—it's chemistry.

Faith in command mode looks different. It's not passive, waiting on the sidelines for something to change. It steps onto the court and plays to win. It's the voice that says, "This will happen," instead of

"I hope this happens." It's moving your feet before you see the finish line, because you know it's there.

Every great spiritual teacher, every revolutionary leader, every game-changer in business, art, or science—whether they spoke in the language of God, the universe, or the human spirit—operated with that same unshakable conviction.

Before David killed the giant, he declared it first. Standing in front of Goliath—armed with nothing but a sling, a few stones, and an unshakable belief—he didn't whisper a prayer of survival. He spoke a statement of victory. "This day the Lord will deliver you into my hands!" It wasn't just a declaration; he was saying that his prayer was already answered, and the

answer was yes!

You are not here to rehearse defeat in your mind. You are not here to train your nervous system for scraps. You are here to speak life into your own story—out loud, without apology, without retreat.

Every word you speak, every image you picture, every act you take is casting a vote for the reality you will live in tomorrow. Stop praying in fear. Stop reinforcing lack.

Pray like you own the place. Speak like the thing you want is already written in the book of your life, not from an attitude of pride, but from humility.

The truth is simple: reality doesn't give you what you hope for—it gives you what you command, and then work for like it's already yours.

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Local historian explores region’s numerous Bay Paths



Gus Steeves
Don Duffy

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — Our region is littered with roads, trails and buildings called “Bay Path,” including the vocational high school in Charlton.

As historian Don Duffy told a few dozen people at the library last week, they don’t actually refer to a single thing. Over the centuries, the region has been crisscrossed by numerous “Bay Paths,” all of them so named because they connected to some route leading to Massachusetts Bay.

The most famous of them wasn’t at all a direct route anywhere, at least in this region.

“It wasn’t a normal, let’s go in the easiest way we can go



Two audience members look over Duffy’s map depicting the lines of sight of various hills along the Native Bay Path network.

path. It involved hills,” he said.

His map depicted how the path was actually conceived as a network of line-of-sight connections between major hills like Steerage Rock, Coys Hill and Mashamuckett (now Mugget), with lower levels typically running along rivers (Chicopee, Ware, Quinebaug, Quaboag). People didn’t usually travel the whole route; they just used it to get from one village to the next.

“When you got to the hill, you didn’t climb the last little bit,” Duffy said. “They went around the steepest parts.”

In fact, he said, there are actually at least three Bay Paths. The original path was the Native American one, a sin-

gle-file trail that’s still visible in places as a narrow “scoop” or linear depression caused by many thousands of feet over many centuries. When Europeans came, they often laid out property lines with reference to that path – “as skinny as it was, everybody knew where it was,” Duffy said – and put stone walls on either side of it. Over the years, those colonists found the original path didn’t suit their animals and wheeled vehicles, so they shifted it off the hills. Some of those stretches have since become major roads and highways like Route 20; others are still cart paths in the woods.

Beyond our region, Duffy said “the Indian paths didn’t stop. They just kept going” west into the Berkshires and north and south along the Connecticut.

He noted some parts of the network aligned with key astronomical points, but didn’t know a lot about that aspect of it. In some areas, the path passes through large collections of Native cairns, dozens or hundreds in parallel lines, but there are also several smaller groups and single cairns all over the woods. They come in various types, but he said the most common is “a monster rock and above it a bunch of small stones.” Also common are what he called “gates to the underworld,” where Natives stuck smaller rocks and other gifts to the gods into crevices in boulders.

In some places, they formed effigies of animals. He cited two specifically – a turtle in Brimfield and a snake in Monson, but noted “it wasn’t a great thing. If I didn’t tell you, you wouldn’t know what this thing was.”

Other presenters have noted you can tell Native structures from colonial-era ones by the size of the lichens on the rocks; lichens grow at a very slow but steady rate for centuries.

Duffy said a lot of the work of identifying the Native Bay Path and related structures was recorded by Levi Chase in 1919; his book “The Bay Path and Along the Way” is available free online at the Library of Congress website.

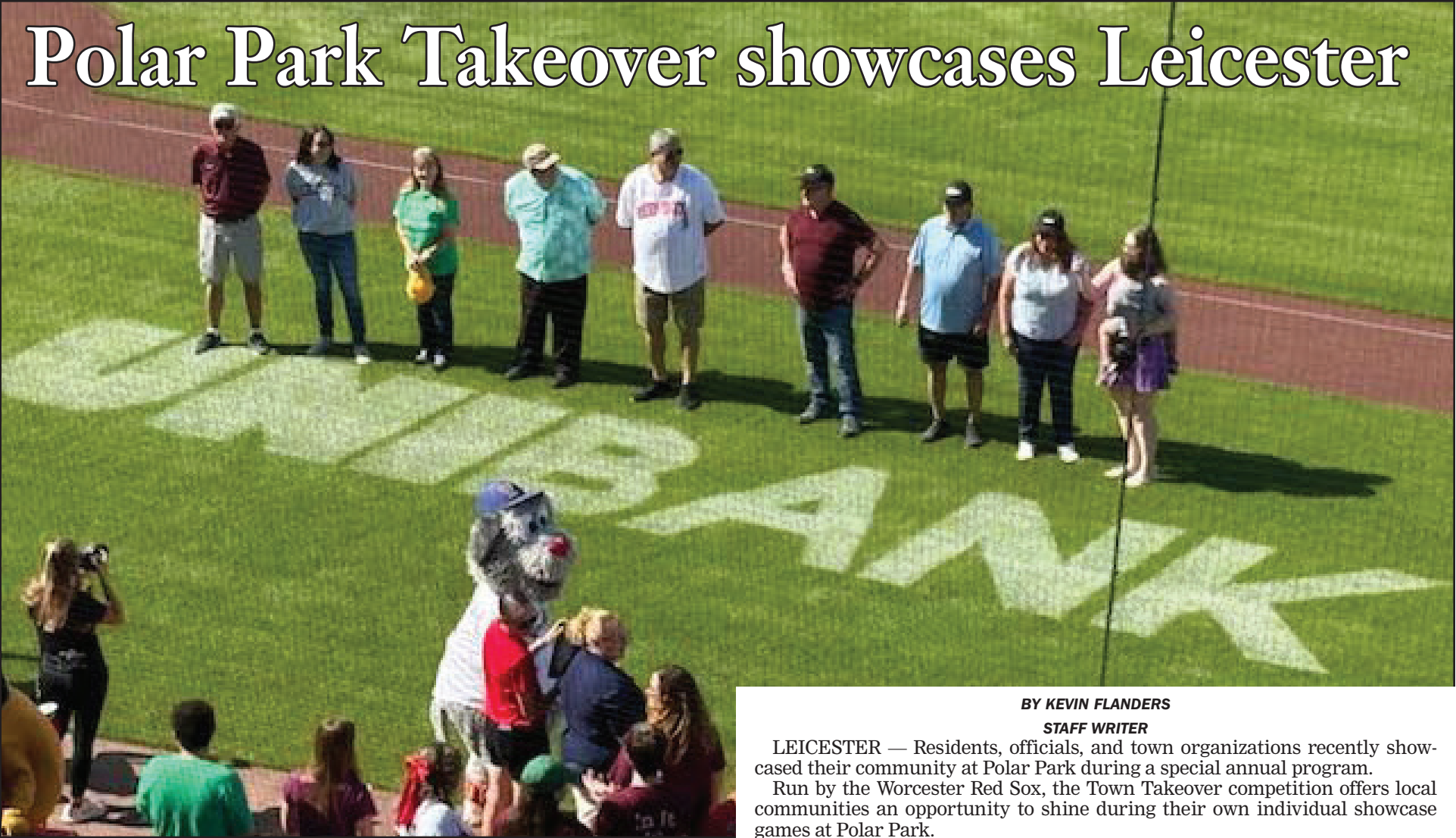
“It’s nice he did this because otherwise we wouldn’t know where things were,” Duffy said.

One audience member speculated the cairns were rocks the Natives removed from their farm fields, like the colonists later did. But Duffy noted many of them are in areas the Natives didn’t farm; they preferred gravelly, south-facing hillside locations and river-side flatlands; they didn’t have plows or domestic animals who could break through clay and other denser soils. For years, we thought Native agriculture dated to about 300 CE in this area, but recent DNA work has pushed that back to about 600 BCE, he added.

Mary Santos said she lives in a house along the old Bay Path, the old Daniel Harrington property. She cited a document saying the Harrington Road/Pumpkin Lane was laid out in 1783 “on the ancient way,” but the original home was gone by 1830. Some parts of the Native path are still walkable in that area, she noted.

Another man said the same about stretches running through Oxford’s Clara Barton Camp. He noted it crossed the French River where Quaboag Avenue now is. (Duffy noted one Native name in this area was the Quaboag Path.)

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.



Leicester leaders showcase their town during a recent ceremony at Polar Park.

Courtesy

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — Residents, officials, and town organizations recently showcased their community at Polar Park during a special annual program.

Run by the Worcester Red Sox, the Town Takeover competition offers local communities an opportunity to shine during their own individual showcase games at Polar Park.

Not only does the competition promote organizations and community groups within each town, but it also raises money for various causes.

“This year, we’re once again dedicating various games throughout the season to different towns across central Massachusetts to discover which community boasts the most WooSox fans and civic pride,” read a statement released by the team.

By purchasing tickets through special offers, residents are able to show their town spirit while contributing to great causes. Each ticket sale includes a donation to a nonprofit organization within the designated community.

Leicester residents enjoyed their Town Takeover festivities on Aug. 2. A large crowd of families attended the game, in addition to several town officials.

A special pregame ceremony honored Leicester Select Board members; personnel with the Town Administrator’s Office and other municipal departments; and the staff, students, and families at Leicester Public Schools.

Throwing out the game’s ceremonial first pitch was Leicester track and field coach, Olney White, who delivered a perfect strike.

“The WooSox have always been very civic-minded, and events like this show their connection with the surrounding communities,” said Leicester Town Administrator David Genereux. “For the town, its businesses, and our residents, it is a great day to get together at Polar Park, have fun, and enjoy summer baseball in a beautiful setting.”

Leicester Select Board Chairman Doug Belanger raised the idea of the town purchasing 100 tickets for the Leicester Day WooSox game, as a way of showing appreciation to employees. Selectmen unanimously endorsed the motion.

“I truly believe that building camaraderie helps not only employee morale, but overall efficiency. In a time of divisiveness and mistrust, bringing coworkers together is a win-win for the employees, their families, and the community,” Belanger said.

A portion of this year’s Leicester Day ticket sales will be donated to assist the two Leicester Police Department officers who were injured during an off-duty accident last month.

On July 10, LPD Officers Eddie Santiago and Stephen Kustigian were struck and seriously injured while riding their motorcycles off-duty in Worcester. The driver of the vehicle that caused the wreck, later arrested and charged with OUI, pulled out in front of the officers at an intersection.

As the officers continue their recovery, it means a lot to them and the rest of their LPD family to receive such strong community support. The portions of ticket sales from Leicester Day will be donated to the Leicester Police Officer Assistance Fund.

“This was a fantastic turnout for a very worthy cause to support our injured officers,” said LPD Chief Ken Antanavica.

Added Select Board member Kellie Ennis, “It was wonderful to have the community get together for the WooSox game, and even better that we were able to combine fun with a successful fundraiser that benefited the Leicester Booster Club and our two injured police officers, Officer Santiago and Officer Kustigian.”

At the end of the baseball season, the central Massachusetts town with the largest attendance at its Town Takeover game will receive a special honor on the field during Fan Appreciation Week, scheduled for Sept. 15-21.

To learn more about the program and how you can support your town’s day in the spotlight, check out the WooSox Web site. A full schedule of Town Takeover games is listed on the site.



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“It’s not a dumpster, it’s a big mousetrap”

COLLIER, PARKS EXPLORE LIVES AND MYTHS OF HUNTING BIRDS

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

CHARLTON — You wouldn’t think cars would be a major issue for flying beings. But they are.

“That bird didn’t have a death wish, it saw something moving,” Julie Collier said. “That triggered the instinct to go get it. There’s no instinct to look both ways.”

One of the most common ways raptors find their way to Wingmasters, the bird rehab Collier and her partner Jim Parks run in Leverett, is by diving for such prey and not seeing the oncoming car that hits them en route. They’ve taken many such birds to Tufts Animal Clinic in Grafton, but not all survived.

“When things go right,” they get to release the birds back into the wild; that can take years. Some, however, are never releasable, and Wingmasters has a permit to keep them at Rattlesnake Gutter Land Trust and use some of them for educational events.

Last Thursday, they brought several of those birds – mostly owls, but also one peregrine falcon – to Charlton Library to talk about what they do, the lives of such raptors, how they hunt, some myths, and other details of the species they work with.

“If you’re looking for gratitude in this world, do not raise a teenager and don’t rehab birds of prey,” Collier noted, describing one they’d cared for as being “six ounces and all of them nasty” even after three



Julie Collier with their rehabbed peregrine falcon.

years in their care.

In their experience, the peregrine is “the wisest bird here today,” Parks said, while Collier added the smartest one they’ve rehabbed was a golden eagle and the second was a red-tailed hawk, far brighter than their owls. On a scale of 1-10, they rate eagles as 10, the hawk as 9.75, and owls as 1-4 depending on species. Parks later cited the barn owl as a 4, while Collier noted some other types are just 1 or even 0.5.

The peregrines are “the opposite of owls” in various respects, she said. Peregrines hunt by day using speed and sight – diving at 200 mph it’s “nature’s jet,” so that even when the prey hears them, they don’t have time to react. They migrate south for winter and can’t deal with cold. Owls, by contrast, are cold-adapted, slow, silent

night hunters by sound who stay year round (snowy owls are from the Arctic and find this area usually too warm). Collier flicked and waved feathers of both; the former were clearly audible, the latter, not at all.

Most owls hunt rodents (peregrines mostly hunt birds in flight), and have somewhat adapted to human settings. The owls have fluffy, fur-like feathers evolved to insulate, with most of them having feathered feet and camouflage. Peregrines have thin, bare taloned feet which they can use as fists to knock prey birds out of the sky or grab them in flight. An owl’s bark-looking camouflage is often so good people can walk right by one and not see it watching them from a tree’s hollow. Collier said to “let the bird reveal itself. Owls are very, very good



Jim Parks with one of their barred owls.

at sitting still, which falcons are hopeless at.”

Peregrines have become an urban species; Parks noted there’s a nest of them atop Worcester’s Travelers Insurance building that has driven away most of the other bird species that used to be there. Years ago, there were just 39 nesting pairs of peregrines in the US, and they were endangered due to DDT use. (Today’s parallel is rodenticides; they urged people not to use them at all. “You’ll never wipe out the rodent population. You’ll just create havoc for beautiful birds,” Parks said.) Now there’s at least 50 pairs in Massachusetts alone, with recov-

ery thanks to captive breeding.

The owl species they brought faced similar recovery paths except for the barn owl, which is still endangered. It’s also the least camouflaged of their sample species and would normally migrate but has taken advantage of human places for warmth in winter. Barred owls, by contrast, have recovered alongside the beavers, since they favor wetlands.

All birds of prey share four traits, Parks said – binocular vision, flying ability, talons and curved beaks. Many also love our trash since they can’t smell it but it attracts lots

of prey; as Parks put it, “Ask the owl or hawk, it’s not a dumpster, it’s a big mousetrap.” Often, they hunt the same things at different times; he noted “where you see a hawk by day, you’ve got an owl, too.”

When it comes to myths, both had several they sought to debunk. Some were inaccurate names; Collier noted screech owls do not screech, they call with a “melodic trill.” (The screeches we hear are usually foxes or fishers.) Likewise great horned owls aren’t horned; those tufts are for insulation and silent hunting. (They are “the most aggressive hunting bird of anything that lives in the northeast” and favor “things marked with white.” Females will attack people who come too close to nests, aiming for their faces – not out of viciousness, but to protect their young.)

Owls also aren’t “wise,” and can’t turn their head 360 degrees – just 180. Also, she said she “wished more Americans understood” that waving hello to animals is seen by them as a threat. The birds don’t see the spectrum of shades we can; mostly, they just see the bright colors (red, yellow, orange, black and white) with others being shades of grey to them. But they can also “see by the light of moon and stars in a way you and I can’t.”

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

Worcester Youth Leadership Institute celebrates 12th graduating class

WORCESTER — While many students traditionally have headed off to summer vacations, for the past 11 years, some area high school and college students have participated in the Worcester Youth Leadership Institute. The program offers students a six-week learning experience which exposes them to a variety of Worcester businesses, industries, and mentors. The Institute is a part of a broader effort by the Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce to develop and mentor Worcester’s future leaders.

The Institute is a partnership between the Worcester Chamber, MassHire Central Workforce Board, The United Way of Central Massachusetts, Worcester Community Action Council, and the City of Worcester’s Youth Opportunities Office, and DPH, with support from National Grid and GFI Partners.

“The goal is simple – expose Worcester’s young people to the myriad of businesses, leaders, mentors, and possibilities available in their own communities,” said Timothy Murray, president and CEO of the Worcester Chamber. “These youth are our future leaders. We want them to know and understand their community can offer them a unique college experience and fascinating job opportunities, and provide insight and perspective on the city’s history, leadership, business community, and government make-up.”

Coordinated by Walter Jovel, the Institute identified 25 youth, ages 15 – 21, who are participating in the city’s YouthWorks employment program and who were nominated by their employer. They are participating in a six-week, summer leadership program as part of their employment program.

“We think this is an awesome opportunity to enhance our employment program,” said Jeff Turgeon, executive director of MassHire Central Workforce Board. “These students have already shown initiative by participating in the YouthWorks program, and by offering extended learning experience outside of the typical workday, are able to give them a unique experience and hopefully a greater appreciation for their community.”

The Institute, which will run from July 11 to Aug. 15, will introduce the participants to the business, government, education, and nonprofit sectors in a variety of ways including talks and question-and-answer sessions with the leadership structures of various sectors and organizations.

The youth participants are all a part of the Worcester YouthWorks employment program, where they are working Monday through Thursday at the City

or other area nonprofits. Topics have included career exploration as well as leadership focus areas from the Worcester fabric, such as entrepreneurship, economic development, public health, and nonprofit organizations.

The program launched in 2014 after conversations between Tim Murray, George Smith and Ron Scott from United Families for Change, Worcester Mayor Joseph Petty, City Manager Edward Augustus, and City Councilors Philip Palmieri and Sarai Rivera. All of the partner organizations came together and have graduated 150 students over the past nine years.

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continued from page A1

library-issued statement read. “The more bin-gos you finish, the more chances you have to win.” All bingo entries must be completed and verified by Sept. 2. The grand prize winner will be drawn on Sept. 3. Meanwhile, teens and adults are invited to check out an exciting new pro-gram. “Ready to embark on an epic adventure? Join us every Thursday from 5:30–7 p.m. at the library for Tabletop Game Night,” the statement read. “We’re

playing Dungeon World, a fun, beginner-friendly roleplaying game with a simple ruleset and big imagination.” No experience is required to take part in this program. Simply bring your creativity. If you have questions about this program, send a text to: 774-200-9025. You may also stop by during Thursday sessions to learn more. All are wel-come. Additionally, young-sters are invited to visit the library’s teen area to explore the “Teen Activity Cart.” “You’ll find coloring

supplies, puzzles, games, and craft kits, perfect for relaxing or hanging out with friends,” the state-ment read. Guests are also invited to check out the library’s growing collection of manga and graphic nov-els. Whether you love fan-tasy adventures, slice-of- life stories, or superhero sagas, there’s something waiting for you to enjoy. Local teenagers have the opportunity to join a special Teen Advisory Committee. If you would like to help shape pro-grams, recommend books, and augment library experiences, officials are

seeking Teen Advisory Committee members. “This is a great way to earn volunteer hours, build leadership skills, and make your voice heard,” the statement read. If you’re interested in taking part, stop by the front desk or email nbdi-rector@cwmars.org to sign up. Several August sto-

ry-time programs will be offered to youngsters on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Books will be paired with craft activities covering summertime topics. The library continues to host the Children’s Art Club on the first and third Monday of each month. All sessions last from 4-5 p.m. Topics this month include forest art and beach scene painting.

The library’s youth Lego Club takes place every Thursday at 4 p.m. For more information about upcoming library events, or to register for an activity, call 508-867-0208. You may also send an email to: hastonfree-publiclibrary@gmail.com. The library is located at 161 North Main St.

OFFICERS

continued from page A1

his colleagues had both been involved in a colli-sion with another vehicle. He immediately provided aid, including the appli-cation of a tourniquet, while waiting for the arrival of EMS personnel. Pepin later visited his friends in the hospital to offer support and comfort for their families. Both officers who were involved in the wreck are expected to be out of work for an extended period, police leaders said. The driver who struck the officers was arrested and charged with OUI. “I want to wish all the best for the two officers

who are still healing from their off-duty injuries, and I pray for them both to make a full recovery,” Durant said. Police leaders thank community members for their strong outpour-ing of support for the injured officers since the accident, as well as their ongoing appreciation for the entire department. “The LPD has some of the finest police officers in the Commonwealth, and I could not be prouder of their dedication to the job and the fine work they all do,” said Leicester Police Chief Ken Antanavica. “It is truly heartwarm-ing to see the staff rally around their injured col-leagues. The support is

overwhelming to the fam-ilies.” The Aug. 5 program also included a pinning ceremony for Leicester’s newest police officer, Nicholas Wilson. “From the public pin-ning of the newest mem-ber of the force, to the recognition of the deter-mination and smarts deployed in capturing a dangerous criminal, to the honoring of those recently injured and the lifesaving assistance ren-dered by a fellow officer, Leicester wants them all to know: We have your six,” said Select Board Chairman Doug Belanger. Officer Wilson is a native of Leicester.

PANTRY

continued from page A1

were blessed that the First Congregational Church said we could use their lawn as a great location,” Farrington said. “Howe Lumber was amazing to us and donated all the materials. Another res-ident, John Tripp, built the stand. It is true that it takes a village to make things happen, and if you build it they will come.” Added Farrington, “The collaborative strug-gles to keep nonperish-ables on our shelves, so we have a tote at the stand if people would like to donate.” Monetary donations can be made to: North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative, 70 Bates St., North Brookfield, MA 01535. Meanwhile, community leaders thank Farrington and her team for their ongoing efforts to help reduce food insecurity across the area. Earlier this year,

Farrington was named a “Commonwealth Heroine” by the M a s s a c h u s e t t s Commission on the Status of Women. Honored at the State House in June, Farrington is one of 125 women across the state recog-nized for contributions to their communities. Each year, the M a s s a c h u s e t t s Commission on the Status of Women partners with state legislators to identi-fy women who make out-standing contributions to their organizations and communities. Farrington was nominated by State Representative Donald Berthiaume, of Spencer. “Karen started a food security collaborative that has grown into help-ing 170 families in our small rural district,” Berthiaume said. “She is a behind-the-scenes person, who works diligently to help others and has incor-porated the schools and the senior citizens. She

has stressed that she is part of a team that works tirelessly, and without all of them, this endeavor would not exist.” Added Berthiaume, “With Karen’s direction, this program has evolved into an amazing resource and total community project. Karen has put the small town of North Brookfield on the map.” Farrington has teamed up with Connect Restaurant, North Brookfield Pizza Palace, and a dedicated group of NBCFC volunteers to pro-vide meals to families and seniors who are experi-encing food insecurity. The North Brookfield Community Food Collaborative relies heav-ily on donations (financial, foodstuff, and volunteer-ism) from business lead-ers and individuals. The organization also seeks grants to further help the community. If you would like to sup-port the NBCFC, please send an email to: nbfood-collaborative@gmail.com.

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NIGHT OUT

continued from page A1

Multiple area lead-ers attended NNO pro-grams this year, includ-ing Senator Mike Moore, Senator John Cronin, Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr. and Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis. “We enjoyed a great evening at National Night Out events across the county. These events are all about bringing the community and pub-lic safety together,” read a statement released by the Worcester County District Attorney’s Office. “Thank you to the many police departments, towns, cities, and commu-nity organizations for a great night.” The following indi-viduals, agencies, and departments are thanked for their involvement in

NNO activities this year: the Worcester Police Department; YMCA of Central Massachusetts; Worcester Fire Department; Worcester EMS; Grafton Police Department; Petersham Police Department; Fitchburg Police Department; Barre Police Department; Barre Fire Department; and the Quabbin Regional School District. Members of the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council are also thanked for dis-playing equipment and vehicles for youngsters to check out. “National Night Out is an annual communi-ty-building campaign that promotes police-commu-nity partnerships and neighborhood camarade-rie to make our neighbor-hoods safer; more caring places to live,” read the statement released by the

NNO leadership team. Each year, millions of guests take part in NNO activities across all 50 states. Individual commu-nities celebrate the occa-sion with such activities as block parties, festivals, parades, cookouts, public safety demonstrations, youth events, and visits from emergency person-nel. “We extend our sincere appreciation to all the public safety departments and vendors who partic-ipate in these celebra-tions,” read a statement released by the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office. “This occasion holds great significance, as it promotes the strengthen-ing of positive relation-ships between our com-munities and law enforce-ment.” To learn more about NNO and how you can join the mission, visit www.natw.org.

LEGALS

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
ATTENTION SPENCER WATER
USERS
A PUBLIC HEARING WITH THE
WATER COMMISSIONERS
WILL BE HELD TO DISCUSS
WATER RATE FEES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025
@ 5:00 P.M.
SPENCER WATER DEPARTMENT
3 OLD MEADOW RD.
SPENCER, MA 01562
August 15, 2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO25P2468EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
Toni Rae Hebert
Date of Death: 03/08/2025
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of**
Intestacy and Appointment of Per-
sonal Representative has been filed
by **Fair Havens, Inc. d/b/a Quaboag**
of West Brookfield MA requesting
that the Court enter a formal Decree
and Order and for such other relief as
requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that:
Tanya Widowiak of Holyoke MA
be appointed as Personal Representa-
tive(s) of said estate to serve **Without**
Surety on the bond in **unsupervised**
administration
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of
the Petition from the Petitioner or at the
Court. You have a right to object to
this proceeding. To do so, you or your
attorney must file a written appear-
ance and objection at this Court be-

fore: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of**
08/26/2025.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a dead-
line by which you must file a written ap-
pearance and objection if you object to
this proceeding. If you fail to file a time-
ly written appearance and objection
followed by an affidavit of objections
within thirty (30) days of the return day,
action may be taken without further no-
tice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed
under the MUPC in an unsupervised
administration is not required to file an
inventory or annual accounts with the
Court. Persons interested in the estate
are entitled to notice regarding the ad-
ministration directly from the Personal
Representative and may petition the
Court in any matter relating to the es-
tate, including the distribution of assets
and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 16, 2025
Stephanie Fattman
Register of Probate
August 15, 2025

Town of West Brookfield
Zoning Board of Appeals
A public hearing will be held on
Tuesday, September 9, at 6:00 p.m. at
the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act
on an application for a Special Permit,
for William and Jennifer Roberts, for
the property located at 93 Lake Shore
Drive, West Brookfield. The applicant
wishes to demolish the existing garage
and rebuild a new garage. A special
permit is required as per section(s)
-1.5 Nonconforming structures (a) (et
al).
August 8, 2025
August 15, 2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate
and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO25P2702EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate Of:
John G Bergeron
Date of Death: 07/01/2025
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will**
with Appointment of Personal Rep-
resentative has been filed by
James T Bergeron of Spencer MA re-
questing that the Court enter a formal
Decree and Order and for such other
relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that:
James T Bergeron of Spencer MA
be appointed as Personal Representa-
tive(s) of said estate to serve **Without**
Surety on the bond in **unsupervised**
administration
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of
the Petition from the Petitioner or at the
Court. You have a right to object to
this proceeding. To do so, you or your
attorney must file a written appear-
ance and objection at this Court be-
fore: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of**
09/02/2025.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a dead-
line by which you must file a written ap-
pearance and objection if you object to
this proceeding. If you fail to file a time-
ly written appearance and objection
followed by an affidavit of objections
within thirty (30) days of the return day,
action may be taken without further no-
tice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed

under the MUPC in an unsupervised
administration is not required to file an
inventory or annual accounts with the
Court. Persons interested in the estate
are entitled to notice regarding the ad-
ministration directly from the Personal
Representative and may petition the
Court in any matter relating to the es-
tate, including the distribution of assets
and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy,
First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 05, 2025
Stephanie Fattman,
Register of Probate
August 15, 2025

Town of Spencer
Conservation Commission
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
In accordance with the requirements of
the Massachusetts Wetland Protection
Act, MGL c. 131, s. 40 and the Spencer
Wetlands By-Law:
Mary & Paul McLaughlin have filed a
RDA with the Spencer Conservation
Commission to trim branches from a
pine tree, dig a trench to put in a pipe
and replace rotted deck boards. locat-
ed at **47 Oakland Drive**, Spencer, MA.
The Burncoat Watershed District
has filed an Amended **Order of Con-**
ditions with the Spencer Conserva-
tion Commission for mechanical weed
harvesting located at **Burncoat Pond**,
Spencer, MA.
Applications can be reviewed at the Of-
fice of Development and Inspectional
Services, Town Hall. A public hearing
regarding these filings will be held by
the Spencer Conservation Commis-
sion in McCourt Social Hall at Town
Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday,
August 27, 2025 at which time all per-
sons having an interest may be present
or call in remotely to participate. Con-
servation Commission meetings open
at 6:15 p.m.
Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman
August 15, 2025

Library Loft offers “a smile and a book”

PALMER — If you're seeking the Library Loft in Palmer, it looks like what it once was — an elementary school at 1085 Park St.

Inside, the classrooms still have their old numbers and if you need a bathroom, the staff takes you to the principal's office.

But these days, far more than learning goes on in those classrooms. Among other things, Schoolhouse Commons hosts a craft store, a clothing alteration shop, a frame and print shop as well as the Library Loft.

As the store's name suggests, it's an outgrowth of the Palmer Library, specifically started by the Friends of the Library 26 years ago to raise funds for library events. It's the first door on the left as you climb the fairly steep stairs to the main floor; a small, well-lit maze of thousands of titles including tons of children's books and some that are quite old.

They're all donated, and some have come from hundreds of miles away.

“We have a man who comes down from Vermont,” and another from New York, “because they don't have anything like this where they live,” said volunteer Barbara Lynn Marriott. Often, she noted, “people buy books, read them, then bring them back [as donations] and we resell them.”

Marriott's been helping out here more than 12 years, after coming in as



READER'S JOURNEY

GUS STEEVES

One of Marriott's favorite events is seeing kids bring in boxes of books to donate.

“They're so proud. They feel they can part with these books they don't even want me to take them out of the box. They want to do it,” she recalled.

On the other end of the spectrum, she recalled having a little girl come up 25 cents short, so she gave her the book anyway.

“There was no way I was going to deny it to her for 25 cents. Her face lit up, and she went out to tell others about it,” Marriott said. “Those are the things that make me want to be here.”

So do the fairly frequent times when she's turned into counselor and friend to people who simply need someone to talk to — one, she noted, “just wanted human contact.” She notes she's often gotten into conversations with people and ended up closing the place, but continuing to talk. (Store owners in the place tend to check on each other's safety, since some are still working past closing hours.)

Marriott notes the store often gets visitors who went to school here years ago. She also often gets book recommenda-

tions from patrons, and sometimes ends up selling donations “right of this desk before they get shelved.”

Library Friends' groups frequently have at least for-sale bookshelves or nooks, but not too many have their own full-fledged stores like this one. Among those that do exist are Worcester's Food for Thought, the Friends Book Shop in Easton, and others.

The American Library Association's site (<https://www.ala.org/united/friends/ideasharing/bookstores>) offers two guides on how to start such stores, one from Stamford, Conn., and the other from Houston. The Stamford one (Ferguson Public Library) includes job descriptions, pricing guides, overview of where they get books and what the funds go to, marketing plans, volunteer surveys, sample forms, and all kinds of other things.

One of its observations dovetailed well with what Marriott has seen. On page 170, it states, “Most of our customers are highly price-sensitive. As much as a third of our revenue comes from dealers; they have to buy ‘at wholesale’ to buy at all. Our poorest clients can't afford to pay much but value literacy and the books offered in the Shops. Clients who would pay more just end up buying more books...”

As Marriott put it, “We just try to make it count for people. ... A smile and a book — that's a good way to finish your day. That and good coffee.”

The Loft is open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturdays.



Gus Steeves
Barbara Lynn Marriott gets a little sun from the Library Loft window.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

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LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES

BROOKFIELD

BROOKFIELD

Brookfield Ecumenical Food Pantry
St. Mary's Church
4 Howard Street, Brookfield, MA 01506
Distribution: Wednesday 9:30 AM-11 AM:
Saturday 9:30 AM-11AM

CHARLTON

Chip - In Food Pantry
McKinstry Building
37 Main Street, Charlton, MA 01507
Distribution: 3rd Saturday 9 AM-12 Noon

St. Joseph's Church, Charlton
Tuesday 6:30-7:30 p.m.
Wednesday 9-11 a.m.
Everyone is welcome.

LEICESTER

Leicester Food Pantry
St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish
759 Main Street, Leicester, MA 01524
Distribution: Tuesday 5 PM-7 PM

NORTH BROOKFIELD

St. Joseph's Food Pantry
Located in the church hall at 296 North
Main St. North Brookfield
Distribution is the 1st Thursday of the
month from 5:00-6:30PM
the 3rd Thursday of the month from 12
Noon-1:15PM
Any questions should be directed to the
Rectory office 508 867-6469.
St. Joseph's Food Pantry is a community
partner affiliated with the Worcester County
Food Bank.

OXFORD

Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf
Oxford Community Center
4 Maple Road
Oxford, MA 01540
Distribution: Thursday 4:30 PM - 6:30 PM

ROCHDALE

The Lord's Cupboard Food Pantry
Greenville Baptist Church
674 Pleasant St.
Rochdale, MA
Distribution: Every Monday from 12:00 -
2:00 p.m. Open to everyone.

SOUTHBRIDGE

Saint Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry,
Located in the St. Anne Church basement,
16 Church Street, Fiskdale, MA 01518
Stocked by donations
Contact: 508-347-6398

SPENCER- EAST BROOKFIELD - RESIDENTS ONLY

Mary Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry
60 Maple St, Spencer, MA 01562
Distribution: Thursday 10 AM-12 Noon

STURBRIDGE

Saint Vincent de Paul Society Food Pantry,
Located in the St. Anne Church basement,
16 Church Street, Fiskdale, MA 01518
Stocked by donations
Contact: 508-347-6398

WEBSTER

Webster-Dudley Food Share
4 Church St #2
Webster, MA 0570
Distribution: Tuesday and Thursday from
8:30 -11:00 am. Open to Webster and
Dudley residents.
Please call ahead: 508-943-9171

WEST BROOKFIELD

Sharing Cupboard Food Pantry
First Congregational Church
36 North Main Street,
W.Bookfield, MA 01585
Distribution: Wednesday 10 AM-11:30 AM
Thursday 7 PM- 8 PM



Solve the code to discover words related to farmers markets.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 10 =R)

- A. 11 4 2 13 15 10**
Clue: Merchant
- B. 1 17 10 4 8**
Clue: Products
- C. 20 10 15 13 6 18 4**
Clue: Fruits and vegetables
- D. 18 10 17 14 22 8**
Clue: Handmade items

Answers: A. vendor B. wares C. produce D. crafts

SUDOKU

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

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

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

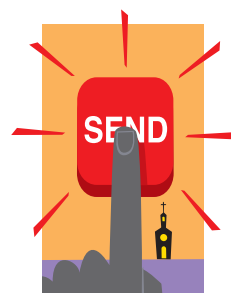
8	5	4	1	3	9	2	6	7
7	3	1	6	4	2	5	9	8
9	6	2	8	5	7	3	4	1
1	7	5	9	6	3	8	2	4
4	9	6	2	8	1	7	5	3
2	8	3	5	7	4	9	1	6
6	4	9	3	2	8	1	7	5
5	2	8	7	1	6	4	3	9
3	1	7	4	9	5	6	8	2

ANSWER:

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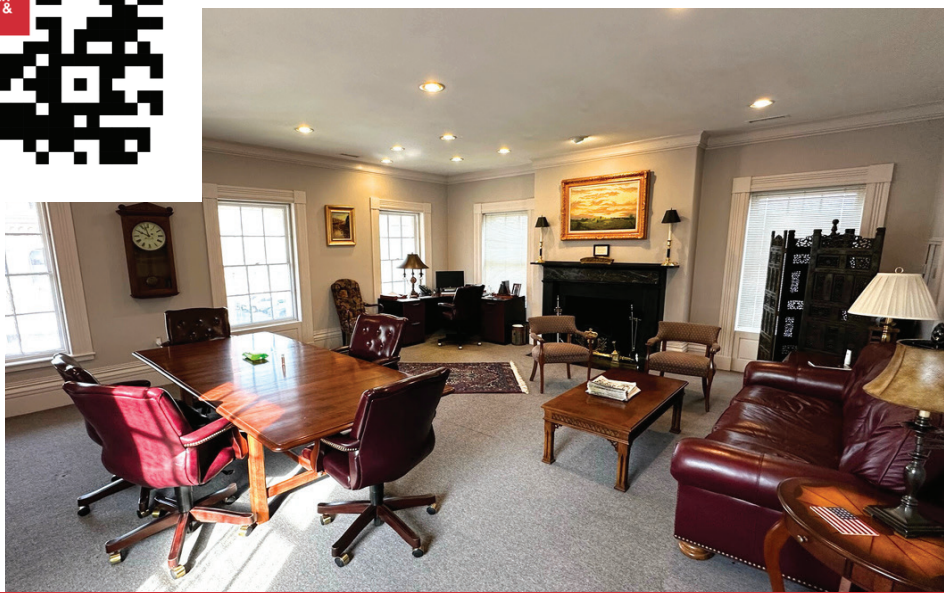
9,536-SF HISTORIC OFFICE BUILDING FOR SALE



- Historical building, also known as Tiffany-Leonard House, built in 1832
- Large Executive Offices with Elegant Finishes and High Ceilings
- Large Open Concept Cubicle Areas



- Listing price: \$550,000
- Building size: 9,536 SF
- Lot size: 13,939 SF
- Loading docks: (1) tailgate height
- Basement: partial | Unfinished



JAMES GLICKMAN
Principal

508-769-5007

jglickman@glickmankovago.com



JONAH D. GLICKMAN
Vice President

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POLICE REPORTS

Leicester Police Log

THURSDAY, JULY 31
12:16 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 12:25 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 2:11 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 2:36 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:38 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 8:10 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:04 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 9:20 a.m.: assist citizen (Winslow Avenue); 10:02 a.m.: ambulance (Leela Lane), transported; 11:41 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 2:48 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, larceny under \$1200, criminal application issued; 3:20 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 7:58 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), services rendered; 8:08 p.m.: erratic operator (River Street), unable to locate; 10:01 p.m.: investigation (Charlton Street), report taken; 10:35 p.m.: disturbance (Rawson Street), investigated.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1
12:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:49 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, no inspection sticker; failure to dim headlights, criminal application issued; 1:02 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:29 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:39 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, failure to stop for police, op w/suspended license/subsequent offense, negligent operation, speeding, criminal application issued; 3:16 a.m.: ambulance (Chestnut Street, Spencer), transported; 8:07 a.m.: threats (Rawson Street), report taken; 8:10 a.m.: trespassing (South Main Street), spoken to; 10:05 a.m.: ambulance (Deer Pond Road), transported; 10:19 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Paxton Street), services rendered; 12:08 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), Robert L. Anzalone, 57, 129 Heywood Street, Worcester, failure to appear upon recognition, arrest; 2:23 p.m.: ambulance (Auburn Street), transported; 3:24 p.m.: ambulance (Auburn Street), transported; 3:33 p.m.: restraining order service (Rawson Street), served; 5:07 p.m.: assist other PD (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 6:30 p.m.: investigation (Lake Avenue North, Worcester), report taken; 7:07 p.m.: ambulance (Elmwood Avenue), transported; 8:07 p.m.: assist citizen (Stafford Street); 11:31 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford street), written warning; 11:44 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2
12:37 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), spoken to; 12:50 a.m.: assist other PD (Main Street), services rendered; 1:39 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:50 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:44 a.m.: welfare check (Mayflower Drive), resolved; 4:04 a.m.: assist other PD (Main Street), services rendered; 6:37 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police station, marked lanes violation, unlicensed operation, criminal application; 10:33 a.m.: accident (Soojians Drive), report taken; 10:36 a.m.: animal complaint (Stafford Street), referred; 11:05 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 2:07 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:05 p.m.: animal complaint (Stafford Street), referred; 4:57 p.m.: disabled mv (Paxton Street), assisted; 8:17 p.m.: welfare check (Chapel Street), gone on arrival; 9:22 p.m.: ambulance (Brown Street, Spener), transported; 9:27 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 9:36 p.m.: mv stop (Pine Street), verbal warning;

10:16 p.m.: malicious mischief (Main Street), spoken to; 11:49 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3
12:24 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 12:33 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, speeding, criminal application issued; 2:13 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 2:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:09 a.m.: welfare check (McCarthy Avenue), assisted; 7:53 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:59 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), referred; 9:56 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), services rendered; 10:18 a.m.: animal complaint (South Main Street), referred; 11:26 a.m.: accident (Stafford Street), report taken; 12:12 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 5:00 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 5:08 p.m.: ambulance (Church Street), transported; 5:43 p.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), assisted; 6:08 p.m.: disabled mv (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 6:18 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), written warning; 6:31 p.m.: trespassing (Lake Drive), unfounded; 7:13 p.m.: trespassing (Chapel Street), resolved; 8:52 p.m.: ambulance (Sargent Street), transported; 10:29 p.m.: welfare check (Craig Street), transported to hospital; 11:32 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:35 p.m.: ambulance (Elmwood Avenue), transported.

MONDAY, AUGUST 4
12:17 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 10:59 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 11:22 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 11:51 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 12:11 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 5:13 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:26 p.m.: disabled mv (South Main Street), services rendered; 6:34 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 7:21 p.m.: ambulance (Marshall Street), transported; 8:37 p.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), unfounded; 9:25 p.m.: disturbance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 9:44 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 11:27 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5
12:36 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 12:51 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:30 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:04 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 7:05 a.m.: ambulance (Whittemore Street), transported; 9:44 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:59 a.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Hospital), report taken; 10:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:04 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:21 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:42 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 10:46 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 11:06 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 11:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 11:50 a.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Street), referred; 12:39 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 12:49 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 12:55 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:16 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:18 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:20 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:21 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 1:26 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 1:37 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 1:43 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street),

written warning; 2:14 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street, Paxton), transported; 2:30 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 2:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:01 p.m.: ambulance (Folsom Street), transported; 4:20 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 4:26 p.m.: suspicious person (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 5:36 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:03 p.m.: disabled mv (Pleasant Street), unable to locate; 7:14 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), spoken to; 11:32 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 11:46 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6
12:03 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:12 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:54 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:00 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:27 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:30 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:37 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:50 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:57 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 2:13 a.m.: mv stop (Auburn Street), verbal warning; 5:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 6:59 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 7:46 a.m.: disturbance (Rawson Street), gone on arrival; 8:00 a.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), referred; 9:15 a.m. erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate; 12:01 p.m.: welfare check (Sabina Circle), assisted; 1:40 p.m.: accident (Stafford Street), report taken; 3:17 p.m.: ambulance (Meadow Lane), transported; 6:27 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:35 p.m.: welfare check (Huntoon Memorial Highway), assisted; 10:56 p.m.: ambulance (Lillian Avenue), transported.

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Spencer Police Log

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30
12:00 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:37 a.m.: medical/general (High Street); 3:49 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 5:34 a.m.: DPW call (Main Street), rep. roadkill; 6:23 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Delude Avenue), hang-up; 7:30 a.m.: 911 call (Cherry Street), accidental; 8:47 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (Ash Street), unattended fire; 8:51 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 8:51 a.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 9:15 a.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), req. property check; 9:17 a.m.: suspicious activity (Wall Street), req. property check; 10:09 a.m.: restraining order service/2 (West Main Street); 11:27 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 1:30 p.m.: suspicious persons (Lloyd Dyer Drive), investigated; 3:04 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 3:16 p.m.: officer wanted (Oakland Street), re: RMV/suspension; 3:45 p.m.: 911 call (Elm Street), child w/phone; 4:12 p.m.: fraud (Howe Village), report taken; 5:28 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), wire in road; 7:13 p.m.: 911 call (Irving Street), accidental; 8:03 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:09 p.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); (total daily mv stops – 2).

THURSDAY, JULY 31
12:06-2:34 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:52 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), apt. lockout; 2:37 a.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; 6:30 a.m.: suspicious persons (Mechanic Street), poss. mv break-in; 7:32 a.m.: mv complaint (Pleasant Street), lg. truck parked in road; 7:38 a.m.: officer wanted (Meadow Road), re: road closure; 8:33 a.m.: animal complaint (Irving Street), dog on dog attack; 11:57 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), re: missing cat; 12:09 p.m.: fire (Main Street), referred; 12:37 p.m.: offi-

1:03 p.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road); 2:10 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), Kirk W. Myntti, 39, homeless, Spencer; shoplifting by asportation, shoplifting by concealing merchandise, possession Class B drug/subsequent offense, arrest; 2:31 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose chickens; 2:57 p.m.: mv theft (Main Street), rep. stolen motorcycle; 3:41 p.m.: medical/general (High Street); 4:16 p.m.: fraud (Lakeshore Drive), report taken; 5:27 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), rep. flooding; 6:49 p.m.: fire alarm (McCormick Road), referred; 7:37 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (East Charlton Road), sm. brush fire; 7:58 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Worcester PD bolo/officer safety; 7:58 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: signs of crisis; 9:01 p.m.: 911 call (Charlton Road), accidental; 9:22 p.m.: juvenile matter (Mechanic Street), rep. runaway; 9:32 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 11:52 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); (total daily mv stops – 1).

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1
2:32 a.m.: medical/general (Pearl Street); 3:07 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 4:14 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 5:26 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 8:28 a.m.: mutual aid (North Spencer Road), Rutland PD rep. erratic operator; 10:17 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:25 a.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 11:21 a.m.: suspicious persons (South Spencer Road), investigated; 11:23 a.m.: hit/run accident (Main Street), report taken; 11:30 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 11:58 a.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operator; 2:08 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo/stolen mv; 5:25 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 4:36 p.m.: hit/run accident (North Spencer Road), report taken; 6:07 p.m.: medical/general (Lambs Grove); 6:08 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), info taken; 6:08 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 6:36 p.m.: mv complaint (Smithville Road), req. stop sign; 6:37 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 8:38 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), info taken; 8:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), neighbor dispute; 9:57 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), assist State Police; (total daily mv stops – 8).

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2
12:14-1:23 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:30 a.m.: fire alarm (Clark Terrace), referred; 6:24 a.m.: mv lock-out (Grove Street), assisted; 7:39 a.m.: residential alarm (East Charlton Road), services rendered; 8:41 a.m.: medical/general (Wilson Avenue); 9:35 a.m.: officer wanted (Marble Road), c/o Sunrun; 9:55 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. assistance/new apt.; 11:09 a.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 12:58 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), cats left at roadside; 1:16 p.m.: officer wanted (Clark Road), spoken to; 1:35 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Westland Drive), referred; 1:53 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), low-hanging wire; 2:08 p.m.: accident (Charlton Road), report taken; 3:31 p.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), using txr station/no sticker; 3:38 p.m.: animal complaint (Donnelly Cross Road), rep. dog bite; 5:02 p.m.: elderly matter (R. Jones Road), req. welfare check; 7:00 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 7:10 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 7:33 p.m.: RV complaint (Smithville Road), dirt bikes/mc speeding; 8:56 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 9:14 p.m.: medical/general (Brown Street); 9:23 p.m.: medical/general (Donnelly Road); 9:25 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operator; 10:32 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); (total daily mv stops – 0).

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3
12:08- 3:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:33 a.m.: medical/general (Linden Street); 9:28 a.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 9:34 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), issue w/patron; 10:07 a.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 1:06 p.m.: medical/general (Oak Lane); 4:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), wires on sidewalk; 4:38 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 5:02 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Chickering Road), resolved; 7:00 p.m.: juvenile matter (Thompson Pond Road), kids blocking traffic/jumping off bridge; 7:00 p.m. mv lock-out (Pleasant Street), assisted; 7:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), wants harassment prevention order; 11:15-11:43 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (total daily mv stops – 2).

MONDAY, AUGUST 4
12:19-2:43 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:17 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 7:59 a.m.: vandalism (South Spencer Road), report taken; 9:11 a.m.: animal complaint (Hastings Road), caught a bat; 9:37 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 10:37 a.m.: DPW call (Church Street), sign down; 10:47 a.m.: animal complaint (Westland Drive), loose dog; 11:20 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 11:21 a.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 11:53 a.m.: lost found (West Main Street), voltage controls found; 12:01 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 12:29 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 12:31 p.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), referred; 1:40 p.m.: officer wanted

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POLICE REPORTS

(Gold Nugget Road), rep. destruction of property; 1:48 p.m.: animal complaint (Crestwood Avenue), c/o constant barking; 3:01 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), report taken; 5:20 p.m.: animal complaint (Northwest Road), cat found; 5:27 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 6:04 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Leicester PD bolo; 6:06 p.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info taken; 6:18 p.m.: fire (Marble Road), referred; 8:42 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 8:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Pearl Street),

req. welfare check; 9:18 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), accidental; (total daily mv stops – 0).

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

12:22-2:18 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:34 a.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 6:46 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:23 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 8:38 a.m.: officer wanted (Pearl Street), re: stay away order; 10:08 medical/general (Bay Path Road); 11:51 a.m.: medical/general (Old Farm Road); 11:56 a.m.: medical/general (Ash

Street); 12:00 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), items falling from truck; 12:27 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Franklin Street); 3:02 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 3:11 p.m.: 911 call (Lakeview Drive), accidental; 3:26 p.m.: officer wanted (Pearl Street), c/o FB page hacked; 3:36 p.m.: lost/found (Chestnut Street), bike found; 3:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Lake Street), spoken to; 3:46 p.m.: officer wanted (Highland Street), neighbor dispute; 4:43 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), son not home; 6:33 p.m.: officer

wanted (Smithville Road), re: neighbor issue; 7:22 p.m.: disturbance (Charlton Road), noise complaint; 7:26 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 7:46 p.m.: lost/found (Main Street), keys found; 9:55 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:37 p.m.: officer wanted (Greenville Street), rep. parties withholding meds; 10:53 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), drunk male; (total daily mv stops – 1).

##



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WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT



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Webster Lake - 53 Colonial Rd



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Webster Lake Waterfront
88 Union Point



Excellent opportunity! Natural Western Facing Shoreline- Beautiful Sunsets - Views of Middle to North Pond! 7,000 +/- Sq. Ft. Waterfront Lot! Fireplaced living room! 12 X 30 one car garage. **\$660,000**

Webster Lake Waterfront
8 Long Island



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WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT!
15 CEDAR POINT RD



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Webster Lake Waterfront Lots
Bates Point Rd

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Chuck & Mud and The Hole in the Dam Band next up in summer concert series

SPENCER — The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission's 2025 Summer Concert Series continues from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 17 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and Meadow Roads, Spencer; with Chuck & Mud and The Hole in the Dam Band.

Chuck & Mud and The Hole in the Dam Band is a fun six piece band fronted by Spencer's own Chuck and Mud Demers and featuring Walter Crockett, Peter Allard and others.

Following Chuck & Mud and The Hole in the Dam Band, next up in this series will be a rain date make up on Aug. 24 with The Chain.

The concert series is proudly spon-

sored by Cornerstone Bank. Serving Worcester County, Massachusetts, Cornerstone Bank's local presence and community-based banking model

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JAK-L Foundation sponsors life-saving QPR training for Bay Path Practical Nursing students and alumni

AUBURN — The JAK-L Foundation has generously sponsored a vital and potentially life-saving training event for Bay Path Practical Nursing students and alumni. The training, focused on suicide prevention, was held at J'Anthony's Restaurant in Auburn and brought together members of the nursing community for an evening of education, connection, and empowerment.

The event began at 6 p.m. with appetizers, followed by the main session at 6:30 p.m. on Aug. 4. The training topic, "QPR: Question, Persuade, Refer," introduces participants to three simple yet powerful steps that can help save a life from suicide. Like CPR or the Heimlich Maneuver, QPR is a technique that empowers everyday individuals to recognize the warning signs of a suicide crisis and take action.

"Each year, thousands of Americans say 'yes' to learning how to save a life," said Dr. Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN, Academy Director at Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy. "This training helps prepare individuals to intervene effectively and compassionately when someone may be in crisis."

Among the attendees were students and alumni of the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy, including Angela Choiniere of Dudley; Aphrodite Papoutsides of Charlton; Ashley Rincon and Elizabeth Anaconda of Southbridge; Elizabeth



Achayo of Worcester; Delene Sarsfield, Katelyn Smith of Charlton; and Dr. Bolandrina of Athol.

The Bay Path representatives were warmly welcomed by Joy Kochinskas of Charlton, a dedicated advocate of the JAK-L Foundation, whose support made the event possible, and QPR Certified Gatekeeper Instructor, Kimberly Austin.

Grateful participant, Katelyn Smith stated, "Completing the QPR suicide prevention training was incredibly eye-opening and empowering. I learned how to recognize the warning signs of a mental health crisis and how to respond in a way that could truly save a life." Further, she added, "this

training gave me practical tools I can use both in my career and personal life, and I believe it's something everyone should go through. Mental health matters, and being prepared to step in and help is so important."

Smith also thanked Dr. Bolandrina and the JAK-L Foundation "for giving me the opportunity to earn another certificate in mental health." As a member of the class of 2025, Smith earned her certification in Mental Health First Aid in 2024 from the Mental Health First Aid USA and the National Council for Behavioral Health through the collaboration of Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy and Shrewsbury Youth & Family Services, Inc.

Ashley Rincon shared, "The QPR suicide prevention training taught me how important it is to be present, to listen, and to not be afraid to ask direct questions when

someone might be in crisis."

Additionally, she stated, "I feel a little more prepared to be there for someone if they needed help or just someone to talk to. I'm grateful I had the chance to take this training, and I hope to continue learning and being part of the effort to support mental health and prevent suicide in any way I can."

By equipping future and current nurses with tools to address mental health crises, this training reinforces the essential role of nurses not only in physical health care but also in emotional and psychological support.

As the health care field continues to confront rising mental health challenges, initiatives like this reflect a growing commitment to whole-person care—beginning with education and community action.

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