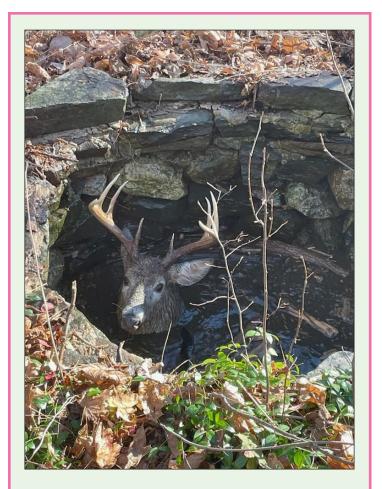
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Friday, December 2, 2022



ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL

All's well that ends well for a deer that recently escaped danger after being stuck in a well, with help from Leicester first responders. On Nov. 26, residents on Pleasant Street contacted the authorities after finding a deer stuck in a well. With the assistance of the police department, fire department, and Animal Control, the deer was safely pulled out of the well.

"A very hard look in the mirror is needed"

LEICESTER SCHOOL COMMITTEE MULLS INVESTIGATION OF OIL SPILL

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

LEICESTER — Continuing to face questions over last year's costly oil spill incident, the School Committee is expected to vote at its next meeting on whether to proceed with an investigation.

For well over a year, residents have sought answers from school officials regarding the March 31, 2021, incident at the elementary school. Many school leaders have also expressed their frustration with the lack of information provided by the district's previous leadership administration.

But even though former School Committee chairman Tom Lauder was voted out in June and former superintendent Marilyn Tencza retired over the summer, the financial ramifications of the oil spill won't be leaving the district any time soon.

As of September 2022, the estimated cost of the incident was \$1.2 million, with an insurance coverage limit of \$500,000. All additional bills related to the incident must be paid through the school budget, officials said.

With an expensive price tag facing the district as a result of a preventable incident, residents and school leaders alike want the long-awaited answers on how the spill happened and what the initial responses from school officials were like.

"Given that the school department is at the heart of an oil spill debacle with a price tag over \$1 million at this point, the department, board, and town deserve full understanding of what led to us dumping at least 750 gallons of oil at the elementary school," said School Committee member Dylan Lambert, who was elected in June, along with Scott Weikel by residents demanding transparency. "We need a full timeline of events, including who did what and when, and if at all possible, ascertaining why."

The oil spill occurred after the school department rented tents from a contractor in anticipation of schools reopening following a COVID-19 closure. The

tents were anchored by 44-inch spikes, one of which punctured an underground oil supply line that feeds the school's boilers.

Beyond those foundational details, little is known about how the incident was handled and investigated. Former superintendent Tencza released a Q&A document last fall addressing the situation, but residents were disappointed that the document was prepared in part by a public relations firm and failed to answer several questions.

During the Oct. 11 School Committee meeting, members supported authorizing the school department's new legal counsel to review the oil spill.

"I've been getting a lot of questions and hearing different answers and speculations. The public wants to know what happened," School Committee Chair Donna McCance said during the Oct. 11 meeting. "I'd like to have an investigation so we can all understand what happened, how it happened,

Please Read OIL SPILL, page A3

Spencer's Parade of Lights returns Dec. 10

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

SPENCER — When residents think of their favorite local holiday traditions, one event always seems to stand out a little brighter than the rest— Spencer's Christmas Parade of Lights.

This year's parade is set for Saturday, Dec. 10, at 7 p.m. The parade route will begin before proceeding west down Main Street (Route 9) to Old Main Street.

The parade will conclude at Spencer's Highway Department barn.

"Please join us for a night of beautiful twinkling lights, lighted floats, fire trucks, and other vehicles to celebrate this festive Christmas season,'

event organizers. As always, the event will receive heavy participation from the Spencer Fire Department and other first responders. Local companies and businesses also routinely get involved in the parade to brighten the holiday season for

The parade has become a

at David Prouty High School read a statement released by holiday favorite for families son," said Spencer Police Chief and residents from throughout the area. In addition to first responders and local businesses, the parade typically features area students and school officials; Scouting groups; and elected leaders.

> "I'm always amazed by the intricacy of the floats. It just goes to show how much everyone loves the Christmas sea

David Darrin, whose department is thanked for ensuring that the parade runs smoothly and safely each year.

In the event of inclement weather, a snow date for the parade is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m.

For anyone wishing to enter a lighted vehicle or float in the

Please Read PARADE, page A5



Photo Courtesy

The community teamed up last week to thank local veterans during a program at the Leicester Senior

Leicester Senior Center salutes local veterans

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — Senior Center officials thank the community for once again teaming up to support local veterans and their families.

Last month's Veterans Breakfast, an annual event held at the Senior Center, wouldn't have been possible without the strong support of local leaders, organizations, and

volunteers.

"Many hands make light work, and for us at the Senior Center it is the hands of devoted individuals in town and surrounding towns, including my staff, who extend themselves beyond their normal work hours to make this center extraordinary," said Senior Center Director Rachelle Cloutier.

Preparations for the annual Veterans

Please Read VETERANS, page A4

Hearts for Heat is there to help with fuel costs this winter

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

REGION — With the high costs of heating oil anticipated this winter, local residents will rely heavily on assistance provided by Hearts for Heat.

The organization has chapters in Spencer, Leicester, and North Brookfield, among other area communities. Hearts for Heat leaders are committed to providing winter heating fuels to residents in need.

'Whether you heat with oil, electric, gas, wood or pellets, if you cannot afford heat, please apply for assistance," read a statement released by the organization.

In New England, the heating season can run from October all the way to April, creating added financial strain for local families.

"We have already begun to get applications, which is earlier than in previous years," said Deborah Antanavica, who runs the Leicester chapter of Hearts for Heat.

For families with multiple children, as well as seniors on fixed incomes, assistance received by Hearts for Heat is critical each winter. This year, due to the unusually high

costs, community donations to Hearts for Heat are especially significant. Many residents are still out of work-or struggling with underemployment as a result of the pandemic. Countless others retired earlier than expected due to COVID-19.

To date, the organization has provided more than 1,100 distributions of fuel to households across Worcester County.

"I want to thank the members of the community that continue to support us, some with multiple donations throughout the year," Antanavica said. "I would also like to thank the **Greater Worcester Community** Foundation Leicester Savings Bank fund, Country Bank, and Cornerstone for their generosity in funding Leicester Hearts for Heat this year.'

Additionally, LifeSource Church, the Sons of the American Legion Post 443, and Deja New are all thanked for their support of Leicester's

Hearts for Heat chapter. To learn more about Hearts for Heat and how you can assist the organization, visit www.HeartsforHeat.org. Community donations are

Please Read **HEARTS**, page **A5**

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Local Christmas decor specialist recommends threestep approach for bright and welcoming display

only weeks away, but home and business owners still have time to plan and execute an "ahh-worthy" outdoor lighting display, says outdoor decorating pro Arnold Arsenault of Christmas Decor by A Arsenault & Sons, Inc., a franchise member of the Christmas Decor network. "The key," says Arsenault, "is to start with a plan. With the right plan in place, you can create maximum impact with minimal effort."

To create a plan that is right for your home or business and your budget, Arsenault advises:

1. Find your decor focal point Identify your property's most attractive features - a porch, the front door, some shrubs or a perfect tree - and focus attention there with garlands, greenery, and lights.

Complete the look Now, complete the look, if you choose to, by enhancing other areas of your property, including the space around it. Outline windows or rooflines with lights or tuck some subtle hints of color into the landscape to compliment your focal point design.

Keep your decor simple Know when to stop. Too many themes and colors will detract from your focal point. A clean, uncluttered display is more attractive, safer, more cost-effective and it comes with a bonus - reduced stress!

"Each new holiday season brings a 'latest thing' in outdoor lighting and decor," says Arsenault, "but the classic looks are always a great choice, too. If you do want to go for that 'standout' look for your property this year, there is still time to work with a professional decorating firm like Christmas Decor."

Christmas Decor outdoor lighting specialists use exclusive professional-grade lighting and decor options not available to the everyday consumer and have access to the latest in lighting trends and displays. Their full-service approach includes maintaining displays throughout the holidays and removing and storing lights and decor when the holidays are over. "We offer an affordable alternative to taking on outdoor decor chores yourself, and our endto-end approach frees you up to enjoy the whole holiday season, including the time before and after," adds Arsenault.

Members of the Christmas Decor Franchise Network have been decorating homes and businesses since 1986 and now create dazzling outdoor holiday displays in more than 350 markets in 49 states and Canada each holiday season. This extensive network ensures that each franchise has access to the latest trends in holiday outdoor lighting and decor to meet their clients' vision and budget. For more information on having Christmas Decor decorate your home or business, or to schedule an appointment for a consultation or installation, please contact Arnold Arsenault of Christmas Decor by A Arsenault & Sons, Inc. at (508) 885-5589 or arnie@aarsenaultandsons.com. You can also learn more at www.christmas-

Christmas About Decor Since its inception in 1986, Christmas holiday lighting and decorating company in North America. The Texas-based company was founded by Blake Smith as an off-season supplement to his landscape business and as a method to provide year-round work for employees. Christmas Decor quickly emerged as a viable business opportunity and today, operates in more than 350 markets in 49 states and Canada. Plans are underway to open locations in more than 40 new markets through franchise expansion in select communities around the country. Christmas Decor is highly revered in its field and has received consistent recognition for its efforts. The company was included in the 2021 Franchise Times Top 400 franchise list and the 2022 Entrepreneur Top 500 franchise list in both the overall category and the Top 25 Best Franchises You Can buy for \$25,000 or Less category. For more information, visit www.christmasdecor.net.



West Brookfield to host White Christmas celebration

F L A N D E R S STAFF WRITER

WEST BROOKFIELD - In a celebration of the season like none other, the community will once again come together for a White West Christmas in Brookfield.

The 30th annual event will feature activities throughout the town center on Sunday, Dec. 4, starting at 10 a.m. More than 30 open houses are scheduled to take place across town, including businesses, municipal departments, churches, and the elementary school.

Additionally, local kids won't want to miss a special visitor arriving from the North Pole. Pictures with Santa will be available at Town Hall from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Meanwhile, guests will be able to decorate gingerbread houses at Town Hall from noon to 3 p.m.

Moreover, the Jam Puppet Band will perform at Town Hall

A variety of programs will take place throughout the day on the Town Common. These include carriage rides; roasted chestnuts; cocoa with the Boy Scouts; strolling with Frosty and Father Christmas; and a concert at the bandstand.

White Christmas in West Brookfield will also feature the 30th annual craft and vendor fair, to be held at West Brookfield Elementary School from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The fair will include nearly 70 crafters, the perfect opportunity for shoppers to cross items off their lists while supporting local artisans.

Quaboag The Historical Museum (located in the old train station) will be open to the public from noon to 3 p.m. Stop by to check out craft activities for kids, light refreshments, and other fun programs.

Additional entertainment and refreshments will be available at the fire station; Sacred Heart Church: Whitefield Methodist Church; and First Congregational Church.

After two years of activities that were either canceled or limited by pandemic restrictions, guests are looking forward to getting back to a normal schedule of programs. Many families have made White Christmas in West Brookfield an annual tradition.

The program will culminate with the town's tree lighting at 5:45 p.m. Carols will be sung beneath the tree.

Later, guests encouraged to stay and continue the festivities with a holiday concert at 6:15 p.m. Scheduled to take place at Town Hall, the concert will be presented by the Quaboag Choral Society.

Meanwhile, families are reminded to support the toy collection drive taking place throughout the event. If you are able, please support the drive by dropping off your donation at the West Brookfield Rescue Squad.

For more information about White Christmas in West Brookfield, check out the event's social media page on Facebook.

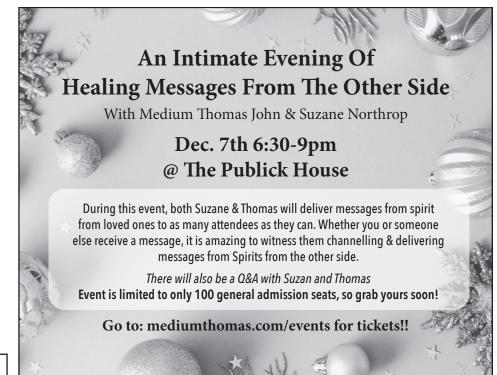


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Special Town Meeting planned in Leicester

Meeting has been called for Jan. 10.

If you have questions or concerns about the meeting, please contact the Town Administrator's office at 508-892-

The Town Meeting warrant will be posted in the coming weeks on the town Web site: www.leicesterma.org.

TOUGH BACON! CHECK OUT THE SPORTS ACTION!

OIL SPILL

continued from page A1

and get the information out there. The people in our community have a right to know what happened."

A full discussion and vote on whether to proceed with an investigation are expected at the School Committee's Dec. 5 meeting.

"A very hard look in the mirror is needed," Lambert said. "If our own standards and policies are insufficient or were not properly adhered to, then as the policy setting body the School Committee must address those shortcomings."



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MOE WILSON & BRUCE TERRY, SPENCER, MA

I would like to nominate Moe Wilson and Bruce Terry for Persons of the Week. They stepped up and took over the food pantry in town when Kathy Sullivan retired. It is a huge undertaking, and they are certainly stepping up to the plate! Moe, Bruce and their crew, are very dedicated to the people of Spencer and are working tirelessly to ensure that everyone who needs assistance is being helped. Especially with the holidays approaching it is appropriate that we acknowledge the people who are dedicating their time and effort to support those in need. Thanksgiving was a great success feeding 200+ deserving families! Thank you!

> — submitted by a grateful Mary Queen of the Rosary parishioner

If you would like to nominate a PERSON OF THE WEEK, please email your suggestion to jsima@stonebridgepress.news. Thank you.

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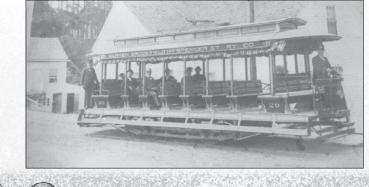
UPCOMING EVENTS TO CELEBRATE THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY of East Brookfield

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Saturday, December 10 At 9:30am **Trolley Talk with the Ethiers! Town Hall - FREE**

Before automobiles were the main mode of transportation, people used horses, wagon, trains and then trolleys to get around.

Local historians Ken and Tina Ethier discuss the short-lived but vital role trolleys played in daily life. Join us!



Join us as our 100 year celebration comes to a close! Thank you to all who participated in our events this past year! Ot was a blast!

See Facebook @EB100th or tinyurl.com/EB100th for details on all events!



Leicester Senior Center celebrates Thanksgiving

LEICESTER — Guests recently celebrated Thanksgiving a few days early, with help from the Leicester Senior Center staff and community organizations.

On Nov. 22, guests enjoyed a turkey dinner provided by the Elder Services of Worcester Area (ESWA). Nutrition site manager Karen Chiaravallotti, joined by several volunteers, ensured that guests were treated to a delicious meal.

Those who attended were absolutely delighted with the atmosphere of our center," read a statement released by Senior Center Director Rachelle

Decorations for the event were put together by Genevieve Grenier, who helps lead several programs at the center.

Looking ahead, another meal will be served to seniors on Dec. 22. The meal will be prepared by the ESWA at noon. For this special Christmas lunch, the ESWA will serve stuffed chicken breast. The meal is free for Leicester senior citizens and also free to those who belong to the Senior Citizens Club.

Please call the Senior Center if you have any questions about the event or other upcoming activities at the center.



Photo Courtesy

Genevieve Grenier has played an instrumental role in several programs at the Leicester Senior Center, including a recent meal ahead of Thanksgiving.

19 43 49 53 63

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Clip a small piece
- 5. Enter forcibly
 11. Southwestern Native American tribe
 12. Helps you smell better
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- Low frequency 18. Former Houston football
- player 19. Federal crime 24. Home to Boston (abbr.)
- 25. Approval 26. Those who fight an establishment (abbr.)
- 27. student, learns healing 28. Indian groomer of horses 29. Line where two pieces meet 30. One might be brief

- 31. Type of sword 33. Knife for fruits or vegetables
- 34. Stinkhorns
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- ammonia 40. Sir __ Newton 43. Wild goat
- Muslim ruler
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- 65. Greek God of war and courage

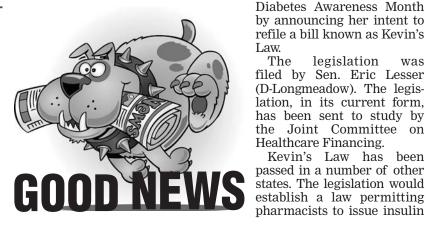
CLUES DOWN

- Sewing needles
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- Not moving 6. Sports official
 7. Water purification process
- (abbr.) 8. University of Dayton
- Indo-Malaysian evergreens
 High schoolers' math course Yankovic is a weird one 14. Adversaries
- Merchandisers
 Radioactive metal (abbr.)
- 21. Atomic #52 22. The back
- 23. One-time computer giant 27. Female of a horse
- Football's big game (abbr.) 30. Vehicle
- 31. Single Lens Reflex
 32. It's becoming more prevalent
- 33. Political action committee 34. Makes lightbulbs 35. Natural home of an animal
- 36. In bed 37. Superman villain
- 38. The Golden State 40. One who leads prayers in
- a mosque 41. They accompany a leader 42. Atomic #18
- 44. Electronic countermeasures
 45. The appearance of something
 46. Connecting line on a map
- 47. Deep red color 48. Secret affairs
- 50. Drenches
- 51. Contains music 52. Expression of surprise
- 54. Intestinal pouches 55. Where birds are born

- 57. and behold 61. Cools your home 62. The First State

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VETERANS

continued from page A1

Breakfast begin six months in advance of each year's program, when Senior Center officials contact Bill Moore, the CEO of Project New Hope, who helps lead the event. Additional invitations were sent to Senator Anne Gobi, State Representative David LeBoeuf, selectmen and School Committee members, Police Chief Ken Antanavica, and Fire Chief Michael Dupuis.

Others involved in making the vent possible were Genevieve Grenier, the newsletter editor for the Council on Aging, as well as Senior Center outreach coordinator Nancy Lamb.

These folks are here before all special events, working late in the evening to make sure

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everything is set for the morning meal," Cloutier added. "Thank you as well to South High ROTC, who come each year to honor those who are no longer with us. It is a very touching moment." School officials and students

are also thanked for their support of the program. Each year, younger students in the district write thank-you notes to veterans. Meanwhile, high school student Grace Reinke sang the National Anthem prior

to the event.

"Such large programs are coordinated with Brett Kustigian and Donna McCance. Brett is our newly appointed School Superintendent and is absolutely delightful to know, and Donna, a former schoolteacher and now Chair of the School Committee. is very involved in town and

also here at the Center," Cloutier said. Additionally, Jacques and Tony Maio

are thanked for greeting

local veterans as they entered the Senior Center for breakfast. 'We also need to recognize

take action is now.'

to patients in emergency sit-

uations. Under the proposed

language, pharmacists would

only be able to provide emer-

gency issuances every six months per individual.

unconscionable to think any person living with diabetes

could lose their life because

they are rationing insulin or

unable to access this life-saving medication," Gobi said. "I

look forward to refiling this

legislation. Data shows that

diabetes is on the rise in our

communities. The time to

"In Massachusetts, it is

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REGION

(D-Spencer)

month, Sen. Anne Gobi

Kevin's Law has been

the Golden Needles Club, who devote a great deal of their time throughout the year knitting and distributing hats, mittens, and lap blankets to our seniors, including those who served in various wars," Cloutier said. Additional thanks goes to

the following individuals, organizations, and businesses: the Camosse Family Foundation; the Senior Citizens Club of Leicester; George McKenna Insurance; the Lions Club of Leicester; the Leicester Police Country Bank; Alliance; VIBRA Hospital; Walmart Leicester; Brookdale at Eddy Pond of Auburn; Farm House Cafe of Leicester; and Goddard House of Worcester.

"Thank you to all who made this possible. It's a wonderful moment in time that allows us to reflect on the sacrifices our veterans made to keep us free," Cloutier said.



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SPENCER ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

LEICESTER

\$550,000, 328 Henshaw St, Wilson, Amanda, to Scannell, Ryan J.

\$420,000, 22 Pleasant St, Rondeau, Margaret R, to Tanveer, Zahid, and Tanveer, Hamza.

\$390,000, 51 Crestwood Rd, Scales, Janice L, to Tran, Van P, and Lien-Dang, Thi V.

NORTH BROOKFIELD \$360,000, 4 Mccarthy Rd, RJH

Home Renovations LLC.

Realty Co LLC, to Kubilis, Joel. \$208,000, 7 W Brookfield Rd, White, Peter J, and White, Melissa, to MMA

SPENCER

\$420,000, 74 E Charlton Rd, Ohara, Timothy M, and Ohara, Sarah M, to Ward, Andrew C, and Brdley, Leanne

\$399,000, 36 Wire Village Rd, Porter, Brent, to Rivera, Jose R.

\$390,000, 14 Bell St, Taylor, Jeffrey, and Molitor, Brandt, to Dominguez, Jose M.

\$320,000, 16 Brown St, Hendrickson, Carl J, and Hutchinson, Kristine E, to Arancibia, Elvis, and Perez, Stefany. \$275,000, 1 Oakland Dr, Duff, John C, to Duff, Christopher.

William F, and George, Elizabeth A, to Walther-Sousa, Ellen, and Sousa, Robert K.

\$30,000, Wire Village Rd, George,

WARREN

\$90,000, 85 Chapel St, Lovell, Walter E, and Lovell, Lisa, to Plata O Plomo

'Tis the season of giving and thankfulness at Mary Queen of the Rosary food pantry

SPENCER – It's hard to find a parking space that the Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish in Spencer these days, as a large group of dedicated, cheerful, veteran volunteers gather daily to prepare for the distribution of over 200 "Thanksgiving Baskets" filled to the brim with food for those in need.

You'll find many a smiling face as you

walk into the food pantry in complete awe of the over 400 bags of essential goods are packed and prepped for the large-scale distribution ahead of this Thanksgiving Holiday.

They say many hands make short work and although the exhaustion is a starting to creep onto some of their faces this group of hard-working individuals really has embraced helping others and assuring that local needs are met.

Food donations have been generously flowing in from the Parish members, local families, State Agencies, Spencer Police Department and UMass Hospital (Harrington Campus).

"While the needs are high, so are the

generous hearts in this community! I feel so blessed!" gushes Food Pantry Director, Maurice "Moe" Wilson. "These people, these volunteers, have become like family to me. I thank God for them every day. They are the heartbeat of this pantry."













Bruce Terry (Lt) and Moe Wilson (Rt) stacking the Turkeys upon arrival from UMass Harrington

EBES students enjoy Thanksgiving feast

EAST BROOKFIELD — Prior to departing for the Thanksgiving break, students at East Brookfield Elementary School gathered for an annual holiday feast with their classmates.

This year's meal was especially meaningful, as students in pre-k through sixth grade enjoyed the feast for the first time since 2019 due to pandemic restrictions.

Students and their families also enjoyed a pageant as part of the Nov. 23 celebration. Additionally, EBES classes recited poems, enjoyed songs, told jokes,

Photo Courtesy

Students at East Brookfield Elementary School enjoy a special feast before their Thanksgiving break.

and gave the history of Thanksgiving and the history of the Macy's Parade.

"It was a great day to be grateful for everything we have," said EBES teacher Christine Lavin, who plays an integral role in facilitating several school events each year.



Cook

PARADE

continued from page A1

parade, all requisite forms and information are available by visiting www. spencerma.gov.

All forms must be filled out prior to the event and turned in on the night of the parade at lineup. Please arrive early to help minimize traffic congestion around the school.

For local families and youngsters, make sure you arrive bundled up and ready to take in an unforgettable night of colorful lights.

To learn more about the event, call Donnie Berthiaume at 774-230-8282. You may also send an email to donnnie@ brennickdesign.com. Please include "Parade of Lights" in the subject line of your email.

In other holiday news, Spencer's municipal buildings will be closed on Monday, Dec. 26, as well as on Monday,

To learn more about closings and holiday hours for various town departments, visit www.spencerma.gov. If you are unsure about a particular department's hours around the holidays, please call

HEARTS

continued from page A1

always welcome to help residents, families, and seniors stay warm this winter.

For Leicester residents, applications can be printed online through the website, picked up at Town Hall and Deja New, or requested by email at deborah@ heartsforheat.org. You may also call 508-

"If you think you may need help, please send the application in now. We are not an emergency fuel service and need a couple days to review, approve, and set up a delivery," Antanavica added. "Also, please know that this is a strictly confidential process. Only one person reviews the applications.'

For more information on how to start a Hearts for Heat chapter in your town, send an email to cindy@heartsforheat. org.





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Country Bank announces "Season of Difference" campaign with \$125,000 in support for local communities

REGION — The winter holidays are going to be a lot brighter for a lot of people, thanks to Country Bank's annual Season of Difference campaign, during which the bank has pledged 28 days of making a difference in the communities they serve.

The bank's team members (aka, Difference Makers) will deliver \$80,000 in donations to local food pantries, as well as \$5,000 each to the Friends of the Homeless, Salvation Army and the USO.

The campaign kick-off is on Saturday, Nov. 26—Small Business Saturday with Difference Makers purchasing gifts cards from local businesses and distributing them throughout their banking centers on Tuesday, Nov. 29.

In addition, the bank's team members will be supporting holiday sponsorships and events, volunteering at nonprofits, providing gifts for 300 seniors in nursing homes, 400 gifts for children, and 300 gifts to homeless shelters, ringing the bell for the Salvation Army, and more.

"As a community partner, we care deeply about our communities, and we want to make a meaningful difference where it is most needed this holiday season," said Paul Scully, President, and CEO of Country Bank. "As we reflect on the past year with gratitude for the bank's strength and ability to support so many in need, we are also humbled to witness so many great acts of kindness and support throughout our communities from the people and businesses who make this region the remarkable place it is to live and work."

To find out what the bank is doing each day of the campaign, follow the bank's social channels or visit www. countrybank.com/seasonofdifference.

Women's Foundation of Boston awards Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts \$25,000

REGION — Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts (GSCWM) is thrilled to announce that it has received a \$25,000 Catalyst Grant from the Women's Foundation of Boston (WFBoston). The grant will fund new donor technology software.

GSCWM is one of 11 nonprofits that exclusively serves women and girls awarded the supplemental Catalyst Grant.

According to Christina Gordon, Co-Founder and CEO of the Women's Foundation of Boston, "This supplemental alternative grant offering allows us to deepen our impact and support a greater number of effective women-and girl-serving nonprofits. As with our annual multi-year grants, the rigorous process for choosing recipients of our Catalyst Grants is based on mission-alignment and proven outcomes.

The grant will fund new technology software to improve fundraising efficiency, donor engagement and volunteer awareness.

This funding will allow us to upgrade our communication with our amazing donors and we are incredibly grateful to the Women's Foundation of Boston," said Pattie Hallberg, GSCWM CEO.

To join, volunteer, donate or reconnect, contact GSCWM at info@ gscwm.org or visit www. gscwm.org.

About Girl Scouts of Central & Western

Girl Scouts Central and Western Massachusetts serves nearly 5,000 girls in grades K through 12 with the strong support of over 3,000 adult volunteers in 186 towns and cities in central and western Massachusetts. The Girl Scout program allows girls to discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together while building their personal leadership qualities. GSCWM supports girls by giving them extraordinary opportunities to explore, experience, and learn about their world and helps girls recognize that they are vital members of their communities.







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LEGALS

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SPENCER ZONING **BOARD OF APPEALS**

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Special Permit - Applicant: Cedric Richardson; Owner: Jason, Jeremy Wentworth, Lisa Luzzo; Location: 505 East Main Street, Spencer Assessor's Map R35-50. The applicant is seeking a Special Permit under Sections 4.3.22 (Automobile, boat, and other motor vehicle sales and rental) and 4.9.3 (Nonconforming Uses) the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to allow mixed use at 505 East Main Street to rehab building to allow a residence and online car rental business (no cars onsite). The property is in the Commercial zoning district. November 25, 2022 December 2, 2022

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Worcester Probate and Family**

Court 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 Docket No. WO19P1973PM **CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF** PETITION FOR REMOVAL

OF A CONSERVATOR In the interests of: **Kimberly A Harrington** Of: Spencer, MA RESPONDENT

(Incapacitated Person/ Protected Person) To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has

been filed by Kelly A Weeks of Millbury, MA

In the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Remove the Conservator

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/ or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 12/13/2022. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after

the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The abovenamed person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the abovenamed person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: November 10, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman Register of Probate

December 2, 2022

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. WO22C0548CA **CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME** In the matter of: **Madison Jean Messier**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Madison Jean **Messier** of Warren MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Madison Jean Klein IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/20/2022. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court. Date: November 10, 2022

Stephanie K. Fattman

December 2, 2022

LEGAL NOTICE: TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 30A, 18-25, as amended by Chapter 28 of the Acts of 2009, The Wetlands Protection Act, the West Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on WEDNESDAY December 7, 2022 at 6:00 pm in the Lower Level Meeting Room, West Brookfield Town Hall, 2 East Main Street.

6:00 - Public Hearing: • RDA - RDA - 173 Shoreline Drive -

Lochem - Tree Removal

• NOI - 16 Old Warren Road - Caruso - Garage Construction

• NOI - 238 Wickaboag Valley Road -Tirrell - Septic system repair December 2, 2022



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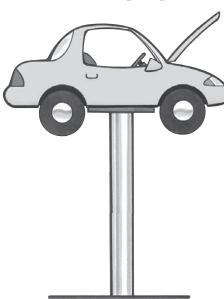
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Brendan Berube EDITOR

EDITORIAL

May you never be too grown up to search the skies on Christmas Eve

It's official — the holiday season has arrived, with the first big one under our belts. Thanksgiving is the perfect segué into Christmas and Hanukkah. It's when all the fall decorations, and the dilapidated pumpkins get tossed and the candy canes and red and whites come out. Black Friday and Cyber Monday has passed, now it's time to put things into cruise control until the big day arrives.

When we were younger, the holidays were magical and fun for most of us (as embodied by the quote that headlines this Editorial), with a minimal amount of stress and an abundant number of gifts to those fortunate enough to receive any. As we get older and have families of our own, holidays remain fun, as we pour that magic into making our own children's holidays memorable.

However there comes a time when our children are grown, and the holidays can seem to be more of an obligation and a day to get through. Not only that, but we also long for the days when we had all our family members alive, when the holidays were the 'good old' days'. Moving forward, for some, can be quite depressing. Hopefully, that isn't the case for many, but for those who feel that sense of Grinch-esque dread, we have some tips that can help put the spark back into your hot apple cider.

If you remember what it felt like to have an amazing holiday, use those memsomeone else. Even if it's not a child. Do something creative to make someone's holiday one they can remember, something they don't expect. When you take the time to essentially play Santa Claus, the joy you get back is tenfold.

As for relieving stress, don't put too many expectations onto yourself and respect your own limits. You don't have to do everything, you can delegate. As for shopping, you can find just about anything online, even from local shops making gift buying easier. If shopping isn't your thing, hand out gift cards with a handwritten letter.

Throughout the season, take in the lights and remember to take in the holiday spirit of those around you. Go for a walk in the snow and listen to how quiet everything is. Begin and end each day with something you find enjoyable. We find that watching holiday movies, eating sugar cookies, and listening to Christmas music really can be uplifting. 'A Christmas Carol' does put things into perspective. If you haven't read the book in a while or watched the movie, now is

The point of the holidays is to spend time with our favorite people. While we can't go back in time and re-live the days when trains circled our Christmas trees we can live in the present and create new adventures with memories that will put a smile on your face for years to come.

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.

Opinion and commentary from Spencer, Leicester and the Brookfields

Guide to Choosing a Holiday-Worthy Christmas Tree

A holiday tree is the center of the yuletide celebration. Decked out in garland and adorned with ornaments, the stately Christmas tree is not only a tradition but the source of both merriment and sentiment. It's no wonder choosing a special evergreen is a

task not to be taken lightly. Whether freshly cut, balled and bagged, or artificially constructed, the choices are pleasantly plentiful.

Read on for ways to ensure this year's pick is truly trim-worthy!

Oh Evergreen!: Selecting a Christmas tree is a fun family tradition, but getting caught up in the festivities, one can overlook the requirements of a successful pick. The first thing to remember is in a lot or on a farm, a tree can look much smaller than it will in your home. Rule number one is to always bring a tape measure to ensure a proper fit.

When choosing a freshly cut evergreen, look for nice, even coloring throughout the tree with no signs of Also, beware of brittle branches, which are another sign of an old tree that may not last the season in a heated home. Look for flexibility in a bough.

To test freshness, pick a needle and bend it. A fresh fir needle will snap; a fresh pine needle will bend, but not break. The old "shake tip" really reveals a tree's freshness. Simply shake from the trunk, or wave a bough and observe how many needles fall off. If it is more than several, keep looking.

Live trees balled with the root and wrapped in burlap or containers (a.k.a. balled and bagged trees) are a great choice if you plan on planting the tree after the holidays. The most important consideration with a balled and bagged tree is to make sure the tree species can thrive in your climate zone.

you've chosen a holiday tree it's necessary to prep it for inside enjoyment. If you're using a cut tree, when you get home make a fresh cut at the base. This will help the tree better take up water. It pays to keep in mind that a properly watered tree will keep about a month inside. Be sure to keep the water level above the base of the tree. Believe it or not, a freshly-cut tree can consume a gallon of water in 24 hours!

To prevent fallen needles, add one of these to the base: three tablespoons glycerin; three tablespoons sugar, or a few crushed aspirin.

After Christmas is over, the holiday tree will need to be properly disposed of. Check your city or town transfer stations for recycling options. Some municipalities recycle trees and grind them into mulch that is repurposed back into the community as such.

Faux Forest: If a fresh cut tree is impractical, an artificial tree can be a good investment - if you choose wise-When evaluating artificials, buy the best you can afford as skimping

TAKE THE HINT

KAREN TRAINOR

on such a purchase will shorten its lifespan. Did you know a well made artificial tree can last a decade or more? Choose trees with many branch tips and multiple needles, thus creating a "fullness" that rivals the real deal.

Look for easy to set up models with hinged branches for quick and easy set up. High end trees often come equipped with an abundance of lights. Make sure the tree stand is sturdy enough to hold a tree laden with heavy ornament and garlands. Lastly, consider a tree that can easily refold into a box or bag, for hassle free storage.

Love the smell of a real tree? You can mimic the fresh scent of balsam simply by sprinkling your carpets with a pine scented carpet freshener before vacuuming. Since smell is the most potent of our senses, visitors to a house that smells like the holidays will feel doubly welcomed!

Christmas Tree Preservative: If your family loves decorating a real tree, but you hate the mess of fallen needles, and the fear of sparking branches - don't despair! And don't spend big bucks on commercial preservatives either. This recipe will save the tree, some money, and maybe even a few frayed nerves: Ingredients: one gallon water; one cup ammonium sulphate (available from garden supply store); two tablespoons borax (available from grocery or hardware store); a few aspirins or three tablespoons glycerin, or three tablespoons sugar. Instructions: Mix first three ingredients together well. Pour into a spray bottle. Spritz on tree and pour the remainder into the tree stand instead of in water Saw off the bottom of the trunk, one to two inches and use a drill to bore a narrow hole up through the mid-dle of the trunk. Then fill the hole with cotton, and pack tightly. Put the base in warm water as soon as possible. Warm water will melt the sap,

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick

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

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

donor-advised fund right for You?

You can find many ways to support charitable organizations. One method that's gained popularity over the past few years is called a donor-advised fund. Should you consider it?

The answer depends on your individual situation, because donor-advised funds are not appropriate for everyone. However, if you're in a position to make larger charitable gifts, you might at least want to see what this strategy has



FINANCIAL Focus

TREVOR **NIELSON**

Contribute to the fund. You can contribute to your donor-advised fund with cash or marketable securities, which are assets that can be converted to cash quickly. If your contribution is tax deductible, you'll get the deduction in the year you make the contribution to the fund. Of course, these contributions are still subject to IRS limits on charitable tax deductions and whether

Here's how it works:

you itemize your deductions. If you typically don't give enough each year to itemize and plan on making consistent charitable contributions, you could consider combining multiple years' worth of planned giving into a single donor-advised fund contribution, and claim a larger deduction in that year. This move may be especially impactful if you have years with a higher amount of income, with an accompanying higher tax rate. If you contribute marketable securities, like stocks and bonds, into the fund, a subsequent sale of the securities avoids capital gains taxes, maximizing the impact of your contribution.

Choose an investment. Typically, donor-advised funds offer several professionally managed diversified portfolios where you can place your contributions. You'll want to consider the level of investment risk to which your fund may be exposed. And assuming all requirements are met, any investment growth is not taxable to you, the donor-advised fund or the charity that ultimately receives the grant, making your charitable gift go even further.

Choose the charities. You can choose grants for the IRS-approved charities that you want to support. You decide when you want the money donated and how it should be granted. You're generally free to choose as many IRSapproved charitable organizations as you like. And the tax reporting is relatively easy — you don't have to keep track of receipts from every charity you support. Instead, you can just keep the receipts from your contributions to the

Although donor-advised funds clearly offer some benefits, there are important trade-offs to consider. For one thing, your contributions are irrevocable, which means once you put the money in the fund, you cannot access it for any reason other than charitable giving. And the investments you choose within your fund will carry some risk, as is true of all investments. Also, donor-advised funds do have investment management fees and other costs. So, consider the impacts of these fees when deciding how you want to give.

In any case, you should consult with your tax and financial professionals before opening a donor-advised fund. And if the fund becomes part of your estate plans, you'll also want to work with your legal advisor. But give this philanthropic tool some thought — it can help you do some good while also potentially benefiting your own longterm financial strategy.

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.

should be helping me but were not.

If you have a lot to accomplish, it's only natural to plan, have a list of to-do's, and try to accomplish as much as possible. If you are on a deadline and have commitments, you must follow through with; it's almost impossible not to nervously anticipate each moment and how it will all get done. It comes with the territory.

I used to think that Living in the moment was the same as Living for the moment. Living in the moment and

Juggling your holiday commitments

We are deep into the holiday season, and almost all of us are busier during the holidays than during the rest of the year: parties to attend, gifts to buy, and people to visit. With all the tasks we're already juggling, the holiday season

can make it extra tricky to keep all the balls in the air! If you look around this holiday sea-

son, you'll notice some people can handle the extra workload with a smile, and others grit their teeth every step of the

Can we learn to become more graceful under pressure?

There's a thing called "Living in the Moment." I'm sure you've heard of it. I've heard the phrase a few million times, but I've only recently paid atten-

tion to what it means. Living in the moment sounds so sim-



Positively **SPEAKING TOBY**

MOORE day!

could we do anything but live in the moment? After all, we all live through a series of moments every In the last couple of

ple I thought I was natural-

ly doing it all along. How

years, I took on a lot more responsibility than I was used to. As my workload increased, I reacted less gracefully than I would have liked. Although I was getting most everything done, I was constantly worried about what to do next. Always so afraid of not getting everything done that I couldn't properly

focus on the task at hand. I was rushing through each task as fast as possible, unable to perform at my best, and simultaneously feeling stressed and anxious about everything and everyone else. My fearful thoughts turned to bitter thoughts as I mentally complained about those who I thought

Turn To MOORE page A9

On the hunt

Shotgun deer season opened this past Monday under ideal conditions, although some hunters that like to track deer in the snow may need to wait a bit longer. Deer hunting in the valley is a far cry from when I was hunting in my early years. There were few

deer in the area, so we headed into the hills of Petersham, and hunted along the outskirts of the Quabbin Reservoir! We were fortunate enough to find a family that owned numerous acres of land that gave us permission to hunt. We were able to park our cars on their property just across the street from their home.

On opening day, we headed out real early, as we had to make the one and half hour journey to Petershalm. We encountered a long line of traffic which was mostly other deer hunters heading into Petersham, Oakham and other great deer hunting spots in the area. The long line of traffic moved very slowly, as the old cars and trucks of the time had drivers driving a more normal speed than the crazy drivers of today. The car's headlights seemed as though there was a train heading in the same direction, until many driv-



THE GREAT **OUTDOORS RALPH**

breakfast at some of the many eating establishments along the way. After the long drive,

ers stopped to have a hot

we finally reached our destination a half hour before opening time to hunt. We were all excited to start our annual deer hunt that consisted

mostly of our family and a few outcasts. During our day in the woods, we would hear a few shots being fired, but our turn to discharge our shotguns often never happened. Finally, after a few years of hunting the area I heard a few shots, not far from where I was hunting. Suddenly, a nice eight point buck appeared, not far from where I was standing. After firing a couple of shots at the buck, I headed into the direction that I had last seen him. Suddenly, a wave of excitement came over me as I spotted the buck laying only a few yards away from where I had last seen him. It was the first buck I had ever shot.

We had no radios, as hunters do today, so I sat down and waited for a couple of my family to come looking for me. They had heard the shots, so it did not take long for them to find me. After a few high fives and pictures, the deer was field dressed and dragged out to

the car. Numerous hunters that accompanied me over the years were Dick Baker, who harvested a nice eight point buck, my brother Mel a nice doe and former police chief Emerick harvested a nice doe. Numerous other deer were harvested over the years at the site, and we always shared our venison with the nice people that allowed us to hunt their property. We were known by other local hunters as flatlanders!

Today, we seem to have more deer in our area, than the areas we hunted long ago. We also have coyotes, black bear, and numerous other species of wildlife that we did not have back in the '60's. Today, we only need to walk out our back door to hunt deer, although we have lost all of our native pheasant, and woodcock due to development. Grouse have all but disappeared from the valley

I am sure I will hear stories of successful hunters all this week, and there are going to be some big bucks that were harvested this week. Remember that all deer harvested this week need to be brought to a checking station for this week only. There is no online checking of deer!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



For 15 years, Joe L. has been employing WTA TAGS trying to draw a bighorn tag in Montana. His persistence has paid off! After booking with Worldwide Trophy Adventures in Montana, Joe and his guide passed on several smaller rams over three days. Late on day four, they glassed-up this band and then made their loop. They were then able to get into position and took this boomer out of the group at 450 yards. Congratulations, Joe, on this truly remarkable trophy.

Selecting and keeping your Christmas tree looking its best

The hunt for the perfect tree is oftentimes an important part of family tradition. Buy local whenever possible by supporting local Christmas tree growers. Purchasing locally grown trees also reduces the risk of spreading unwanted pests into

your landscape. Your local University Extension Service and Department of Natural Resources provide updates on

Family tradition may dictate your tree choice. Many prefer the fragrance of balsam fir and needle retention of other firs like Fraser, white, Grand, and Noble. Though not a true fir, Douglas fir needles have a wonderful aroma when crushed. White pine lacks the fragrance that many prefer. Its pliable branches only support lightweight ornaments, but the soft needles have

GARDEN Moments MELINDA **MYERS**

less bite than the popular Scots or Scotch pine. This evergreen has stiff branches that support heavier ornaments and its needles hold even when dry.

Check for freshness. A fresh tree will last throughout the holidays. Run your hand

along the stem. The needles should be pliable yet firmly attached to the branch. Avoid trees with lots of moss, lichens, vines, broken branches, and other signs of poor care.

Look at the overall shape and size of the tree. Stand the tree upright to make sure it will fit in the allotted space. Check the trunk. It should be straight and the base small enough to fit in your tree stand.

Make a fresh cut, removing at least an inch from the base of the trunk before setting it in the stand. Straight or diagonal cuts work equally well. A diagonal or V-shaped cut may make it difficult to properly support the tree in the stand.

Proper watering is key. Fill the stand with water and check it often. Fresh trees can absorb as much as 2 quarts of water in the first 24 hours. Keeping your tree stand filled with water is the best way to keep your tree looking its best throughout the season.

Once your tree is in place, you can add lights and decorations. Then take time throughout the busy holiday season to relax with your favorite winter beverage and enjoy the beauty of your Christmas tree.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including the recently released Midwest Gardener's Handbook, 2nd Edition and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" instant video and DVD series and the nationally syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment



Proper selection and care of your Christmas tree will keep it fresh and looking its best throughout the holidays.

TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

Antique photographs



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

> WAYNE TUISKULA

While cataloging photos for our ongoing auction of the Rotman family Worcester, New England and historical items collection, I was inspired to write about collecting and selling photos, specifically how to tell if the items you have in your home might be valuable.

First, a brief history of photography. The idea of capturing images dates back further than you might expect, beginning with the technique of "camera obscura," which is now known as a precursor to modern cameras. Items were projected from the outside into a dark room or hall through a pinhole. Britannica writes that that the concept dates back more than 2,000 years with the Chinese and ancient Greeks such as Aristotle likely taking part.

On Jan. 7, 1839, members of the French Académie des Sciences first viewed images (daguerreotypes) by LouisJacques-Mandé Daguerre important figure during the (1787–1851). According to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Daguerre wanted to develop a way to permanently capture the fleeting camera obscura images he viewed. Sadly, the "Diorama" where Daguerre kept his photographs burned to the ground.

Ambrotypes and tintypes (also known as ferrotypes) came into use during the 1850s. They were quicker and cheaper to use than daguerreotypes. The cost ranged from 25 cents to \$2.50 in the U.S.

Cartes de visite (commonly called CDVs) became popular in the late 1850s. A CDV is a small photograph on cardboard backing. Cabinet photos followed soon after and gradually replaced CDVs, coming into use during the 1860s. Cabinet cards are similar to CDVs, but larger and typically include the photographer's name and

Here are some things to look for in your own photos. Most daguerreotypes were portraits of unidentified people and usually don't have a lot of value. But a daguerreotype of a famous person can be very valuable. A daguerreotype of Sam Houston, who was an Texas Revolution from 1834 to 1836, sold for \$33,000 in 2018. A daguerreotype of an outdoor scene can be even more valuable. An image of a San Francisco building draped in bunting sold for over \$140,000 in 2008. Sometimes the cases can be worth more than the image inside it. The Vermont Journal writes that thermoplastic cases were made of shellac and sawdust that was mixed and colored with chemicals before being rolled to create a thin sheet of plastic. A thermoplastic case depicting Washington crossing the Delaware sold for \$2,600 in 2019.

There are also many examples of other types of photos fetching high prices. An ambrotype of a traveling photographer's studio went for \$95,000 in 2010. A tintype of Buffalo Bill Cody posed with guns and game sold for \$36,000 in 2016. A CDV of Major Martin Delaney (who was one of the first African American men admitted to Harvard Medical School and a surgeon during the Civil War) in uniform sold for over \$59,000 in 2020.

Baseball player photos also sell very well. A Honus Wagner Sporting Life cabinet photo



brought \$264,000 in 2019. A picture is worth a thousand words, and sometimes even six

figures. There are many local photographs in the Rotman memorabilia online auction. We will be holding a preview on Saturday, Dec. 3 and Sunday, Dec. 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bidding ends on Wednesday, Dec. 7. We are cataloging items for another online auction featuring art, Civil War memorabilia, samplers and other antiques, collectibles and memorabilia. It will start in December and end in early January. Please visit our Web site, https://centralmassauctions.com, for links to upcoming events.

Please contact us at www. centralmassauctions.com (508-612-6111) info@centralmassauctions.com for antiques and collectibles auction services.

MOORE

continued from page **A8**

living for the moment aren't exactly the same, but they do share some qualities. Living for the moment is simply enjoying your life without caring about the future.

How is that different than Living In the Moment?

Living in the moment is accepting where you are, being aware of your emotions and thoughts, and allowing yourself to fully engage in the present moment without anticipation and worry for the next.

Eckhart Tolle said, "Are you able to be present in what you're doing, or is what you're doing no more than a means to an end? And approaching

every moment with the hurried attitude of just needing to get this moment out of the way so you can get to a better one?

you're living in the moment, your focus is on what's happening now. You aren't thinking about what is for dinner or what you'll wear to work tomorrow. You aren't reliving moments from the past or being distracted and concerned about future events you're focused on what you should be doing in the present

moment. Some have asked if you can live in the moment and be a long-term planner? Is it ok to multitask and live in the moment? The answer is yes and yes!

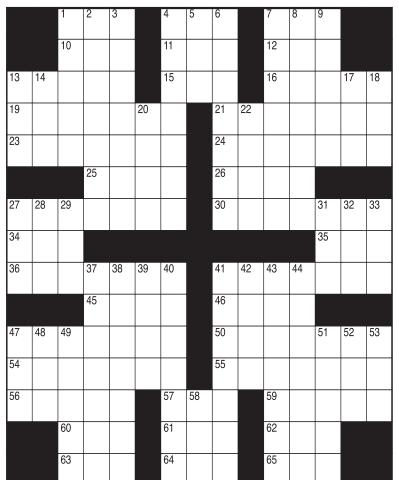
If you have to multitask and perform several jobs simultaneously, you can do all that while staying in the moment. If you're a long-term planner with a big vision, it can sometimes be a distraction to dream about the future. Staying in the moment can help you get the daily chores finished.

Living in the moment is especially useful when dealing with people during the holidays, helping you to treat everybody with dignity and respect.

Living in the moment is associated with less stress and better decision-making, especially when combined with an attitude of acceptance and gratitude. Rather than letting the season's stress ruin your holiday cheer, take a breath, accept, be thankful, and live in the moment.



TAKE A BREAK



ACROSS

- 1. Single Lens Reflex
- 4. People of southern Benin
- 7. One who is learned (abbr.)
- 10. Neckwear
- 11. Solid water
- 12. A way to work the soil
- 13. Inspiring
- 15. Pick up
- 16. It wakes you up 19. Parcel
- 21. Popular dog breed
- 23. Lets out a sigh
- 24. Embedded into the surface
- 25. Hard liquors
- 26. One from Scotland
- 27. Satisfy

- 30. Used to introduce a contrasting statement
- 34. Antidepressant drug type (abbr.')
- 35. Similar
- 36. Winged horse
- 41. Soft drink maker
- 45. One who doesn't live up to expectations
- 46. Nursemaid
- 47. Inheritor
- 50. Hot, often dusty wind
- 54. Serves as an introduction 55. Earned top billing
- 56. Mansion
- 57. A partner to a carrot
- 59. War-horse
- 60. Midway between northeast

and east

- 61. It checks the heartbeat
- 62. Aquatic salamander
- 63. CNN's founder 64. Being precisely suitable and
- 65. Strongly alkaline solution

DOWN

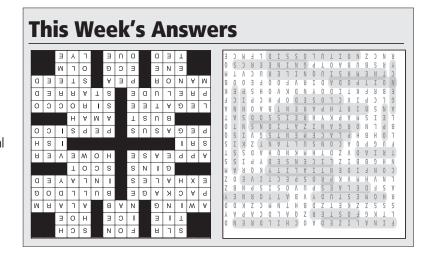
- 1. Pinochle trick
- 2. A system of connections
- 3. Emblems of royalty 4. Work with a soft hand
- 5. Plant cultivated in Peru
- 6. A timid man
- 7. Lacking intellectual depth
- 8. A way to order
- 9. Intoxicating
- 13. Mimic
- 14. Surfers use it 17. Small Eurasian deer
- 18. Popular Miller beer
- 20. Finds out about
- 22. Unusual
- 27. Small European viper
- 28. Indicates before
- 29. Birth swine
- 31.7
- 32. Useful keyboard key
- 33. Letter of the Greek alphabet 37. Edible mollusk
- 38. Stitched up
- 39. Utilized
- 40. in tradition
- 41. A way to get through
- 42. Let off
- 43. Fashionable source of shade
- 44. In due time
- 47. Printing speed
- 48. A major division of geological time
- 49. Nocturnal, cat-like mammal
- 51. ___ de la __
- 52. After B
- 53. Unusual
- 58. Former money of the EU

S S 0 U В G

Find the words hidden vertically, horizontally, diagonally, and backwards.

ADOPTION WORD SEARCH

ADOPTION, AGENCY, ASSISTANCE, ATTORNEY, BIRTH PARENT, CHILDREN, CLOSED, CONFIDENTIALITY, CONSULTANT, DISSOLUTION, DOSSIER, FINALIZED, FOSTER, HOME STUDY, KINSHIP, LICENSED, OPEN, ORGANIZATIONS, PLACEMENTS, PROSPECTIVE, RELINQUISHMENT, SCREENING, SEALED, TRIAD



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OBITUARIES

George S. Beer, Sr., 95

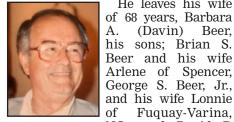
SPENCER: George S. Beer, Sr., 95, of Spencer, died Thursday, Nov. 24 at his home, surrounded by his loving

He leaves his wife

Michelle C. Francis

of Front Royal, VA.,

(Davin) Beer,



his sons; Brian S. Beer and his wife Arlene of Spencer, George S. Beer, Jr., and his wife Lonnie of Fuquay-Varina, NC., and David P. Beer and his wife Leslie of Spencer, his daughters; Jennifer A. Vasil and her husband John of W.Brookfield and

and his daughter in law; Gayle Liseicki. 20 grandchildren; Katelin, Kristina, Timothy, Nicole, George, Julie, Emma, Andrew, Kimberly,Heather, Johnny, Mary, Maggie, Samuel, Audrey, Grace, Lianne, Helen, Nathan, Jack and Georgia, 14 great grandchildren, several nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his granddaughter; Rachele Beer in 2019, his brothers; Herbert, Richard, Robert and Arnold Beer and his sisters; Doris Thomas,

Jean Leon, Beverly Granlund and Ethel-Joe Seery.

George was the owner of Spencer MetalFinishinginBrookfieldfor40years prior to his retirement in 2009. He was a talented craftsman and built their family home. He came into the Catholic Church in 1990 at 63 years of age. George was an avid reader and enjoyed spending time on the Cape with his wife. More than anything, he was devoted to his family and spent his life in service to others.

He was born in Worcester, the son of Herbert and Ethel M. (White) Beer and later served his country with the U.S. Army during the Korean War. George's funeral was held on Thursday, Dec. 1st., from the J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer with a funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in Our Lady of the

Rosary Church, 7 Church St., Spencer.
Burial will follow in the
MA. Veterans' Cemetery, 111 Glenallen Winchendon, St.. MA.withMilitaryHonors.Callinghours were Wednesday, Nov. 30th from 4 to 7 p.m. in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to either the Spencer Rescue Squad, 6 Bixby Rd., Spencer, MA., 01562 or Problem Pregnancy, 495 Pleasant Street, Worcester, MA, 01609.

Gordon A. Walden, Jr., 88

SPENCER- Gordon A. Walden, Jr., 88, died Monday, November 21 at UMass Memorial Hospital in Worcester, sur-



He leaves his wife of 62 years, Rachel L. (Eddy) Sargent Walden, three sons; Richard L. Sargent and his wife Dianne, David L. Sargent and his wife Rosemarie of Spencer, Mark N. Walden and his wife Susanna of San Diego,

a daughter, Cynthia A. Walden-Levey of Spencer, 14 grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. was He predeceased by a broth-

er Thomas A. Walden and a daughter Lynda J. Sargent-Lajeunesse. Born in Worcester, he was the son of Gordon A. Walden, Sr. and Cora (Norton) Walden, he resided in Grafton from 1961 to 1998 before moving to Spencer. Mr. Waldenwasagraduateof Sutton High School, Class of '52, he then served his country in the Army during peacetime. He worked as an assistant metallur-

gist at Wyman Gordon in Grafton and Millbury for 41 years, retiring in 1994. He was a Mason belonging to the Hayden Lodge in North Brookfield. He was a long time active member of the Evangelical Congregational Church in Grafton and then for many years at the Congregational Church of Spencer. He was an avid fisherman and a longtime member of the Picadilly Big Game Fishing Club. He was a life-long skier and regular golfer and bowler. His vegetable garden was very important to him - he enjoyed sharing the produce with family, friends, and charity. He was very passionate about boating, spending much time with family on the waters around Cape Cod. A Memorial Service with Military honors will be held Satrurday, December 17 at 11 AM in the J. HENRI MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terrace, Spencer. A calling hour will precede the Service from 10-11 AM. Burial will take place in Pine Grove Cemetery, Spencer at a later date and at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Mary, Queen of the Rosary Food Pantry, 46 Maple St., Spencer, MA 01562 or a charity of your choice.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Fundraiser to support Nursing Students for SkillsUSA Competition

CHARLTON — Members of the Practical Nursing Class of 2023 are hosting a raffle to benefit competitors to the 2023 SkillsUSA district conference.

The raffle item, donated by Gearlyn Wetherbee of Charlton is Victoria's Secret gift package valued at \$120.

Raffle tickets are \$5 each or three for \$10. Those who purchase raffle tickets are supporting members of the Practical Nursing Class of 2023 competitors in the five categories of Medical Math, Medical Terminology, First Aid/ CPR, Practical Nursing, and Health Knowledge Bowl. Tickets may be purchased from the fundraising liaison, Theresa Boakye of Worcester. Boakye, originally from Berekum, Ghana may be reached through the Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy office, 508-248-5971,

Boakve said, "The outpouring of support from the class has just been incred-

led that all PN SkillsUSA competitors will benefit from this fundrais-

The SkillsUSA district competition is scheduled for March 2023. The PN Class of 2023 is planning a spring fundraiser as well. Last year seven Bay Path Practical Nursing students competed at the National SkillsUSA Conference from June 20-24 in Atlanta, Georgia after winning gold medals at the state level.



About Bay Path Practical Nursing

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

Brookfield - Troy Miner, 59

Brookfield - Troy Miner, 59, of North Brookfield, died peacefully on November 19, 2022. He leaves behind his three children Nicholas, Nathan,



and his angel Victoria (Tory), two grandchildren Ava and Emma and his former spouse and caregiver Tina Miner. He also leaves behind his two brothers Keith and Darryl and was the son of Ronald and Sandra

graduated from North Brookfield High School and was an excellent athlete that made Central Mass all-star teams. He was later well known in various men's basketball leagues for his tenacious and tough play. Cancer would later find out the toughness that he displayed over the course of an eleven-year battle that would take his ability to talk but not diminish his spirit or dignity. Troy never complained and always wrote on his white board asking how his visitors were doing instead of focusing on himself. Many of the facilities that he would visit would comment on his strength and easy-going nature for which he was known by everyone.

Troy owned B&V sheetrock then

managed the New England Truck Stop and put himself through school at night and graduated from Worcester State University with a Degree in Education. He taught fourth grade at Davis Hill

Elementary in Holden and dedicated countless hours to the outdoor classroom. He was a gifted teacher that won awards such as the Winds Beneath your Wings Award. He receives thesis papers and videos to this day from students now in college describing their favorite teacher. Troy was asked on numerous occasions to accompany his former students to their introduction into the National Honor Society in their junior/ senior year which is one of the highest honors a teacher can receive. His signature line to all his students was "be the captain of your own ship".

Troy was an avid birder and loved everything to do with nature and hiked and camped frequently. He liked spending time with family and high school friends Todd, Fred and Bruce and weekends away with his brothers. Even though he was sick he was able to manage a last trip to the Rock and Roll and Football Hall of Fames in Ohio with his brothers.

The family would like to thank the Dana Farber Cancer Institute team for the excellent care and compassion that they provided during his stays. A private burial will take place at a future

Private funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the care of the Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home. A guest book is available at www.shaw-majercik. com where you may offer condolences, share fond memories, or light a candle in remembrance of Troy.

Nichols College supports veteran cause with 22 laps



Nichols President Glenn Sulmasy (center) presents donations totaling more than \$1,600 to Bill Moore, CEO of Project New Hope Inc. Also pictured are members of the Veteran and Military Services group at Nichols, from left, Tom Stewart, April Girardin, and Boyd Brown.

DUDLEY — Nichols College President Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M, presented donations totaling more than \$1,600 to Bill Moore, founder, CEO and president of Project New Hope Inc., representing funds raised from the college's annual Sweat for Vets 22 Laps event held on Nov. 10.

The charity event, which is sponsored by the Veteran and Military

Services group Nichols, has been a campus tradition since 2019. Participants, comprising students, faculty, staff, alumni and community members, take a 22-lap run or walk around the track on Vendetti Field. They and others are encouraged to donate \$22 to the cause.

significance of the 22 laps is that, according to the Veteran

Administration, 22 veterans are lost to suicide each day.

Founded in 2011, Project New Hope Inc. is a Worcester-based nonprofit organization that provides services and resources to veterans, service members and their families, such as therapeutic retreats, food and baby care pantries, and other humanitarian programs.

* * Friday's Child * * *



Talaysia Age 16

Hi! My name is Talaysia and I'm looking for a loving family!

Talaysia is a young lady of African-American descent with a great sense of humor. She loves to dance, sing, and be silly. She enjoys playing games and is a great Uno player. Talaysia requires extra support in school to help her stay focused on her work but with one-on-one support she can be successful academically. Talaysia is working hard to learn how to trust others and will benefit greatly from having a caring family that she can count on.

Legally freed for adoption, Talaysia would love to have a family to call her own and just wants to be loved. Talaysia's social worker is looking for that loving family who will provide her with the support and comfort she needs. She would benefit from being an only child in a family of any constellation. It is very important to Talaysia that she is able

to preserve her connection with her aunt, who resides in North Carolina. https://www.mareinc.org/waiting-child-profiles#gallery/child/7901

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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

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



SPORTS

Auburn retains possession of Tarentino Cup, defeats Wolverines 28-7



Photos courtesy Mark Seliger, SeligerPhotography.com

Members of Auburn's defense tackle Leicester ball carrier Mitchel Giggey.



Auburn's Keating Oliver tries to make a move around Leicester's Hunter Senior.



With help provided by a blocking Logan Potter, Hunter Senior of Leicester punts the ball away.



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AUBURN — The newfound Thanksgiving Day rivalry between the Auburn and Leicester High varsity football teams dubbed the Tarentino Cup — aptly named due to fallen police officer Ronald Tarentino's ties to both communities — has now been played twice, first in Leicester and this year at Memorial Field.

And the Rockets have won both contests, retaining the Cup with a 28-7 victory. Auburn outgained the Wolverines in yardage, 306-152, rushing for 284 of those yards.

The Rockets finished their season with a record of 7-4, while Leicester wound up 2-9.



Mason Voeng of Auburn eludes the reach of Leicester's Michael Gerber while carrying the football.



Leicester's Griffin Metcalf finds a hole in Auburn's defense and busts off a big gain.



Leicester quarterback Mason Griffiths heaves a pass down the field.

David Prouty football team ends season in Martha's Vineyard with victory

Although the David Prouty Regional varsity football team no longer has a traditional Thanksgiving Day rival, they still had what head coach Pat Rossi called "a great experience for the kids and staff" nonetheless.

For the second straight year, the Panthers have played Martha's Vineyard Regional five days before the holiday. Last fall the game was played in Spencer, so this year Prouty made the voyage to the island.

And they came home victorious, 20-7.
Quarterback Logan Josti added to his state-leading yardage total by throwing for another 179 yards and a touchdown.
The TD was caught by JJ Neiray. Julian

Kondratowicz, who is the leading receiv-

er in the state for yards, scored twice on rushing plays. Cam Goodrich added a pair of big catches and also caught a two-point conversion pass.

Goodrich also led the team defense with a pair of sacks. And the Panthers only allowed two first downs all game long.

Rossi said that the 15-hour day, which began at 6 a.m. and concluded at 9 p.m., was well worth it.

"It was the first time some of the kids were on a boat or went to the island so it was a great team experience for all," he noted.

The Panthers finished the 2022 season with a record of 4-7.

SPORTS

Oxford beats Bay Path in annual Battle for Buffums

CHARLTON — The Oxford High varsity football team had a tremendous season, missing out on a State Championship appearance at Gillette Stadium by one point in the semifinal round, and they concluded it with a successful Thanksgiving Day victory over rival Bay Path Regional.

Playing in the Battle for Buffums at George L. Fowler Memorial Field, the Pirates ran away with a 42-6 victory as they finished the season with a record of 10-2.

After the Minutemen scored first on a Jonathan Desmarais 2-yard TD run to take a 6-0 lead, Oxford scored the final 42 points. The scoring plays, in order, were as follows:

Lambert Lucas Lambert to Connor Fantasia pass, Lambert to Jordan DeLeon pass with a Lambert to Fantasia two-point conversion pass, Lambert to Robbie Fisher pass with a Lambert to Brett Morgan two-point conversion pass, and a pair of Zak Parmenter runs.

Lambert, the Game MVP, was 14 of 19 passing for 247 yards, and he added another 78 yards rushing on 12 carries. Parmenter was named the Offensive MVP, Quinn Clarkson the Defensive MVP.

Bay Path dropped to 7-5, but their season did not end there. The Minutemen advanced to the Large School State Vocational Championship game, where they will "host" Monty Tech. The game, to be played Thursday, Dec. 1 at 6 p.m., is at Shepherd Hill Regional.



Nick Ethier photos

Bay Path's Kaiden Brochu eludes the reach of Oxford defender Cameron Lavallee while carrying the football.



Bay Path's Jonathan Desmarais lunges into the end zone for a Minutemen touchdown.



Connor Burke of Bay Path (10) makes a nice play defensively to tip the ball away from Oxford's Brett Morgan.



Casey Gallagher of Bay Path finds daylight in the middle of the field while carrying the ball.

Defensive minded Rams shut out Tantasqua on Thanksgiving



Tantasqua ball carrier Ryan Wright races away from Shepherd Hill defender Caden Marotta.

Jason Bleau photos

A Tantasqua lineman clears the way for a Tantasqua running back.

BY JASON BLEAU

DUDLEY — After a painful Thanksgiving Eve loss in 2021 in Sturbridge, the Shepherd Hill Regional varsity football team got its revenge at home in 2022 in a big way during their annual matchup against Tantasqua Regional on Thanksgiving morning in

The Rams started off slow in the 48th annual meeting of the two schools with a strong drive halted by a holding penalty. Tantasqua didn't fare much better on their first possession when a fumble ended their strong drive. Both teams were held scoreless after the first quarter.

Tantasqua's second quarter started off the same as the first, with a fumble recovered by Shepherd Hill, this time setting up the Rams with good field position that they would convert to points as Luke Miller scored the only offensive touchdown of the game with a 2-yard run giving Shepherd Hill the early lead they would never relinquish.

Ball control continued to be an issue for the Warriors, who nearly lost a blocked punt to the Rams early in the second quarter before recovering the ball themselves. However, Tantasqua squandered its chance to get back into the game when they fumbled the ball

away again, allowing William Sirleaf to score a defensive touchdown to put the Rams up 14-0. Shepherd Hill would carry that lead into the second half and double down on defense to hold the Warriors scoreless despite Tantasqua showing plenty of grit and recovering a Rams' fumble. That 14-0 would be the final score of the game.

Warriors' head coach Nate Orzech was blunt when talking about his team's performance acknowledging that Tantasqua is a capable team that needs to reduce their errors if they want to win games.

"We just have to play better and we need to take care of the ball. We're a good team when we can take care of the ball and we don't take penalties. We obviously didn't do that in the first half today, so we need to take care of those mistakes," said Orzech. "It always hurts to lose. The kids worked hard the last week and a half to win. We didn't come out here to lose, so of course it hurts."

Shepherd Hill head coach Dave Buchanan said he was proud of his team's performance, particularly on defense where they struggled all year until the final game where it mattered most.

"I can't say enough for how hard the kids worked to get ready for this game. Thanksgiving football is this really neat tradition we have in Massachusetts. It



Brandon Denham of Tantasqua has the running room to move the ball down the field.

means so much no matter how your season goes, and the kids will always compete and battle. It's the most well attended game every year and these kids worked their butts off. We executed our defensive gameplay well. Even when they were misaligned they found a way to fix themselves and play out of position. I'm so proud of what they did defensively because that's been kind of our bugaboo all year. Today was our best defensive performance of the sea-

son," said Buchanan.

Miller was named Offensive Player of the Game while Cameron Murphy of Tantasqua was awarded Defensive Player of the Game. As a result of the Thanksgiving matchup, both teams finished the season with the same record of 4-7. Shepherd Hill's win continues their dominance in the annual holiday matchup, which now sits at 38-9-1 in favor of the Rams.

SPORTS

Leicester, Tantasqua well represented at State Cross-Country Championships



Tantasqua's Brooke Bergevin

Nick Ethier photos



Camden Foley of Tantasqua

BY NICK ETHIER

DEVENS — Both the Leicester High and Tantasqua Regional cross-country programs were well represented in the State Championship meets, which took place Saturday, Nov. 19 at Fort Devens.

The Wolverines, competing in the Division 3 races, had one male and one female at States.

Jason Fournier was making his debut in the big event, and he impressed with

a time of 17:50.02, good for 43rd place.

"He was sub 18 (minutes), which he's never done before, so it was a phenomenal race from him," said Leicester head coach Norman Everett. "I think that's the first time he's broken the sub six-minute pace this season, so he's had a great year and he's only a sophomore, so he has two years to go.

On the girls' side, senior Abby Bernabei was making a back-to-back appearance in the State Meet.



Abby Bernabei of Leicester



"This was Abby's second time around. She's actually Leicester's only girl who's qualified more than once since the program was founded," explained Everett. "All around, she's had a phenomenal season so we're looking forward to having her in track."

Bernabei took home 88th place, crossing the finish line in 22:26.88.

Everett is proud of the durability of his program, with both Fournier and Bernabei having ran cross-country since the sixth grade. Many other Wolverines are on pace to do the same.

'We're good at getting them young and then having them stick around, said Everett.

Tantasqua competed in the Division 2 races. On the boys' side, Camden Foley qualified as an individual for the second consecutive year. Foley's time of 17:49.89 was solid, and he finished the race in 82nd place, but his emotions were mixed.

'I came in a little bit more confident than I should have," said Foley, who was hoping to beat his time of 16:55 from a week before at Stanley Park in Westfield in the State Divisional Meet.

Foley thought that he may have come out of the gate too quickly in Devens.

'The first sprint, in order to get in the front before it bottlenecked, I probably pushed a little bit too hard and got too excited. It was hard to recover from that." he said.

Nonetheless, Foley and the Warriors had a tremendous team season.

"I'm so happy with this year. I'm so proud of the team because we won SWCL," Foley said of the team winning the Southern Worcester County League Championship Meet. "It was incredible, I was shocked because Uxbridge has been winning it for so long now.

In the girls' race, two Warriors were supposed to compete. But Tessa Kline, who qualified for States in 2021 and did so again this year, fractured her foot during the State Divisional Meet. Instead, teammate Brooke Bergevin was the lone Tantasqua runner to take part in States. Her time of 21:21.06 was good for a 73rd place finish.



- Make formal introductions, get to know your neighbors.
- 2. Get out there, Participate
- 3. Build a community network 4. Assist those who need
- extra care
- 5. Keep promises,
- Try your best to keep your word 6. Manage confrontations, If a problem should arise try your
- best to handle it tactfully 7. Pool resources. Sharing resources can save money and
- build a sense of community
- 8. Be a neighbors' eyes and ears, just keeping an eye out for your neighbors can be a help.
- 9. Organize a community project, neighbors worked together for the community's greater good
- 10. Act responsibly, When neighbors have good boundaries, are respectful and considerate, and offer assistance to one another, it creates a lot of good will and trust and long-term, close relationships can grow,

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Four Leicester-Spencer Raiders to compete in National All-Star events in Florida

Four local youth football players were chosen for an experience of a lifetime, and they need your help and support.

Luis Mackenzie, Reuben Neiray, Jackson McGill and Divino Colon were all chosen to represent the Leicester-Spencer Raiders and Massachusetts in Florida for American Youth Football's National All-Star events in their chosen age groups. The youngsters will be playing for the Commonwealth Chaos.

Mackenzie and Neiray will be playing at the 4th grade level in Daytona Beach, McGill at the 5th grade level in Kissimmee, and Colon at the 6th grade level in Daytona Beach. All of them worked hard throughout their seasons and in local All-Stars for this opportunity and are excited to play the game they all love on this stage.

Specifics of the All-Star event held by American Youth Football has yet to be announced. Follow LeicesterSpencer Raiders on Facebook for updates and also you can donate to https://gofund. me/9ed87e7c to help the experience for these young football players.

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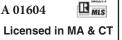
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POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23

12:05-2:19 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:20-1:04 a.m.: parking violations/5 (Prospect, High, Pope, Jones, Summit streets), tickets issued; 3:18 a.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), rep. harassment; 6:00 a.m.: medical/ general (Blueberry Hill Drive), lift assist; 8:55 a.m.: DPW call (Northwest Road), low-hanging wire; 9:00 a.m.: fire (Ash Street), fire drill; 9:01 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 9:33 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (Grove Street), oil spill; 9:44 a.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), re: sick skunk in d/way; 10:15 a.m.: medical/ general (West Main Street); 11:01 a.m.: medical/general (East Charlton Road); 12:01 p.m.: medical/general (Blueberry Hill Drive); 12:09 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:59 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 1:29 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), services rendered; 1:52 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), req. welfare check/dog; 2:25 p.m.: medical/general (Briarcliff Lane); 2:40 p.m.: juvenile matter (Condon Drive), issue w/child; 3:19 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 3:22 p.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 3:27 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 3:28 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 4:03 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), issue between employees; 4:18 p.m.: intelligence/drugs (West Main Street), info taken; 7:19 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 9:32 p.m.: suspicious persons (Wall Street), investigated; (total daily mv stops -2).

12:02-1:40 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:12-1:24 a.m.: parking violations/9 (Prospect, Mechanic, Main, Pleasant, Brown, Pope, Franklin, Summit streets), tickets issued; 12:26 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Lloyd Dyer Drive), Alec J. Ramsey, 26, 26 Elm Street, Spencer, warrant served, arrest; 5:57 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 8:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), drug paraphernalia/knife found in hall; 10:07 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 11:30 a.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 1:39 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), noise complaint; 2:21 p.m.: sex offender registration/annual (West Main Street), assisted; 2:29 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info given; 3:22 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), issue w/mother's ex-boyfriend; 3:44 p.m.: disturbance (Church Street), re: issue w/upstairs tenant; 4:11 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), req. welfare check; 4:13 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 5:22 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:12 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 6:35 p.m.: RV complaint (Howe Road), investigated; 6:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Greenville Street), re: grandmother: 7:03 p m : accident (N Street), report taken; 9:19 p.m.: fire alarm (Mechanic Street), referred; 11:14 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Bixby Road), hang-up; 11:57 p.m.: building checked, secure; (total daily mv stops – 9). FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

12:01-12:21 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:15-12:48 a.m.: parking violations/4 (Brown, Bell, High streets, Bay Path Road), tickets issued; 1:03 a.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), Bianco D. Falsarella, 45, 17 Mechanic Street, Spencer, OUI liquor, negligent operation, marked lanes violation, arrest; 2:34 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West

Main Street), accidental; 4:53 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered: 6:08 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: harassment prevention order; 7:11 a.m.: suspicious mv (South Street), investigated; 10:04 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:35 a.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 12:42 p.m.: medical/ general (Main Street); 3:13 p.m.: 911 call (Ashview Drive), re: mv towed; 3:16 p.m.: elderly matter (West Main Street), spoken to; 4:53 p.m.: animal complaint (Browning Pond Road), loose horse; 5:00 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 5:15 p.m.: disabled mv (Smithville Cross Road), services rendered; 5:28 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), 2 juvies causing disturbance; 5:58 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 6:00 p.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), referred; 6:00 p.m.: suspicious mv (North Spencer Road), investigated; 7:19 p.m.: medical/ general (Lincoln Street); 8:37-8:47 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:55 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), resolved; (total daily mv stops -1).

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

1:52-2:56 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:48 a.m.: accident (Charlton Road), mv vs deer; 11:32 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 11:32 a.m.: burglary/b&e (Main Street), mv broken into; 12:01 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:47 p.m.: disturbance (Wall Street), fight; 1:01 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Leicester PD bolo; 1:50 p.m.: animal complaint (Lake Street), loose dog; 3:42 p.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Avenue), req. check on neighbor's dog; 4:54 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 5:16 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Brooks Pond Road), resolved; 5:25 p.m.: fraud (Debbie Drive), report taken; 8:00 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), re: call rec'd; 10:10-10:11 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:15 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo/ welfare check; 10:16 p.m.: fire alarm (Mercury Drive), referred; 11:44 p.m.: accident (South Spencer Road), report taken; 11:56 p.m.: animal complaint (Holmes Street), found cat; (total daily mv stops - 0).

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

2:51 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), unwanted parties; 3:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), wheelchair taken again; 3:17 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:20 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 7:40 a.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 11:45 a.m.: medical/general (Ash Street): 12:08 p.m.: medical/general (Bay Path Road); 12:37 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:51 p.m.: accident (Maple Street), report taken; 12:57 p.m.: accident (Main Street), services rendered; 1:03 p.m.: officer wanted (Clark Street), loud noise heard; 2:03 p.m.: medical/ general (Charlton Road); 2:34 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 3:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Sunset Lane), spoken to; 3:38 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), object thrown at my: 3:40 p.m.: odor of gas (Crestview Drive), referred; 4:41 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 5:09 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 6:05 p.m.: disabled mv (Elm Street), services rendered; 6:08 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Hebert Road), re: Instacart order; 6:33 p.m.: building checked, secure; (total daily mv stops

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

1:21-3:33 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:02 a.m.: 911 call (Ash Street), resolved; 6:19 a.m.: medical/general (School Street); 7:35 a.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), re: previous fight; 8:50 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: email rec'd; 9:13 a.m.: building checked, secure; 11:25 a.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 11:57 a.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), re: neighbor; 12:35 p.m.: medical/general (Oakland Drive); 12:39 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 1:19 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator/tire falling off; 2:53 p.m.: property check request (Mill Street), spoken to; 3:25 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:11 p.m.: elderly matter (West Main Street), spoken to; 5:23 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (Chestnut Street); 7:42 p.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), owl flew into mv; 10:00 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check/child; 10:30 p.m.: extortion/blackmail (Ash Street), report taken; (total daily mv stops -0).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

4:52 a.m.: residential alarm (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 5:08 a.m.: DPW call (High Street), re: lg. amt. of water; 7:53 a.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), howling dog; 8:13 a.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 9:11 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 9:17 a.m.: accident (Main Street), rep. of previous acc.; 9:59 a.m.: medical/general (Prouty Street); 10:28 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), mv tampered with; 10:52 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. being stalked/harassed; 11:39 a.m.: medical/ overdose (Main Street); 11:44 a.m.: lost/ found (Grove Street), purse found; 12:25 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), purse taken from mv; 12:52 p.m.: officer wanted (G.H. Wilson Road), loud bangs heard; 2:55 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), no trespass order rec'd; 3:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), loose dog; 3:29 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Cherry Street), resolved; 3:38 p.m.: medical/general (Ashview Drive); 4:37 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 4:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 4:43 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:18 p.m.: medical/general (Condon Drive); 8:55 p.m.: medical/ general (Lincoln Street); 10:51 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), req. welfare check; (total daily mv stops - 0).

Leicester Police

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17

3:52 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 7:26 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:33 a.m.: animal complaint (Clark Street), referred to ACO; 7:48 a.m.: assist other PD (King Terrace), services rendered; 8:41 a.m.: assist citizen (Huntoon Memorial Highway); 12:14 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:57 p.m.: hit/run accident (Pleasant Street), call canceled; 1:18 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 1:21 p.m.: restraining order service (South Main Street), served; 1:42 p.m.: erratic operator (Mayflower Road), verbal warning; 2:37 p.m.: suspicious person (Deer Pond Road), services rendered; 3:32 p.m.: larceny (Whittemore Street), report taken; 6:20 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), report taken.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 18

12:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:28 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:10 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial

Highway), written warning; 2:30 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), mv towed; 5:54 a.m.: fraud (Virginia Drive), report taken; 6:14 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Dale Court), resolved; 7:21 a.m.: animal complaint (Green Street), referred to ACO; 2:28 p.m.: suspicious person (Andy Drive), services rendered; 3:26 p.m.: ambulance (Virginia Drive), transported; 4:28 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 5:44 p.m.: family problem (Deer Pond Road), peace restored; 8:08 p.m.: ambulance (Bancroft Street, Worcester), transported; 10:51 p.m.: accident (Soojians Drive), report taken.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19

12:23 a.m.: mv stop (Whittemore Street), citation issued; 1:01 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 1:16 a.m.: welfare check (Siani Road), resolved; 1:54 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Carleton Road), resolved; 11:45 a.m.: hit/run accident (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, leaving the scene of a property damage accident, citation issued; 12:00 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, criminal application issued; 1:32 p.m.: welfare check (Washburn Square), unfounded; 1:33 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), report taken; 2:10 p.m.: ambulance (Millbury Street, Worcester), transported; 3:03 p.m.: ambulance (Belmont Street, Worcester), transported; 6:30 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, uninsured my, op w/ revoked registration, mv towed; 11:52 p.m.: suspicious mv (Forest Street), unable to locate.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20

12:00 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:16 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:54 p.m.: debris in road (Marshall Street), services rendered; 2:08 p.m.: debris in road (Henshaw Street), services rendered; 4:48 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 5:02 p.m.: ambulance (Maple Street), transported; 5:53 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 5:57 p.m.: disabled mv (Stafford Street), assisted; 6:14 p.m.: accident (Marshall Street), mv towed; 6:29 p.m.: welfare check (Henshaw Street), spoken to; 8:12 p.m.: water/sewer problem (Main Street), services rendered; 10:06 p.m.: ambulance (Marble Street, Worcester), transported.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21

7:12 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), spoken to; 11:15 a.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), unable to locate; 1:00 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 1:24 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), services rendered; 2:30 p.m.: larceny (Soojians Drive), spoken to; 4:07 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:13 p.m.: suspicious activity (Soojians Drive), resolved.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

12:03 a.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 3:30 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 3:40 a.m.: ambulance (Carleton Road), transported; 7:20 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 10:05 a.m.: mv stop (Chapel Street), uninsured my, op w/revoked registration, criminal application issued; 10:25 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:30 a.m.: assist citizen (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 11:14 a.m.: ambulance (Deer Pond Road), transported; 3:31 p.m.:

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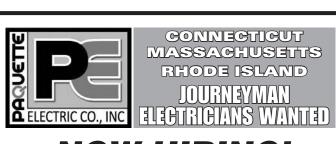
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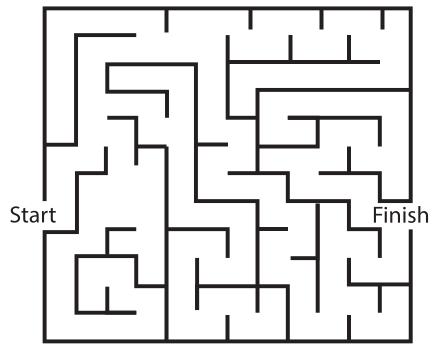


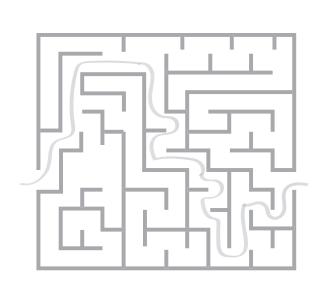
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NAVIGATE

to plan and direct a course of travel



ENGLISH: Map

SPANISH: Mapa

ITALIAN: Mappa

FRENCH: Carte

GERMAN: Karte



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THAN A FLAT MAP.





Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

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A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to adoption. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 10 = A)

15 11 20 14 4 A.

Clue: Youngster

26 13 10 18 4 20 10 6 В.

Clue: One who protects

10 4 2 17 24

Clue: Take in to care for

5 10 23 20 14 12 D.

Clue: Group of united persons

SUDOKU

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Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

Answers: A. child B. guardian C. adopt D. family

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!

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Quitting vaping may be a life-saving resolution

Electronic cigarettes and other vaping devices were once described as potentially "safer" and "healthier" methods of smoking, even by leading health organizations. Many former tobacco smokers even turned to e-cigarettes as a method to quitting traditional cigarettes. However, recent research into vaping and a rash of mysterious lung illnesses and deaths recently linked to vaping has led many to question if vaping is safe. Those who suspect it's not may be wise to quit.

The illness toll rises

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention says that, as of September 2019, there were 530 cases of vaping-related lung illnesses. Eight people also died in six states, with the first confirmed death occurring in April. The first known vaping-related illness in Canada was documented on September 18, 2019, when a youth from Ontario was put into intensive care for respiratory illness. While federal and state investigators are largely focusing their investigations on vape cartridges that likely contained tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the psychoactive component linked to marijuana, as a potential source of these illnesses, all electronic cigarette devices are now under scrutiny.

A school epidemic

Vaping has quickly become an epidemic in schools. More than 3.6 million American middle and high school students currently use e-cigarettes, according to the latest National Youth Tobacco Study. Teen nicotine vaping rates in 2019 were double those of 2017, the National Institute on Drug Abuse says.

Despite the installation of vaping detectors, and some schools going so far as to remove doors from bathroom stalls, opportunities to vape still abound. Older students may leave campus to vape in their cars during lunch breaks. Laws restricting sales of e-cigarettes to youth in certain states have already been implemented. Lawmakers also plan to ban most flavored e-cigarettes and nicotine pods in an attempt to

curtail their use among teenagers.

Mystery ingredients

Many adults look to e-cigarettes to reduce their dependence on tobacco products. However, Johns Hopkins Medical Center warns e-cigarettes are just as addictive. Also, many e-cigarette users get even more nicotine through extra-strength cartridges or by increasing the voltage to get a greater hit of the addictive substance. The Food and Drug Administration has not approved vaping as a smoking cessation method.

People never can ber certain about the ingredients in vaping liquids. And as the popularity of e-cigarettes grows, newer, cheaper, and poorly regulated products are being imported from all over the world to meet the demand. According to the CDC, exposure to such products may cause a range of symptoms, including cough, chest pain, shortness of breath, fatigue, vomiting, diarrhea, and fever. There also have been cases of "popcorn lung," which derived its name from a former



chemical flavoring (diacetyl) used in microwave popcorn linked to scarring of the tiny air sacs in the lungs, resulting in suffocation. Popcorn lung also has been linked to vaping use

More evidence continues to point to vaping as an unsafe practice. Quitting the habit now can have profound, potentially life-saving effects.

5 weight loss myths debunked

Losing weight is a popular New Year's resolution every year. Roughly 50 percent of people age 20 and older acknowledge they tried to lose weight over the past 12 months, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Successful weight loss requires hard work and patience. Still, many myths abound, and people may think there are quick fixes to shedding a few extra pounds. Debunking some of those myths can help people adopt more realistic weight loss strategies.

Myth #1: Avoid carbs to lose weight. A healthy diet is comprised of a mix of foods that include carbohydrates. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's 2015 Dietary Guidelines for Americans indicate that carbohydrates, such as those found in vegetables, fruits and whole grains, are a foundation of healthy eating. Carbs also provide much-needed fiber.

Myth #2: You can target specific fat loss. Exercising and eating healthy can produce overall weight loss and diminish fat concentrations in certain parts of the body, indicates the healthy eating source Eat This, Not That. But each body is unique, and where people lose fat varies. Gender is one factor that can affect people's figures. Exercise can tone muscles in key areas to help make a person appear thinner in those regions, but it will not necessarily make fat go away in one place over another.

Myth #3: Eating fat makes you fat. Fat is very calorie-dense and common in junk foods, which is why it can get a bad rap. However, as long as calorie intake is within a healthy range — even if some calories are from fat — weight gain will not occur from fat alone, says Healthline. The body needs healthy fats to function properly.

Myth #4: Crash diets will make weight fall off. Dramatically cutting calories

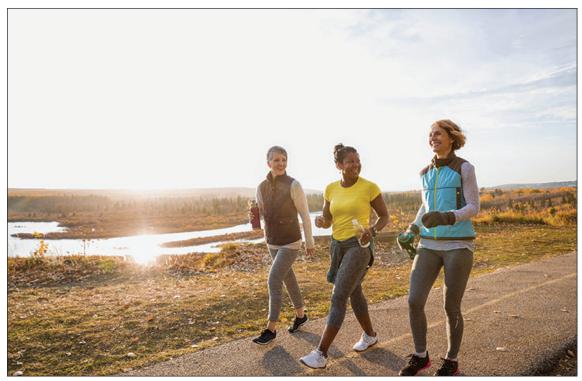


can lead to nutritional deficiencies and have an adverse effect on weight loss. The body may slow its rate of metabolism to conserve calories, as a crash diet may fool your body into thinking you are starving. It's better to stick to a gradual decrease in calories while still consuming the daily recommended amounts based on your age and other factors.

Myth #5: Tons of exercise will make the pounds disappear. Research has repeatedly indicated that exercise can help boost weight loss. However, the real way to shed pounds is primarily linked to diet. According to Shawn M. Talbott, Ph.D., a nutritional biochemist and former director of the University of Utah Nutrition Clinic, weight loss is generally 75 percent diet and 25 percent exercise. People see the biggest short-term results when they eat smart.

If losing weight is your New Year's resolution, get the facts before adopting a weight loss regimen.

It's okay if walkers miss the 10,000-step standard



Over the last several years, many people have embraced the notion that 10,000 daily steps are the way to being physically fit. Health experts espouse that notion and trainers endorse it, but is there sci-

entific proof behind the recommendation?

The 10,000-step standard — which equates to roughly five miles, depending on a person's stride length and speed — has some surprising origins that

are not necessarily rooted in medical science. I-Min Lee, a professor of epidemiology at the Harvard University T. H. Chan School of Public Health and the lead author of a new study published in May 2019 in

The Journal of the American Medical Association wanted to explore the origins of the 10,000-step recommendation. She discovered the guideline evolved from a marketing strategy devised by a Japanese company called Yamasa Toki. That firm introduced its new step-counter in 1965, naming it Manpo-Kei, which translated into "10,000 steps meter." They marketed the meter using the Japanese character for "10,000," which resembles a man walking. The character and round number proved memorable and the slogan, "Let's walk 10,000 steps a day" was catchy. As a result, many people adopted the 10,000-step approach, even though its medical benefits might not have been proven.

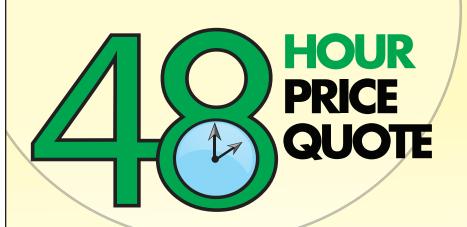
But this isn't to suggest that taking 10,000 steps per day cannot be part of a healthy living plan. In fact, such a goal promotes physical activity, which is a key component of a healthy lifestyle. However, simply taking 10,000 steps per day might not be enough to achieve long-term health

long-term health. Lee conducted her own research to test if the Japanese were on to something by inadvertently setting the 10,000-step standard. She found that an increase in walking correlated to lower mortality rates among more than 16,000 elderly American women. However, when these women reached about 7,500 steps the mortality rates leveled out, suggesting that those extra 2,500 steps might not be necessary.

Even the manufacturer of one of the most popular fitness trackers, Fitbit, says that users' step goals can vary depending on need, and that goals may even shift over time. People who are looking to lose weight and maintain their existing health will need to modify their step count accordingly. Working with a qualified trainer or using a medically sanctioned training program can help people exercise safely and effectively.

Taking 10,000 steps per day may help people achieve their health-related goals. But 10,000 steps alone likely won't be enough to achieve optimal health.

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Cornerstone Bank donates \$2,500 to Hearts for Heat

WORCESTER Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, has donated \$2,500 to the Leicester chapter of Hearts for Heat, a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing winter heating fuel to families in need.

With both inflation and fuel prices on the rise, we know this year will pose greater finan-

cial challenges to many residents when it comes to heating their homes," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "We are proud to support this grassroots organization that has been helping families in Worcester County stay warm during the winter for the past 15 years."

Hearts for Heat has chapters in Leicester, Brookfield,

Princeton, Spencer, and other Worcester County towns. It was started in 2007 by Cindy Shea, a local social worker with a teaching background and a passion for helping those in need.

To learn more about Hearts for Heat or to make a tax-deductible donation, visit heartsforheat.org.

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POLICE LOGS

continued from page A16

assist citizen (Main Street), unfounded; 3:38 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 4:50 p.m.: assist other PD (Henshaw Street), unfounded; 5:09 p.m.: disturbance (Soojians Drive), resolved; 7:26 p.m.: assist citizen (Park Lane), services rendered.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:00 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:11 a.m.: assist citizen (Wildwood Lane), services rendered; 8:11 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 3:08 p.m.: fraud (Burncoat Lane), report taken; 3:39 p.m.: commercial alarm (Huntoon Memorial Highway), call canceled; 3:43 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 3:47 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), call canceled; 4:25 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 4:55 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 6:37 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 8:18 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 9:41 p.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), resolved; 9:57 p.m.: welfare check (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered.



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