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# DPHS students spend summer in Spain

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
SPENCER — Several David Prouty High School students took their studies overseas this summer with a visit to Spain.

Led by DPHS teacher Lindsay Wilk, the trip brought 16 students to Salamanca, Spain, for a three-week study abroad program. Students lived with Spanish families throughout their stay and took classes for roughly four hours daily. Not only did the trip provide a great opportunity for students to improve their knowledge and immerse themselves in the Spanish culture, but they also earned six college credits in the process.

“This is the second trip I have taken with David Prouty students. The first trip was in 2019, and I brought eight students with me. Many of those students earned college credits, which has made their college experiences easier,” Wilk told the New Leader. On weekends during their trip, students went on excursions to nearby cities like Madrid,

Alberca, and Segovia. Also included in the schedule was a beach day trip to Aveiro, Portugal.

“This trip opened the doors of language and culture in a way that I’ve never experienced before. For me, it’s been a starting step to be able to speak Spanish with my family,” said Prouty student Eva LaPorte. “As an upcoming senior, I feel that this trip has prepared me for college more than anything else could have, and I’m more than grateful that I had the opportunity to go.”

DPHS art teacher AnnaLisa Battles and health teacher Brittany Malloy also joined the trip as chaperones.

Additional trip highlights saw students enjoying siestas, playing soccer at a park, experiencing music at concerts, and visiting a historic plaza that illuminated each evening.

School leaders thank all students and chaperones who made the trip to Spain an unforgettable experience.

“We were all very



David Prouty High School students recently enjoyed a trip to Spain as part of the school’s study abroad program.

Courtesy

## Spend the last few weeks of summer at Haston Library

## DPHS project moves into next phase



Kevin Flanders

Several projects have taken place this summer at David Prouty High School.

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
SPENCER — With a busy summer of work nearing completion, crews are preparing for

the fall phase of the David Prouty High School addition-renovation project. Several important items have already been crossed off the list this summer, including asbes-

tos abatement in the school’s “C-wing” (gym wing) and the connecting corridor. Meanwhile, all DPHS monuments and

Turn To **DPHS** page **A16**

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
NORTH BROOKFIELD — As summer begins to wind down, students and families are encouraged to spend their final few weeks off enjoying programs at Haston Free Public Library.

On Saturday, Aug. 26, musician Julie Stepanek will host a program called “Find Your Voice” at 10 a.m.

Guests of all ages are invited to drop by the library and enjoy this musical program focusing on chants, call-and-response, and singable songs. The program will deliver the perfect finish to the library’s summer reading program, officials said.

To register for the event, call 508-867-0208 or send an email to [blamb@gmail.com](mailto:blamb@gmail.com).

On Monday, Aug. 14, a special event will be

held at 5 p.m. to provide a cultural and historical reflection of the 1960s through the music of The Beatles.

The event will include a multi-media presentation highlighting the influence The Beatles had on world culture, with a legacy that continues to inspire people across all generations.

This month’s Book Group selection is “Deacon King Kong” by James McBride. The discussion will take place on Aug. 29 at 7 p.m.

The library’s Movie Discussion Group will meet on July 31 at 6 p.m. to talk about “Food, Inc.,” a 2012 movie rated PG. The library has copies of the movie available. Simply check out the movie on your library card and watch it from the comfort of home.

Additionally, local youngsters and their families are invited to attend “Story Time” sessions held on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. Each session includes a different book and craft.

Finally, the library reminds guests that it has launched a new monthly program called “Craft Night for Adults.” Held on the second Thursday of each month at 6 p.m., the program offers creative crafting projects for participants to enjoy. This month’s theme was tie-dye T-shirts.

To learn more about upcoming library programs, or to register for an event, call 508-867-0208. Residents are also encouraged to call or check out the library’s newsletter to learn about new library hours.

## Sheriff visits Leicester Senior Center



Courtesy

Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis, center, recently presented at the Leicester Senior Center.

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
**STAFF WRITER**

LEICESTER — Worcester County Sheriff Lew Evangelidis visited the Senior Center last week to discuss the

many programs and resources his department offers the community.

During the Aug. 1 event, Evangelidis and his team delivered a presentation called “Not Just

a Jail: How the Sheriff’s Department Serves You.”

The program conveyed information on multiple initiatives the Sheriff’s Office uses to help improve the community. These include programs benefiting seniors; free public safety measures; and educational opportunities.

“It is reassuring to witness Worcester County Sheriff Lewis Evangelidis’s dedication toward public safety through his presentation. The senior population values his efforts and appreciates how generous he is with giving of his time to them,” said Donna McCance, the  
Turn To **SHERIFF** page **A14**

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# Leicester youth featured in Hanover Theatre’s “Fiddler on the Roof JR.” this weekend

WORCESTER — The Pre-Teen Session of the Youth Summer Program (YSP) at The Hanover Theatre and

Conservatory for the Performing Arts presents Fiddler on the Roof JR. on Friday, Aug. 12 at 2 and 6 p.m. The cast includes Leicester youth Joseph Pena (Avram/Second Man).

Featuring iconic and beloved songs such as “Sunrise, Sunset,” “If I Were a Rich Man” and “Matchmaker, Matchmaker,” this adaptation of “Fiddler on the Roof” is the perfect mix of audience-pleasing humor and heart. The nine-time Tony®-Award-winning Broadway musical follows Tevye the milkman as he tries to protect his daughters and his way of life from a changing world. “Fiddler on the Roof JR.” tackles the universal theme of tradition in ways that reach across barriers of race, class, nationality and religion.

Tickets for “Fiddler on the Roof JR.” are \$18. Seating is general admission. For more information, visit TheHanoverTheatre.org or contact the box office at 877-571-7469.

About The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts

Since opening in 2008, The Hanover Theatre has entertained more than two million guests with Broadway musicals, comedy headliners, music, dance and more. POLLSTAR consistently ranks The Hanover Theatre as one of the top theatres in the world. The award-winning historic theatre continues to establish its place as a world-class center for the performing arts, a venue for local cultural and civic organizations and a catalyst for the revitalization of downtown Worcester. The Hanover Theatre’s facilities at 551 Main St. house function spaces, offices and The Hanover Theatre Conservatory.



Joseph Pena

The Hanover Theatre Conservatory provides performance opportunities, classes, and individual instruction in theatre, dance and technical theatre and design to more than 500 young people and adults from across central Massachusetts each year. Established in 2016, the conservatory cultivates individual attention, ignites creativity and inspires confidence through arts education led by outstanding teaching artists. The state-of-the-art facility includes classrooms, rehearsal and teaching studios, and tech and costume labs for advanced education in stage craft and design. Students receive access to master classes with national touring artists and gain professional experience from performance opportunities with THT Rep and on The Hanover Theatre’s world-class stage.

THTC believes in access to arts education for all and provides financial aid for those in need. Many conservatory students have continued their pursuit of the arts at institutions such as Emerson College, Boston University, NYU, Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Berklee College of Music, Hofstra, Hartt School at the University of Hartford, Marymount Manhattan College, Syracuse University and more.

Worcester Center for Performing Arts, a registered not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization, owns and operates The Hanover Theatre and Conservatory for the Performing Arts. All donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

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## Leicester Senior Citizens Club announces upcoming trips

LEICESTER — The Leicester Senior Citizens Club invites local residents to take part in several upcoming bus trips.

On Sept. 6, a trip will take guests to Theatre by The Sea in Wakefield, R.I., to see “Jersey Boys.” The cost of the trip is \$99, which includes bus transportation and lunch choices at the theater.

On Oct. 26, a trip to Warren’s Lobster House and Ogunquit Playhouse will take place. Guests will be treated to a performance of “Tootsie” at the playhouse. The cost of the trip is \$155 per person, which includes bus transportation, lunch at Warren’s Lobster House, and theater tickets.

A Nov. 13 trip will take guests to see “Miracle on South Division Street” at Newport Playhouse. The cost of the trip is \$116 per person.

Finally, on Dec. 12, guests will experience a “Christmas Celebration with the Corvettes” at the Log Cabin in Holyoke. The cost of the trip is \$125 per person, which includes bus transportation and lunch.

If you are interested in signing up for a trip, or if you would like more information about a trip, please call David Wood at 508-330-1118.

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

To learn more about adoption from foster care visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) can give you guidance and information on the adoption process. Reach out today to find out all the ways you can help children and teens in foster care.





## Missing classmates sought for Auburn High School 50th class reunion

AUBURN — What do you do when you are the largest class to graduate Auburn High School about to celebrate a 50th year Class Reunion but are having trouble locating classmates? You adopt the Milk Carton Missing theme and bring attention to your event.

The hope is that fellow classmates, family members, or friends of the missing will share the word locally, or on social media including Instagram or Twitter, and help get the word out that Saturday, Sept. 9 at the Auburn Elks, 754 Southbridge Street is the place to be if you are one of the members of this spirited class. The reunion starts with cocktails from 4:00 to 6:00 in the upstairs hall and features a buffet dinner to follow.

Missing classmates include Cathy Anderson, Deborah Barrette, David Brick, Linda Charest, Shelly Connor, Michael Connor, Cynthia Delorme, Robin Dunn, Charlene Ecklund, Kristine Enquist, Susan Fornari, Stephen Freeborn, Pamela Gasper, Darlene Gilbert, Deborah Gonyea, Michael Hanratty, Patricia Hartnett, David Haskell, Norma Huckins, Leanne Ivashek, Warren Jannson, Alan Johnson, Kathryn Johnson, Michael Kelly, Arthur Kimball, Ronald Kimball, Suzanne LaPlante, Lois Lee, Vera Mainheit, Steven Malone, Claire Martell, Kenneth Menard, Mary Menard, Warren Miller, Jeffrey Mills, James Mioduszewski, Bruce Molina, Patricia Morrissey, John Muzzy, Kenneth Nichols, Michael O'Leary, Deborah Olsen, Loda Perron, Richard Pineault, Katherine Plume, Jeffrey Poirier, Karen Pollett, Wayne Richards, Joanna Robidou, Kathleen Rockwood, Wendy Rudman, John Ryan, Russell Ryan, Paul Sarsfield, Steven Scott, Michael Shannon, Nancy Sheridan, Maureen Smith, Brian Spafford, Peter Starr, and Susan Walton.

In addition to being the largest class to graduate Auburn High, other memorable events include winning the state championship in golf and having the last Auburn team to win a State Hockey Championship. The Hockey team was recently honored at a 50th anniversary celebration at Hogan Arena.

The cost is \$30 per person. Confidential scholarship funds are available. Please make your requests and RSVP by Aug. 28.

For reservations, please contact Eileen (Pickett) Alexandrov via Email: [Aroraspeaks@charter.net](mailto:Aroraspeaks@charter.net)

Anyone having information on locations of classmates who may have moved from the area please send contact info by email to [Hammond.alanj@gmail.com](mailto:Hammond.alanj@gmail.com). There is also a Facebook page listed as AHS Class of '73 Class Reunion.

## Summer Concert Series continues with The Chain



SPENCER — The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission's 2023 Summer Concert Series continues from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 13 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and Meadow Roads, Spencer, with The Chain.

Unique. Special. Different. Sparkling. These are some of the words that can be used to describe The Chain, a musical group that has developed a sound that is fresh and new, yet very easy to love. Audiences respond instantly to them. Fellow musicians admire their taste and skill. Led by the dynamic presence and powerful voice of Alison McTavish, The Chain has developed a set of music that is an eclectic mixture of cover songs that make the listener smile and say, "I remember that one. I love it!" Rich three-part harmonies, a dynamic rhythm section, great musicianship and of course, Alison, combine to make The Chain one of the most exciting new bands in Central New England.

Savage Wraps food truck will be on hand serving fresh, unique wraps, soft drinks and ice cream during this week's show.

Following The Chain, next up in this series that continues most Sundays through Sept. 17 will be Chuck and Mud & The Hole In The Dam Band on Aug. 20.

The concert series is proudly sponsored by Cornerstone Bank. Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving the residents, businesses, and communities throughout Central Massachusetts from offices in Charlton, Holden, Leicester, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster and Worcester.

## Cornerstone Bank promotes Daniel D'Amico to VP, Commercial Banking Officer

WORCESTER — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 10 locations throughout Central Massachusetts, is pleased to announce the promotion of Sutton resident Daniel D'Amico to vice president, commercial banking officer. In this role as a commercial lender and commercial services manager, he has a unique depth of knowledge regarding various elements and collaborations within the bank, allowing him to provide a high level of service for all customers. He expertly assists customers with their lending and commercial banking needs along with the help of his team below him. He was previously the assistant vice president, commercial banking officer.

"Dan began his career in the banking industry 17 years ago and has been with us since 2013," said Cornerstone Bank CEO Todd Tallman. "From his experience in both commercial lending and commercial services, he supplies exceptional advice and solutions to his customers while creating meaningful and long-lasting relationships along the way."

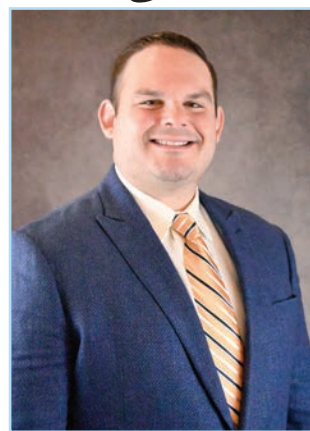
D'Amico received a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice from Worcester State University. He is a Certified Fraud Examiner through the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners, as well as a graduate of The New England School for Financial Studies.

"I am proud to be a member of the Cornerstone Bank Commercial Services team," said D'Amico. "The work our experienced staff does to help businesses operate efficiently and grow is second to none, and it is an honor to partner with our amazing clients."

By providing clients with the responsive support and extensive and enhanced commercial banking services they need, Cornerstone Bank simplifies banking so business owners can focus on what matters most to them: their businesses, employees, and customers.

D'Amico is also treasurer of the Worcester Young Businessmen's Association and a board member of the Rainbow Child Development Center.

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



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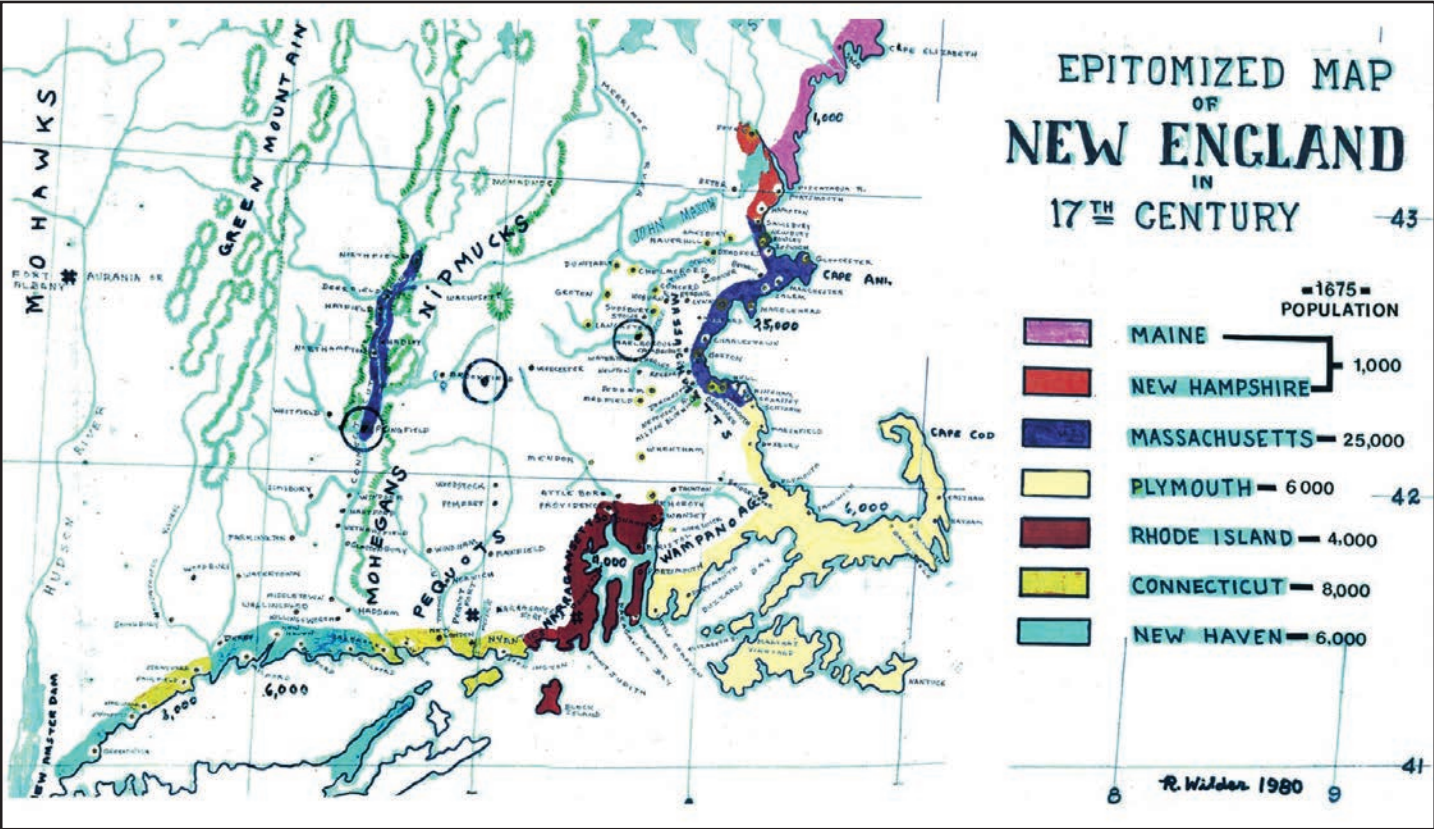


# Historical presentation to honor Brookfield’s first inhabitants

BROOKFIELD — The Brookfield Historical Commission will offer a special multimedia program, “A Robert Wilder Memorial Presentation: Honoring Brookfield’s First Inhabitants,” Sunday, Aug. 27 from 2-4 p.m. at the Brookfield Congregational Church, 8 Common St. The program is free and open to the public.

Brookfield’s longtime historian, the late Robert Wilder (1933-2015) spent decades mapping early Brookfield and other towns of the original Quaboag Plantation. A collection of his maps and historical material is housed at Brookfield’s Merrick Public Library. To coincide with celebrations of Brookfield’s 350th anniversary, Wilder’s friends and collaborators organized this program to remember his legacy and to continue the conversation of how to recognize Brookfield’s Native American story.

Through live presentations, film clips, maps, and a display of artifacts, the program will focus on Brookfield’s past, present and future through the lens of its first inhabitants, including the Quaboag and Nipmuc peoples. Speakers will include Donald Duffy, author of “The Quaboag and Nipmuck Indians” (2014) and “Around Pottequadic” (2011); tribal medicine man and spiritual leader Tom Silver Fox Morse, a Brookfield resident and member of the town’s Historical Commission; and Smithsonian and PBS documentary filmmaker Ted W. Timreck, Peabody Award



Winner and director of the “Hidden Landscapes” series investigating the archaeological history and the modern legacy of the Northeastern Native civilization. Dan Hamilton, actor and Emmy winning director who published Wilder’s maps online, directs the event.

“Bob Wilder’s dedication to studying

and teaching history inspired many of us to continue his work. He worried history would be forgotten,” Hamilton said. “We are hoping this presentation will remind us of Brookfield’s place in early America as well as its significance as the home to Native people who have been living here for thousands of years.”

A reception with light refreshments will follow, and books and DVDs will be available for purchase.

For more information, visit <https://robertwildermaps.com/memorial> and email [memorial@robertwildermaps.com](mailto:memorial@robertwildermaps.com).

## North Brookfield Savings Bank announces new President & Chief Executive Officer



Kaz Borawski

NORTH BROOKFIELD — On behalf of Chairwoman Donna L. Boulanger and the Board of Directors of North Brookfield Savings Bank, we are pleased to announce that Kaz Borawski has been appointed President & Chief Executive Officer of North Brookfield Savings Bank effective Aug. 1.

“The board and I have been impressed by Kaz’s extensive and varied banking experience and we look forward to continuing to work with Kaz to grow North Brookfield Savings Bank” said Chairwoman of the Board of Trustees Donna L. Boulanger. “The Board of Directors has been impressed by his commitment to the Bank, our employees, and the community.”

Kaz Borawski, a resident of Wilbraham, holds more than 26 years of experience in industries including retail banking, investment banking, wealth management, and technology & operations at organizations such as JPMorgan Chase and Mass Mutual Financial. He has spent

the last 13 years in community banking with United Bank, Merchants Bank, and Holyoke Credit Union before joining North Brookfield Savings Bank in February 2022 as Chief Financial Officer. His depth of financial industry expertise and his community involvement will serve the Bank well.

Borawski shares NBSB’s value of continued learning and goes the extra mile to stay in front of industry trends and concepts. He holds a certificate from The New England School for the Financial Studies at Babson College, a Master of Business Administration, with a major in Finance, from Manhattan College in New York City and a Bachelor of Business Administration, with a major in Accounting, from Baruch College also in New York City.

“I would like to thank the Board of Directors for this opportunity to lead North Brookfield Savings Bank,” said Borawski. “Our bank has a valued team of employees who are dedicated to helping our customers with their financial needs and I am proud to be the leader of this team. I look forward to building lasting relationships with our customers. North Brookfield Savings Bank is important to the communities we serve, and it has a long-standing tradition of excellence in customer service. The Bank has enjoyed strong growth over the years and

has a very strong capital position. I’m committed to continuing that legacy.”

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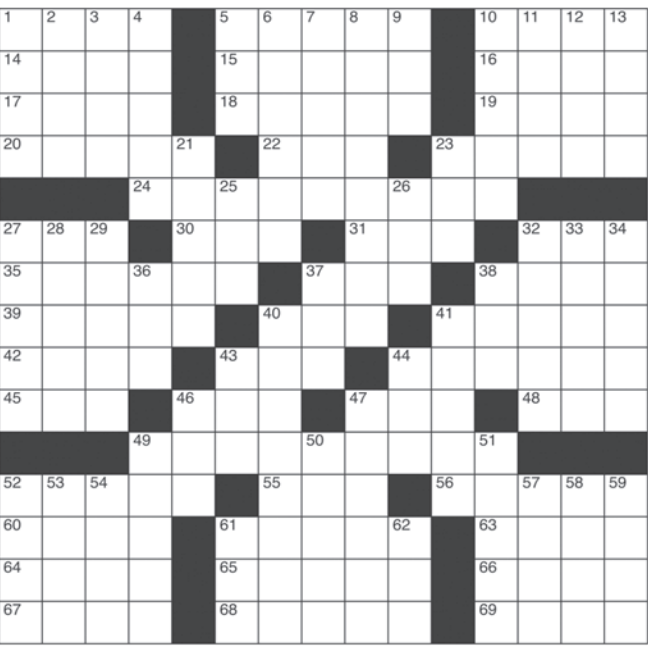
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\$398,600, 537 Cronin Rd, Paquette Bro Contracting, to Laforce, Shaun, and Tivnan, Erin.

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\$195,000, 11 Hillside Dr, Hud, to Equity T Co Custodian Fbo.



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A way to pick up
- 5. Presents
- 10. Type of guitar
- 14. Actor Idris
- 15. A citizen of Iran
- 16. Creative
- 17. Harness
- 18. Weight unit
- 19. You better call him
- 20. Utterly devoted
- 22. Male cat
- 23. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 24. Risk-taker
- 27. A team's best pitcher
- 30. Cool!
- 31. Women's \_\_\_ movement
- 32. Georgia rockers
- 35. Step-shaped recess
- 37. The princess could detect its presence
- 38. Type of truck
- 39. Butterhead lettuces
- 40. Angry people see it
- 41. Lines where two fabrics are sewn together
- 42. Soviet city
- 43. Carpet
- 44. Traveled all over
- 45. Thin, straight bar
- 46. Body art (slang)
- 47. Congressman (abbr.)
- 48. No seats available
- 49. Breaks apart
- 52. Arabic name
- 55. Ballplayer's tool
- 56. Type of sword
- 60. Baseball team
- 61. Upper bract of grass floret
- 63. Italian Seaport
- 64. Ancient Syrian city
- 65. Shoe lace tube
- 66. The Miami mascot is one
- 67. South American nation
- 68. Popular video game "Max \_\_\_"
- 69. Body part

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. German courtesy title
- 2. Ancient Greek City
- 3. Ancient Hebrew calendar month
- 4. Long-legged frog family
- 5. Photo
- 6. Delivered a speech
- 7. Lute in classical Indian music
- 8. Decorated
- 9. Take a seat
- 10. Belonging to a bottom layer
- 11. Member of a Semitic people
- 12. Part of a ticket
- 13. Defunct Guinean money
- 21. Challenges
- 23. Popular BBQ food
- 25. Subway dweller
- 26. By way of
- 27. Shady garden alcove
- 28. Egyptian city
- 29. Partner to "flowed"
- 32. Widens
- 33. Old Eurasian wheat
- 34. Act incorrectly
- 36. European pipeline
- 37. Al Bundy's wife
- 38. Ocean
- 40. Root eaten as a vegetable
- 41. Sound units
- 43. Style of music
- 44. A way to drench
- 46. Hot beverage
- 47. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
- 49. Rumanian city
- 50. Urge to action
- 51. Vaccine developer
- 52. Canadian law enforcers
- 53. Wings
- 54. "Perry Mason" actor Raymond
- 57. Small fry
- 58. \_\_\_ Clapton, musician
- 59. Take a chance
- 61. Bland food
- 62. Consumed



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# Spencer Police Chief to take part in Jimmy Fund Walk

SPENCER — Police Chief Michael Befford is teaming up with law enforcement leaders from throughout the state to support the fight against cancer.

Chief Befford will participate in this year's Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk as a member of "Team Police Chiefs." The event is set for Sunday, Oct. 1.

Local residents are invited to support Befford and his team in their critical fundraising mission. The Jimmy Fund has served as the primary charity of the Mass Chiefs of Police Association since 1953. "With so many family and friends affected by cancer, I feel it important to participate and do my part to end cancer," Befford said.

Organizers of the 2023 Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk, presented by Hyundai, are committed to raising funds to combat cancer. They thank all residents who show their support to the cause each year.

"Your support allows Dana-Farber leaders to enhance programs and initiatives that serve pediatric and adult patients and their families," read a statement released by the organization.

When you make a gift in support of the Jimmy Fund Walk, your contribution will assist an array of research programs and care services provided by Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

To learn more about how you can get involved and support the cause, visit <https://danafarber.jimmyfund.org/>.

# Local residents make Dean's List at Wentworth Institute of Technology

BOSTON — The following local students have made the dean's list at Wentworth Institute of Technology for the Spring 2023 semester.

## Open call for amateur musicians

WEST BROOKFIELD — The LCC of West Brookfield invites amateur groups and solo musicians to perform at a free event on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 6-9 p.m. in the West Brookfield Great Hall.

Try your hand at playing through a professional sound system in front of a live audience. Bring your instruments (drum kit will be provided) and your friends to this event sponsored by the LCC and the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

To register email [wbrookfieldlcc@gmail.com](mailto:wbrookfieldlcc@gmail.com) with «Summer Jam» in the subject line. Please include the following information: Name/phone number/email address/band name (if applicable) and number of band members.

- \* Maxwell Gold of Brookfield
- \* Kalie Bourassa of Leicester
- \* Christopher Mulcahy of Leicester
- \* Morgan Thompson of North Brookfield

Wentworth Institute of Technology Founded in 1904, Wentworth Institute of Technology provides a comprehensive, interdisciplinary, project-based education in architecture and design, computing and data science, engineering, management, and sciences and humanities that integrates classroom, laboratory, studio, cooperative and experiential learning to develop career-ready, skilled professionals, and engaged citizens. "The University of Opportunity," Wentworth aims to be a student-centered institution of inclusive excellence that offers high-quality undergraduate, graduate, and life-long learning programs; embraces a culture of innovation and creativity; serves society through urban engagement; and fosters growth for local, regional, and national economies. [www.wit.edu](http://www.wit.edu)

# Nichols College appoints Suzanne B. Hofmann as VP of Marketing and Communications

DUDLEY — Nichols College President Glenn M. Sulmasy, JD, LL.M., has announced the appointment of Suzanne B. Hofmann as Vice President for Marketing and Communications, effective July 3. Hofmann, who brings more than 25 years of higher education marketing and communications experience, will add a strong depth of knowledge and expertise to President Sulmasy's senior leadership team and play an instrumental role in supporting the strategic priorities outlined in the College's new Embracing Greatness strategic plan.

Most recently, Hofmann served as Senior Director for Executive Communications at College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, Mass., as well as Senior Writer and Strategic Communications Advisor for the Office of the President at the University of Richmond in Richmond, Va., where she also served as Special Assistant to the Vice President for Planning and Policy. In these roles, she was the primary speechwriter, secured national and international media placements, assisted in strategic planning and executed special projects. Previously, she served as Assistant Vice President of Advancement Communications and Marketing at Merrimack College in Andover, where she oversaw the annual giving, donor

and alumni relations teams and managed class reunions. She has led communications teams at the University of Buffalo, Lehigh University and The Governor's Academy, and brings years of marketing and communications consulting experience for non-profits and family offices.

At Nichols, Hofmann will oversee Nichols' marketing, communications and branding efforts and shape strategies that will amplify the College's standing regionally and nationally, and she will identify new marketing opportunities and develop and implement marketing initiatives to build and strengthen the College's brand. She will also be engaged with sharing the story of the Embracing Greatness strategic plan and its commitment to creating career-ready leaders through a transformative, real-world education.

The Embracing Greatness strategic plan will position the College for growth and transformation. It includes review and renewal of academic and athletic programming, infrastructure updates and forthcoming development campaigns. Today, with the College's strategic expansion of programs in new technologies and experiential learning, Nichols is already gaining increased recognition. The College recently reported a record-breaking Class of

2027, which will be one of the largest classes in 15 years, featuring significantly higher GPA, increased numbers of resident students, and more. Hofmann will play a key role in building on the College's momentum and accelerating the expansion of the College's prominence.

Hofmann holds a Master of Nonprofit Studies degree from the University of Richmond and a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Maine. She and her husband, Glenn, reside in Northborough.

About Nichols College Nichols College has earned business accreditation from the prestigious Association of Advance Collegiate Schools of Business (AACSB International), the longest-serving global accrediting body for business schools and the largest business education network connecting learners, educators, and businesses worldwide. Founded in 1815, Nichols College transforms today's students into tomorrow's leaders through a dynamic, career-focused business and professional education. Nichols offers real-world learning focused on professional depth - combined with vibrant living, competitive athletics, and an unmatched alumni advantage - equipping students to exceed their own expectations. [www.nichols.edu](http://www.nichols.edu)

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# Summer rolls on at Leicester Public Library



“There is a long history and tradition of gifts and donations at the Leicester Public Library,” the library-issued statement read. “The land the library sits on was donated by Lory Watson in 1894. The 1895 construction was funded entirely by donations, most notably from David Merriam, Pliny Earle, and Lory Watson. Architect Stephen Earle donated his services.”

More recently, the 2017-19 renovation and expansion of the library was funded partially by grants and donations, including \$2 million from an anonymous donor and another \$1 million from fundraising and individual donors.

“Donations to the Trustees are used for preventative maintenance and enhancements to the building, and to purchase new museum acquisitions,” the library statement read. “Contributions to the Library Donation Fund are used for a variety of enhancements at the library, especially those not covered by the municipal budget.”

Previous purchases resulting from donations include young adult makerspace materials and supplies; craft kits; toys and activity centers for the Children’s Room, and museum acquisitions.

Community donations higher than \$250 can be acknowledged with a brass plaque in the library’s Reading Room, and donations of \$1,000 or more can be recognized by a custom “book” at the library.

“These wood books were made to mimic the original 18-19th century collection of library books here in Leicester, currently on display in the museum,” the library statement read. “The front, back, and spine can be customized. Contact Library Director Suzanne Hall for details.”

Leicester Public Library is located at 1136 Main St. To learn more about upcoming programs at the library, or to sign up for programs, call 508-892-7020.

A dinosaur-themed display was recently installed at Leicester Public Library thanks to community donations.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — It’s been a busy summer so far at Leicester Public Library, with more exciting programs slated for August.

Leicester residents Charles and Roxanna Wisniewski previously donated funds to the library for the purchase of three new dinosaur skeleton models for the Children’s Room. Models provided by the Friendly Fossil company include the velociraptor, triceratops, and pterodactyl.

“They were painted by volunteer Teena Cherry, and assembled by Teena and volunteer Adam Hall. They are permanently on display in the Children’s Room,” read a statement released by the library.

To celebrate the new acquisitions, the library will host a Dinosaur Day for kids of all ages on Wednesday, Aug. 16, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The all-day event will feature an ongoing scavenger hunt, a dino excavation station, a dinosaur photo booth,

and dinosaur themed crafts, games, and snacks.

Some of the activities will only be offered while supplies last, so be sure to arrive early and get started on the fun.

Meanwhile, guests and local residents are reminded that donations of any size are always welcome at the library. Because of the generosity of community donors, programs for guests of all ages have been added or augmented in recent years.

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EDITORIAL

Prioritize happiness

In the hustle and bustle of modern life, it's easy to get caught up in the pursuit of success, achievements, and material possessions. However, amidst the chaos, we often forget the significance of simply being happy in our day-to-day existence. Happiness is not a distant destination or a fleeting emotion; it is a state of mind and an essential aspect of a fulfilling life.

When we prioritize happiness in our daily lives, we unlock a myriad of benefits that radiate into every aspect of our being. It enhances our overall well-being, elevates our productivity, and strengthens our relationships. Happiness acts as a powerful catalyst for personal growth, creativity, and resilience, enabling us to navigate challenges with a positive outlook.

Embracing happiness doesn't mean ignoring life's difficulties; it means facing them with a hopeful spirit and an optimistic attitude. It is about finding joy in the simplest of things, a beautiful sunrise, the laughter of loved ones, or a heartfelt conversation with a friend. It's about savoring life's precious moments and appreciating the beauty that surrounds us.

Choosing happiness is empowering. It empowers us to take control of our emotions and responses to circumstances beyond our control. Instead of dwelling on negativity, we cultivate an inner sense of contentment and gratitude. In doing so, we liberate ourselves from unnecessary stress and anxiety, freeing our minds to focus on what truly matters.

A happy disposition not only benefits us but also has a ripple effect on those around us. When we radiate positivity and joy, we inspire others to do the same. Our happiness becomes contagious.

In our fast-paced world, it's essential to pause and reflect on what truly brings us joy. Material possessions may provide temporary gratification, but true happiness lies in fostering meaningful relationships, pursuing our passions, and nurturing our well-being. It's about cherishing the present moment and finding pleasure in the little things that make life extraordinary.

The importance of being happy in our day-to-day life cannot be overstated. Happiness is not a luxury or an elusive dream; it is an essential ingredient in our pursuit of a fulfilling existence. By embracing happiness, we enhance our well-being, uplift our communities, and live with purpose.

Letter submission policy

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

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

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Climate lies

To the Editor:

I walked into store last week, and as I did, I passed a Tesla charging up. I was in the store for 45 minutes, and when I came out, the car was still charging. I just looked and thought what a fool. He spent the \$60,000 on an EV to spend hours at charging stations. Just wait [til] when winter comes, and he runs out of electricity on a dark country road. I jumped in my truck, pulled up into a gas station and within five minutes, I was driving down the road with a full tank. All smiles, like Joe Biden driving out of his classified records filled garage in his gas guzzling Corvette.

Last week, I had one of the government's sanctioned electricity providers try to sell me a solar panel system that I could get on my house roof. They would own it, but I would get a lower rate. Just what I need. A plastic array that degrades over time sitting on my roof. How do you sell your house when you have a contract with them? Who maintains the system and roof as it degrades or electrical parts break? Just another headache brought to us by the Progressives Green New Deal. Enjoy the beautiful countryside filled with arrays of solar farms and big monstrous windmills, all provided to us by Biden Inc. and China. We all know the quality of stuff made in China. I work with a lady who came from China. They fly here to buy baby food formula because they don't trust the one made in China. Just think of the solar panels and windmills made there. These will be corroded, cracked, and broken in less than 10 years. All the while China is pumping out two to three times the pollutants to build these with their coal plants than we could save if we went all electric.

The progressive Dems who control the puppet Joe are using the Climate Change lie to control you. To force you to pay more for the energy to fund their societal changes. Dopey Biden calls it Bidenomics. You're paying \$3.59 a gallon for gas, car prices are

twice as high as before, housing pricing has gone through the roof, so no future for your kids. The Progressive Healy and Boston Dems are upset that we got a tax rebate in 2022. Instead, this year, they decided to give illegals free tuition at colleges when you pay double for your kids. I guess our Gov. Healy figures if you break into this country, you should be rewarded with our tax money. Spend it on illegals' college tuition instead of letting you use it on your kids. Anyone buying food sees the prices increasing. At McDonald's, a meal that used to cost \$5 is now \$12.

Everything out of Biden's mouth is a lie. He and his cronies were in Ukraine inflaming the situation before Putin attacked. That's why Hunter was there getting millions in the aide shakedown. In fact, Putin only attacked when he saw them trying to turn Ukraine into a western controlled country. The Green New Deal is just another way for Biden Inc. and the Progressive Dems to get your money. The Biden Inc. and Obama Inc. created solar panel companies that are built in China and sold in the US. Biden Inc. gets millions from them from the contracts steered to them. Another sells out of voters so his family can line their pockets. So, if you're tired of the lies, the increased costs hitting your pocketbook, the selling out of America, and the assault on your family's beliefs by his DOJ, then there's only one thing to do. Stand behind the guy they are trying feverishly to remove from the ballot. The one they don't want you having a free choice to vote for. It's time for everybody to line up behind the Trump train coming to free us in 2024. Make a donation to his campaign. He fights for you. A Free America with a strong border can be your reality if he wins. Day one when he takes office, the southern border will be closed. Period.

MARK ROBILLARD  
SPENCER

Preventing and managing powdery mildew in the garden



Melinda Myers

Powdery mildew on a bee balm plant.

Don't panic when you find a powdery white substance covering the leaves of some of your flowers, vegetables, and shrubs. This is a good clue that your plants are infected with the fungal disease, powdery mildew. Most otherwise healthy plants can tolerate the damage and perennials will return the following year.

You may see this disease on a variety of plants including zinnia, phlox, bee balm, lilacs, roses, cucumbers, and squash. Powdery mildew is caused by several different fungi with each attacking specific host plants. This means the powdery mildew on one plant won't necessarily infect its neighbors. But when the weather conditions are right, high humidity at night and low humidity during the day, powdery mildew can develop on a variety of unrelated susceptible plants.

This fungus grows on leaf surfaces, preventing sunlight from reaching the leaves. The infected leaves eventually turn yellow, brown and may wither. The disease usually won't kill the plant, but it does ruin the beauty of ornamental plants and severe infestation can reduce the size and quantity of fruit when growing cucumbers, squash and other susceptible vegetables.

Consider living with the damage. Mask the view of the diseased leaves with slightly shorter nearby plants, allowing you to still enjoy the flowers.

If you decide to treat the plants, you must start at the first sign of the disease and then every 7 to 14 days for effective control. Consider using one of the organic fungicides labeled for controlling this disease on the plants you are treating.

Cornell University found baking

soda was effective at managing powdery mildew. You will find variations of the mixture using 1 to 1.5 tablespoons of baking soda and 2.5 to 3 tablespoons of lightweight horticulture oil mixed into one gallon of water.

Be sure to read and follow label directions when using any organic, natural, or synthetic product. Pretest any fungicide selected including the Cornell mixture. Apply the fungicide to a couple of leaves and monitor for any toxic side effects before spraying all the infected plants.

Reduce the risk of powdery mildew in future gardens. Remove and dispose of mildew-infected plants and leaves in fall. When adding new plants to the garden, select those noted for powdery mildew resistance. They aren't immune but less likely to develop the disease than more susceptible varieties.

Give plants plenty of room to reach their mature size. This increases airflow and light reaching the plants, decreasing humidity and the risk of infection. Avoid excess fertilization that promotes lush succulent growth that is more susceptible to this and other diseases.

Train vining crops like cucumber, squash, and melons onto a trellis. You'll not only save space but also increase light and air penetration around the plants for greater productivity and less risk of disease.

Do a bit of pruning on susceptible phlox and bee balm next spring. Remove one-fourth of the stems of susceptible perennials when the plants are several inches tall. This increases light penetration and airflow, resulting in stronger stems and less risk of this disease.

A bit of prevention goes a long way in boosting the beauty of your garden and reducing the time spent managing this disease.

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 TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and her Web site is [www.MelindaMyers.com](http://www.MelindaMyers.com).

529 plans offer benefits in all markets



FINANCIAL FOCUS

TREVOR NIELSEN

A new school year will soon begin. And if you have young children, that means it's one year closer to the day when they head off to college or some other post-secondary education or training. You might be preparing for that day with a 529 education savings plan — but should you be concerned if you need to start taking withdrawals to pay for education expenses when the financial markets are volatile?

Long-term investment vehicles based on the financial markets, like a 529 plan, will always fluctuate in value. If you've had a 529 plan for many years, you've probably invested money when the market has been up, down and flat. In fact, during down periods, it's often a good time to invest, because your dollars buy more shares than they could when prices are up. Your hope is that, over the years, your 529 plan will gain enough to overcome the short-term declines in value.

In any case, you'll want to keep in mind the key benefit of 529 plans: Earnings and withdrawals are federally tax free when the money is used for qualified education expenses for college and some trade school programs. And your state may give you an income tax deduction or a credit for your 529 plan contributions. In some states, a 529 plan can be used for K-12 schooling as well.

You have another incentive to keep your 529 plan intact despite temporary drops in value. Specifically, if you withdraw money and don't use it for eligible education expenses, your withdrawal may be subject to a 10 percent penalty, in addition to state and federal income taxes. That could be a high price to pay for a move that may not be in your best interest. After all, if you were to move your 529 plan money into a minimal-risk asset, such as some type of cash vehicle, you could sacrifice some of the growth potential you might need to meet the high costs of higher education.

Many 529 plans offer investment portfolios that gradually become more risk averse as the beneficiary gets closer to college age. A financial advisor can discuss the investment options with you.


While this investment feature doesn't guarantee you'll have complete immunity from financial market volatility, it can help reduce its impact when you need access to the money.

Here's one more point to keep in mind: Just because you've planned to access your 529 plan when your child reaches 18, or whatever age they begin their post-secondary education, you're not required to take money out at that point. You can keep your 529 plan intact until you feel more comfortable making withdrawals, though you'll need to consider how this decision will affect your ability to help pay for your child's education.


The financial markets will always be in some type of flux, but don't let these movements deter you from sticking with a 529 plan — it's still one of the best investments you can make in your child's future.

*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](mailto:trevor.nielsen@edwardjones.com).*

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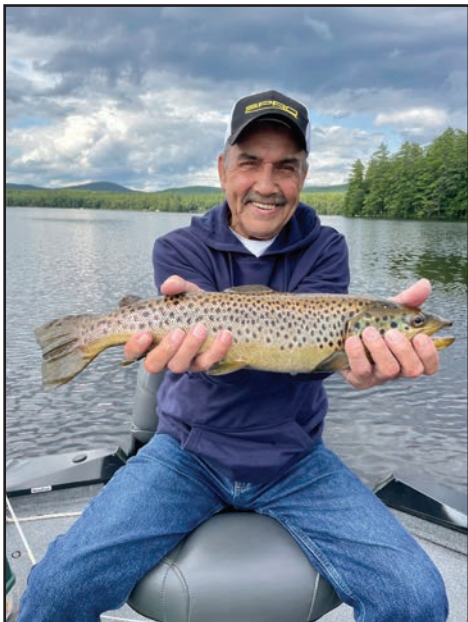


news@stonebridgepress.news





# Fishing for tautog in Rhode Island



Courtesy

This week's picture shows Don Cook of Uxbridge with a monster Brown trout he caught while fishing with Gerry Gareri at his lodge in Maine! Nice fish. It was released after the photo was taken.

After the heatwave passed, my fishing partner and I decided it was time to go fishing on the saltwater last week. Aug. 1 was the opening of tautog fishing in Rhode Island, and although the daily limit per angler was only three fish, we decided to go anyway. We purchase some green crabs for bait and



This week's second picture shows Billy "D" with a nice striper he caught at the canal recently. Unfortunately, it had to be released because it was too big!

head down to Galilee Rhode Island to try out luck at catching a few of these hard fighting fish, not to forget the great eating we will enjoy if we catch a few.

We got to the ramp at Galilee at 7 a.m. and found that the parking lot was full of cars and boat trailers. My first comment to Matt was that fishing must be hot, but for what? We quickly

unloaded the boat and headed out to the East breakwall, and were surprised to see only a couple of boats in the area we planned to fish. Approximately a mile offshore, Matt used his GPS to locate the area we had fished numerous times, and we set anchor. Quickly cutting up a few crabs and leaving the legs on, I placed a half crab and lowered it to the bottom. It required an eight ounce weight to hold the bottom because of the extremely fast tide, because of the full moon. I quickly received a hard strike, but did not hook up. We use No. 3 circle hooks only, so you do not need to set the hook on each bite. When a strike is felt you need to gradually lift the rod tip up and the circle hook most often sets itself in the lips of the tautog. Their rubbery lips provide a solid hook up by merely raising the rod. This hard fighting fish needs to be muscled up from the bottom, before he has you caught in the rocks. After you have the tautog a few feet off of the bottom, you can enjoy a good fight as your rod bends to near capacity. I use 50-pound test Power Pro braided line and three feet of monofilament 40 pound test for leader material. Give it a try!

Numerous ticks are being found on some hunting dogs after they have been out training for the upcoming hunt-



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TRUE

ing season. Keeping your dog's medication up to date is extremely important, to ensure they are fully protected against Lyme disease. Heartworm medication is also important to keep your dog free of this nasty disease. It is a lot cheaper to keep your dog healthy, than to try curing them from the above mentioned diseases.

The lone star tick is also becoming a problem in some states. If the tick bites you, and is able to get their venom into your bloodstream, you could become allergic to red meats and other foods. Making sure you or your family members are not carrying the tick around for a few days is extremely important to insure your health from these nasty insects. Read more on ticks from your computer! Visually checking each other for ticks daily is the best way to stay healthy!

Bee stings also need to be treated, and the bites need to be monitored for a week to insure that the bite has not become infected. Spider bites and other insect bites are also serious and need to be closely watched for infections. Enjoying the Great Outdoors sure does have its risks, but in today's world it is necessary! Stay safe!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

## 411 on Garden Herbs

Herbs not only bring essence and beauty to the landscape, they also provide an element of enchantment to a garden. Whether you grow herbs for their unique flavors, medicinal value, or just for the pure pleasure of it - the humble herb adds spice to any garden plot! Read on for a round-up of harvesting and preserving tips from this column, plus few recipes to spotlight your fresh snipped herbs.

### Harvesting Herbs

While snipping herbs daily for kitchen use is a common practice, the act of fully harvesting herbs regularly is also important to ensure new growth. For best flavor, cut or snip herbs in the morning, after the dew has evaporated from the leaves but before the mid-day sun heats the plant.

Most annual plants can be harvested twice during the planting season. Cut plants back to about five inches above the ground and feed after cutting. Annual herbs can be harvested until frost.

Perennial herbs may be harvested once during the first year and up to three times each season after the initial growth year. Harvest up to 75 percent of the top growth in late spring and another quarter in late summer. Stop harvesting about



TAKE  
THE  
HINT  
KAREN  
TRAINOR

one month before the frost date. Late pruning could encourage tender growth that cannot harden-off before winter.

Flowering herbs should be harvested when the buds are apparent or when flowers are just opening. This is when their oil concentration is at its peak.

Preserving Herbs While herbs for cooking should be used fresh for optimal quality and flavor, a zealous growing season can necessitate preserving the herbal plants. There are several methods to "keep" herbs for later use. Freezing: This is the easiest method to preserve herbs that are to be used in cooking. Herbs should be cut fresh and rinsed briefly in cold water. Chop herbs and spread out on a cookie sheet to freeze. Once frozen, transfer to a zip lock freezer bag. Another popular way to freeze herbs for uses in soups and other dishes that require liquid is to place pinches of herbs in water filled ice cube trays. Freeze and pack

them into a zip lock freezer bag. Don't refreeze herbs after thawing. Drying: Drying is the traditional method of herb preservation. There are also several methods to dry herbs for later use. Air Drying: If the herbs are clean, do not wet them. Otherwise, rinse, shake off the excess water, and spread the herbs out to dry on paper towels or dishcloths until all surface moisture has evaporated. Remove any dead or damaged foliage. Then, tie the stems into small bundles with twine or string and hang them upside down in a warm, dry, airy place out of the sun. Be sure to make small, loose bundles and allow for good air circulation around each bunch. Dry indoors as sun and dew moisture can discolor and ruin the quality of many herbs. Hang and dry in the kitchen or even a garage or shed. Note: Some herbs, such as basil and mints may mold if not dried quickly. An alternative to hanging herbs to dry in bunches is to spread the herbs out on window screens. Suspend the screens over sawhorses or the backs of chairs. Turn the leaves often to ensure even drying. To air dry herbs with seeds, tie the herbs in small bundles and suspend inside a paper bag with holes punched in the sides. Suspend the bag in a dark area with good

air circulation. Collect the seeds when they are dry, and store in rigid light-proof containers. Oven Drying: Traditional kitchen stoves can also be used to dry herbs. Spread the herbs on the cookie sheets and dry at the lowest temperature. Home food dehydrators also do an excellent job of drying herbs. Follow the directions provided with the dehydrator. Herbs are sufficiently dry when they are brittle and crumble easily. When the leaves are dry, separate them from their stems and package the leaves in rigid containers with tight fitting lids. Glass or hard plastic are best, although zip-lock plastic freezer bags can be used. To preserve full flavor, avoid crushing the leaves until you are ready to use them. Store dried herbs in a cool, dry place away from sunlight, moisture, and heat. Many herbs can keep for a year if stored properly.

Herbal Recipes Below are some simple, yet delicious recipes that showcase the flavor of freshly picked garden herbs.

Melted Cheese Spread with Yarrow This is a great salsa alternative when served with Tortillas or corn chips)

Ingredients: one pound soft cheese; one table-

spoon minced yarrow leaves; one half cup tomato soup two tablespoons whole Yarrow flowers; black pepper, onion powder and garlic powder to taste. Directions: Melt the cheese and add the tomato soup, stirring until well mixed. Add Yarrow leaves and spices to taste. Blend in one tablespoon of the Yarrow flowers. Use remaining flowers as a bowl garnish.

Quick Chive Biscuits Bisquick makes it quick and easy to bake up a batch of biscuits laced with fresh chives.

Ingredients: two cups Bisquick; 2/3 cup sour cream; 1/3 cup water; one tablespoon chopped chives. Directions: Stir together all ingredients to a soft dough. Beat 30 strokes until stiff but still sticky. Knead dough ten times. Rollout one half inch thick and cut with a floured glass or biscuit cutter.

Cilantro Salsa This spicy salsa is a tasty accompaniment to seafood.

Ingredients: one half cup minced onion; one half cup tomato (chopped small); one teaspoon minced Jalapeno chile; one teaspoon salt. Directions: Soak onion in cold water for a half hour,

rinse and drain. Mix together all other ingredients and chill covered until serving time.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month 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.

## Beware the dream thief

The dream thief is a cunning adversary lurking in the shadows, ready to strike at any stage. Whether you're at the beginning of your journey, midway through, or standing on the cusp of fulfillment, the dream thief waits, poised to sow doubt and derail determination.

Recognizing the dream thief, in its many guises, could be the key to keeping your dream firmly in your grasp.

At the inception of your dream, you'll feel excitement mixed with uncertainty. You'll sketch plans, cultivate ideas, and think about what you must do to lay the foundation for your vision.

You may be preparing to launch a business, write a novel, or embark

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on a life-changing career. Yet, this stage, although exciting, is fertile ground for dream-killing doubts.

Friends and family may even feed those doubts, seemingly disguised as concern and well-intended advice. If you listen, you'll start to procrastinate and make excuses. You'll wonder if it's all just a pipe dream.

Standing firm in this stage requires belief in your vision and the courage to pursue it despite others' skepticism.

Your work ethic and ability to maintain discipline during all stages will help fend off the dream thief, especially in this early stage. If you find you're not taking action, ask yourself why. Fear of failure? That's

merely the dream thief. Remember, the echoes of inaction ring far louder than the thud of a fall.

The middle stages are marked by progress and growing pains. Every day is a struggle, but things are taking shape, and you're moving forward. Chapters fill the pages of your book, and your new career begins to blossom, but you're still not there.

Those who you thought were on your side begin to complain. They've become impatient, too much time has elapsed, and you need to make more money. Your allies begin to resemble foes as they force you to question it all and pressure you to make decisions you don't want to make. They urge you to settle, try to sell out, and insist you give it all up before it's too late.

Resilience is crucial in

this phase. Recognizing that the dream thief can take the form of criticism and often only reflects others' limitations rather than your potential can be the key to your sanity during this phase.

Keep pushing; you'll find you're growing and expanding. Revenue is beginning to flow; opportunities multiply; dreams edge closer to reality. Ironically, even success can breed negativity as competitors may attempt to undermine your confidence.

Remember, during expansion, balancing ambition with wisdom is critical. Listen to valid concerns but filter out mere negativity. Embrace constructive criticism while remaining true to your vision, and always stay vigilant; at this stage, fear of success may creep in. That's

the dream thief again. Don't fear what's coming; embrace it.

Eventually, a dream reaches its natural conclusion. It might be time to sell the business, write a different book, or take a new turn in your career. You and those around you will question your decision to move on.

Even at this late stage, the dream killer can rear its ugly head, this time as the fear of letting go. Understanding when to transition is a deeply personal choice. If the time has come, let it go, surround yourself with those who appreciate your journey, and support your evolving dreams.

Guarding against the dream thief is a continuous battle fought at every stage of your journey. It is a lifelong task to rec-

ognize its many faces. Embrace the challenges, believe in your vision, stand firm against negative influences, and move forward with courage.

Your dreams are yours to achieve, and nobody can steal your destiny unless you give it to them. Keep vigilant, fill yourself with courage, and unyielding faith.

The dream thief lurks at every corner, but you have the power to defeat it. Will you succumb to doubt, fear, complacency, and criticism, or will you rise above and seize your dreams with both hands?

The choice is yours, and the path is waiting. Arm yourself with wisdom and determination, and step into your destiny. Your dreams are not just figments of your imagination; they are calls to greatness.

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# SPORTS



Nick Ethier photos

The Elite Eight round of playoffs in the Auburn Recreation and Culture Girls' Summer Basketball League took place on Thursday, Aug. 3.

## AUBURN RECREATION AND CULTURE SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUE RESULTS

### GIRLS' LEAGUE

Tuesday, Aug. 1 — Opening Round of Playoffs  
(6) Shepherd Hill 25, (11) Leicester 20  
(7) Bay Path 54, (10) Auburn 19  
(9) Worcester North 46, (8) Northbridge 30  
Thursday, Aug. 3 — Elite Eight  
(1) Sutton 42, (9) Worcester North 40  
(2) Millbury 47, (7) Bay Path 32  
(3) Tantasqua 42, (6) Shepherd Hill 26  
(5) Uxbridge defeated (4) Grafton by Forfeit

### BOYS' LEAGUE

Wednesday, Aug. 2 — Sweet 16  
(1) Millbury Received a Bye  
(2) Uxbridge 41, (19) Whitinsville Christian 38  
(3) David Prouty 53, (18) Sutton 38  
(16) Douglas 66, (4) Northbridge 50  
(5) Grafton 64, (12) Nipmuc 44  
(6) Quaboag 61, (11) Auburn 55  
(10) Hopedale 52, (7) Oxford 38  
(8) Bartlett 55, (9) Bay Path 53  
Monday, Aug. 7 — Elite Eight  
(1) Millbury 74, (16) Douglas 49  
(2) Uxbridge 55, (10) Hopedale 45  
(3) David Prouty 39, (8) Bartlett 28  
(5) Grafton 61, (6) Quaboag 39

## LOCAL GOLF RESULTS

Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club

Pit's Crew  
First place (-10): Kent Seith, Ron Fontaine, John Kelly, Dick Ullman  
Second place (-10): Rich Ford, Paul Boulette, Bob Buzzle, Bob Ford  
Third place (-8): Joe Desimone, Ron Raina, John Dubsky, Nick Neal

Men's Champion Gross  
Ryan Toomey 68\* 79 — 147  
\* New Competitive Course Record  
Women's Champion Gross  
Beth Potvin 87 - 87 — 174  
A Division Net  
Tom Staiti 73 - 73 — 146  
B Division Net  
Jim Kularski 75 - 71 — 146  
C Division Net  
Scott Wiinikka 74 - 72 — 146

D Division Net  
Dan Belford 67 - 69 — 136  
Senior Champion  
Stephen Earls 76 - 68 — 144

Leicester Country Club

Wednesday A.M. Golf League  
Red Division  
Top Five Low Gross  
1. Tom Clark 85  
2. Mike Clark 89  
T3. Tony Maio 91  
T3. Rich Rollins 91  
T3. Jim McPartland 91  
Top Five Low Net  
1. Ken Paradis 66  
2. John Curtis 70  
T3. Al Cooper 72  
T3. John Krukonis 72  
5. Richard Irwin 74

Blue Division  
Top Five Low Gross  
1. Rich Barton 90  
2. David Burbine 91  
T3. Bill Coffey 92  
T3. Harry Kustigian 92  
T3. Al Ferriera 92  
T3. Paul Landin 92  
Top Five Low Net  
T1. Paul Graham 70  
T1. George Keenan 70  
3. Myron Imbody 71  
4. Joe Antinovitch 74  
5. Tom DeFeudis 76

Kettle Brook Golf Club

Kettle One League  
First place: Vinny Cloutier and Kris Houston, +13  
Second place: Fred Wozniak and Steve Thebodo, +9  
High quota: Al Morin



# Volleyball club hopes to spike interest of local youngsters

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — A local volleyball club continues to expand its offerings to help spike the interest of youngsters throughout the region.

The Worcester Volleyball Club serves kids and young adults of all abilities and experience levels across Worcester County. Club founder and president Susan Dunshee recently partnered with Open Sky Community Services to help provide a positive and safe environment to even more local youths.

Dunshee, a former special education teacher, was inspired to start the program while watching her daughter, Eve, play volleyball for South High School. One of Dunshee's main goals in establishing the program was inclusion for all kids who want to get involved.

"I realized there were not many opportunities for youths with special needs to play sports or be part of a team," said Dunshee, who grew up in Spencer and attended schools there. "I reached out to Open Sky Community Services to partner with them on providing this opportunity."

Serving young people from grade five and up, the Worcester Volleyball Blazers meet on Saturdays at the Open Sky Community Services gym (4 Mann St. in Worcester). Kids

from several local towns, including Spencer, are currently involved in the program. No experience is required to participate. Youngsters receive an introduction to volleyball, learn from trained coaches, develop skills, and build a passion for the game.

"Our inclusive club brings kids and young adults (up to age 24) with and without disabilities together, providing enriching experiences for all," read a statement released by the organization.

For those looking to get involved in the program, a registration day will take place on Aug. 22 from 6-8 p.m. Please bring a completed registration form and payment to 4 Mann St. in Worcester.

The registration fee is \$125 per participant, which includes instruction and a T-Shirt for new registrants.

"Our programs provide our community with the opportunity to increase physical activity, create new friendships, develop new skills, increase independence, and experience success," the organization's statement read.

For Dunshee, it's always a thrill to introduce kids to the game she loves and watch them develop while meeting new friends and having fun.

"As a coach and president of the club, I get to see the progression of the youths playing volleyball, some of them wanting to play for their high school team," Dunshee said. "I

really love watching our teen players mentor our younger players. Our teens provide positive and encouraging support during practices."

Dunshee's next goal is to have a traveling team for January 2024.

Meanwhile, the club strives each day to promote safety and inclusion through several tools. Club members thank Ralph Thibodeau and the Josh Thibodeau Helping Hearts Foundation, which donated an AED defibrillator this past winter.

"So many kids have undiagnosed heart conditions, and I wanted my club members to know the warning signs and what to do if someone goes into cardiac arrest," Dunshee said. "Ralph came and gave a presentation on the warning signs of sudden cardiac arrest, and demonstrated hands-free CPR and how to use an AED to our club members and parents. I am truly grateful to him and his organization."

To learn more about the volleyball program and how you can get involved in the Blazers team, visit [www.worcblazers.com](http://www.worcblazers.com). The organization is also currently hiring coaches for its high school and young adult club.

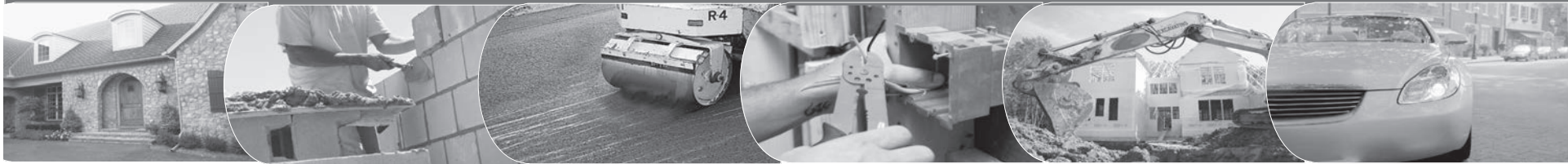
If you have additional questions about the program, send an email to [worcblazers@gmail.com](mailto:worcblazers@gmail.com) or call 508-277-6986.



Courtesy

Local kids are discovering the joys of volleyball thanks to a club that serves Worcester County youngsters.

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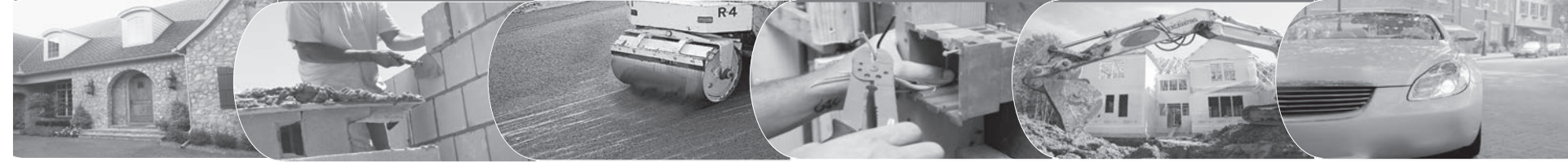
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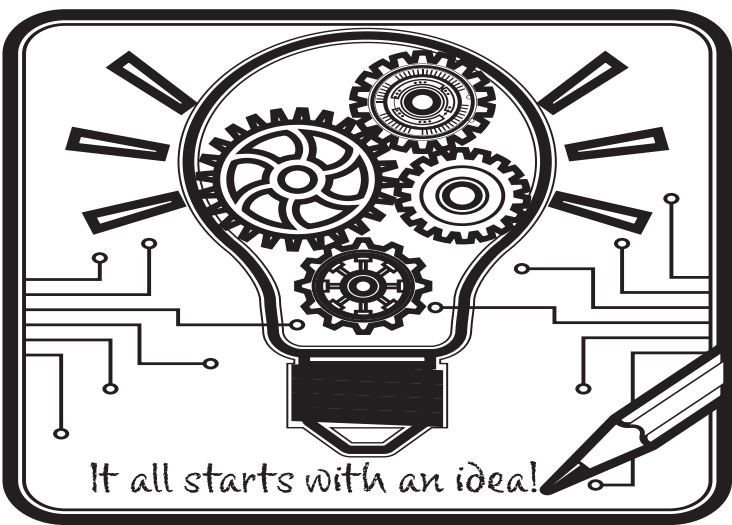


THIS IS THE TERM TO DESCRIBE A PERSON WHO CREATES SOME NEW PROCESS, APPLIANCE, MACHINE, OR ARTICLE.

ANSWER: INVENTOR

Creative Coloring

Celebrate National Inventors’ Month. Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1519:** FERDINAND MAGELLAN SETS SAIL FROM SEVILLE TO BEGIN A CIRCUMNAVIGATION OF THE GLOBE.
- **1641:** THE SIGNING OF THE TREATY OF LONDON ENDS THE BISHOPS’ WAR BETWEEN ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.
- **1990:** THE MAGELLAN SPACE PROBE REACHES VENUS.



CONCEPT

an abstract idea or notion

How they SAY that in...

**ENGLISH:** Idea

**SPANISH:** Idea

**ITALIAN:** Idea

**FRENCH:** Idée

**GERMAN:** Idee

Did you know?

INVENTORS AND ENTREPRENEURS BOTH COME UP WITH IDEAS. BUT AN INVENTOR IS MORE INVOLVED WITH THE ACTUAL INVENTION AND THE

Think, Create, INVENT!

ENTREPRENEUR THE BUSINESS.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: LAPTOP KEYBOARD

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CRYPTO FUN

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to immunizations. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 18 = E)

**A. 14 12 11 11 25 15 18**  
Clue: Protects against illness

**B. 10 19 11 23 19 9**  
Clue: Medical professional

**C. 15 18 18 10 3 18**  
Clue: Pointy instrument

**D. 16 9 19 23 18 11 23 25 19 15**  
Clue: Provides safeguards

Answers: A. vaccine B. doctor C. needle D. protection

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260 West Main Street, West Brookfield, MA 01585

the knot  
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8/25 BBQ Night Blue Seal Kielbasa, Garden Gazpacho, Brisket, Baby Back Ribs, corn on the cob, potato salad, strawberry shortcake  
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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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Sun. Brunch: 10am-1pm



# LEGALS

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Docket No. WO23P2497GD  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF  
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF  
GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED  
PERSON PURSUANT TO  
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304  
In the interest of: Nancy Ruth Whittaker  
Of: Spencer, MA  
RESPONDENT  
(Incapacitated Person/Protected  
Person)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Peter Whittaker of Spencer, MA and Christine Whittaker of Cincinnati, OH in the above captioned matter alleging that Nancy Ruth Whittaker is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Peter Whittaker of Spencer, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. 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 08/29/2023.

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 petitions. 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 above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: July 26, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate  
August 11, 2023

## Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, MGL c. 131, s. 40 and the Spencer Wetlands By-Law:  
**Alex Pearson** has filed an **NOI** with the Spencer Conservation Commission for a proposed septic system located at **12 Wilson Avenue**, Spencer, MA.  
**Martha Fowler** has filed an **NOI** with the Spencer Conservation Commission for a proposed septic system located at **168 Ash Street**, Spencer, MA.  
**Scott LaPointe** has filed an **NOI** with the Spencer Conservation Commission for a proposed retaining wall located at **61 Wilson Avenue**, Spencer, MA.  
Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at which time all persons having an interest may be present or call in remotely to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 6:15 p.m.  
Mary McLaughlin  
Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman  
August 11, 2023

(SEAL)  
THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
MASSACHUSETTS  
LAND COURT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL  
COURT  
Docket Number: 18 SM 007156

ORDER OF NOTICE  
To:  
Nancy J. Johnson a/k/a Nancy Johnson and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (et seq):  
THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF NEW YORK, AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS CWABS, INC., ASSET-BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-2 claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Spencer, numbered 16 Irving Street, given by Nancy J. Johnson to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., dated February 21, 2005, and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 35746, Page 242, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/ Defendants' Servicemembers status. If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before September 11, 2023, or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.  
Witness, Gordon H. Piper, Chief Justice of this Court on July 28, 2023.  
Attest:  
Deborah J. Patterson  
Recorder  
13949  
August 11, 2023

## MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Cheryl C. Fallstrom and John W. Fallstrom to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for AMCAP Mortgage, Inc., its successors and assigns, dated January 11, 2006 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 38214, Page 334, subsequently assigned to CitiMortgage, Inc. by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for AMCAP Mortgage, Inc., its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 50218, Page 111, subsequently assigned to Towd Point Master Funding Trust 2018-PM10 by CitiMortgage, Inc. by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 59090, Page 79, subsequently assigned to FirstKey Mortgage, LLC by Towd Point Master Funding Trust 2018-PM10 by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 60200, Page 40, subsequently assigned to Towd Point Mortgage Trust 2018-3, U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee by FirstKey Mortgage, LLC by assignment recorded in said Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds at Book 62400, Page 367 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM on August 18, 2023 at 48 Lambs Grove, aka 46-48 Lambs Grove, Spencer, MA, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit: The land in Spencer, Worcester County, with the buildings thereon more particularly described as follows: A certain tract of land with the buildings thereon situated in the Town of Spencer, Massachusetts and being shown on a plan of land entitled "Plan of Land 46 + 48 Lamb's Grove, Spencer, Massachusetts owned by John W. and Cheryl C. Fallstrom" prepared by Andrews Survey and Engineering, Inc., dated April 8, 2005 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 825, Plan 1, which premises are more particularly described as follows: Beginning at an iron pin on the westerly sideline of Lamb's Grove A.K.A. Pine Drive, it being the northeast angle

of the parcel herein described and the southeasterly angle of land of one Petruzzi; Thence S 12 degrees 10' 00" W, 40.00 feet passing through a P.K. to a point; Thence S 77 degrees 50' 00" E, 15.00 feet to a point; Thence S 12 degrees 10' 00" W, 36.00 feet to a point; The last three lines bounding on Lamb's Grove; Thence S 56 degrees 59' 18" W, 91.93 feet to a point at the high water mark of Sugden's Lake, bounding southerly on land of John Jr. & Doris M. Palmer; Thence northerly by the highwater mark of Sugden's Lake to a point of land of said Petruzzi; Thence S 78 degrees 01' 25" E, 96.20 feet passing through an iron pin to the point and place of beginning. Said lot containing 12,475 square feet of land, more or less. Being the same premises conveyed to these mortgagors in a deed recorded in Book 36194, Page 194. The Mortgagors hereby agree that any and all rights set forth or declared in a Declaration of Homestead recorded in the Worcester Registry of Deeds in Book 36194, Page 198 and in Book 22699, Page 370, shall be and hereby are subordinate and junior in right to this mortgage to the same extent as if this mortgage had been executed and recorded prior in time to the execution and recording of said Declaration of Homestead.

The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs. 1

TERMS OF SALE:  
A deposit of FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$5,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.

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

Towd Point Mortgage Trust 2018-3, U.S. Bank National Association, as Indenture Trustee  
Present Holder of said Mortgage,  
By Its Attorneys, ORLANS PC  
PO Box 540540  
Waltham, MA 02454  
Phone: (781) 790-7800  
19-010075  
Register of Probate  
July 28, 2023  
August 4, 2023  
August 11, 2023

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. WO23C0428CA  
CITATION ON PETITION TO  
CHANGE NAME  
In the matter of:

Pedro Cesar Rodriquez  
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Pedro Cesar Rodriquez of Spencer MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Pedro Cesar Rodriguez  
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

08/29/2023. 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: August 02, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate  
August 11, 2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Probate and Family Court  
225 Main Street  
Worcester, MA 01608  
Docket No. WO23P2498PM  
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF  
PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT  
OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER  
PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT  
TO G.L.c. 190B §5-304 & §5-405  
In the interest of: Nancy Ruth Whittaker  
Of: Spencer, MA  
RESPONDENT  
(Incapacitated Person/Protected  
Person)

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Peter Whittaker of Spencer, MA and Christine Whittaker of Cincinnati, OH in the above captioned matter alleging that Nancy Ruth Whittaker is in need of a Conservator and requesting that Peter Whittaker of Spencer, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed Conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority. 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 08/29/2023.

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 petitions. 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 above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.  
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: July 26, 2023  
Stephanie K. Fattman  
Register of Probate  
August 11, 2023

SECTION 00110  
OXFORD ROCHDALE SEWER  
DISTRICT  
INVITATION TO BID  
The Board of Sewer Commissioner's request sealed bids to provide **Clarifier #2 Sandblasting & Painting Work; Contract 2023-3.** Bidding Documents may be obtained after Monday July 24, 2023 by Emailing the Oxford Rochdale Sewer District offices at orsd@aol.com; by calling the Acting Superintendent at 508- 958-7873 between 9 A.M. and 2 P.M or Emailing Gary Stine - District Engineer at garystine6641@yahoo.com. Oxford Rochdale Sewer District will receive bids at 28 Comins Road, North Oxford, MA 01537 until **11 A.M. Thursday August 17, 2023** prevailing time at which time bid documents will be publicly opened and read. The Board of Sewer Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all bids deemed not in the best interest of the Oxford Rochdale Sewer District. Board of Sewer Commissioners  
Oxford Rochdale Sewer District  
August 4, 2023  
August 11, 2023

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# OBITUARIES

## Bryan G. Benicaso, 65



SPENCER- Bryan G. Benicaso, 65, of Spencer, passed away, Saturday, Aug. 5th. in his home after a courageous and long battle with cancer.

He leaves his wife of 26 years, Deanne M. (Sasseville) Benicaso, his daughters; Amanda L. Wiley and her husband Patrick of Grafton and Kimberly A. Moreau and her significant other Shaun DeFazio of Worcester, his father; Girard Benicaso of Paxton, his sisters; Cheryl Dragon of Paxton, Theresa Lang and her husband William of Paxton, and Sharon Olson and her husband Kevin of Douglas, two nieces and two nephews and two great nephews and one great niece. He was predeceased by his niece Tara Lang in 1993.

Bryan was born in Athol, the son of Girard and the late Patricia (Lange) Benicaso who died in 2018. He later graduated from Wachusett Regional High School in 1976 and Worcester Industrial Technical School in 1978.

Bryan was a Senior Mechanical Engineer at Dienes Corp. in Spencer for the past 28 years.

Bryan loved spending time with family and friends camping at Sebago Lake State Park for over 40 years and had just returned a week ago. He also enjoyed traveling to warmer locales and loved Key West, Sanibel Island and Aruba.

Bryan was a lifelong athlete and accomplished ten pin bowler having bowled 8 - 300 games, and a 25 year member and treasurer of the Ernie Girard Bowling League which is now the EG Handicap League.

With his partner and long time friend Bob Erickson, he has bowled in the USBC Open Championship tournaments for 41 consecutive years and was his bowling partner for 44 years and was honored by listing his name in the Bowling Hall of Fame.

He was an avid golfer and 20 year member of the Kettle One League at Kettlebrook Golf Course in Paxton and also the Courthouse Golf League at Greenhill Golf Course in Worcester.

Bryan battled a rare cancer - GIST - for 9 1/2 years with the assistance of wonderful doctors and nurses at Dana Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

Bryan's funeral will be held on Friday, Aug. 11th. 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. Private burial will be at a later date in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Cemetery, Spencer. Calling hours are Thursday, Aug. 10th from 4 to 7p.m. in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Dana Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284-9168.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

## Patricia R. Dondero, 91



West Brookfield - Patricia R. Dondero, 91, of West Brookfield, died on Sunday, August 6, 2023 at her home following recent medical issues.

She leaves her daughters, Peggy Walker and her husband Jeffrey of West Brookfield, Donna Courtney of West Brookfield, and Doreen Cresswell-Martinez and her husband Carlos of Spring Hill, Florida; her grandchildren, Melissa Leger and her husband Norman, Kimberly J. Walker and her wife Angelina, Diane Maska and her husband John, Felicia Cresswell, and Daniel Courtney, Jr.; eight great-grandchildren, one great-great granddaughter, and several nieces and nephews.

She was predeceased by her sister, Judith Novak and her daughter,

Pamela Ann Fisher. She was born in Ipswich, daughter of the late Francis W. and Ethel Maude (Rogers) Dondero.

Patricia attended schools in Gloucester and Girl's Trade in Worcester. She worked many years in the Home Health Care Industry of Worcester VNA, and Spencer Visiting Nurses, prior to her retirement at 80 years old. She found comfort in taking care of others where she assisted many families in the area with private home care services.

She was a previous member of the Emblem Club of the Elks in Worcester.

A Graveside Service for Patricia will be held on Friday, August 11, 2023 at 11AM in Evergreen Cemetery, Drake St., in East Brookfield.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at [varnumfuneralhome.com](http://varnumfuneralhome.com)

## Sylvia A. Varney, 90



East Brookfield - Sylvia A. (McLaughlin) Varney, 90, of East Brookfield, died on Thursday, August 3, 2023 at her home.

She leaves her sons, Richard Varney and his wife Ellen of Spencer, Gene Varney and Toni Coski of North Brookfield, and Lex Varney of East Brookfield; her daughters, Pamela LeBeau of East Brookfield, and Diahn Simonelli of East Brookfield; three brothers, Clifford W. McLaughlin of Sunderland, and Harold and Michael McLaughlin, both of Hicksville, NY; her step-mother, Julieta McLaughlin of Hicksville, NY, six grandchildren, three great-grandchildren and two nephews. She was predeceased by her husband of 57 years Donald F. Varney and her son, Dane Varney. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Theodore T. and Bernice J. Wood.

Along with Donald, she owned Varney's Garage in East Brookfield, and took care of all of the bookkeeping and accounting for the school bus businesses, the Ford dealership, and the

automotive repair business. And she somehow found time to love her large family of children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Sylvia had great faith, and credits her long, well-fulfilled life in part to her faith in God.

She was a long-time member of the First Congregational Church of North Brookfield, and most recently attended the East Brookfield Baptist Church. She enjoyed singing in the local church choirs and cantatas, reading at home, and writing letters and cards to family and friends.

A Celebration of Life for Sylvia will be held on Wednesday, August 16, 2023 at 3PM in the East Brookfield Baptist Church, 262 East Main St., in East Brookfield. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Heifer International at [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org), Wounded Warriors at support.woundedwarriorproject.org/, or the East Brookfield Baptist Church.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at [varnumfuneralhome.com](http://varnumfuneralhome.com).

## Richard J. Simonovitch, 88



SPENCER - Richard J. Simonovitch, 88, passed away Friday, August 4 at his home surrounded by his family.

He was the husband of Joanne M. (Hurteau) Simonovitch who died in August of 2015.

He leaves a son, Richard "Rick" V. Simonovitch and his wife Mary of Spencer, his three daughters; Audrey A. Vaudreuil and her husband Francis "Pete" of Orlando, FL., Alison M. Chalifoux and Jeff Anderson of Spencer, Alana A. Brown and her husband Thomas "Tom" of Port Charlotte, FL., his sister, Elizabeth Letendre of Spencer, 7 grandchildren; Lynn, Scott, Matthew, Christine, Karly, Kiley, Alec, 10 great-grandchildren and nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by two brothers, Ronald and Raymond Simonovitch.

Rich was a supervisor for Forest & Parks for the Commonwealth of MA. for 23 years, retiring in 1995. He worked at several area parks including Rutland, Moore and Howe State park. He played an important role in the early stages of the MA. Gypsy Moth Project as a part of the Insect Pest Control Crew.

His favorite days were spent fishing, gardening and most importantly time he spent with his children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His family was his world.

He was born in Worcester, the son of Victor & Elizabeth (Soboleski) Simonovitch and later served his country in the Army during the Korean War.

A special Thank You to his nephrologist Hermet Magoo, Dr. J. Gordon and staff at the Hematology/Cancer Center UMass/Harrington and the compassionate care from nurse Carolyn from Beacon Hospice.

A Funeral Service was held Tuesday, August 8 at 11 A.M. in the J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terrace. Burial followed with military honors in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Cemetery, Spencer.

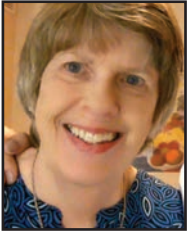
A calling period was held from 9:30-11 A.M prior to the Service.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the American Legion Gaudette-Kirk Post 138, 175 Main St. Spencer, MA 01562.

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## Christine M. Travers, 73



SPENCER - Christine M. (Kebbon) Travers, 73, passed away peacefully from Alzheimer's dementia on Wednesday, August 2nd, in Cedarbrook Village Assisted Living with her family by her side.

Christine leaves her daughters Karen E. Kowal and her husband, Daniel J. Kowal, M.D. of Sturbridge and Kimberly A. Rhault of Nashua, NH; 3 loving grandchildren Ethan, Madeline, and Colin Kowal; her dedicated and beloved sister Barbara A. Veal and her husband, Elvery, of Sunderland, MA; as well as her nephew Jonathon Veal. Aside from her parents, she is predeceased by her beloved husband of 47 years, Jacques J.A. Travers.

Christine was born in Buffalo, NY to the late Charles L. and Marie G. (Dobby) Kebbon. She graduated from Academy of the Holy Names in Albany, NY in 1968 and attended SUNY

College at Oswego, where she received a Bachelor of Arts degree in French. During her junior year at SUNY, she studied abroad in Paris, where she met the love of her life, Jacques. Shortly after they moved to Montreal, Canada, where they began their family. While living in Montreal, she sang with the St. Lawrence Choir for many years before settling in Spencer with her family. She was a Veterinary Technician for the Spencer Veterinary Hospital for many years prior to retiring.

In her spare time, she thoroughly enjoyed music; singing and playing her guitar, sewing, gardening, and traveling to Europe with her husband. She also was an excellent seamstress and an avid collector. More importantly, she loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren.

A private service will be held at the request of the family. J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer is assisting with arrangements.

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### SHERIFF

continued from page A1

Vice Chair of the Leicester Council on Aging.

The presentation also emphasized how the Worcester County Sheriff's Office offers multiple programs to assist inmates and provide them with tools to facilitate recovery and education.

Assistance programs include substance abuse treatment opportunities; reintegration services; and a work release program that allows eligible inmates to perform helpful projects throughout the community.

Senior Center guests were pleased to attend the program and learn more about how the Sheriff's Office contributes to community betterment on a daily basis while striving to reduce recidivism.

"I truly enjoyed his presentation. He was very professional and actually taught me something about prisons I had no knowledge of," said Tony Maio, who serves as the comptroller for the Senior Citizens Club of Leicester. "I was moved by the fact that they don't just imprison people—they offer rehabilitation. That was an eye-opener for me."

Added Richard Jubinville, who attended the Sheriff's program with his wife Lorraine, "What is being done to help the people return to society is a model for the rest of the country. Any one of us, but for the grace of God, might be in the same situation and need help. I hope this model gets national attention because it is an answer to one of society's biggest problems."

To learn more about the Worcester County Sheriff's Office and its numerous community outreach programs, visit [www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com](http://www.WorcesterCountySheriff.com).

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# POLICE REPORTS

## Leicester Police Log

### THURSDAY, JULY 27

1:51 a.m.: ambulance (Hemlock Street), transported; 2:25 a.m.: welfare check (Paxton Street), spoken to; 4:23 a.m.: assist other PD (Pleasant Street), message delivered; 9:51 a.m.: malicious mischief (Hankey Street), report taken; 10:05 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:48 a.m.: assist citizen (Reservoir Street); 10:49 a.m.: trespassing (Chapel Street), spoken to; 11:23 a.m.: ambulance (Rawson Drive), transported; 11:55 a.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, criminal application issued; 1:16 p.m.: disturbance (Lake Avenue), gone on arrival; 3:40 p.m.: disturbance (Logan Street), unable to locate; 4:07 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:48 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 5:02 p.m.: ambulance (Waite Street), transported; 6:07 p.m.: parking complaint (Church Street), resolved; 8:04 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 9:18 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mannville Street), resolved.

### FRIDAY, JULY 28

12:24 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:06 a.m.: assist citizen (Pitcairne Avenue), report taken; 5:19 a.m.: ambulance (Ackley Drive), transported; 5:22 a.m.: investigation (West Street), report taken; 5:36 a.m.: investigation (McCarthy Avenue), report taken; 6:00 a.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), report taken; 8:02 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:30 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 2:25 p.m.: ambulance (Watch Street), transported; 3:21 p.m.: assist citizen (Reservoir Street); 3:32 p.m.: ambulance (Clark Street), transported; 4:35 p.m.: ambulance (Elm Street, Spencer), transported; 5:26 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 5:39 p.m.: erratic operator (Logan Street), unfounded; 9:57 p.m.: welfare check (Marshall Street), assisted.

### SATURDAY, JULY 29

12:17 a.m.: threats (South Main Street), report taken; 1:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:29 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 2:47 a.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), resolved; 3:08 a.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), unfounded; 7:31 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 8:51 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), assisted; 9:09 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 11:15 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:40 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 1:02 p.m.: RV complaint (Winslow Avenue), unfounded; 1:46 p.m.: animal complaint (Town Beach Road), referred to ACO; 2:17 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians Drive), transported; 2:46 p.m.: ambulance (Salminen Drive), transported; 8:01 p.m.: ambulance (Lillian Avenue), transported; 8:13 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street).

### SUNDAY, JULY 30

12:10 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), resolved; 5:23 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 5:34 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 8:07 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:16 a.m.: ambulance (Kittredge Road, Spencer), transported; 1:20 p.m.: debris in road (Mannville Street), removed; 2:08 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 2:23 p.m.: welfare check (King Street Extension), assisted; 3:58 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 4:14 p.m.: erratic operator (Cemetery Road), unfounded; 4:37 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 5:17 p.m.: mv stop (Henshaw Street), verbal warning; 5:29 p.m.: animal complaint (Soojians Drive), referred to ACO; 6:03 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 6:05 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 7:00 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:24 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 7:38 p.m.: assist citizen (Dale Street); 7:47 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 7:52 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 8:50 p.m.: erratic operator (South Main Street), gone on arrival; 8:52 p.m.: family problem (South Main Street), report taken; 9:15 p.m.: larceny (Soojians Drive), report taken.

### MONDAY, JULY 31

2:37 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 8:11 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 9:04 a.m.: assist citizen (Charlton Street); 9:33 a.m.: past b&e (Memorial School Drive), report taken; 9:36 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), gone on arrival; 11:15 a.m.: hit/run accident (Soojians Drive), report taken; 11:21 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 12:10 p.m.: restraining order service (Moose

Hill Road), unable to serve; 12:39 p.m.: municipal security alarm (Winslow Avenue), resolved; 1:51 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 2:05 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), Elmer J. Smith, Junior, 36, 6A Stowell Avenue, #1F, Worcester, shoplifting by asportation/2nd offense, arrest; 3:11 p.m.: welfare check (Parker Street), resolved; 5:29 p.m.: welfare check (Spring Street), assisted; 5:31 p.m.: suspicious person (Soojians Drive), resolved; 6:28 p.m.: restraining order service (South Main Street), served; 7:03 p.m.: ambulance (Mayflower Road), transported; 8:15 p.m.: threats (Stafford Street), report taken; 9:07 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), report taken; 11:25 p.m.: assist citizen (Moose Hill Road), transported to hospital; 11:32 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), spoken to; 11:34 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), verbal warning.

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

6:10 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), false alarm; 7:51 a.m.: harassment (South Main Street), investigated; 9:07 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, criminal application issued; 9:38 a.m.: ambulance (Auburn Street), transported; 9:54 a.m.: animal complaint (Winslow Avenue), referred to ACO; 10:31 a.m.: welfare check (Mill Street), unfounded; 11:13 a.m.: assist citizen (Moose Hill Road); 11:19 a.m.: threats (Mulberry Street), report taken; 11:58 a.m.: trespassing (Craig Street), services rendered; 12:03 p.m.: ambulance (Edward Street), transported; 1:24 p.m.: keep the peace (Moose Hill Road), report taken; 2:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), referred to ACO; 3:20 p.m.: disturbance (Logan Street), unable to locate; 3:56 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 4:41 p.m.: investigation (Moose Hill Road), report taken; 5:36 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), unfounded; 6:36 p.m.: ambulance (Cambridge Street, Worcester), transported; 6:38 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 8:02 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), no action required; 8:33 p.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), verbal warning; 9:38 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), no action required; 9:54 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 9:57 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 10:10 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate.

### WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2

1:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:52 a.m.: ambulance (Siani Road), transported; 1:19 p.m.: assist other agency (Whittemore Street), services rendered; 6:05 p.m.: harassment (Rawson Street), spoken to; 7:27 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), spoken to; 8:54 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, op w/suspended registration, unregistered mv, number plate violation to conceal ID, criminal application issued.

## #

## Spencer Police Log

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 26

1:01 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info taken; 1:09-2:01 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:54 a.m.: multiple LTC issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 7:42 a.m.: larceny (Brooks Pond Road), report taken; 9:16 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Dudley PD bolo; 10:30 a.m.: disabled mv (Northwest Road), assisted; 12:57 p.m.: 911 call (Cornfield Road), response not recorded; 1:21 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Chelmsford PD bolo; 1:53 p.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 2:14 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 2:21 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 2:43 p.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), re: fraud; 4:31 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 5:49 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Webster PD bolo; 5:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), req. welfare check; 6:21 p.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), req. welfare check; 6:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Greenville Street), bat in house; 6:49 p.m.: lost/found (Pleasant Street), knife found; 7:23 p.m.: medical/general (Ledge Avenue), lift assist; 8:10 p.m.: medical/general (G.H. Wilson Road); 8:13 p.m.: mv complaint (Lloyd Dyer Drive), mv speeding; 9:07 p.m.: disturbance (Pleasant Street), re: female in backyard; 9:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Water Street), upon arrival door wide open; 9:20 p.m.: lost/found (Mechanic Street), debit card found; 9:41 p.m.: missing person/small child (Cornfield Road), missing 6-year-old; 10:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), rep. threats; 11:05 p.m.: medical/general (Elm Street); 11:12 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; (total daily mv

stops – 3).

### THURSDAY, JULY 27

12:51 a.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), welfare check; 1:21-2:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:10 a.m.: fire alarm (Lloyd Dyer Drive), CO detector; 6:31 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street); 7:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Holmes Street), temp. road closure; 8:56 a.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operator/box truck; 9:15 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 10:05 a.m.: suspicious persons (Maple Street), investigated; 10:26 a.m.: fire alarm (Mechanic Street), referred; 10:28 a.m.: officer wanted (North Spencer Road), son ran to abbey; 11:04 a.m.: fire alarm (Meadowbrook Road), referred; 11:41 a.m.: suspicious persons (Maple Street), investigated; 12:47 p.m.: fraud (Cherry Street), rep. fraud for mother; 1:48 p.m.: building checked, secure; 1:57 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), looking for nearest hotel; 2:34 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 3:05 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 3:19 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address/4; 4:02 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 4:05 p.m.: medical/general (Marble Road); 4:06 p.m.: fraud (Charlton Road), unauth. use of c/c; 4:47 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 4:50 p.m.: suspicious persons (Adams Street), investigated; 6:07 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:14 p.m.: 911 call (Maple Street), open line; 9:14 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), welfare check; 9:41 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:58 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; (total daily mv stops – 1).

### FRIDAY, JULY 28

12:08 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 12:24-2:53 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:58 a.m.: disabled mv (Meadow Road), assisted; 8:42 a.m.: larceny (Chestnut Street), rep. stolen cell phone; 9:55 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 12:23 p.m.: missing person/adult (Pleasant Street), rep. daughter missing; 1:06 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), hang-up; 2:58 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 3:28 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to re: mv damage; 3:36 p.m.: medical/general (Grove Street); 3:47 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 4:23 p.m.: medical/general (Elm Street); 4:56 p.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), sons out of control; 5:45 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), kids going thru cars in lot; 6:00 p.m. mv complaint (Thompson Pond Road), mvs doing donuts/burnouts; 6:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Smithville Road), skunk in road; 6:22 p.m.: residential alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 6:35 p.m.: suspicious mv (Chestnut Street), Timothy J. Moriarty, 31, 23 Putnam Road, Charlton, op w/suspended license, unregistered mv, uninsured mv, number plate violation, arrest; 6:39 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street), lift assist; 9:10 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Brookfield PD bolo/mc; 9:36 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:28 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 11:34 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 11:48-11:56 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (total daily mv stops – 2).

### SATURDAY, JULY 29

12:00-3:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:20 a.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info taken; 2:50 a.m.: fire alarm (Paxton Road), referred; 3:55 a.m.: suspicious persons (Howe Village), rocks thrown at bedroom window; 4:28 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:21 a.m.: animal complaint (Prospect Street), rep. poss. animal abuse; 6:23-6:37 a.m.: parking violations/3 (Temple Street), tickets issued; 7:13 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), req. assist Chicopee PD; 10:35 a.m.: medical/general (Parent Street); 11:02 a.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), dog barking; 11:12 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo; 11:18 a.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), argument over mv; 11:21 a.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 11:40 a.m.: officer wanted (Lake Avenue), req. welfare check; 12:21 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 3:34 p.m.: medical/general (Smithville Road); 3:47 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 3:49 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 4:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), re: issue w/daughter; 5:39 p.m.: animal complaint (Briarcliff Lane), barking dog; 7:22 p.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road), lift assist; 7:35 p.m.: DPW call (North Spencer Road), transformer box doors open; 8:10 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 8:35 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:47 p.m.: DPW call (Ashview Drive), tree on wires/sparking; 9:19 p.m.: DPW call (Buteau Road), wire across road; 9:19-9:58 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (total daily mv stops – 4).

### SUNDAY, JULY 30

12:01-3:48 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:13 a.m.: suspicious mv (Ash Street), investigated; 12:43 a.m.: fire alarm (Pleasant Street), referred; 12:51 a.m.: fire alarm (Pleasant Street), referred; 1:41 a.m.: suspicious mv (North Spencer Road), investigated; 5:21 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 8:00 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:06 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:07 a.m.: medical/general (Kittredge Road); 9:16 a.m.: DPW call (Pioneer Valley Drive), branch in road; 9:48 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 9:55 a.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 10:19 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (Briarcliff Lane), referred; 10:19 a.m.: animal complaint (Briarcliff Lane), barking dog; 11:25 a.m.: fraud (Browning Pond Road), FB hacked/selling items; 12:21 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 12:51 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), males in bldg.; 1:35 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 1:45 p.m.: animal complaint (Bellflower Lane), injured hawk; 2:33 p.m.: lost/found (Browning Pond Road), keys found; 3:17 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:07 p.m.: medical/overdose (Smithville Road); 5:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), gunshots heard; 6:08 p.m.: mv complaint (Rene Drive), mv speeding; 6:13 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), live rat in yard; 6:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), stray cat in yard; 6:54 p.m.: mv lockout (Lamoureux Lane), assisted; 7:49 p.m.: accident (Lincoln Street), report taken; 7:52 p.m.: animal complaint (South Street), lg. domesticated rabbit in yard; 10:19 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), child w/phone; 10:38 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (South Spencer Road), accidental; 11:54 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), resolved; (total daily mv stops – 3).

### MONDAY, JULY 31

12:59 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 2:29-5:32 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:16 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 5:33 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), response not noted; 6:14 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 7:34 a.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:35 a.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 8:30 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Maple Street), Cheryl W. Herring, 50, 40 Maple Street, Spencer, warrant served, arrest; 9:11 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), p/u lost debit card; 9:44 a.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 10:46 a.m.: DPW call (Lambs Grove), low-hanging wire; 11:08 a.m.: suspicious persons (Mechanic Street), Jehovah's Witness; 11:45 a.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), squirrel caught in feeder; 12:24 p.m.: medical/general (Crestview Drive); 12:49 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 2:52 p.m.: larceny (Maple Street), c/c taken from purse; 2:54 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; restraining order service (Mechanic Street); 4:31 p.m.: disturbance (Rustic Lane), issue w/neighbors; 4:48 p.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), kids kicked in door; 5:13 p.m.: disturbance (Rustic Lane), issue w/neighbor; 5:20 p.m.: disturbance (Rustic Lane), issue w/neighbor; 7:11 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 7:56 p.m.: medical/general (Pine Acres); 8:18 p.m.: medical/general (Jones Street); (total daily mv stops – 0).

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 1

1:11 a.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 1:31-5:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:20 a.m.: parking violation (Temple Street), ticket issued; 7:41 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), resolved; 7:47 a.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 8:29 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), has duck; 8:54 a.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), barking dog; 10:28 a.m.: chemical/fuel spill (Wire Village Road), services rendered; 10:33 a.m.: suspicious mv (Washburn Drive), investigated; 12:52 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Maple Street), Alec J. Ramsey, 26, homeless, Spencer, warrant served, arrest; 1:28 p.m.: animal complaint (Lakeview Drive), loose dog; 1:30 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 1:33 p.m.: residential alarm (Hastings Road), services rendered; 2:48 p.m.: mutual aid (Wall Street), req. welfare check; 4:26 p.m.: disabled mv (North Spencer Road), resolved; 4:28 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet found; 6:02 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), father/son dispute; 6:50 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 7:20 p.m.: disturbance (Rustic Lane), sound of gunshots; 7:40 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 7:49 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), found dog in road; 9:01 p.m.: fire alarm (McDonald Street), referred; 9:54 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; (total daily mv stops – 3).

## #



**DPHS**  
*continued from page A1*

plaques have been placed into storage for protection until the project is complete.

Additionally, significant mechanical, electrical, and plumbing work has been done to enable the imminent demolition of the C-wing. Project leaders said a number of other jobs are underway on site.

For Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District officials, seeing the summer work has infused plenty of positive momentum heading into the new school year.

“Each week, we are making progress,” said SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey. “It looks

like we are moving quite fast from the outside, yet what people in the communities need to know is that our entire team working on the site has been carefully, methodically, and slowly proceeding forward to make sure safety and security remain front and center as we prepare for demolition of ‘C-Building’ and for the return of students in late August.”

Projects currently underway include storm-water drainage work; site grading work along the back hillside; and the development of a path to the stockpile area.

The project’s OPM is Colliers Project Leaders, while Jones Whitsett Architects, Inc., (JWA) is serving as the architect. The general contractor

for the project is Fontaine Bros., Inc.

School officials have been impressed with the assiduous work shown by all project leaders and contractors throughout the summer.

“Colliers, JWA, and Fontaine Bros are really taking into account all of the input and feedback provided from the community, and have been so collaborative with everyone throughout the process,” Haughey added. “It has been an absolute honor and privilege to work with so many knowledgeable and skilled professionals.”

With the return of school fast approaching, DPHS families and students are encouraged to keep an eye out for

notifications on parking and traffic control adjustments to be announced.

“The team is working on a traffic plan. We’ll be getting that out to the district in the next couple weeks,” said Phil Palumbo, a project leader for Colliers, during a recent interview with the New Leader.

The demolition of C-wing is slated to take place this month. The school’s weight room has been relocated to B-wing, which is being readied for the return of students.

Long-term, a new classroom wing will be built in the approximate footprint of the demolished gym. For now, students will continue attending classes in the existing classroom wing while the new structure is under construction.

The site plan also calls for a renovation of the football field and track in the spring of 2024. The facilities are expected to be ready for use in 2026.

Moreover, the spring and summer of 2025 are slated to see a renovation of the baseball field. The project will include upgrades to the concession stand, and use of the facilities is scheduled for 2027.

The tennis courts will be renovated in the summer of 2026, with use of the facilities expected in the fall of that year.

The summer of 2026 will also include the demolition of Prouty’s current classroom building. By then, the new classroom wing will be fully

constructed and ready for student use.

Members of the DPHS Building Committee are thanked for their hard work toward bringing the project to this stage.

Last fall, residents in Spencer and East Brookfield supported the \$111.6 million addition-renovation project at elections and special town meetings in both communities.

The Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) will cover \$46.8 million of the project costs, while the towns will be responsible for the remaining \$64.8 million.

To learn more about the project, or to receive the latest updates, visit [www.dphsbuilding.com](http://www.dphsbuilding.com).

# What parents can do to be more involved at school

Parents can make every effort to encourage children to make the most of the school experience, including academics and extracurricular activities. Though students’ level of engagement is ultimately up to them, parental involvement at school can be crucial for students’ success.

According to the National Education Council, when parents get involved in their children’s education, those children are more likely to do better in school and be more positive about the school experience. They also may be well-behaved. Parents wondering what they can do to assist at the school level can consider these possibilities.

Attend school board meetings  
Many community

school boards are comprised entirely of volunteers who work with superintendents and other personnel to advocate for policies and procedures for students. Decisions typically are up for vote, and parents can run for school board positions or simply attend meetings each month and let their voices be heard about various issues.

Attend open houses and conferences  
Parents can make every effort to get to know teachers and other staff. Putting faces to names can help parents develop a connection to teachers and vice versa. Most schools have back to school nights, meet the coaches opportunities, open houses, and parent-teacher conferences. Parents can take part in

these events.

Open lines of communication  
Parents can ask teachers and other staff how they prefer to communicate. Some teachers want students to take the lead and reach out first, with parents providing support if need be. Adults can be responsive when teachers reach out.

Attend school events  
Families can make it a point to support students in all endeavors. Whenever the opportunity to visit the school comes up — whether for a concert, sports game, trivia night, or fundraiser — parents can make an effort to attend.

Volunteer  
When parents want to be involved even further, they can head



committees at school or volunteer with the PTA or PTO. They also can help out in the cafeteria, library or in the main office. Parents who have particular skills may

volunteer to provide tutoring or mentoring as needed. Furthermore, parents can volunteer in school-sanctioned extracurriculars, such as Scouts BSA or as sports

coaches. Involvement in school is part of being an informed and supportive parent.

## Start preparing for school now

(505 words, US, UK, CAN)

After a summer of relaxation, the start of a new school year generates mixed emotions among students. Many children look forward to being back on campus with their friends but may not revel in the idea of waking up early or doing homework each night.

While summer break is a much needed-respite from the rigors of school, it doesn’t mean school should be forgotten entirely. In fact, doing some preparatory steps before a new school year begins can make the year go much more smoothly. Here’s how students and parents can direct their focus during the final countdown.

Keep reading  
According to Scholastic, summer slide is a concept that was first acknowledged by researchers in 1996. Many comprehensive studies have come out since then and indicated that kids lose significant knowledge in reading and math over summer break, which can

have a cumulative effect and lead to skill loss each year. Some research says up to 20 percent of school year gains in reading and 27 percent in math are lost during summer break. Children should be encouraged to read as much as possible during summer break, particularly since many schools require summer reading and subsequent essays or book reports upon returning to the classroom. Let kids read what they want, whether it’s comics, magazines, the newspaper, or even books they’ve read before.



Accumulate supplies  
School may not be on the radar early in summer, but it’s wise to purchase supplies early. Right before school starts there is a mad dash to grab notebooks, pens, clothing, and more, which can make for a stressful shopping experience for all involved. Shopping early helps families avoid that outcome.

Brush up on math skills  
It can’t hurt for students to do a few math problems over the summer. Practice keeps skills fresh and any mathematical formulas prominent in their minds. All it takes is one or two problems per day to stay on top of math skills.

Visit educational attractions  
Families can include museums, art exhibits, animal sanctuaries, libraries, science centers, and similar attractions in the list of places they visit over the summer. This way students can learn and be entertained simultaneously.

Start enforcing bedtimes  
School-aged children (six to 13 years) need nine to 12 hours of sleep every night, according to KidsHealth.org. During the summer, late nights can easily be rectified by sleeping in the next day. But when school resumes, the alarm clock will be ringing earlier than expected. Parents can gradually implement earlier bedtimes as summer winds down so that kids are getting the rest they will need.

Get in the know  
Parents can begin to pay closer attention to emails and social media posts from schools as they’ll likely contain information about upcoming school calendars, bus routes (or transportation registration), changes in personnel, or any additional updates. This will help alleviate any surprises on the first day of school. Families can take several steps to get ready for school as the first day draws near. BS238164  
SOCIAL MEDIA TEXT: Some preparatory steps before a new school year begins can make the year go much more smoothly.



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Rutland Police Officer Justin Lawlor and K-9 Storm get ready for their demonstration.



Awnan Syphus, left, and David Thulin represent The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.



Diana Pelletier, left, spends the day with her daughter, Ashur Pelletier.

# National Night Out returns for second year

NORTH BROOKFIELD — In a celebration that united the entire community, North Brookfield's second annual National Night Out was a major success last week.

Organized by the Coalition for a Healthy North Brookfield, the Aug. 3 event featured a craft fair, an obstacle course, children's games, appearances from first responders, and resources provided by local organizations.

The event was highlighted by a landing from the State Police Air Wing helicopter.

Organizers thank all sponsors, volunteers, vendors, and guests who made the event a fun experience for the community.



Debra Tambeau, left, and Priscilla Chan, of FosterMA, greet guests at their table.



North Brookfield's Malia Wirf learns karate techniques from Shawn Whitney.



The Cederlund family, of North Brookfield, enjoys their evening at the fair.



Melissa Seidler introduces guests to Girl Scout Troop 30457, of North Brookfield.



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