



HELLO NEIGHBOR!



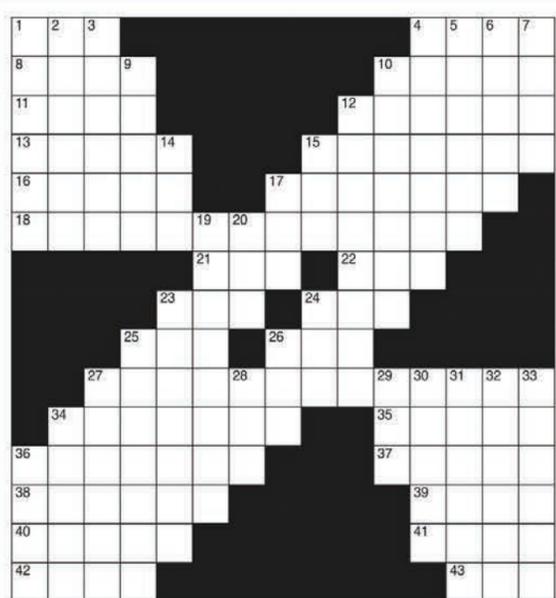
As a longtime resident of our area, I've always known what a special community we live in. For generations, we have trusted the Spencer New Leader. Local news and advertisers you can trust, week after week. As the local advertising rep for the New Leader, it brings me great pleasure to help a local business get results!

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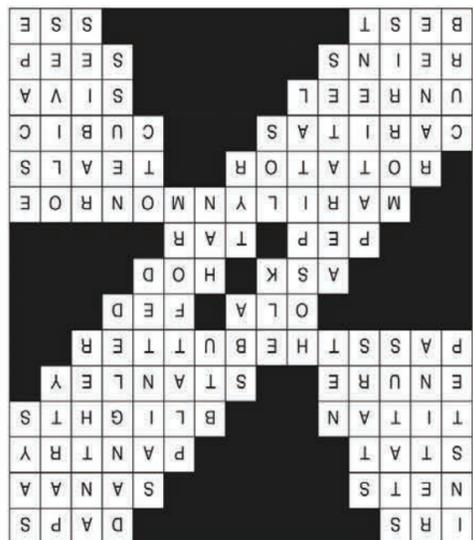
CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Tax collector
- 4. Fishes without the line touching water
- 8. Brooklyn hoopsters
- 10. Actress Lathan
- 11. A metric for athletes
- 12. Food storage location
- 13. Colossus
- 15. Desolations
- 16. Accustom to something unpleasant
- 17. ___ Kubrick, filmmaker
- 18. You might ask this at Thanksgiving
- 21. Arkansas city
- 22. Gave food to
- 23. Request
- 24. V-shaped open trough
- 25. Make lively
- 26. It accompanies feather
- 27. Blonde bombshell
- 34. One who revolves
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Charity
- 37. Having the shape of a cube
- 38. Unwind
- 39. Believed by some to be the supreme being
- 40. Checks or guides
- 41. Leak slowly through
- 42. Top-quality
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Part of your foot
- 2. It's at the back of the eyeball
- 3. Where things stand
- 4. Offered
- 5. Contains pollen
- 6. Boisterous get-together
- 7. Asserts out loud
- 9. They're in the sky
- 10. Canonized
- 12. A politician's official stances
- 14. It can catch fish
- 15. British thermal unit
- 17. Helps little firms
- 19. Where patients go for treatment
- 20. Large red deer
- 23. Pokes holes in
- 24. "Star Wars" hero Solo
- 25. One in a hospital
- 26. Scandinavian god of battle
- 27. Famous cat
- 28. ___ Angeles: City of Angels
- 29. Type of drug (abbr.)
- 30. City along the Rhine
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. Martini ingredients
- 33. Get away
- 34. Rare species of rodent
- 36. Suppress

PUZZLE SOLUTION



QCC, Summit Campus offer neurodivergent students pathway to successful future

WORCESTER — Like many college freshmen, when Lauren Young enrolled at Quinsigamond Community College she wasn't sure about her professional goals, but knew she wanted to start a higher education journey. Young is a resident at Summit Campus, a residential community in Worcester for local college students with autism and other related diagnoses and like all residents there, identifies as neurodivergent. Young said the new experience of starting college was anxiety-inducing, but she found QCC to be a supportive environment and has embraced the challenge to become a successful student.

According to Summit Campus Director of Residence Life Nikki Koppel, living away from home for the first time, coupled with adjusting to college-level coursework, required the Summit Campus team to develop a strategic and intentional approach to Young's programming. QCC's Student Accessibility Services also provided guidance and facilitation to help Young access QCC's resources, such as its writing and math centers.

"The math and English tutoring helped a lot. In English, I was expecting a B or even a C, but I ended up being surprised with an A," Young said.

After getting comfortable with college life, Lauren could focus on exploring her academic and professional interests. It became

clear that she was a visual and kinesthetic learner, with an affinity for cooking.

"In 2020, my mother started asking me to help with the cooking and I said, 'Absolutely!' This created a spark of inspiration," Young said. "(QCC Professor of Hospitality and Recreation Management) Pat Hutchinson and (QCC HRM Program Food Service Lab Site Supervisor) Matt Sullivan have been really helpful. They are so understanding if I need more time or accommodations. I also loved being in a commercial kitchen for the first time. I worked hard my first year, but now that I'm into something I'm passionate about, the hard work is just part of my routine."

Encouraged by Summit and her SAS coordinator, Young said she has fully embraced life at QCC. She works out at the college's fitness center and joined the Gaming Club where she can meet with other people who enjoy one of her favorite video games, "Pokemon Violet." Young also mentioned that the size of the campus is perfect when you don't have a car, and while it was scary at first, she now uses the WRTA bus system to get around.

"Student Accessibility Services at QCC has a history and tradition of partnering with agencies throughout Central Massachusetts, and our relationship with Summit Campus is our

newest collaboration. Summit Campus provides an experience for community college students that is unique to this region — a living environment with their peers where they can learn and be challenged. We are fortunate to have Summit Campus close by. I hope the opportunity for students with autism to attend college and be independent, while key support is accessible when needed, will grow across the state. Summit Campus is a huge win for these students, QCC and the city," said QCC Director of Student Accessibility Services Kristie Proctor.

"Summit is phenomenal and so is QCC," Young said, adding, "I've seen so much diversity here and everyone is really supportive. If something isn't working for you, you can change it!"

"Lauren is a true Summit Campus and QCC success story. She exemplifies our core belief that with the right supports, individuals can not only achieve their goals but exceed expectations. We are so proud of Lauren," Koppel added.

Young is on track to receive her certificate this May. She said she would like to continue going to school for more credentials or possibly jump right into employment so she can prepare to live on her own.

For more information on Summit Campus, contact Nikki Koppel at nkoppel@summitacademiesma.com.

Assumption students named to university's Dean's List

WORCESTER — Assumption University has announced those who have been named to the University's Dean's List for the fall 2022 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a minimum of a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list. The Dean's List is announced at the completion of each fall and spring semester.

Abbey Cashman, Class of 2023, of Spencer
Henry Cipro, Class of 2025, of Brookfield
Breana Escobar, Class of 2026, of Rochdale
Matthew Escobar, Class of 2023, of Leicester
Madeline Johnson, Class of 2025, of West Brookfield
Maria Kapoukranidis, Class of 2026, of Leicester
Anastazia Lach, Class of 2024, of Leicester
Lydia Petit, Class of 2023, of Rochdale
Malorie Spence, Class of 2024, of Spencer
Kaden Wells, Class of 2024, of Spencer

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is New England's premier university for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, seeks to provide students with a transformative education that forms graduates who possess critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service. The University offers 38 majors and 50 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.

Fontaine Brothers to be construction manager at risk on DPHS building project

SPENCER — After extensive evaluation, the David Prouty High School Construction Manager Selection Committee and School Building Committee has selected Fontaine Bros. to be the Construction Manager at Risk on the David Prouty High School building project.

Fontaine Bros. comes to the project with more than 100 public school projects constructed in Massachusetts, with a lot of them built in the Central Massachusetts region. They will be bringing their school building experience to the design process, and will ultimately become the builder once construction gets underway.

"Since day one, when the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) invited the district into the first module, we have worked to put together a team that is focused and committed to a David Prouty High School building project, but next generation education for our students here in the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District for the next fifty years... With Colliers as our Owner Project Manager; Jones Whitsett as our Architectural Firm, and now Fontaine Brothers as our Construction Manager, the CM Selection Committee and School Building Committee firmly believes we have assembled a team that can get the job done," said Superintendent of Schools, Paul Haughey.

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