

- community -

East Brookfield Police Log

During the week of May 11-17, the East Brookfield Police Department responded to 152 building/property checks, 133 directed area patrols, 22 radar assignments, 10 traffic controls, 10 emergency 911 calls, seven citizen assists, four assist other agencies, one safety hazard, one fire/illegal burn, one property damage, three animal calls and 31 motor vehicle stops in the town of East Brookfield.

Monday, May 11

8:48 a.m. Medical Emergency, East Main Street, Transported to Hospital
9:25 a.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Services Rendered

9:53 a.m. Fire/Illegal Burn, Howe Street, Extinguished
11:25 a.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled
3:19 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Harrington Lane, Officer Handled
9:58 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued

Tuesday, May 12

8:48 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
9:08 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Maple Way, Transported to Hospital
11:48 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Harrington Lane, Negative Contact

2:31 p.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Spoken To
3:32 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, East Main Street, Officer Handled
4:06 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Podunk Road, Criminal Complaint
4:18 p.m. Assist Citizen, Connie Mack Drive, Referred to Other Agency
8:12 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Route 49, Citation Issued
8:18 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Route 49, Citation Issued

Wednesday, May 13

9:49 a.m. Assist Other Agency, Connie Mack Drive, Services Rendered
4:29 p.m. Assist Citizen,

Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled
5:25 p.m. 911 Assist Citizen, East Main Street, Services Rendered
6:20 p.m. 911 Misdial, West Main Street, Spoken To

Thursday, May 14

10:34 a.m. Assist Citizen, Draper Road, Officer Handled
12:15 p.m. Assist Other Agency, Connie Mack Drive, Officer Handled
4:35 p.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Oakwood Drive, Transported to Hospital

Friday, May 15

10:25 a.m. Welfare

Check, Park Street, Investigated
7:49 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Mechanic Street, Written Warning
8:21 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, North Brookfield Road, Written Warning

Saturday, May 16

10:57 a.m. Property Damage, Podunk Road, Report Taken
11:26 a.m. 911 Medical Emergency, Lashaway Drive, Transported to Hospital
12:11 p.m. 911 Hang-up/Abandoned, Prospect Street, Report Taken
3:43 p.m. 911 Disturbance, East Main Street, Report Taken

4:05 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued
4:30 p.m. Directed/Area Patrol, Podunk Road, Citation Issued
4:35 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, Podunk Road, Citation Issued
6:31 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop, East Main Street, Citation Issued

Sunday, May 17

9:37 a.m. Medical Emergency, Flag Road, Transported to Hospital
11:55 a.m. Safety Hazard, Route 49, Officer Handled

Concerts on the Common scheduled announced

NORTH BROOKFIELD – North Brookfield Parks and Recreation, in conjunction with North Brookfield Cultural Council, will be hosting Concerts on the Common this summer season. A Mass Cultural Council grant is making these concerts possible for all residents to enjoy. Dates and bands include May 30 from 6-8 p.m. – North Brookfield High School band, followed by DJ Tabby LeBlanc; June 20 from 6-8 p.m. – Ravenwood, an easy listening blue grass band; July 25 from 6-8 p.m. – Sue Lyons, an acoustical guitar player and vocalist; Aug. 15 from 6-8 p.m.

– Stan Matthews, country music with some exceptional Johnny Cash tunes; and Aug. 29 from 3-5 p.m. – the Superchargers, a fun rock and roll band. All concerts are free, they are held on Saturdays and start at 6 p.m. and end around 8 p.m. Food will be available for purchase but folks are welcome to bring their own. Feel free to bring chairs, blankets, bug spray and sunscreen – whatever makes you comfortable. The playground is right on the common, located on Grove Street in town. There will also be games for families to enjoy and some surprise craft tables during some concerts.

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said. “We are gathered here today to pause and reflect...and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice.” VFW Post 3439 Chaplain Frank Potter gave the opening prayer and said, “Let us be mindful of each sacrifice made on behalf of the American people.” Reading President Abraham Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address was North Brookfield High School Class of 2027 President Whitney Reno.

The church bells were then rang seven times with seven seconds between each ring. Each toll represented a different stage in a veteran’s life, including a willingness to serve, camaraderie, patriotism, community respect, dignity, honor and remembrance.

Representing the Board of Selectmen was Chair Jamie Gilman, who said it was an honor to speak during the Memorial Day service.

Gilman said he wasn’t sure how to find the right words to say on Memorial Day, but his thoughts kept coming back to those who survived battle and came home, and those who did not.

He then came upon the poem by John McCrae, “In Flanders Fields”.

It is this poem that made the poppy flower a symbol of remembrance and sacrifice for veterans.

Next to speak was Pastor Nate Hayman of Pilgrim Baptist Church, who said he was proud to see so many young people and children attending the Memorial Day service.

“As freedom-loving Americans we’re glad for our freedom and those freedoms are hard fought,” he said.

Hayman spoke about



TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE
Carleen McQuaid sang the National Anthem during the Memorial Day services held on Monday.

a graveside service he attended for a family member of one of his parishioners, Bob Knight. Knight’s brother, Billy, had been killed at the Chosin Reservoir in Korea, and his remains had recently been recovered. Billy’s bones were found in a mass grave in Korea by a farmer. It took 10 years to identify and return every fallen soldier to their families. Hayman said Knight didn’t think a lot of people

would attend the service, but Billy’s homecoming attracted people and veterans from all over, TV crews and more. “It was a privilege to do Billy’s funeral,” Hayman said. Hayman said many people go to war and bring a lot home with them, including the invisible wounds of trauma. But some don’t come home at all. “We’re grateful of those who paid the ultimate price,” Hayman said.

The North Brookfield High School band performed the anthems from each branch of the armed services and Richard LeBlanc led the singing of “America the Beautiful”. Several children were assisted by the Auxiliary to place poppies on the ceremonial wreaths, as the names of the fallen were read by Potter, Holly Kularski, Joe Jablonski, Richard Eccleston, Mike Kularski, Tim Chisholm and Don Smith. After the names were read, the firing detail gave a salute, followed by the playing of “Taps” by two buglers. Cass thanked everyone for participating in the Memorial Day service, and for remembering the sacrifices made by those who gave all. “We came today to remember; we came today to honor them with our actions,” he said. Cass encouraged those present to complete an act of kindness to show appreciation for the service of our fallen veterans. “Their sacrifice was great, but our gratitude is greater,” he said.

public notices

North Brookfield FY27 School Budget Public Hearing

A public hearing on the proposed North Brookfield Public School budget for the 2026-2027 school year will be held on **Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at 6:00 p.m.**, at the North Brookfield High School, KIVA, in ac-

cordance with M.G.L. Chapter 71, s.38N. Copies of the proposed budget are available from the Office of the Superintendent, 10 New School Drive. Matthew Grant, Chairman North Brookfield School Committee 05/29/2026



Richard LeBlanc led the singing of “America the Beautiful”. He is shown alongside Master of Ceremonies, Bill Cass.

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE FROM PAGE 1

Regan said free cash is usually saved in stabilization accounts to pay for large capital projects, like vehicles or building repairs.

Regan said there are three main sources of revenue for the town, including local receipts from things like water revenue, permits and motor vehicle taxes. The second main source is state aid, and he said the largest source is the tax levy, which is controlled by proposition 2.5.

Regan said the town does not anticipate needing an override this year.

Regan said there are eight main groups that are funded by the operating

budget year over year, including schools, general government, public safety, public works, health and sanitation, culture and recreation, water and debt and assessments. He said the school budget is by far the largest chunk of the operating budget.

Regan said there are some large percentage increases this year, including the general government group as a result of sufficiently funding a previously underfunded technology line. Another group with a large increase is debt and assessments from retirement and insurance costs, he said.

Regan said there was a mid-year increase in the health insurance rate, but the town is staying with

the provider because they expect that increase was a one-off.

The final large increase is from the water department, which is up 20% to fund for a part-time secondary operator. Regan said the water increase is a large percent, but they only take up \$200,000 in the overall budget of about \$11.4 million.

Select Board member Beth Coughlin was in attendance, and said the budget presented that night may not necessarily be the one voted on at town meeting, because the budget is in the motion, which can be changed right up to a motion on town meeting floor, within reason.

There is an article on the warrant for a chairlift at town hall, which

Coughlin said is not supported by the Select Board and Advisory Committee Chair Jeff Clark said was not voted on by the Advisory Committee. Coughlin said the Select Board decided to keep the article on the warrant since previous town meeting decisions were in support of the chairlift.

She said this gives the town a chance to see how much traffic is utilizing it for the second floor, to decide whether an elevator should be installed, and she said the town is also applying for an Americans with Disabilities Act grant.

The Advisory Committee said there were still some articles they had to vote recommendations on prior to the June 4 town meeting.