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Friday, April 17, 2020

# North Brookfield election postponed

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Selectmen decided last week to postpone the annual election and Town Meeting to June due to the coronavirus crisis.

During its latest remote meeting, the Board voted unanimously to postpone the election and Town Meeting to June 1 and June 5, respectively. For those who would prefer to avoid the polls this year, the election will feature absentee voting and early voting.

The Town Meeting and election had both been scheduled for early May, but officials feared that statewide stay-at-home directives might still be in place next month. Plus, health experts are recommending a careful resumption of public and social activities nationwide once the situation improves. If new coronavirus breakout zones

emerge this spring and summer, cities and towns could be plunged back into dormancy.

“We didn’t think people would be comfortable with attending meetings and being in closed spaces in May,” said Board of Selectmen Chairman Dale Kiley. “We wanted to push them back and give everyone some extra time.”

Like several boards and committees throughout the region, North Brookfield selectmen have been conducting business remotely in recent weeks. Taking advantage of Zoom remote conferencing services, officials have also enabled public access to their meetings.

“Zoom is awesome. It has worked great for us,” Kiley said.

Looking ahead, the town will have Zoom availability for the next 20 selectmen’s meetings. Even if officials return

to standard meetings by then, selectmen are amenable to continuing the Zoom service to allow officials and residents to view the meetings remotely.

“We would like to explore the option of allowing electronic attendance in the future,” Kiley told the New Leader. “I think it would be a great option for people who don’t want to come to the meeting for whatever reason.”

To connect to the Select Board teleconference page, visit [www.NorthBrookfield.net](http://www.NorthBrookfield.net) and follow the appropriate links. For more information about the election and Town Meeting, visit the same Web site. Applications for absentee voting and early voting are also posted online.

Town officials want to make sure residents have every opportunity to stay engaged with local government during this chal-

lenging time. If you have additional questions or are unable to connect to the teleconference page, please contact the Board of Selectmen’s office at 508-867-0200. You can also send an email to [selectmen@northbrookfield.net](mailto:selectmen@northbrookfield.net).

In other Board news, the town has received grant funding related to the COVID-19 state of emergency. Selectmen continue to praise town health officials for their diligent work since the crisis began seriously impacting local communities in early March.

As of press time last week, North Brookfield did not have a single confirmed case of the coronavirus. It remained one of the only area communities without a case.

“Our Board of Health Agent has been very active with this and has done a great job managing the crisis for us,” Kiley added.



Courtesy

## A VISIT FROM THE EASTER BUNNY

The Easter Bunny celebrated the holiday last week with members of the Leicester Police Department.

## Local mortgage broker offers help in challenging times



Courtesy

Ronald LaPrade’s business is assisting residents through a challenging time.

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
STAFF WRITER

HOLDEN — With several years of experience working in the area, mortgage broker Ronald LaPrade is eager to continue using his skills to assist residents through this challenging time.

The owner of Holden-based Face-To-Face Mortgage Company, LaPrade started his business in Leicester back in 2000. He has since relocated the business to his family farm in Holden,

he also offers business loans, which can be particularly helpful for owners struggling through the current crisis. The lengthy statewide closure of nonessential businesses has been damaging to countless owners and employees.

“Right now, I can do SBA loans, which includes most schedule C people, self-employed, and even a carpenter [for example],” LaPrade added.

Many options are available for veterans as well, and it means a lot to LaPrade to assist those who served. It’s especially important for him to help veterans find solutions quickly.

“A recent vet was told he had to wait two years to refinance his loan into a better rate by his lender. VA says six months,” LaPrade said.

Having graduated from David Prouty High School in 1982 and worked in the area ever since, LaPrade is well-versed with the needs of central Mass. residents. He enjoys assisting residents from throughout the region.

For more information about Face-To-Face Mortgage Company and its many offerings, contact LaPrade at 508-892-8988, or by email at [Ronald.laprade@verizon.net](mailto:Ronald.laprade@verizon.net).

## Brookfield Town Hall closed through May 4

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD – Selectmen decided earlier this month to extend the closure of Town Hall to the public into May.

“Due to health and safety concerns of our town residents, the Board of Selectmen has decided to close the Town Hall to the public through May 4,”

read a statement released by town officials.

Town Hall departments will only be accessible to residents via email and phone. Individual department email addresses are listed on their respective pages of the town Web site: [www.brookfieldma.us](http://www.brookfieldma.us).

If you would like to leave a message for a

specific department, call Town Hall at 508-867-2930 and wait for the prompts for extension numbers. Messages will be checked regularly by department employees.

For residents’ convenience, lock boxes will be installed in the outside foyer of Town Hall for

Turn To **BROOKFIELD** page **A12**

## School nurses collect equipment for comrades in arms



Courtesy

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District nurses recently made donations of protective equipment to a local hospital.

**BY KEVIN FLANDERS**  
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Nurses in the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District are doing

their part to assist with the statewide shortage of medical supplies.

Last month, district leaders received a call requesting any person-

al protective equipment (PPE) that the district had on hand and could donate to the University

Turn To **NURSES** page **A12**

## A Note to Readers


This week’s edition of the paper might seem a bit smaller than you are accustomed to, but rest assured, this is only temporary. Due to the unique circumstances we are all living under at the present time, local sporting events and community activities have wisely been canceled as we all try to stay closer to home and practice social distancing.

As we ride out this temporary interruption of life as usual together, we urge you to continue supporting the local businesses that advertise in your newspaper. They have always been here for you through good times and bad, and now, more than ever, they need you to be there for them in any way you can.

Amid this temporary absence of local events and municipal meetings, we are also looking to celebrate the many quiet heroes in our communities who have gone above and beyond to make this situation easier for those most affected by it. Let us know if there is someone in your community who you think should be recognized by e-mailing [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news).

Above all, know that we have been your trusted source for local news for generations, and we plan to be here for you to generations to come, in print and online at [www.stonebridgepress.com](http://www.stonebridgepress.com)





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508-909-4126

# How to support local businesses during mandatory restrictions

The outbreak of the novel coronavirus COVID-19 throughout the United States in March 2020 transformed American lives in ways many might never have imagined possible. Social distancing recommendations and restrictions on gatherings of more than a handful of people had a ripple effect on the economy that adversely affected many small businesses.

Small businesses are the backbones of local communities. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, small businesses make up 99.9 percent of all businesses in the United States and employ 59.9 million employees. The SBA notes that the accommodation and food services sector is the second largest small business industry. Many of these businesses have been hit especially hard as more and more of their regular customers stay at home in the wake of government advisories promoting social distancing.

But small businesses are vital to local communities, and there are ways to support them and help them stay afloat as they confront the challenges posed by the COVID-19 outbreak.

- Order delivery. It's still possible to enjoy foods from your favorite local restaurants. Many restaurants that had not previously done so have begun to offer delivery services, be it curbside or at-home, and this can provide a great respite for families who have had to cook three meals a day at home for their entire families for extended periods of time.

Curbside delivery has made it possible to get takeout meals without compromising social distancing recommendations.

- Recognize that more than food is available for takeout. In response to the COVID-19 outbreak, Governor Andrew Cuomo of New York announced relaxations on laws governing what can and cannot be obtained via takeout, allowing takeout on goods that were previously restricted in regard to takeout. For example, Cuomo announced that the New York State Liquor Authority intended to temporarily relax regulations regarding the takeout and delivery of alcohol. Utilizing such services can be a great way to support local businesses while still adhering to recommendations designed to slow the spread of COVID-19.

- Purchase a gift card. Gift cards can help small businesses generate revenue at a time when their doors are largely closed to the public. This can be vital to these businesses' survival, and it gives consumers something to look forward to when life returns to normal.

- Help market local businesses. Spread



the word when local businesses deliver in the wake of the restrictions put on them due to COVID-19. Share these experiences via social media or online reviews, and urge your neighbors to patronize these businesses.

Local businesses are suffering during the COVID-19 outbreak. But communities can come together to support business owners and their employees to help these vital businesses stem the tide.

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| <b>PT Housekeeping</b>    | <b>PT Laundry</b>      |

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### For our elder community members a few things that you can do at home to keep yourselves safe...

- Restrict visitors – Visit loved ones through the window, outside while remaining at least 6 feet apart or video chat when possible.
- Call your local senior center or Tri-Valley Elder Services if you need help with services or obtaining groceries/meals.
- Call your local grocery stores to find elder shopping hours and only shop during that time period.
- Wash your hands frequently with hot soapy water.
- Stay home as much as possible.

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# LEICESTER MIDDLE SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

LEICESTER — Leicester Middle School has released its honor roll for the third quarter of the 2019-2020 school year.

## 8th Grade

High Honors: Jacob Altman, Molly Baker, Chloe Bouchard, Grace Bujak, Hannah Collette, Owen Collette, Michael Connelly, Michelle Dacri, Peyton Knott, Meghan Le, Charolette Libby-Toler, Jasmine Ngo, Nora Oliver, William Panepinto, Gabrielle Pietri, Elizabeth Price, Adam Skoglund, James Sweeney

Honors: Marcos Alfonso, Caden Birtz, Allie Blair, Andrew Boisvert, Kiara Cavanagh, Sadie Connery, Ashlyn Deary, Matthew Drenzo, Elizabeth Gallagher, Nicklaus Hellstrom, Selena Ho, Ireland Huff, Zachary Jackson, Hannah Kularski, Abbi Lane, Chloe LaPierre, Samantha Luby, Logan Mandella, Jessica McCarthy, Thomas Moore, Jillian Morrison, Kevin Moss, Eric Ortiz, Gregory Pappas, Connor Parke, Anthony Pintado, Logan Potter, Jackson Ricarte, Destiny Rivas, Amandah Rivera, Gabrielle Stuart, Laylah Summers

## 7th Grade

High Honors: Kayla Bouchard,

Dylan Delage, Ryan Delage, Kathryn Dolimount, Jason Fournier, Lorenzo Francie, Jacqueline Gallant, Vivian Giles, Layla Gustin, Alexis Herbert, Jaden Jaillet, Alexander Ngo, Coddan Nguyen, Nicole Nguyen, Sedona Richard, Jenna Savoie, Elizabeth Sosa, Cooper White

Honors: Sean Alves, Phoenix Bates, MacKenzie Bowen, James Colonies-Kelley, Jacob Cruz, Jacob Dolimount, Valerie Fannon, Evan Gustafson, Benjamin LaPointe, Jack Ledbetter, Madeline Milionis, Gia Norcia, Jordan Patterson, Kadienne Patterson, Anais Pokua, Fatimah Robbins, Brenna Savoie, Shawn Sheldon, Ella Smith, Shawn Wells

## 6th Grade

High Honors: Tomas Acero, Avery Bullock, Jacob Cosper, Brandon Escobar, John Gahagan, Emily Hunt, Casey Knott, Claudia Moisan, Zoe Morales, Grace Price, Justin Trainor, Tyler Williams

Honors: Abigail Baker, Kate Barbato, Kyle Bates, Braden Beando, Kaylee Buckley, Lily Chartier, Hunter Clark, Collin Connor, Makenzie Cortes, Thomas Daly, Julia Dee, Sarah Dee, Arianna Gonzalez, Brody Grant, Michael Hagglund, Rowen Hennessy, Natalia Kallio, Isabella LePoer,

Hannah Martin, Reese Maxwell, Ryan McCarthy, Christopher Moffat, Kaycee Monroe, Jacob Perry, Rhaegan Perry, Kassidy Poce, Alexander Samia, McKenzie Settle, Jack Skoglund, Luke Soden, Isabel van Lingen, Nathan Wilder, Dakota Zinkevich

## 5th Grade

High Honors: Karsyn Bulak, Aydan Chartier, Ryder Mandella, Kaydi Marttila, Gianna Panepinto, Sofia Renzoni, Taylor Rodrique, Hannah Spratt, Mary Van Hazinga, Sabrina Wright

Honors: Jacob Beaulac, Alexa Butler, Andrew Carpenter, Kayliana Chambers, Kelsey Cole, John Coleman, Margaret Dillon, Lena Dolen, Alexander Fournier, Taylor Gallant, Sierra LaCroix, Kenneth Lane, Jeremy Ledbetter, Arianna Lemerise, Nikolas Lison, Luke Marjault, Joshua McCormick, Kaidyn McDowell, Samuel Milgate, Rachel Nguyen, William Nguyen, Ava Petruzzi, Jillian Rodrique, Madalyn Rose, Madelyn Schrader, Noah Smith, Antoinette Taylor, Adam Tebo, Abigail Valinski, Casey Waterman, Camron Wells, Ainsley Whittemore

## SPENCER NEW LEADER

## ACCURACY WATCH

The Spencer New Leader is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur.

Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a timely manner.

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4106 or email news@stonebridgepress. news during normal business hours. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call or email.



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Stay safe everyone!

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Stay safe everyone!

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& garlic bread.

Fried chicken with mashed  
potatoes & gravy, veg of the day,  
cranberry sauce & rolls.

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# Becker College athletes recognized for academic performance

LEICESTER — The Becker College Athletic Department is turning National Student-Athlete Day into a weeklong celebration of our tremendous student-athletes and their accomplishments in the classroom!

Between April 6-11, we'll be announcing the student-athletes that finished the fall 2019 semester with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher, team-by-team, eventually announcing 137 total student-athletes over all 14 of Becker's NCAA Division III programs.

In addition, to begin the week, we'll announce the winner of the President Academic Cup for the fall 2019 semester.

On April 6, officially recognized as National Student-Athlete Day by the NCAA, we are proud to recognize the winner of the President's Academic Cup for the highest cumulative team GPA in the fall 2019 semester.

For the second consecutive semester, the men's ice hockey program has won the President Academic Cup after finishing the fall 2019 semester with a cumulative team GPA of 3.326. Men's ice hockey defends their title after winning the President's Academic Cup with the highest team GPA in the spring 2019 semester.

On April 7, we listed players from the field hockey, women's basketball, and men's lacrosse programs who finished the fall 2019 semester with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Becker's Student-Athlete Week continued April 8 with the student-athletes from football, softball, and women's soccer with cumulative fall semester GPAs of at least 3.0.

April 9 saw student-athletes from men's soccer, volleyball, and women's ice hockey recognized for their cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher through the fall 2019 semester.

On April 10, student-athletes from baseball and women's lacrosse were added to the list of other sports and student-athletes that finished the fall 2019 semester with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher.

April 11, the final day of Becker's Student-Athlete Week, honored student-athletes from the equestrian

and men's basketball programs with a cumulative fall semester GPA of 3.0 or higher.

The following student-athletes finished with a GPA of 3.0 or higher in the fall 2019 semester. Listed in alphabetical order of sport.

Baseball (16): Mel Gonzalez, Edward Greig, Cooper Harris, Coby Hussey, Tyler Kaye, Zachary Knowlton, Jose Martinez, Ben Mazzone, Michael McMahon, Nicholas Mokanos, Payton Musco, Robert Pellerin, Joseph Rego, Noah Rivera, Kevin Santiago, Eric-Tyler Trahan.

Equestrian (14): Madison Ahn, Kylie Bulger, Emily Cabral, Emma Campbell, Brianna Fitzgerald, Courtney Furlong, Saige Guzzetti, Alissa Jagielski, Hailey Johnson, Layne Koepfel, Rabekah Quartochi, Jessica Santoro, Kennedy Sheehan, Valerie Slimsky.

Field Hockey (8): Michaela Breen, Samantha Carter, Baileigh Griese, Kylian Kelly, Abigail Leahy, Lauren Niemann, Emma Perry, Kessa Vilnaigre.

Football (9): Shawn Barnes, Taizon Barrett, Keegan Brick, Ryan Gries, Robert Pellerin, Kyle Reeder, Austin Ryan, Justin Veith, Jamear Venette.

Men's Basketball (6): Yanni Augustave, Dean Jones III, Guney Kilitcioglu, Yun Lee, Mateus Ribeiro, Jordan Rose-Wheatley.

Men's Ice Hockey (22): Anthony Antonelli, Tim Atkins, Jake Cagnina, Jason Diamond, Andrew Dreher, Phillip Garcia, Luke James, Alex Kielczewski, Josh Kippenhan, Caleb Labrie, Connor Lenaghan, Grant Martens, Josh Mead, Zach Pendenza, James Perry, Joshua Sanchez, Zach Skop, Donovan Tehan, Austin Wheatly, Romain Wild, Mikey Wilson, Ian Zaleski.

Men's Lacrosse (9): Tim Atkins, Ryan Clifford, Cooper Fowler, Phil Garcia, Patrick Goad, Ryan Gries, James Perry, Cameron Sangster, Donovan Tehan.

Men's Soccer (7): Chris Antonelli, Derrick Audain, Chris Hallie, Sam Majewski, Tyler Marzocchi, Zach Monahan, Jordan Wise.

Softball (10): Lyndsey Cobb-Wilkins, Sarah Ellis, Holly Letourneau, Lindsay Mitchell, Emma Perry, Cassidy Pigott, Elizabeth Simonian, Kyra Teixeira, Skyler Tenney, Ashley Veillette.

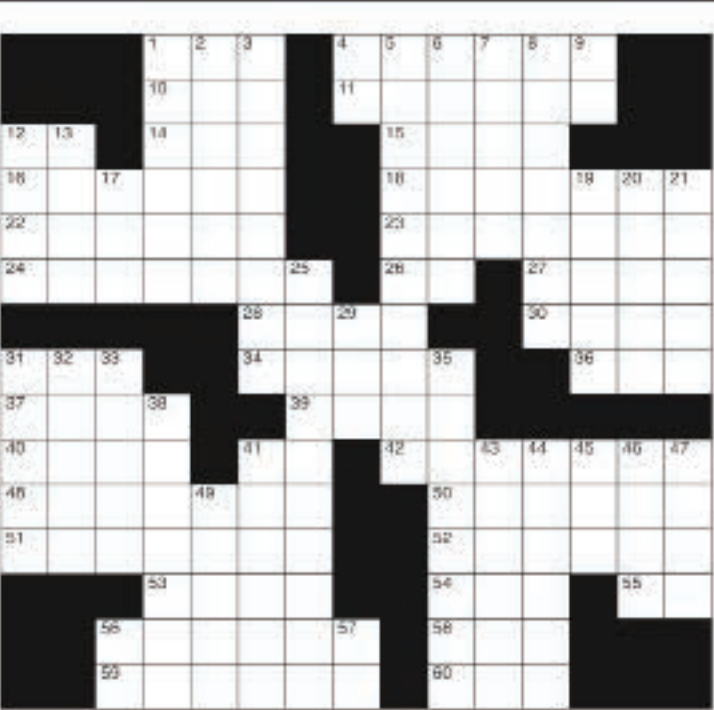
Volleyball (9): Yesenia Aviles, Sofia Cullina, Valerie Elizarraraz, Teddie Flynn, Morgan Gould, Olivia McGuinness, Emily Peterman, Jenna Savoie, Evelyn Sheehan.

Women's Basketball (9): Riley Berry, Julia Campellone, Kira Clinkscale, Jazlyn Contreras, Tarra Coppinger, Cassidy Harrison, Cassandra Nelson, Natasha Pacheco, Sarah Ware.

Women's Ice Hockey (13): Katherine Capobianco, Clare Conway, Nikki DeCola, Kylian Kelly, Amber Lee, Brandi Lee, Madelyn Morgan, Cameron Payne, Katie Puumala, Julia Ravenelle, Shelby Reaugh, Samantha Talmadge, Cassidy Wozniak.

Women's Lacrosse (16): Kristen Beidleman, Katherine Capobianco, Samantha Carter, Victoria Chiuchio, Clare Conway, Kylian Kelly, Amber Lee, Cassandra Nelson, Katie Puumala, Julia Ravenelle, Shelby Reaugh, Gabriela Savage, Olivia Sherwood, Shannon Siclari, Samantha Talmadge, Sydney Theriault.

Women's Soccer (10): Meghan Ballentine, Kristen Beidleman, Rebecca Beringer, Lyndsey Cobb-Wilkins, Carson Dowling, Alyson Eldridge, Alana Garofalo, Shannon O'Toole, Olivia Sherwood, Kyra Teixeira.

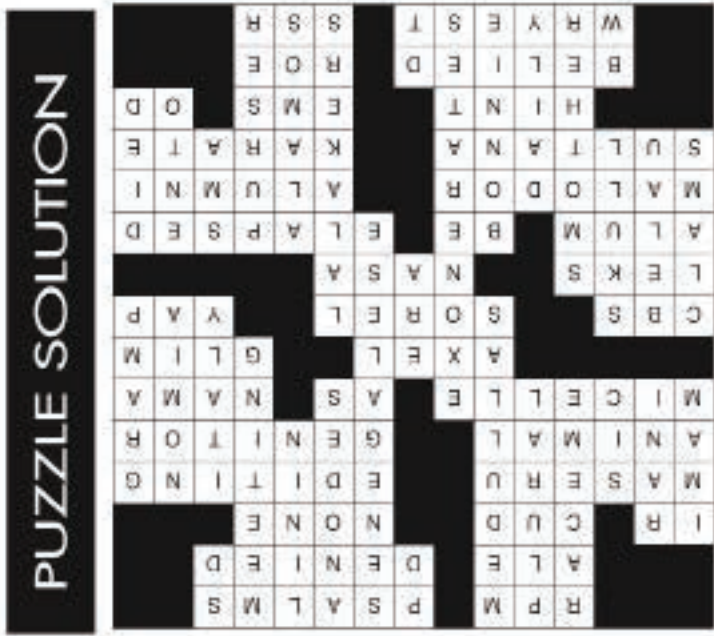


CLUES ACROSS

1. Revolutions per minute  
4. Hymns  
10. Brew  
11. Did not acknowledge  
12. Atomic #77  
14. Partly digested food  
15. Not one  
16. Lesotho capital  
18. Copyreading  
22. Living organism that feeds on organic matter  
23. One's biological father  
24. An aggregate of molecules  
26. Equally  
27. Khoikhoi people  
28. Jump in figure skating  
30. Lantern  
31. TV network
34. Georges \_\_, French philosopher  
36. Sharp, shrill bark  
37. Albanian monetary units  
39. Launched Apollo  
40. One who graduated  
41. Exist  
42. Passed by  
48. Very unpleasant smell  
50. Graduates  
51. Seedless raisin  
52. Self-protection  
53. Clue  
54. Life-savers  
55. Ingest too much  
56. Misrepresented  
58. Small Eurasian deer  
59. Most mocking  
60. Soviet Socialist Republic

CLUES DOWN

1. Flower cluster  
2. A form  
3. Inner organ regions  
4. Local law enforcement  
5. A citizen of Senegal  
6. Positively charged electrodes  
7. Connects granules  
8. Business practice  
9. The Mount Rushmore State  
12. Leader  
13. Hindu queen  
17. Proofreading mark  
19. European country  
20. Greek mythological nymph  
21. Grandfather  
25. Clears
29. Amount of time  
31. Mollusks  
32. German municipality  
33. Body part  
35. City of Angels hoopsters  
38. Suffocate  
41. Pleasing to the eye  
43. Poplar trees (Spanish)  
44. Ship officer  
45. Individual investment account (abbr.)  
46. Prefix meaning within  
47. Ceased to live  
49. Day by day  
56. Not color  
57. Condition of withdrawal (abbr.)



P.A.L. of the Week

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me: Millie  
eed: DSH  
x: Female  
e: Adult



name is Millie. I was abandoned at a farm in a local n. I was very scared and didn't understand why I was there. After a few weeks, the nice people at the farm e able to get a hold of me and bring me to the shelter. h I like it here at the shelter. It is warm and they serve d food. The staff tells me that I am such a nice girl. I purr and give head butts. I am very low key and spend rs just looking out the window. I'm a pretty girl with a disposition.

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## Haston Library closed until May

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Patrons are reminded that the Haston Free Public Library will be closed until at least May 4 due to the coronavirus pandemic.

Several library services and programs have been canceled or discontinued amid the crisis. Others have been postponed to May and beyond.

“We are no longer allowed to offer curbside service and will not be present in the library most days,” read a statement issued by library officials. “Please do not leave anything in the book drop, because we will not be emptying it on a regular basis. Thank you for your cooperation.”

Library officials are working hard to assist patrons remotely through phone, email, and websites. Ensuring access to E-books, audiobooks, and E-magazines is an important priority. If you don't already have a library card, you can now use your mobile phone number as a temporary library card for access to electronic resources. To get started, visit www.cwmars.overdrive.com, or download the Libby app for iOS or Android and click on the sign-up section for an instant digital card.

If you need assistance with this process, call or email the library.

“Once we reopen to the public, we hope you will come into the library and turn your Instant Digital Card into a full library card which will give you access to additional local e-content and physical materials,” the library statement read.

Several springtime programs have been postponed due to the crisis. The March 18 ukulele class with Julie Stepanek has been rescheduled to Wednesday, May 20, at 7 p.m. Also, a makeup date will be announced for a Reiki presentation at the library from Victoria Cummings, of Little Lotus Trading. Reiki is a Japanese technique used for stress reduction, relaxation, and health of the body, mind, and spirit.

Meanwhile, the library's book group will meet virtually using Zoom on April 28 at 7 p.m. If you would like to join the meeting, send an email to Dawn Thistle at dthistle@cwmars.org.

On Thursday, May 7, at 6 p.m., Louise Meierdiercks will return to the library to show patrons how she makes hand-sewn kits for historic reenactors. The kit is made of wool and sewn with various embroidery stitches. All materials and sewing kit contents will be included for a \$10 workshop fee. If you would like to attend the program, call ahead or sign up at the main desk.

Additionally, the library's needle felting workshop initially scheduled for March 26 is postponed until May 14 at 6 p.m. Heidi Jeldres will lead the class.

Finally, Dan Steininger, a former LEGO master builder, will attend the library on a date to be determined. He will discuss how he became a LEGO builder, the process of building large scale models, and how LEGO can change lives. His program will feature demonstrations, audience participation, and team-building activities. The event is perfect for the entire family.

For more information about upcoming library programs, or to sign up for an event, call 508-867-0208 or send an email to dthistle@cwmars.org.

Please be advised that all activities are subject to change if municipal buildings remain closed in May.

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# Senate passes bill to improve unemployment insurance

BOSTON — Sen. Anne Gobi (D – Spencer) and the Massachusetts State Senate on Thursday passed legislation that will provide additional Unemployment Insurance (UI) relief to low-income families, non-profit institutions and employers.

An Act Providing Additional Support to Those Affected by the Novel Coronavirus Through the Unemployment Insurance System builds on UI legislation passed by the Senate and signed into law waiving the one-week waiting period to receive benefits. It also follows the passage last week of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief

and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), which significantly increases UI benefits and expands eligibility during the coronavirus pandemic.

“This is such a stressful time and people are hurting,” commented Senator Gobi on the bill’s passage. “I will continue to work to provide relief as we get through this public health crisis together. This is not the end of assistance; it is one more important step on our road to recovery.”

Building off the Senate’s ongoing efforts to address the COVID-19 public health crisis and its impacts on workers, the bill includes four components to enhance the state’s UI system:

- Uncapping the UI

dependency allotment;

- Extending the grace period for non-profit contributions;

- Protecting employers from increased UI costs due to coronavirus; and

- Ensuring 30 weeks of unemployment compensation during unemployment spikes.

The components of the bill are as follows:

**Lifting the Cap on Dependency Allotment.** This bill eliminates the 50% cap for the dependency allotment providing additional benefits to low-income families. This increase will be in addition to the \$600 per week benefit add-on provided for in the CARES Act for all workers eli-

gible for state or federal benefits.

Currently, UI recipients are entitled to an additional \$25 per week for each child in the family, capped at 50% of a recipient’s base allotment. The result is that workers with particularly low allotments, such as low wage workers, can easily be capped out of receiving these additional amounts.

**Non-Profit Contribution Grace Period.** Presently, many non-profits self-insure for unemployment claims. This means that when layoffs in the sector occur, non-profits pay the cost of those benefits dollar for dollar at the next billing period. This

bill provides a 120-day grace period for non-profits to make these contributions. This delay will allow the state to review additional changes that are warranted to mitigate the impact on non-profits. The CARES Act provides 50% reimbursement for self-insured benefit payments during the Coronavirus crisis.

**Protection for Employers.** Employers who participate in UI pay contributions based on their layoff experience. Like other forms of insurance, employers that are more likely to have workers use unemployment compensation are asked to pay more in the system. The system does not anticipate a situation where employers across a number of sectors have been forced to significantly reduce their workforces due to situations outside of their

control. This bill prevents layoffs related to coronavirus from negatively impacting employer’s future UI contributions.

**Extending Unemployment Benefit Period.** The number of weeks of unemployment compensation available in Massachusetts is tied to unemployment rates around the state. This trigger did not anticipate a situation, however, in which unemployment grows rapidly in a very short period of time. This bill ensures that the 30-week benefit period is triggered by a significant uptick in weekly unemployment claims.

An Act Providing Additional Support to Those Affected by the Novel Coronavirus Through the Unemployment Insurance System now moves to the Massachusetts House of Representatives for consideration.

## Baker announces new regulations on supermarkets

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

REGION — Gov. Charlie Baker announced several new measures last week to combat the coronavirus, including the reduction of supermarket capacity.

Established by the Department of Public Health, one of the new regulations requires grocery stores to limit occupancy to 40 percent of their maximum permitted occupancy levels. This does not include stores with a maximum occupancy of less than 25 people.

The regulations also provide guidance that store staff members can use to monitor occupancy levels. Several local stores have already added specific hours for seniors to shop, while others have announced that they will close for one to two days weekly to allow workers to rest.

The new statewide regulations are meant to ensure social distancing while customers shop for groceries.

“The guidance builds on a previous March 23 order for grocery stores, which set out policies for ensuring access to handwashing facilities and protecting employees in higher-risk populations, among other requirements,” read a statement released by the Baker Administration.

Baker also announced an expansion of COVID-19 testing sites for public safety personnel. The sites were opened last week, doubling the number of free, drive-through tests available for first responders and other emergency management workers. A mobile testing site at the Big E fairgrounds in West Springfield also began operations last week, supplementing a site at Foxborough’s Gillette Stadium.

Each site will serve police officers, firefighters, EMS personnel, correction officers, mortuary service providers, and state active duty National Guard personnel who perform critical public safety functions. The mobile testing sites in Foxborough and West Springfield will

each perform up to 200 tests per day, seven days per week, with appointments scheduled in advance by agencies and departments through a call center at the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security.

Testing is performed at no charge. The sites reflect a partnership among the Baker-Polito Administration, the Big E, Brewster Ambulance Service, the Department of Correction, the Department of Fire Services, the New England Patriots, the New England Revolution, Wellpath, and Quest Diagnostics.

The Baker Administration also released updated crisis standards of care guidelines for the state’s healthcare facilities. Upon the request of leaders in the healthcare system, the Department of Public Health convened an advisory committee that includes medical experts and ethicists from across the Commonwealth, representing both large academic medical centers and community hospitals. Their recommen-

dations helped inform ethical, equitable and transparent guidelines for providing acute care during a crisis.

The guidelines, which are not mandatory, are designed to do the following:

Help healthcare institutions and providers make consistent decisions about the use and allocation of scarce medical resources.

Ensure that critical resources are conserved and distributed efficiently across the healthcare system.

Promote transparent decision-making and public trust in the fairness and equity of the system.

Protect those who might otherwise face barriers to accessing care.

Assure patients and their families that they will receive fair access to care, regardless of where they live.

Additional information and updates can be obtained by visiting [www.mass.gov](http://www.mass.gov). Officials have also created specific pages related to the crisis.



Courtesy

Anna and Everette Lotti are pictured here not only saving the earth, but wearing their virus gear at their grandmother’s beauty salon on Main Street in Spencer.

## Legislature passes bill to support vulnerable residents, schools amid COVID-19 crisis

BOSTON — Sen. Anne M. Gobi (D-Spencer) and the Massachusetts Senate and House on Thursday passed legislation that supports those experiencing homelessness and provides testing and budgetary flexibility to school districts.

When asked about the bill’s passage, Gobi had this to say: “During this time of crisis it is necessary we do our best to react quickly as well act proactively. This bill is an example of recognizing and assisting in the difficulties facing students, educators and people in dire housing situations.”

This latest relief package known as An Act to Further Address Challenges Faced by Municipalities, School Districts and State authorities Resulting from COVID-19, includes the following components.

Student Requirements and District Operations. To address disruptions caused by the closure of K-12 schools due to COVID-19, the legislation waives the MCAS requirements for the 2019-

2020 academic year and allows DESE to modify or waive competency determination requirements related to high school graduation.

In order to comply with measures under the newly implemented Student Opportunity Act, the legislation would require the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) Commissioner to extend the deadlines for school districts to submit their three-year plans to address educational disparities in student subgroups. This deadline shall be extended to May 15, 2020, or later, as determined by the Commissioner.

The legislation also provides budgetary flexibility for regional schools as a result of COVID-19.

Helping Vulnerable Populations. In keeping with the Legislature’s commitment to protecting vulnerable populations, the legislation repurposes exist-

ing homelessness funds that currently support services that can’t be provided due to the COVID-19 outbreak. The legislation redirects funding to address immediate and critical homelessness needs resulting from the public health emergency.

MBTA Budget Flexibility. The legislation also provides the MBTA additional budgetary flexibility amid the COVID-19 emergency.

The bill, which is the latest action by the Legislature to address the COVID-19 public health crisis and its effects on Massachusetts, now heads to the Governor.

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— Anne Adams, North Brookfield, MA

If you would like to nominate an upcoming Person of the Week, please email your suggestion and the reason you’re nominating him or her, or a group of people to June at [jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jsima@stonebridgepress.news). Thank you.

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**Mother’s Day Honors**

**Publish Date: May 8, 2020**  
**Deadline date: Friday, May 1 @ 5 pm**

We would like to honor all Mothers and Grandmothers in the May 8th issue. The deadline for honors is Friday, May 4 at 5 pm.

Cost is just \$20 per 2.4”x 2” B&W block.  
In the Spencer New Leader,  
Auburn News or Sturbridge/Charlton Villager

**SAMPLE: EXACT SIZE**

Mom, Of all the moms in all the world, nothing brings me more happiness than to know you’re ours.

With love from  
John, Mary, and Jennifer

Please email a photo and a special message or an In Loving Remembrance message if deceased to [jsima@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:jsima@stonebridgepress.news);  
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All photos will be returned.  
Please write your name and address on the back of your photo.





Courtesy

## A HEARTFELT THANK YOU

308 Lakeside was so honored to be able to say thank you to those on the front lines at Harrington Hospital today, providing food to feed all who were working. From Chicken Parmesan to Salads to Lemon Chicken Parmesan and many other choices in between - to include Chef Kevin's awesome homemade desserts - those working got to enjoy a wonderful and well-deserved treat. To the heroes everywhere who are working hard to keep everyone safe - include the heroes at Harrington Hospital - the 308 Team says, "Thank you, thank you, thank you!" Please stay safe everyone and we look forward to welcoming you back to 308 Lakeside when we're able to reopen!

# Annual conservation restrictions imposed on outdoor water use

SPENCER — A mandatory water use restriction for Spencer Public Water Supply users, which includes mandatory water use restrictions effective from May 1 until Sept. 30 was announced on April 13 by the Spencer Water Department.

The conservation restriction prohibits the following non-essential outdoor activities from occurring between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.: irrigation of lawns via automatic sprinkler systems (all types of above and below ground sprinkler systems); washing of vehicles, except in a commercial car wash; and washing of exterior building surfaces, parking lots, driveways or sidewalks, except as necessary to apply paint, preservatives, stucco, pavement or cement.

The restriction does allow for lawns, gardens and plants to be watered by hand-held hose or bucket any time. The restriction also allows for irrigating newly established lawns and plantings in the months of May and September, and in public parks or recreational fields with automatic sprinklers before 9 a.m. or after 5 p.m.

The DEP requires conservation conditions related to the town's permitted water withdrawals under the Massachusetts Water Management Act.

According to Bill Krukowski, Spencer U&F Superintendent, "The conservation restrictions imposed merely represent good water conservation practice. They are easy to comply with, and generally should be practiced by everyone all the time, whether or not an enforceable water conservation restriction has been imposed."

Anyone violating the bylaw can be punished with a warning for the first offense, \$100 for the second offense and \$250 for each subsequent offense.

A complete copy of the Town of

Spencer's 2020 Water Use Restriction Notice can be found at the Spencer Web site, [spencerma.gov](http://spencerma.gov). The Web site also provides useful links to water conservation tips to help save money and preserve the environment.

## Police locate woman suspected of attacking Walmart employee

LEICESTER — After a lengthy investigation and significant community assistance, police have identified the woman who sprayed a Walmart worker with Lysol last month.

The Leicester Police Department spent several days attempting to identify the suspect following the March 27 incident at Walmart. The incident began when the suspect was informed by a cashier that there was a limit on the number of Lysol disinfectant cans she was trying to purchase.

The suspect responded by spraying the cashier in the eyes with Lysol, then fled the store and got a ride in what police believed to be an Uber vehicle.

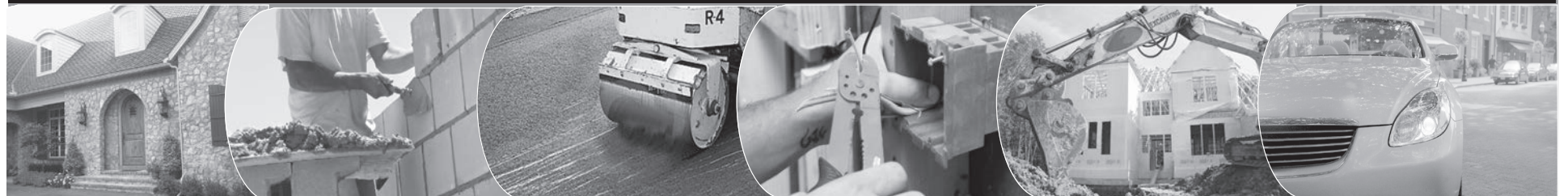
The cashier required assistance from EMS personnel and is recovering.

After receiving several tips over the phone and through social media, police identified the suspect on April 7. LPD Officer Matthew Soojian led the investigation.

The suspect will face charges of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, disorderly conduct, and disturbing the peace.

"Thank you for all the information that helped us investigate and identify the person in the Walmart Lysol incident. Your help was much appreciated," read a police department statement posted to social media.

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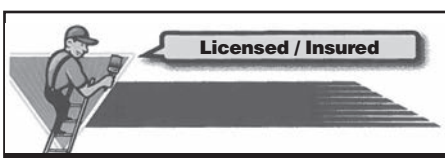
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Courtesy

BACK TO BOATING

Readers Ed Jackson and Donna Welch launched and moored the first boat on Quaboag Lake. Tuesday, April 7 with the assistance of Steve Budnik.

West Brookfield’s Herrick Spencer inducted into Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi

BATON ROUGE, La. — Herrick Spencer of West Brookfield was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation’s oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Spencer was initiated at University of Massachusetts.


Spencer is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of undergraduate student Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and the Philippines. Its mission is “To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others.”

More About Phi Kappa Phi

Since its founding, more than 1.5 million members have been initiated into Phi Kappa Phi. Some of the organization’s notable members include former President Jimmy Carter, NASA astronaut Wendy Lawrence, novelist John Grisham and YouTube co-founder Chad Hurley. Each year, Phi Kappa Phi awards nearly \$1 million to outstanding students and members through graduate and dissertation fellowships, undergraduate study abroad grants, funding for post-baccalaureate development, and grants for local, national and international literacy initiatives. For more information about Phi Kappa Phi, visit [www.phikappaphi.org](http://www.phikappaphi.org).

ATTENTION  
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**Hydrant Flushing**



The West Brookfield Water Department will be flushing hydrants April 27, 2020 thru May 8, 2020 during the hours of 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Flushing will cause some disturbance in the water mains. The water may appear cloudy but will eventually dissipate. Please plan water use accordingly.

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**Hi! My name is Angel and I love to laugh!**

Angel is a boy of Hispanic descent with a contagious smile. He is very inquisitive and loves to laugh. Some of Angel’s favorite activities are reading, playing video games, playing outside on his scooter and going to the playground. He also loves Disney and Pixar movies, especially the Cars movie. Angel is a very bright child, with an excellent memory.

Angel attends a specialized classroom for children on the Autism spectrum. The school has a focus on language and literacy development, and Angel is also able to receive Applied Behavior Analysis during school time. According to his foster mother, Angel loves to learn and does well in class. Both his teachers and foster mother have noted that Angel responds well to structure and that he can be very active.

Angel is legally freed for adoption and will do best with a family that is nurturing and patient. Angel has a lot of energy and an active family would be ideal for him. His social worker prefers Angel to be placed in a two parent home either with no other children or with children who are older than him.


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Can you provide the guidance, love and stability that a child needs? If you’re at least 18 years old, have a stable source of income, and room in your heart, you may be a perfect match to adopt a waiting child. Adoptive parents can be single, married, or partnered; experienced or not; renters or homeowners; LGBTQ singles and couples.

The process to adopt a child from foster care requires training, interviews, and home visits to determine if adoption is right for you, and if so, to help connect you with a child or sibling group that your family will be a good match.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit [www.mare-inc.org](http://www.mare-inc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have “a permanent place to call HOME.”

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EDITORIAL

Lessons from another pandemic

A recent conversation with someone who experienced the Spanish Flu pandemic of 1918 prompted a bit of research into that era on our part, and what we found was that things back then were, in many ways, not so different.

The Spanish Flu infected one third of the world's population, and roughly 675,000 people died in the U.S. as a result. Interesting to note is that this particular strain of the flu virus did not, in fact, begin in Spain, but most likely somewhere in the farm belt of the United States. The name was born from the fact that infection reports in the Iberian Peninsula were particularly high, and Spanish King Alfonso XIII fell ill from it.

In 1918, Washington, D.C. public health officials tried to warn citizens of the symptoms and how the disease was spread via posters. One poster read, 'INFLUENZA' Spread by droplets sprayed from nose and throat. Cover each cough and sneeze with handkerchief, spread by contact, avoid crowds, if possible, walk to work, do not spit on floor or sidewalk, do not use common drinking cups and common towels, avoid excessive fatigue, if taken ill, go to bed and send for a doctor. The above applies also to colds, bronchitis, pneumonia and tuberculosis' The virus began to spread rapidly due to the close proximity in military encampments during the First World War. The disease was a very contagious H1N1 strain of the flu.

What we know from our 1918 counterparts is that social distancing does work. Newspapers downplayed the flu, and President Woodrow Wilson had his own family and staff were infected. During that time, Wilson didn't pay much attention to the pandemic. In fact, no public statement from him was ever made in regards to it. His focus was on the war.

We've heard that over the next few weeks, we will see a dramatic surge in confirmed COVID-19 cases. We've also read reports that the curve is flattening in some places. This does not mean that folks should think the pandemic is over. Everyone should, of course, still be practicing social distancing among the many other precautions we've heard about.

In 1918, schools were shut down and public gatherings were banned. By the summer of 1919, the flu pandemic came to an end. Individuals either passed away or developed an immunity to it. In 2008, researchers discovered a group of three genes that caused a person's bronchial tubes and lungs to weaken which paved the way for bacterial pneumonia. This is what made the Spanish flu so deadly.

Back in 1918, the first outbreak dwindled into spring, however it re-emerged during the fall. The Spanish flu came in three waves. The first was in the spring of 1918 that included mild symptoms. That fall the flu mutated into a more deadlier version, that hit those between the ages of 20-40 the most.

During the winter, the third wave hit and by the spring time the illness was no more.

An October newspaper excerpt from 1918 reporting the cancellation of Halloween read, "Because of the "flu" epidemic, there is to be no Hallowe'ening this year. The Board of Health has strongly urged against any demonstrations and the Burgess today, issued orders that there be no observance of the Hallowe'en season. Howard Heinz, of the Federal Food Administration has issued an appeal to the people against the waste of food-stuffs, during this season. Corn, beans, peas, apples, pumpkins, etc should not be used. Every year thousands of pumpkins are cut up and wasted in making Jack-O-Lanterns. The same wasteful practice has applied to apples in the time honored Hallowe'en sport of bobbing for apples. It is not the purpose of the food administrator to discourage harmless little celebrations in the home, but this year it is imperative that every scrap of food be saved."

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reference to God's Word, the Bible

To the Editor:

These past few weeks, I have had some extra time because of the virus storm Coronavirus. I watch this program with my wife, I am not allowed to name this program, it was a talk show with five women entertaining a guest who was apparently homosexual or a supporter and introduced the rainbow that occasionally appears in the sky as their symbol for their flag LGBT that represents lesbians, gays, bisexuals, transgender. That got my attention, comparing their flag to God's rainbow is insulting, dishonoring and false. The rainbow represents God's promise to the world, that God would not destroy the earth again by flood. [Genesis 9: 18-19]

The guest also spoke of Jesus as the new covenant, that Jesus is love and teaches us to love everybody as God loves. God does love everybody and all His creations, and God will love us into hell if you continue to sin by not accepting His Son Jesus in your heart, the choice is yours. After having said that I also want to remind you that God is love, caring, merciful, forgiving, and it is our responsibility to confess, repent Jesus from our heart and we are forgiven. God, Jesus does not wish for any of us to perish [2 Peter 3: 9] That is why Jesus died on the cross to save us from our self, from the deception of Satan the devil, and that is why I am convicted to encourage those who are deceived and lukewarm to confess and repent.

Yes! It is our responsibility to love everyone, and it is especially the responsibility of us, those who have professed Jesus, however, loving everybody does not mean we must accept his or her sin. We are commanded to love the person, not the sin and I have God's Biblical truth in God's following scriptures.

The following books, scriptures are written by God, Jesus disciples, apostles, and prophets.

God's Word is very explicit and it starts in Genesis 19: 1-13, Sodom and Gomorrah was very evident of homosexuality and God had a compromising discussion with Lot [the man who was in charge, the governor of the city] that if ten in the city could be found righteous God would spare the city. Obviously and unfortunately ten could not be found and God destroyed the entire city.

Leviticus 20:13, if a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman both of them have done what is detestable to the Lord.

God hates homosexuality, why! Because it destroys the sanctity of the family, homosexuality cannot multiply as God commanded [Genesis 1: 27-28] and it also helps contribute in spreading diseases, as does the sin of adultery and fornication that God hates as much.

As for the new covenant teaching of love by Jesus! Jesus teaches us in the book of Matthew, not everyone who says lord will enter the kingdom of heaven, only he or she who does the will of my Father [God] who is in heaven.

What Jesus is teaching, is, not everyone who talks about God belongs to God's Kingdom. Only those who have a relationship of obedience from their heart and recognize and accept Jesus as the only Savior, the only way to God.

That is how God, Jesus will judge us when we stand before God, Jesus. [Matthew 7: 21] [John 14: 6]

Whoever God has brought together, let man not separate [Genesis 2: 24] the man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife [women] and they will become one flesh, one flesh just doesn't happen at the marriage vows, it is a day by day, one day at a time, give and take process. What Jesus is teaching is we need to humble our self and make every effort to avoid the promiscuous life style of this society and we should not be interfering with God's original ordained moral law. Jesus taught and obeys God's law for marriage, and Jesus told all of mankind to live by God's moral laws, no exceptions. [Mark 10: 6-9]

As it was yesteryear and continues in today's generation, we have all inherited a sinful nature and some of us have harden hearts and if we are not careful God will allow us to fall into Satan's [the devil] shameful lust.

Today, we have an advantage over sin, Satan; we have the sacrifice of Jesus, the cross to help us overcome our sinful nature and to remain strong in God's natural gift of marriage between the man and the woman.

When I hear some people deny God, Jesus and say any sex act, adultery, fornication, homosexuality is acceptable as long as nobody gets hurt, I tell them it is an absolute deception by Satan the devil Satan.

All immoral pleasure is sin before God [Romans 1: 26-27]

Why do we sin? Because Adam and Eve disobeyed God and unfortunately we also today have inherited that sinful nature and deep down inside we know that immoral pleasure is wrong and we continue to indulge when what we need to do is come to Jesus for forgiveness. [Romans 1: 32] [Romans 3: 23] [Romans 6: 23]

Again, I remind you that as it was yesteryear, we today continue to live in a promiscuous society. We are presently in a promiscuous, permissive society of a variety of immoral actions, life styles. It is our responsibility to avoid, reject, rebuke those lifestyles. We must not participate; condone those immoral styles in any way. It is our responsibility to profess God, Jesus and to follow and live according to God, Jesus high standards. Your life depends on your choice, God or Satan, the devil. [1 Corinthians 6: 9-10]

The next three books are the last books of the Bible and I want to seriously get your attention to God's warnings. I am suggesting you take these books very serious; your life depends on it.

Many people do not understand how God, a loving God would send people to hell. Those people are right, God does not send people to hell, "you" send yourself by disobeying God, and unfortunately God has no choice but to sentence you when you stand before Him for judgment because you did not accept His Son Jesus. This is why God's Word the Bible continues to warn you through the 66 books.

God is holy; sin cannot enter where God is. God sent His Son Jesus, [God incarnate] to save us by teaching us God's desires, will, redemption through Jesus, unfortunately as it was yesteryear many today also refuse, reject Jesus, and the outcome is hell. [Jude 1: 7]

Immoral sin is very prevalent today as it was yesteryear and God continues to warn us today, "why" because God is loving, merciful and forgiving not wanting any of us to perish [2 Peter 3: 9]] and God wants for those us who believe to be merciful to those who doubt that God, Jesus lives today, and we are to continue to make an honest effort to influence those who have gone astray [immorality] and try to convince those people that the fire of hell is real by showing them mercy. There does come a time when we need to let go and let God.

God is very explicit when His Word says, hating even the clothing stained by corrupted flesh [sin] means, we are to hate the sin while doing all we can to be a witness to them the sinner. This is found in the book of Jude 1: 22-23.

The book of Revelation is the final book in the Bible, God talking to the people of Ephesus about the practice of the Ephesians. God is giving the people hope, commending them for hating the practice of the Nicolaitans [homosexuality] that I [God] also hate. The Nicolaitans were believers who compromised their faith to enjoy some of the sinful practices, pleasures of the Ephesian Nicolaitans society. Nicolaitans is compared to the Balamites, Balamites comes from Balaam who was an evil prophet who induced the people to live and practice lustful desires with each other. [Revelation 2: 6]

I end with the covenant of Jesus who the talk show guest spoke of was a covenant of love. Jesus spoke, taught very strong words against those who look for excuses to sin. Jesus teaches very clearly there is "no" excuse for us to disobey God. The only excuse we have is pride and lack of self-control to satisfy the flesh, that excuse will lead you straight to hell. [John 3: 16 & 4: 6 & 15: 22] [1 John 1: 6]

Philippians 4: 13 is very encouraging, I can do anything through Jesus who gives me strength. 2 Timothy 3: 16 is very encouraging, all scripture is God breath and it is our responsibility to call on God, Jesus for help and blessing.

I have this picture with captions; God sent one, [Jesus,] to die for all [us] so that all [us] would live for one, God, Jesus;

I am encouraging everyone who is godly to pray to God, Jesus "while He can be found," while we still have breath. God, Jesus is the coordinator of all forces, and the Lord of all creations. God is almighty, all-powerful, God, Jesus should be revered in all we do all day, every day from morning to night.

Do you want to be blessed? Live by God's moral and dietary law. Amen!

Roland Blais  
Brookfield

Put tax-smart investing moves to work

The tax return deadline has been extended until mid-July, but you may have already filed your taxes. If you were not entirely happy with the results, you might start seeking ways to change the outcome for next year. And one area to look at may be your investment-related taxes.

To help control these taxes, consider these moves:

Take full advantage of tax-deferred investments. As an investor, one of the best moves you can make is to contribute as much as you can afford to your tax-deferred accounts – your traditional IRA and 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored plan – every year. If you don't touch these accounts until you retire, you can defer taxes on them for decades, and when you do start taking money out, presumably during retirement, you may be in a lower tax bracket.

Look for tax-free opportunities. Interest from municipal bonds typically is exempt from federal income tax, and, in some cases, from state and local income tax, too. (Some municipal bonds, however, may be subject to the alternative minimum tax.) And if you qualify to contribute to a Roth IRA – eligibility is generally based on income – your earnings can be withdrawn tax-free, provided you've had your account for at least five years and you don't start taking withdrawals until you're at least 59 and a half. Your employer may also offer a Roth 401(k), which can provide tax-free withdrawals. Keep in mind, though, that you contribute after-tax dollars to a Roth IRA and 401(k), unlike a traditional IRA and 401(k), in which your contributions are made with pre-tax dollars.

Be a "buy and hold" investor. Your 401(k) and IRA are designed to be long-term investments, and you will face disincentives in the form of taxes and penalties if you tap into them before you reach retirement age. So, just by investing in these retirement accounts, you are essentially pursuing a "buy and hold" strategy. But you can follow this same strategy for investments held outside your IRA and 401(k). You can own some investments – stocks in particular – for decades without paying taxes on them. And when you do sell them, you'll only be taxed at the long-term capital gains rate, which may well be less than your ordinary income tax rate. But if you're frequently buying and selling investments you've held for less than a year, you could rack up some pretty big tax bills, because you'll likely be taxed at your ordinary income tax rate.

Be prepared for unexpected taxes. Mutual fund managers are generally free to make whatever trades they choose. And when they do sell some investments, they can incur capital gains, which will be passed along to you. If this is a concern, you might look for funds that do less trading and bill themselves as tax efficient.

While taxes are certainly one factor to consider when you invest, they should probably not be the driving force. You need to build a diversified portfolio that's appropriate for your risk tolerance and time horizon. Not all the investments you select, and the moves you make with them, will necessarily be the most tax efficient, but by working with your financial and tax professionals, you can make choices that can help you move toward your long-term goals.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Please contact Jeff Burdick, your local Edward Jones Advisor in Sturbridge at 508-347-1420 or jeff.burdick@edwardjones.com.



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Time to re-boot    LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

Having spent the end of my working career in a field that was completely reliant on computers, the general rule as a first remedy, was a reboot- shut it down and start over. I titled my editorial that way, as the shutdown is already done. In some instances, the reboot may not be sufficient remedy, and some tweaking is needed to correct an issue, or several, before an effective reboot can occur.

My observations are not completely based upon the daily “White House Apprentice” show I tune in each day, but also encompass a variety of issues that are way past due for address. That old Chinese curse, “May you live in interesting times,” certainly applies to what we are now experiencing. I actually transition between boredom and being appalled daily.

Yesterday’s reality show had the POTUS charging that the states should have been prepared for this and that Obama had left the shelves of emergency equipment empty. Setting aside that Obama’s administration may not have had best response to H1N1, and Ebola, the post mortem of them set out how to improve preparation next time. The office set up for that purpose war fired in 2018. The empty shelves appear to have remained that way at least three years into this term. POTUS was read the definition of what federal emergency response meant, and immediately jumped into action to change that definition. Jared detailed what data based, just in time distribution means, then

explained that a friend had called the president in a panic, and he addressed it, which disproves effectiveness of program. I am sure the subsequent investigation will cover much more of this nightmare so moving on.

It is pretty clear that without socialism (the public dime), this devastation could be considerably worse. I fear many of the steps taken, will fall way short of their design. I don’t expect that many of the truly small businesses will make it to the trough before is runs dry, as definition of small under 500 employees will get the lawyers first in line. Not responding sooner for people living week to week, has them rushing to unemployment before retainment funding happened. I won’t waste more lines belittling a response done in the right spirit, albeit by people without a clue how constituents actually live.

Getting back to the reboot issue, this would be a terrific opportunity to address updating what the 56 and 38, respectively, rich white men who signed the Declaration and Constitution did 250 years ago- even the wheel and the automobile have been updated with greater regularity. The electoral college was really not about keeping California and New York from choosing every president, as a Trump supporting friend alleged. Of course there were only 13 colonies then and I am not even sure NY was most populated then. In reading the Federalist Papers, the opinion exchange between early leaders like Madison, Jefferson, Hamilton, it is clear that they had their common view that letting the

great unwashed elect a president was not a good idea. Remember, this was a time that pre-dated public education standards, general news dissemination, and rapid communication. Since voting at the time was limited to male property owners, and the more property, the louder the voice (then as now), the election was largely by consensus and you might note, those same names as appear on those two documents, were the earliest office holders. That brings me to two important amendments that I think make sense. Clearly,, then as now, money carries far too much influence. Jimmy Carter ran on the \$2 checkoff on the 1040, but no one since.

The electoral college has now done a disservice, by putting people into the office who did not get the most votes. If that is not un- democratic, what is?

For a substantial part of my adult life, healthcare ran 5 percent of GNP. In my early career, my employers covered all off my health insurance costs. We have not only turned the industry into a free for all in inflation, but have so many people sticking their fingers so deep into the pie that the garbage pile is now evident. We now have Bernie’s Medicare for all for Covid 19.

I have no clue what happens when uninsured “only” have severe flu to pass around. I do know that what has happened to healthcare costs is out of control. We have federal Blue Cross- On a recent blood draw and X-ray, my co-pay was \$40. Blue Cross covered the other \$850. It is my understanding that nearly half of costs were not actual care, but

clerical, billing, resolution and accounting inn both provider, lab, insurer offices. We have essentially screwed ourselves by creating a totally capitalist created industry that serves us poorly. If Toronto General has three clerks, and Mass General has 150, someone pays them, their health insurance, etc. Ever hear the expression too soon old, too late smart? If government were any good at administration, and could negotiate costs down, they could simply offer cheaper coverage and the more expensive industry would disappear from competition.

In point of fact, I am not against private companies. I just think we should avoid non-competitive companies like Halliburton.

Having worked for a state contractor, who not only was penalized for not meeting contracted criteria, price for service was fixed; cost overruns eaten and efficiency,, of necessity, exceptional.. My view of government is that almost any actual company, can improve on what we currently have.

Twelve years is long enough to hold any elected office, including judges. Eighty percent of us want it for Congress (but keep re-electing people way beyond that tenure). Get it done. Definitely need new rules on ethics in every elected office.

We now have the time, and just need the inclination to repair this experiment to face the next 250 years.

KEN KIMBALL  
BROOKFIELD

Two of the best and the absolute worst

To the Editor:

Let’s start with the good stuff.

Siena College regularly surveys political scientists and presidential historians; conservative, moderate, and liberal. They agree in modern times, the United States has had some excellent presidents. We will examine two.

I am too young (!!!) to remember Franklin Delano Roosevelt (FDR). However, I still happily remember rollicking Sunday night 1950 era family discussions around FDR and the Depression.

The Depression era tales centered around the pain, but included belly-laugh stories tales about how families got by. The adults, loudly and clearly, indicated how FDR rallied the country and, if imperfectly, rebuilt the economy. This allowed common people to get back on their feet.

Only later did I learn of the government programs FDR’s Democratic administration established including;

- Social Security
- Unemployment Insurance
- Bank Deposits Insurance and preventing a run on financial institutions
- The Tennessee Valley Authority for poor areas in southern states, and
- The Works Progress Administration and Civilian Conservation Corps for employment, infrastructure, environment, and social protection and development.

A “War” President FDR also quietly and without self-publicity, prepared the country for the war against Hitler and Fascist governments. He also found ways to equip and supply our European and other allies already it the fight.

To his dying day he led from the front, not only for America, but the world. FDR also led the creation and general acceptance of a new American shaped and directed and world order.

It that lasted 75 years (until President Trump blew this asset up).

For these and other accomplishments specialists see FDR as one of two or three greatest Presidents, equal to Lincoln and only behind Washington.

Siena ranks Dwight David Eisenhower, as sixth among our 44 Presidents. His Republican administration also accomplished much including;

- Development of the Interstate Highway System,
- Approval of the first Civil Rights bill in nearly 100 years,
- The ending the Korean war and,
- Following President Truman’s lead, containing Soviet Russia’s (including KGB agent Putin) power and influence.

Two of my uncles participated in the D-Day invasion-one on a landing craft crew and the other as an infantryman. Because of them, I will focus on Eisenhower, the WWII European Commander in Chief.

By D-Day the Army had very well prepared “Ike” for this leadership assignment. This included accepting personal responsibility for successes and failures.

What caught my eye, due to those uncles, involved his attention to logistics and supply systems.

“Ike” did see strategy, discipline, and bravery as enormously important.

He also believed that a critical task involved moving his troops and quickly and efficiently from the off-shore ships, via landing craft to Normandy beaches. He obsessed over making sure that this

“supply chain” stayed in place and consistently worked.

From hard learned field experience, Ike knew that, in war, “details” matter.

As two of the best, FDR and Eisenhower consistently rank among our top Presidents in the following areas:

- Overall ability and forward vision
- Ability to compromise,
- Executive leadership and appointing excellent staff,
- Handling the economy,
- Domestic and foreign policy,
- Avoiding crucial mistakes, and
- Honesty and integrity

Now the bad part.

For the same areas, Siena in 2018, ranked Trump as one of our four worst presidents

In terms of honesty and morality, their specialists considered him the absolute worst.

Reasons include;

- A toxic relationship with Congress, many Republican and Democratic governors, and conservative and moderate Republicans.
- A dysfunctional and weakened White House and Executive Branch
- A “take all credit.” “deny all responsibility” leadership style,
- Incompetence and lack of required experience
- Gutting of professional/scientist staff, including the “Generals” and leaving positions vacant or replacing them with incompetents/personal loyalists/ideological zealots
- Widening inequalities by reducing cor-

porate and financial “protect the public” regulations and by cutting taxes for the very rich leaving the rest of us to pay the bill

Reversing public gains in health care & disease control, the environment, education, the ability to vote, social protection etc.

Gutting alliances, promoting dictators and easing the way for China to replace America as “the” world power

Ignoring the threat, making deadly mistakes-“supply chain”-and otherwise, blaming others, all the while playing down the significance of Covid, and

Trying to divide rather than bring Americans together.

I know many find President Trump a marvelous White House Reality TV entertainer. Some also love his sarcastic take downs of certain elites, media, liberals, and an overflowing basket of “others”.

But Trump is who he is.

Rather than like “Ike” or FDR, he operates like an ignorant small country dictator.

I am sure of this I have lived and worked in our imperfect but great America. I have done the same in countries run by loud-mouth scoundrels including Mugabe-Zimbabwe, Moi-Kenya and Barre-Somalia.

Especially in these dangerous and difficult times, Trump is a terrible President.

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# OBITUARIES

## Daryl A. Tinnerholm, 64,



LEICESTER- Daryl A. (Davenport) Tinnerholm, 64, died suddenly, Friday, April 10 at her home. She leaves her husband of 21 years, John “Jack” Tinnerholm, her son Joshua Venditti of Oxford, her daughter Kristy Venditti of Pittsfield, her mother, Lillian (Johnson) Davenport of Auburn, a brother Francis Davenport and his wife Tracy of Leicester, her sisters Anna Smith and her partner Brian Moore of Shrewsbury, Margaret Klosek and her husband William of Leicester and Kathleen Garrity and her husband

Robert of Barre, three grandchildren; Anthony, Sophia and Collin, nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her brother Albert Davenport, Jr. Born in Leicester she was the daughter of the late Albert Davenport, Sr. and later graduated from Leicester High School. Private graveside services were held by the family with burial in St. Joseph’s Cemetery, Leicester. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Leicester Food Pantry, c/o St. Joseph’s Church, 759 Main St., Leicester, MA 01524. the MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main St., Leicester is assisting the family with funeral arrangements. [www.morinfuneralhomes.com](http://www.morinfuneralhomes.com)

## JoAnna Maynard, 81

SPENCER – JoAnna Maynard, 81, of Maple Street, died Sunday, April 5, 2020, at Harrington Memorial Hospital in Southbridge. She is survived by a brother, Rene Maynard of Georgia, two sisters, Deloris Jastrzebski of Dudley and Robin Yates of Sturbridge; and many nephews and nieces. She was predeceased by a brother, Joseph Maynard who died in 1993; and three sisters, Elaine Triplett who died in 2003, Lois Leduc who died in 1993, and Jane Ray-Berger of Southbridge who died in 2015. She was born in Oxford,

daughter of the late Albert and Annie (Ray) Maynard, and lived in Oxford for many years prior to moving to Spencer. Due to the gathering restrictions in Massachusetts, a Mass at St. Roch’s Church and burial at St. Roch’s Cemetery will both be held privately. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Roch’s Church, 334 Main St., Oxford, MA 01540. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home in Oxford is directing the arrangements. [paradisfuneralhome.com](http://paradisfuneralhome.com)

## Mary Sanderson, 92



S P E N C E R - Mary (Cameron) Sanderson, 92, of Chickering Rd., died Monday, April 13 in Jewish Health Care Center, Worcester. She was the wife of Benjamin J. Sanderson, Jr. who died in 2002. She leaves her sons B. Barry Sanderson and his wife Debra, Todd C. Sanderson and his wife Diane and Brent C. Sanderson all of Spencer, her daughter Bonnie L. Dagostino of Leicester, 9 grandchildren, 17 great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Mary was a longtime assistant acquisitions librarian for the College of the Holy Cross before retiring in 1990. She

was born in Worcester, the daughter of Dewey and Ellen (Ross) Cameron and was raised in Cape Breton, Nova Scotia before returning to Worcester in her early 20’s. The family would like to thank the compassionate and caring staff at Jewish Heath Care while Mary was a resident of their community. Due to health restrictions, funeral services are private at this time with burial in Quabbin Cemetery, Ware at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Jewish Health Care Center (Patient Activity Account), 629 Salisbury St., Worcester, MA 01609. MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main St., Leicester is assisting the family with arrangements. [www.morinfuneralhomes.com](http://www.morinfuneralhomes.com)

## Amerigo “Mike” Simeone, 89




BARRE- Amerigo “Mike” Simeone, 89, passed away peacefully on April 9, 2020 in the Lutheran Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center in Worcester. Mike is survived by his beloved wife of 68 years, Fannie (Maio); 2 sons, Gary (wife Susan) of West Brookfield and Robert (wife Marlene) of Barre; a daughter-in-law Lynda of West Boylston; 5 grandchildren Jeffrey, Jennifer and Rebekah, Andrew and Therese, their spouses/partners and many nieces, nephews and friends. He was predeceased by a son Michael and 2 brothers, Nicholas and Gildo. Born on November 11, 1930, he was the son of Giuseppe & Rosina (Mallozzi) Simeone. A lifelong resident of Barre, Mike graduated from Barre High School in 1948. He is a Navy veteran of the Korean war, enlisting in August 1948 and honorably discharged as a Radioman 3rd class in August 1952. He married the same year and began the next phase of his life, attending school in the evenings and operating his own restaurant in town for several years. Upon completing his two years at Worcester Jr. College, he entered the Data Processing field with employment at Monarch Life in Springfield. He continued employment in the same field at William E. Wright Co. in West Warren and eventually retired from the same company with a brief employment span at Hanover Insurance Company. Mike generously offered his time and service to the community in various capacities. He served on the St. Thomas-A-Becket Parish Council and Maintenance & Grounds Committee while a lifelong parishioner of St. Thomas-A-Becket/St. Francis Assisi Parish. He was a past member and

Commander of George L. Thorng American Legion Post 404 as well as a lifelong member of Post 2 American Legion. Also, a past Commander for the Worcester County American Legion and Department Vice Commander, Commonwealth of Mass American Legion. He was one of the founding members of the board for the Barre Rescue Squad, and also a member of the Planning Board and Council on Aging for the Town of Barre. Mike was a volunteer worker for the Special Olympics and 38 years serving as a part time Barre Police Officer retiring in 1996. He also volunteered as Manager/Coach for Barre Little League during his sons tenures in the program. Mike had an outgoing personality and made friends easily with his infectious smile. He could start up a conversation with a perfect stranger and it would appear that they were best friends in just a matter of moments. He was a proud veteran and wore all uniforms admirably. He enjoyed the outdoors, hunting, fishing, gardening, golfing and passed his love of these on to his children. The family would like to thank the staff at Lutheran Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center who took such good care of Mike over the past several years. A private graveside service with military honors will be held in St. Josephs Cemetery in Barre. A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Donations may be made in his name to the Barre Senior Center 557 S. Barre Rd, Barre MA 01005. Pillsbury Funeral Home 96 S. Barre Rd. Barre is directing arrangements.



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Stonebridge Press, PO Box 90,  
Southbridge, MA 01550, or by e-mail  
to [obits@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:obits@stonebridgepress.news)



### NURSES

continued from page A1

of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center. These include gloves, face masks, and other vital supplies. Recognizing the urgent need, the district’s Lead Nurse, Sue Rowland, and her team took quick action after receiving the call for help. Together, they collected more than five boxes of protective equipment and donated them to the hospital. SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey was thrilled to recently receive word from the hospital that the donation of equipment from the district is being put to immediate use by staff members. With businesses, school districts, and organizations across the region following the SEBRSD’s lead and also donating equipment, local

hospitals have been able to ensure that their staff members are properly protected. “Many thanks to our Lead Nurse, Sue Rowland, and our outstanding nurses within the district who stepped up in a time of need to provide needed PPE’s during this public health crisis,” Superintendent Haughey said. “It is because of their outstanding efforts that we were able to be one of the first districts in the Southern Worcester County Region to answer their call for assistance for these needed supplies.” Even when school is out, it meant a lot for nurses in the district to provide aid and relief to those in need. The University of Massachusetts Memorial Medical Center, located in Worcester, continues to see some of the highest intake numbers in the state

for coronavirus patients. And thanks to the SEBRSD donation and others, the hospital’s employees are properly protected as they provide lifesaving treatment to patients. The district’s nurses also made a donation of protective equipment to the Spencer Police Department. Moreover, they have participated in the SEBRSD’s “Grab and Go” meals program to provide food for those in need. Finally, nurses have supported local and regional health officials in the tracking of COVID-19 cases. “All the credit goes to these outstanding nurses. They are true professionals and a credit not only to the field of medicine, but public education as well,” Haughey said. Several other members of the school community have

also stepped up and helped those in need. Amid an unprecedented crisis, school leaders have been thrilled by the solidarity of the community. “With all the uncertainty going on, I have become extremely impressed with this district and the positivity it has been able to achieve,” said Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee Chairman Jason Monette. “Administration and staff have been working hard handing out breakfast and lunch to much-needed families. Our friends at Flexcon also prepare creativity kits and bring them to our food drop-off sites to be handed out as well.” Even though the school community has been largely kept apart since March, they continue to find countless ways to stay united.

### BROOKFIELD

continued from page A1

community members to leave checks and other documents for town departments. Please practice social distancing measures in the vicinity of the building. Board of Selectmen meetings continue to be held via virtual access. To view an upcoming meeting, log onto [mytowngovernment.org](http://mytowngovernment.org) and scroll down the agenda page for instructions on virtual access (accessible via phone or computer). Additional details can be found on [www.mytowngovernment.org/01506](http://www.mytowngovernment.org/01506). “The Town of Brookfield is committed to ensure our residents remain safe and healthy throughout this challenging period,” officials wrote. For selectmen, it has taken some time to adjust to the remote meetings. Selectmen had never been involved in a meeting where the entire Board conversed from different locations. The town is using the Go to Meeting platform for its virtual meetings, unlike several area towns that have relied on Zoom services. “The Brookfield Board of Selectmen has now met three times remotely,” said Selectman Clarence Snyder. “The last was the best, as we become better at caller protocols. We are learning.” If you have questions or concerns, contact the Board of Selectmen’s office at 508-867-2930 (ext. 10). You can also send an email to [selectmen@brookfield-ma.us](mailto:selectmen@brookfield-ma.us). Concerns will either be resolved or added to the next Board agenda if action needs to be taken by selectmen. The town will continue to regularly update its homepage with links to state COVID-19 Web sites. There will also be information posted when individual departments and buildings reopen. At upcoming meetings, selectmen plan to address several issues, including how the Annual Town Meeting will be conducted and what preparations need to be made to ensure social distancing. This will be addressed more fully as officials receive additional guidance, Snyder said. Also, the Board of Health is conducting a weekly town-wide call to provide updated information on the situation.

# Professional Directory

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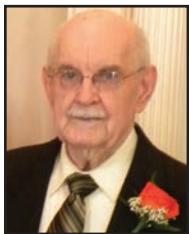


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## Laurence “Larry” Perkins



**N O R T H B R O O K F I E L D**- Laurence “Larry” Perkins, passed away peacefully at home early Wednesday morning with his son Brian L. Perkins and daughter-in-law Diane at his side. He was 95 years, 8 months old. Larry, as all knew him, lived a very full life. Soon after he was born in Milo, Maine, the first of 3 children, his parents moved onto a farm in Milo where he grew up until he left the farm in 1942. He loved people and was one of the gentlest and humblest men of his generation. He was predeceased by his younger siblings Evelyn Perkins and his brother Howard “Ted” Perkins. His first wife of 52 years, Dolores Perkins, also predeceased him 15 years ago, as did his second wife of 13 years, Gwen, whom he married when he was 80 years old and she was 88. She passed away at 101. An active Jehovah’s Witness from an early age, Larry keenly enjoyed reaching out to all around him to share the Good News of God’s Kingdom – knocking on doors and studying the Bible with interested ones encouraging them to turn to their Bibles for comfort, while never losing his love for personal home visits. Being an avid student of the Bible, he made it his goal to each year read it from Genesis to Revelation. At a young age he took a firm stand as a conscientious objector against a war time conscription, embracing the scriptural counsel to not lift up a sword against his fellow man. For that, he was sentenced to 2 years in Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury, CT in the early 1940’s. Following his release on parole, he moved to Cleveland, Ohio where he met his first wife, Dolores Utovich. They had 3 children together, Wayne (now lives in California), Darla J. Rust who resides outside of London, England, and his youngest, Brian L. with whom he lived. While continuing with his preaching endeavors in Cleveland, Ohio he took on a position of office superintendent for Blaw-Knox Power Piping Division, setting up the office and hiring construction workers at new construction sites. Due to the type of job he had, he would move his family about every year or so to the next build site. He thus moved his family from Cleveland, Ohio to Waterloo, Iowa; Davenport, Iowa; Birmingham, Alabama; Gary, Indiana; Chesterton, Indiana; and finally, Oswego, New York. He then left the company and moved the family to Bangor, Maine to be closer to his parents. There he worked in the office of the local electric company. His brother Ted invited him to Massachusetts to build houses together and so the move was on again. Larry effectively retired in 1980 accepting an offer for him and his wife to serve at the recently built Natick Assembly Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses where they both served as caretakers, which they did until 1988. Leaving there, they again served their fellow man in the Northbridge, MA area until the death of his first wife in February 2003. In all these moves Larry never lost his zeal for preaching and would do so at every opportunity. After the passing of his first wife he moved to North Brookfield to be closer to his son. He married Gwen (Lombard) in the fall of 2004 and they lived in North Brookfield together until her passing in 2017. When his health began to deteriorate his son and daughter-in-law moved Larry into their home in North Brookfield where he lived until his death. As the door to door ministry became difficult with age, he would write letters to ones in his community encouraging them to look into their bibles for comfort. His favorite remained though of those personal home visits. Besides his children Wayne, Darla, and Brian, Larry leaves behind his grandchildren: Amanda Artusato (California); Alex Perkins (Iceland); Tatiana Perkins (California); Thaddeaus Perkins (California); Philip Rust (England); Jonathan Rust (England); Brian, Jr. (Hopkinton, MA); Bethany Minnick (Florida); Bridgette Ebbeling (Douglas, MA); Stephen Goyette (California); Ryan Dulac (Franklin, MA); and Alyssa Jalbert (Franklin, MA). He also leaves behind many great-grandchildren, and too many friends and “adopted” children to list whom he took under his wing and encouraged to also serve the one living God, Jehovah. He will be dearly missed by all he touched until he is resurrected in the paradise earth he loved to tell others about. Laurence

“Larry” Perkins passed away peacefully at home early Wednesday morning with his son Brian L. Perkins and daughter-in-law Diane at his side. He was 95 years, 8 months old. Larry, as all knew him, lived a very full life. Soon after he was born in Milo, Maine, the first of 3 children, his parents moved onto a farm in Milo where he grew up until he left the farm in 1942. He loved people and was one of the gentlest and humblest men of his generation. He was predeceased by his younger siblings Evelyn Perkins and his brother Howard “Ted” Perkins. His first wife of 52 years, Dolores Perkins, also predeceased him 15 years ago, as did his second wife of 13 years, Gwen, whom he married when he was 80 years old and she was 88. She passed away at 101. An active Jehovah’s Witness from an early age, Larry keenly enjoyed reaching out to all around him to share the Good News of God’s Kingdom – knocking on doors and studying the Bible with interested ones encouraging them to turn to their Bibles for comfort, while never losing his love for personal home visits. Being an avid student of the Bible, he made it his goal to each year read it from Genesis to Revelation. At a young age he took a firm stand as a conscientious objector against a war time conscription, embracing the scriptural counsel to not lift up a sword against his fellow man. For that, he was sentenced to 2 years in Federal Correctional Institution in Danbury, CT in the early 1940’s. Following his release on parole, he moved to Cleveland, Ohio where he met his first wife, Dolores Utovich. They had 3 children together, Wayne (now lives in California), Darla J. Rust who resides outside of London, England, and his youngest, Brian L. with whom he lived. While continuing with his preaching endeavors in Cleveland, Ohio he took on a position of office superintendent for Blaw-Knox Power Piping Division, setting up the office and hiring construction workers at new construction sites. Due to the type of job he had, he would move his family about every year or so to the next build site. He thus moved his family from Cleveland, Ohio to Waterloo, Iowa; Davenport, Iowa; Birmingham, Alabama; Gary, Indiana; Chesterton, Indiana; and finally, Oswego, New York. He then left the company and moved the family to Bangor, Maine to be closer to his parents. There he worked in the office of the local electric company. His brother Ted invited him to Massachusetts to build houses together and so the move was on again. Larry effectively retired in 1980 accepting an offer for him and his wife to serve at the recently built Natick Assembly Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses where they both served as caretakers, which they did until 1988. Leaving there, they again served their fellow man in the Northbridge, MA area until the death of his first wife in February 2003. In all these moves Larry never lost his zeal for preaching and would do so at every opportunity. After the passing of his first wife he moved to North Brookfield to be closer to his son. He married Gwen (Lombard) in the fall of 2004 and they lived in North Brookfield together until her passing in 2017. When his health began to deteriorate his son and daughter-in-law moved Larry into their home in North Brookfield where he lived until his death. As the door to door ministry became difficult with age, he would write letters to ones in his community encouraging them to look into their bibles for comfort. His favorite remained though of those personal home visits. Besides his children Wayne, Darla, and Brian, Larry leaves behind his grandchildren: Amanda Artusato (California); Alex Perkins (Iceland); Tatiana Perkins (California); Thaddeaus Perkins (California); Philip Rust (England); Jonathan Rust (England); Brian, Jr. (Hopkinton, MA); Bethany Minnick (Florida); Bridgette Ebbeling (Douglas, MA); Stephen Goyette (California); Ryan Dulac (Franklin, MA); and Alyssa Jalbert (Franklin, MA). He also leaves behind many great-grandchildren, and too many friends and “adopted” children to list whom he took under his wing and encouraged to also serve the one living God, Jehovah. He will be dearly missed by all he touched until he is resurrected in the paradise earth he loved to tell others about. Laurence

## Ronald Miner, 84

**B R O O K F I E L D** - Ronald Miner, 84 of Brookfield, MA died peacefully on April 8, 2020.

He leaves behind his three sons Keith, Darryl, and Troy, five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren and his very special friend of eight years Karin Rhault. He was predeceased by the love of his life and soulmate of 56 years, Sandra (St. Martin) Miner whom he grew up with as a child two houses away in “Little Canada” of his hometown North Brookfield. He was also predeceased by his brother Gerald Miner and sister Valerie Paquette. He is the son of the late Lionel and Evelyn Miner.

Ronald worked in the maintenance department of Quaboag Corporation in North Brookfield and is a veteran

of the United States Army.

Ron was most at home puttering around his house and was skilled in fixing things and creating gadgets. His home-made Halloween displays drew crowds every year. Ron and his wife Sandy were talented dancers in the area that are frequently mentioned to this day. A private burial will take place at a future date. The Shaw-Majercik Funeral Home, 48 School St., Webster, MA has been entrusted with his arrangements. A guest book is available at [www.shaw-majercik.com](http://www.shaw-majercik.com) where you can post a condolence or light a candle.



# OBITUARIES

## Harry R. Blaisdell, Jr., 78



**E A S T B R O O K F I E L D**- Harry R. Blaisdell, Jr., 78, died Thursday, April 9th. in UMASS Memorial Medical Center in Worcester after a long illness.

He leaves his wife of 58 years, Ann M. (Lennerton) Blaisdell, his son David W. Blaisdell and his partner Sandra Gregson of Spencer, his daughter Debra A. Ritzer and her partner Kenneth Murphy of Medford, his sister Eleanor Kraner and her husband David of Southbridge, his grandchildren Zachary Mahan of Medford and Gabriel Blaisdell of Spencer, and several nieces.

Born in Ware, he was the son of Harry R. and Marjorie (Hunter) Blaisdell, Sr. and later graduated from David Prouty High School in Spencer (Class of 1959) and Worcester State College earn-

ing Bachelor and Masters Degrees. He was a teacher in the Leicester School System for 39 years and substituted there for 10 years after his retirement.

Harry was an avid golfer. He played at Bay Path Golf Course for almost 50 years and ran several leagues during that time. He was an avid sports fan who loved the Patriots and New York Yankees.

Due to health restrictions at this time, private funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family. A Memorial Service will be held at a later date and at a time to be announced. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to D.P.H.S. Permanent Scholarship Fund, P. O. Box 172, Spencer, MA. 01562.

**J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME**, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer is assisting the family with arrangements.

[www.morinfuneralhomes.com](http://www.morinfuneralhomes.com)

## Margaret (Peg) McCarthy Miller



Margaret (Peg) McCarthy Miller died in her home on March 19, 2020. She was 75.

Peg was born on June 23, 1944 in Warren, MA to her parents, Raymond McCarthy and Margaret Dumas McCarthy. She graduated from Warren High School in 1962. She married her high school sweetheart, Gary Evan Miller, in 1963, and they remained happily married for 57 years. They moved to West Brookfield, MA, in 1970. In 1972 they purchased their home at the head of the common. They spent the next 48 years there restoring the home and making countless wonderful memories. In July of 2019 they moved to Chapel Hill, NC to live with their daughter.

Peg worked for many years as a teacher and Grants Administrator in Museum Education at Old Sturbridge Village. In 1990 she opened her own Financial Planning practice for American Express, later Ameriprise. Peg faithfully served the best interests of her clients for over 25 years.

Volunteer work was very important to Peg, and she served on the West Brookfield Planning Board for 17 years, and on the town’s Bicentennial Committee as well. Peg was a campaign volunteer for Senator Robert Wetmore, and was a staunch proponent of the ERA.

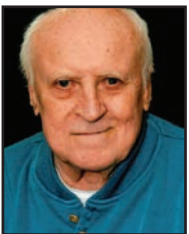
Peg and Gary (Mike) Miller loved entertaining at their home on the common, especially on band concert evenings, and spending time with their wonderful group of lifelong friends. They were members of the Lake

Wickaboag Boat Club for many years. Vacation time was spent on Cape Cod, the Maine coast, visiting family in NC, and skiing in NH, VT and MA. Peg loved animals, dining out, gardening, collecting antiques, and spending time with family and friends. Her only regret was that she never visited Ireland. Her final days were spent at home in the company of family, comforted by her kitties who kept her warm. The faithful family dog, Bernie, lay by her bed and kept her safe.

She is survived by her husband, Gary (Mike) Miller; her daughter, Shannon Miller Hathaway, her son Michael Raymond Miller and his wife Joann Impallaria; her grandsons Timothy Dalton Hathaway and his wife Alison Beals Hathaway, and John (Jack) Miller Hathaway and his fiancée Audrey Jensen; her great-grandsons Finn Michael Hathaway and Sullivan Augustine Hathaway; her sister Sheila McCarthy Rees and her husband F. William Rees; and many cousins, nieces and nephews.

Peg was be buried in a private graveside ceremony on March 22, 2020 at Markham Memorial Gardens in Chapel Hill, NC. An Irish Wake was held in her home in Chapel Hill on March 21, 2020 at 3pm. Planning is underway for a mid-summer Memorial Service in West Brookfield, MA. In lieu of flowers, we ask that donations be made to UNC Hospice in Chapel Hill, NC; Second Chance Animal Shelter in East Brookfield, MA; or the Friends of Wake County Animal Center in Raleigh, NC. Walker’s Funeral Home of Chapel Hill has been entrusted with caring for the Miller family.

## John J. Larkham, 93



**E A S T B R O O K F I E L D** - John J. Larkham, 93, formerly of East Brookfield, peacefully passed away on Saturday, April 11 at Quaboag Rehabilitation & Skilled Care Center,

West Brookfield. Born in Worcester, he was the son of Frank O. and Margaret (Conway) Larkham.

He was predeceased by his wife of 65 years, Irene A. (Eldridge) Larkham, in 2012. He is survived by his loving children, Nancy E. Larkham and her spouse, Jeanne, of Scituate; David and his wife, Karen of West Brookfield; Richard J Larkham of Southbridge; and Jeffrey P. Larkham and his former wife Rebecca of Newton, NH. He also leaves his cherished grandchildren, Ethan, Grahm and Luke Larkham, as well as many nieces and nephews. A sister Marguerite Hoey of Auburn. He was predeceased by brothers; Raymond, Herbert, James and Bud as well as his sister, Estelle.

Family meant everything to John and his loving and steady presence will be greatly missed by all knew him.

John worked as a shipper at Chicago Beef Co. for 34 years and later worked in the East Brookfield School System as a custodian, until his retirement. At his 90th birthday celebration his son Jeffrey gave a moving toast which noted John’s pride and integrity at all stages in his life. No matter what life threw at him, John would handle it “with courage, grace and

quiet determination.” He was a man of faith, having been a longtime member and communicant for the St. John the Baptist Church in East Brookfield.

The family would like to thank the wonderful staff at Quaboag Rehabilitation & Skilled Care Center for their kind attention to detail and care, for the time John was there. They also would like to extend the same Thank You and appreciation to the amazing team at Brookhaven, who made John feel so comfortable, while he was there, also located in West Brookfield.

Due to current health conditions and restrictions, a Memorial Mass will be held at a later date and at a time to be announced in St. John the Baptist Church, East Brookfield.

**J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME**, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer is assisting the family with arrangements.

[www.morinfuneralhomes.com](http://www.morinfuneralhomes.com)

## In Loving Remembrance 16th Anniversary

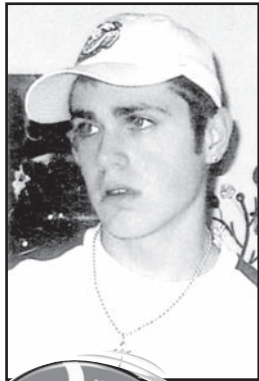
## John Soboleski III

April 13, 2004 - April 13, 2020

Death leaves a heartache  
No one can heal  
Memories are treasures  
No one can steal  
Some may forget you  
Now that you are gone  
But we will remember  
No matter how long  
You will always stay  
Loved and remembered  
No tears, No Verse  
Can ever say how much  
We miss you every day

We will always cherish the  
time we had with you

**Your Loving Family and Friends**





# North Brookfield Savings offers information on COVID-19-related scams

NORTH BROOKFIELD — In an effort to protect customers and community members, North Brookfield Savings Bank has compiled some common frauds and scams related to COVID-19, as well as resources on how best to deal with them. It's an unfortunate truth that particularly during times of hardship, fraudsters and scammers will attempt to take advantage of the situation to steal people's money, personal information, or identity. It is important, now more than ever, to be as aware and prepared as possible to combat such attempts.

Scammers will try to trick victims by approaching them with information they know is of interest and they may make themselves appear to come from a familiar source, all in the hopes that the person will act or click before thinking it through.

A brief overview of scams and fraud to look out for are:

- o Stimulus check information
- o Fake CDC Alerts emails
- o Health Advice emails
- o Workplace policies emails
- o Charity donation requests
- o Phone calls
- o Text Messages
- o Offers for "free" services (such as streaming services)

- o Offers for medical equipment, cures, or treatments
- o Investment offers

### STIMULUS CHECK SCAMS

Be wary of emails, text, calls or other correspondence relating to your COVID-19 government stimulus check. Any emails, texts, or calls are not legitimate. They might promise faster delivery or ask to verify personal or banking information - the government will not do this.

If you have filed your 2019 taxes and selected to receive a refund via direct deposit, your stimulus check will be deposited into the account you elected for your tax refund. If you have not filed 2019 taxes, but filed your 2018 taxes last year and opted for direct deposit, your stimulus check will be deposited into the account you elected for your 2018 tax refund. If you have not authorized a direct deposit for your tax refund, you will receive a check via the USPS (if eligible).

### EMAIL SCAMS

Email scams, also known as phishing, are when fraudsters and scammers send emails claiming to be from legitimate organizations.

The email messages might ask you to open an attachment to see the latest

statistics on COVID-19. If you click on the attachment or embedded link, it is possible you could download malicious software onto your device. The malicious software could allow scammers to take control of your computer, log your keystrokes, or access your personal information and financial data, which could lead to identity theft.

Common types of coronavirus themed phishing emails:

**Fake CDC Alerts:** The email might falsely claim to link to a list of coronavirus cases in your area or offer information on testing, results, or anything else that might get you to open the email.

**Fake Health Advice Emails:** Emails that offer supposed medical advice to help protect you against the coronavirus. The emails might claim to be from medical experts. "This little measure can save you," one phishing email says. "Use the link below to download Safety Measures."

**Fake Workplace Policy Email:** Some fraudsters and scammers have targeted employees' workplace email, often with links to fake policies. If you click on the fake company policy, you'll download malicious software.

How to recognize & avoid phishing emails:

Like other types of phishing emails, the messages usually try to get you to click on a link or provide personal information that can be used to commit fraud or identity theft. Here's some tips to avoid getting tricked.

Beware of requests for personal information. A coronavirus-themed email that seeks personal information like your Social Security number or login information is a scam. Legitimate government agencies won't ask for that information. Never respond to the email with your personal data.

Check the email address or link. You can inspect a link by hovering your mouse button over the URL to see where it leads. Sometimes, it's obvious the Web address is not legitimate. But keep in mind scammers and fraudsters can create links that closely resemble real websites. Delete the email if you suspect it is a scam.

Watch for spelling and grammatical mistakes. If an email includes spelling, punctuation, and grammar errors, it's likely a sign you've received a phishing email. Delete it.

Look for generic greetings. Phishing emails are unlikely to use your name. Greetings like "Dear sir or madam" signal an email is not legitimate.

Avoid emails that insist you act now. Phishing emails often try to create a sense of urgency or demand immediate action. The goal is to get you to click on a link and provide personal information without thoroughly thinking it through. Delete the message.

### DONATION SCAMS

In this time of need you may be in a position to help others who find themselves in need. While doing so is a very admirable goal, you must do your due diligence ahead of time.

Do your homework when it comes to contributing any donations, whether through charities or crowdfunding sites. Don't let anyone rush you into making a donation. Take your time and

ensure that the charities and causes you are considering donating to are legitimate and have a proven track record of making good use of the donations they receive. If someone wants donations in cash, by gift card, or by wiring money, don't do it.

### TELEPHONE SCAMS

Scammers & Fraudsters may try to call you on the phone in an effort to gather personal or financial information. They may use tactics designed to intimidate, confuse, or scare you. All in an effort to make you not think twice about giving them sensitive information.

You may also receive robocalls, if you answer the phone and hear a recorded message instead of a live person, it's a robocall. Hang up. Don't press any numbers. The recording might say that pressing a number will let you speak to a live operator or remove you from their call list but it might lead to more robocalls. Illegal robocalls are used to pitch everything from scam Coronavirus treatments to work-at-home schemes.

### TEXT & SOCIAL MEDIA SCAMS

Text messages, facebook messages, and other messenger platforms can also have scammers and fraudsters using them. Should you receive a message with a link in it, do not click it, as it will download malware onto your device, even a phone or tablet. The message could be from an unknown sender or may even be from someone you know. In the latter case they are most likely a victim of a similar scam.

### FREE SERVICE OR SUPPLIES SCAMS

Be aware of offers and ads for cures, treatments, medical supplies, free video streaming services, ways to track the virus' spread, or other too good to be true claims.

If you are shopping online, know who you're buying from. Online sellers may claim to have in-demand products, like cleaning, household, or health and medical supplies when, in fact, they don't. All in an attempt to gather your credit card information or to get you to unknowingly download malware onto your device.

Ignore online offers for vaccinations and home test kits. Scammers are trying to get you to buy products that aren't proven to treat or prevent the Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) — online or in stores. At this time, there are no FDA-authorized home test kits for the Coronavirus.


As always, North Brookfield Savings Bank encourages everyone to fact-check all information you receive no matter the source. Scammers, and often times innocent well-meaning people, share information that hasn't been verified. Before you pass on any messages, contact trusted sources to ensure they are legitimate. Visit official COVID-19 channels through our North Brookfield Savings Bank COVID-19 Resource Center, [www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com/Coronavirus](http://www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com/Coronavirus).

### TO REPORT A SCAM OR FRAUD:


North Brookfield Savings Bank's online Security Center lets you quickly take action, based on the scam type, through our Report Fraud and Scam webpage. It is important to act fast! Visit: <https://www.northbrookfieldsavingsbank.com/report-fraud-and-scams/>

# ATTN: LANDSCAPERS

## Scotland Hardwoods is Now Offering PREMIUM HARDWOOD BARK MULCH (NATURAL AND COLORED) AT WHOLESALE PRICES



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## Spencer police urge proper disposal of protective equipment

SPENCER – Police remind residents to properly dispose of all personal protective equipment, including gloves and masks. Complaints of littering have increased in recent weeks. Littering of gloves and masks in public areas will incur a \$1,000 non-criminal bylaw fine, police said. "This is not just littering – it is a health hazard," police wrote in a statement.

## LEGALS

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Worcester Division  
Docket No. WO20P0871EA  
Estate of:  
Geraldine R. Foty  
Date Of Death: December 6, 2019  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**  
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Daniel P Foty of Cambridge VT** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.  
**Daniel P Foty of Cambridge VT**

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interest-

ed parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.  
April 17, 2020

### Public Hearing

The Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at 6pm, Tuesday, May 5, 2020 in the Brookfield Town Hall Banquet Room. The purpose of this hearing is a request by Kenneth and Meghan Robidoux for a special permit for building a supplemental apartment at 32 Town Farm Road located in the Rural Residential District, according to Brookfield Zoning By-laws, Section 5.B.2. Stephen J. Comtois II  
ZBA Chairman  
April 17, 2020  
April 24, 2020



# REAL ESTATE



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**NEW LISTING**



**SOLD**



**SOLD**



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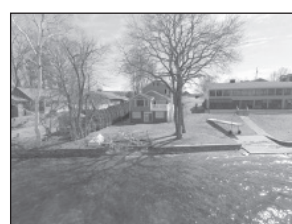
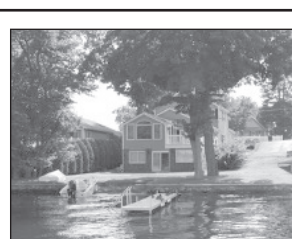
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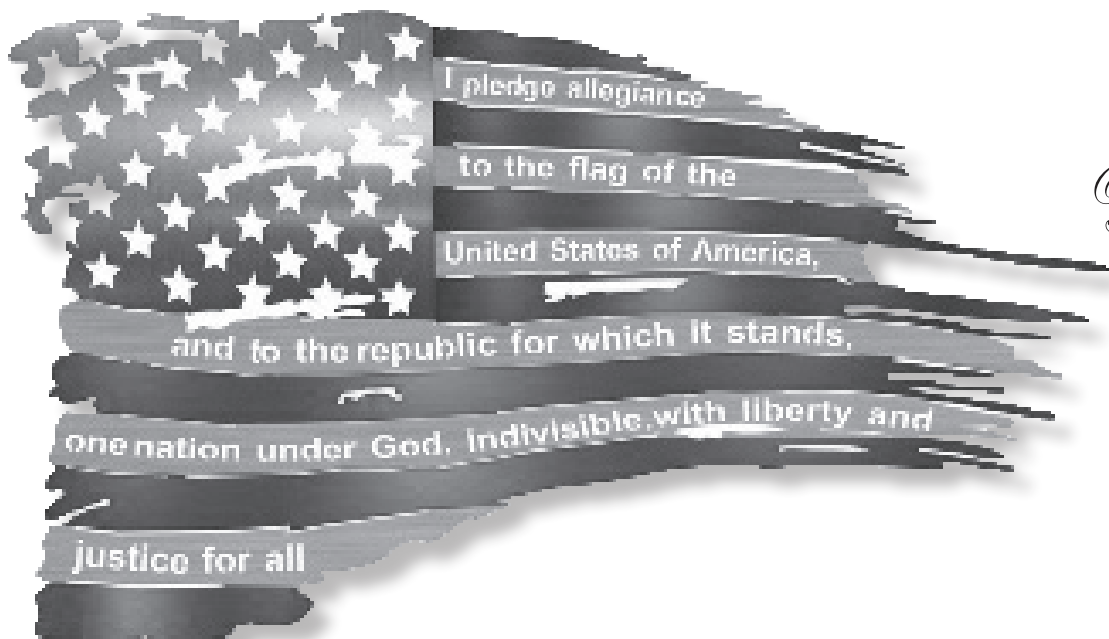
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*allow the HOPE*

*to Prevail!*

*God Bless Our United States of America!*



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Restraints on our economy should be released

To the Editor:

These are unprecedented times. We support all efforts to reverse the current trend and to allow businesses to begin to reopen. Allowing economic activity to resume will result in fewer deaths and less destruction than the current virus. A danger not only to Americans, but to the world that ultimately depends on us.

Private entities must be able to start to make their own decisions, how to mitigate risks, just as the designated “essential” businesses are doing now (e.g., grocery stores erecting plastic shields at the checkout, wearing masks, social distancing with floor markers).

The fallout is otherwise too great economically in the short term but especially in the long term. A crashed economy does not spring back to life upon a government’s decree. No stimulus checks from D.C.’s printing press offsets actual economic activity. That means livelihoods lost and yes, it means lives lost, standards of living diminished for decades after this crisis passes. After all, we don’t take all cars off the road because of the huge death toll from car accidents. We add regulations, protections, and industries innovate to maximize safety.

Help support your first responders

To the Editor:

The paramedics and EMTs of the non-profit Spencer Rescue Squad are on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic. They run one ambulance at ALS level 24/7 and a second ambulance a minimum of an additional eight hours per day. They do their job at great risk to themselves and their families, and without complaint. Some have already been exposed to the virus. Many of our Basic EMTs earn only a few cents per hour over minimum wage, which is why I’m asking for some support for their meals while they’re working shifts that can run 16-24 hours.

While they often pick up food to go from local restaurants, they also prepare some meals in the kitchen at the Spencer Rescue Squad headquarters. Some of the local restaurants that are still open for meals to go or for deliv-

What is at stake are the unintended consequences of policy often made with good intentions but not enough deliberation. The toll it can take is on health, mental illness, livelihood, families, quality of life and welfare with higher suicide rates, domestic violence, derailed education, shorter life spans and decrease in public health services. And as always, the poor among us will suffer the most from a collapsed economy.

We are now finding that the virus “models” that our government has been depending upon to impose restrictions on its citizens are falling very short of expectations (number of predicted hospitalizations, deaths, how fatality rates are measured). In the weeks ahead, a clearer picture of the disease’s devastation will come into focus and fatality estimates will be based on more factual information. As this comes about, the government should carefully weigh the costs of the current restrictive measures and consider re-calibrating. The stakes are too high. A good economy saves lives.

Thank you.

ANNE STARZYK  
WEST BROOKFIELD

To the Editor:

It has been three weeks since the first stay-at-home order in the US, four weeks since our schools closed, and by the time of publication, our schools will have been closed for five consecutive weeks. We now have a third of the entire world total of coronavirus cases, and by the time of reading, we are likely to be reaching half of the world total due to the fact we are growing faster than the rest of the world.

The U.S. is adjusting to a new and terrible reality. We are seeing society’s heroes change from investment bankers to doctors and nurses. We are seeing people start to respect grocery store workers and recognize the role they play in our society.

Our government response is mixed. At the federal level, we have great minds that are all coddling Trump and walking a tight line not to oppose him too much lest they get fired. We aren’t getting a sense of great competence and expertise in the federal response but we get a little more of that at the state level. The deaths are mounting, the economy is crashing down around us, and our country’s mental health is suffering.

Bernie Sanders has dropped out of the presidential race, but his legacy has only just begun. If anything, our current crisis has laid bare the income inequality, wealth inequality, opportunity inequality and disparity in this country. Just look at healthcare – 10 million people have become unemployed due to a public health crisis and lost their healthcare in the process. The very concept of tying healthcare to employment should be up for review. We should all remember that we are the only 1st world nation not to guaranty healthcare as a human right and government service. What Bernie has been talking about for years is now laid at our collective feet.

What is fascinating is that governors who have daily TV updates are doing very well with approval ratings hovering around 80 percent. Chris Sununu (R) in New Hampshire even has 61 percent support among Democrats. Trump, on the other hand, has not seen a rise in popularity because his daily doses of

COVID updates are merely rally substitutes full of self-pity, full of ineffective putdowns of those around him, and complaints that he isn’t getting enough appreciation and attention. Governors on the other hand are providing empathy, direction, information, encouragement, and facts. This isn’t partisan – Republican governors are doing a better job than President Trump.

Trump initially resisted taking action against COVID-19. He then promised full churches on Easter. Then he promised the country would be open by May 1. Now he is promising an “opening up commission.” It is almost like every point on the S&P 500 is worth 1,000 lives and he is desperately trying to make a trade as if one could be made.

We aren’t ready to open up, but we do need to know what “phase 2” looks like. We are going to hunker down for a while but how will we re-open? We need to know what our world will look like post-COVID. What is our endgame?

There are a lot of plans out there by private organizations that involve massive testing and phone apps to trace people who may have been exposed in a surveillance program worse than George Orwell ever could have imagined. China opened back up with a draconian tracking system and mandatory surveillance phone apps.

While it is good that Trump is putting together a committee, he has required 100 percent loyalty of all members so if you’ve ever said anything nasty about Donald Trump then you don’t qualify which guarantees a very low level of competence from the committee. The North Korean style loyalty tests are going to be crushing competence of any effort going forward. While Trump says he isn’t looking at political affiliation, all the president has done since he was acquitted from impeachment has been to go after career politicians, public servants who have given honest testimony, and the politics of settling scores. We have a loyalty administration at this point.

These are interesting times...

DAVID ROSENBERG  
SPENCER

Additional Letters to the Editor, see pages A8, 10



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# REAL ESTATE





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Coronavirus is not the real danger to America

To the Editor:

Otto von Bismarck, the “Iron Chancellor” of Germany, purportedly cracked while noting the improbable successes of the young American nation, “God watches out for drunks, fools, and the United States of America.” Well...maybe. But after observing the way much of the country has conducted itself during the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, one might well wonder just how much more patience will He have with us?

To be sure, despite the current situation bringing out the absolute worst in some terrified, self-centered, greedy individuals, the opposite is also true: heroes are emerging, as they always have every time America has been thrust into a time of national emergency. Front-line medical workers-EMT’s, doctors, nurses, home health aides, hospital technicians, food handlers, janitorial staff, and others-are performing way above the call of duty. Non-medical personnel like truck drivers, police, firefighters, grocery store workers, convenience store clerks among many occupations, must all come in close contact with total strangers and hope for the best. So far, they’ve been willing to do it. Heroes all, and deserving of the thanks of us all.

Few have reached the apotheosis of selflessness as profoundly as did the stricken priest in Bergamo, Northern Italy, Don Giuseppe Beradelli, who, when informed there was only one ventilator left but two patients who required one, quietly said, “Let him have it.” And then he died. I have to think the padre was seeing John 15:13 as he struggled for air: “Greater love hath no man than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.”

But, not everyone has so covered him/her self with glory. We have the spectacle of the hoarders grabbing every roll of TP, every bottle of hand sanitizer, every food article they could possibly get while not having the slightest concern that others would be needing things as well as themselves, and so what if they stock up so much stuff

they’d have to live to a hundred to ever use it all up.

Then there’s the occasional cops who go overboard and arrest and handcuff the young father throwing a ball in a park with his daughter, or the completely out-of-control totalitarian Gov. Whitmer of Michigan, who tells her jackboots to go into private homes, if necessary, to look for neighbors spending time together in violation of her edicts. She bans fishing in the outdoors-loving Wolverine State for who knows what reason. The same crackpot (possible VP candidate for Biden) threatens to jail doctors for prescribing the anti-malarial drug Hydroxychloroquine to suffering patients since Trump had mused that it might be helpful. But she later begs the federal government to send her state a supply when it becomes more clear that it might work. Practice hypocrisy much? No wonder Trump has already dubbed her Governor (half)-Whitmer.

And, of course, the usual suspects, the mainstream press, doesn’t miss a beat in their incessant, obsessive crusade to “get” Trump, to destroy his presidency forever. These are truly dangerously wicked people just as are the Democrats under Schumer and that hideous woman, Pelosi. It doesn’t matter to these people how many Americans die this spring from this disease, the more the better as far as they’re concerned. Then they can blame it all on Trump, who, any honest observer of the scene has to admit, has done a phenomenal job of trying to lead the country out of this minefield in which it has found itself. These are shameless people who deserve no respect from any decent person.

But, closer to home, what about “Leicester Woman”; how can I forget her? This is the benighted soul who, outraged at being informed by a Walmart checkout clerk that she had more than the allotted number of some product and couldn’t purchase them, proceeded to take a can of Lysol and spray the unsuspecting clerk full in the face and eyes before escaping into the night. Nice, huh?

## Leave plague management to the professionals

To the Editor:

Although I am not the governor nor a state legislator, I would like to respond to Ms. Anne Starzyk regarding her plea of April 5 to allow private businesses to resume.

Ms. Starzyk – these are unprecedented times, not that we have a plague on our hands but that we actually understand what is going on and humanity plays a part in how the virus spreads. There have been plagues and pandemics, but never before did our leaders have our fate in their hands. This time period will be studied for generations long after we are all 6 feet under. Contemporary American values hold saving every life possible, personal liberty, and economic wellbeing to all be priority #1 with it being inconceivable to trade 1 priority for another. We are unwilling to discuss trading lives for money or lives for individualistic freedom and prefer to stick our heads in the sand when a choice must be made. Unfortunately, in 2020, we are forced to address this trade.

On April 4, when you presumably wrote your plea, the US had 308,800 COVID cases and 2,602 deaths. Today, as I write this response, there are 530,200 cases in the US and 20,614 deaths. By the time you read this, what will the case count be? What will the death toll be? At the rate we are going, by April 17, when you read this, we will have 700,000 cases and 35,000 deaths. Keep in mind, this country is under the strictest restrictions to slow the spread in our history, and this is what we have. Imagine if we “re-opened” the economy prematurely.

This is really simple math. It should be easy to see the mathematical simplicity of the infection rate, the exponential growth, the hospitalization rate, the ICU/

ventilator rate, the number of ventilators we even have, and the death rate despite all interventions, all of it. If you can’t see the significance of the public health crisis, you are either being intentionally obtuse or our educational system has failed you bigly.

Economic success and controlling the public health crisis is a false dichotomy. We can’t have a functioning economy during a plague where a large portion of the population is sicker than they’ve ever been, hospitals are being overrun, cemeteries are full, and funeral homes refuse to remove bodies from known COVID homes. We can’t be piling bodies up and have a functioning economy; it will grind to a halt on its own. Nobody is going to go to the bars and restaurants if they are afraid for their own health and safety. Nobody will go shopping, go on vacation, or otherwise spend money on anything but essentials if they fear for their health. If we let this go uncontrolled, it will come back in waves and won’t be over for years.

Remember the non-existent “death panels” that were screamed about in 2010 in a failed attempt to derail Obamacare? Well, it’s 2020, a reality TV star and professional jerk is president, and death panels are now very real, as we don’t have the medical capacity to save every life amid a poorly controlled pandemic while small business owners want to make their own plague management decisions.

I know this will anger the “America First” crowd, but perhaps we should look outside our borders for guidance? We are not the first country hit. China, Italy, and Spain all got hit before us. We have the most resources between our military, intelligence community, our NIH and CDC... We were fourth, and still

Well, no, it isn’t; what it is, is domestic terrorism different in degree but not in kind from that often found in Europe, where-for example-one might be shopping on Oxford Street in London when some savage man from a savage land simply walks up and tosses a splash of sulfuric acid into the face of a total stranger. The mindset in both actions is the same: complete disregard for the suffering of another innocent human being, and the anger of the criminal is all the justification he/she needs to perpetrate their savagery.

I can already hear the pearl-clutching liberals reading this as they rush to support “Leicester Woman” (since she’s apparently a member of a protected class): “Well, we had slavery once, you know.” Or, “Well, we took Puerto Rico for our own imperialist purposes, didn’t we?! Huh?!” Or, “Well, California really belongs to Mexico. We stole it, you know.” So what? Not one single thing you’ve said has anything to do with the vicious assault on the clerk doing her-or his-best in a difficult situation and displaying uncommon courage while doing so.

Surely, this criminal will be caught and punished, you say. Come on, don’t make me laugh. At a time when all the liberal prosecutors and judges are fighting to empty the jails no matter how dangerous the inmates, you think someone who sprays a caustic substance into another’s eyes and face is going to be prosecuted? Well, think that if you wish,

To the Editor:

I saw a request in your paper for names of people who serve their communities.

In Leicester, that would be Cheryl Staurk Cooney. She takes care of the food bank, and is still running it through all this. Also, the thrift store at St. Joseph’s Church, Deja New and

but if “wishes were horses, beggars would ride.” In a state with confidence and pride and governed by mature and responsible adults, she would be spending hard time in durance vile hopefully performing hard labor.

It’s not “Leicester Woman” (who I don’t think is from Leicester) we have to fear. It’s those, usually white, guilt ridden liberal politicians, liberal school teachers and administrators, liberal police chiefs and prosecutors, liberal clergy, and other liberals in general-who cover for and excuse social disruption, crime, and corruption because they’ve accepted, like good sociologists, all the possible and phony excuses for human failure. Because of the stupidity of the ruling class and their utter lack of courage, they are rapidly bringing us to a point of it being every man or woman for him/her self. Forget about the rule of law. These people have as much respect for that as they do for the Constitution and America in general, which is to say, none.

Lincoln famously said, “A House Divided Against Itself Cannot Stand.” I submit, a house infested with germs-like Covid-19- can, in time, be saved. A house undermined by termites cannot. We will survive the Coronavirus; whether we’ll survive the lust for power, the lies, the hatred, and the idiocy of liberalism is an entirely different matter. Do not give up your guns.

JOHN MCRAE  
EAST BROOKFIELD

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course becoming infected. I cannot treat and serve you if I am in the bed next to you.”

I was struck by the dedication of this married RN with two little girls at home. Her fear is that she may not be able to take care of her patients. I’m humbled and touched by her dedication.

So once social distancing is a distant memory, please give your doctor, nurse, tech and support staff a hug and a hearty thank you. Their dedication and bravery are inspirational.

They deserve no less.

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, “Playing with the Enemy.” Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMoore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

# Thank you from a grateful nation

It’s easy to take some occupations and services for granted until something causes us to take notice and appreciate what they do. 9/11 developed a deep and sincere appreciation for police officers and the men and women of the fire department. I think superficially before we watched them in action on 9/11, we knew they put their lives in harm’s way to protect us, but as the twin towers fell, it burned into our collective memories the risks they took and sacrificed they made on that fateful day.

It’s commonplace now to run across a man or woman in military uniform and thank them for their service, as we should. They are both the first line and last line of our defense. They earn and deserve our eternal gratitude.

There is a new kind of war raging across the globe. It’s not against an armed enemy threatening to send missiles into our cities and there’s not an invasion force staging to take away our freedoms. Instead, it’s a micro-

scopic virus with a technical name that a few short months ago we’d never heard, but today, it’s upon everyone’s lips across the globe.

COVID-19 has created a pandemic the likes of which have not been seen since 1918. It’s global in nature. It harms and kills not because of political or racial differences. It infects us because it can ... and is.

Our troops in uniform may be called into a support mission as this virus continues to expand. The men and women of the police and traditional fire department may also be called into support, but the front line of this war is being fought buy a different uniformed group and the risks are as great as if they were armed and facing a foreign invader.

An army in scrubs ...

Their uniforms are referred to as scrubs and the risks they are taking to protect us are as deadly as bullets and bombs. Today, this battle is being fought and will ultimately be won by medi-

cal tech’s, nurses, doctors and all those in the health care system that support them.

I’m fortunate to have as my family doctor, a man who is also head of internal medicine at my local hospital. He hasn’t had a day off in a long time. I’m currently having a health issue unrelated to COVID-19 and he answers my emails and returns phone calls late at night, after he’s spent twelve or more hours at the hospital. My Doctor, like many others, is a leader and a hero in this war.

A good friend of mine is CEO of our local medical center. He’s working around the clock in a community that is suddenly exploding with new cases. I sent Phil a text a few days ago to express my gratitude and encourage him. He’s a great CEO and is providing the leadership we need in this battle, as are many others.

The infantry in this fight, and those who are at most risk are the techs and nurses. They are in close contact with the enemy try-

ing to take over our bodies. While we are all trying to self-quarantine and social distance ourselves from each other, our nurses and techs are rushing in to take our blood pressures and temperatures. They are purposefully and willingly coming in direct contact with patients who are infected, not because it is their job but because it is their calling. I think it takes a special type of bravery and dedication to put on those scrubs and walk into the healthcare facility armed only with a stethoscope and a mask. I’m afraid that once this crisis has come to an end, the sacrifice made by our healthcare workers may potentially be shocking. We already owe them a debt we can never repay.

I spoke with Maddie, a local RN at my cancer center. I asked her if she was afraid.

She responded, “I listen to the news and come to work fearful that we will not have the supplies we need or not enough beds. So far, we do. My greatest fear is of



# POLICE REPORTS

THURSDAY, APRIL 2  
8:34 a.m.: suspicious acivity (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 9:33 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 9:49 a.m.: investigation (out of town, no location specified in police log), services rendered; 9:52 a.m.: ambulance (Moose Hill Road), transported; 12:02 p.m.: ambulance (Soojians Drive), transported; 1:30 p.m.: investigation (Tobias Boland Way, Worcester), services rendered; 1:53 p.m.: ambulance (Pine Street), transported; 2:00 p.m.: investigation (South Stowell Street, Worester), services rendered; 4:27 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Willow Hill Road), services rendered; 5:34 p.m.: family problem (Deer Pond Road), peace restored; 5:38 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Siani Road), advised civil action.  
FRIDAY, APRIL 3  
12:59 a.m.: ambulance (Carleton Road), transported; 6:33 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 3:04 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 4:19 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street), spoken to; 4:33 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 5:52 p.m.: welfare check (Boyd Street), services rendered; 8:29 p.m.: ambulance (Auburn Street), transported; 9:35 p.m.: disturbance (Lake Avenue), advised civil action.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 4  
8:55 a.m.: ambulance (King Street), transported; 11:54 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 2:27 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Siani Road), spoken to; 3:51 p.m.: neighbor dispute (Siani Road), report taken; 7:16 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:36 p.m.: suspicious mv (Towtaid Street), no action required.  
SUNDAY, APRIL 5  
2:27 p.m.: property found (South Main Street), spoken to; 3:25 p.m.: accident (Bailey Drive, Worcester), transported to hospital; 5:09 p.m.: disturbance (Waite Street), spoken to; 8:05 p.m.: disturbance (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 9:32 p.m.: mutual aid (Lincoln Square, Worcester), transported; 10:03 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported to hospital.  
MONDAY, APRIL 6  
10:53 a.m.: fire/brush/grass (West Street), services rendered; 1:32 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 2:39 p.m.: fire/brush/grass (Pleasant

Street), services rendered; 10:37 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), no action required.  
TUESDAY, APRIL 7  
1:15 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), report taken; 1:56 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), spoken to; 5:15 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 7:06 a.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 8:13 a.m.: larceny (Stafford Street), report taken; 8:59 a.m.: assist other PD (Pine Street), services rendered; 11:08 a.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 11:17 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 1:38 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 2:35 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), no action required; 3:30 p.m.: ambulance (Lake Avenue), transported; 4:05 p.m.: ambulance (Whittemore Street), services rendered; 4:34 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 6:54 p.m.: property found (Chapel Street), report taken; 7:20 p.m.: structure fire (Auburn Street), investigated.  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8  
1:21 a.m.: ambulance (Charles Street), transported; 1:04 p.m.: restraining order service (Maple Lane), served; 7:33 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), investigated; 7:38 p.m.: welfare check (Paxton Street), report taken; 7:43 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 7:49 p.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), report taken; 8:35 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported.

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1  
12:56-1:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:41 a.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 4:59 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Sherwood Drive), no contact; 9:56 a.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 10:04 a.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 10:10 a.m.: medical/overdose (Maple Street); 10:39 a.m.: medical/general (Delude Avenue); 10:51 a.m.: vandalism (Main Street), mv damaged; 11:17 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 11:31 a.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 12:44 a.m.: fire (Main Street), fuel leak; 12:47 p.m.: officer wanted (High Street), welfare check; 1:39 p.m.: mv complaint (Roys Drive), commercial mv speeding; 1:58 p.m.: disturbance (Grove Street), domestic dispute; 2:13 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village);

2:36 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), theft reported; 3:50 p.m.: animal complaint (Northwest Road), loose dog; 3:52 p.m.: elderly matter (West Main Street), spoken to; 3:54 p.m.: fraud (Crestview Drive), re: stimulus check; 4:10 p.m.: officer wanted (Wm. Casey Road), tenant issue; 4:12 p.m.: RV complaint (Debbie Drive), dirt bikes speeding; 6:51 p.m.: parking complaint (Church Street), info taken; 11:47 p.m.: medical/general (Kingsbury Road).  
THURSDAY, APRIL 2  
12:25-1:53 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:57 a.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), welfare check; 7:29 a.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 10:39 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 11:08 a.m.: multiple LTC issued/5 (West Main Street), assisted; 11:52 a.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), info taken; 11:55 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), info taken; 12:24 p.m.: mutual aid (Meadow Road), assist BOH; 12:37 p.m.: officer wanted (Grove Street), m/f dispute; 12:56 p.m. accident (Main Street), info taken; 1:23 p.m.: medical/general (Sherwood Drive); 1:31 p.m.: disabled mv (South Spencer Road), assisted; 1:37 p.m.; suspicious mv (McDonald Street), info taken; 1:50 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 2:02 p.m.: 209A service (West Main Street); 2:40 p.m.: suspicious mv (Clark Road), info taken; 2:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Grove Street), m/f dispute; 4:33 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), info taken; 5:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), incorrect package delivery; 6:54 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), info taken; 7:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 9:05-9:20 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:21 p.m.: disturbance (Grove Street), domestic dispute; 10:09 p.m.: parking complaint (Pleasant Street), d/way blocked.  
FRIDAY, APRIL 3  
1:12-2:17 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:33 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 6:04 a.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), welfare check; 8:01 a.m.: illegal dumping (Main Street), mattress in parking lot; 9:13 a.m.: harassment prevention order service (Chickering Road); 9:23 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 10:11 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 12:29 p.m.: 209A service (Sullivan Street); 1:27 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street),

assisted; 2:28 p.m.: officer wanted (Woodside Road), accidental alarm; 3:04 p.m.: drug/narcotics offenses (West Main Street), Cody D. Conlon, 25, 19 Kimball Street, Brookfield, possession Class A drug, conspiracy to violate drug laws, arrest; 3:50 p.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), sick/injured skunk in yard; 4:40 p.m.: larceny/theft from building (Pond Street), package missing; 5:36 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), unwanted party; between 6:38-7:20 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 7:20 p.m.: juvenile matter (Cherry Street), spoken to; 9:28 p.m.: 911 call (Meadowbrook Road), services rendered.  
SATURDAY, APRIL 4  
2:35 a.m.: accident (Chestnut Street), mv into stone wall; 8:13 a.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 9:34 a.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), reported assault; 10:28 a.m.: animal complaint (Kingsbury Road), neighbor issues; 10:59 a.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 12:19 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet found; 12:23 p.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 1:39 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 2:06 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 2:40 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:17 p.m.: vandalism (Smithville Road), info taken; 3:28 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Debbie Drive), unauthorized burn; 3:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), info taken; 3:56 p.m.: fire/woods/gass (Water Street), kids set fire; 4:06 p.m.: animal complaint (Donnelly Road), dog in distress; 4:23 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), rep. theft; 6:05 p.m.: officer wanted (McDonald Street), lg. gathering; 6:36 p.m.: fire alarm (McDonald Street), services rendered; 6:57 p.m.: animal complaint (Kingsbury Road), male harassing cows; 7:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), Brandy A. Barry, 26, 53 Valley Street, Spencer, disturbing the peace, disorderly conduct, arrest; 8:53 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), investigated; 9:44 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), unwanted party; 10:12-10:17 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:20 p.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), Oxford PD bolo; 10:27 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:30 p.m.: disturbance (Pope Street), noise complaint; 10:42 p.m.: building checked, secure.  
SUNDAY, APRIL 5

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# POLICE REPORTS

12:25 a.m.: fire alarm (Wm. Casey Road), services rendered; 12:57-3:41 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:26 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:01 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 10:26 a.m.: animal complaint (Lincoln Street), loose cat w/ collar; 4:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), Harrington CT down; 5:20 p.m.: medical/general (Greenville Street); 5:57 p.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), info taken; 6:52 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:06 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), no contact; 7:07 p.m.: disturbance (Cherry Street), males fighting; 9:14 p.m.: juvenile matter (Llody Dyer Drive), grandson issues.

MONDAY, APRIL 6

12:25-1:04 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; between 1:06-2:47 a.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 7:15 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 9:19 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 9:35 a.m.: spill/chemical/fuel (School Street), poss. oil spill; 10:43 a.m.: disturbance (Valley Street), unwanted party; 10:48 a.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), services rendered; 11:16 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 11:30 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street),

info taken; 11:50 a.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), neighbor dispute; 12:55 p.m.: school alarm (Lake Street), services rendered; 1:18 p.m.: animal complaint (North Street), info taken; 1:34 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), info taken; 1:52 p.m.: suspicious persons (May Street), info taken; 3:14 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), apt. ransacked; 3:20 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Cranberry Meadow Road), accidental; 4:09 p.m.: RV complaint (Church Street), RVs in road; 4:36 p.m.: mv stop (Temple Street); 4:51 p.m.: suspicious mv (Lake Street), info taken; 4:54 p.m.: suspicious mv (Greenville Street), info taken; 4:56 p.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 5:06 p.m.: building checked, secure; 6:06 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info taken; 7:13 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Browning Pond Road), someone lighting fires; 7:50 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:05 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), dog hit by mv; 10:07 p.m.: entire incident redacted from police log; 11:13 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address;

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

12:53-2:06 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:24 a.m.: disturbance (Main

Street), noise complaint; 7:28 a.m.: vandalism (Valley Street), mv damaged; 9:13 a.m.: trespassing (Sunset Lane), homeless in gated area; 11:34 a.m.: 209A service (West Main Street); 12:10 p.m.: larceny (Grove Street), identify theft; 12:44 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 1:02 p.m.: 911 call (Sundberg Road), open line; 1:03 p.m.: mv stop (Wire Village Road); 1:40 p.m.: 911 call (Whittemore Court), accidental; 2:19 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (South Spencer Road), services rendered; 2:33 p.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), assisted; 2:36 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info given; 3:03 p.m.: medical/general (Grove Street); 3:20 p.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 3:20 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 3:56 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 4:23 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 4:25 p.m.: officer wanted

(Howe Village), info taken; 5:28 p.m.: suspicious mv (Sampson Street), family issue; 5:58 p.m.: building checked, secure; 6:01 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:07 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 6:22 p.m.: parking violation (Adams Street), ticket issued; 8:45-9:05 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:12 p.m.: residential alarm (Lincoln Street), services rendered; 9:14 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:29 p.m.: parking violation (Grove Street), ticket issued; 9:37 p.m.: building checked, secure.

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**All of us at Lamoureux Ford** would like to wish our loyal customers, family and friends well during this difficult time. Our Service and Parts Department is Deemed Essential for commercial and emergency work and will remain open Monday-Friday from 8-3pm. Traditional sales is deemed non-essential and operating online and by 1:1 appointments only. Please call to set up an appointment.. Check our website for updates.  
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