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Friday, March 27, 2020

# A good time for some good news



Our Editor, Brendan Berube, following the CDC's social distancing recommendations by working from home with the help of his 'assistant,' Lola.

BY BRENDAN BERUBE

As members of the news industry ourselves, we try to keep up with current events as much as possible by monitoring other publications and watching the nightly news regularly. At this point, however, we — like many of you out there — have had it. Over the past few weeks, there has simply been too much darkness assaulting us through our television screens every night. Too many graphs and charts depicting rates of infection, too much footage of ambulances racing through city streets, too much focus on dreary and depressing statistics reporting how many have been infected by the COVID-19 virus and how many have died. A steady diet of television news right would be enough to leave any viewer with the impression that the very fabric of our society is crumbling away around us.

Anyone who has been out of the house during this outbreak, however, has seen that nothing could be further from the truth. There is another side to the COVID-19 pandemic that has been receiving far less attention. Individual

Turn To GOOD NEWS page A8

# Spencer selectmen conduct town business remotely

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER - In a firstof-its-kind event, the Select Board conducted business remotely last week due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The only officials present at Town Hall for the March 19 meeting were Town Administrator Gregory and Thomas Agent Lisa Health Daoust. They were filmed on a live feed accessible to the five selectmen, who phoned in from off site.

The meeting was one of many firsts necessitated by the precautions local officials have been forced to take against the outbreak. Selectmen took a short time to adjust to the remote discussion, but they felt the overall pro-

cess went smoothly. "It was a little hard with the time-lapse, but we were able to accomplish what we wanted to," said Selectman Gary Woodbury. "In my ten years on the Board, this is the first time anything like this has happened."

Selectmen voted to increase the availability of the transfer station from one day to two days. It was open five days a week before the crisis, but until further notice it will be open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. For about a weeklong period earlier this month, it was only open for one day, leading to frustration and stress for residents.

"Hopefully, this will take some of the pressure off people. The last thing we want is to put the public under more stress, Woodbury said.

Selectmen also decided to push back the Annual Town Meeting to Thursday, June 4, at 7 p.m. Town officials do not have the authority to postpone the annual election; they are waiting for state approval and guid-

"I'm advised that legislation is currently being drafted in Boston that will allow the Board of Selectmen to postpone the annual town election," said Town Administrator Thomas Gregory.

Officials will learn more about the pending legislation in the coming

In other board news, selectmen decided to keep most town offices closed to the public until further notice. Staff members will be inside their offices to answer phone calls, return emails, and process documents, but they will not be accessible to

Turn To SPENCER page A3

## Local police work to limit contact while maintaining services

RY KEVIN FLANDERS

REGION – Local police departments remind residents that they have altered several procedures due to the coronavirus outbreak.

In an effort to reduce contact and adhere to distancing guidelines, police officers are making several changes in their daily operations.

In Spencer, officers may ask prescreen questions regarding potential illnesses before entering a home. These questions are meant to ascertain whether someone inside the home might present a risk of contagion to responding officers. Moreover, calls for non-emergency police services in Spencer will be screened to determine if an immediate police response is needed.

"In most cases, we will try to take reports via the telephone, especially where the event has passed (identity theft, credit card fraud, quality of life issues)," read a statement released by the department.

Residents who walk into the Spencer police station lobby can request to conduct an interview or take a report outside of the station. Moreover, the department has suspended the processing of any new firearms licenses until May 4. Renewal applications, along with the fee, can be mailed to the police department. Also, all requests for fingerprint cards and car seat inspections/ installations will be suspended until May 4.

In Leicester, police want residents to be aware of several changes as well. If you wish to report a

non-emergency situation, please go to the LPD Web site at www.leicester-If you need to speak with an officer, please call the dispatcher; an officer will return your call as soon as possible.

If an officer responds to your residence, he or she will maintain a safe distance when having a conversation. Officers may also be wearing a face mask or gloves if warranted.

"Our preferred response will be to return a phone call. Our goal is to minimize any contact with any persons or animals until further notice," read a statement released by Leicester Police Chief Ken Antanavica.

The lobby of the police station will be closed until further notice, and there will be no drop-offs of medications.

"This is a very fluid situation, so please be careful and stay safe," Chief pd.org and submit an online report. Antanavica's statement read. "Town officials will continue to coordinate weekly as more information becomes available.'

> For residents in surrounding towns, please check your police department's homepage and social media pages for procedural updates.

> Police leaders across the region thank residents for their patience and cooperation during this time.

> "All of these measures are designed to maximize officer safety, while maintaining public safety. The public's health depends on ours," Spencer Police Chief David Darrin told the New Leader.

### Second Chance Veterinary Hospitals remain open for serious medical needs

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Second Chance Animal Services is committed to keeping the doors of their three Community Veterinary Hospitals open for pets with nowhere else to turn.

As CDC recommendations heightened last week, the hospitals doubled efforts to minimize exposure so they could continue caring for pets that needed them. By last Monday, as schools made plans to close, so did the other veterinary care options provided through local schools that offer veterinary care at reduced rates for those

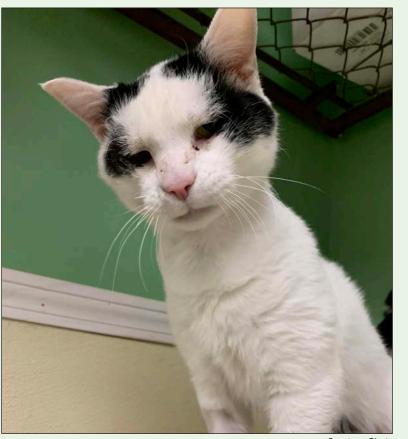
CEO Sheryl Blancato hasn't gotten much sleep in the past week as she followed the flow of directives from local, state and federal officials to help combat the COVID-19 pandemic. Blancato knows how important it is to keep the doors open.

"We founded our first hospital because many pet owners had nowhere to turn for veterinary care they could afford," she said. "Now our three hospitals are carrying the caseloads of other area hospitals that have already suspended operation."

Last Monday, Second Chance began putting additional restrictions in place to help mitigate the spread of the virus. Currently, pet owners are met in the parking lot where they wait while their pet is seen. Doctors and owners conduct the visit via phone and the pet is returned to the car along with any medications if needed. Thursday was the last day volunteers were able to help care for animals at Second Chance's Adoption Center in East Brookfield. On Friday, the veterinary hospitals suspended walk-in vaccine clinics and began limiting spay/neuter surgeries to conserve supplies and allow for more critical emergency surgeries as critical supplies are now on backorder across the country.

"We are working rapidly on some innovative ways to help our client's pets most in need as we prepare for future developments" notes Blancato. "We have emergency plans in place for our adoption cen-

Turn To SECOND CHANCE page A4



Link is a five-year-old male cat waiting to be adopted at the Second Chance Adoption Center in East Brookfield. Link came to Second Chance with entropion - a painful eye condition where the eyelid rolls in, rubbing on the cornea. A Second Chance surgeon performed corrective surgery to relieve his misery and he is very comfortable now. He has come a long way and loves attention, playing and lounging around.

# Community health centers call on Baker for COVID Relief

WORCESTER — The Edward M. Kennedy Community Health Center (Kennedy Community Health) and the Family Health Center of Worcester (Family Health) announced today that they are in full support of the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers' letter to Governor Charlie Baker seeking immediate and substantial financial relief in order to avoid a partial or complete collapse of the state's largest primary care network. As the two largest health cen-

ters serving Greater Worcester, Kennedy Health Center and Family Health are responsible for the health care for over 50,000 local residents. health centers are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 crisis, and have redeployed resources and staff to assess and care for patients with urgent health care needs.

"We have transformed our operations to respond to the coronavirus crisis, while continuing to serve the health care needs of the people who live and work in our community," said Stephen J. Kerrigan, President and CEO of Kennedy Community Health. "Dealing with this pandemic has the potential of crippling both our financial sustainability and workforce."

Community health centers work within a tight financial model caring for the needs of low-income, vulnerable individuals and families.

"We have alerted the Governor to the significant impact of this epidemic on front-line providers at Community Health Centers," said Louis Brady, President and CEO of Family Health. "We protect the health the entire community and need the resources to continue this critical public health work."

Both Worcester health centers have set up screening and isolation tents or mobile structures to assess patients' risk for COVID-19 and coordinate appropriate treatment or offer quarantine guidance. The health centers have shifted many services to telehealth appointments to protect both patients and staff from the risk of exposure to the coronavirus.

"We are relying on the Governor to hear the pleas of the largest primary care group practice in Massachusetts,' said Kerrigan. "Without financial assistance over 1 million Massachusetts residents will have no access to health care during this crisis and in the foreseeable future.'

# North Brookfield Savings Bank participates in FHLBank of Boston's Jobs for New England program

Brookfield Saving Bank is participating in the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston's (FHLBB) Jobs for New England (JNE) program, which allows The NBSB Business Center to offer below market-rate, low-interest financing for small business loans that create or preserve jobs, expand woman-owned, minority-owned, or veteran-owned businesses, or otherwise stimulate the local economy.

"The FHLBB Jobs for New England program is such a valuable tool for our small businesses and allows North Brookfield Savings Bank the opportunity to provide our small business customers with even lower interest financing so they can borrow for less and grow their business," said Rick Egan, Vice President, Senior Commercial

NORTH BROOKFIELD — North Lender. "This further supports our goal to support small businesses and the local economy that we serve.'

> As a member of the FHLBB, North Brookfield Savings Bank can offer members extremely low percentage financing for small business loans that meet certain criteria set by the FHLBB. The small business loan funds must be utilized to create or preserve jobs, expand woman-owned, minority-owned or veteran-owned businesses or support the local economy in another quantifiable way. The program includes two funding periods with the first application period beginning Jan. 13 and the second period beginning on April 29.

> Recently, North Brookfield Savings Bank partnered with Jessica Bettencourt, President and owner of the

well-known Klem's department store owner Klem's. "Because of their knowllocated on Route 9 in Spencer. Jessica has a vision for her family's business and when she approached North Brookfield Savings Bank to share her expansion goals for the Klem's building she was recommended a financing option that provided the most value to her business. Due to NBSB being a FHLBB member and Jessica's goals to expand a women-owned business, she was able to take advantage of the Jobs for New England program. NBSB's guidance allowed Jessica to benefit from the program and see the expansion goals become a reality.

"When I visited North Brookfield Savings Bank to discuss my expansion goals for Klem's I was not aware of this program as a financing option for me," said Jessica Bettencourt, President and

edge of the program, and their genuine attention to my vision, I was able to see the expansion goals become reality and save considerable funds that I could refocus back into the success of my

North Brookfield Savings Bank's has an experienced and knowledgeable Business Center Team comprised of Business Lenders and professionals who are ready to help businesses reach their financial goals. If you are interested in learning more about the FHLBB Jobs for New England program please contact The North Brookfield Savings Bank Business Center at 508-637-7500 or businesscenter@banknbsb.com.

### **Quaboag Historical Society** luncheon canceled

WEST BROOKFIELD - The annual Quaboag Historical Society luncheon has been canceled due to the coronavi-

The event had been scheduled for April 19. QHS leaders congratulate two residents who would have been presented with awards at the event.

The J. Irving and Jane L. England Award goes to Paul Lussier, of West Brookfield. The Lucy Stone Award goes to Mary Lou Knight and Don Taft for their longtime service to the town of Brookfield.



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### Local student named to Saint Anselm Dean's List Friends of Swan Tavern

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire — Saint Anselm College has released the Dean's List of high academic achievers for the first semester of the 2019-2020 school year. To be eligible for this honor, a student must have achieved a grade point average of 3.3 or better in the semester with at least 12 credits of study which award a letter grade.

Mark W. Cronin, Dean of the College,

announced that Nicholas St. Germain, a Criminal Justice major in the class of 2020 from Spencer, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 2019 semester at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire.

A total of 556 students representing 22 states and 5 countries were named to

# canceled

LEICESTER - A service auction benefiting the Friends of Swan Tavern has

The March 28 event had been scheduled at the Leicester Country Club. The owners of several businesses were set to take part in the event, but it will be pushed back due to the coronavirus outbreak.

Details on the rescheduled date are TBA.

## Country Bank donates \$250,000 to four local Hospitals

WARE — Country Bank announced today it has donated \$250,000 to four local hospitals to help assist with the work they are doing for their patients as they fight the COVID-19 pandemic.

The hospitals receiving donations include Baystate Health in Springfield, Harrington Hospital in Southbridge, UMass Memorial, and Saint Vincent Hospital in Worcester.

"We are so grateful to Country Bank for its most generous support and appreciate its continued partnership during this unprecedented time. This gift will directly support resources needed at Baystate Health as we continue to address and prepare for the care our community needs as we face this worldwide pandemic," stated Scott Berg, Vice President of Philanthropy, Baystate Health, and Executive Director, Baystate Health Foundation.

"These are challenging and ever-evolv-

ing times as we face uncertainty regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. As a community partner, we care deeply about our communities, and we wanted to support our local hospitals to help ease their financial burden as they continue to offer exceptional care to our friends and neighbors in the region," stated Paul Scully, President, and CEO at Country Bank.

**About Country Bank** 

Country Bank is a full-service mutual community bank serving central and western Massachusetts with 14 offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, and Worcester. Country Bank is a member of FDIC, DIF, and the SUM network. Country Bank can be reached at 800-322-8233 or online at countrybank.com.

### SPENCER ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

### **SPENCER**

\$320,000, 94 Hastings Rd, Hastings Road RT, and Morrissey. Robert J, to Earley, Katarina N, and Earley, Scott E.

\$255,000, 25 Summit St, Mcintyre, Mark L, to Torres, Maribel.

\$150,000, 120 Main St, FAP Properties 21 LLC, to F C Princess

\$90,000, 11 Highland St, Preciado, Oscar, to Adel Realty LLC.

### BROOKFIELD

\$362,500, 32 Pine Ln, Fogwill, Kevin A, to Gorman, Christopher. \$185,000, 20 Maple St, White, Danny A, and Forcier-White, Danielle M, to Forcier, Brandon J.

EAST BROOKFIELD

### NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$1,100,000, 181 N Main St, 181 North Main LLC, to Adams Block

### WEST BROOKFIELD

\$485,000, 73 E Main St, Lear, Deborah A, and Leblnc-Peterson, Mark F, to StCyr, Bonnie F.

### **LEICESTER**

FNMA.

\$333,000, 76 Hemlock St, Rowden, Steven W, and Rowden, Beth, to

Rowden, Alan W. \$317,500, 1114 Whittemore St, US Bank NA Tr, to Garnett, Yancy. \$154,723,931 Stafford St, Jackson, Kenneth H, and Loancare LLC, to

\$70,000, 685 Pleasant St, Oneil, Nancy B, to Buckley, Leon R.

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### Bartholomew & Company advisors earn Five Star Wealth Manager Award



**Dory Huard** 



Joshua Paul



**Thomas Bartholomew** 

WORCESTER — Bartholomew & Company, a wealth management and financial planning firm in Worcester, has announced that its Vice President, Dory Huard, RICP®, AIF®, Sr. Vice President, Joshua Paul, CFP®, AIF® and President, Thomas Bartholomew, AIF® have been named 2020 Five Star Wealth Managers\* by Boston magazine. Less than 13% of

wealth managers in Massachusetts were named to the list.

"This award speaks volumes-not only to the caliber of Bartholomew & Company's practice, but also to the quality of work and personalized attention these advisors put in to their clients," said Wayne Bloom, CEO of Commonwealth Financial Network®, Bartholomew & Company's independent broker/dealer-RIA. Dory, Joshua and Tom are valued members of Commonwealth, and we are extremely pleased to see them recognized on this

The 2020 Five Star program is the largest and most widely published financial services award program in North America. Award candidates are evaluated against 10 objective criteria to determine the Five Star Wealth Managers in more than 40 major mar-

As part of the updated research process for the Five Star Wealth Manager program, firms and peers nominate



### 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.

award candidates. The 2020Five Star Wealth Managers do not pay a fee to be included in the research or in the final list of Five Star Wealth Managers.

About Bartholomew & Company Bartholomew & Company has been providing individuals and organizations with financial guidance since 1994. Located at 370 Main Street, Worcester, MA 01608, with branch offices in Bedford and Chatham, MA, the firm prides itself on crafting unique strategies for each client. Formore information, please visit www.bartandco.com. Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network®, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser.

### Local schools closed amid coronavirus outbreak

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER - With schools nationwide closing their doors amid the coronavirus crisis, the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District called off classes as well last week.

Superintendent Paul Haughey and his team closed down all four schools last week, March 16-20. Members of the custodial staffs provided extensive cleaning operations in all buildings to help prevent the spread of the virus.

All school-related programs and events were canceled last week, including the before-school and after-school programs. Three days after SEBRSD leadership made their decision, Gov. Charlie Baker announced on March 15 that all public and private schools in the state would be closed through April 6.

"I understand that the decision to implement these measures will create disruption, but we believe that this is the best path forward to mitigate the spread of the coronavirus," Haughey wrote in a letter to the community. "We cannot stress enough that our priority within the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District is the health and wellbeing of our students, families, staff, and the entire school community.

For students and staff in the district's four schools, the closures brought daily activities and events to a jarring halt. Winter sports teams' seasons abruptly ended and spring sports schedules are undetermined; Community Reading Day and similar events were canceled at East Brookfield Elementary School; and parents had to scramble to make plans

the public. If you need to reach a specific

department, please call for assistance;

Town Hall, the Senior Center, library,

and other municipal buildings remain

business owners for their patience and

cooperation during the crisis. Board

members hope the disruption to ser-

vices and operations will only last a few

weeks, but like officials across the state

Town officials thank residents and

**SPENCER** 

continued from page A1

closed for public use.

to care for kids suddenly home from school for three weeks.

The closures were especially disappointing for David Prouty High School and Knox Trail Middle School performers who were eager to produce "Shrek the Musical" this weekend. After spending months rehearsing, the performers saw their production called off amid the crisis.

Moreover, all field trips, dances (including prom), senior activities, school performances, and open houses throughout the district were canceled. For the DPHS Class of 2020, what was supposed to be a dream year has rapidly turned into a nightmare. The same is true for seniors across the country, as schools have gone dark nationwide.

"This is a difficult decision, as we know many of you have been looking forward to these events," Haughey wrote. "All upcoming school and district related gatherings are canceled until further notice. As the safety of our community remains our primary focus, we hope that you and your family stay safe and healthy."

Baker will reassess the school ban as April 6 approaches. Depending on the severity of the outbreak, it may need to be extended, officials said. Several national health officials and experts have recommended canceling school for another month-plus, if needed.

Locally, school officials will continue to contact state leaders for the latest guidance on how to proceed in an unprecedented crisis. No decisions regarding schools have been made at the state or local level beyond April 6.

and country, they are preparing for a

lived through before, and everyone is trying to do the best they can," said

Selectman Ralph Hicks. "I feel terrible

for all of our businesses that are strug-

Two meetings were planned for this

past week, including a joint meeting

between selectmen and the Finance

Committee. Officials plan to continue

meeting remotely to minimize the risk

of infection; footage of meetings will be

available for public viewing online.

This isn't something any of us have

long-term scenario.

gling."

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# Library closures pose challenge for local seniors, parents

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

REGION - Residents often don't realize how heavily they rely on their local libraries, but the lengthy coronavirus closures have forced them to turn elsewhere for many services.

In several towns, libraries will remain closed until further notice. These include Leicester Public Library, which was shuttered along with all other municipal buildings, with the exception of the police and fire departments. Extensive cleaning measures took place at the library, but it might be several more weeks before it reopens,

officials said.

"We have removed toys, games, and other non-circulating items from the children's room and YA area, since we don't have the ability to clean them to suggested standards," said library director Suzanne Hall. "We will provide extended due dates to patrons, and we will be fine-free for the foreseeable future."

In North Brookfield, the Haston Free Public Library will remain closed through April 6 at minimum. Library staff members will be on site for short periods (Monday through Thursday) to collect mail and respond to phone messages.

"If you have library materials to return, please put them in the book drop if you can," said library director Dawn Thistle. "This includes DVDs, CDs, and books on CD. If you can't return your items, don't worry about overdue fines during this time. We will waive fines when

the items are returned." Richard Sugden Public Library in Spencer is also closed until further notice. Interlibrary loan deliveries will not be offered for the foreseeable future in most towns.

For many residents who rely on their library to get online, send emails, prepare resumes, print materials, and access newspapers, it has been a challenge to adjust to the new normal. With senior centers closed as well, many seniors have remained confined indoors, isolated from their friends for weeks. Local parents have also struggled to find ways to stimulate their children, who are home from school for weeks. The local library is always a popular destination when students aren't in school, but families have been forced to find home-based alternatives.

To help relieve stress for families, the Massachusetts Library System has posted an activity guide on its Web site. It includes webcasts from author/illustrators like Mo Willems, Grace Lin, and Jarrett Krosoczka, as well as virtual tours of museums and national parks. Moreover, there are several group-sourced projects and activities visitors can participate in from the comfort of home. For more information about these offerings, visit www.MassLibSystem.org.

Local library patrons are advised to check their towns' homepages for updates on when libraries will reopen. Many communities will have different dates for reopening, depending on town regulations.



### Merrick Public Library closed until further notice

BROOKFIELD — The Merrick Public Library, Brookfield, will close effective Tuesday, March 17 for an indefinite period of time. The Board of Trustees and library staff hope to open, April 7.

The staff will provide curbside pick-ups for our patrons, please call 508-867-6339 or email brookfieldcovid19@gmail.com. We would prefer all patrons keep your materials on loan until we re-open.

All events, and programs are at this time either cancelled or postponed.

The library will waive overdue fines for our library patrons through May 1st.

During this time, we are expanding automatic renewals and allowing people to keep their books and other materials for 15 weeks.

Use of online library services will not be suspended for patrons during this period. A free Boston ecard is available through www.bpl.org/general/circulation/ ecards.htm

We foresee no interruption in our digital services, which will remain on line for cardholders to enjoy

The Merrick Public Library WiFi is always available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We are committed to the health, safety, and well-being of our visitors and staff. We will continue to closely monitor the developing Coronavirus situation. Further updates to our operating hours will be announced through this website, and on our social media platforms.

For more information on COVID-19, visit the Web sites for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and/or Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

### **CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. As soon as possible
- 8. Doctors' group
- 11. Madder genus of plants
- 13. A team's best pitcher 14. Ancient Greek sophist
- 15. Go up
- 16. Neither 17. Bolivian river
- 18. Manila hemp 20. Comedienne Gasteyer
- 21. British School
- 22. Human reproductive organs 25. Surrenders
- 30. Dog with long, silky coat and drooping ears
- 31. Sun up in New York
- 32. Lead alloy
- 33. Eastern Asian plant
- Rapid deployment force (abbr.)
- 41. Japanese warrior
- 43. Festivity 45. Interruptions
- 47. Nonsense (slang)
- 49. Data mining methodology (abbr.) 50. Fencing sword
- 55. French river
- 56. Global business conference (abbr.)
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. Con man's game 60. No (Scottish)
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Fish
- 63. Camera term (abbr.)
- 64. Impudence

### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. A continuous portion of a circle
- 2. Genus of seabirds 3. Infant's dining accessory
- 4. Native Americans from Arizona 5. Popular fruit
- 6. Poisonous plant
- 7. Scolded
- 8. Assists
- 9. Hand (Spanish)
- 10. Amazon product identifying system (abbr.)
- 12. Basics 14. Cain and 19. Malaria
- 23. Indicates particular shape 24. Respiratory disease
- 25. Central Standard Time 26. Imitate
- 27. Golf score
- 28. A place to lay your head

- 29. Three cards of the same suit
- 34. Not in
- 35. Human gene
- 36. Ancient Chinese philosophic concept 37. French river
- 39. Thinks up
- 40. Type of geological deposit 41. Helps little firms
- 42. Area units 44. A device to remove
- 45. Secret political clique 46. Polite interruption sound
- 47. Foundation 48. Clare Boothe \_\_, American writer
- 51. Swiss river 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. Resistance fighters
- 58. Speak disrespectfully of

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### Quinsigamond Community College to transition to remote learning opportunities

WORCESTER — Due to the current and unfolding situation regarding the Coronavirus/ COVID-19, Quinsigamond Community College has instituted the following safety mea-

- From March 18-27, the College will be closed to in-person services for current students and the public.
- On March 22, regularly scheduled online classes will resume as normal.
- Current in-person courses, labs, and clinicals (including in-person meetings of blended/hybrid courses) are being delayed until Monday, March

30 as the College transitions to remote instruction.

Seven-week courses (QCC's Spring II) that are 100% online will begin on March 23 as scheduled.

New, in-person, seven-week courses scheduled to begin on March 23 will be delayed until Monday, March 30, as they are reformatted to remote instruction.

Additional strategies such as facilitating access to Internet and online services, the QCC Food Pantry and Resource Center, and other student support services are being addressed and new procedures are being adopted. All information will be

available to the public as strategies are finalized. Registration for cur-

rent QCC students will begin on March 30. Students will receive emailed instructions.

For the latest information and updates, visit QCC's Cronavirus/ COVID-19 Information Center at www.qcc.edu/coronavirus.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director Institutional Communications at 508.854.7513 orjmartin@qcc.mass.edu

### SECOND CHANCE

continued from page A1

ter as well. Adoptions continue but with significant restrictions that only allow one family at a time to see pets, with cleaning in between. This is helping to find homes for our pets, who have already been through so much,

while keeping people safe.' Last week, the nonprofit

announced the postponement of several vaccine clinics and their 21st Annual Dinner Auction, originally scheduled for March 28. The major fundraiser, which provides critical funding for all programs, has been rescheduled for May 9 but hope is dwindling that the event will be able to take place at that time.

Blancato knows she and her staff won't be getting much sleep

in the days ahead as they work to find new ways to continue to help.

"My heart is breaking for everyone who has been and will be affected by this pandemic. We have to do what we can

for the animals who might otherwise suffer," she added.

She said she's already seen an increase in emails and calls from pet owners worried about being able to afford care for their pet in these uncertain times, and knows that will increase in the months to come, adding more strain to an already impossible situation. If you would like to help by making a donation, visit Second Chance Facebook or website: www.secondchanceanimals.org. You can also mail a donation to Second Chance Animal Services, 111 Young Rd., East Brookfield, MA 01515.

### Pet of the Week Sponsored by Paige's Basic Obedience Training

Name: Sadie Breed: Shepherd/Mix Sex: Female Size: Large Age: 5 years/11 mos



Hi, my name is Sadie. \*Bounce, Bounce\* I'm just so happy to see you because I think you might have a cookie in your pocket for me! I do really love cookies, they are just so good. I really am a sweet girl, I have lots of energy and love to go for walks. I will keep looking back at you just in case you have another cookie to give me! I'm not sure how I feel about other dogs, so if you have one we would need to meet each other. Since I'm super bouncy and excited I might not be good for small children, I  $might knock them \ over \ even \ though \ I \ don't \ mean \ to. \ If you \ think \ a \ sweet, \\ energetic \ girl \ like \ me \ would \ be \ a \ good \ fit \ for \ you, \ call \ first \ to \ come \ in \ and$ 

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# Area residents contend with impact of emergency measures

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

**REGION** – From restrictions to restaurant services, to the closure of schools statewide, Gov. Charlie Baker's emergency mandates continue to impact every household.

On March 15, the Baker-Polito Administration announced a three-week suspension of all public and private elementary and secondary schools in the state. The closure lasts from March 17 until April 6, but it could be extended if conditions worsen.

"Our administration is taking these rapid steps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19," Baker said. "We know that a lot of the measures we are putting into place, including mandatory school closures and prohibiting gatherings of 25 people or more, will cause disruption in people's day to day lives."

Parents continue to scramble to find ways to balance work while caring for kids home from school. Many parents themselves have been working from home over the last week, while countless others are home due to sweeping layoffs across multiple industries.

Restaurants have been especially hard hit, as Baker's emergency order limited public gatherings to 25 individuals and prohibited the consumption of food and drink on site at bars and restaurants. This mandate is also effective until April 6, but state officials could extend it through April and beyond.

State and federal leaders are working swiftly to craft relief legislation assisting residents who lost their jobs. Additional legislation will assist municipalities across the state.

"The legislation our administration is filing will help ease burdens on cities and towns regarding municipal governance as they work to keep their residents safe," said Lt.



Kevin Flanders Photo

Shelves are being cleared out at area stores as the coronavirus crisis

Gov. Karyn Polito. "We look forward to working with the legislature to swiftly enact these bills to help provide our cities and towns with relief."

As April 6 approaches, the Governor's office will provide additional information on whether closures will be extended. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) will work in partnership with schools and districts to develop strategies and resources to sustain learning throughout the closure period. DESE has received a partial waiver from the U.S. Department of Agriculture providing greater flexibility regarding food service in certain districts with higher concentrations of low-income students. The department is pursuing additional waivers for the remaining schools and districts.

Meanwhile, residents continue to clean out shelves at area supermarkets. Unsure when normal operations will resume, shoppers have stockpiled food, toiletries, and cleaning products. Officials urge residents not to hoard items, as many seniors and families have struggled to find products like toilet

paper and paper towels.
Additionally, the Governor and the state's Department of Public Health remind residents of several other mandates that were issued:

All commercial insurers, self-insured plans, and the Group Insurance Commission are required to cover medically necessary telehealth services related to COVID-19 testing and treatment.

All assisted living residences are to ban visitors to protect the health of residents and staff. This is in addition to the federal orders that ban visitors to nursing homes and rest

All hospitals operated by the Department of Public Health or the Department of Mental Health are to screen all visitors and restrict visitation if individuals show any indication of

Hospitals must cancel non-essential elective procedures.

The Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV) will extend the renewal timeline of certain credentials to reduce the need for customers to physical-

ly visit an RMV service center for in-person transactions.

The RMV will implement a 60-day extension to the current expiration date for Class D, Class DM, ID cards, and learner's permits. All customers with expired/ expiring credentials dated between March 1 and April 30 will continue to have an active status within the RMV system until 60 days after the expiration date printed on their credential.

The Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development the Department of Unemployment Assistance are taking a series of actions to assist workers and employers. All unemployment requirements regarding attending seminars at the MassHire career centers have been suspended. Missing deadlines due to the effects of COVID-19 will be excused.

All unemployment appeal hearings will be held by telephone only. Workers must remain in contact with their employer during the shutdown.

An employer may request to extend the period of the covered shutdown to eight weeks, and workers will remain eligible for the longer period under the same conditions described

Employers who are impacted by COVID-19 may request up to a 60-day grace period to file quarterly reports and pay contributions.

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### Area restaurants face uncertain future

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

REGION - As the coronavirus outbreak continues to expand nationwide, local restaurant owners and employees are grappling with a grim present and

an uncertain future.

Following Gov. Charlie Baker's March 15 mandate restricting restaurants to takeout and delivery services, owners across the state have faced countless nightmare decisions. Many owners, like Spencer Country Inn manager Amy Perro and her family, decided that a temporary closure of the building was the best option to keep employees and patrons safe. They hope to reopen soon, but the uncertainty surrounding the virus has made planning difficult.

'As a family-run business, we want to do the best we can for our employees and customers," Perro said. "We're trying our best to stay positive, but it has definitely been a big hit on us. The situation is so fluid, and you just don't know what is going to happen.'

As of press time last week, Spencer Country Inn had already lost 33 parties, including three parties of 250-plus guests. Baby showers, weddings, and other functions have been affected, and Perro is worried that state restrictions may extend beyond the current date of April 6.

Deciding to take immediate action last week due to fears of extended restrictions, Perro and her family gave the majority of Spencer Country Inn's perishable foods to their employees. The remaining food items were donated to the food bank to assist the community.

As difficult as this time has been from a business management perspective, Perro's greatest fear is for her employees. The closure affects ten full-time staff members, plus part-time employees and 15 high school students. Many of them have sat home for the last few weeks, wondering when they'll have the opportunity to work again.

It's the employees I worry the most about. We are like a family," Perro

For wait staff servers, bartenders, and other restaurant employees nationwide, their eatery positions provide their sole source of income. They have kept a

close eye on news reports of impending government economic relief packages, but it would be difficult for any relief to make up for an extended loss of work.

At 308 Lakeside in East Brookfield, which remains open for takeout and delivery services, several members of the bartending and wait staff have been out of work since March 15. Local restaurant owners fear that the Governor's restrictions may not be lifted for several more weeks if conditions worsen.

"This will have a big impact on our staff. We will see how it goes, but hopefully we will be successful with takeout and deliveries," said Tom Fahey, the general manager of 308 Lakeside.

A short trip west on Route 9, E.B. Flatts has also been hit hard by the dining ban. The restaurant currently offers takeout services only, and 18 employees have been temporarily laid off. Manager Sarah Huffman hopes they all return once full services are restored, but there is no telling how long that might be if an extension occurs. Meanwhile, the E.B. Flatts staff reminds guests that its hours for takeout are Sunday through Wednesday (7 a.m. to 2 p.m.) and Thursday through Saturday (7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

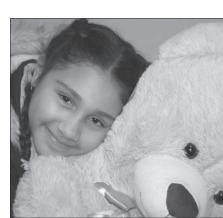
In Spencer, the Five Loaves Bakery staff continues to fight through the many hurdles that have impacted a small, close-knit staff. The restaurant currently offers a lunch takeout from Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Fresh pastries, breads, and several other items are available for patrons who continue to go out and show their support to local businesses.

"We don't know what next week will bring," said Five Loaves Bakery owner Kerri Lowell. "It's very upsetting when you have to tell your employees there is no work for them right now."

Once restrictions are eventually lifted and restaurants return to full services, owners are calling upon the community to show their support in what will be a long-term recovery process.

"We are asking everyone to help the small businesses," said Perro, who has several long-tenured employees who are currently out of work. "I hope everyone stays local so we can all get back on our PLACE MOTORS IS PROUD TO SPONSOR

### \* \* Friday's Child \* \* \*



Nyla Age 10

Hi! My name is Nyla and Dancing and singing make me happy!

Nyla is a very friendly girl of Hispanic descent. Nvla loves to be around others and is very social. Nyla is very intelligent and enjoys reading and math. She is very bright and excels in and loves school. A few of Nyla's talents are dancing, swimming, and drawing. Nyla also likes music and enjoys singing along to it. She is also very

Nvla is currently in the 4th grade. There are no concerns about Ny-

la's behaviors in school. Nyla states that she'd like to be a math teacher or hairdresser when she is older.

Legally freed for adoption, Nyla will thrive in most any family constellation with older children or no other children in the home. Nyla must be placed in a family who can allow her to visit with her biological siblings and possibly her maternal grandmother who live in western MA. There is an open adoption agreement in place for 3 visits a year with birth mother.

### Who Can Adopt?

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 for.

To learn more about adoption from foster care, call the Massachusetts Adoption Resource Exchange (MARE) at 617-964-6273 or visit www.mareinc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have "a permanent place to call HOME."



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## **CLASSROOM CORNER**

### Marianapolis Prep announces Quarter 3 Honor Roll

THOMPSON, Conn. — Marianapolis Prep announces students who have earned their place on the Quarter 3 Honor Roll.

Head of School List

Ali Abdel-Jalil, Bayan, Kuwait; Olivia-Mae Acquaah-Harrison, Charlton, MA; Lily Alessandro, Pomfret Center, CT; Owen Alicandro, North Oxford, MA; James Alves, Uxbridge, MA; John Barnwell, Danielson, CT; Ryan Barnwell, Danielson, CT; Cassandra Belsito, Millbury, MA; Abigail Boria, Charlton, MA; Benjamin Bouchard, Douglas, MA; Vincent Bourgeois, Thompson, CT; Campbell Braun, South Grafton, MA; Stephen Canavan, Ashford, CT; Marielle Caparso, Worcester, MA; Panachai Chauychoo, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Pannawat Chauychoo, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Dominika Chmielewski, Webster, MA; Spencer Courville, Charlton, MA; Julia Crosby, Whitinsville, MA; Anna Czechowski, Webster, MA; Anh Dao, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Alexandra Delano, Charlton, MA; Joseph DiPietro, Worcester, MA; Danielle Doiron, Charlton, MA; Fiona Doiron, Charlton, MA; Benjamin Duquette, Webster, MA; Sophie Elustondo, Burwood, Australia; William Engle, Plainfield, CT; Ava Fabiano, Killingly, CT; Chiara Faiola, Auburn, MA; Yifei Fang, Shanghai, China; Ashley Giorgio, Millbury, MA; Juliette Golden, Millville, MA; Madelyn Grundstrom, Moosup, CT; Timothy Hall, Plainfield, CT; Zachary Hall, Plainfield, CT; B Hannon, Putnam, CT; Angelina Hargrave, Charlton, MA; Sofia Hargrave, Charlton, MA; Mai Hasegawa, Osaka-shi, Japan; Sophie Hendrick, Willimantic, CT; Philip Heney, Douglas, MA; Thu Hoang, Hai Phong, Vietnam; James Hoban, Millbury, MA; Maura Hoban, Millbury, MA; Patrick Hoban, Millbury, MA; Kaylynn Horan, Putnam, CT; Tung Huynh, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Katelyn Jacoboski, Willington, CT; Mackenzie Jutras, Greenville, RI; Claire Kelleher, Auburn, MA; Julia Kilroy,

Upton, MA; Zachary King, Plainfield, CT; Kate Landis, Brooklyn, CT; Molly Landis, Brooklyn, CT; Abigail Leahy, Leicester, MA; Juhyoung Lee, Seoul, SouthKorea; Syhyoung Lee, Seoul, South Korea; Lauren Lemire, Southbridge, MA; Chenxi Liu, Changzhou, China; Alana Lorusso, North Oxford, MA; Ian MacKenzie, Woodstock, CT; Lauren Makie, Webster, MA; Szymon Mamro, Webster, MA; Riley Martin, Moosup, CT; Steven Mascolo, West Hartford, CT; Benjamin McGarry, Thompson, CT; Keegan McLeod, Foster, RI; Kate Melnick, North Grosvenordale, CT; Sara Michailides, Chepachet, RI; Ayame Mizuno, Nagoya, Japan; Linh Nguyen, Hanoi, Vietnam; Nhi Nguyen, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Abbie O'Brien, Plainfield, CT; Declan O'Connor, West Boylston, MA; Long Pham, Hanoi, Vietnam; Brendan Phaneuf, Danielson, CT;OliviaPisegna,Oxford,MA;Bronagh Power-Cassidy, Dublin, Ireland; Sara Powers, Grafton, MA; Sophia Rabitor, Dayville, CT; Jill Reardon, Fiskdale, MA; Grace Rhoads, Stafford Springs, CT; Lucas Rhoads, Stafford Springs, CT; Thomas Santos Soares, Porto Alegre, Brazil; Elizabeth Schoemer, Oxford, MA; Hannah Schoemer, Oxford, MA; Olivia Sczuroski, Pomfret Center, CT; Trinity Semo, Dudley, MA; Ashley Smith, Holden, MA; Ivana Smyckova, Horni Sucha, Czech Republic; Alex Stawiecki, Thompson, CT; Zachary Stoddard, Pomfret Center, CT; Maya Summiel, Dayville, CT; Thang Tran, Da Nang, Vietnam; Daniel Twohig, Douglas, MA; Rachel Ullstrom, Auburn, MA; John Vigliotti, Worcester, MA; Caroline Villa, Auburn, MA; Tram Vo, Phan Thiet, Vietnam; Mary Wall, Northborough, MA; Emily Walsh, Thompson, CT; Mary Walsh, Thompson, CT; Yunpeng Wang, Shenzhen, China; Zhenlin Wei, Shenzhen, China; Kyle Woodruff, Southbridge, MA; Mingyou Xu, Shanghai, China; Wenyang Yuan, Beijing, China; Abdullah Zameer, Woodstock, CT; Zihan Zhang, Jinan, China.

Dean's List

Michael Acquaah-Harrison, Charlton, MA; Ovetola Ajayi-Obe, Worcester, MA; Jenin Ayyash, Worcester, MA; Morgan Beaudreault, Dayville, CT; Callista Bibeau, Danielson, CT; Emma Blanchard, Dayville, CT; Nicholas Boligan, Thompson, CT; Samuel Bouchard, Douglas, MA; Patrick Worcester, MA; Hayden Buzzell, East Brookfield, MA; Jamie Calkins, Charlton, MA; Jessie Calkins, Charlton, MA; Hansen Cao, Shenzhen, China; Shaylan Cashman, Charlton, MA; Kara Corriveau, Brimfield, MA; Jasmine Creighton, Webster, MA; Paul Davey, Oxford, MA; Eva Dellea, North Oxford, MA; Sydney Duby, Worcester, MA; Nicholas Fennelly, Charlton, MA; Gilbert Fournier, Putnam, CT; Alexandra Giorgio, Millbury, MA; Lily Givner, Oxford, MA; Xiayuan Gong, Wuxi, China; Audrey Hammond, Sutton, MA; Emily Hammond, Sutton, MA; Alyson Hartman, Douglas, MA; Kiersten Haviland, Plainfield, CT; Lily Hayes, Danielson, CT; Donovan Hendrick, Willimantic, CT; Garret Hippert, Brooklyn, CT; Madeline Hollett, Charlton, MA; Nghi Huynh, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Ge Jia, Baoding, China; Doyoon Kim, Seoul, South Korea; Caroline King, Rochester, MA; Ayana Kobayashi, Nagoya, Japan; Haruna Kobayashi, Nagoya, Japan; Avery Kurzontkowski, Shrewsbury, MA; Ava LaRoche, Stafford Springs, CT; Andie Lee, Charlton, MA; Evan Lundt, Woodstock, CT; Yihui Luo, Lian Yun Gang, China; Remonda Mankarios, Webster, MA; Ryan Martin, Douglas, MA; Salvatore Masciarelli, Northbridge, MA; Sydney Masciarelli, Northbridge, MA; Conner McLeod, Foster, RI; Emma McQuiston, Webster, MA; Daniel Moors, Uxbridge, MA; Colleen Murphy, Charlton, MA; Connor Murray, Southbridge, MA; Kaylynn Nolan, Oxford, MA; Hayley O'Connell, Webster, MA; Collin O'Connor, Sutton, MA; James Olivieri, Douglas, MA; Jenna Olivieri, Douglas, MA; Yasmeen Osborne, Brooklyn,

CT; Dominic Penny, Charlton, MA; John Perveiler, Oxford, MA; Morgan Polinski, Webster, MA; Elena Polsky, Thompson, CT; Aleksandar Poturica, Belgrade, Serbia; Shunnan Qi, Shanghai, China; Jonathan Reardon, Fiskdale, MA; Johnna Romanek, North Grosvenordale, CT; Morgan Royston, Oxford, MA; Emma Russell, Brooklyn, CT; Elena Spangle, Brooklyn, CT; Christian Terwilliger, Lebanon, CT; Lily Tessmer, Lancaster, MA; Matthew Tomasino, Leicester, MA; Owen Trainor, Brooklyn, CT; Thinh Tran, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Ashley Vandenbrouck, Oxford, MA; Caroline Vigneault, Southbridge, MA; Maggie Vo, Worcester, MA; Elizabeth Walker, Thompson, CT; William Weinkopf, Plainfield, CT; Tyler Whiteley, Foster, RI; Anna Wildes, North Uxbridge, MA; Yukun Wu, Taiyuan, China; Yaxuan Xu, Beijing, China; Zhihe Ye, Beijing, China; Yi Nok Yeung, Hong Kong; Boning Zhu, Shanghai, China; Xingyu Zhu, Wenzhou, China; Yutian Zhu, Hangzhou, China.

Honor Roll

Emma Allen, West Boylston, MA; Grace Booth, Webster, MA; Domenic Capalbo, Worcester, MA; Claire Crossman, Oxford, MA; Courtney Fleming, Douglas, MA; Isabel Hull, Union, CT; Ehmil Johnson, Auburn, MA; Kualim Johnson, Auburn, MA; Sydney Kennison, Somers, CT; Thomas Kennison, Somers, CT; Camille Larson, Charlton, MA; Michael Levesque, Narragansett, RI; Alexander Litke, Brooklyn, CT; Kaya Lukasek, Webster, MA; Sophia Maloney, Sutton, MA; Jacob McCabe, Douglas, MA; Kylie Miller, Webster, MA; Nhan Nguyen, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam; Andrew Peck, Paxton, MA; Colby Pion, Danielson, CT; Emma Raps, Webster, MA; Ashley Robert, Plainfield, CT; Patrick Sabourin, Uxbridge, MA; John Sarantopoulos, Pomfret Center, CT; Kaeleigh Sullivan, Douglas, MA; Kang Xu, Xi'an, China; Haipei Yang, Nanjing Jiangsu, China; Lucas Yash, Webster, MA.

## Nichols College postpones Commencement exercises

DUDLEY — Nichols College has announced it will postpone annual Commencement exercises on May 2, in accordance with government mandates aimed at containing the transmission of COVID-19.

Nichols President Susan West Engelkemeyer, Ph.D., informed the graduating class in a March 17 email. saving. "Per CDC and state guidelines, it is with a heavy heart that I inform you that our May 2, 2020 Commencement Ceremony is postponed."

This week, Gov. Charlie Baker announced a prohibition on gatherings of 25 or more people, and the Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention issued new recommendations to cancel or postpone events of 50 or more for eight weeks.

In her message, President Engelkemeyer also promised graduates an opportunity to commemorate their academic achievement at a future event. with details to be determined.

"There will be a day that I will proudly, and with great joy, recognize this milestone in your lives," she added.

In addition, Nichols is planning to create a virtual event for May 2 in acknowledgement of the Commencement Ceremony that was scheduled to take place at Worcester's DCU Center.

The college recently announced it was moving exclusively to online course delivery following this past week's spring break until at least April 3 and offering campus housing only to those students unable to return home.

"It is truly impossible to xpress how very sorry I am that your final semester has been disrupted in such a profound way," Dr. Engelkemeyer said to the seniors, referring to the cancellation or deferment of in-person classes, and activities such as spring athletic events and travel opportunities. "For many of you

and your families, I remember being there the day you moved into Shamie or other residence halls. And I fondly remember shaking each of your hands as we came together during fall orientation. You are all in my heart. Please know it aches for

As the ever-changing situation develops. Nichols is keeping open various channels of communication to the students and the entire campus commu-

About Nichols College Nichols College is a college of choice for business and leadership education as a result of its

distinctive career-focused and leadership-based approaches to learning, both in and out of the classroom, and through impactful research and professional education. Students thrive in a learning and living environment that is supported by an experiential business curriculum and a strong liberal arts foundation aimed at transforming them into tomorrow's leaders. Nichols also offers Master's degrees in business, leadership, accounting, and counterterrorism, as well as a range of certificate programs, to promote career advancement for today's professionals.

### CATHOLIC ACADEMY HONOR ROLL

SOUTHBRIDGE — Trinity Catholic Academy has released its honor roll for the second trimester of the 2019-2020 school year.

**GRADE 4** 

Honors

SymeonDownie, Jameson Durocher, Aedyn Esser, IssayrisGonzalez-Rivera, Heather Kennedy,Oliver MacDonald AleyaPereira, Noah Waterhouse

What a difference

two weeks can make.

In my last column, I

GRADE 5 High Honors Michael Gasperini, Apollo Logan, Yashvi Swadia, Nico Yacavace

Jeremy Figueroa, Melany Ngo, Tatum Perez

**GRADE 6** 

**High Honors** Makayla Capillo, Zoe Forget, Colin Ladd

Honors

Charles Congdon, Frances Dyer, Anika Ferrantino Brandon McGlone, Amari Pereira, Nicholas Sargent, Cameron Simpson

**GRADE 7** 

**High Honors** Luisa Henao, Shane McGlone, Casey Renaud Havish Swadia, Manaali Vaidya,

Honors

Jason Checka, Elena Jerez, Lizmarie Rodriguez Jennalee Rousseau, ,Ava Simon

**GRADE 8** 

**High Honors** Kirsten Congdon, Sean Gasperini, Zachary Hebert

David Adorno, ,Zachary Cournoyer Teresita Del Valle, Eva Jerez Payton MacDonald, Avelyn O'Brien, Laci Pollone

## Online antique education



COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES

discussed upcoming flea markets as we started to see nicer weather. Now, with people staying at home and social distancing, many are ANTIQUES, looking online to learn something new. There are plenty of online options for those of you interested in studying about WAYNE TUISKULA antiques and collect-

If you want to do something informal, you can dig out your antiques and collectibles and research them. If you aren't sure what your item was used for, Google images may help you find a match on the web.

Go to images.google.com and you can find other items on the web that look like yours. I recently had a piece I couldn't identify and found it was a gold-filled retractable toothpick using Google images. You may find a manufacturer's mark on some of your pieces and can research the company's history on the web. You can look up eBay sold prices if you'd like to find out what items like yours sold for. There are other research options as well, including worthpoint.com, liveauctioneers. com, invaluable.com, askart.com, artprice.com and artnet.com. Some of these sites do charge fees to access their databases.

There are plenty of videos about antiques on YouTube and other websites that you can view for free. Just remember that there may be inaccuracies, biases, or the video creator may be trying to get you to sell them your antiques and collectibles. So, view

them with the healthy skepticism you would with anything else you find on the web.

If you are serious about learning more about antiques and collectibles, there are some distance learning courses that you can sign up for. Please use due diligence when choosing courses as I have no direct experience with any companies offering these courses.

Universalclass.com offers online classes on a wide range of topics. Their antiques and collectibles course costs \$50, or \$75 if you want a CEU credit. They also offer unlimited courses from their hundreds of offerings for \$189 a year. Their antiques and collectibles course description reads: "How to Buy and Sell Antiques and Collectibles offers a highly successful approach to acquiring and selling antiques and collectibles for both fun and profit. This course incorporates many strategies of acquiring and selling desirable objects



and pieces, with the goal of personal enjoyment and fulfillment." There are 15 lessons for both collectors and deal-

The Asheford Institute of Antiques offers an online appraisal course. The individual lessons may appeal to people who are interested in opening an

Turn To ANTIQUES page A7

## Turkey bunting tactics



THE GREAT **OUTDOORS** RALPH **TRUE** 

Will life ever be the same again? One good thing that sportsmen have in their favor is that hunting and fishing in the great outdoors is available 24/7, with plenty of room for all. Massachusetts has been busy stocking trout in most area ponds that normally receive them. Local rivers and streams had not been stocked as of this past weekend, but should receive an allotment of trout this week. Check the Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife Web site for up to date stocking of trout in your area. The water is still cold and fishing for trout has been slow, according to some anglers. As always, power bait is the number one bait to fish with.

Wild turkey season is not far away, with this year's opening

day April 25. With the mild winter we had this year, an abundance of birds survived as did other wildlife. Central Massachusetts has a large population of birds, far surpassing the Berkshires and areas north & West of the valley. Those areas were once the only place to hunt Wild Turkeys back in the day, but when the state started to stock some of the wild birds from New York and other states in the Blackstone Valley, their populations exploded.

Hunting tactics for harvesting a Wild Turkey have not changed much over the years, but more and more hunters are starting to use ground blinds, unnoticed by the keen sight of the wild turkey. They allow the hunter a lot more ability to move around in a comfortable chair, or just to sip on a cup of hot coffee while waiting for a big tom turkey to come strutting into your decoys. The blind also allows you to stay off of the ground decreasing an encounter with a nasty deer tick, which, by the way, have started to show up on my dogs in the last month, as well as

other residents' dogs. Today's ground blinds are easy to set up and are extremely light and cost around \$100.

Using a box call to imitate a hen turkey is the most popular call among sportsmen to lure in a big gobbler, and is easy to use. Slate calls and mouth calls work extremely well, but do require a bit of practice. Many hunters have a hard time using a mouth call, which requires the call to be kept in their mouth for sometimes long periods, but when they are mastered they work very well.

When wild turkey hunting first started in Massachusetts, numerous seminars were held throughout the valley by some game call representatives like Quaker Boy, or professional turkey hunters from other states. There are very few seminars today, but some Fish & Game clubs should consider holding one at their club for first time turkey hunters, and even those that enjoy that have harvested a few birds. The hosting club usually has some great food available and even some video of past hunts. Hopefully,



the virus that has caused so much health concern will be gone soon so that everyone can get back to their normal life. It is too late for turkey seminars this year, but hopefully, next year will be different

Charter boat captains are also going to get hit hard by the virus pandemic when fishing season rolls around. Boat captains that have sport fishing boats (called six packs) carrying six anglers or less, will not be hit as hard as the large char-

ter boats that carry up to 40 or 50 people. They will basically be shut down until July or August if things stay the same or get even worse. Private boat owners will still be able to fish unless we to are told to shelter in place.

Hope everyone stays safe and life will get back to normal

God Bless.

Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

## Designing a beautiful garden for you and the pollinators



GARDEN Moments MELINDA **MYERS** 

You don't need a prairie or large lot to attract and support pollinators. A meadow or informal, formal and even container gardens can bring in bees, butterflies and hummingbirds to help pollinate plants. It's just a matter of selecting the

right plants, adjusting

your maintenance prac-

tices, and skipping the

pesticides.

Create your garden by converting a few square feet of lawn, garden bed or front yard into a pollinator-friendly garden. You may want to start by switching out part of an existing garden or container to

more pollinator-friendly

Expand your planting options by converting a portion of your lawn into a pollinator garden. Outline the bed with a hose or rope. Remove the sod, add compost as needed to improve drainage and you'll be ready to

Simplify and dress up

your efforts by using easy-to-assemble raised garden kit like the Pollinator Garden Bed (gardeners.com). Its long-lasting cedar planks slide into aluminum corners to create a hexagonal bed. Get creative while increasing the garden's size by adding additional sections to create a honeycomb or other interesting design.

Mark the outline of the raised bed you select. Cut the grass short and cover with newspaper. Set your raised bed in place and fill with a quality planting mix. Mulch four to six inches surrounding the raised bed for ease of mowing and to eliminate the need to hand trim.

Once your planting bed is prepared, you're ready to plant. Include single daisy-like black-eyed Susans, coneflowers, and asters that allow visiting insects to rest and warm when sipping on nectar or dining on pollen. Add a few tubular flowers for butterflies and hummingbirds. They both like bright colors and can be seen visiting salvias, penstemon and nasturtiums. And don't forget the bees that are attracted to bright white, yellow, blue and ultraviolet colors. You'll find them visiting these and other blossoms like catmint, sweet alyssum and perennial geranium.

Include spring, summer and fall bloomers to keep pollinators visiting and well fed throughout the season. You'll enjoy the seasonal changes along with the color and motions the visitors provide. Include early spring perennials and bulbs to attract visitors in early spring as they search for much-needed food. Add fall flowers to help prepare them for winter or migration to their winter homes. Those in milder climates will want to add some pollinator-friendly

flowers to support and attract pollinators wintering in their backyard.

Plant flowers in groups for greater design impact and to reduce the energy pollinators expend when gathering nectar and pollen from one flower to the next. Provide plants with enough space to reach their mature size. Temporarily fill in voids with annuals like salvia, single zinnias and nicotiana that also attract pollinators.

Don't let all the plant and design possibilities overwhelm you into inaction. Gardener's Supply Company has plans for designing gardens to attract bees, butterflies and hummingbirds plus tips on keeping them safe in your garden.

Mulch the soil with leaves annually. It suppresses weeds, conserves moisture, improves the soil and provides homes for many beneficial insects.

Allow healthy plants and grasses to stand for winter. These provide homes for many beneficial insects and food for birds. Wait as long as possible to clean up your garden in spring. If needed, pile clippings out of the way to allow beneficial insects to escape these winter homes once temperatures warm. Then shred and compost the plant debris in summer.

your gardens As flourish, you will want to create more pollinator-friendly spaces. Your efforts will be rewarded

THE WRITE STUFF

with beautiful flowers, increased harvest and the added color and motion these visitors provide.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Gardeners Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www. *MelindaMyers.com.* 



**Gardener's Supply Company** 

Courtesy Photo

### **Spencer New Leader!**

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### **SUGGESTED TOPICS FOR APRIL:** Deadline Fri., April 17, 5pm - Pub date April 24

if submitting by mail (please see below for mailing instructions as our office is temporarily closed), please allow another week to be typed

- 1. How is the recent pandemic affecting you, your life, work, everyday living.
- 2. How have you been keeping the younger kids busy... list activities that have worked for you.
- 3. How have your students adapted to the change of learning at home.
- 4. Topic of your choice

### **HOW TO SUBMIT?**

Our office is currently closed and we are all working from home. Please call June at 508-909-4062 if you're planning to mail and she will give you the address. Always best to email your word document to jsima@stonebridgepress.news. Thank you.

Seeking Business Sponsors for this page. Call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news

We reserve the right to not publish essays for inappropriate content or to hold for a future publication. Early submisssions are greatly appreciated.

### **ANTIQUES**

continued from page A6

antique shop, selling online or considering some other type of antique related career. I spoke with the Business Director at Asheford, Greg DeMarco. He said that they typically see an increase in people taking their courses during a recession, as people feel the need to learn more or make career changes. When I spoke with Mr. DeMarco, Asheford was seeing nearly a 15% increase in registration since the COVID-19 virus. Asheford Institute's website is asheford.com. DeMarco may see an uptick in business, but like all of us he hopes that the pandemic and the measures needed to contain it are short-lived.

I'll be appraising items for the Douglas Historical Society on May 3, provided there is no need to reschedule it. We will also be running an estate sale with many antiques in an Auburn, MA home and an online auction in Warren, R.I. when conditions allow. Our online Rutland estate farm auction has been temporarily postponed. Please see www.centralmassauctions.com for details on these and other events. Stay healthy, everyone! I look forward to seeing you at antique events soon.

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com





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> FRANK G. CHILINSKI PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

Brendan Berube **EDITOR** 

EDITORIAL

## A much needed time for renewal

Another winter is on its way out, and warmer, longer days are finally here. As March turns the corner into April, the dawning of the season of renewal is perhaps more welcome this year than ever before in the shadow of the Coronavirus outbreak, and we thought this would be an opportune moment to reflect on some of the things that make us grateful for the arrival of spring.

While each season has its own perks, there is something about spring that seems to surprise us each year. We re-acquaint ourselves with our yards as they slowly reveal themselves as the snow banks melt away, and we welcome the sight of our lawns and tree branches once again

sprouting green.

Another phenomenon that comes with spring is 'spring fever.' In modern times this is a semi-positive term. Back in colonial times, however, 'spring fever' referred to the poor quality of health everyone was in after sustaining a winter without fresh vegetables and proper diet. Today's 'spring fever' will have children restless in school, new romances transpire and people attacking their homes with dust cloths and Windex.

Experts say the changes that a person goes through during tne springtime are due to normonal changes in the body. During the winter months, the body secretes a large amount of melatonin, (the sleep hormone). The presence of more sunlight in spring sends the body a message to stop producing as much melatonin. This causes folks to be more awake. Add this to the uptick in your serotonin levels due to the sunlight, and you will not only be awake, but enthusiastic.

To touch on a bit of history, as we are wont to do, the month of April is derived from the word 'Aprillis,' which in turn is derived from the word 'aperire,' meaning "to open." This makes perfect sense, as the world becomes abloom again in spring. With everything once again blooming and warm, sunny weather ahead, we hope all of you out there have an opportunity to stave off stir craziness during this outbreak by stepping outside to feel the sun on your own faces, inhale a deep lungful of invigorating air, and enjoy a much needed sense of renewal.

Opinion and commentary from Spencer, Leicester and the Brookfields

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Plague management ethics

To the Editor:

Perhaps I owe somewhat of an apology to Donald Trump and Mike Pence. Although they downplayed the threat of pandemic for what looks like months, ignored intelligence reports, ignored scientists, called it fake news, a new hoax, etc., etc., it may not have actually changed much. COVID-19 is so contagious, the incubation period so long, disease management so resource intensive, that perhaps there was nothing we could have done to prevent this crisis. If a meteor is barreling towards earth it doesn't really matter if we have a smart and well-grounded president like Obama or a narcissistic idiot like Trump – the meteor is going to hit anyway and presidential competence won't change anything.

Based on how this disease is spreading throughout the world and crippling the world economy, even in countries I consider to be superbly run, makes me think this is more like a meteor impact than a self-inflicted wound. Trump certainly isn't helping, but his capacity to make it worse is limited.

I was thinking about the COVID-19 crisis, what we've seen before and what is truly unprecedented.

Humanity has seen pandemics before; we've seen plagues before. This pandemic on the surface seems a lot like to Spanish Flu of 1918-1919, which killed 5 percent of the world population. Most people got the flu, most only had mild symptoms and recovered, but some reacted very badly to Before the Spanish Flu, things used to happen that cut humanity's numbers, but we didn't see it coming, didn't know what it was, and didn't know that we could even do anything about it. The Spanish Flu was somewhat understood, but information was censored during WWI and this "social distancing" wasn't feasible.

It should be noted that the "Spanish Flu" was named as such because Spain was neutral in WWI, and the only major country not censoring its media about the disease. The flu is actually thought to have originated in Kansas. Part of why we don't name diseases after locations any more is that it creates unnecessary stigmatization and is often wrong anyway.

We've seen potential pandemics and plagues before that we beat back such as Ebola in 2014. A weird disease in a far-away land such as West Africa can be managed, isolated, and burned out before it gets here.

What is unprecedented is that this is the first plague that we thought we could control that is getting out of control and mathematically impossible to control (at this point). The world is responding to COVID-19 by shutting down the world economy to slow (not eliminate) the spread. It is so infectious that we know we can't stop it, but we hope to slow it with draconian measures. The goal is commendable - keep the hospitals from being overwhelmed. An uncontrolled outbreak will mean that 30 patients will need ventilators for every one ventilator in the country.

We have many viruses that would kill an adult, but are benign to children. They often present as colds in kids, but all adults are immune since they got that same cold as a kid. These viruses are not dangerous except to isolated populations. For example, Native Americans were not immune from European childhood viruses and were ravaged by them. Throughout human history, if every 100 years a new nasty virus came out, it mowed down 5 percent of the population, and then kids got mild cases and developed immunity, and it burns out.

What concerns me is the math. The lack of understand of what exponential growth really means (this was spinning out of control for weeks before the media decided it was a problem). If cases double every four days nobody cares when one case becomes two, four, then eight, then 32, then 64, and then 128 cases in a month. We ignored it when it could have been isolated, and now the horse is out of the barn. The other thing is the incubation period, the number of people anybody has with anybody else. We can't eradicate this virus from the face of the earth, not anymore. As soon as we think we beat it back it will come back in waves. Wave after wave for years. This is not containable any longer.

There are only two ways out of this - either everybody gets it globally, or we develop a vaccine. If the hospitals get overwhelmed, the problem will take care of itself. In a no-vaccine scenario, the math says we need to be hunkered down like this for 18 months to flatten the curve enough. If we expand hospital capacity drastically, that will reduce how flat we need to make the curve. In America, hospitals are private entities that rarely make money, so they have no real incentive to purchase equipment for over-capacity that will only collect dust next year. This actually highlights why we need national healthcare - hospital executives shouldn't be worried about how busy they'll keep a COVID-19 era purchased ventilator. If we want healthcare to function as a service, it can't also be a private enterprise.

If we run out of hospital capacity, how will it be rationed? Do we even have a plan? First world countries like to do everything they can for everybody, but if we exceed our capacity significantly, hard choices will need to be made. We should have a points based system to determine who should get the ventilator rather than pretending it isn't a problem worth thinking about it and letting a doctor on the front lines decide. We need to take ownership of this. As much as Sarah Palin maligned the non-existent "death panels" in 2010, in 2020 we could really use guidance on how to ratio healthcare when there is simply no choice.

In a vaccine scenario - how long do we need to be hunkered down until that vaccine is available?

Can the U.S. economy, or the world economy for that matter, sustain months or years of this? Is it worth it? Will there be anything left on the other side of this? How will we keep supply chains of essential products up? What about the kids' educations, and how will that affect America in the future? If we witness an economic collapse with 30 percent unemployment by the end of Quarter 2, how do those people keep their bills paid? What are the effects of a huge number of people simply not paying bills any longer? How long can the economy actually be shut down before there is a domino effect of unintended consequences?

The ethics of plague management will be studied in the future. This is the first plague humans saw coming and had actual tools to alter its course and decisions to make.

> OMAR HAR-YAROK EAST BROOKFIELD

# Don't let fears drive your investment choices



FINANCIAL Focus BURDICK

First, coronavirus rocked financial markets. Then, prices dropped more than 20 percent after a

breakdown in OPEC production discussions. Not surprisingly, the markets took another nosedive. Yet, despite these events, this recent market volatility may well be attributed more to fear than the forces that usually drive the markets. Ultimately, in the investment arena, as in all walks of life, facts matter. And right now, if you look beyond the headlines, the facts that matter to investors may be far less gloomy than you might have imagined.

So, here are some things to keep in mind over the next several weeks:

This isn't 2008. If you were an investor in 2008, you well remember the market crash that resulted from the bursting of the housing bubble, which had severe ripple effects throughout the economy. The situation is different now. While it's quite likely that the U.S. economy will take a hit in the short term, the overall economic fundamentals were strong before the coronavirus came along and may indeed prove resilient enough to withstand the recent shocks. Specifically, the labor market conditions were the best in decades, housing activity was improving and interest rates remained low. And even the recent events may have a bright side: The drop in oil prices will likely reduce prices at the gas pumps, leading to more money in the pockets of consumers, which, in turn, can boost spending, a key driver of our economy. And the large decline in interest rates will make home purchases and mortgage refinancing even more attractive – again, positive moves for the economy.

We've been here before. From the time the markets bottomed out in early 2009 until just a few weeks ago, stock prices climbed about 300 percent. Yet, during that time, we also saw three separate market drops of more than 15 percent, similar to what we're seeing now. These market corrections always feel unsettling, but it's important to recognize that they are actually a normal part of the log-term investing process.

So, given these factors, how should you respond to the current situation? Instead of simply selling your stocks in an attempt to cut your losses, review your portfolio to see if it is properly balanced between stocks, bonds and other investments in a way that reflects your goals, time horizon and risk tolerance. Those investors with properly balanced portfolios are not seeing the same level of decline as those whose holdings are almost entirely in stocks. And while diversification can't guarantee profits or protect against all losses, it can help reduce the impact of volatility.

Here's another suggestion: Look for good buying opportunities, because they are certainly out there. A well-managed company with a solid business plan that produces quality products and services is going to be that same company after the coronavirus and oil price panics subside – and right now, that company's stock shares may literally be "on sale."

While it's not easy for you to look at your investment statements today, remember that you're investing for goals that may be decades away. By keeping your eyes on this distant horizon, so to speak, you'll be less likely to over-react to the news of the day - and more likely to follow a long-term strategy that can work for you.

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.

## **DON'T MISS A BEAT CHECK OUT THE** SPORTS ACTION!

### **GOOD NEWS**

continued from page A1

tales of generosity and goodwill have been popping up across the country recently — stories of landlords foregoing the collection of rent from tenants who are home without pay or insisting that the hard hit businesses who rent space from them pay employees first; stories of neighbors buying groceries and supplies for the elderly couple next door; of parents organizing food collection drives to ensure that families in need are able to keep food on the table for children whose schools have temporarily closed. Every day, in every

community across the nation, ordinary people are stepping up to the plate to combat the negative impact of COVID-19 with kindness.

Just last week, we received a phone call from someone driving down Main Street in one of our own local communities who saw a group of children writing messages of encouragement and affirmation on the sidewalk with brightly colored chalk because it was something they felt they could do to help the people of their hometown stay positive and keep their spirits up. We were so moved by this extraordinary act of selflessness on the part of those so young that it inspired us to seek out similar displays of goodwill. All of us

could use some 'good' news right now, and we are asking you, faithful readers, to share yours with us. If there is a collection of food and supplies for those in need taking place in your community; if you have been the fortunate recipient of an unexpected act of kindness; or if you know of a hometown hero who you believe deserves recognition for going above and beyond to make a positive difference during the COVID-19 outbreak, we want to hear about it. Feel free to contact our Editor by e-mail at brendan@salmonpress.news or by phone at 279-4516, ext. 101 and help us spread some positivity.

www.StonebridgePress.com

### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Republican President

To the Editor:

The response to the Coronavirus outbreak in the United States has been delayed, and has represented a weird patchwork of similar yet different responses from the states. We are several weeks behind the curve because our President didn't believe intelligence reports of the coming pandemic and believed it to be a hoax intended to malign his presidency and dent the stock market he took so much credit

The stock market has lost all gains since Donald Trump was inaugurated. Without even factoring in inflation, our 401k's are now worse than they were BT (before Trump). They are going lower, I promise you that. The Dow futures this Sunday evening hit the circuit breaker "limit low" and in the past month we have hit that circuit breaker more times than I can remember. I wonder if Trump will take responsibility for the stock market declines given how he tied his presidency to its rise...

States don't have the resources of the CDC, HHS, CIA, NSC, etc. Trump ignored the resources of the federal government with wishful thinking. Republican Senators publicly downplayed the COVID crisis while privately dumping their stock portfolios. Trump's cabinet eventually had to have an "intervention" with him. The states started taking action when reports in the media were making the case over-

Since we have an inept federal government, we instead have a patchwork of similar vet different responses in the states. Some states such as WV still think it's a joke, others like New York, Illinois, and California are issuing stayat-home orders.

Governors have shut down ski areas, entertainment and cultural venues, bars and restaurants, schools, barber shops, hair and nail salons, gyms, massage and tattoo parlors. Some places have closed all hotels, some locales with a lot of second homes asked those people to return to their primary residence. Elective surgeries and non-emergency medical and dental care has been can-

It's no secret that despite their flaws, I trust Democrats to run this country over Republicans any day, with the possible exception of Charlie Baker, who the Republicans disown by calling him a RINO anyway. I may not agree with all of Baker's policies, but I trust

him as a manager and an executive - I can't think of any other Republican I can say the same for. That being said, I am very thankful that this global Coronavirus meltdown is happening during a Republican administration.

The 2009 stimulus at the very beginning of Obama's term was too little to really do the good that was needed, and was part of the reason that the recovery was so slow and took so long. I suspect that if there were a Democratic administration now, there wouldn't be such support from Republicans for an economic stimulus package. Sort of like it had to be a Republican President (Richard Nixon) who made overtures with China. If a Democratic President had proposed that, he would have been called a Communist, soft on defense,

In times of national or global crisis, the Democrats generally step up and do the right thing with a sprinkling of political posturing. During a national or global crisis, the Republicans will burn everything to the ground if they can't get the credit. Obama was inaugurated during a time of national crisis and Mitch McConnell's stated goal on inauguration day was to watch Obama fail. If you remember, the Republicans criticized the Fed's actions supporting the economy in 2012 because they thought it was making things look too good for Obama's reelection (the wanted unemployment higher). It is hard to build a sand castle but really easy to kick it down.

The Democrats may hold some detail hostage for political goals but at the end of the day they aren't willing to shoot the hostage. The Republicans have proved that they will shoot the hostage. The Republicans would rather see unemployment spike to 30 percent so they can blame it on the Dems.

When adjusted for inflation the fiscal stimulus they are pushing now is nearly two and a half times larger than the 2009 stimulus they kicked and screamed we couldn't afford. Shame on them for their 2009 actions, shame on them for not apologizing as we look at the last 11 years in retrospect, but at least we might get what we need this time.

For America's sake, it is fortunate that we have a Republican president right now because they might actually do the right thing albeit for their own selfish reasons.

> FRED BAGG SPENCER

### A response

To the Editor:

Having plenty of time on my hands, I was just reviewing Roland Blais' words in his remarks published March 13. He makes a lot of references to our being a republic, but the definitions I have seen don't pay a lot of respect to the term, save that it is used to describe a representative form of government, where selected officials, by a wide variety of forms and formats, are in charge of the government.

This descriptive term can range from our western style, to the Soviet Socialist Republic, the Republic of China, to even the famous Banana Republics. In truth, the Republic of our founders was, in fact, more of a consensus style, then as now, run by the most prosperous white men, and literally excluded women, people of lesser means and actually had a proxy system for slave owners. Even the much touted electoral college, was to keep the great unwashed from choice of a president. With no party evident at the time, top vote getter was president, and second highest was vice president- hence, succession might well have yielded complete policy

Mr. Blais has made reference to our old friend and brother, Benjamin Franklin, probably the first and greatest entrepreneur of our nation. In addition to his print shop and Poor Richard's Almanac, he was an early insurance provider. He sold fire protection to homeowners in Philadelphia, many of which old homes still bear his company seal next to their front door. If you have any familiarity with Philadelphia, you are aware of homes proximity to each other; hence, his downfall was not having his fire company covering the entire block, and led to our current socialized format of all taxpayers paying for fire and police protection, along with military and grade school costs.

Indeed, review of the Federalist Papers, makes it clear that the founders were quite happy with the home rule and states' rights, and cited only 1) National Defense-army/navy, 2) trade and treaties, 3) common currency-national bank and 4) regulation of interstate commerce.

Since, in point of fact, much of our society functions on the public dime, including Social Security, Medicare, un-employment insurance, etc., I have watched the national debated on healthcare coverage with both inter-

est and amusement. While I am old enough to be on Medicare, my wife is not, hence we have retained our Federal Blue Cross which my wife could do in retirement. That said, we, like everyone else, are devoting a very large percentage of our healthcare dollar, to the support and feeding of the insurance carrier, all their employees at every level, including paying their health insurance, and all the clerics throughout the system who move that money around. At Toronto General, they have three insurance clerks, Mass general has 150. Just think how terrific our services might be, if not carrying all this extra, not medical service burden. The people who are the beneficiaries of that industry have successfully convinced you that not paying them is communism. Admittedly, their demise would displace a lot of people off of our payroll, but it is a glitch inn capitalism, that only serves itself.

I actually started this response last week, but now have a couple more interesting observations to add. If our nation and way of life are to survive, it will be socialism coming in to rescue that which capitalism cannot. People need to eat, and with so much of the economy interrupted. only our government can fill this need. The range and level of impact cannot be

I am on Social Security, and hope not to access retirement investments until restored to much higher than current levels.

I own an apartment house with a small mortgage. Two of my three tenants are part of the school system. Stay tuned for where that might go.

I am not a fan of bailing out airlines. When they got their bonus inn the Trump tax cuts, they used it to buy back debt, that maybe they should leverage now before coming hat in hand. Of course, this may well be a Catch 22, as their demise likely reduces my retirement investment.

The bottom line is, if we are all to get through this, we need to stop inferring that socialism makes us communists. We have a long and complex road ahead of us, and it will test our fabric as a nation- Be well, and may God Bless America

> KEN KIMBALL Brookfield

# Does humanity really end when the toilet paper runs out?

I have a friend since high school named Karen. She was a smart and focused student, a cheerleader ... very popular but always a kind soul. We lost touch through the years but reconnected when, to her surprise, she saw my name on a book at

Barnes & Noble. Karen was always engaged and helpful. Raised by kind parents, she was always one of those people who were ... well, just that way.

Sunday morning, Karen rose early and headed to the grocery store in her small Michigan town. She had a plan to arrive as the doors opened and get the few items she needed and did. Toilet paper was on her list and she bought the only package left ... a package of eight rolls. She, like most of us, was surprised by the empty shelves. She bought what she could and headed out of the store and to her car. In the parking lot, she encountered an elderly man, visibly upset. Karen asked if he was okay.

"My wife and I are out of toilet paper. I've been searching for days. I don't know what to do," the troubled old gentleman explained.

He didn't know what to do, but Karen did. She broke open the package of eight rolls and tried to give him half. He would only accept two, and was touched to tears. He didn't have to leave empty handed because of the generosity of Karen Tyson. She, and others like her, give me hope and optimism in a time wrought with despair and pessimism.

We still live in the richest nation in the history of the world. Is it truly necessary for some of us to survive, that others must go without?

"We have nothing to fear but fear itself." - Franklin Delano Roosevelt

When fear sets in, irrational behavior begins. Saturday, I witnessed a man and a woman struggling in the aisle of my local store over a bottle of bleach. There's really not a shortage of bleach, there is only the fact that some bought more than they needed and left

others without. The same with hand sanitizer. I've **POSITIVELY** seen some on social media **SPEAKING** bragging about how much they have while others By Gary W. are driving all over town and can't find a single bot-MOORE tle. I personally know of a 65-year-old man with can-

cer who is at high risk and can't find a single bottle anywhere.

Trusts

East Brookfield, MA 01515

hoarding is only selfish.

Last week, I wrote a column that I thought would be whimsical, but by the time it went to print was not. There are people in serious need of the basics of life. No, not having toilet paper may not be life threatening, but a lack of food items and basic products for disinfection are. If you have a little to spare, please share. Call your

Being prepared is admirable, while local house of worship, food pantry, Salvation Army or any organization who can help get these into the hands of someone in need. Be inspired by the kindness and willingness to share that Karen, and many like her have displayed.

> No. I am not asking you to share what you need for the survival of the

Turn To MOORE page A14

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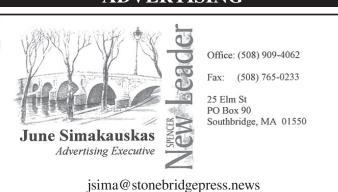
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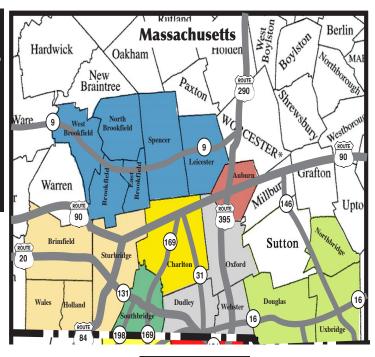


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### Easy Easter Time Tips

Easter is right around the corner and the religious holiday, steeped in tradition, often creates the best family memories. Coloring eggs, early morning candy hunts, Easter lilies, and family tables heaped with festive fare, all make this spring celebration one of the most enjoyable holidays ever.

Few family traditions are more enjoyable than those that happen at Easter time. Read on for some fun and easy Easter related tips - from a new twist on tinting eggs to preserving potted lilies.

Bye Bye Bunnies: Do you have leftover solid chocolate bunnies? Here are some ideas to put them to good use:

\*Chop up chocolate and store in zip lock bags to use as chocolate chips in cookie batter, muffins, pancakes or to top cupcakes.

Make candy coated popcorn: Melt chocolate and toss in freshly popped corn to coat. Allow to cool and harden before serving.

\*Whip up an old fashioned mug of rich and vummy hot chocolate. For every cup of whole milk add four ounces chopped chocolate. Add a few drops of vanilla extract and a dash of sugar if desired. Melt on the stove on medium/ high heat, stirring constantly. When mixture simmers, turn to low and cover for three minutes. Stir before serving.

**Everlasting Flower Preservative** 

Ingredients: 1 pint powdered Borax (in laundry aisle); two pints cornmeal; covered cardboard box (a shoebox is

Instructions: 1. Thoroughly mix borax and cornmeal. 2. Cover the bottom of the box with 3/4 of an inch of this mixture. 3. Cut flower stems about

in this mixture. Spread the petals and leaves so that they lie as flat as possible. Do not place flowers too close together. 4. Cover the flowers with 3/4 of an inch of the mixture. 5. Place the lid on the box and keep at room temperature for 3 to 4 weeks. The flowers will stay summer fresh indefinitely.

Tissue Paper Dyed Easter Eggs

(and no more dye mess)!

boiled eggs than fresh ones?.

2. Put some water in a bowl.

place it in an egg cup to dry.

will have transferred to the egg.

bowls or cups.

mosaic effect.

Instructions:

Why not try a new twist on an old tra-

dition? Using tissue paper to color eggs

results in an interesting hue of pastels

Note: Did you know Celebrity Chef

Bobby Flay recommends boiling older

eggs rather than very fresh eggs,

because it's easier to peel older hard

You'll need: Tissue paper in several

1. Tear the tissue paper into small

3. One at a time, soak pieces of tissue

paper in the water. Then stick the wet

pieces onto the surface of a hard boiled

egg. Keep placing tissue on the egg until

it is covered. You may want to overlap

the tissue pieces a little to cover the

entire egg, or leave spaces to create a

4. After the entire egg is covered,

5. When the tissue is dry, peel it off

of the egg. The color of the tissue paper

colors; water, hard boiled eggs, small



TAKE THE HINT

**KAREN** TRAINOR

a few flowers in full bloom but with most unopened. Keep potted soil moist and place in a cool 60 to 65 degree room where it can get some indirect

sunlight. Avoid direct heat and direct sunlight. Be sure the pot is on a saucer, and if it is wrapped in foil be sure the foil doesn't trap any water in the bottom of the pot. Help your lily last even longer by snipping off the pollen laden anthers from the center of the blooms.

Long Lasting Lilies: When your Easter lily has seen better days, don't toss it out! Your potted lilies can last for years to come if you plant them outside. To do: When leaves and stems turn yellow and or brown, trim them back and plant the bulb directly into the garden after the threat of frost has passed. For best results, plant the bulb in about three inches of good soil in a sunny or partial shade area. Top with another three inches of mulch, peat moss, compost, etc. (bulb is six inches underground). Water as needed. Keep in mind transplanted lilies won't bloom until next summer. Keep well mulched during the winter and next spring remove extra mulch to help lilies sprout up.

Chalk it Up: Wondering what to do with all those eggshells left over from Easter? Why not be creative and teach the kids how to make sidewalk chalk? While you're at it, you can throw in a little recycling lesson!

Eggshell chalk: four to five eggshells, one teaspoon flour, one teaspoon very hot tap water, food coloring (optional).

Directions: Wash and dry eggshells. Put the shells into bowl or grinder and pulverize into a powder. Toss away any large pieces. Place flour and hot water in another bowl and add one tablespoon eggshell powder and mix until a paste forms. Add food coloring if desired.

Shape and press mixture very firmly into the shape of a chalk stick, and roll up tightly in a strip of strong paper towel. Allow to dry approximately three days until hard. Remove paper towel and you've got homemade chalk! (Eggshell chalk is for sidewalks only.) Recipe can be doubled or tripled, depending upon how many eggshells you have.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

Want to preserve your Easter bouquet or corsage? It's easy to make them last almost indefinitely!

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1 inch long. Lay the flowers face down

Prolong Potted Lilies: Easter lilies are gorgeous plants, and with a few tricks you can prolong their life as a potted plant way past the Easter holi-







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# **SPORTS**

## Bravehearts build 2020 roster around locals, including Leicester's Jack Steele

In six seasons, the Worcester Bravehearts have consistently built championship-caliber rosters in the Futures League by recruiting some of the most talented baseball players in Central Mass. Players like Ian Strom of Hopedale, Zack Tower of Auburn, Ryan Ward of Millbury, and Mariano and Dante Ricciardi of West Boylston have been key contributors to the Bravehearts success since 2014.

WEEK

### Jack Steele

The Leicester resident and Worcester Academy alum has once again been named a member of the Worcester Bravehearts roster. Congratulations!

Athlete of the Week is sponsored by:



Recently the team announced a slate of 14 local players who will attempt to defend the team's 2019 championship when the season begins May 27.

Six of the 14 local players are returners from last year's team that won 30 regular season games and defeated the Pittsfield Suns, Brockton Rox, and Bristol Blues on the way to the organization's fourth championship. Holden residents Jack Gardner (Saint John's High), P.J. Barry (Saint Peter-Marian High) and Brendan Case (Wachusett Regional) are all slated to return.

Leicester resident Steele (Worcester Academy) will return to the starting rotation for the Bravehearts in 2020. Steele, a sophomore at UMass-Amherst, started seven games for the Bravehearts last season, logging 33 innings and a 4.86 ERA. He may be best remembered for his gutsy performance to start Game 1 of the 2019 FCBL Championship. On less than 24 hours notice, he turned in his best performance of the season, going 5.1 scoreless innings in a crucial 2-1 Bravehearts victory. Steele also won the 2017 Central New England Prep School Baseball League Championship at Worcester Academy.

If returning third baseman Aidan Wilde (Milford High) seems comfortable with the coaches, it is because he is. Not only was Alex Dion his coach last summer, but Dion was also Wilde's high school coach where Wilde put up amazing numbers. He hit .476 in 235 total high school at-bats, including a senior year in which he finished with a .509 average and .645 on base percentage. Wilde is one of the very few players to actually hit a ball over the fence at Milford's Fino Field, a distance of over 400 feet. Wilde was voted the NE10 Rookie Hitter of the Year his freshman year and was named to the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association Preseason All-East Region first team prior to this season, his sophomore year at Stonehill College.

Another key returning play-Shrewsbury's is Nick Martin (Shrewsbury High). The out-



Photo courtesy Worcester Bravehearts

Leicester's Jack Steele

fielder is a junior at Westfield State and was a part of the 2017 Shrewsbury Legion Post 397 team that won the American Legion Northeast Regional. Last summer he hit .276 while playing five different positions for the Bravehearts.

The Bravehearts are bolstering their pitching staff with seven local arms. Shrewsbury's Kevin (Shrewsbury Hummer High/ Western New England) and John West (Shrewsbury High/Boston College), Grafton's Carson Hauben (St. John's High/Rollins College), Marlborough's Hunter (Marlborough Reynolds High/ Franklin Pierce), Auburn's Coleman Picard (Auburn High/Hartford), Ashland's Alex Amalfi (Ashland High/ UMass-Boston), and Worcester's-own Tim O'Connor (Worcester Academy/Denison University) will all join the team this summer.

Kevin Hummer was named First Team MidWach Conference and



Massachusetts Baseball Coaches Association All-Central Team as a junior and senior at Shrewsbury High. The right-hander is currently a junior at Western New England University and has pitched 75 innings in his college career, notching a record of 7-5. John West is a current senior at Shrewsbury High where he has also starred on the basketball court. The towering 6-foot-8 right-hander went 3-2 with a 0.87 ERA and 45 strikeouts last year. He was selected to the Telegram & Gazette Super Team in both sports in 2019. He plans to attend Boston College in the

Grafton native Carson Hauben had already pitched in eight games as a freshman at Rollins College in Florida before his season was suspended. He had a 4.38 ERA and a record of 3-2 this season. In high school, he helped St. John's win the 2017 1A Super 8 State Championship. All three pitchers also played for the Shrewsbury Post 397 American Legion Team — a team that once had Nick Martin and Jack Gardner as well.

Hunter Reynolds is a freshman right-handed pitcher at Franklin Pierce University. In his first six appearances for the Ravens, Reynolds had pitched 7.2 innings with 10 strikeouts and an ERA of 2.35. He played football, basketball and baseball at Marlborough High

Turn To BRAVEHEARTS page A15













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## POLICE REPORTS

### Spencer Logs

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 12:24-1:48 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:52 a.m.: mv stop (Chestnut Street); 1:59 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 2:08 a.m.: buildings cheked, secure; 2:42 a.m.: parking violation (Main Street), ticket issued; 3:27 a.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 4:50 a.m.: parking complaint (Church Street), driveway bloeked; 7:31 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street) 7:38 a.m.: medical/general (Collier Circle); 7:41 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 7:51 a.m.; mv stop (Main Street); 8:01 a.m.: stop (Main Street); 8:17 a.m.: mv stop (Summit Street); 8:31 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:40 a.m.; mv stop (Main Street); 8:54 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:04 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:12 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:23 a.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 9:31 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 9:44 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:50 a.m.: medical/ general (Elm Street); 9:53 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 10:02 a.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 10:07 a.m.: intelligence/drugs (West Main Street), info taken; 10:24 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 10:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Northwest Road), spoken to; 10:51 a.m.: officer wanted (Lambs Grove), no trespass order; 11:29 a.m.: medical/ general (Church Street); 11:55 a.m.: 911 call (Ash Street), open line; 11:55 a.m.: medical/general (Briarcliff Lane); 12:03 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 12:35 p.m.: elderly matter (Greenville Street), welfare check; 1:24 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 1:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), info taken; 1:54 p.m.: vandalism (Main Street), mv damaged; 1:57 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 2:06 p.m.: 911 call (Ash Street), misdial; 3:40 p.m.: larceny (West Main Street), items recovered; 3:54 p.m.: suspicious mv (Donnelly Cross Road), investigated; 4:01 p.m.: larceny (West Main Street), info taken; 5:07 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 5:13 p.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 5:27 p.m.: juvenile matter (Church Street), custody issue; 5:45 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), reported sholifting; 5:59 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Road); 6:04 p.m.: mv stop (Lyford Road); 6:17 p.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 6:57 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), reported bullying; 7:01 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), poss. restraining order violation; 7:01 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 7:14 p.m.: building checked, secure; 7:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); p.m.: medical/general (Duggan Street); 8:04 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street); 8:09 p.m.: disturbance (Grove Street), investigated; 8:35 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:50 p.m.: animalc complaint (Greenville Street), loose dog; 9:08 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:01 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Paxton PD bolo; 11:31 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), knife brandished.

2:33-2:59 a.m.: buildings checked,

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

secure; 7:40 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 7:51 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:02 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:25 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:30 a.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), noise complaint: 8:42 a.m.: my stop (Main Street): 8:48 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:19 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:34 a.m.; mv stop (Main Street); 9:52 a.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 11:32 a.m.: 911 call (North Spencer Road). open line; 11:57 a.m.: harassment prevention violation (McCormick Road), info taken; 12:41 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 12:51 p.m.; disturbance (Chestnut Street), noise complaint; 1:29 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Steet), erratic operation; 1:31 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), misdial; 1:59 p.m.: mv lockout (Rustic Lane), assisted; 2:57 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), spoken to; 3:43 p.m.: fire alarm (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 3:57 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:14 p.m.: residential alarm (North Brookfield Road), servies rendered; 5:13 p.m.: juvenile matter (Valley Street), grandchildren fled; 5:27 p.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 6:01 p.m.: officer wanted (Greenville Street), services rendered; 8:57 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:07 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:35 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:46 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:08 p.m.: m stop (Main Street); 10:15 p.m.: residential alarm (Northwest Road), services rendered; 11:19 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Bixby Road), open line.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

12:17-2:01 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:20 a.m.:medical/general (Lincoln Street); 8:16 a.m.: officer wanted (Woodside Road), info taken; 9:54 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 10:26 a.m.: mv stop (Wall Street); 11:03 a.m.: medical/general (Browning Pond Road); 11:06 a.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), open line; 11:15 a.m. 911 call (Main Street), hang-up; 11:42 a.m.: juvenile matter (Old Farm Road), spoken to; 12:04 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Harrington ER closed TFN; 1:41 p.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 3:28 p.m.: officer wantged (West Main Street), spoken to; 3:35 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 5:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 5:50 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:02 p.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), info given; 6:55 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), investigated; 7:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 9:26 p.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), unwanted party; 9:45 p.m.: fire alarm (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 9:48 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:48 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), 10:01-10:30 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:53 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Lyford Road), gunshots heard; 11:03-11:40 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

SATURDAY, MARCH 14

12:02-2:15 a.m.: building cheked, secure; 2:40 a.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 7:59 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 8:41 a.m.: medical/overdose (G.H. Wilson Road); 10:22 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 10:28 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:02 a.m.: parking violation (Chestnut Street), ticket issued; 11:07 a.m.: officer wanted (Lloyd Dyer Drive), check on resident; 12:38 p.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road); 12:41 p.m.: disabled my (Main Street), assisted; 1:00 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 1:03 p.m.: fire (Wilson Street), referred; 1:16 p.m.: suspicious mv (Donnelly Cross Road), invesigated; 1:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:45 p.m.: DPW call (Paxton Road), sign down; 2:01 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 2:04 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 2:13 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 2:31 p.m.: mv stop (Meadow Road); 2:50 p.m.: lost/ found (Mechanic Street), found key; 2:58 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 3:23 p.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 4:13 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), tieket issued; 5:04 p.m.: intelligence/drugs (West Main Street), info taken; 5:04 p.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), tenant issues; 5:21 p.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), spoken to; 6:58 p.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), report taken; 8:41 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:47 p.m.: officer wanted (North Spencer Road), spoken to; 8:57 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:00 p.m.: officer wanted (McDonald Street), welfare check; 9:23-10:09 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:02 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Webster PD bolo; 11:29 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated.

SUNDAY, MARCH 15 12:41 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:45 a.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street); 12:54-12:56 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:58 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 1:23 a.m.: officer wanted (Valley View Drive), Paul T. Lynch, 35, 74 Thompson Pond Road, Spencer, disorderly conduct, arrest; 1:51-2:05 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:29 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 9:12 a.m. mutual aid (West Main Street), cruiser to Millville; 9:43 a.m.: building checked, secure: 11:43 a.m.: 911 call (Wilson Avenue), child w/phone; sometime between 12:06-1:19 p.m.: entie incident redacted from police log; 2:13 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street): 4:31 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), subject threatened; 4:51 p.m. animal complaint (Lincoln Street), stray cat; 9:11-9:23 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:42 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:43 p.m.: fire alarms (Mercury Drive), services rendered; 10:17 p.m.: accident (Clark Street), report taken; 10:18 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 10:43 p.m.: medical/general (Northwet Road).

MONDAY, MARCH 16

1:26 a.m.: disturbance (Paxton Road), verbal altercation; 2:13 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), verbal altercation; 4:11 a.m.: residential fire (Elm Street), house fire; 4:34 a.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 5:06 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 8:34 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 8:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); sometime between 8:58-9:09 a.m.: entire incident redacted from police log; 9:09 a.m.: DPW call (Holmes Street), tree on house; 9:38 a.m.: parking complaint (McDonald Street), spoken to; 10:01 a.m.: sex offender regtration (West Main Street), assisted; 11:19 a.m.: animal complaint (Summer Street), loose dog; 11:20 a.m.: citizen complaint (Main Street), spoken to; 11:32 a.m.: 911 call (Route 49),

accidental; 1:00 p.m.: warrant service (Main Street), Maissel Hughes, 34, 323 Main Street, Spencer, trafficking fentanyl, possession heroin/morphine/ opium, arrest; 2:25 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 2:54 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 3:55 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:10 p.m.: multiple FID card issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:11 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/4 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:44 p.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 5:48 p..m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 7:09 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Mechanic Street), accidental; 7:19 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Pleasant Street), child w/phone; 8:09 p.m.: suspicious mv (Castle Lane), investigated; 8:32 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Road), investigated; 8:37-8:52 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:45 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address.

TUESDAY, MARCH 17

1:00 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Webster PD bolo; 1:12-1:58 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:02 a.m.: parking violation (Paxton Road), ticket issued; 2:08-2:30 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:49 a.m.: medical/general (Browning Pond Road); 4:41 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 7:21 a.m.: parking complaint (Clark Road), truck blocking travel lane; 8:27 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street); 8:43 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 11:01 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info given; 11:08 a.m.: medical/ general (Clark Road); 11:55 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), road rage; 12:58 p.m. medical/general (Clark Road); 1:16 p.m.: accident (G.H. Wilson Road), info taken; 2:03 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), lost bank sleeve; 2:04 p.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 2:27 p.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), assisted; 2:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), re: packages on porch; 5:08 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), impersonation/ chk acct opened; 5:14 p.m.: medical/ general (Grove Street); 6:29 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 7:08 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Chestnut Street), no contact; 8:41-9:10 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:17 p.m.: parking violation (North Street), ticket issued; 9:23-9:28 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

### Leicester Logs

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

2:13 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Joshua A. Harding, 35, 55 Gleason Road, Princeton, OUI liauor, negligent operation, arrest; 9:26 a.m.: summons service ((ngram Road), served; 9:43 a.m.: sumons servie (Lexington Avenue), served: 10:54 a.m.: summons service (Chapel Street), served; 2:43 p.m.: larceny (Pryor Road), report taken; 2:45 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 3:02 p.m.: ambulance (Towtaid Street), transported: 3:23 p.m.: drug violation (Winslow Avenue), report taken 3:59 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), report taken; 4:23 p.m.: mv stop (Washburn Square), written warning; 4:45 p.m.: mv stop (Henshaw Street), citation issued; 4:55 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:08p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, op w/ suspended registration, use of electronic device while operating mv, criminal application issued; 5:23 p.m.: mv stop (Peter Salem Road), verbal warning; 5:28 p.m.: assist other agency (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported to hospital; 5:57 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 6:15 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 8:19 p.m.: disturbance (Town Beach Road), transported.

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

12:46 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 12:58 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 1:17 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Rachel Lynn Desaulniers, 36, 43 Oxbow Road, Charlton, warrant, arrest; 6:06 a.m.: structure fire (Crestwood Road), services rendered; 7:13 a.m.: larceny (Pryor Road), report taken; 7:35 a.m.: disabled mv (King Street Extension), mv towed; 11:46 a.m.; disabled mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), assisted; 12:38 p.m.: investigation (Pryor Road), services rendered; 12:54 p.m.: parking complaint (Soojians Drive), citation issued; 1:41 p.m.: welfare check (out of town, no location specified on police log), no action requied; 2:41 p.m.: assist citizen (Lexington Avenue), report taken; 3:49 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 6:24 p.m.: ambulance (Virgina Drive), assisted; 7:05 p.m.: shopliftin (Soojians Drive), report taken; 9:38 p.m.: suspicious mv (Waite Street), unable to locate; 9:58 p.m.: welfare check (Mayflower Circle), transported to hospital; 10:24 p.m.: ambulance (Mayflower Circle), transported. SATURDAY, MARCH 14

12:30 a.m.: ambulance (Parker Street), transported; 1:17 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:17 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 1:36 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 2:17 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 2:30 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 2:42 a.m.: suspicious person (Pleasant Street), unable to locate; 2:43 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 3:00 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), services rendered; 10:30 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 10:39 a.m.: ambulance (Bunker Hill Road), services rendered; 12:22 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 12:25 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), no action required; 12:38 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), services rendered; 12:40 p.m.: suspicious person (Ingram Road), gone on arrival; 3:31 p.m.: fraud (McCarthy Avene), investigated; 5:10 p.m.: accident (Paxton Street), mv towed; 10:41 p.m.: erratic operation (Main Sreet), investigated; 10:45 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Oscar Gonzalez, 49, 89 Moreland Green Drive, Worcester, OUI liquor, negligent operation, unlicensed operation, arrest; 11:21 p.m.: welfare check (Parker Street), spoken to; 11:46 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported.

 $SUNDAY, MARCH\ 15$ 1:22 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), report taken; 1:55 p.m.: mv stop (South Man Street), peace restored; 1:57 p.m.: ambulance (Parker Street), transported; 7:22 p.m.: ambulance (Hntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 8:38 p.m.: disabled mv (South Main Street), assisted; 10:01 p.m.: asist other PD (Main Street), unable to locate; 10:33 p.m.: welfare check (Lehigh Road), services rendered.

MONDAY, MARCH 16

a.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Highway), mv towed; 2:28 a.m.: trespassing (Main Street), spoken to; 10:31 a.m.: suspicious person (Fairview Drive), unfounded; 12:33 p.m.: suspicious mv (Angell Terrace), services rendered; 1:17 p.m.: suspicious person (Atwood Road), services rendered; 1:30 p.m.: erratic operation (Main Street), gone on arrival; 5:36 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), no action required; 7:27 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), spoken to; 7:47 p.m.: suspicious person (Paxton Street), spoken to.

MARCH 17 TUESDAY,

4:10 a.m.: ambulance (Grove Street), transported; 9:49 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), report taken; 2:38 p.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 7:13 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18

2:57 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 4:05 a.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), unable to locate; 9:26 a.m.: ambulance (Edward Street), transported; 9:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:55 a.m.; mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 11:20 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), report taken; 11:22 a.m.: ambulance (Clark Street), transported; 1:10 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 4:07 p.m.: suspicious person (Virginia Drive), report taken; 6:23 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), gone on arrival; 6:32 p.m.: disabled mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), assisted; 7:52 p.m.: ambulance (Mulberry Street), transported; 8:45 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 9:04 p.m.: ambulance (Church Street), transported.

### MOORE

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next few weeks or month, but please examine your heart and ask yourself if you have a little to spare. I believe the supply chain of these items will catch up with demand sooner than later. The shelves will soon be filled again. That's the beauty of capitalism. Just look into your heart and pantry and see, like Karen, if you can graciously give a little to help someone who is in need.

Keep your eyes open. Most people in need will never ask. Karen saw a man who was distraught and asked him. Will you do the same? Do you have elderly neighbors? Will you stop by and check on them? See if they are in need?

Be kind ... be optimistic ... and pray.

If you have nothing to give, share a kind and encouraging word. Do not take part in the negative gloom and doom conversations. Be uplifting and encouraging in public and in private, if you are so disposed ... please pray.

We've always been a nation that looked out for our neighbor and pitched in to help where we can. Yes. These are unprecedented times, but we will survive then thrive. And besides ... I am old enough to brag that I have survived at least ten end-of-the-world predictions. I'm optimistic the world will survive this one too.

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.

"Every Town Deserves a **Good Local Newspaper**"

#### **TRIPS**

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shake up the Audience with their high stepping dance numbers. For 92.00 everyone will have a Plated Lunch of Corned Beef and Cabbage or Baked Haddock, Venus DeMilo's Famous Minstrone Soup, Vegetables, Breads, Dessert, Coffee and Tea, Bus Transportation and this Fabulous Show.

On Thursday, July 16, come with us for a Lobster Bake at Foster's Clambake in York, Me. For 99.00 enjoy a 1 1/4 Boiled Lobster, Clam Chowder, Steamed Mussels, Fresh Steamed Maine Clams, Corn on the Cob, Potatoes and Onions, Blueberry Cake and a Beverage. Also available is 1/2 Barbecued Chicken in place of the Lobster. Now let us add the Ultimate Jimmy Buffett Tribute Show featuring Jimmy and the Parrots. They are the most requested Jimmy Buffett Tribute Band in the Country and they were also nominated as Band of the Year by Trop Rock Entertainer. Hear them play the favorite songs of Jimmy Buffett as well as songs by The Beach Boys, Paul Simon, Harry Belafonte, Bob Marley and many others. Included is Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Lunch and the Show.

On Tuesday August 18 to Friday August 21st, have your Passport ready for a Spectacular 4 Day/3 Night Motor Coach Roundtrip visit to Beautiful Montreal and Quebec Canada. For 849.00 pp Double or 1159.00 pp Single Occupancy. Included are 3 Nights Hotel Lodgings, 4 Meals, touring as described in your travel Brochgure, Best of Times Travel Tour Director and all gratuities except Motorcoach Driver. gratuity are included. In Montreal take in a guided visit of Norte-Dame Basilica, the Botanical Gardens, the Biodome, enjoy time at Montreal Casino plus even more. In Quebec, visit the Basilica of Saint-Anne de Beaupre, Montgomery Falls, guided Tour of the beautiful Citadelle featuring the Changing of the Guard, the Royal Regimemnt Museum plus some Free Time to enjoy Quebec on your

On Thursday August 20th, get ready for the 10th Anniversary Tour of The Texas Tenors. These 3 very Handsome, Classically Trained Men have performed over 1300 Concerts with Headliner Shows in Las Vegas, China, the United Kingdom and accumulated 3 EMMY AWARDS. The Texas Tenors will sing many of the Broadway

Show Classics as well as many of your favorite Pop Songs. They were honored to be included among the Top 50 Acts in the World. This could be the Best Concert that you will see this year. We are traveling approximately 60 minutes to the Venus DeMilo in Swansea, Ma., For 99.00 included is Deluxe Motorcoach Transportation, Plated Lunch of either Chicken Parmesan or Baked Scrod, Venus DeMilo's Famous Minnestrone Soup, Vegetables, Breads, Dessert, Coffee and Tea.

Join us on Wednesday, September 2nd on our day trip to Lake Winnipesaukee for a scenic cruise out of Weirs Beach taking in the remarkable scenery of the Western end of this magnificent lake. We will also visit the spectacular Castle in The Clouds a turnof-the-century sixteen room mansion with its breathtaking mountaintop views overlooking Lake Winnipesaukee. Enjoy a delicious full course luncheon at Harts Turkey Farm in Meredith, NH. Famous and renowned for their turkey dinners you are sure to delight in this bountiful luncheon. All for just \$129.

We had 34 people travel to the Pennsylvania Dutch Country 3 Day/2Night Trip this past December and they had such a Great Time that many of them asked to go back again this September 23-25th. We will see the New Show "Queen Esther". One of the very most riveting Bible Stories of the Old Testament that comes to life in the Magnificent Sight and Sound Theater which incorporates Live Animals, Secial Effects and Jaw Opening Stage Sets. Ask anyone who has seen a Show at the Millenium Sight and Sound Theater and they will tell you this is a Must See. in your lifetime. Now let's add a 2nd Show called "Saturday Nigh Fever" at the Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, a Backcountry Tour of the Dutch County Farmlands, enjoy your luck at the Sands Casino and more. Prices are 499.00 pp Double and 599.00 Single Occupancy and include 2 Nights Lodging, 4 Meals, Tickets to the 2 Shows,

Touring as Described and Tour Director Gratutites. Last years Trip sold out early so don't get left behind

Have you ever thought about visiting Nashville? Come along on a 4 Day/3 Night Trip December 4th -7th. Included are Roundtrip transportation to Logan Airport, Roundtrip Airfare to Nashville, 3 Nights of Premium Lodging, 7 Meals including a Sunday Brunch, An Exclusive Dinner Show featuring the Oak Ridge Boys, Ticket and Show at the Grand Ole Opry, plus a Tour of the Grand Ole Opry, Admission to Country Music Hall of Fame, a River Cruise aboard the General Jackson Showboat, Tickets for a Holiday Show at the Opry House, Admission to ICE at Gaylord Opryland, a visit to Historic Studio B and a Guilded Tour Of Nashville. WOW!! Prices are 1949 pp Double and 2349 pp Single Occupancy which includes Tour Guides and Bus Drivers Gratuities as well.

Sturbridge Contact Recreation Department 508-347-2041, email recreation@ sturbridge.gov for more information

For additional information on these Wonderful Trips, please contact Linda Fortier at 508 347 1452 or by email at bestoftimes2020@aol.com

LEICESTER SENIOR CENTER.

For trip information and reservations, please call Joan Wall at (508) 892-3967.

Friday, March 20, 2020: Foxwood Casino. Free lunch buffet or \$10 food voucher and \$10 casino slot play. Cost is \$30.

MARY QUEEN OF THE ROSARY PARISH

SPENCER — Mary Queen of the Rosary Parish, 60 Maple St., Spencer, is offering the following trips. For more information, call Bernard Dube at (508) 885-3098.

\*USA: Wonders of Northern California Redwoods, Oregon & Washington: August 3-15, 2020

\*Spain & Portugal: Sept.9-23, 2020

\*Galapagos Islands: Jan 4-13, 2021 \*Galapagos with extension to Peru (Machu Picchu): Jan 4-19, 2021

\*Botswana, Zimbabwe and Victoria Falls: May 5-16, 2021

\*Alaska (land and cruise): early August,

PAXTON SENIORS

Bob Wilby, 508-792-4662 or rwilby@char-

SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS

ASSOCIATION

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon Senior Center Monday, Wednesday, or Friday 9-10 a.m. or call (774) 922-4049 or e-mail jimtrips@yahoo.com.

Trips are open to the public! Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association, payment due at sign up:

SOUTHBRIDGE SENIOR CITIZENS TRIP SCHEDULE FOR 2020

May 19, 2020 - Tuesday - Foxwoods \$30 -8 - AM bus.

This one is for the bingo players and all others that want to go. You will have a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino to gamble and shop. The bus will leave Foxwoods at 2 PM.

You will receive \$10 for gaming and a buffet meal voucher.

September 15, 2020 – Tuesday – Mohegan Sun \$30 - 10 - AM bus.

You will have a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino to gamble and shop. The bus will leave Mohegan Sun at 4 PM.

You will receive \$10 for gaming and a buffet meal voucher.

October 13th - 20th 2020 - ALL INCLUSIVE ARUBA Happily Full - I am taking names for standby on this trip. This is an all-inclusive trip – all flights, transfers, meals plus snacks, nightly entertainment, and alcohol included.

November 12, 2020 - Thursday - Foxwoods \$30 - 10 - AM bus.

You will have a deluxe motor coach ride to the casino. You will have 5 hours at the casino to gamble and shop. The bus will leave Foxwoods at 4 PM.

You will receive \$10 for gaming and a buffet meal voucher.

### PAYMENTS DUE AT SIGN UP

Trips are open to the public!

Make checks payable to the Southbridge Senior Citizens Association.

Contact Jim Julian at the Casaubon senior center Monday, Wednesday or Friday mornings from 9:00 to 10:00 AM or call 774 922 4049, or e-mail me jimtrips@yahoo.com

### **BRAVEHEARTS**

continued from page A12

Coleman Picard is a 6-foot-1 righty from Auburn who was also the starting goalie for the Auburn soccer team. His career record stands at 10-2 with a 1.42 ERA and 81 strikeouts in 41.1 innings pitched. He'll attend the University of Hartford in the fall.

Alex Amalfi compiled a 13-5 record at Ashland High with an ERA of 2.05 in three seasons pitching for the

Clockers. He also was a leader of the Ashland Legion Post 77 team and pitched a complete game victory last July against Shrewsbury Post 397 in the MA state tournament. He also played hockey for Ashland, where he was a two-time Tri-Valley League All-Star. The freshman at UMass-Boston had not yet pitched for the Beacons when his season was suspended.

2021

Southpaw Tim O'Connor will spend the summer at home in Worcester. The former Worcester Academy ace is currently a freshman at Denison University in Ohio, where he had pitched in five games with an ERA of 4.50 before the season suspension. Last April, O'Connor threw a no-hitter for Worcester Academy against Pingree and will rejoin Hilltoppers teammate Jack Steele on the Bravehearts pitching staff.

These players will open the 2020 Worcester Bravehearts season on Wednesday, May 27 at home against the New Britain Bees. Season Tickets, 5-Game Plans, and Group Outings are now available by calling the Bravehearts box office at (508) 438-3773. All single-game tickets go on sale April 25.



# Family Dining & Gift Guide

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Thank you to everyone who has stopped in and supported us over the last week. We will be closing in an effort to keep our staff and customers safe. We hope to reopen Wednesday, April 8th but will keep everyone informed as this situation progresses. We look forward to seeing everyone again soon. Stay safe and healthy!

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Dining & Entertainment

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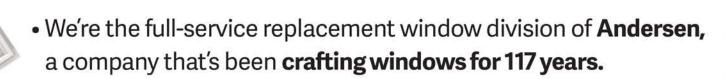
No minimum purchase required.



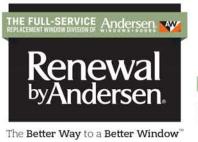
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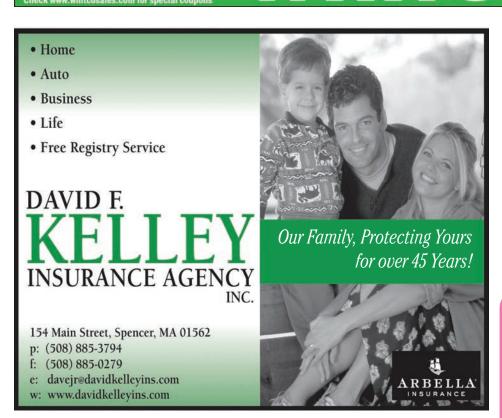
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Friday, March 27, 2020



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Look inside this section for The Write Stuff!



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### **OBITUARIES**

### Louise M. (O'Reilly) Abdella, 93

OXFORD - Louise M. (O'Reilly) Abdella, 93, died Thursday, March 19, 2020, in her home surrounded by her family. She is sur-

vived by her husband of 72 years, Joseph J. Abdella of Oxford; three children, Elaine M. Hayward of Webster, Patricia A. Murray and her companion Clifford Huston of Spencer, and Thomas J. Abdella and his wife Mala of Oxford: her brother, William O'Reilly of Chatham; six grandchildren, nine great-grandchil-

dren, and many nephews and nieces. She was predeceased by a sister, Ruth Savage of Oxford; a brother, Charles O'Reilly Jr. of Florida; and a grandson, Brian Hayward of Pawtucket, RI. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Charles H. and Lucy (Davis) O'Reilly, and lived in Oxford since 1962.

Mrs. Abdella enjoyed caring for her home and family for many years. She was a wonderful cook and loved dancing. She was a member of St. Roch's Church in Oxford.

A funeral service and calling hours

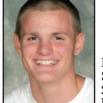
will be held privately due to gathering restrictions in Massachusetts. The family will schedule a public memorial Mass at a later date. Burial will be private at North Cemetery in

In lieu of flowmemorial contributions may be made to the Jewish Healthcare Center Hospice, 646 Salisbury St., Worcester, MA 01609.

paradisfuneralhome.com

Mason Dump or Larger Oxford.

**SCOTLAND HARDWOODS** 



### Michael P. Goodwin, 24

OXFORD- Michael P. Goodwin, 24, died Saturday, March 14, 2020, after losing his battle with addiction. Addiction does not

discriminate and is a heartbreaking battle. Michael was smart, charming, loved

and energetic.

His sisters will remember their brother for his goofy personality and always making people smile, his love for chocolate milk, playing basketball in the garage, always listening to his music, and being hard-headed.

Michael will be missed by his parents, Phillip and Michelle Goodwin of Oxford; his beautiful daughter, Ava Marie Goodwin of Ocala; FL, his four sisters, Krystal Chemero and her husband Jason of Brookfield, Amanda Goodwin of Oxford, Chantal Goodwin of Wales, and Olivia Montlione of Dudley; his grandparents, aunts, uncles and many cousins.

Charitable donations in memory of Michael may be made to the Oxford Ecumenical Food Shelf, 4 Maple Rd., Oxford, MA 01540. There will be no calling hours. Burial will be private. Paradis-Givner Funeral Home is directing the arrangements. paradisfuneralhome.com

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### <u>Mother's Da</u> 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; OR mail or drop off to June Simakauskas Stonebridge Press 25 Elm Street, P. O. Box 90 Southbridge, MA 01550.

All photos will be returned. Please write your name and address on the back of your photo.



### Ad Libs by June

As I sit at my desk working from home, I look out the window and see the sun shining and hear the birds chirping, the shadows from

the trees on the white carpet of snow, but what lurks in so many cities and towns and countries is far from pretty. I hope everyone reading this is heeding the advice of the CDC and our leaders to stay home unless for essentials, food, and prescriptions. The faster we can slow the spread, the faster we can get back to our normal lives. Hang in there everybody...we are all in this together and will make it through.

I'd like to welcome BRIGHT STAR HEALTH to the Front of Section B this week. Wendy Sergeant is a degreed nurse practitioner with her own practice in North Brookfield, and is open for all your health needs during this time. BRIGHT STAR HEALTH is welcoming new patients and is located at 163 North Main Street in North Brookfield. Albert Olivera, NP has recently joined the practice. Call them at 508-637-1604 for an appointment.

Because of COVID-19, there are several events being put on hold for the time being. The East Brookfield's 100th Anniversary's dance and museum open house have been postponed to a later date to be announced. Other changes may be needed and I will keep you informed as I have more information about their celebration changes and reschedules.

The Spencer Fish & Game Spring Derby is also being put on hold till things settle down. Again, if I get updated info, I will pass it along.

One of our advertisers who is taking a big hit because of the coronavirus is ADVENTURE TOURS **OF WARREN**. They are currently busy moving international passengers from one date to another. A good example is a tour that includes Switzerland, Bavaria, and the Oberammergau Passion Play. The play, performed every ten years since 1634, has been postponed to 2022. Their travelers are price-protected at the 2020 rate and are relieved that they won't have to miss their tour. For more info for upcoming travels please call Randall at 413-436-5357, email him at adventuretours@att.net, or go to www.adventuretour-

Please support the businesses who continue to support our newspapers. If you are unable to advertise at this time because you are closed, please consider that our newspapers may be the only contact some people have with the outside world and they will remember your message or services once things are back to normal. If you'd like me to mention you in a future Ad Libs if you have been a good advertisers, even if you're taking a break, please send me an email, and I'll be happy to do so.

Stay safe, practice social distancing, and wash your hands.

Be well everyone!

June Simakauskas

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## **OBITUARIES**

### Bonnie R. Robinson, 75



HARDWICK Bonnie Robinson, a life-long resident of Hardwick, MA, passed away on Monday, March 16, 2020, at the age of 75.

Bonnie was born in 1945 and grew up on her family's dairy

farm, where she lived for the majority of her life before moving up the hill to her beloved "little house." As a child, she was a bit of a daredevil, climbing anything, including curtains and onto the top of the clothesline (much to her mother's dismay).

After graduating from Hardwick High School in the class of 1963, she attended Westfield State College before she began working at Ludlow Paper. Bonnie found her true calling when she switched careers and in 1986 became a paraprofessional at Hardwick Elementary school, where she was affectionately known as Miss Bonnie.

Throughout her life, Bonnie enjoyed traveling, cross-country skiing, camping, reading, volunteering, stenciling, cooking, and listening to music, especially Elvis. One of her greatest joys was caring for the children in her life. She babysat for children in town from the time she was a teenager until she was well into her sixties. She especially enjoyed her time spent with her many nieces and nephews.

Bonnie joins her parents Raymond

and Dorothy Robinson, her much-beloved sisters Sandy Harder and Betty Jo Kelly and her brother-in-law Tony Harder. She is survived by her sister and brother-in-law Judy and Dick Legrand of South Yarmouth, her brother and sister-in-law Raymond and Pamela Robinson of Hardwick and her brother-in-law Ned Kelly of Hardwick. She also leaves 15 nieces and nephews and their families, including more than 20 great-nieces and nephews. She will forever be remembered by her boys and their families, Waylon Comerford, Wilie Comerford and his wife Susan and their children, and Wade Comerford and his wife Kelly and their children to whom she was fondly Grandma Bonnie.

Her family would like to thank the wonderful staff at CareOne for their dedicated care of Bonnie

A celebration of life will be held at a later date. Memorial donations in memory of Bonnie can be made to Jo's Jackets, PO Box 192, Hardwick, MA 01037, www.josjackets.org/donate or the Sandra/Tony Harder Memorial Scholarship at Old Saybrook Education Foundation, c/o Sally Ann Lee, 22 Fox Hill Road, Old Saybrook, CT, 06472 or www.oldsaybrookeducationfoundation.org/fundraising

Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant St., in Ware is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at charbonneaufh.com

### Kevin J. Billings, 67



WORCESTER/ SPENCER: Kevin J. Billings, 67, of Mower St., died Sunday, March 22 in UMASS Memorial Hospital, Worcester. He leaves his son Michael N. Billings and his wife Meagan

Auburn, his daughter Juliemae Grace and her husband Eric of Dracut, brothers William S. Billings and his wife Nancy of No.Brookfield and Robert M. Billings and his wife Jennifer of Oxford, his sister Donna M. Rudik and her husband Mark of Spencer, his former wife, Suzanne M. (Bissonnette) Billings of Lowell, his grandchildren; Zachary, Nicholas, Amanda and R.J., several nieces and nephews.

He was born in Worcester, the son of Norman C. and Mary T. (Dacey) Billings and was raised in Spencer. He graduated from David Prouty High School in 1971.

Kevin worked for 40 years in indus-

trial ceramics for Saint-Gobain, Worcester, retiring in 2016. He worked hard to provide for his family and could always be found fixing something around the house, coaching or cheering on the sidelines of a game. Friends and family were a big part of his life. He was well known for his popin visits. He especially enjoyed being with his grandchildren and attending their sports events. He was an avid New England Sports fan, with tears in eyes as he watched the Sox win the World Series.

A Memorial Mass in Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Spencer and visitation in J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer will take place at a later date and at a time to be announced, due to the current health crisis and restrictions. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Spencer/E.Brookfield Little League, P.O. Box 101, Spencer,

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

### Thomas E. Carroll, 78



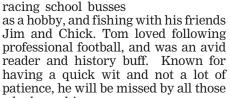
Warren / Spring Hill, FL - Thomas E. Carroll, 78, died on Sunday, March 2020 at UMass Memorial Medical Center - University

Campus. He leaves his daughter, Nikki Sablack of

Warren and several step-children; 14 grandchildren, 1 great-grandchild; his former wife, Donna Bomson; two sisters. Grace Lane Queiros of Ludlow and Gail Carroll of Boston, several nieces and nephews, and his very special and loyal dog, Kasey. He was predeceased by his sisters, Patricia Bruini and Betty Frost. He was born in Durham, North Carolina, son of the late Sterling E. and Ruth G. (Windley) Carroll.

Mr. Carroll enlisted in the United States Marine Corps shortly after graduating from high school, and served for 5 years during the Vietnam War era. After an honorable discharge, he earned his Associates Degree from American International College in Springfield.

Thomas lived in Spring Hill for 40 years, where he owned his own residential home building company. He was a long-time member of the First Christian Church. He enjoyed



who knew him. A private Graveside Service will be held in Pine Grove Cemetery in Warren, and a Celebration of Life for Tom is being planned for a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Second Chance Animal Shelter, P.O. Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

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

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

### Steven D. Brown, 59



SPENCER- Steven D. Brown, 59, of Spencer, died on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at Harrington Memorial Hospital after a long illness. He was born in Ware, on August 1, 1960, son

of the late Robert G. Brown and Claire M. (Gibson) Brown.

He leaves his loving wife, Suzanne (Sottile) Brown of Spencer and his beloved daughter, Samantha Brown of Fairfax, VA; three brothers, Robert and his wife Robin, Brien and his wife Kathy and Daryl and his partner Barbara; his two sisters, Sandra Vray and her husband Fran, and Darlene Nykiel and her husband Frank. He was pre-deceased by his brother Glenn. Steve also leaves behind aunts, uncles, 15 nieces and nephews, and 14 great-nieces and nephews.

He attended Tantasqua Regional High School, and graduated from

North Brookfield Jr./Sr. High School. Steve began working at the former IGA grocery store, then spent several years at Quabaug Rubber Company before choosing a career in carpentry with the Antanavica Construction Company.

Steve was a loving and devoted husband and father. He enjoyed his family, camping, and was an avid fan of New England sports teams. He loved working with wood and took great pride in his projects. Steve was also a long-time member of the Sons of the American Legion Post #41.

He will long be remembered by his family and friends for his sense of humor and witty sarcasm.

A Graveside Service will be held at a later date.

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

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

### Bruce W. Bishop, 69



DUDLEY- passed away on Sunday March 15, 2020 at Hubbard Hospital in Webster.

Bruce is survived by his longtime friend and provider George Kariuki, who was like a brother to him

along with his roommates Jim Raicot, Russell Bruso, and Charlie Bachand; his sister Linda Ciejka and her husband Ronald of East Brookfield; he also leaves Ronald P. Ciejka and his wife Donna of South Hadley, and Michael A. Ciejka and his companion Lori of Ware, who were also like brothers to Bruce; his brother-in-law Donald Johonnett of Texas; he was predeceased by his sister Dale Johonnet in 2010.

Bruce was born in Torrington, CT on

January 1, 1951, son of the late Robert W. and Doris (Terry) Bishop. Bruce was very active with the Center of Hope in Southbridge for many years. Bruce was an avid reader, in fact, he was a "speed reader"; he also greatly enjoyed wearing his cowboy hat while watching old westerns and listening to country music. Bruce loved traveling,

with his dearest friends and family. A Celebration of Bruce's Life will be scheduled and announced at a later

but he absolutely loved spending time

In lieu of flowers, please consider making a memorial contribution to the Center of Hope in Honor of Bruce.

A guest book is available at www. shaw-majercik .com where you may post a message of comfort, share a fond memory, or light a candle in remembrance of Bruce.

### Larry Lowenthal



Larry Lowenthal slipped away from life quietly at home in Brimfield on March 12, 2020, after an illness. He was born March 1, 1940 in New York City, where he fondly remembered riding the subways,

playing stickball in the streets and exploring Van Cortland Park. A move to the countryside of northern New Jersey as a youth introduced him to his lifelong passions – nature and history. Those two things were at the core of almost everything he did.

Larry graduated from Rutgers University and Yale University, earning a Master's Degree in History and becoming a member of Phi Beta Kappa. His professional life as an historian was wide-ranging. He worked for the National Park Service as a historian for 30 years, after which he continued in the same capacity as a consultant for the NPS, primarily for the Eastern regional planning office. This work allowed Larry to use his talents of research, writing and presentation to help develop or improve many National Parks and Monuments in the region, such as the Boston Harbor Islands, Cape Cod National Seashore / Truro Light, Governor's Island in New York Harbor, the Tenement Museum, Roosevelt-Vanderbilt, and the creation of the Quinebaug-Shetucket Heritage Corridor.

In his retirement years Larry also enjoyed consulting on many local historical projects as well as working on projects of his own (he always had projects!) He was patient and a good listener, careful to be sure he understood before passing judgement or giving advice, generous with his time helping others, and a mentor to young people. He often seemed physically tireless, working on house or garden, and hiking great distances in the woods looking for signs of previous (and current) occupiers, old foundations, railroad trestles and the plants and animals that fill the forests of New England. The land spoke to him, its flora and fauna and its ancient geology too, and the stars overhead were old valued friends. He was endlessly curious about the world and the humans who inhabit it.

If there was an organization he cared about, Larry supported it enthusiastically. The Last Green Valley, Opacum Land Trust, Sturbridge Historical Society, Hitchcock Academy, the Yiddish Book Center, and many railroad and transportation organizations all were dear to his heart. He adored classical music, particularly of the 19th and 20th Centuries, and he attended concerts frequently at Tanglewood, Springfield Symphony and Bard College Conservatory Orchestra. Larry often marveled at the ability of his favorite composers to create an experience that, to him, felt spiritual.

His love of music led to him to travel to attend the celebration of Jean Sibelius's 150 birth anniversary in Finland in 2015, a week filled with wonderful music by his favorite composer. In retirement, he also enjoyed travel to Ireland, France, Sweden, Nova Scotia and other international destinations.

Larry loved language. It was a family joke that he never chose a single-syllable word when a multi-syllable one was available. He loved word-play, and quirky jokes that surfaced when we least expected them and never forgot. He read insatiably, primarily history both ancient to modern, but he could also be persuaded to read fiction, if it meant he could have a good discussion about it. Larry had a prodigious memory, so that he was able to recall and discuss often obscure names, dates and details from things he had read. Night table reading might be a book on the Holocaust, or World War I, or perhaps philosophy or religion, never anything remotely light. He wrote over 18 published books, in addition to many equal-length historical studies for the Park Service, always striving to present ideas in the most engaging and accessible way. Some books about his local area included Titanic Railroad, Trying to Do My Duty, and most recently, A Yankee Regiment in Confederate Louisiana.

Besides his books, Larry produced a great deal of thoughtful unpublished poetry he shared with family and friends. The ending of one poem sums up how we recall him: "And here is the victorious sun, Bursting through the doorways of our memory, And spreading its warm rays of redemption Into every crevice of remorse."

Larry is survived by his wife of 50 years, Koren (Kitty); his son Isaac (and partner Yasmin) of Boston; daughter Eleanor (and partner Caleb) of Woodstock. Vermont: goddaughter Andrea Caluori of Ashfield MA; and brother Roy Lowenthal of Virginia Beach VA.

Burial was in New Jersey, with a memorial gathering to be held in the summer in Brimfield. Date will be announced later. In lieu of flowers, donations in Larry's name to Hitchcock Academy, The Last Green Valley https://thelastgreenvalley.org/ or Opacum Land Trust https://www. opacumlt.org/ would be most welcome.

### Louis A. Graziano, 57



SPENCER- Louis A. Graziano, 57, of Main Street died Tuesday, March 17 in UMass Memorial Hospital after a long illness.

He leaves his sister, Lisa A. Bullard and her husband A.

Lee Ingram of Worcester, two nieces Isabelle & Gabrielle McCarthy of Worcester and several aunts, uncles and cousins.

Louis was born in Worcester, son of the late Louis R. Graziano and Annette M.E. (Guertin) Converse. He was a Truck Driver for many years at Peterson Oil Co. and Schneider Transportation Co. He was a member of Our Lady of the Rosary Parish and the Knights of Columbus Council 118. He was a former member of the Spencer Fish & Game. He enjoyed snowmobiling, ATV's, his Harley Davidson Motorcycle and driving his truck. Louis loved socializing and stopping by to visit friends often bringing a dish or meal he made.

As a result of the ongoing and developing health crisis in the world and our community Louis' family decided to postpone calling hours, memorial Mass at Our Lady of the Rosary Church and burial in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Cemetery, Spencer until this crisis has passed and we can all celebrate Louis in a calmer healthier environment. Louis loved having breakfast and enjoyed a good cup of coffee. When you raise your coffee cup over these next few days, please think of Louis and all the good times you had

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the National Kidney Foundation, 85 Astor Avenue, Suite 2, Norwood, MA 02062. J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer, MA 01562 is directing funeral arrangements. www. morinfuneralhomes.com



CENTRAL

## **CALENDAR**

### Thursday, April 2

KNIGHTS FAMILY DINNER: 6 p.m., 61 Mannville St., Leicester. Cost is \$12 for dinner; choices are chicken picatta or baked fish, and include salad, rolls, entrée, dessert, coffee, and tea. Call for reservations by Monday, March 30 at (508) 892-4528. Leave a phone number in case the event is cancelled.

### Sunday, April 5

HAM RAFFLE: Knights of Columbus, 91 Mannville St., Leicester. Doors open at noon, and raffle begins at 1 p.m. Hot dogs and snacks available. No cost to get in.

### Friday, April 10

12TH ANNUAL GOOD FRIDAY MEDITATION: 9 a.m.-3 p.m., St. John the Baptist Church, 121 Blaine Ave., East Brookfield. About an hour is the average time it takes to participate in this self-guided experience. You will wander at your own pace through a series of activities, reflections and Scripture to prompt an open heart to the living Gospel. Arrive at any time. Please enter from the front door. Otherwise, the handicapped entrance is from the parking lot behind the church. Stations of the Cross will be at St. Joseph's in North Brookfield at 3 p.m. A Good Friday service will be held at St. John the Baptist at 7 p.m. For more information, please contact St. John's at (508) 867-3738.

### Monday, April 13

FREE VETERINARY EXAMS FOR SENIORS: 1-4 p.m., Senior Living at Prouty, 195 Main St., Spencer. Second Chance Animal Shelter will be here as part of their "Home Bound to the Rescue" program, and this event is open to all senior residents of Spencer on fixed incomes. Dogs must be on a leash and cats in carriers. Please call (617) 431-4937 and leave your name and phone number to register.

### ONGOING EVENTS

GRIEFSHARE SUPPORT GROUP: Community members who have experienced the death of a loved one are invited to attend our GriefShare support group. This program features Biblical teaching that focuses on encouragement, comfort and hope in grieving. GriefShare will be held on Tuesdays for 11 weeks total, beginning Febr. 4 at the East Brookfield Baptist Church, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. in the Chapel. A registration fee of \$15 will cover the cost of a workbook. This ministry is a collaboration of both

E. Brookfield Baptist Church and the Brookfield Congregational Church. For questions, please call 508-867-7725.

MASSASSOIT ART GUILD OPEN STUDIO: The Massasoit Art Guild would like to announce the addition of new Open Studio hours. Starting on Saturday, Jan. 11, we will be holding Open Studio time from 9:30 a.m. to noon each Saturday. The Current Wednesday morning Open Studio will continue to meet. Open Studio is a time to bring your current work in progress, start a new project, receive critiques if desired, pick up new skills and techniques and be with other artists for support and encouragement in an open and friendly environment. Membership is required. Please visit our Web site at massasoitartguild.com for more information!

ECONOMY SHOP: The First Congregational Church's Economy Shop invites you to come in and see our Holiday items and our weekly specials. Our shop hours are Wednesday 8 a.m.-Noon, Thursdays 8 a.m.-2 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. and Fridays 8 a.m.-noon.

DEJA NEW: Art, Antiques & Collectibles Marketplace which is open in the St. Joseph's Rectory building at 759 Main Street Leicester. Hours are Tuesday 5-7 p.m., Wednesday 9 a.m.-noon, Thursday 3-6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m.-noon, all proceeds going back into the town's Food Pantries, Hearts for Heat and programs for the needy. We are non-profit and run on volunteers. We are open May into December.

EAST BROOKFIELD LIBRARY PROGRAMS: The East Brookfield Public Library is currently conducting their fall registration for children's programming. Rhythm and Rhyme is for toddlers aged 18 mos. to 3 years. This program runs from 9:45 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. and includes lots of music, finger plays, physical activities and a story with a related craft.

Preschool story time is geared for children aged 3 to 5 years old. It runs from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30a.m. Seasonal songs, poems, and gross motor activities are part of this program, as well as a story and craft that encourages fine motor skills. Both programs are held on Thursday mornings. Parents and caretakers are asked to remain with their children. For more information or to register by phone call (508) 867-7928. You can also like us on Facebook and visit our website @www.eastbrookfield-Library.com. We look forward to seeing you!

VFW MEETING: The Rochdale VFW Post 7556 will hold their monthly business meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the post at 713 Pleasant Street, Rochdale on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP: On the third Wednesday of each month, 6-7 p.m. at the Overlook Independent Living Building, fourth floor Solarium, 88 Masonic Home Road, Charlton. The intent is to build a support system, exchange practical information, talk through issues and ways of coping, share feelings, needs and concerns and to learn about community resources. Contact Kathy Walker at (508) 434-2551 or kawalker@overlook-mass.org for more information. Presented by Alzheimer's Association MA/NH Chapter, visit (800) 272-3900 or alz.org.

THRIFTY: St. Joseph-St. Pius X Parish, 759 Main St., Leicester, 508-859-8083.New 2 You Thrift Shop. Hours: Tuesday 5 to 7 p.m., Wednesday 9 a.m. to noon., Thursday 3 to 6 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to noon. We have added Thursday hours.

FREE FOR MOM & KIDS: There will be free weekly parent/child programs from 9 to 11 a.m. Fridays and Wednesdays at the North Brookfield Elementary School, New School Road, North. The program runs on school calendar and closes for vacation and inclement weather according to North Brookfield School calendar. This free program is sponsored by the Spencer, Wachusett, North and East Brookfield Coordinated Family Grant in partnership with the North Brookfield Elementary School. Funded by the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. For more information, please call CFCE at (508) 885-2934 or e-mail Wachusettcpc@hotmail.com.

SUPPER TIME: A free, community meal is held on the first Tuesday of the month at The Cross Roads Café Coffeehouse, from 4:30-6:30 p.m., at the Emmanuel Church, 25 Winthrop Terrace, Warren. All ages are welcome. There is no cover charge; however, a love offering is accepted as a gift to the band or musician as thanks to God for their sharing of their talent and gift for the glory of God (www.emmanuelorthodox.org).

STRE-E-E-TCH: Senior Exercises Classes are held every Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the Rutland Community Center, Glenwood Road. Enjoy an hour of fun and exercise to music to help stay strong, fit, healthy and independent. Classes are co-ed and all are welcome. The fee is \$4 per class. For more information, call Joyce Gamache at (508) 754-2821.

SIT AND KNIT: knitting group every Wednesday at 10 a.m. at the Merriam Gilbert Library, West Brookfield. Bring your sewing, embroidery, knitting or crochet and enjoy some socializing while you work on your project.

STAY HEALTHY: The VNA Care Network and Hospice is holding a free Keep Well Clinic to residents 60 and older from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the Spencer Fish and Game Club on Mechanic Street. Local residents may have their blood pressure checked and learn about health concerns. Blood

sugar, weight monitoring and other health assessments may also be available. VNA Care Network and Hospice clinics are funded in part by the United Way, local boards of health, private foundations. For up-to-date clinic information visit www.vnacarenetwork.org or call (888) 663-3688 x 5603.

IT'S A LUNCH DATE: The East Brookfield Baptist Church invites all senior citizens to a Community Lunch at 11:30 a.m. every second Thursday of the month in Fellowship Hall. A delicious lunch and great desserts will be served. Followed by a time of fellowship and games concluding with a devotional just before 2 p.m. Reservations are encouraged. Call (508) 867-7725.

SHARING CUPBOARD: The First Congregational Church of W. Brookfield Sharing Cupboard - serving West Brookfield, Warren and West Warren. Located at 36 N. Main St., West Brookfield, is open Wednesdays 10-11:30 a.m. and Thursdays 7-8 pm. Call the church for more information (508) 867-7078.

BINGO at the Knights of Columbus is now at the Spencer Senior Center, 68 Maple St. in Spencer, every Thursday. Doors open at 4:30 p.m. The first game starts at 6:30 p.m. We have 20 regular games; two winners take all games, two 50/50 games and two progressive jackpot games with payouts of \$600 and \$500 respectively. Good food and soft beverages are available. Come and enjoy some good food, good people and hopefully win a little.

PITCH at the Spencer Senior Center will begin on Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. Cost \$5.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP IN W. BROOKFIELD: The First CongregationalChurch of West Brookfield, UCC has partnered with Faith and Family Hospice of Marlborough, MA to offer a local bereavement group for individuals who are living with the loss of someone they care deeply for. This program honors the reality that there is no perfect way to grieve or say goodbye to someone that we love-we each have our own process and our own time. Grief is not something that we "get better" from or that ever leaves us. Rather, we build coping skills to help us carry it through our lives. This group is open for all ages and all kinds of losses. It is a circle that strives to be mutually supportive and free of judgment. Sessions are held on Fridays at 5 pm in the church office at 36 North Main Street, West Brookfield, MA. Please call the church office to indicate you will be attending (508)867-7078 or email 1stcongo.westbrookfield@ gmail.com. There is no charge for this group. This group has recently started and wishes to welcome others in joining them. Sessions will be offered for six weeks with a two-week break between the next. (There is no limit to the number of times any individual can sign up for this program.)

### **LEGALS**

Notice of Public Hearing Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following item starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Variance – Applicant/Owner: Audrzej Sobieck/ 73 Wilson LLC. Location: 73 Wilson Street, Spencer Assessor's Map U28-10. The applicant is seeking a variance under Section 7.3 (Variances) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to replace an existing deck within the side boundary setbacks. The property is in the Lake Residential zoning district.

Interested Parties may review these applications at the Office of Development & Inspectional Services in Memorial Town Hall located at 157 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562, during regular business hours from 7:30am-4:30pm Monday-Wednesday and 7:30am-12:00pm on Thursday. The ZBA is committed to ensuring that its public meetings are accessible to people with disabilities. Should you require auxiliary aids, services, written materials in other formats, or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, please call 508-885-7500 ext. 180 in advance of the scheduled meeting. March 27, 2020 April 3, 2020

INVITATION FOR BIDDER Spencer Senior Center Code and Compliance at

**Spencer Senior Center** Notice is hereby given that the Town of Spencer is seeking sealed bids for Code and Compliance Improvements at the Spencer Senior Center. Invitation for Bidders (IFB) Packages with specifications and a sample contract will be available on April 8, 2020, on the Project Dog Website, under project number 837846. If you have any problems obtaining the IFB online contact the Office of The Town Administrator, 157 Main Street, Spencer, Massachusetts 01562, during weekday business hours from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, or by calling

(508) 885-7500 All hidders mus

All bidders must be prequalified by Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance

(DCAMM) in the category of General Construction. All bids must conform to the specifications and be submitted on the proper forms to be considered a valid bid. Sealed bids entitled

"Spencer Senior Center Code and Compliance at Spencer Senior Center" will be accepted at the Town Hall, at the above address, until April 22, 2020, at 2:00 P.M., at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read. All Filed Sub-bids for Section 21000, "Fire Protection and Section 260000, "Electrical", will be received until April 15, 2020 at 2:00 PM at which time they

will be publicly opened and read. All bids shall be in accordance with M.G.L. including but not limited to: Ch. 30, Section 39M (Bid Bond), Ch. 149, Sec. 27 (Prevailing Wage Rates), and Ch. 149, Sec. 29 (Labor and Material and Payment Bonds as applicable). A bid deposit in the amount of 5% of the bid shall accompany every bid. The bid deposit shall be in the form of a bid bond, certified treasurer's check, or cashier's check made payable to the Town of Spencer. Upon award and signing of the contract, the bid deposit will be returned to the bidders. The Town of Spencer is exempt from sales and federal excise tax to the extent permitted under law; bidders should not include such taxes in figuring or in references to any bid.

The Town of Spencer reserves the right to reject any and all bids, wholly or in part, or to accept any bid even if the bid is not the lowest cost, if it is deemed to be in the best interest of the municipality, to waive informalities deemed inconsequential and to make awards in a manner deemed to be in the town's best interest. Minority- and woman-owned businesses are encouraged to bid.

Thomas M. Gregory Town Administrator Town of Spencer Monday, March 23, 2020 March 27, 2020

### Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with the requirements of the Massachusetts Wetland Protection Act, MGL c. 131, s. 40 and the Spencer Wetlands By-Law:

William & Donna McElroy have filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove debris from the riverfront located at 20 Wilson Street, Spencer, MA.

CSX Transportation, Incorporated have filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to confirm the wetlands boundaries in order to avoid impacting wetlands during Vegetation Management at CSX Right-of-Way, Spencer, MA.

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, at which time all persons having an interest may be present and participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 7:00 p.m., public hearings begin at 7:15 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman March 27, 2020

#### PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE STURBRIDGE PLANNING BOARD PROPOSED ZONING BYLAW AMENDMENTS

In accordance with the provisions of MGL Chapter 40A, Section 5, the Sturbridge Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing in Veterans Memorial Hall at the Town Hall, located at 308 Main Street Sturbridge at 8:15 PM, on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 to consider amendments to the Town's Zoning Bylaw as petitioned by the Planning Board.

The proposal would amend the Zoning Bylaw by updating permitted uses and special exception uses including adding language that would allow a special permit for building heights over 35' in Chapter 7 – Commercial District. Also proposed is an amendment to Chapter 8 – Commercial Tourist District which would insert Craft Beverage Business

with Tasting Room. Chapter 9 General Industrial District is proposed to be amended by adding language that would allow a special permit for building heights over 35'. The permitted uses in Chapter 10 - Industrial Park District are proposed to be amended to insert new permitted uses and by adding language that would allow a special permit for building heights over 35'. Chapter 11- Commercial II District would be amended by updating permitted uses and special exception uses including adding language that would allow a special permit for building heights over 35'. A new definition for personal service establishment is proposed to be added to Chapter 2- Definitions. Finally, changes to Chapter 19 - Table of Dimensional Requirements are proposed to update footnotes to indicate a special permit may be granted in certain districts for building heights over 35'.

The Planning Board may elect, consistent with Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 "Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §20", to hold the public hearing virtually, in which case details respecting the same will be made public by the Planning Board in advance of the hearing and will be posted here <a href="https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtural-meeting.">https://www.sturbridge.gov/town-administrator/pages/how-access-virtural-meeting.</a> For those unable to participate virtually, written comments will be accepted in advance of the public hearing.

The full text of the proposed zoning revisions may be reviewed on the Sturbridge Town Website at <a href="https://www.sturbridge.gov/planning-board">https://www.sturbridge.gov/planning-board</a>.

Charles Blanchard

Chairman March 27, 2020





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front! Beautiful Sunrises & Sunsets! Looking for a Getaway, Principal Residence or Second Home, Winters in Florida, Summers on the Island! Tons of Potential, Do a Little or Do a Lot! 4+ Rm, 1 Bdrm,



**NEW LISTING** OXFORD - 377 Main St! 9 Rm Center Hall Colonial! .59 Acre Corner Lot! Charm of Yesteryear! Eat-In Frplcd Granite Kit w/Updated Cabinets, Frplcd Din Rm w Built-in China Cabinet & Butler Closet! Gracious Foyer! Spacious Frpied Liv Rm! Breezeway to a Home Office or an Unfinished Cathedral Ceiling Fam Rm or Craft Rm! Sit on the Front Porch and Enjoy Morning Coffee or Evening Tea! Huge 2-Car Garage w/Loft-Storage Area! Mature Tree Studded Yard! **\$349,000.00** 

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WEBSTER LAKE - 9 Pebble Beach Rd! Middle Pond - Winter Cove! Private Peninsula Protected from the Storm

Fir Plan wSky Lighted Cathedral Ceilings, Tall Windows & Hrdwd Firs! Beautiful Applianced Custom Granite Kit w Center Isl! Formal Din, Fireplace Liv Rm wWater/Estuary Views! 1st Fir Laundry! Second Floor Master Suite, Ideal

Full Bath, Huge Walk-in Closet! 3 Bdrms Total! 2 Full & 2 Half Baths! Walk-out Lower Level Fireplace Fam Rm!

· Safe Harbor! Custom 3,179' 8 Rm Contemp Ready for Your Immediate Enjoyment! Grand Entry Foyer! Ideal Open





OXFORD - 10 Huguenot Rd! 8 Rm Colonial! 1.36 Acres! Country Setting! Country Kitchen w/Bay Window Overlooking Back Yard, Front to Back Living/Dining Rm w/French Doors to Deck! Office! Side Entry Breezeway! 3 Bdrms Plus a Study/Craft Rm on the 2nd Floor! 1 Car Detached Garage w/Workshop! Easy Access to Shopping and Highways! \$179,000.00

Conveniently Located just off Exit 1 of Renovated 4 Rm Townhouse! New Granite 395! Loads of Potential! 6 Rm Cape! Kit w/SS Appliances! Kit & Liv Rm w/Hrdwds!

Applianced Kitl Din & Liv Rms w/Wall to 2 Comfortable Bdrms w/New Wall to Wall Wall over Hrdwds! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdwds! New Full Bath Freshly Painted Throughout!

Furnace! Recent Roof! \$169,900.00 Finish Additional Living Space! 2 Parking Space! 2 P



DUDLEY — 38 Pine St! 5 Rm Ranch!
Original Owner! Quaint Eat-in Kit!
Formal Din Rm! Spacious Liv Rm w/
New Picture Window! Fam Rm w/
Views to Private Back Yard! Mudrm!
Huge Deck! Buderus Oil Heat! 2 Car
Garage! New Septic! Vinyl Sided! Newer
Windows! Solar Panels! \$239,000.00



**DUDLEY** – 9 Nellies Way! TOBIN FARM ESTATES! 10 Rm Colonial Set on 1.2 Acres! Applianced Dine-in Granite Kit! 3  $Season\ Sun\ Rm\ off\ Kit!\ Din\ Rm, 2\ Story\ Fam\ Rm\ w/Pellet\ Stove, Bdrm, Full\ Bath\ w/Laundry\ \&\ Gleaming\ Hrdwds\ Round\ Out$ 1st Flr! 2nd Flr Features an Open Balcony to the Liv Rm! Plenty of Space for an Office, Playroom or Reading Area, Use Your  $Imagination!\ Master\ w/Tray\ Ceiling\ \&\ 3\ Closets!\ Master\ Bath\ w/Dual\ Sinks,\ Shower,\ Whirlpool\ Tub\ \&\ Makeup\ Counter!\ 2$ Additional Bdrms & Full Bath! Huge Finished Walk-out Lower Level Perfect for Entertaining! Wet Bar w/Wine Cooler &

SOLD



Buderus Oil Heat! C/Air! Oversized 2 Car Garage





NEW LISTING WEBSTER - 60 East Main St! Established Local Bakery & Delicatesser WEBSIER — 00 East Main St. Established Local Bakery & Delicatessen Specializing in Polish Foods being Sold with Building! Turn Key Business! Equipment to be Included with Sale! High Traffic Count! Ample Parking! Easy Access to Rear for Deliveries! Building also consists of a One and Two Bedroom Apartment! The Owner presently uses two rooms for his office and storage which could easily be added to the One bedroom





ON DEPOSIT odeled Stainless Steel Applianced Granite Eat-in Kitchen w Custom Cabinetry & Luxury Vinyl Plank Flooring! Formal Dining w/Hardwoods!

Spacious Living Rm w/Hardwoods! 2 1st Floor Bedrooms w/Hardwoods! Newly Remodeled Full Tile Bath! 2nd Floor w/2 Bedrooms w/Hardwoods, Plenty of Closet & Storage Space! Updated Second Full Bath! Recently Oil

Heat, Cast Iron Baseboard! Detached Garage! Corner Lot! \$279,900.00



ON DEPOSIT

WEBSTER - 9 Lake Parkway! Extremely

Kayak right from your Backyard! Eat-in Kit w/Pantry! Frplcd Liv Rm w/Hrdwd: & Bay Window! Din Rm or Fam Rm w/Hrdwds & Ceiling Fan! Full Tile Bath w/ Tub/Shower Combo! Master Bdrm w/Wall to Wall Carpet! Second Bdrm w/ Wall to Wall & Ceiling Fan! Walk-up Attic w/Potential for Additional Living Space! 3 Season Porch w/Natural Woodwork! Recent Roof! Recent Oil Steam ... Heat! New Septic & being Well Installed! Plenty of Parking! \$179,900.00



**NEW LISTING** 

WOODSTOCK

Spaces! \$129,900.00



105' Waterfront! Ideal 15,941' Gently Sloping Lot! Comfortable 9 Rm Ranch! Stainless Appliance Eat-

in Granite Kit! Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Panoramic Water Views! 4 Bdrms, 3 Lake

Facing including the Spacious Master! Full Hall Bath! Enjoy the Sun Rm w/Lake Views! 32' Walk-

out Lower Level Frpice Fam Rm w/Wet Bar & Convenient Half Bath! Nicely Landscaped Front &

Back! Lake Level Deck, Dock & Rear Shed! Benefitted by Town Sewer! Start Packing! \$499.900.00



CHARLTON - GLEN ECHO LAKE! 3 Sunset Dr! Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic







WEBSTER LAKE - 50 West Point Rd! Killdeer Island! 4,700' Entertainers Dream! Magnificent Sunsets! Built 2016. Has It All! 2 Story Fover! Granite Kit w/Center Isl, Dble Oven, High End Appliances & Walk-in Pantry! Din Rm w/ Wet Bar, Sliders to 14x30' Deck! Bright & Airy Liv Rm w/Lake Views, Custom Built Cabinets, Gas Frple! 1/2 Bath + Laundry! An ELEVATOR to Service All 3 Floors! Upstairs leads to 3 Spacious Bdrms each w/Private Baths! Master w/ Tray Ceiling, Walk-in Closet + Private Balcony! Master Bath, Soaker Tub & Large Tile Shower! Walk-up Attic w/Expansion





WEBSTER LAKE - 68 W Point Rd! Western Exposure 75' Waterfront w/Expansive Views! 6 Rm Yr Rd Ranch! Ideal 2nd Home! Renovate or Enjoy As Is! Open Flr Plan! Applianced Cabinet Packed Kit! Lake Facing Din & Liv Rms w/Water Views! Sliders to Screen Enclosed Porch! Master w/Ceiling Fan & Dble Closet! 2nd Bdrm w/Dble Closet! Full Bath off Hall! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/25' Fam Rm w/Door to Lakeside Patio, Bdrm, Full Bath & Utility Storage Rm! 3 Bdrms, 2 Baths Total! Oil Heat! Covered Entry Ramp & Electric





WEBSTER LAKE - 506 Beacon Park! 1,280' Custom Townhouse, Ideal End Corner Unit w/Pane WATERFRONT Lake Views! Overlooks Lakeside Pool & Sandy Beach! From the Private Entry this Unit is Like No Other! Being Sold Fully Furnished & Appointed! 1st Flr w/Beautiful Maple Hrdwds! SS Applianced Silestone Kit! Recessed Lighting! 2 Bdrms! Master

Bath! 2.5 Tile Baths! Recent A/C & Heat! Garage! \$369,900.00







CHARLTON - 105' WATERFRONT! Baker Pond! 63 Lincoln Pt Rd! East Facing = Fantastic Sunrises! Custom 9 Rm Colonial! Beautiful 1/2 Acre Lot w/Lawn to Water's Edge! 2 Story Foyer! Natural Woodwork! Open Flr Plan! Appliance Granite Kit w/lsl, Recessed Lights, Tile Flr & Water View! Din Area w/Slider to Deck! Sunken Frplc Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Water Views! Din Rm w/Hrdwd! 1/2 Bath w/Pedestal Sink! 2nd Flr w/4 Bdrms, 3 w/Water Views! Master w/Cathedrals, French Dr to Balcony, Bath w/Separate Tub/Shower, Walk-in Closet & Laundry! Hall Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Finished Walk-out Lower Level w/31' Fam Rm! Full Kit! Full Bath & Laundry! Includes NEW A/C SPLITS SYSTEM! Enjoy Outside from the Farmer's Porch, Deck, Patio, Screened Porch or Dock! 2 Car Garage! Full Recreational Use! \$524,900.00







WEBSTER LAKE - 50 Union Point Rd! Panoramic Views of Middle Pond - South Facing - Tons of Sun! Principal Residence or as a Second Home this 6+ Rm Gambrel Colonial will be Ready for You You'll Appreciate its Easy Access and Taken Back by the Ever Changing Lake Vistas! Featuring Applianced Kitchen w/Island, Dining Area, Lake Facing Fireplaced Living Rm with Custom Cabinetry, All with Hardwood Floors! Ideal Lake Facing 3 Seasons Rm w/Tile Floor & Anderson Sliders All Around! 3 Second Floor Bedrooms! Spacious Lake Facing Master w/ Cathedral Ceiling & 2 Sliders to its Private Deck! 2 Full Baths! Central Air! Composite Decks & Flag Stone Patio for Your Enjoyment! 7,405' Lot with 50' on the Water! Sorry, Closing not before 9/10/2019! **\$624,900.00** 



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### Featured New Listing!

**DOUGLAS - 14 MOUNT DANIELS WAY** 

NEW to Market! 4 beds, 2-1/2 baths, sunroom, Ig deck, central air, located on small cul-de-sac of 6 homes! Over 2 acres of priva-\$409,000.



4 BEDROOM COLONIAL! 2600 SQ FT , 2 FULL BATHS 2 FIREPLACES, 2 CAR GARAGE, ABOVE GROUND POOL 1ST FLOOR BEDROOM, UPDATES INCLUDE - RECENT WINDOWS, ROOF, UPSTAIRS BATH, FHW GAS HEATING SYSTEM!!! New Price \$329,900 New Price **\$329,900** 

### THOMPSON, CT - 6 LILLIAN AVE, LOT #1



SORRY, SOLD!

Split level style home has an attractive modern flare! Open floor plan, cathedral ceilings, hardwood floors, tile floored baths, & master full bath w/extra wide shower & walk in closet, plus 2 more spacious BRs & a full hallway bath. 24' lower Level family room, half bath w/laundry hookups! Two car garage! Central AC. \$299,900. **WEBSTER - 8 MAPLE ST** 

SORRY, SOLD! 2 Family - 1st Floor 6 Rooms, 3 bedrooms. 1 Full Bath, open kitchen. Fully Applianced. New Carpeting, Hardwood Floors.

2nd Floor - Open Kitchen with Gorgeous Kitchen Cabinets
- 6 Rooms, 3 Bed, 1 Full Bath Hardwood Floors, New carpetind.

WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS **Dudley -** Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq, Ft. Possible potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer, City Gas! Nice level lot. Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2-2.5 Acres of flat land that abuts

Webster - Potential 6 Buildable Lots! Water/Sewer Access \$129,400. Webster - 85 Upper Gore! View of the Lake. 1+ acre, artesian wel

WOODSTOCK, CT - 64 LYON HILL RD

SORRY,

SOLD!



**WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD** 



Available 10,000 + sq. ft. of Land. Zoned Lake Residential. Potential to divide into 2 Buildable Lots. Town Water & Sewer Available. \$49,000.

### On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Oxford - 4 Leicester St. approx. 8.47 acres! River frontage! Highly

possible to be subdivided.



### **WEBSTER - 28 BLACK POINT RD**

2019 CUSTOM BUILT WEBSTER LAKE (WATERFRONT ACCESSIBLE) CONTEM-PORARY CAPE! Sunrise (E) & Sunset (W) Exposure! 2,600+- SF, 11 Rms, 3 BRS, Loft, & 2 Full Baths. Open FIr Plan, Cathedral Ceilings, Stone-faced Fireplace, Upscale Gourmet Kitchen w/Huge Island, Sunny Breakfast Nook w/Built Ins, Formal Dining, Office, Laundry Rm, Mudroom & Coat Closet, 2 Main Level BRs & Full Bath. 2nd FIr Private Master BR Suite w/Private Bath & Walk-in Closet! Central Air! Cavernous 1,500 SF+ Unfinished LL plumbed for a Bath, Oversized 2-3 Car Att'd Garage! Corner Lot, 12,599 SF (.29 Acre), of Land plus BOAT DOCK. \$699,900.



### WEBSTER LAKE - 32 JACKSON RD

AN INTRIGUING OPPORTUNITY TO OWN AN EXTREMELY UNIQUE 3.32 ACRE WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT PROPERTY! Charming, year-round, 2 BR, 2 bath Ranch, located at the Southern most end of Webster Lake's South Pond beyond Cedar Island! Extremely private w/direct Lake access. The home offers a full finished LL w/walkout access, a screened-in 18x20 patio,18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like grounds! New Price \$375,000

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At this time, I would like to thank all first responders...doctors, nurses, EMT's, police, and firefighters who are running in when the rest of us are running away from this unprecedented virus. Your bravery and dedication are very much appreciated by all of us at Century 21 North East. Thank you. Dorrinda O'Keefe-Shea, Realtor

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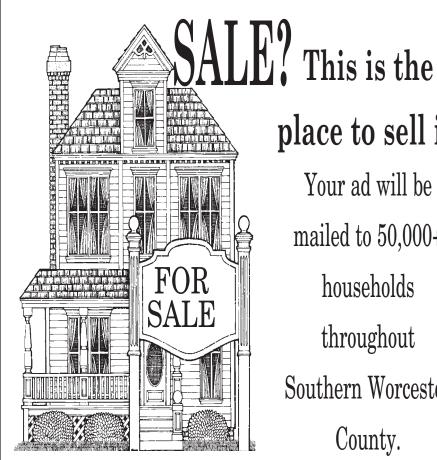
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All Ages Welcome! Open topics. Please share your creative writing and thoughts with us!

Thank you to our writers this month and to LAMOUREUX FORD for sponsoring this special section each month. I'd like to invite adults, and students who are currently learning from home to write about your thoughts about the COVID-19 pandemic, something we've never seen in our lives and hopefully won't see again.

#### **TOPIC SUGGESTIONS FOR APRIL:**

- 1. The COVID-19 pandemic how it's affecting you.
- 2. How young children are handling, activities you can share.
- 3. How students are handling, what it's like to learn from home.
- 4. Topic of your choice

#### THE NEXT WRITE STUFF will be published on April 24.

Deadline is Friday, April 17. Please email your submissions in a word doc or docx (preferably) to jsima@stonebridgepress.news. If mailing, please allow an extra week and call 508-909-4062

for mailing address as our office is temporarily closed. Thank you.

#### A. F. H. BY EVA E. PERRON, **EAST BROOKFIELD**

It was in the year of 1932, two weeks before Easter, a period of the depression, and Laura Lynch, a widow living in Northern Maine was cooking supper and listening to one of her favorite programs, "Queen For A Day."

Her four children, twin boys, Robert and Richard, 16-years-old, had just returned home from delivering the afternoon Chronicle. Daughter, Catherine, 15-years-old and 10-year-old Margaret were in the middle of their homework

Sadness prevailed in their home since the sudden death of their dad two years before, but Laura remained strong and was determined to make life as comfortable and positive as she could. A successful summer garden with plenty of vegetables and fruits that Laura canned, provided food right up to the winter months. Mr. Warren's poultry farm kept the family supplied with eggs and plenty of chicken.

Laura's message to her children..."Dwell on what we do have and less energy on what we'd like to have."

A car stopped in front of her home with a sign, "Fuller Brush Company." Laura went to the door and explained, "I don't want any products.

The man explained he wasn't there to sell, but his car broke down and he needed a phone to call his mechanic. The four party line was open and his friend would arrive in an hour or

He identified himself as Anthony. Laura invited him to have supper with them. The homemade chicken soup with noodles was delicious followed by molasses cookies which he hadn't had for years.

It was Robert's turn to offer grace, and the salesman was impressed with the good manners and the attitudes of the one parent fami-

A sudden fierce rainstorm and the boys were setting up pails throughout the house.

"Mrs. Lynch, my friend has a roofing company and I know that he'd install a new roof for you."

'Thank Anthony, but I couldn't pay for a new roof now, or in the future," she explained.

"Mrs. Lynch, you wouldn't have to pay for it, this would be a gift to you."

Laura left the table to answer a call from her brother in Ohio. While she was in the sitting room, 10 year old Margaret explained, "My mother listens to the Queen for a Day Show every afternoon. I wish she could be chosen, Mr. Anthony. Do you know what I could do," she asked?

"Margaret, write a letter to the National Broadcasting Company, New York City, New York and tell them how you feel about your mother," he explained.

The next Saturday while taking knitting lessons from Mrs. Bradley, the kind lady gave Margaret writing paper and a 3 cent stamp.

Two weeks later on a Saturday morning, a truck with ladders and roofing tiles arrived. By 5 in the afternoon, the new roof was installed.

A note addressed to Laura Lynch wished the family a happy blessed Easter and was signed, A. F. H.

As Laura and the children viewed the new roof, she explained, "I never did find out what the initials stand for," and Catherine said, "The librarian explained that A. F. H. now-a-days means, "Angel from Heaven."

As the family stood there, Margaret came over running, "Mom you have a letter in our mailbox from the National Broadcasting Company from New York

Laura's hands shook as she opened the envelope.

The End

#### **EASTER** BY EMILY JANES, NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

Easter has always been one of my favorite holidays. I love spending time with my loved ones. One year, I was not with my family. I was in the psychiatric ward. But the staff made our day as special as they could. We dyed eggs, had a nice ham dinner. Some of the patients and I put marshmallow peeps in the microwave to make them blow up! It was rough not being home with my family. But I did get to see my parents at visiting hours. They came with Easter baskets for me. I opened them up. After visiting hours, went to my room to cry. I imagined my family sitting around the table. Even though I was in the psych ward for Easter, I made it the best I could.

### DANCING PIXIE

BY L.C., NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

Hello, I would like to introduce myself. My name is Pixie. I love creating beautiful fun by dancing around and around till I get dizzy. Follow me and you will have a great time. I am very cheerful, mischievous, just love being happy, see me as I flutter around.

I light up so you can catch me. I am over here, no over here, why can't you catch me? Look again, I am over by this taller tree. Where is your light, doesn't it work? Why doesn't it work? Mine comes on as I move. Maybe you need more happiness, whimsical fun, laughter. Smile and shine and you will have a wonderful time. I love sharing my light with every-

Follow me as I dance around and look at all the lights with me. Wow, look at all my friends, come on dance, sing out loud so your light will work. Follow me as I journey along the lighted path. Well, I must continue on, Bye Bye.

Pixie, I want to dance, please come back another evening, so I may see the

Your friend, Elf.

P.S. This was written in fun, but do you follow the light on your journey? I do, it is a wonderful way to live life. Enjoy yourself.

### DON'T TRUST THE IRISH (SEA)

BY RICHARD TRAUSCHKE

Two days out of Belfast, 27 Nov. '54

From the Irish Sea to the Celtic Channel

Sea water was rising, and skies were gray the coming storm promis-

es to be one we have never witnessed

before. The seas became wild and

rose to 75 feet

the ship took water over the bow; Up we raised, and down we

plunged As through the waves we

ploughed. Never have I seen such height thru all

my many years at sea. No meals were served in the galley

the roll and pitch was too severe

if one dared to brave the weather,

down a guide rope to the one could get a cup of soup,

if you went aft past the Port breaker I dared it and was success-

ful, one handed down and away;

didn't spill soup, nary a

I wouldn't make another

When storm was o'er, and the seas again calm;

a survey of damage was

all lifelines were stripped

and rigging as well;

a welded steel ladder also

was gone. We headed for Gibraltar to

effect urgent repairs Three days later we pulled

into the cove

the ship looked bad, really the worst for wear;

One week later, off to Naples we rode.

### THIS MOMENT BY SHER MORSE, SPENCER, MA

We are only

given this moment and without reservation. We are not promised tonight or tomorrow, only this moment. For it is here and now that we can make a difference in the lives of others. This moment is of utmost importance. We must act as if it were our last. That is how a day is built, one moment at a time. These moments transform into a life. Hold fast to this moment.

### **BEHIND THE SHADOWS**

BY SHER MORSE, SPENCER, MA

Behind the shadows, there is light illuminating our way

thru the darkness. Behind the shadows there is hope,

a belief that we will prevail.

Behind the shadows, there is comfort, a blanket to keep us warm in the arctic cold. Behind the shadows, there is love, that deep seeded emotion that we all live for.

We must always look behind the shadows, for it is there that the real truth lies.

#### HAIL MARY...FULL OF GRACE

BY SUE ANGELA HEALY, NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA

You are someone I have never met

But your sudden passing thousands regret Were you just sitting in the

wrong seat in the van? Or was it a rowing angel in heaven in great demand?

How sad a day after your 20th birthday you did cele-

brate Did our Lord plan in this way or was it just fate?

In many activities you did compete During your short life on

earth you did complete When I heard of all of your

accomplishments I was in A more remarkable young

lady that I ever saw Member of the Diocesan

Championship

Basketball and cross country teams

High honor student – student council - math

Chess clubs how you would beam

Playing the cello - singing performances having a beautiful voice

All your awards and on goings were certainly your choice

And everything you chose to do went on and on

In all of our hearts you were Grace Mason Rett strong

But out of all the accolades and achievements Was the love and relation-

ship with your sister Brianne Your passion and cherished days together every-

one would understand Besides a daughter, sister, cousin, friend – a memorable teammate

Believing in God and loved ones – a strong Catholic faith Thinking of her family try-

ing to concentrate An indoor rowing record of 62 hours and 3 seconds

straight I can do all things through

Christ who strengthens me on her arm this tattoo To know Grace is to love

her that you somehow knew You were not a hero to some – but a hero to all

But on January 14, 2020

in Vero Beach, Florida, you received His call

Why was it our beloved God decided to take

Hoping to wake up from this nightmare maybe a mis-

As family members strangers trembled in disbe-

Holy Cross – the nation came together in an unimaginable grief

We hold on so many memories now frozen in time

One thing we know for sure - you were one of a kind days-weeks-months pass we will still live in sor-

Everything different now because for you there is no tomorrow

And even though we may be miles apart

You shall forever remain the lifeline to our hearts

Remember always our sweet angel that no one can ever take your place Now knowing why they

chose your name at birth -Hail Mary full of GRACE! ~ In Loving Memory of Grace Rett

### GOOD MORNING BY SUE ANGELA HEALY,

NORTH BROOKFIELD, MA To you Mrs. Pacheco and

staff I would just like to say Thank you for always going out of your way

Standing to greet students so tall and proud Off the school bus enters

You could have been sitting in your office having

coffee or tea But you chose to be out in

the public for all to see Each child unique - special

as they stroll on by With a cheery good morning or a very warm hi

Some holding hands these little girls and boys

A few clutching onto their favorite toy Never anyone would you

ever neglect For you and your faculty deserve so much respect Surprising to most you

know everyone's name Without you there in the morning their day's not the

It makes all involved know that you care More kinder people you

could find no where All parents and relatives are left in awe

By the compassion and comfort they often saw Also a sincere Thank You

to the Charlton Firefighters and Police A high five to all – their

emotions they release You can see that smile on every child's face

The laughter in their voice you could never erase If only all schools and busi-

nesses could do the same To show all involved of their fortune and fame

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2003 Toyota Tundra with extra cap, 2 wheel drive, 185k, asking \$4,000

Call 774-262-9085 **VEHICALS FOR SALE 1999** F150 118k miles. 4x4 single

cab stepside capt. chairs Loaded Red with Cap \$4,000. 2002 Chevy Silverado 2500 HD black long bedloaded with plow. Low millige. 67 thousand. \$7500. Would consider partial trade. Call Mike 508-752-7474.

### 740 Motorcycles

DAVIDSON (low rider). Accessories added

windshield, crash bar, saddle

babied miles and care. Silver metallic. Recorded 100% mechanically sound by Sheldon's of Auburn. Bike is truly condition. 508-414-9134 for showing. Firm \$12,000 as

bike is MINT!

### 740 Motorcycles

Loaded with options Only 2.000 miles not even broken in Paid \$20,000. Asking \$13,500. Call 774-200-6387 email moehagerty@msn.com

2014 Victory Vision Tour

HONDA CX 500 custom 1981 with windshiled and engine guard. Has 24.500 miles good condition. Wife no longer rides. \$2,000 or B.O. 508-892-3649

#### 750 CAMPERS/ **TRAILERS**

2008 TRAILER FOR SALE load rite 2 place ATV Trailer. New tires. Asking \$1,000 or best offer. CONTACT 508-248-3707 and leave a message.

## Local News



**FOUND HERE!** 

HERE & THERE — Local Events, Arts, and Entertainment Listings

SATURDAY, APRIL 18,

HISTORICAL TALK - Ed Londergan The First and Second Settlements East Brookfield Town Hall 9:30 FREE

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

2020 SPENCER FISH & DERBY

ANNUAL SPRING Large trout up to 11

Registration starts at 6 am. Purchase breakfast and lunch. Cash prizes and trophies Free to members. Fee for non-members or join the club. 155 Mechanic Street, Spencer, MA

at Pelletier Woods Howe Street, East Brookfield 2:00. FREE



SATURDAY, MAY 9,

OPEN HOUSE at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR). 108 School Street, East Brookfield. 1-2:00

10:0am. \$30.00 adults, \$15.00 kids

**SATURDAY, MAY 30** HISTORICAL TALK -

Ed Londergan - Murder in the Brookfields (Spooner / Newton Murders) East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 6

HISTORY & DESSERT

COAST GUARD BAND

FREE **SATURDAY, JUNE 13** 

SATURDAY, JUNE 20,

OPEN HOUSE at Camp Frank A. Day (archery, boating, basketball, mini golf, lunch) Rain Date: June 21. 125 South Pond Road, East Brookfield. 11:00-

MONDAY, JULY 6

SUMMER READING KICK OFF EB Library - continues for five

East Brookfield Town Hall. FREE SATURDAY JULY 25

East Brookfield: 100 Years a Town East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION Parade & Fireworks Connie Mack Field East Brookfield

OPEN HOUSE at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield.

PARADE AND FAMILY FUN EVENT!

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

OPEN HOUSE at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24, 3:30 BUS AND CEMETERY TOUR.

Chapel. Meet at East Brookfield Town Hall.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7** HISTORICAL TALK - Guy Morin- Central

Massachusetts during the Revolution

East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30 FREE **SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14** 

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12** HISTORICAL TALK -Ken and Tina Ethier - "Trolley Talk"

East Brookfield Town Hall, 9:30. FREE

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12** OPEN HOUSE at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR)

108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.

MARIACHI BAND First Thursday of the month 5-8 p.m. MEXICALI MEXICAN Webster location 41 Worcester Rd., Webster, MA



TRIVIA SATURDAY NIGHTS 7:00 p.m. register 7:30 p.m. start up HILLCREST COUNTRY CLUB 325 Pleasant St., Leicester, MA

HEXMARK TAVERN AT SALEM CROSS INN 260 West Main St., W. Brookfield, MA 508-867-2345 salemcrossinn.com

> September through May. We discuss a variety of conser-



50 Elm St., Auburn, MA SUMMER CONCERT SERIES July/August every Thursday 6:00-8:00 Connie Mack Field East Brookfield, FREE -

Food and Drinks for sale.



(508)341-6355 (cell)

2016 CHEVY CRUZE LT.

**725 AUTOMOBILES** 

79,000 miles. 1.4 liter engine, blue, remote start, Weather tech mats. \$9000. Call 508-234-

### As a public service we will continue to run our listings. Please call event before attending.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 25** TOWN WIDE CLEAN-UP DAY Meet at East Brookfield Town Hall 9:00



pounds and Tagged & Golden Trout stocked for the event. Starts at 8 am.

SATURDAY, MAY 2, EAST BROOKFIELD NATURE WALKS

SATURDAY, MAY 16,

7K RUN AND FUN WALK Timberyard Brewery, East Brookfield

at Podunk Chapel, East Brookfield 2:00 & 3:30 seatings. \$5.00 pp FRIDAY, JUNE 12

East Brookfield Elementary School, 7:00

OPEN HOUSE at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield 1:00-3:00. FREE

HISTORICAL TALK - Heather Gablaski -

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 8** 

SATURDAY, JULY 11

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12** 

Route 9, East Brookfield, 9:30 -7:00. FREE. Rain date Sept 13

ending in dinner at Podunk

\$15-\$20.00 pp

OPEN HOUSE at Hodgkins Building (Museum/ RR) 108 School Street, East Brookfield, 1:00-3:00.

ONGOING



508-892-9822 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT FRIDAY NIGHT

THE CENTRAL MA CHAPTER OF TROUT UNLIMITED meets the first Monday of every month from

Our annual High School Fly Fishing Championship (open to all MA high school students) And our annual fund raising banquet. Auburn Sportsman's Club

Po Something Fun This Weekend!



In these uncertain times Place Motor is doing all we can to provide a safe environment for our customers and employees while keeping those who really need our help our top priority.

The widening coronavirus outbreak is making it difficult for food banks, food pantries and soup kitchens to fulfill their missions at a time when they are needed the most.

School closures, job disruptions, lack of paid sick leave and the coronavirus's disproportionate effect on older adults and low-income families have further contributed to the demands placed on food banks.

Many families who were already food-insecure now find themselves with children out of school — children who ordinarily received more than half of their daily nutrition at school through free and reduced-price meals.

Food banks are seeing volunteers disappear and supplies evaporate as coronavirus fears mount. Food and cash donations have sharply decreased, even as the logistics of feeding the hungry have become more complex.

Your support is critical to our mission. Help however you can. Your donations of non-perishable food items help more than you can imagine.

We thank you for your contributions. Together we can work through this moment in history and come out stronger still.



### PLACE MOTOR INC. The "Right Place" Since 1923

19 Thompson Rd., Webster, MA. (508) 943-8012 Mon-Thurs 8:00am-8:00pm - Fri 8:00am-5:30pm - Sat 8:00am-4:00pm

Visit us on-line at placemotor.com



BAD CREDIT DON'T SWEAT IT **WE FINANCE YOUR FUTURE, NOT YOUR PAST** 

OPEN MON-THURS: 9-9, FRI & SAT: 9-6, SUNDAY: 12-6 800-526-AUTO

THE SAFETY OF OUR CUSTOMERS & EMPLOYEES IS OF PARAMOUNT **CONCERN AND AS SUCH WE HAVE TAKEN** THE FOLLOWING STEPS:

Can Drive It!

We have QUADRUPLED our cleaning efforts so we can continuously clean & sanitize our dealerships for a safe and fun shopping experience for our guests.

If you are unable to visit our dealerships, you can purchase your vehicle right from your living room! Call us at 800-526-AUTO

and... JUST ANNOUNCED! NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS!

Visit imperialcars.com and Select Your Vehicle From

OVER 2,500 New and Used Cars, Trucks, and SUVs. Call Us To Speak With a Vehicle Specialist. 3. We'll Bring The Test Drive Right To Your Driveway.

Trade Appraisal Right Over the Phone. Finance Over the Phone (After Completing Online Application). Your Vehicle Will Be Thoroughly Cleaned and Delivered.

2018 CHEVY SILVERADO 4x4 NEW Retail Price: \$40,450 #19-135A • 1500 LT, DOUBLE CAB, WHOLESALE \$7

PRICE:

2016 JEEP RENEGADE #D10382LV • TRAILHAWK, ALLOYS, WHOLESALE \$16,37

NEW Retail Price: \$27,120

5.

6.

Sign and Drive Without Leaving Your Home! 2018 TOYOTA RAV4 XLE

ALLOYS, BACK-UP CAM, 5.3L V8

SAVE \$12,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

**SAVE \$10,700 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 2019 FORD EDGE SUV NEW Retail Price:\$42,890

**SAVE \$11,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 

2019 JEEP CHEROKEE #D10462L • LIMITED TRIM, 4X4. BACK-UP CAM, HEATED LEATHER

NEW Retail Price: \$32,180

#P12806RV • TITANIUM, TURBO, WHOLESALE \$ LEATHER, 4X4, MOONROOF, NAV PRICE: SAVE \$14,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

LEATHER, ALLOYS, BACK-UP CAM PRICE:

**SAVE \$6.800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 2019 CHEVY EQUINOX



All-Wheel Drive, Premium Audio,

2019 FORD EXPLORER

#H1178V • XLT TRIM, 4X4, NAV,

HEATED SEATS, MOONROOF

NEW RETAIL PRICE: \$38,960 WHOLESALE PRICE:

Heated Leather, Satellite Radio, Turbo.

NEW Retail Price: \$39,870

Like New 2018 JEEP



SAVE \$12,400 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE! SAVE \$10,000 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE! 2017 DODGE CHARGER

WHOLESALE \$4

2017 TOYOTA CAMRY SE NEW Retail Price: \$30,340 #TP0189V • ALLOYS, SUNROOF, WHOLESALE \$ BACK-UP CAM, FUEL EFFICIENT PRICE:

SAVE \$13.600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

SAVE \$12,800 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE! 6 FORD F-150 4x4



Back-Up Cam, Only 21K Miles. SAVE S12.600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE! #D10624L • SXT TRIM, ALLOYS, WHOLESALE \$4 AWD, KEYLESS START, 8.4" LCD PRICE: **SAVE \$8,200 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!** 

NEW RETAIL PRICE:

All-Wheel Drive, V6, 3rd Row Seats, 18" Alloys, Satellite Radio, Bluetooth.

SAVE \$19.900 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

\$41,305 WHOLESALE PRICE:

NEW Retail Price: \$34,595

Turbo, Satellite Radio, Heated Seats.

NEW Retail Price: \$31,358 WHOLESALE \$7 #TP0112 • AWD, 17" ALLOYS, MOONROOF, BACK-UP CAM PRICE:

2017 DODGE DURANGO NEW Retail Price: \$35,895 #120200A • GT TRIM, AWD, 3.6L V6, WHOLESALE \$2

SAVE \$8,500 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

# \$42,665

WHOLESALE PRICE: TRD Sport, 4x4, 3.5L V6, Alloys, Satellite Radio, Nav, Towing Package.

SAVE \$12.300 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2017 RAM 1500 LONGHORN NEW Retail Price: \$44,250 WHOLESALE \$34 #20446A • 4X4, CREW CAB, NAV, V8 HEMI, ALLOYS, TOWING PKG

SAVE \$9,700 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

2019 SUBARU OUTBACK NEW Retail Price: \$34,445 WHOLESALE \$ #TM2215A · LEATHER, ALLOYS, BACK-UP CAM, SUNROOF, 2.5i PRICE:

SAVE \$5,600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!



All-Wheel Drive, Premium Alloys, SAVE S12.600 OFF OF RETAIL PRICE!

8-18 UXBRIDGE ROAD, RTE. 16 | MENDON, MA

154 EAST MAIN STREET | MILFORD, MA 300 FORTUNE BLVD. | MILFORD, MA