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Friday, July 30, 2021

Police officer honored for helping residents escape fire

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

WEST BROOKFIELD – An officer with the West Brookfield Police Department was celebrated last week after helping three residents escape a home whose garage was struck by lightning.

The fire occurred during a violent line of predawn thunderstorms on July 18. At approximately 4 a.m., a neighbor

was awoken by thunder and witnessed flames breaking out from a garage at 114 West Main St.

Officer Frank Jolin, who was on patrol nearby, was the first responder on scene after getting the fire call. After the neighbor reported that he was unable to wake the residents by knocking on the door, Officer Jolin broke a window, unlocked the door, and accessed the home. The residents were

awakened by the noise, and Officer Jolin helped them safely escape the house.

Meanwhile, fire crews found themselves battling both the storm and the blaze. Flooded roads made it difficult for many mutual aid responders to reach the home. The Town of Warren suffered particularly heavy flooding damage, and most responders weren't able to exceed 30 miles per hour due to

near-blinding downpours.

"Some mutual aid communities had trouble getting there due to washed out roads," said West Brookfield Fire Chief Clayton Edwards. "When I responded, the rain was so heavy that I could hardly see past the hood of the truck."

Firefighters arrived at the property to find flames shooting from the roof of the garage. The WBFD began their

Please Read **FIRE**, page **A14**

LMS student wins national writing contest



Photo Courtesy

Dylan Delage, who is about to become a freshman at Leicester High School, recently won a national writing contest.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – A local student recently authored his way into elite company by winning a national Young Writers contest.

Dylan Delage, who just finished his eighth grade year at Leicester Middle School, won the national contest for his mini-saga "'Tis the Season." For this year's Young Writers contest, students across the country were invited to write a spine-chilling tale in just 100 words. The required theme in each story was "Trapped", challenging student-writers to channel their inner Stephen King and pull out all the scares.

For his entry, Delage was inspired to put an eldritch twist on the Christmas season. His story begins with the narrator walking among neglected

Please Read **DELAGE**, page **A12**

School officials celebrate success of Summer Eats program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Congressman Jim McGovern met with school officials this month to celebrate the success of the Summer Eats program for local families.

The federally funded summer food service program, known in Massachusetts as Summer Eats, provides free meals throughout the summer to kids under 18 experiencing food insecurity. Meals are available for pickup daily at any Summer Eats site across the state; no signup is necessary.

The program is made possible by a partnership between Project Bread and the Mass. Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Project Bread, the state's leading anti-hunger organization, has played a pivotal role for families across the Commonwealth during the pandemic.

At the local level, the



Photo Kevin Flanders

Congressman Jim McGovern arrived in Spencer this month to celebrate the Summer Eats program.

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District's food service team has risen to the challenge over the last year-plus to help ensure youngsters have access to meals. Officials are thrilled to team up with Project Bread, the DESE, and Congressman

McGovern.

"In the early days of the pandemic, Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District and its ServSafe certified Food Service Department stepped up to provide quality

Turn To **EATS** page **A14**

Volunteer labor transforms Swan Tavern into historical showcase

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — The combination of community generosity and dedicated volunteers has transformed Swan Tavern into a proud showcase of town history.

The future of the 1 Paxton St. building was uncertain a few short years ago, but the Leicester Historical Society and the Leicester Historical Commission joined forces with the goal of operating the building as a museum. This led to the establishment of the Friends of Swan Tavern, a nonprofit group comprised of mem-

bers who are determined to preserve the tavern. In the following years, relying solely on grants and community donations for funding, volunteers have made significant renovations to the building while adding items to the museum.

"We have had so much outstanding volunteer labor," said Friends member Diane Calvano. "One man did all of the exterior painting by himself."

Rebuilt in 1768, the tavern was once a busy stop on the historic Post Road connecting Boston and New York. During the process of renovating the

Please Read **SWAN**, page **A14**



Photo Kevin Flanders

After multiple recent volunteer-led renovations, Swan Tavern features several new exhibits and artifacts.

3RD ANNUAL ABC's OF THE SUMMER SEASON 2021

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Summer Concert Series rolls on in East Brookfield

EAST BROOKFIELD – Local families enjoyed great food and music last week at Connie Mack Field, as the Summer Concert Series journeyed on. The July 22 concert featured The Otters. Upcoming performances will include The Fairlanes (July 29); Raider Eddie and the Skeletones, featuring Donna Lee and the Dreamboat Horns (Aug. 5); and Rosie Porter (Aug. 12).

A rain date is reserved for Aug. 19. Guests can always count on a delicious lineup of foods, including hotdogs, hamburgers, and even desserts. For more information, check out the East Brookfield Summer Concert Series on Facebook.

Photos Kevin Flanders



The Meyerderks family, of East Brookfield, gets ready for the concert.



The Otters perform at East Brookfield's Connie Mack Field.



It's always a great night for pizza, as proven by the Roy family, of East Brookfield.



Dan Lambert, left, and Jim Joyce keep guests well fed.

Local golf results

Quail Hollow Golf & Country Club	
Pit's Crew	
First place (-6): Gary Herl, John Kelly, Ron Goulet, Kevin Grace	
Second place (-5): Jim Kularski, Bob Buzzle, Roger Godbout, Bob Ford	
Third place (-4): John Desimone, Steve Varnum, Bob Varnum, Fran Elliot	
Still Hart's League	
First place (+7): Bob Jaquith and Gary Norton	
Second place (+7): Kyle Miranda and Chip Wetherell	
Third place (+6): Marty Leach and Ed McLeod	
Most Over Quota (+7): Tom Sokol	
MLK Classic	
First place (63): Will Mosley, Jack Brennon, Megan Mosley, Rohan Brewster	
Second place (63): Tom Gareau, Tom Cournoyer, Ron McCann, Doug Maricola	
Third place (65): John Mitchell, Guy Ferranti, Jim Wilson, Mark Baker	
Tour of Brookfield's Lamoureux Ford Open	
Nicklaus Division	
First place (61): Marty Leach, Jeff Thomasian, Jeff Bennett, Lauren Thomasian	
Player Division	
First place (61): Dave Woodward, Jeremy Morin, Hoss Ford, John Markey	
Palmer Division	
First place (62): Chuck Krikorian, Jeff Laflin, Ed McLeod, Chris Hubacz	
Kettle Brook Golf Club	
Kettle One League Week 13	
First place: Bob Berthiaume and Todd Wozniak, +10	
Second place: Jeff Wozniak and Brian Plouffe, +3	
High individual: Bob Berthiaume, +7	
Closest to the Pin on No. 6: Kevin Anderson	

SPENCER NEW LEADER

ACCURACY WATCH

The Spencer New Leader is committed to accuracy in all its news reports. Although numerous safeguards are in place to ensure accurate reporting, mistakes can occur. Confirmed fact errors will be corrected at the top right hand corner of page 3 in a timely manner. If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4106 or email news@stonebridgepress.com. During non-business hours, leave a message in the editor's voice mailbox. The editor will return your phone call or email.

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PERSON of the WEEK

MICHELLE TERRY OF BROOKFIELD, MA

As a member of the Spencer Exchange Club, Michelle is being recognized for her success in promoting local businesses every week by sponsoring contests so that people will visit local restaurants, etc. Thank you, Michelle, for all you do to help local businesses.

— Submitted by Michelle Murray, Esq.

If you would like to nominate a PERSON OF THE WEEK, please email your suggestion to jsima@stonebridgepress.com. Thank you.

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North Brookfield Savings Bank Announces Customer Appreciation Contest winner

Spencer Summer Concert Series continues with the Silverbacks

NORTH BROOKFIELD — With the “dog days” of summer upon us, we are all trying to beat the heat. Learning he was the winner of North Brookfield Savings Bank’s Customer Appreciation contest made it even harder for Michael Cox to keep cool. As part of a special limited-time Customer Appreciation drawing, customers and non-customers alike could enter for their chance to win an Apple Watch Series 3.

With an abundance of ticket entries received, Michael Cox was the lucky winner. The West Brookfield local expressed initial concern when receiving a call from the Bank, but soon Michael was given the exciting news; he could not believe what he was hearing. The following Tuesday, he happily visited Mary Antinovitch at the West Brookfield Branch to pick up his prize. This drawing is one of many annual showings of appreciation we offer our community members to provide them with Banking that Matters.

To learn more about North Brookfield Savings Bank’s community outreach and all the convenient banking products and services offered, visit www.NorthBrookfieldSavingsBank.com.



SPENCER — The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission’s 2021 Summer Concert Series continues from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 1 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and Meadow Roads, Spencer with the Silverbacks.

The Silverbacks celebrate all things rock ‘n roll. A few of the members have performed in stadium shows worldwide as members of the bands of Joe Cocker, Tina Turner and Robert Palmer. Others performed in regional bands including Albatross and the American Standard Band. Band members Jim Perry and Glenn DiTommaso reside in Spencer and are looking forward to performing in their hometown. Perry was also instrumental in organizing this year’s concert series and coordinating the entertainment schedule. Other members include Michael Lynch, Cliff Goodwin, Deric Dyer and Bill MacGillivray.

Following the Silverbacks, next up in this series that continues every Sunday through Aug. 22 will be the Fellowship of the King on Aug. 8.

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

1. Language group with Iranian influence

5. No seats available

8. Health insurance organization

11. Having a strong sharp smell or taste

13. Defunct European economic organization

14. Dutch word for “language”

15. Hard to penetrate

16. When you’ll get there

17. Iranian city

18. Small fishes

20. Dry white wine drink

21. Turkish city

22. U.S.-born people

25. Synthetic resin

30. Major nerve in human body

31. Type of recording

32. Small drum

33. Alters

38. General’s assistant (abbr.)

41. Venezuelan capital

43. Free of deceit

45. Member of Ancient Hebrew nation

48. Competition

49. Launch an attack on

50. Cavalry sword

55. Spiritual leader

56. One point east of due south

57. Afflicted

59. Database management system

60. Snake-like fish

61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation

62. Small drink

63. Not wet

64. Impudence

1. Father

2. Performed perfectly

3. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid

4. Thin, compact object

5. One attempting to find something

6. No longer working

7. Egg-shaped wind instrument

8. Book of Genesis character

9. Volcanic craters

10. Brand of American automobile (slang)

12. Hip hop icon Kool Moe

14. Bangladeshi monetary unit

19. Self-immolation by fire ritual

23. Family of genes

24. Et _ : indicates further

25. Pacific Standard Time

26. S. American wood sorrel

27. Women’s _ movement

28. Chinese hoopster Ming

29. Layers of rock

34. Patriotic women’s group

35. Solid water

36. Shade of brown

37. Very fast airplane

39. Put clothes on

40. Quality of one’s character

41. Time zone

42. Primates

44. Pleasantly

45. Metrical feet

46. Rogue

47. German river

48. Relieves from

51. Swiss river

52. Prejudice

53. Actor Idris

54. Those who resist authority

58. Criticize

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SPENCER ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

BROOKFIELD
\$365,000, 7 Hayden Ave, Oconnell, Mary T, and Oconnell, Peter S, to Menard, Daniel, and Menard, Wendy.
\$365,000, 8 Hyde St, Oconnell, Mary T, and Oconnell, Peter S, to Menard, Daniel, and Menard, Wendy.
\$350,000, 125 Rice Corner Rd, Astukewicz, Michael P, to Smith, Becky, and Ritchie, Daniel.
\$200,000, Molasses Hill Rd #2, Pecore, Joseph E, and Blomgren, Rose, to Day, Stephen M.
\$200,000, Molasses Hill Rd #3, Pecore, Joseph E, and Blomgren, Rose, to Day, Stephen M.
\$200,000, Molasses Hill Rd #41A, Pecore, Joseph E, and Blomgren, Rose, to Day, Stephen M.

LEICESTER
\$550,000, 247 Auburn St, Berube, Kathleen N, and Berube, Donald J, to Weber, Kenneth, and Weber, Christine M.
\$379,000, 71 Virginia Dr #71, Culross, Richard R, and Culross, Patricia I, to Mattei, William P, and Mattei, Mary E.
\$310,000, 56 Towtaid St, Krawczyk, Marek, and Mroz, Marcin, to Faria, Christina M.
\$286,000, 19 Sunset Dr, Frick Marian J Est, and Frick, Walter G, to Brewster, Danielle, and Morales-Rosa, Jonathan.
\$270,000, 5 Brown St, Smith, Becky L, and Ritchie, Daniel, to Boehm, Charlotte, and Hopfmann, Edward P.

\$270,000, 6 King Ct, Hebert, Ernest A, and Bk Of New York Mellon, to Cascase Funding Mtg T.
\$269,000, 266 Pleasant St, Gallien, Julia N, to Lainez, Abigail.
\$160,000, 20 Lake Dr, Nack T, and Bloomquist, Cynthia L, to Kopec, Teresa, and Kopec, Marek.
\$160,000, 22 Lake Dr, Nack T, and Bloomquist, Cynthia L, to Kopec, Teresa, and Kopec, Marek.

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Police seek information on hit & run that caused property damage

LEICESTER – Police continue to seek the public’s assistance following a hit and run incident last week.

On July 22, police received a call shortly before 11 p.m. reporting a hit and run resulting in property damage. Based on the initial investigation, it appeared that a large truck veered off Stafford Street, drove through

the property at 1098 Stafford St., and struck mailboxes before proceeding over a stone wall onto Pleasant Street.

The vehicle then proceeded down Pleasant Street, eventually driving through two lawns and causing significant damage, police said.

Officers checked the immediate area but were unable to

locate a suspect vehicle.

If you have any information regarding the suspect or suspect vehicle, please contact the LPD at 508-892-7010. The vehicle would likely have significant damage to the front section, police said.



Photo Courtesy

A vehicle caused damage to property in Leicester during a hit and run incident last week.

Spencer K9 team graduates from Sheriff’s Academy

SPENCER – Spencer Police Officer Brandon Fullam and his K9 partner, Curtis, recently graduated from the 12-week Berkshire County Sheriff’s Academy.

The duo subsequently assumed their regular duties here in Spencer. Start-up funding for the K9 Program was provided by a grant from the Stanton Foundation.

Jacob Hinman receives President’s List honors from Bemidji State University

BEMIDJI, Minn. — Jacob Hinman, a student from Spencer, has been placed on Bemidji State University’s president’s list for the Spring 2021 semester.

To be eligible for the President’s Honor Roll, BSU students must be enrolled for at least 12 credits and earn a perfect 4.0 GPA during the semester.

Sarah McCarthy named to Provost’s List at Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Sarah McCarthy of Spencer achieved a perfect 4.0 GPA during the Spring 2021 semester, earning a spot on the Provost’s List at Hofstra University.

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012 and 2016). Our campus is a leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreation-

al and professional opportunities. We offer small classes and personal attention, with the resources, technology and facilities of a large university. Students can choose from more than 165 undergraduate program options and 175 graduate program options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G.

Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Hofstra University is a dynamic community of 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers.

Sarah Moore named to Dean’s List at Hofstra University

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Sarah Moore of Leicester excelled during the Spring 2021 semester, achieving a GPA of at least 3.5 to earn a spot on the Dean’s List.

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012 and 2016). Our campus is a leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreation-

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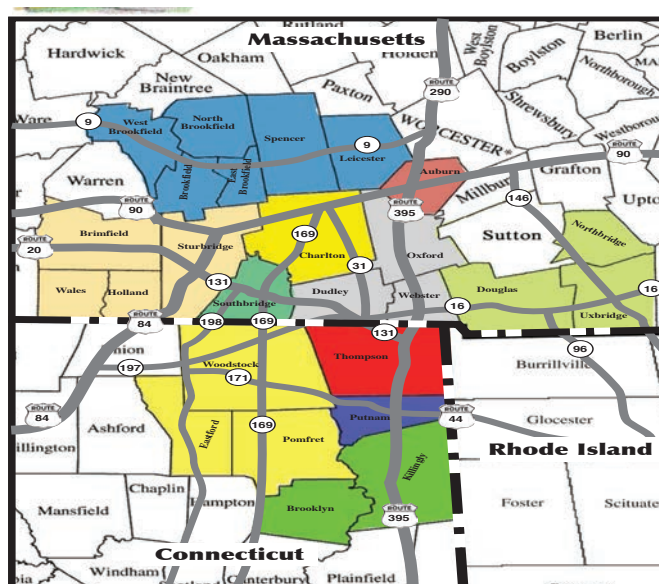
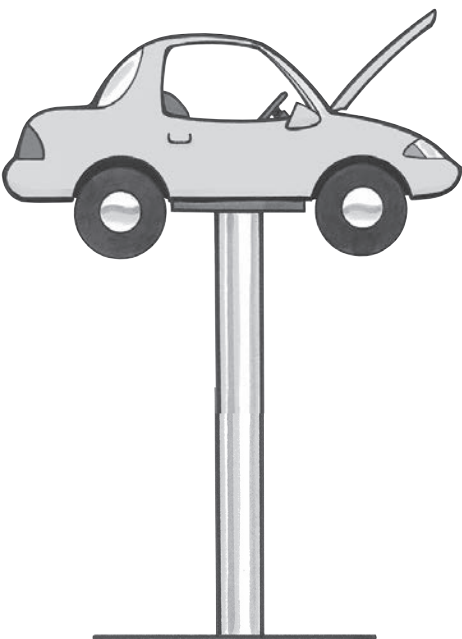
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EDITORIAL

Moon
madness

Is what “they” say really true regarding the full moon? Do people actually turn into ‘lunatics?’ We’re not so sure, but science has much to offer on the topic, with the next full moon now literally on the horizon.

Some people claim that they become unexplainably moody for a few days or have trouble sleeping. Some say they experience breakouts or other aches and pains that affect the joints. Typically, when people are observed acting slightly less than normal, you will hear the phrase “it must be the full moon.”

Logically, it makes sense that because the tides are higher during the full moon phase due to the pull of gravity that our bodies which are made up of 80% water would experience some sort of side effect as well.

Studies show that tides in large lakes undergo minimal tide changes during the full moon. Tides take place twice a day in the ocean, which could mean that we would be ‘off center’ twice a day, however that isn’t the case from what we currently know according to science.

Some myths claim that the full moon can incite epileptic seizures in people, however a study in 2004 showed no such connection.

As far as bouts of psychiatric outbursts, one study in 2014 showed an increase of emergency room visits within 24 hours of the full moon however a study in 1996 showed no significant difference. The term ‘lunatic’ is derived from the word ‘Luna’ the name of the ancient Roman goddess. Aristotle and Hippocrates once implied they thought the moon was at fault for abnormal behavior.

Interesting was the study that took place in Colorado, where researchers found that the risk for pet injuries increased by 23 percent during the full moon phase. Proven is that wild animals behave differently during the full moon in that the light effects their hunting habits.

As for sleep deprivation, we all know that before modern times the moon provided light during the nighttime hours. During the full moon, the increased amount of light was said to have wreaked havoc on those with bipolar or seizure disorders. Many people say they have trouble sleeping during a full moon however no studies have indicated a scientific correlation as of yet.

As far as myths go, the claim that a full moon increases fertility and births is as old as time. The truth is that fertility methods based on moon phases have proved inconclusive, as did the effect on gravitational pull to induce labor.

February is the only month that may not experience a full moon because each full moon appears every 29.5 days. A super-moon takes place when a full moon coincides with the moon’s closest approach to earth. The last time we witnessed a super-moon was in 2015. The next one will occur in 2033. Some say that the full moon is an unlucky sign if it happens on a Sunday. Interesting to note is that the name ‘Monday’ is from the Old English word Monandæg, which means ‘moon day’. Another fact is that on March 28, the Royal Air force used the light from a full moon to attack Lubeck in Germany during WWII.

When there are two full moons in one month, the second one is called a ‘blue moon.’ This occurrence takes place every three years. A red moon happens when the full moon phase occurs during the same time as a lunar eclipse.

The man on the moon that we often see during a full moon, is nothing more than dark areas called basaltic plains and the lighter colored highlands of the moon’s surface. Making sense, and interesting is that between 1765 and 1813, the Lunar Society of Birmingham, England met during the full moon because the extra light made the walk home safer.

July is said to be the best month to get married because it falls between the planting and harvesting of crops. The term ‘honeymoon’ is named after the first full moon in June for this reason.

We can’t mention a full moon and not mention werewolves. Old folklore claimed that if you slept outside under a full moon on a Wednesday or a Friday you could turn into a werewolf. Perhaps the most entertaining spin on this myth, aside from the Universal Pictures’ influential 1941 classic “The Wolf Man” with Lon

Turn To **EDITORIAL** page **A8**

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The American Way

To the Editor:
I bring your attention to Mr. Ken Kimball Viewpoint Friday, July 16, “Truth, justice, and the American way.” It is becoming very difficult under the Biden’s Administration. Their focus is to establish and support Democratic Socialism. We the people need to support a Republic Democracy, pledging allegiance to these United States of America for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all, “or” be controlled by a socialist government.

The Declaration of Independence has been alive and well, that is how we became a free America. It was

Will we ever learn?

To the Editor:
I will start by answering brother McRae’s questions about my service. Having graduated from high school in 1967 and not seeking a college deferment, it was a time when all able bodied young men would either enlist or be drafted. I actually took two enlistment physicals with my buddies, and signed up for the draft. Although I assured them that the adrenaline pills I carried worked just fine, they indicated that the military had no interest in owning my heart and lung issues, and don’t call us, we’ll call you (after the women and children). As an aside, my only grandson plans to enlist this fall, though not sure of branch yet. His USAF sister due home on leave next week. Patriotism comes in many forms.

It is my profound hope that we have not dumbed down to the point where allegations and repetition become substitutes for truth and reality. Trump fired his election security chief Krebs, for announcing that we had conducted the most secure election in history in 2020.

This week, the Cyber Ninjas fired their chief accountant, Ken Bennett, director for oversight of Arizona recount, for announcing that they found no substantive fraud. Have we now become so convoluted that, we not only reject election out comes, legitimate recounts, and litigated outcomes, but also think the clown show can go on ad-infinitum?

I wonder how many of you Facebook fans, are buying into the rational that it is necessary for the states to pass legislation to address a problem that there is clearly no evidence, even exists. Most of the posts I read indicate the issue to be voter ID. I am hoping most people realize that it does not require 83 to 95

Political maneuvering

To the Editor:
Remember on June 2, 2020, when the Antichrists and BLM were besieging the White House in Washington, D.C. They were climbing the gates and firing missiles at the White House security. It was reported that the threat was so great that our President, Donald Trump, was moved into secure quarters. You remember this because the CNN and Washington Post says he was a coward for doing this. The siege was only broken up when security forces used tear gas to disperse the rioters.

Now look at Jan. 6, 2021, when the peaceful demonstrators were at the Capital to voice their displeasure with the stolen election. We see a different process. Instead of a well-trained security force, we see a political maneuver instead. The Democrats realized instead of using tear gas or crowd control measures to break it up, they realized they had an opportunity. They told the security forces to let the crowd in. They would paint this as an armed breach. The Senators were huddled in there chambers out of fear of an unarmed mob. CNN and the Post showed them as hero’s as they hid from an unarmed crowd. Far different then they portrayed Trump. The only ones with guns were the secret service and the only person shot an unarmed demonstrator. What is the end game from this show? It gave the Democrats the authority to go after the Trump base with the power of the judicial system. They can now hunt down and use the FBI as a political police force. It also neutered the Republican Senators and gave the Progressive Democrats the power to jam their agenda thru. You see this is how the career politicians in the swamp work. They are Machiavellian in nature. It is their political view to support any means necessary to obtain and maintain political power. They use and twist the system to gain the power and advantage. We see exactly this now with Pelosi. She is making a sham commission with only her handpicked members. It’s clear that the purpose of

approved by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, and it announced, approved that we are to be a free and independent states, “that is until now,” the Biden Administration wants to make us come under a Socialist Government, governed by the government, “and” we the people must not let that happen, we must not let this administration take away our freedom, our voice, our votes, our choice as to who we will allow to represent us, Americans, this Country America. God bless us all!

ROLAND BLAIS
BROOKFIELD

pages to thoroughly address this.

Even setting aside the gerrymandering, closing of polling places, removal of drop boxes, and making handing food or water to people, who now must traverse lines, that even a Disney park would consider ludicrous, inviting bodybuilder “poll watchers” to mill about, and then have the unmitigated gall, to say if any fraud is detected on either side, you are allowed to ignore voters and let the state legislature decide which electors to select. This was the plan on Jan. 6, and is being codified in as many states as they can. It also appears, they get to secure the ballots and count them in their garage, assuring the outcome without the need to be so obvious.

This provision and many others, that were enacted by the founders to make sure that the population actually being in charge is just illusion, have outlived all logic of justice. This includes the electoral college, that now elects the vote loser, presidents pardoning their posse, not having term limits on everyone top down- congress, courts included,, the gerrymander and the filibuster, both defeating majority rule.

I am on record as saying “Nothing is Too Good for the American people,” and it appears that the best government that money can buy is still delivering just that. If you are content with our credit card being maxed out paying interest for the money we have wasted on wars and funding a thriving military industrial complex, but have no desire to fix our infrastructure, voting laws or healthcare, boy have I got a party for you. Will we ever learn?

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD

Is Roth IRA
better for
young workers?

If you’re in the early stages of your career, you’re probably not thinking much about retirement. Nonetheless, it’s never too soon to start preparing for it, as time may be your most valuable asset. So, you may want to consider retirement savings vehicles, one of which is an IRA. Depending on your income, you might have the choice between a traditional IRA and a Roth IRA. Which is better for you?



FINANCIAL
FOCUS
**JEFF
BURDICK**

There’s no one correct answer for everyone. But the more you know about the two IRAs, the more confident you’ll be when choosing one.

First of all, the IRAs share some similarities. You can fund either one with many types of investments – stocks, bonds, mutual funds and so on. And the contribution limit is also the same – you can put in up to \$6,000 a year. (Those older than 50 can put in an additional \$1,000.) If you earn over a certain amount, though, your ability to contribute to a Roth IRA is reduced. In 2021, you can put in the full \$6,000 if your modified adjusted gross income (MAGI) is less than \$125,000 and you’re single, or \$198,000 if you’re married and file jointly. The amount you can contribute gradually declines, and is eventually limited, at higher income levels.

But the two IRAs differ greatly in how they are taxed. Traditional IRA contributions are typically tax-deductible (subject to income limitations), and any earnings growth is tax-deferred, with taxes due when you take withdrawals. With a Roth IRA, though, your contributions are never tax-deductible – instead, you contribute after-tax dollars. Any earnings growth is tax-free when withdrawn, provided you’ve had your account at least five years and you don’t take withdrawals until you’re at least 59 and a half.

So, which IRA should you choose? You’ll have to weigh the respective benefits of both types. But when you’re young, you may have particularly compelling reasons to choose a Roth IRA. Given that you’re at an early point in your career, you may be in a lower tax bracket now than you will be during retirement, making the tax-deduction of traditional IRA contributions less beneficial. So, it may make sense to contribute to a Roth IRA now and take tax-free withdrawals when you’re retired.

Also, a Roth IRA offers more flexibility. With a traditional IRA, you could face an early withdrawal penalty, in addition to taxes, if you take money out before you’re 59 and a half. But with a Roth, you’ll face no penalty on withdrawals from the money you contributed (not your earnings), and you’ve already paid the taxes, so you could use the money for any purpose, such as making a down payment on a home. Nonetheless, you may still want to be cautious about tapping into your IRA for your spending needs before you retire, since IRAs are designed to provide retirement income.

If your income level permits you to select a Roth or traditional IRA, you may want to consult with your tax advisor for help in making your choice. But in any case, try to max out on your IRA contributions each year. You could spend two or three decades in retirement – and your IRA can be a valuable resource to help you enjoy those years.

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.

EDITORIAL

continued from page **A8**

Chaney, Jr. is the 1985 film “Teen Wolf” starring Michael J. Fox. If you haven’t seen it, you might want to pull it from the dusty archives during the next full moon for a celebratory showing. For those with prefer straight-up horror, we also recommend “The Howling,” “Wolfen,” and of course, “An American Werewolf in London” (but make sure you’ve sent the little pups to bed first!).



MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Responding to public school indoctrination campaigns

To the Editor:
Last week, with a few well-chosen remarks, I commented on the political assassination of the unarmed, female veteran, Ashli Babbitt, on Jan. 6, and its apparent approval by local leftist apologists for the fascist regime currently running things in Washington, D.C.

I also mentioned I intended to continue to hold forth on the subject—receiving increasing attention in this area as well as across the country—of the political, racial, and sexual indoctrination of students as young as kindergarten in the generally poorly performing schools which eat up the preponderance of property taxes paid in these area towns. I direct my comments to the parents of these children. In the future, I would like to address teachers as well as the students who are my main concern having spent thirty years of my life working with them.

To the parents (especially in North Brookfield, where at least some resistance is currently taking shape): If you aren't aware of what is going on—and has been going on for some time now—with regard to what is being taught in your schools to your kids, it's time to wake up, pull the covers back, and get involved in trying to save your children. I can't use my space here to explain in detail what Critical Race Theory is—or what the repulsive sex-ed curriculum contains—that's up to you to do your own research. When you do, and you discover just how appallingly divisive, dishonest and disingenuous these "Theories" are, you'll know you cannot stand by and just let this happen.

Simply said, if you love those of your own flesh and blood, you will need to do this: get involved, ask questions, talk to those in your town(s) who do know what is happening, and then act. If you're not shocked and repulsed by what you learn, then remain in the darkness of your comfort zone, go on your way, and entrust your most precious belongings to those who lust to shape and mold them to fit the needs of their coming and glorious New World Order.

If, however, you're awake and well-informed as to the present crisis for you, your kids, their school, and our country, here are some suggestions from a tired old man and veteran school teacher from a day not so long ago when teaching—unlike today—was considered a noble and proud occupation. They (progressives, communists, and, yes, Democrats) have declared war on you, your children, and your once-free coun-

try. You can either roll over, expose the belly, and die...or you can fight back.

Among other things, parents should be attending school committee meetings and demanding to know exactly what is being taught. The curriculum must be open to review by parents, all of it, and with no excuses as to why this can't be done. It is a foregone conclusion the administration will deny that there is anything like CRT or a crazy sex-ed program being implemented. Don't believe it. Do not accept rudeness, condescension, or disrespect from these, your elected public servants and their hirelings. They answer to you, and not the other way around.

If I were involved in a confrontation over curriculum and instruction with uncooperative school officials whose salaries I pay, I would demand that cameras and microphones be utilized in every classroom to record what goes on. It can be done; they were proud to present "lessons" via "Zoom" during the Great Panic of 2019-2020, until, that is, they realized parents and other observers were watching and noticing what was being taught. "Educators," today, are almost all liberals—who else could possibly tolerate doing what they now must do to keep their job? Liberals are all for police officers, corrections officials, court officers, etc. having every word that comes out of their mouths, every gesture, every action observed and recorded via camera and microphone for future use when it comes time to railroad one of them. Are the comments and actions of a classroom teacher any less important than those who work in public safety? Absolutely not, not these days. Sauce for the goose, sauce for the gander.

Parents, when you find your kid is being exposed to the amalgam of lies, overt anti-white racism and resentment, invented and distorted history, and poisonous anti-American propaganda which are the main ingredients of this toxic stew called Critical Race Theory, you must rise up and resist. You have to challenge the teacher, the principal, the superintendent, and, the court of last resort, the school committee. You, and your allies, need to be the last people the above mentioned want to see coming into the school or to meetings of the committee. You pay their generous salaries and benefits—or give them your vote—and you have to insist they listen respectfully to you and explain how they are going to make things right.

Teachers, enough of the lies, obfuscation, and evasiveness. Set aside your preoccupation with everything being

about race and so-called "social justice." Teach the kids valid academic subject matter, and leave the questions of race and prepubescent sexual matters to the parents. Maybe, as a result, you might be able to produce some math and reading scores that aren't an embarrassment to you and your school district, and, possibly, 20 percent of the students who live in your town won't have to opt out to other programs to get their education as they are currently obliged to do.

Parents, they're your children, not theirs, not the State's. Stand up to them, and say, not with our kids, you don't. Thomas Jefferson commented to Abigail Adams, "...a little rebellion now and then is a good thing..." It's past time for a little rebellion from hard-pressed American parents, a parental "insurrection" if you will.

If this nascent movement afoot in your town of North Brookfield to recall the elected chairperson of the school committee gets off the ground, for goodness' sake, join it. This is war, they—the liberals—declared it when they arbitrarily terminated your school's teams' nicknames with casual disregard for the wishes of a clear majority of the town's residents, and they are pressing their advantage now to force their radical leftist view of America, Christianity, white people, free enterprise, and all the rest of it down your throats. In a war, those attacked must fight back...or run up the white flag of surrender. This is do or die time, parents—never give up: never, never, never...never!

If you get nowhere with them, vote down every school budget request they present to the town. Picket the schools. Look into home schooling. Encourage your kids who are old enough to do so to do what Obama told his followers to do: "I want you to get in their faces (his opponents) and argue with them." Junior and senior high school kids who bother to do some research on their own or with your help can, I assure you, give a good account of themselves in a classroom debate, especially with teachers who are simply mouthing the talking points of their NEA or MTA unions. The natural milieu of a teenager is one of rebellion; encourage your kid(s) to be the James Dean of his/her generation: be a rebel WITH a cause! Challenge these teachers, demand to know how and in what way America has ever failed them, and why—if the country and its people are so bad—are they still here, and, more importantly, why are millions from around the world risking their lives in their

attempts to get here to this wicked, racist, exploitative disgrace of a country?

You can write a letter to this newspaper explaining what has been your experience with your schools with regard to these issues. You can help create on-line or hard copy "Committees of Correspondence" (as the Patriots did in New England 250 years ago) to keep others in town and the area apprised of the latest news regarding the schools. They did it for liberty, you people young enough to have a future may have to do it for survival.

It was not hyperbole last night in Phoenix when President Trump correctly asserted there are very powerful forces in control right now who want to turn this country into a Communist dictatorship. As sad and difficult as it is for me to believe that, I have to agree with his somber assessment. The Communists in the teachers' unions and in the colleges and universities are running things right now. If their stranglehold on the education of 90 percent of America's youth cannot be broken, then stand by, the game is pretty much up. We cannot even imagine the retribution they have planned for those who have opposed their grand design to control every aspect of your—and your kids'—lives.

You need to resist with all your strength of body and mind every attempt to destroy your child's innocence, his/her natural affection for family and friends, their confidence and pride in their heritage, and their sense of security in being a citizen of a—at least for a while longer—free country.

We have a phenomenal country—the best ever—with an illustrious—if flawed—history. We owe it to those who have gone on before and who devoted their lives to making this a truly great and unique place to do our best. Lincoln, on his visit to the cemetery at Gettysburg on Nov. 22, 1863, remarked that we must "...highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain..." No one is asking you to charge a cannon, or defend an overrun position, simply to stand up for your kids, not just in these little towns, but in towns or cities all across the land. Don't let the lights go out for America and its future generations.

Courage, patriots!

JOHN McRAE
EAST BROOKFIELD

The closing days of summer

July is almost gone, and with four weeks left in August, summer is quickly coming to an end. Fishing on all fronts will be fantastic as the waters cool and fish become a lot more active. Hopefully, strong storms like they are having out West will not materialize in the Northeast. With Covid on the rise again & with different variants, another winter like last year would be hard to deal with on all fronts. Vaccines are still available and residents that have not received their shots of the vaccine for covid, need to step up to the plate and receive them ASAP.

While fishing on the Westport River last week we observed numerous osprey diving into the water to catch a meal. It is amazing how the huge birds can soar more than a few hundred feet in the sky and spot a potential meal. The force that they hit the water to grab their prey is also amazing. A few weeks ago, while fishing the Providence River, my brother and I were live lining porgies. Normally, when a porgy comes to the surface while fishing, it is a sign that a fish is chasing it and a strike is imminent.

Suddenly, from above, a large osprey spotted the floundering porgy on my line, and within a second, he had the live porgies in his grasp, and was flying away with it. I found myself reeling in an osprey from above. I gave the



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

rod a good hard tug and the osprey dropped the fish. I quickly reeled in the live porgy, that was not in good shape, after being held with the osprey's talons. My brother Ken and I had a good laugh, and moved to another location to fish away from the

osprey. Fortunately, the large bird did not become entangled in the line, or have the hook become imbedded in his feet. Cutting the line would not have been an option, as the bird could become entangled in the line at a later time.

Update! The Port-o-Potty at Westport boat ramp has been brought up to healthy standards, and will hopefully stay that way. It also put all towns on notice that manage boat ramps for the state, that their portable restrooms need to be kept clean for their residents and guests. Enough for that subject!

Bear sightings are becoming more frequent in the valley area! Local residents need to be aware of the sightings, but do not need to be too concerned about their presence. Keeping rubbish and bird seed under cover, so that they are not attracted to it, should keep them moving out of your area. Many people love to see the bears in their area, but need to keep a safe distance from them. All zones in Mass. now have hunting seasons for bear. You need to check the Mass. Hunting abstracts for

dates and zones that you plan to hunt. A bear hunting permit is also required.

Saltwater fishing has been good for some anglers, and frustrating for others. One local angler took a trip to Block Island this past week and caught a couple of stripers that were either too big or too small because of the slot limit. He tried bottom fishing and could only catch a few undersize fluke. He traveled from one side of the Island to the other. Fished around the windmills and numerous other spots that often yielded a few fish for the dinner table.

When all was said & done, they headed back to the boat ramp. He told me he had put 60 miles on his boat that one trip when he had returned back to the boat ramp. He did retain a couple of fish that yielded him one and a half pounds of fish. It figured out to cost the two anglers close to \$100 per pound. Constant fishing by draggers in the areas, sure had him frustrated. Seabass fishing on the Cape is still yielding some nice fish, but this past week had anglers catching a lot of shorts. I know I was there! One local angler from Douglas was Jig fishing for seabass and managed to catch his limit, but he also had a hard time catching his limit of five legal-size fish. Large scaup were also caught. Every day is different. That is why they call it fishing and not catching!

Hanging around a couple of Bait & Tackle Shops in the area, sure gives this writer a wealth of information. While I was sitting at one shop, a customer



Photo Courtesy

This week's picture shows an angler at the Quabbin Reservoir with a 19-pound lake trout.

received a call from an angler that was tuna fishing a number of miles off of Block Island this past Sunday. He was battling a giant tuna that was hooked up almost two hours. Just listening to the angler had my back aching! I do not know if the angler landed the huge tuna, but anglers have already had a great tuna fishing season.

This week's picture shows an angler at the Quabbin Reservoir with a 19-pound lake trout. Nice fish!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Memories my father gave me

BY TOBY MOORE

As Gary Moore's son, I had a unique vantage point to get to know my father in a way that almost nobody else could. He was a fantastic father!

I observed how he treated his family, close friends, distant friends, business associates, and strangers. He treated everybody with respect.

As a boy, I sat in his office, playing with toys, listening to his phone calls, and watching how he conducted his meetings. He was filled with enthusiasm.

He was at almost all of my Karate tournaments, soccer

games, and swim meets. When I failed, he brought me up. When I succeeded, it was a celebration. He was a source of constant encouragement.

Every day, he said to me, "Toby, you can do anything you want in this world and be successful, as long as you don't hurt others in the process." I usually rolled my eyes, "I know, dad," sometimes taking for granted that I had a father who believed in me.

I watched as he crawled his way from the bottom to the top of one business and then did it again with another. I watched him succeed, and I watched

him fail; I observed how he dealt with it all. I didn't always understand, but the memories remain, and upon reflection; I couldn't have asked for a better role model.

The phrase "practice what you preach," goes back thousands of years. The Roman playwright Plautus said, "Practice yourself what you preach." I can say with complete confidence my father practiced what he preached. Did he have his failings? We all do, but even in his failings, he was quick to get back on track.

How was he able to do this? Was it because he listened to

Zig Ziglar, Tony Robbins, Jim Rohn, and other motivational speakers? Was it because of the hundreds of books he studied on human excellence? Was it his belief in what Jesus taught in the gospels?

Actions speak louder than words, and you can usually tell what somebody believes by their actions. My father's actions displayed precisely what he believed.

When I was a child, there was a mother and her son who rode their bikes by the office every day. There was a barbershop next door, and one day the mother took her

son for a haircut. When finished, they walked out to find the boy's bike was stolen. With tears in their eyes, the mother explained to my dad that she didn't have money to buy him a new bike. My father was struggling financially during those days, but still, he bought her son a new bike the very next day. He and his mother were overjoyed from this act of kindness.

My father had hundreds of employees throughout the years. Every once in a while, he'd catch one of his employ-

Readers Share Favorite Tips and Tricks

As summer peaks and life becomes busier this time of year, finding ways to make life a little easier is especially appreciated! From timely tips to cleaning strategies, the following submissions from readers are sure to save you time and money this season!

A backyard gardener takes recycling to the next level with this ingenious tip!

I found the hot sleeve on my morning coffee cup is useful for more than just protecting my hand. I have a lot of collard greens growing in my garden. One issue I have come across while growing collards is the cutworms – they emerge from the soil and eat through the stems of the plant. I used to wrap the stems of my collard plants with newspaper to prevent cutworms from killing my plants, but I discovered the sleeve from my morning coffee cup is a perfect size and material for the task. When young plants have just begun to sprout, simply stick the coffee sleeve into the dirt encompassing the base of the plant, pushing it one or two inches down into the soil. For mature plants, detach the seam of the coffee sleeve and wrap it around a cluster of stems, reattach at the seam again, and push the sleeve down 1-2 inches into soil. This can also be done with tomato plants.

Kevin Turner
Whitinsville, MA

This busy mother offered the following trio of tried and true tips:

For a quick breakfast I use Birchbenders (just add water) non GMO pancake mix and use a tablespoon to make lots of little quarter size pancakes. I use coconut oil to give them a cake flavor and portion a bunch of snack bags with five or six in each. I keep them in the refrigerator and the kids just grab a bag and eat them cold without syrup or you can heat them up and offer a little ramekin of syrup or honey for dipping.

I always keep a bag of dollar tree party balloons on hand. My kids constantly get their hats wet all summer. The trick I use to keep the hat shape is to blow up a balloon into a wet hat and let it dry.

Window cleaning is a pain, so I made my husband do it and could not believe his method!

He used one of those garden gallon containers with pump hose spray handle and filled it with water, a cup of vinegar and 2 Tbs. of Dawn dish detergent. He opened the screens and just power washed all the dirt right off of the window! They looked new!

Laurie Sutherland
Charlton, MA

Instead of stockpiling your freezer with overripe ripe bananas for banana bread, try this reader's easy, yet effective trick to keep the fruit fresher longer:

If you want to keep bananas from ripening too soon, simply wrap stem with aluminum foil.

Sandra Pratt
Brookfield, MA

This super simple kitchen tip solves a common culinary challenge:

For a quick way to separate hot fat from the broth, pour it in a paper or foam cup and pierce the side of the cup with a sharp point near the bottom. Drain the liquid into a pan until you see the fat come out then tip the cup back to stop the flow.

Paul Davignon
Uxbridge, MA

This trick eliminates the dirty work when it comes to the most dreaded household chore:



TAKE THE HINT

KAREN
TRAINOR

remove stains from the bowl with no harsh chemicals or smell.

MC
Sturbridge, MA

A longtime loyal reader shares her strategy to save the spices!

Many spices are affected by humidity and are so expensive. Just put them in a baggie and store in the freezer – they stay perfect!

Always learning and still loving cooking and baking at 86!

Claire Horvath
Sturbridge MA

Opening hard plastic (clamshell) packaging can cause cuts as well as frustration! Thankfully, this reader found a better (and safer) solution:

Rather than struggling with scissors you can safely open a plastic clamshell package by using a can opener the same way you use it on a can.

Donna Lewandowski
Charlton, MA

This reader's tip for drying sneakers not only prevents tangling laces, but keeps shoes in tip top shape:

If you dry sneakers in the dryer, you know that laces can come untied and tangled despite your best efforts. Even if you remove the laces, they still get twisted. In addition, the shoes get banged around as the dryer turns. This method solves both problems:

Keep laces in the shoes and tie laces

together at the top and hang sneakers in the inside door of the dryer. Leave the knot outside the door and close. The sneakers will dry from the heat of the dryer, yet will not tumble. Problem solved!

Lois O'Leary
Brookfield, MA

Prize Winner

Congratulations to Donna Lewandowski of Charlton, whose name was drawn for the three course Dinner for Two at the Public House!

She offered the safe and simple trick above for opening clamshell plastic packaging.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House – Contest has resumed!

Your tips can win you a great three course 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 renowned 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 email KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.

Antiques, collectibles and estates profile: Kris Casucci



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES

WAYNE
TUISKULA

This week's column will focus on a local antique dealer. Kris Casucci of Brookfield, Mass. runs an antique shop, an auction house, antique shows and antique tailgate shows. She also sets up at antique shows in the Midwest and Mid-Atlantic states. Somehow, she still finds time to garden in her spare time.

Along with her husband Paul, Ms. Casucci ran successful antiques tailgate shows at the Walker Homestead in Brookfield, Mass. The pandemic led them to move the tailgate shows to New Hampshire. Their Flying Pig Antiques group shop and Flying Pig Auctions were already located in Westmoreland, New Hampshire, about 20 minutes from Keene, New Hampshire and Bellows Falls, Vt.

In a recent phone interview, Casucci traced her love

of antiques back to her youth. Growing up in her parents' mid-century home, she was surrounded by antiques that had been passed down through her family. In 2008 or 2009, she made a career change from her real estate title examiner job and opened an antique shop. Casucci said that she has a passion for antiques and the personalities of each item. She specializes in country and primitive antiques with stoneware as one area of focus.

Like all types of antiques, the country and primitive antiques market is always changing. Casucci said that "Simple Life" magazine was popular with her customers. She would see items in "Simple Life" and know that her customers would be looking for those items. "Simple Life" went out of publication and things are less predictable now, but she did note several recent trends. She finds customers have "a greater interest in early stoneware." Her businesses sell a lot of painted furniture and she told me that "blue seems to be making a comeback." She also noted that shaved brooms (from the 18th and early 19th centuries) have been selling well, with some bringing over \$1,000.

Casucci had some good advice for collectors, suggesting that "they buy what they love," adding that "someone else is going to like it too." She also offered helpful perspective when looking for items saying collectors should look for "something that makes that piece more special than the one next to it."

Beginning with her own grandchildren, Casucci finds time to help young people who are interested in antiques. She believes it's important to "encourage each child that's in your life to appreciate old things." She added, "I think it is really important, especially in this technical age where everything is instantaneous." Casucci also helps mentor young people who are interested in antiques. For example, she and her husband have been helping a young man who is about 20 who has been picking since he was 12 to pursue his interest in antiques.

Casucci's next antiques and primitive goods show will take place at the Walker Homestead on Sept. 25. You can see the 1698 estate and you could even find that special piece that will be perfect for your home.

We have three upcoming



auctions. We'll be auctioning a 1962 Corvette, two 1950s Corvette project cars, boat motors and other memorabilia. We will also be running a sports card & memorabilia auction as well as a model railroad and die-cast car auction. I'll be appraising items at the John B. Gough House in Boylston, Mass. on Saturday, Aug. 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Later this year, I'll be virtually appraising items on Nov. 13 for the Townsend Historical Society. My "Evaluating your

Antiques" class will take place at Bay Path Evening School in Charlton on Wednesday, Nov. 10. Please visit our Web site for more details on upcoming events: <https://centralmassauctions.com>

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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GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

Blueberries are a summer favorite, great for snacking, baking, topping your oatmeal and so much more. This nutritious fruit also adds a bit of brain power to your diet and beauty to your landscape with spring blooms, fall color, and of course tasty and colorful fruit.

Blueberries are one of the most nutritional foods loaded with antioxidants that fight cancer, disease, and the effects of aging while helping preserve your eyesight. Boost the benefits by growing your own blueberries. The act of gardening helps strengthen our muscles, increase flexibility, fights stress and boosts our mood.

Do a bit of research to find the best blueberry for your garden and dining pleasure. Planning ahead prepares you for placing your order when you are ready to plant. Anxious gardeners can put their research to work immediately. Blueberry plants are still available from some nurseries for those who are ready to plant now.

Select the blueberry plants suited to your growing conditions. Northern highbush blueberries are productive and suited to moderate climates with at least two months of temperatures below 40 degrees Fahrenheit. Southern highbush blueberries only need 200-300 hours of 32-45 degrees Fahrenheit in



Photo Melinda Myers

Blueberries are one of the most nutritious foods with antioxidants that fight cancer, disease, and the effects of aging.

winter to produce fruit. This makes them a good choice for those gardening in milder climates. Lowbush blueberries are low-growing varieties native to Northeastern United States. Half-high blueberries are a cross between low and high bush blueberries, tolerating -35 to -45 degrees Fahrenheit, making them a good option for colder climates. Rabbit-eye blueberries are large shrubs and suited to areas with long, hot summers and mild winters.

Newer compact varieties allow small space gardeners, apartment dwellers and those with less-than-ideal soil the opportunity to grow their own blueberries. These smaller plants are suitable for containers as well as the garden. In addition to their compact size and tasty fruit, several have attractive foliage, adding to their ornamental appeal. The Leaves of Pink Icing variety is a mix of pink, blue and deep green. Boxwood enthusiasts will enjoy the foliage and dark blue fruit of Blueberry Buckle. And for those who cannot get enough fruit, check out Perpetua that produces two crops a year.

Find a sunny, well-drained location where your plants will thrive, produce

a bountiful harvest and you can enjoy their beauty. Although most blueberries are self-fertile (you only need one plant to produce fruit), you'll get better results when growing several in your landscape or containers. Consider including several varieties with different ripening dates to extend the harvest season.

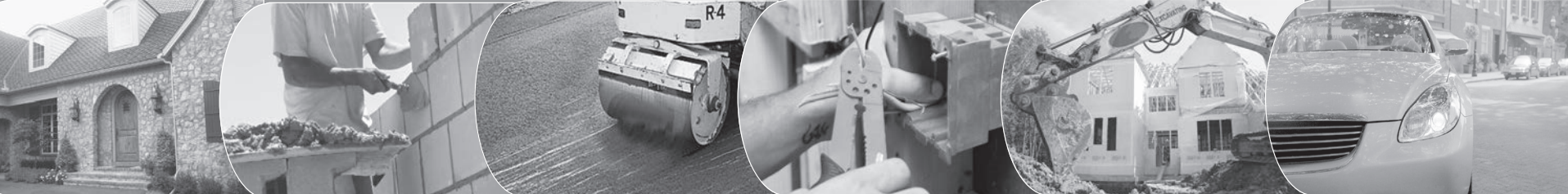
Blueberries are particular about their growing conditions. They prefer moist, well-drained and acidic soils. Properly prepare the soil by adding organic matter like compost, aged manure, or peat to the planting bed. Or grow your blueberries in a container filled with quality potting mix. Water in-ground and container plantings often enough to keep the soil moist. Mulch the soil with shredded leaves, evergreen needles, or shredded bark to keep the roots cool and moist and add organic matter to the soil as the mulch breaks down.

And don't forget to protect your harvest from hungry birds. Cover plantings with netting or try scare tactics to keep the birds and other wildlife from devouring your harvest.

Once you harvest your first ripe blueberry, you will discover there is nothing better than the flavor and satisfaction of consuming something you grew yourself.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener's Handbook and Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment program. Myers' Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

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DELAGE
continued from page A1

graves at Christmastime, when suddenly he hears a raspy voice whispering in his ear...

And Delage managed to create the setting and illuminate thematic elements without exceeding 100 words. He was stunned and thrilled to learn he had won the contest.

“When I found out, I was in total shock because I had no clue I had just become an award-winning author,” Delage said of winning the contest. “I have been writing since I was in fifth grade. However, I have really grown into it this past year because of my teacher, Ms. Ferdella, who introduced me to poetry which I really like to write.”

Delage also enjoys writing horror and mystery. He told the New Leader he wasn’t ini-

tially planning to incorporate the Christmas season into his story for the contest, but he just so happened to begin writing the story during the holidays. Hearing Christmas music while writing horror gave him the idea of uniting the unlikely partners in a story.

“I was able to notice how it would be very ironic if I was able to write a horror story around the happiest time of the year,” said Delage, who took about a month to write and fully edit his work.

The LMS staff was excited to join Delage in celebrating his accomplishment. His work was published along with other impressive submissions compiled by Young Writers, an organization established in 1991 to encourage young people to enjoy reading, writing, and creative writing.

“Dylan is an amazing person,” said LMS Principal Christopher

Fontaine. “He excels in so many areas – academics, athletics, community service – and we are so glad he’s getting national recognition for his writing.”

LMS English-Language Arts teacher Kim Ferdella presented her students with the contest earlier this year. After learning that Delage had won the contest, she coordinated with his parents, friends, and the LMS administrative team to surprise him with a trophy.

“I distinctly remember reading Dylan’s mini-saga and thinking that his word choice was so interesting, and then I got to the end and had that Oh-Wow moment,” Ferdella said. “He worked hard on his revisions and it clearly paid off. Creative writing is such an important component of critical thinking – it’s a developmental stepping stone to becoming analytical thinkers and writers.”

LMS Assistant Principal Beth

Johnson pointed out how difficult it can be to write shorter pieces. With a limit of only 100 words to use in the story, every single word becomes critical.

“Kids typically think that shorter is easier when it comes to writing. But writing a story of just 100 words is incredibly challenging – word choice is everything,” Johnson said. “Dylan’s writing is full of imagery, and his ending has such a cool twist. Dylan’s cleverly chosen words lead the reader to understand what has happened to the narrator without him ever directly saying what has happened. It’s brilliant. We couldn’t be prouder of him.”

You can read Dylan’s story by visiting www.youngwriter-susa.com/contests/trapped/winners.

Delage will attend Leicester High School in the fall, where he plans to continue honing his writing skills. He was twice pre-

viously published through the Young Writers program, but winning a contest has been the greatest thrill yet.

“It is awesome to be published through this program. But then to find out that your story beat over 3,000 other kids nationwide is amazing,” Delage said.

Looking ahead, Delage hopes to create more works that inspire and entertain audiences.

“I would love to create my own book,” Delage said. “I really would love to help children enjoy reading books.”

Delage thanked everyone who provided support as he wrote his story, including his editors Kayla Bouchard, Coddan Nguyen, and Ms. Ferdella. He also thanked Principal Fontaine and Vice Principal Johnson for their support throughout the process, and for helping to set up the surprise celebration.

LEGALS

**TOWN OF BROOKFIELD
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
6 Central St.
Brookfield, MA 01506**

July 13, 2021To: Stonebridge Press, Legal Ad DepartmentPlease publish the following legal ad on July 23 and July 30, 2021The Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing beginning at 6:05 p.m., Tuesday, August 17 at the Brookfield Town Hall located at 6 Central Street. The purpose of the hearing is to consider a request from Edward Anderson to add a garage to his home located at 1 Salmon Brook Road. This requires a variance as per Section 7) Dimensional Requirements, sub-section C) Dimensional Regulation Table, of the Zoning By-Law for the Town of Brookfield. The building and lot are non-conforming, approved under the definitive subdivision rules, and are located in the Rural Residential District.

Timothy Simon – ZBA Chairman
July 23, 2021
July 30, 2021

**Notice of Public Hearing
Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals**

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Variance – Applicant/ Owner: Scott & Grace Conner; Location: 7 Brewer Lane, Spencer Assessor’s Map U29-107. The applicant is looking for a variance under Section 5.2.6 (Detached Accessory Structure) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to erect a 600 sqft accessory structure on a pre-existing non-conforming vacant lot and reduce roadway setback on south boundary line. The property is located in the Rural Residential zoning district.

July 23, 2021
July 30, 2021

**Notice of Public Hearing
Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals**

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Appeal of Building Decision regarding Accessory Structure – Applicant: Jose Vasquez/ Ambassador Pools; Owner: Victor Apostolou; Location: 203 Paxton Road, Spencer Assessor’s Map R46-14. The applicant is requesting relief from a building permit denial by the Building Inspector for a pool installed that violates the required setbacks. The property is located within the rural residential zoning district.

July 23, 2021
July 30, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21P2357EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Henry W. Gifford, Jr.
Also known as:
Henry W. Gifford
Date of Death: 04/18/2021**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Ellen L. Stetson of Newfane VT** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Ellen L. Stetson of Newfane VT** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/24/2021.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 19, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
July 30, 2021

PUBLIC NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Wetlands Protection Act, the North Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, August 10, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.** at the North Brookfield Board of Health office, 215 No. Main St., No. Brookfield for NOI and associated activities at 7 Point Road North Brookfield, MA. Any person interested in this matter is invited to attend the hearing.

July 30, 2021

**F.C.A. §§ 617;
CPLR 315, 316 GF30 12/1997**

**FAMILY COURT OF THE STATE
OF NEW YORK COUNTY OF
RENSSELAER**

File# 39063

Docket#: V-00108-21/21A

**SUMMONS
(Publication)**

In the Matter of a
Custody/Visitation Proceeding
Lucimar Puerari,
Petitioner
- against -
**Roberio Marcos
de Almeida Oliveira,**
Respondent

IN THE NAME OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK

To: Roberio Marcos de Almeida Oliveira
132 Charlton Road
retumed mail 2/11/21
Spencer, MA 01562

A petition under Article 6 of the Family Court Act having been filed with this Court requesting the following relief: Modification of Order of Custody; YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to appear VIRTUALLY before this Court on

Date/Time: September 22, 2021 at 9:30 AM
Purpose: Service
Part: VIII
Floor/Room:
Presiding: Hon. Jill Kehn
Location: MICROSOFT TEAMS

to answer the petition and to be dealt with in accordance with Article 6 of the Family Court Act.

On your failure to appear VIRTUALLY

as herein directed, a warrant may be issued for your arrest.

Dated: July 22, 2021
Barbara D Cottrell Esq., Chief Clerk
TO THE ABOVE-NAMED
RESPONDENT: The foregoing summons is served upon you by publication pursuant to an Order of the Hon. Jill Kehn of the Family Court, Rensselaer County, dated and filed with the petition and other papers in the Office of the Clerk of the Family Court, Rensselaer County.
July 30, 2021

**NOTICE OF
MORTGAGEE’S SALE
OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **Terri A. Wilkin** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Fairway Independent Mortgage Corporation dated October 26, 2018, recorded at the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 59599, Page 174; said mortgage was then assigned to Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency by virtue of an assignment dated January 17, 2020, and recorded in Book 61856, Page 397, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **PUBLIC AUCTION** at 10:00 AM on **August 26, 2021**, on the mortgaged premises. This property has the address of 135 Howe Street, East Brookfield, MA 01515. The entire mortgaged premises, all and singular, the premises as described in said mortgage:

The land known and designated as 135 Howe Street, East Brookfield, Massachusetts, situated on the north-easterly side of Howe Street, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the southwesterly corner thereof, in the northeasterly line of Howe Street, at land now of formerly of Fremont N. Turgeon; Thence N. 69° 25’ E. on a wall by said Turgeon land 50 feet to an iron pin at land of Ryo R. Meader et ux; Thence N. 36° 50’ W. by said Meader land 100 feet to an iron pin; Thence S. 69° 25’ W. by said Meader land 150 feet to the northeasterly line of Howe Street; Thence southeasterly by the north-easterly line of Howe Street 100 feet to the place of beginning. Containing about 15,475 square feet of land. Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagor by deed of John J. Larkham recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds herewith.

Subject to and with the benefit of easements, reservation, restrictions, and taking of record, if any, insofar as the same are now in force and applicable. In the event of any typographical error set forth herein in the legal description of the premises, the description as set forth and contained in the mortgage shall control by reference. Together with all the improvements now or hereafter erected on the property and all easements, rights, appurtenances, rents, royalties, mineral, oil and gas rights and profits, water rights and stock and all fixtures now or hereafter a part of the property. All replacements and additions shall also be covered by this sale.

Terms of Sale: Said premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and assessments, tax sales, tax titles and other municipal liens and water or sewer liens and State or County transfer fees, if any there are, and TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) in cashier’s or certified check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of the sale as a deposit and the balance in cashier’s or certified check will be due in thirty (30) days, at the offices of Doonan, Graves & Longoria, LLC (“DG&L”), time being of the essence. The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale-date by public procla-

mation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The premises is to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, leases, tenancies, and rights of possession, building and zoning laws, encumbrances, condominium liens, if any and all other claim in the nature of liens, if any there be.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by foreclosure deed to the second highest bidder, providing that said second highest bidder shall deposit with the Mortgagee’s attorney, the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein. If the second highest bidder declines to purchase the within described property, the Mortgagee reserves the right to purchase the within described property at the amount bid by the second highest bidder. The foreclosure deed and the consideration paid by the successful bidder shall be held in escrow by DG&L, (hereinafter called the “Escrow Agent”) until the deed shall be released from escrow to the successful bidder at the same time as the consideration is released to the Mortgagee, whereupon all obligations of the Escrow Agent shall be deemed to have been properly fulfilled and the Escrow Agent shall be discharged. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

Dated: July 8, 2021 Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency
By its Attorney DOONAN, GRAVES & LONGORIA, LLC, 100 Cummings Center, Suite 303C, Beverly, MA 01915 (978) 921-2670 www.dgandl.com 56353 (WILKIN)
July 23, 2021
July 30, 2021
August 6, 2021

(SEAL)

**COMMONWEALTH
OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF
THE TRIAL COURT
21 SM 000746
ORDER OF NOTICE**

TO:
Cynthia L. Stevens and Edwin T. Stevens

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. c. 50 §3901 (*et seq*)

U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee of Legacy Mortgage Asset Trust 2020-GS5 claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Spencer numbered 70 Maple Street, given by Cynthia L. Stevens and Edwin T. Stevens to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for New Century Mortgage Corporation, dated February 5, 2007, and recorded in Worcester County Registry of Deeds in Book 40650, Page 100, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant’s/Defendants’ Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before 8/30/2021 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of this Court on 7/14/2021.

Attest: Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
July 30, 2021

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For J.D. Power 2020 award information, visit jdpower.com/awards. ¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 7/31/2021. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Get \$330 off each window and \$725 off each entry/patio door and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 7/4/2021 and 7/31/2021. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky® consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2021 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. ²Values are based on comparison of Renewal by Andersen® double hung window U-Factor to the U-Factor for clear dual pane glass non-metal frame default values from the 2006, 2009, 2012, 2015, and 2018 International Energy Conservation Code "Glazed Fenestration" Default Tables.

OBITUARIES

Richard A. Buzzell, 85

West Brookfield -Richard A. “Richie” Buzzell, 85, passed away at home on Friday, July 23, 2021, after loving care from his wife and Jewish Hospice Home Care, from bladder cancer.

He leaves his devoted wife of nearly 60 years, Catherine R. (Stelmokas) Buzzell; his daughter, Pamela Marquis of Brimfield, and his son, Arnie R. Buzzell of Charlton. He also leaves his grandchildren, Ethan Prentiss, Olivia Prentiss Wilson, and Colin Marquis. He was predeceased by his three brothers, Ralph, Robert, and Roger, and four sisters, Rebecca Tamm, Faye Hissim, Lucia Jones, Ruth Buzzell, and Pauline Deas. He was born in Ware, son of the late Paul G. and Louise H. (Gaylord)

Buzzell.

Richard graduated from Warren High School in 1953. He worked at Valley Motor Sales in Ware for 30 years as an Automotive Repair Technician, and then at Lamoureux Ford in East Brookfield for 17 years before retiring in 2000.

He was a long-time member of the George Whitefield United Methodist Church in West Brookfield.

At his request, funeral services for Rich will be held privately.

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

Robert William Roy, 94

FISKDALE - Robert William Roy 94, husband of the late Helen (Harper) Roy, died July 21, 2021 at Webster Manor.

Robert was born in Spencer, a son to the late William and Clarinda (Racine) Roy. A recipient of the Purple Heart, Robert served his country in the United States Army during two wars, World War II and the Korean Conflict. He retired from Billings Auto Supply, Worcester where he worked in sales and building engines. Following his retirement, Robert

went to work at Sims Cab Company in Rutland, where he was a welding supervisor. He was a member of the American Legion. Besides his wife and parents, Robert was predeceased by his brothers, Henry King of Warren, MA, Donald Roy of Leicester, MA and a sister Emma Robeiro of Warren, MA. He is survived by a step son Denis Miner of East Brookfield; step daughter Sandra Pratt of Brookfield; and several grandchildren. A private burial with military honors will take place. Donations can be made to Second Chance Animal Services Adoption Center, 111 Young Rd., East Brookfield. Pillsbury Funeral Home, 44 Gilbert St., North Brookfield is entrusted with arrangements. Please visit pillsburyfuneralhome.com to express a personal message for the family.

FIRE

continued from page A1

response with an aggressive exterior attack of the blaze, Edwards said. When mutual aid departments arrived, responders continued to knock down the fire from within. The flames were brought under control within 30-45 minutes.

Thanks to the efforts of Officer Jolin, firefighters could focus strictly on extinguishing the blaze. Had Officer Jolin not taken the actions he did, firefighters said they could have faced a challenging rescue effort.

“Officer Jolin went above and beyond. He went in and made sure those people were able to get out unharmed,” Chief

Edwards said.

The house was spared from the blaze because of a fire door separating the garage from the breezeway. Minor smoke and water damage occurred in the breezeway, officials said.

The fire did not breach the house.

The following communities provided mutual aid assistance: North Brookfield, Warren, New Braintree, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Ware, and Oakham.

WBPD officials did not respond to requests for comment by press time.

Photo Courtesy

A West Brookfield garage was heavily damaged after being struck by lightning last week

Therese M. Flamand, 79

SPENCER- Therese M. (Plante) Flamand, 79 of Church Street died Friday, July 23 in her home surrounded by her loving family after an illness.

She leaves her loving and devoted husband of 60 years, Ernest G. Flamand, a son David P. Flamand of Rutland, a daughter Michelle M. Hawes and her husband Scott of Spencer, three grandsons; Brian & Christopher Hawes and Paul Flamand.

Therese was born in Ware, daughter of Leo and Rita (Berthiaume) Plante. She graduated from David Prouty High School. She started her career working at Shawmut Bank and while working there she was approached by Jake Merzigian who offered her a job at Spencer Products. She spent 47 years working at Spencer Products as an office manager before retiring. She was an avid sports fan and had season tickets to the New England Patriots for 30 years. She would tailgate with her husband and son and cook for everyone. She loved to travel and went on several cruises and would take an annual trip

to Las Vegas every September. She and Ernie loved going to Foxwoods Casino and would go as often as they could even up to a month ago. She was a member of Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish and belonged to the Spiritual Life Committee. Ernie has been Therese’s caregiver for the past 8 years as she suffered from Alzheimer’s disease and recently her grandson Christopher who is a registered nurse has been caring for her and the family couldn’t thank either of them enough for their love and support. The family would like to thank the Jewish HealthCare Hospice for their compassion and care.

The funeral was held on Tuesday, July 27 from J. HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer with a Mass at 11:00 AM in Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 7 Church Street. Burial will be private at a later date in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Cemetery, Spencer. Calling hours were held on Monday, July 26 from 5:00-7:00 PM in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Mary, Queen of the Rosary Memorial Fund, 46 Maple Street, Spencer, MA 01562.

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SWAN

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building, volunteers discovered several fascinating details that hark back centuries. These include brick fortifications hidden in the walls that were used to thwart arrow attacks.

Volunteers have also spent the last several months adding to an impressive collection celebrating town history. Artifacts include uniforms and

weapons from Leicester veterans of several wars; antique furniture; art items; and school items. The collection even includes a Vietnam-era bazooka donated by a private collector.

Several other artifacts were donated by residents or private collectors, others assembled from existing town historical archives. Moving forward, residents and local history buffs alike can enjoy all of the artifacts in a convenient, centralized setting.

Over the next several months, volunteers plan to feature various rotations of items and showcases to keep the museum fresh for guests.

“We will be rotating collections for Memorial Day and different occasions,” said J. Donald Lennerton, Jr., the Chairman of the Historical Commission.

For many residents, it’s exciting to see Swan Tavern used to celebrate history after the building bounced between multiple purposes over the decades. These included most recently serving as a temporary home for Leicester Public Library.

Throughout the summer and fall, several fascinating programs are scheduled to take place at Swan Tavern. These include “An Evening with George Washington” (Aug. 16 at 7 p.m.); “Peddling Your Wares” (Sept. 25 at 7 p.m.); “An Evening with Peter Salem” (Oct. 8 at 7 p.m.); and “Songs of the First World War” (Nov. 8 at 7 p.m.). All programs are sponsored by a grant from the Leicester Arts Council, a local agency of the Mass. Cultural Council.

In addition to its function as a museum, the tavern is also rented out for various occasions and private programs.

During free tours coinciding with this summer’s Concerts on the Common, guests have been amazed by the amount of work that has taken place at the tavern. Volunteers took full advantage of the lengthy COVID-19 shutdown, focusing on several renovations while the building was closed to the public.

Meanwhile, items continue to arrive from local collections. The Friends are always interested in acquiring more artifacts and volunteers. Monetary donations are also accepted on an ongoing basis for maintenance projects and heating the building in the winter. No town funding is expended on the building.

To learn more about the tavern, check out the Facebook page for the Friends of Swan Tavern. The building is also open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the second Sunday of each month.

MOORE

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ees stealing. When caught, they were brought into the office for a meeting, and a couple of them cried and begged him for forgiveness. He forgave all of them and usually gave them a second chance. They became his very best and most trustworthy employees.

He performed in the Drum & Bugle Corps as a young man. As an older man, he partnered with a ministry in town and helped to teach dozens of middle school and high school kids how to play. One early morning he received a call from one of the kids who had nowhere else to turn. He was in jail and needed help. My father woke up, drove his car a couple of hours to the other side of Illinois, bailed him out, and brought him back home.

My father truly believed in all the principles he wrote about in this column. He believed in people. He believed in love, peace, kindness, generosity, compassion, mercy, second chances, and the ability for anyone to change. No matter how low somebody sank, he believed they could turn it around and become a shining light in the darkness.



GARY MOORE

Perhaps that’s why his funeral had hundreds of people who came to give their condolences. He impacted the world around him in a positive way. He wanted the best for everyone. His actions will echo into eternity and confidently testify that he practiced what he preached.

Toby Moore is a freelance columnist.

EATS

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meals to the public, and this service continues to this moment,” said SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey. “At the height of the pandemic, we were producing over 2,000 breakfasts and lunches per week, and when we reopened our schoolhouse doors in the fall, that number climbed to over 2,300 meals.”

The SEBRSD’s rollout of the Summer Eats program is under the direction of Food Service Director Brianne Pulver and her team of ServSafe certified providers. The Summer Eats program is currently producing over 300 meals per day (M-F). The program not only serves the communities of Spencer and East Brookfield, but also Charlton as well.

On July 14, Congressman McGovern and Senator Anne Gobi visited the Bixby Road Apartments in town to celebrate the Summer Eats program. They spoke to several local officials and also Project Bread leaders, who have helped combat childhood food insecurity for over 20 years.

At no time in the last two decades have Project Bread officials seen demand this high.

“Food insecurity rose drastically during the pandemic and has yet to decline to pre-pandemic rates,” read a statement released by Project Bread. “Over the last six months, 18.1 percent of households with children were worried about running out of food before having money to get more.”

School officials also continue to work hard to offer assistance to families.

“Food insecurity is a serious concern for many people who were impacted by the pandemic in our surrounding area, and it is an issue that continues to this very day,” added Superintendent Haughey. “We are deeply appreciative of Congressman McGovern’s unwavering support of the Summer Eats program within our regional school district. The fact that he made the time to come to our district demonstrates the importance of this issue and his willingness to go the extra mile for the people he serves.”

The Summer Eats program takes place at a variety of locations throughout the state, including libraries, housing developments, boys’ and girls’ clubs, and others.

“This program leverages community partners and provides food to kids,” said Project Bread CEO Erin McAleer. “We have been doing this tour to raise awareness, because a lot of people don’t even know about it.”

Summer Eats provides meals at more than 1,100 locations statewide. The SEBRSD began serving summer meals for the first time in 2020.

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Celebration Of Life

Paul “Pete” Sagendorph
Sunday, August 8
from 1-5 pm
106 East Road
Warren, MA

Pete passed last year at the beginning of the pandemic

Friends and family are welcome to join us!

POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, JULY 14
12:43 a.m.: DPW call (Maple Street), power line sparking; 1:00-1:53 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:34 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 5:21 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 7:02 a.m.: fraud (Chestnut Street), Medicare scam; 7:58 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 8:34 a.m.: medical/general (Greenville Street); 9:06 a.m.: vandalism (Main Street), dirt bike damage; 9:47 a.m.: vandalism (Ash Street), dirt bike damage; 10:29 a.m.: medical/general (Lyford Road); 10:54 a.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), rec'd odd call; 12:01 p.m.: animal complaint (Crestwood Avenue) missing cat; 12:07 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:07 p.m.: DPW call (Pope Street), info taken; 12:52 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 1:04 p.m.: DPW call (Lake Street), broken window; 2:28 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 2:37 p.m.: suspicious persons (Irving Street), info taken; 4:10 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:12 p.m.: FID issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:14 p.m.: accident (Paxton Road), report taken; 4:45 p.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), referred; 5:07 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), threatening letter rec'd; 5:28 p.m.: medical/general (Fairview Drive); 5:34 p.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info taken; 5:57 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 6:46 p.m.: disturbance (Bureau Road), gunshots heard; 6:59 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), gas drive-off; 7:27 p.m.: medical/general (Parent Street); 7:33 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 7:49 p.m.: animal complaint (Irving Street), info taken; (Total daily mv stops – 2).

THURSDAY, JULY 15
12:56-1:45 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:44 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:05 a.m.: residential alarm (Starr Street), services rendered; 6:38 a.m.: medical/general (Starr Street); 6:49 a.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), mvs need to be moved; 10:39 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo; 10:55 a.m.: restraining order service/2 (Parent Street); 11:56 a.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), loose dog; 1:25 p.m.: animal complaint (Meadow Road), dead rabbit; 1:37 p.m.: fraud (Old Farm Road), scam call/cable; 1:57 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 2:04 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 2:05 p.m.: DPW call (Maple Street), wire down; 3:56 p.m.: RV complaint (South Spencer Road), moped on trail; 3:56 p.m.: officer wanted (School Street), male mowing in underwear; 4:34 p.m.: medical/general (Greenville Street); 4:35 p.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), tenant/landlord issue; 4:42 p.m.: medical/general (Bond Street); 5:16 p.m.: citizen complaint (Grant Street), orbeez balls; 5:21 p.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), poss. assault on parent; 5:21 p.m.: mv complaint (Meadow Road), unsafe m/c operation; 6:46 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), dead rabbit; 10:04 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), misdial; 10:21 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 11:15 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), welfare check; 11:30 p.m.: fire alarm (Cranberry Meadow Road), referred; 11:54 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; (Total daily mv stops – 5).

FRIDAY, JULY 16
12:01 a.m.: suspicious persons (North Spencer Road), investigated; 12:03 a.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), Travis T. Howe, 28, 2443 Main Street, Jefferson, OUI liquor, negligent operation, destruction of property, failure to stop/yield, op w/suspended license, arrest; 8:34 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 9:05 a.m.: officer wanted (McCormick Road), wire down; 10:07 a.m.: mv stop (Grove Street), Francisco Garcia Albino, 32, 4 Park Street, Webster, unlicensed operation, warrant, arrest; 11:49 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 12:19 p.m.: suspicious persons (Mechanic Street), investigated; 12:46 p.m.: 911 call (Howe Village), open line; 1:18 p.m.: DPW call (Wilson Street), sign down; 1:37 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 1:41 p.m.: medical/general (Lake Avenue); 2:33 p.m.: medical/general (Cranberry Meadow Road); 2:56 p.m.: restraining order service (Pleasant Street); 3:27 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), family matter; 3:35 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), info taken; 3:40 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no emergency; 4:33 p.m.: fire (Valley Street),

referred; 4:43 p.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), barking dog; 4:53 p.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info taken; 5:11 p.m.: fire alarm (Chestnut Street), referred; 5:52 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:32 p.m.: 911 call (Irving Street), child w/phone; 7:41 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 8:31 p.m.: suspicious persons (G.H. Wilson Road), investigated; 8:51 p.m.: commercial alarm (Meadow Road), services rendered; 9:07 p.m.: medical/general (Summit Street); 9:29 p.m.: disabled mv (North Spencer Road), services rendered; 10:53 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Overlook Drive), accidental; 11:26 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; (Total daily mv stops – 2).

SATURDAY, JULY 17
12:28-3:21 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:06 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 6:55 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 7:36 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:39 a.m.: fire alarm (Lakeshore Drive), referred; 8:26 a.m.: DPW call (Valley Street), blocked culvert; 9:59 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:39 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), poss. restraining order violation; 11:54 a.m.: fire alarm (Paxton Road), referred; 12:12 p.m.: suspicious persons (Clark Street), info taken; 2:23 p.m.: medical/general (North Brookfield Road); 3:23 p.m.: suspicious mv (Clark Road), info taken; 3:46 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 4:12 p.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), dog bite; 4:26 p.m.: animal complaint (Bixby Road), dead bird; 4:43 p.m.: mv lockout (Cherry Street), assisted; 4:53 p.m.: accident (Main Street), hit/run; 5:01 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 5:21 p.m.: DPW call (Northwest Road), road washout; 5:22 p.m.: DPW call (Sunset Lane), flooding; 5:30 p.m.: 911 call (Bixby Road), accidental; 5:49 p.m.: 911 call (Emmett Street), accidental; 11:30 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), Alexander Jer Vandewal, 34, Troy, NY, unlicensed operation, possession Class B drug, license not in possession, speeding, arrest; (Total daily mv stops – 3).

SUNDAY, JULY 18
12:15 a.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 12:50 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 2:34-3:04 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:06 a.m.: fire alarm (Garrette Lane), referred; 4:52 a.m.: fire (Highland Street), referred; 6:16 a.m.: DPW call (Briarcliff Lane), road flooded; 8:39 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street), 8:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Briarcliff Lane), spoken to; 9:05 a.m.: DPW call (Greenville Street), road flooded; 9:18 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 10:16 a.m.: 911 call (Irving Street), accidental; 10:20 a.m.: officer wanted (Wire Village Road), branch on wire; 10:23 a.m.: fire alarm (Charron Street), referred; 11:45 a.m.: accident (McCormick Road), report taken; 12:52 p.m.: suspicious persons (Smithville Road), investigated; 1:38 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 1:51 p.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 2:23 p.m.: mv complaint (Chestnut Street), speeding; 2:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Pope Street), water on road; 3:56 p.m.: mv fire (North Spencer Road), referred; 5:18 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 5:28 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), unwanted party; 6:04 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 6:32 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 6:45 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 6:51 p.m.: medical/general (Duggan Street); 7:35 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), barking dog; 8:34 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), being followed; 10:11 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rep. snake bite; (Total daily mv stops – 0).

MONDAY, JULY 19
3:19 a.m.: building checked, secure; 4:56 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street), lift assist; 5:35 a.m.: mv lockout (Meadow Road), assisted; 8:18 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), mv plate switched; 8:56 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), concerned re: son; 9:43 a.m.: fire/rescue (East Avenue), work accident; 10:11 a.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 10:35 a.m.: DPW call (North Brookfield Road), tree in road; 10:40 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), disconnected; 11:20 a.m.: officer wanted (Wilson Avenue), welfare check; 11:36 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), req. info; 1:28 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), rear door open; 2:03 p.m.: suspicious persons (Lyford Road), investigated; 2:11 p.m.: larceny (Hastings Road), pkg missing; 2:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), gaggles of geese/1 injured; 2:51 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (West Main Street); 2:52 p.m.:

trespassing (Northwest Road), no trespass order mailed certified; 3:58 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 3:57 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 4:27 p.m.: officer wanted (McCormick Road), property found; 5:21 p.m.: mv complaint (Kingsbury Road), speeding; 5:24 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 6:57 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), spoken to; 7:58 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 9:34-9:35 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops – 5).

TUESDAY, JULY 20
12:00 a.m.: medical/general (Summit Street); 12:12-2:43 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:07 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: hallucinations; 7:37 a.m.: mv complaint (Cherry Street), speeding; 8:41 a.m.: animal complaint (Donnelly Road), bobcats in area; 9:09 a.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 10:02 a.m.: officer wanted (Howe Road), restrooms closed; 10:13 a.m.: animal complaint (Marble Road), dog attacked; 10:27 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 11:28 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:42 p.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), re: Worcester shooting; 12:44 p.m.: suspicious persons (Shady Drive), attempted b&e; 12:51 p.m.: medical/general (G.H. Wilson Road); 2:05 p.m.: suspicious mv (Kittredge Road), investigated; 4:04 p.m.: warrant service (West Main Street), Christopher L. Field, 31, 5 West Main Street, Spencer, arrest warrant X 2, arrest; 5:44 p.m.: DPW call (Bureau Road), low-hanging wire; 5:54 p.m.: suspicious persons (Cherry Street), investigated; 6:54 p.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 6:59 p.m.: medical/general (Lambs Grove); 7:03 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), North Brookfield PD bolo; 8:02 p.m.: officer wanted (Park Street), locked in park; 8:24 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), loose dog; 9:10 p.m.: officer wanted (Browning Pond Road), welfare check; 9:42 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), lost cellphone; 9:55 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:22 p.m.: mv complaint (Church Street), mv blocking d/way; 11:45 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops – 5).

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Leicester Police

THURSDAY, JULY 15
1:24 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:34 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:44 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:07 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 9:02 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), citation issued; 9:32 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 10:03 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:08 a.m.: mv stop (Marshall Street), citation issued; 11:50 welfare check (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 12:26 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 12:38 p.m.: debris in road (Rawson Street), report taken; 1:59 p.m.: welfare check (Lynde Brook Drive), unfounded; 3:06 p.m.: property found (Main Street, Worcester), services rendered; 4:51 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 5:40 p.m.: investigation (Rawson Street), no action required; 11:10 p.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), spoken to; 11:49 p.m.: welfare check (Carleton Road), spoken to.

FRIDAY, JULY 16
4:18 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 9:05 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:15 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 9:34 a.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 10:42 a.m.: assist citizen (Winslow Avenue); 2:09 p.m.: investigation (Ferncroft Road), services rendered; 2:23 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Rawson Street), no action required; 3:15 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 4:21 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 4:56 p.m.: disabled mv (Paxton Street), assisted; 6:20 p.m.: disabled mv (Marshall Street), assisted.

SATURDAY, JULY 17
1:27 a.m.: disabled mv (Pleasant Street), gone on arrival; 9:35 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 10:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 10:20 a.m.: family problem (Winslow Street), peace restored; 10:26 a.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), Jay A. Vincent, 57, 406 Neck Road, #6B, Lancaster, shoplifting by asportation, straight warrant, arrest; 10:55 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 12:41 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 2:06 p.m.: suspicious

person (Henshaw Street), investigated; 3:02 p.m.: assist citizen (Paxton Street); 3:12 p.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), no action required; 3:20 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), assisted; 3:44 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log; unlicensed operation, criminal application issued; 4:00 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 4:28 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Stafford Street), no action required; 8:02 p.m.: suspicious person (Main Street), gone on arrival; 8:25 p.m.: fraud (Breezy Green Road), report taken.

SUNDAY, JULY 18
8:44 a.m.: assist other agency (Paxton Street), services rendered; 9:27 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Paxton Street), Richard Sterner Hokanson, 669 Pleasant Street, #1, Leicester, warrant served, arrest; 10:03 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Winslow Avenue), no action required; 2:02 p.m.: accident (Soojians Drive), report taken; 4:23 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, vehicle towed; 5:29 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), unable to locate; 6:58 p.m.: debris in road (Paxton Street), services rendered; 9:42 p.m.: disabled mv (South Main Street), transported; 10:33 p.m.: runaway (West Street), transported.

MONDAY, JULY 19
1:45 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 2:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 4:27 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 4:53 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 5:17 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), Pleasant Street), written warning; 9:24 a.m.: suspicious mv (out of town, no location specified in police log), unable to locate; 11:57 a.m.: suspicious mv (Glen Ellen Lane), no action required; 3:33 p.m.: summons service (Lake Avenue), unable to serve; 3:44 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 3:59 p.m.: assist other agency (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 4:26 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Main Street), unable to serve; 4:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 4:56 p.m.: accident (Whittemore Street), report taken; 6:52 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 7:27 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 7:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 7:53 p.m.: assist other PD (Pond Court), report taken; 8:59 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), spoken to; 9:28 p.m.; mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to.

TUESDAY, JULY 20
9:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:29 a.m.: fraud (Baldwin Street), services rendered; 9:34 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:21 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 10:39 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 10:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 11:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:08 a.m.: domestic disturbance (address redacted from police log), report taken; 12:58 a.m.: summons service (Main Street), unable to serve; 1:09 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Road), service rendered; 4:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:06 p.m.: mv stop (Rawson Street), verbal warning; 5:24 p.m.: suspicious person (Waite Street), services rendered; 5:31 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), unable to locate; 5:58 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 6:06 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 6:24 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 7:47 p.m.: soliciting (Waite Street), gone on arrival; 8:25 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 8:32 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 8:50 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 9:59 p.m.: welfare check (Paxton Street), assisted.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 20
4:58 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 7:41 a.m.: summons service (Main Street), served; 7:57 a.m.: trespassing (Charles Street), gone on arrival; 9:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 9:54 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, citation issued; 10:49 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 12:52 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed; 4:14 p.m.: suspicious person (Grove Street), spoken to; 5:31 a.m.: neighbor dispute (Main Street), peace restored; 6:46 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), report taken; 11:18 p.m.: welfare check (Rawson Street), spoken to; 11:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.

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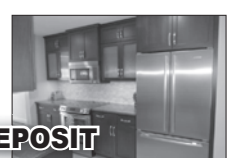
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STURBRIDGE WATERFRONT! 243 Big Alum Rd! Big Alum Lake! 6.58 Acres of Privacy! Sub-Drivable! Western Expo - Beautiful Sunsets! 3,313' 10" Rm Cape w/3 - 4 Bdrms & 4 Baths! 1st Flr Features Appliances Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar & Tile Flr! Frpld Din Area! Din Rm w/3 Walls of Glass & French Dr to a Composite Deck! Cathedral Ceiling Entry Fam Rm w/Hearth & Wood Stove, Pine Flr & Wall of Picture Windows! Spacious Liv Rm w/Pine Flr! Office! Full Bathrm w/Laundry Closet! 1st Flr Master w/Slider to the Inground Pool, Walk-in Closet, Marble Bathrm w/Separate Tub & Shower & Dble Vanities! 2nd Flr w/2 Spacious Bdrms, Lots of Closet Space & Pine Flrs! Full Hall Bath! Lower Level w/Game Rm, Wine/Root Cellars! Utility & Storage! 2 Car Attached Garage w/Office-In-Law Suite Above! New Driveway Access will need to be installed! Some Cosmetic Repairs Needed! **\$679,900.00**

SUTTON - 30 Jones Rd! 9 Room 2,156' Colonial! 5.31 Acres of Privacy! Long Circular Drive! New Granite Kitchen! Dining, Living & Fireplaced Family Rooms w/Hardwood Floors! Year Round Sunroom w/2 Skylights! 3 Bedrooms! 24' Master w/Master Bath! 2.5 Bathrooms Total! 12x24 3 Season Porch w/3 Skylights! Expandable Attic! Wraparound Deck! 2 Car Garage! Central Air! Super Easy Access to Rte 146! **\$549,900.00**



DUDLEY - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/Guest Closet! SS Appliance Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Chair Rail! Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6x27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Flr Laundry! The 2nd Floor w/4 Bdrms! Spacious Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner - Pride of Ownership! **\$509,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' AC'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/Cherry Hardwoods! Lake Facing Living Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hardwoods! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bedroom w/Full Bath, Cherry Hardwoods & Walk-in Closet! Fireplaced Lower Level Family Rm! 1st & 2nd Floor Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$979,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 305 Beacon Park! Lake View 1,280' 5 Rm Townhouse - 10 Acres Park Lake Grounds w/Panoramic Lake Views! Yr Round Living or as 2nd Home - Summers on the Lake - Winters in Florida! Move-in Condition! Appliance Kit! Din Rm w/Slider to the Composite Deck! Frpld Liv Rm w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & French Dr to the Deck! Updated Half Bath! Spacious Master w/Wall of Closets & Full Bath w/Recent Sky Light! 2nd Bedroom w/Wall to Wall Carpeting & Full Bath just outside its Door! 2 Bdrms & 2.5 Updated Baths! Garage w/Opener! Lakeside Heated Pool & One of the Best Sandy Beaches on the Lake! Canoe Rack! Rented Boat Dock through 2022, Longer Possible! Great Fireworks Viewing! **\$335,000.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 504 Treasure Island! 6 Room Townhouse Overlooking the Pool! 1,874 Sq Ft! Stainless Steel Appliance Granite Kitchen! Open Floor Plan! Dining Room - Full Mirrored Wall - Sliders to the Trex Deck! 2 Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Fireplaced Family Room! Garage! Central Air! Gas Heat! C/Vac! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Sandy Beach! Complex Recent Siding & Roof! **\$400,000.00**



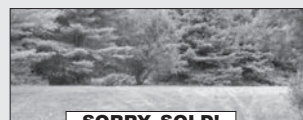
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5+ Acre Waterfront Land On "Little Pond/Schoolhouse Pond. Private Setting. Open Field. 250+ feet Waterfrontage. Dead end road!
\$179,900

WEBSTER - 23 EMERALD AVE.



EXTRAORDINARY FIND! Beautiful 2 Family! Owner occupied with pride and it shows. IDEAL property for YOU! 3,012 SF +/- 12 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 2 Updated Full Baths. 2 Modern BEAUTIFUL Kitchens w/UPSCALE Cabinets, 2nd Flr has GRANITE Countertops! High Ceilings & HARDWOOD Floors! Grand Front Entry! LARGE WELL MANICURED 13,525 SF LOT. 3 CAR DETACHED GARAGE! Municipal Water & Sewer, 2 Oil Heating Systems, Radiators. 1st flr Hot water by Natural Gas
\$439,900.

FEATURED NEW LISTING - WEBSTER - 135 LAKE STREET



ON DEPOSIT

A RARE FIND! A TRULY ABOVE AVERAGE-TOP NOTCH-HIGH QUALITY-TWO FAMILY! SPACIOUS, CLEAN, UPDATED! Apt# 2 - 1,536 SF +/- & 3 BRs on the 2nd Flr. Apt# 1 - 1,290 SF +/- & 2 BRs on the 1st floor. 1st Flr. HWBB By Oil, 2nd Flr apt. HWBB by natural gas. Spacious Rooms, High Ceilings, hardwood flrs! granite tops. Enjoy the L-Shaped Covered Farmers Porch! Level Lot!
\$399,900.

WEBSTER - 22 ELAINE STREET

Bonnett Acres - Beautiful Residential Neighborhood! 3 bedroom Ranch, Hardwoods, cabinet packed kitchen! Tile bath, partially finished lower level! 20' X 12' deck! Garage! all on a nice level lot. Private well plus town water & sewer! A must see.
\$269,900.

WEBSTER - 99 UPPER GORE ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Location! Scenic Upper Gore! "BIRDS EYE VIEW" of Webster Lake! Spacious Tr-Level. 2,279 sf., 4 BRS, 1 full Bath, 2 half baths. Inground pool. 2 Car Garage
\$275,000.

STAMFORD CT - 57 BARHOLM AVENUE



SORRY, SOLD!

Beautiful Stone faced. 8 room Colonial, 4 bedroom, 3 Full baths, one Half bath. Stone fireplace, 2236 Sq. Ft. living area. Walk up attic. 2 car garage. Heated by Natural Gas, Town Water, assisted sale **\$660,000.**

SHREWSBURY • 15 ABBEY LN UNIT 15



SORRY, SOLD!

Detached Condo Brand Spankin New - 2 Bedroom, 2 Bath, all Hardwood Flrs, Granite C-tops Throughout, Crown Moldings Raised panels, Chair rails Picture-Frame Mouldings. Central air/Vac. High end Appliances Packed! assisted sale **\$480,000.**

LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Webster - Douglas Rd (Rte. 16) 26 ACRES on Sugar-loaf Hill. 1000 +/- ft of road frontage
\$200,000
Sorry Sold!
Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided!
\$89,900
Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE.
\$115,000.
Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **ON DEPOSIT! Each \$24,500.**

WEBSTER • 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET



SORRY, SOLD!

large 3 Family- a rare find! 1st Floor spacious 2 bedroom apartment. 2 - 2nd floor, 3 bedroom apartments Walkout basement to off street parking.
\$289,900.

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg



Webster Lake - 300 Killdeer Island

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS! A WEBSTER LAKE waterfront property on Killdeer Circle, you won't want to miss! Offers a prime waterfront location! 64' of water frontage and a gently sloping landscape to waters edge. Crystal clear, sandy bottomed shoreline. Everyday is a new day at the Lake! Nicely arranged floor plan. 5 rooms 2 bedrooms, 2 baths! Walk out lowerlevel to nice size patio! Garage.
\$650,000.

WEBSTER - 401 TREASURE ISLAND CONDO



ON DEPOSIT

Deck & Slider to the Patio! Natural gas heat! 2 Boat Slips! Heated Pool! Natural Sandy Beach!
\$439,000.



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DUDLEY OWNER OCCUPANCY OPPORTUNITY

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Top Unit
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First Floor
5 Rooms, Long term tenant, 2 bedrooms
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1 Brush Cutter... \$100

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Lawn Chairs... \$5 ea.

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first floor, 3 bedroom,
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Single Wood Chairs \$25/each

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Hard Cover Comic Book \$50.00

Elvis Presley

Cardboard Silhouette \$40.00

Elvis Presley Card Collection \$75.00

1923 Printers Specimen Book Catalog

\$100.00

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\$25.00/each

1953-1961 National Archives

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DOUGLAS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2 Full-Time Custodian positions
High School (2:00 PM - 10:00PM)
Primary/Middle Schools (10:00AM - 6:00PM)
Hours and school building are subject to change
Positions are open until filled.

Interested candidates should send a letter of interest,
resume, and three recent letters of recommendation to:
Jeffrey Kollett, Facilities Manager,
21 Davis Street, Douglas, MA 01516

We are also looking for substitute custodians
on an as needed basis
All appointments are conditional based on a
satisfactory CORI and SAFIS Background check
per 603 CMR 51.00

The Douglas Public Schools is committed to maintaining
a work and learning environment free from discrimina-
tion on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin,
pregnancy, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital/
civil union status, ancestry, place of birth, age, citizen-
ship status, veteran status, political affiliation, genetic
information or disability, as defined and required by state
and federal laws. Additionally, we prohibit retaliation
against individuals who oppose such discrimination and
harassment or who participate in an equal opportunity
investigation.

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Town of Brookfield Highway Department seeks an Administrative Assistant
(24 hours/week). The administrative assistant performs highly skilled
administrative and clerical duties to coordinate the administrative activities of the
department in an effective and efficient manner.

Position requires excellent communication skills both oral and written. Must be
able to deal tactfully, courteously and professionally with residents, town officials,
industry professionals and highway department personnel. The ability to multi
task while remaining organized and detail oriented is very important. Must have
working knowledge of Open Meeting Law, Public Records Law, State Ethics Law
and Public Procurement Laws.

High school diploma and 3-5 years of relevant office administration
in a municipal setting are required.

Please see job description (available on www.brookfieldma.us)
for a list of qualifications and responsibilities.
We offer competitive wages and benefits.

Submit cover letter and resume to the Brookfield Highway Department,
56 Mill St. Brookfield, MA 01506
no later than July 30, 2021. EEO Employer



What’s the Difference?

There are three differences between Picture A and Picture B. Can you find them all?

A



B



Answers: 1. Woman wearing glasses 2. Books missing in back 3. Candle in foreground

THIS DAY IN...



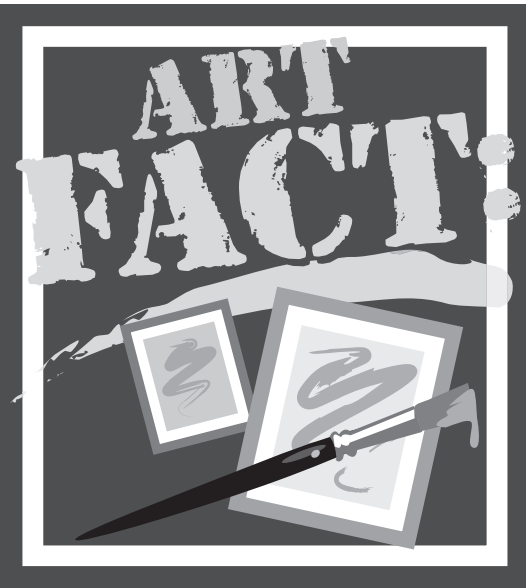
HISTORY

- 1729: THE CITY OF BALTIMORE IS FOUNDED.
- 1930: URUGUAY WINS THE FIRST FIFA WORLD CUP.
- 2012: MORE THAN 300 MILLION PEOPLE IN NORTHERN INDIA ARE LEFT WITHOUT POWER WHEN A POWER GRID FAILS IN DELHI.



TEXT

printed work

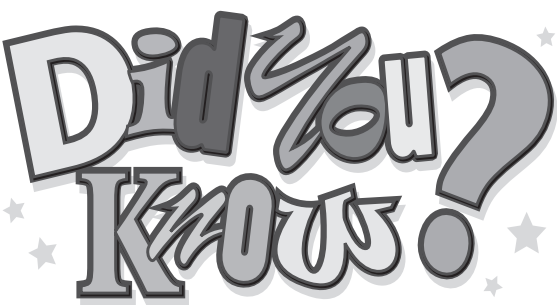


“B.C.,” “BEETLE BAILEY,” “ANNIE,” “BLONDIE,” AND “DICK TRACY” ARE EXAMPLES OF WHAT COMMON NEWSPAPER FEATURE?

ANSWER: COMIC STRIP



- ENGLISH:** Newspaper
- SPANISH:** Periódico
- ITALIAN:** Giornale
- FRENCH:** Journal
- GERMAN:** Zeitung



BEFORE THERE WERE MODERN NEWS-PAPERS, THERE WAS THE “ACTA DIURNA” (DAILY ACTS) OF ANCIENT ROME. IT ANNOUNCED BOTH POLITICAL AND SOCIAL EVENTS.



ANSWER: STACKED NEWSPAPERS

CRYPTO FUN



Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to fairs.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 8 = S)

A. 16 24 4 5 1 8
Clue: Given as rewards

B. 24 4 26 1 8
Clue: Fun modes of transport

C. 9 25 23 1 8
Clue: Form of play or sport

D. 25 26 23 4 8 8 4 13 10
Clue: Allowed entry

Answers: A. prizes B. rides C. games D. admission

SUDOKU

			6	1				5
4				2		8		7
5								
9					7	1		
		1		4			8	3
		4						
2	9		7					6
7				5	9		2	

Level: intermediate

Here’s How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

8	2	3	6	5	1	9	4	7
6	4	7	9	8	2	5	3	1
9	1	5	4	3	7	8	6	2
2	7	9	1	6	8	5	4	3
3	8	6	2	4	5	1	7	9
4	5	1	7	9	3	2	8	6
1	3	2	8	7	4	6	9	5
7	6	8	5	2	6	3	1	4
5	9	4	3	1	6	7	2	8

ANSWER:

EDUCATION

Knight earns spot on Emmanuel College Dean's List

BOSTON — Emmanuel College has named Emma Knight of Leicester to the Dean's List for the Spring 2021 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

Emmanuel College is a co-educational, residential institution with a 17-acre campus in the heart of Boston's educational, scientific, cultural and medical communities. Enrolling more than 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students, the College provides boundless opportunities for students to expand their worldview through rigorous coursework, significant internship and career opportunities throughout the Boston area and beyond, collaborations with distinguished and dedicated faculty,

and participation in a dynamic campus community. Emmanuel's more than 70 programs in the sciences, liberal arts, business, nursing, and education foster spirited discourse and substantive learning experiences that honor the College's Catholic educational mission to educate the whole person and provide an ethical and relevant 21st-century education.

Bryant University students named to Dean's List

SMITHFIELD, R.I. — Bryant University is pleased to recognize the students who have been named to the Deans' List for the spring 2021 semester.

Benjamin Dupell, class of 2022, from N Brookfield

Thomas Guinee, class of 2023, from Leicester

Kevin Copeland, class of 2023, from

Leicester

Timothy Moore, class of 2024, from Leicester

Congratulations on this outstanding achievement!

About Bryant University

For 158 years, Bryant University has been at the forefront of delivering an exceptional education that anticipates the future and prepares students to be innovative leaders of character in a changing world. Bryant delivers an innovative and uniquely integrated business and liberal arts education that inspires students to excel. With approximately 3,800 graduate and undergraduate students from 38 states and 49 countries, Bryant is recognized as a leader in international education and regularly receives top rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Bloomberg Businessweek, Forbes, and Barron's. Visit www.Bryant.edu.

Elms College names local students to Dean's

List

CHICOPEE The College of Our Lady of the Elms has named Tyler Hesselton of Leicester and Camden Hart and Tara Lynch of Spencer and Makenzie Messier of Warren to the dean's list for the spring 2021 semester of the 2020-2021 academic year. To qualify, a full-time student must earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher, without incompletes.

About Elms College

Elms College is a co-educational Catholic college offering a liberal arts curriculum that prepares students holistically for a purposeful life in a diverse and interconnected world. Founded in 1928 by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Elms College has a tradition of educating reflective, principled and creative learners, who are rooted in faith, educated in mind, compassionate in heart, responsive to civic and social obligations, and capable of adjusting to change without compromising principle.

Consumers prefer human interaction over chatbots

Survey respondents indicated live chats with human beings outperformed chatbots because communication with humans was easier and more convenient.

Technology may have changed the way people shop, but when it comes to customer service, consumers still want a more traditional way to ask questions or voice concerns. The Drift and SurveyMonkey Audience 2019 State of Conversational Marketing report found that, among 1,000 survey respondents, 39 percent indicated they had a good customer service experience with an online chat platform. Such positive experiences were far less frequent with

chatbots, as only 16 percent of respondents indicated they had good customer service interactions with these widely utilized programs designed to simulate conversations with human users. Survey respondents indicated live chats with human beings outperformed chatbots because communication with humans was easier and more convenient. But chatbots still have a place in customer service solutions, as forecasters predict they will provide an avenue

to considerable revenue in the years to come. In fact, one estimate from Juniper Research indicates that chatbots are expected to drive more than \$112 billion in retail sales by 2023. That's no small feat, as retail sales from chatbot interactions were estimated to total \$7.3 billion in 2019. The meteoric rise in estimated sales from chatbot-related interactions underscores how profitable these services can be if used correctly. CB217087

Welcome to our 3rd Annual Summer Scramble!

We've decided to change it up for Summer and instead of a crossword puzzle, we've created a scramble. We hope you'll enjoy this challenging puzzle!

Please find the answers (business names) on the ABC's of SUMMER on page 2.

We will unscramble for you and announce a winner of a \$25 Gift Card to an ABC Business in the August 27th issue.

Please mail to ABC's of Summer Scramble, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550 or take a pic and email to jsima@stonebridgepress.news by August 18.

Good luck!



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email (optional) _____

Newspaper you saw this in, circle one: Spencer New Leader, Auburn News, Southbridge News, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Webster Times, Blackstone Valley Tribune

We love your feedback comments: _____

ABC'S OF SUMMER SCRAMBLE

(These are not in alphabetical order)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. VUTAREDEN TURSO FO NEWRRA _____ | 14. BAUGOAQ TIAIANROIEBHTL _____ |
| 2. SBEN LTAECK HPSO _____ | 15. OSETINEDGRB SPESR _____ |
| 3. ATKL OF EHT NWOT _____ | 16. CRANEMIA DTCINSOU OLI _____ |
| 4. NCEPRES LFYMIA DETANL _____ | 17. SNAL PIANT TCREEN _____ |
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How to recruit and retain quality employees



Great employees are the backbone of successful businesses. Savvy business owners recognize the important role workers play in helping a business meet its goals, and recruiting and retaining

such employees is a high priority for the world's most successful firms. According to the recruitment resource Betterteam, 68 percent of human resources professionals report problems filling

positions — an increase of 50 percent since 2013. Forbes magazine puts the potential cost of a single bad hire between \$25,000 and \$50,000. New employees are investments and due diligence should be used to find the right ones. Recruiting top talent may require thinking creatively, and it almost always requires significant effort on the part of the business doing the hiring.

Write a well-crafted job ad
The job advertisement is the first thing job seekers will see and it will be the initial tool to help whittle down the applicant pool. Use clear job titles that explain the job and be concise; avoid buzzwords like “wizard,” “rock star” or “ninja.”

Candidates tend to skim job descriptions, so avoid wordy phrasing and confusing job roles. Break down responsibilities into job duties, and be sure to mention specific make-or-break skills applicants will need to have. While you still may get some unqualified individuals to apply, you may weed out others with specifics of the job.

Establish a list of traits you want new employees to possess

An applicant's skills, education and experience are important. However, this should not be the only factor to consider when mulling a potential hire. Seek employees who have the potential for growth and can get along with colleagues and existing and new clients.

Use various job boards to advertise
Many popular job boards, such as Indeed, Monster, LinkedIn, and Glassdoor, offer free advertising for job posters. They are good places to start because they generate lots of traffic. Social media also can work much in the same way as free job boards, according to Workable, a recruitment software company. If you don't find success with free job boards, you may need to go elsewhere.

Attend job fairs and utilize interns
Building a community connection through local job fairs, networking with alumni organizations, and relationships with universities, trade schools and colleges can provide constant resources for new talent. Plus, applicants may feel more comfortable working for a company that has outreach in the local area.

Follow up on references
It may take time, but it's important that references are contacted and previous employment is confirmed. Due diligence with a candidate's references ensures companies get a bigger picture of potential hires, according to Indeed. Ask questions like “What is it like to work with the candidate?” or “What are their biggest strengths and weaknesses?”

Finding quality talent is an important task that's vital to the success of businesses big and small.

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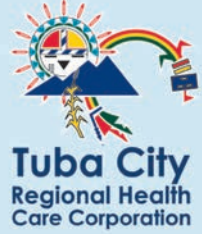
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