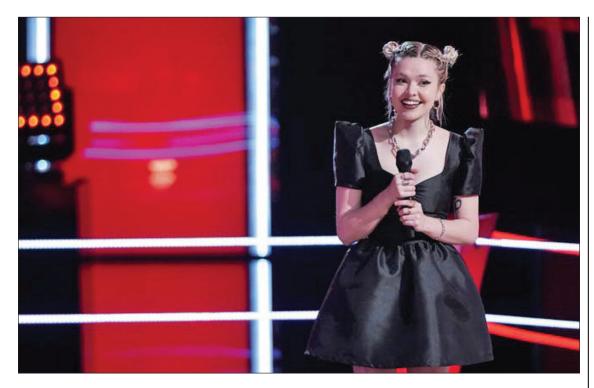


Free by request to residents of East Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield, Brookfield, Leicester and Spencer Friday, May 21, 2021 SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO NEWS@STONEBRIDGEPRESS.NEWS



Modig's journey on "The Voice" comes to an end

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Ryleigh Modig's journey on "The Voice" came to an end last week, with the 18-year-old falling just short of the competition's top nine contestants.

On last week's episode of the NBC hit show, Modig was not able to advance during the first two rounds of selection. These included the top overall performers on each coach's team, as voted by viewers of the show.

The second round of selections featured one contestant chosen by each of the four coaches to advance.

To determine the final wild card selection, one singer from each team was chosen to enter a four-way battle. Modig earned the opportunity to represent Team John Legend in the wild card competition, where she sang "It Will Rain" by Bruno Mars.

As part of the four-way battle, Modig found herself going up against a familiar face -Georgia-based singer Corey Ward, 34 - who Modig also faced during the Knockout Round as part of Team Kelly Clarkson. Modig lost that battle to Ward and ended up being stolen by Coach John Legend to remain on the show.

Three weeks later, Ward once again emerged victorious after earning the most votes from viewers following the four-way battle. He moves on to compete in the next live round of the competition.

For Modig, although her dream journey on "The Voice" is over, coaches and fans are excited by the beginning of a bright career in music. She was able to compete against some of the top emerging singers in the country while receiving instruction from megastar coaches. She even got to perform in front of Snoop Dogg

Please Read MODIG, page A5

Grigg wins selectman's seat

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – In a battle between a newcomer and a lifelong resident, it was the recentlv arrived Jared Grigg who convincingly claimed a Select Board seat.

Although Grigg has only lived in town for about a year, that did nothing to hurt his momentum at the May 11 election. He wound up defeating Danielle Gebo, 611-345, earning victories in all four of Spencer's voting precincts.

Grigg replaces Selectwoman Wendy Berthiaume, who did not seek re-election to a second term.

"Campaigning has been a very rewarding and interesting process. I have learned a lot along the way, and I have really enjoyed getting to know the residents of Spencer and their hopes for the town's future," Grigg said. "I appreciate the faith the Spencer residents have put in me, and I look forward to doing right by them."

Grigg moved to town last June with his girlfriend, Alyssa. In addition to his decade of employment as an EMT/firefighter, he has also served in the Army National Guard as a military police officer for 13 years, completing two tours in the Middle East.

For Gebo, who has served on the Spencer Rescue Squad and also as a bus driver for the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, she looks forward to staying active in her community.

"I would like to congratulate



Photo Courtesy

Jared Grigg won a Spencer Select Board seat last week

Jared on his win. I also would like to thank the voters for coming out to vote, along with all of those who supported my campaign," Gebo said. "I will continue to volunteer and look forward to new opportunities to help and support my town."

In the three-way race for Town Clerk, Sandra Fritze defeated Michelle Gosselin by just three votes (385-382). Selectman Gary Woodbury also ran for Town Clerk, collecting 243 votes.

For Spencer-East the Brookfield Regional School Committee seats (Spencer representatives), unopposed incumbent Wendy Pelchat earned the most votes at Spencer's election (738). A second available seat on the committee was uncontest-

North Brookfield becomes **Purple Heart** Community

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD This year's Memorial Day observance will be especially meaningful, as the town celebrates becoming a Purple Heart Community.

North Brookfield joins more than 100 other towns in the Commonwealth with the Purple Heart Community designation. North Brookfield's Purple Heart Proclamation will be read publicly during the town's Memorial Day ceremony, beginning at 9:30 a.m. in front of Haston Public Library.

Additionally, Purple Heart Community signs have been posted at the main entrances to the town from all directions. This will allow residents and visitors to reflect

on the meaning of the designation and the town's commitment to honoring service members.

"The community thanks, and is grateful to, James Foyle for all the work he did in making this possible," said North Brookfield Veterans' Services Officer Holly Kularski. "I am delighted that North Brookfield has joined the over 100 communities in Massachusetts who honor and remember all the military members who were wounded or lost their lives in combat. We thank them and their families for their great sacrifice."

North Brookfield's process of becoming a Purple Heart Community was delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The process began in March of

Please Read PURPLE HEART, page A5

ROCHDALE VFW AWARDS SCHOLARSHIP



Photo Courtesy

The Rochdale VFW Post 7556 awarded its annual scholarship to Molly Hoefler, granddaughter of Rochdale resident and Army veteran, David McGrath. VFW Post Commander, Bill LeBeau and Chairman of the Scholarship Committee, Jacob Menzigian presented Hoefler with a check for \$500 at this month's business meeting. Hoefler is an honor student at Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School and will be graduating next month on June 7. She will be attending Anna Maria College this September and plans to major in Psychology. She is the daughter of proud parents Kerry and Keith Mallet. All the members of Rochdale VFW Post 7556 wish Molly much success in college and in her future life's pursuits.

Spencer residents urge town to acquire Pine Grove Cemetery

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER - Voters at last week's election expressed overwhelming support for the town to acquire Pine Grove Cemetery.

At the May 11 election, voters were surveyed on the subject via non-binding public opin- not receive any funds from the

ion ballot question. Residents voted 732-240 in favor of the town acquiring the cemetery.

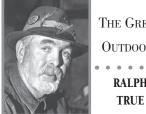
Since its founding in 1846, the cemetery on North Spencer Road has been operated as a nonprofit organization overseen by a volunteer board of directors. The cemetery does

town or religious organizations for ongoing maintenance projects.

In recent years, as a result of infrequent burials and limited donations, the cemetery has faced a decline in funding needed to fully operate and maintain the grounds. The cemetery's board of directors has organized several fundraising munity members, and even a efforts over the years, with limited success.

The cemetery has major historical significance for the town, serving as the final resting place for many of Spencer's earliest leaders. It also hosts grave sites for several first responders, veterans, comMedal of Honor recipient.

week's Following last non-binding question vote, selectmen will review the situation and discuss the path forward. Select Board Chairman Ralph Hicks said he cannot participate in the discussion



THE GREAT OUTDOORS RALPH

This week's picture shows Captain Mel True with his fishing buddy, John Caiazi, with a nice catch of winter flounder this past week in Massachusetts! Rhode Island winter flounder fishing in most if not all of Narragansett Bay is closed because of overfishing by commercial draggers over the years. Fluke fishing in both states have very different regulations. This year, Rhode Island has decided to raise the fluke size to 19 inches, while Massachusetts has stayed at 17 inches. The 19-inch size for fluke is totally ridiculous, and will result in many dead fish for crabs to feed on. Anyone that does any amount of fishing for fluke, can tell you that there will be a lot of them that do not survive after being released. You do not need a college education to make that evaluation. Again, it is driven by politics!

This past week, I had my Lab, Twig, at the Veterinarian's for a checkup, and was not able to go with her when the technician came to bring her in to the doctor. As I was sitting in my car with the windows rolled down, I heard a familiar sound. I looked down to see a hen turkey walking along the grassy area of the parking lot only few feet from the highway. As she walked, she was "putting," a sound female wild turkey make. I soon had three hens and a jake (one year old turkey following the vocal hen to the edge of the woods. Suddenly, a loud gobble from a tom turkey was heard

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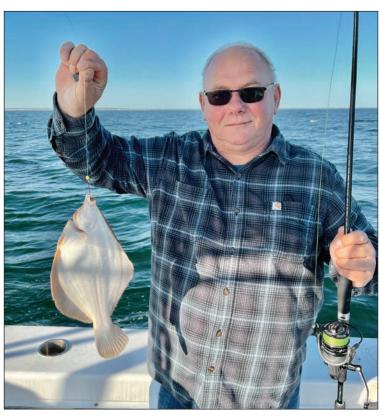
Sullivan

show over 60

years ago, on

Feb. 9, 1964.

first



Photos Courtesy

Captain Mel True of "FISHNET" Charters with a nice catch of winter flounder this past Saturday while fishing with his buddy on the Cape, and John Caiazi with his prize.

as he came into view that was sporting a long beard.

It was not long before they were all in a small patch of woods alongside of the highway when the vocal hen darted across the highway, nearly being hit by a car. I knew this was not going to end well. As the vocal hen called to the rest of the flock, the Jake bird and hen attempted to cross the road also. One made it across the road by running, but the second bird took flight and nearly crashed through the window of a small car. I watched the Tom bird in the woods as he seemed to be wondering were all his flock had gone. His neck was stretched high, as he stood motionless in the woods. Suddenly, he headed for the road to cross over. The Tom bird and the hen were the last to attempt a crossing to the other side of the road.

The Tom turkey quickly ran across the road safely, but the hen turkey was a bit slower crashing into the side of a



car. The driver never touched his brakes, or even slowed down after the collision. The big bird lay motionless on the side of the road, and not a single car slowed, as the turkey's feathers were blowing across the road. Not all collisions with wildlife are preventable, but many are. Drivers need to give wildlife a break. The driver not only killed the hen, but also another flock of young turkeys. There will be a lot of activity with wildlife crossing roads at this time of year. Whitetail deer will be having their young, as well as many other four-legged animals. Canada geese are also raising their young, as well as ducks, and often cross roads with their young broods.

A pair of Eagles continue to make their home on the Meadow Pond, Whitinsville. They were spotted by a couple of fishermen last week. One eagle was carrying home dinner (fish) when he dropped it in flight. As soon as it hit the water, the second Eagle tried to make a recovery, but failed. They sure are nice to see in the area. The Eagle restoration project started years ago by Mass. Fish & Wildlife and sure is a great success story. It mostly funded by sportsmen's monies.

Stripers are in in many areas, both on the Cape and Rhode Island waters, with some legalsize fish being caught. It is only a matter of days before the bigger fish move in. The Providence River should become active with legal size stripers by the time you read this column. Porgies were in the river last week and snagging a few to catch stripers should improve daily if the commercial Porgy boats do not take them all!

Seabass fishing opened this past Tuesday in Massachusetts! Take a Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES & ESTATES WAYNE TUISKULA

Rock and roll's origins go back further, even prior to Bill Haley and the Comet's release of Rock around the Clock's in 1954. Rock and Roll was influenced by R & B performers of the 1940s and

Rock and roll memorabilia

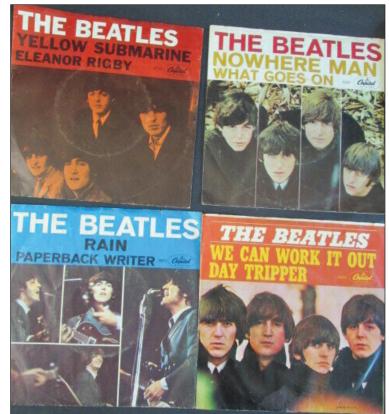
4. "Saturday Night Fish Fry" may by Ls Jordan & the Tympany hard believe, Five (1949) 5. "Rocket 88" by Jackie the

Brenston and his Delta Cats (1951)

Of these songs, "Rocket 88" is considered by most to be the first rock and roll record. Ike Turner wrote the record that was recorded at Sam Phillips' Sun Records studio in Memphis. According to Mental Floss magazine, "the guitarist's amplifier had a torn speaker, and producer Sam Phillips (who a few years later, would discover Elvis) jerry-rigged it, stuffing some packing paper in the speaker cone The unexpected result was

artists during the 1960s, like Bob Dylan, Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young, and the Doors. The Eagles and Southern rock bands Lynyrd Skynyrd and the Allman Brothers were some of the most popular performers during the 1970s. Alternative musical acts such as the Ramones, Blondie, and the Talking Heads started to gain attention and fans. The 1980s and 1990s saw a wide range of styles from Van Halen and ZZ Top to the Red Hot Chili Peppers and the Pretenders.

There are a variety of items from throughout Rock's history that are popular with collectors. If you happen to have something exceptional like a Ringo Starr drum kit or Kurt Cobain played guitar, it could sell for millions. More common things like records and posters can still be valuable though. The First U.K. pressing of Led Zeppelin's III album sold for over \$3,300 in 2011. A rare Beatles poster for a 1966 Toronto Maple Leafs Garden performance sold for \$50,000 in 2019. Even a guitar pick can be valuable. An Eddie Van Halen Ed Leffler guitar pick recently sold for \$1000 online after striking a chord with bidders.



Fluke fishing

1950s.

In a 1950s interview Fats Domino said, "Rock & roll is nothing but rhythm & blues," according to a Rolling Stone article. Which is the first rock and roll song is the subject of debate. Mental Floss Magazine's website lists 5 songs that might be considered the first rock and roll song:

1. "That's All Right Mama" by Arthur "Big Boy" Crudup (1946)

2. 'Good Rockin' Tonight" by Wynonie Harris (1948)

3. "Rock this Joint" by Jimmy Preston and his Prestonians (1949)

a fuzzy sound that defined the song's raw vibe, and became a blueprint for the guitar tone of everyone from Chuck Berry to the Rolling Stones." Later during the 1950s, Rock grew and other acts such as Elvis Presley, Sam Cooke, Chuck Berry, and Fats Domino became popular. In the 1960s Berry Gordon's Motown Record Company produced a string of hits by multiple artists. The Beatles, the Animals, and the Rolling Stones were some of the bands that came to the U.S. as part of the British Invasion during the '60s. The Vietnam War influenced many American performing

Our next multi-estate online auction will begin soon and end in June. Our sports and non-

sports cards auction will also be running online soon. More auctions are being planned. See our website for 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



Local students graduate from Assumption University

WORCESTER — Nearly 400 graduates received a bachelor's degree during Assumption University's 104th Commencement exercises on Sunday, May 9. at the DCU Center in downtown Worcester. Pulitzer Prize-winning and nationally syndicated Washington Post columnist George F. Will, Ph.D., delivered what he called the "last Assumption lecture for which you will be a captive audience" to the Class of 2021, in which he urged the graduates to live in the present while also imagining the past. The Class of 2021 is the first to graduate from Assumption University, which transitioned from Assumption College last year. Local students included:

Tyler Carlson, of Charlton Cameron MacLean, of Charlton Valerie Queirolo, of Charlton Morgan Shields, of Uxbridge

"Mr. Will's influence as an author, newspaper columnist and journalist, particularly for the Washington Post as well as a political commentator on ABC and MSNBC, cannot be overstated,» said Salutatorian Maeve McDonald (21 in her introduction of the speaker. «In speaking with Mr. Will about the value of such an education, he noted that, the point of a liberal arts education is to teach you to open your mind to question, not to reject, but to question received opinions.> He argued that this is a particularly important skill for graduates today as we enter a world that is fraught with political turmoil and moral relativism.»

In his commencement address, Will shared an example of just how one's liberal education can help one better understand the world. He prompted graduates to consider the political unrest in America and the "mudslinging" against "past Americans who played large roles in the creation and preservation of our nation," whose statues are being toppled and names scrubbed from public buildings and places for what mudslingers deem moral and political failures.

"No one says our nation was, or those who passed it on to us, were without sin," he shared. "Rather, I am here to warn against the sin of pride. This is the sin of those who today so much enjoy rendering harsh judgments against those who acted in earlier days In harshly judging those who produced our nation, today's unforgiving critics are guilty of their own sin. It is the sin of presentism."

Will explained that presentism is "the fallacy of judging by our standards the behavior of those who acted in circumstances very different than ours," and that the only cure is a deep historical knowledge. "Only such knowledge can give us the ability to imagine what it was like to have been America's leaders trying to act morally, as we all must try, in situations not of their choosing or of their making," he said. "What I'm asking for, what I'm pleading for, is imagination. Usually when we speak of imagination, it is prospective imagination, imagination of the future But what we urgently need now is retrospective imagination. The ability to imagine the past," he said, adding that we need to reimagine the textures of a time long ago, with social settings, customs, political practices, and institutions and ethical standards much different than we have today. He asked those in attendance "on this 21st century Sunday morning» to return in their imaginations to 167 years ago when the Kansas Nebraska Act became law. It allowed popular majorities in Kansas and Nebraska to decide whether to permit enslavement. Will asked the audience to imagine the scene as politically engaged Americans in 1954, and asked «What would you have advocated? What would you have done?» Will shared that while Lincoln was against enslavement, he was also opposed to allowing the Union to dissolve, which would have called self-government into doubt. He "adopted the ethic of responsibility and committed himself to the patience of politics, to the long path of maneuver and persuasion." Will said that to understand such dilemmas that politicians confronted in the past requires more than just the grounding of facts in history; it requires imagination and the empathy that imagination can nourish. "Our nation today needs the empathy that can only come from imagination and the ability to imagine oneself in other people's shoes. The ability to reason, and maneuver, and compromise as they had to do." Will called presentism a "pandemic of vindictiveness," and a pandemic, though not of a virus, but something for which there is no vaccine. "Historically-grounded empathy inoculates us against the sin of pride that is at the cold heart of presentism," said Will. Will said that he hoped that the graduates' time at Assumption had provided them with two talents that would make them immune to such moral vanity-a talent for gratitude and a talent for praising. "Having gratitude for those men and women in the American past, who, like all of us, were flawed but who nevertheless handed on to us a nation that had fewer flaws than when they inherited it," he said. "Praising is an

act of humility, an act of homage to those who have been in the arena and who have distinguished themselves there."

He concluded his "final lecture" with an old English couplet: "The couplet is: 'All men are created equal. They differ only in the sequel.' You are the sequel to this excellent University's fine touch," he said. "You will go forth from here and live in the present. But you will, I hope and expect, leave the nation better, because you will avoid presentism. You will do so by appreciating the always crooked road we Americans are always traveling toward a more perfect Union."

Assumption President Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D., also emphasized the enduring importance of a liberal arts education. "While so much changed this past year, what did not change was the essence and value of your Assumption education," he said. "The pandemic has made more evident the value of the Catholic liberal education you have received in the last four years. You have come to appreciate that enduring ideas matter and provide a framework for understanding our contemporary world. You have explored the deepest questions of the human heart, which transcend time and place."

President Cesareo added that these questions include understanding the common good, cultivating good judgment and understanding complexity, finding one's purpose in life, and understanding the responsibilities we have to one another, especially among the most vulnerable. "A Catholic liberal education engages these questions and has prepared you to live out your vocations, professions and to be lifelong learners," he said. "It has provided you with the wisdom and courage to confront the challenges we face during a time like this and that you will face throughout your life."

Valedictorian Hannah White '21 also spoke of Assumption's emphasis on vocation and its importance as she and her classmates enter "a pandemic-stricken workforce with no guarantee that we'll find our ideal entry-level job, much less a clear career path," she said. "Over the past four years we have become familiar with the tagline, "Light the way." How can we be a light for others when we ourselves cannot see through the darkness of the unknown?"

White shared her experience in the SOPHIA program as one example in how Assumption helps its students understand what it means to choose a vocation. "Our vocations-our life callings- affect all aspects of how we live, work, and engage with the world around us," she said. "Although we find it difficult to discern our future through the haze of uncertainty, remember this: our life purpose is not some far off goal that will allow us to be happy forever. Vocation is an ever ongoing process of self-discovery. It is living magnanimously, striving for the greatest good, especially in the day to day. It is using what gifts we have to serve others who have nothing. It is living in authentic community with others, where we help each other bear our burdens. Even if our futures are shrouded in darkness, in our vocations we have the light we need to see the next right step.' In closing, President Cesareo reminded the graduates that they are the first class to graduate from Assumption University, representing a milestone in the history of Assumption. "Throughout its history, Assumption has shown itself to be a resilient institution, overcoming challenges that on the surface seemed insurmountable,' he shared. "This year, you have also shown yourself to be resilient as you adapted to the changes that were necessary as we addressed the impact of the pandemic. The sacrifices you made have allowed you to grow as a person in ways that were unexpected. In this way, the pandemic shaped your education as it shaped you as well. Thank you for the many ways you contributed to making Assumption a better place over the last four years. As you move on to the next chapter of your journey, I congratulate you on all that you have accomplished as students at Assumption. We look forward to the many contributions you will make to our society because of your education at your alma mater." During the ceremony, Will and Vincent Strully, Jr., founder and CEO of

the New England Center for Children, received honorary degrees. Will was honored for his "steadfast pursuit of knowledge and distinguished commentary [that] has enriched the American media landscape," while Strully was recognized for his "four decades of selfless service" in which he has dedicated himself to "empowering those in the autism community."

Assumption University, founded in 1904 by the Augustinians of the Assumption, is New England's premier university for high-quality education, integrating career preparation and education of the whole person, drawing upon the best in the rich and centuries-long tradition of Catholic higher education. Assumption, located in Worcester, Massachusetts, seeks to provide students with a transformative education that forms graduates who possess critical intelligence, thoughtful citizenship, and compassionate service. The University offers 34 majors and 49 minors in the liberal arts, sciences, business, nursing and professional studies; as well as master's and continuing education degrees and professional certificate programs. For more information about Assumption University, please visit www.assumption.edu.



Inwirke property us he investment the sound spercer community Club/Vietnam Memorial Park. For years, this Vietnam veteran has singly maintained the upkeep of the park's building and lawn by mowing, raking, and general clean-up of leaves and other debris. He flies our American flag and lowers it to 1/2 staff when necessary. He orders and places flowers on the markers of the 3 Spencer men that are honored with markers at the park on Memorial Day. He oversees anything he sees amiss to be sure the building and surrounding area are well cared for. He does this especially for those men to whom we honor at that park. Peter has done all this caretaker's work without pay or recognition of any kind and he does so immaculately and with pride to honor those who served and are no longer with us. He is the best example of a caring helpful citizen that I know. Thank you!

Submitted by a resident from Spencer who wishes to remain anonymous

Person of the Week is sponsored by:





ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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





I speni way too inner inner inner in a car. So, cars make the super nervous, and so do small spaces, so I would likely never be able to be crated, and would need a lot of work, reassurance and patience to comfortably go on any car rides. I am my very happiest when I've got lots of space to run and have things to keep me busy and entertained. An experienced owner is a must. Because of my size and energy, I would not be able to go home with any children, in my last home an exuberant child was swinging his arms near me and it made me nervous. I wouldn't hurt a fly (on purpose) but let's be safe and just stick with adult companions for now.

Second Chance Animal Services Inc. East Brookfield, MA• (508) 867-5525 www.secondchanceanimals.org





Mon-Thurs 8:00-8:00 · Fri. 8:00-6:00 · Sat: 9:00-4:00

* * * Friday's Child * *



Jadelyn Age 12

Hi! My name is Jadelyn and I want to attend college and be a princess.

Jadelyn is a girl of Hispanic descent who enjoys being active. Some of her favorite activities include singing, playing on the playground and practicing her cartwheels. She is very open and willing to try new things and loves animals. Jadelyn thrives with adult attention and care, and she benefits from structure and clear expectations. She hopes to attend college when she is older and also wishes to be a princess.

Jadelyn enjoys school and was a peer mentor in her summer program. She is currently working on learning her multipli-

cation tables.

Legally freed for adoption, Jadelyn will do well in a family of any constellation that can provide her with positive attention and support. If there are other children in the home, it would be best if they are older than Jadelyn so that they can act as a role model for her. An ideal family will help Jadelyn maintain contact with her birth parents and siblings.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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



Everyday Activities Reduce Stress

Stress is a part of daily life and common, everyday tension can take a toll on both your physical and mental health. With more than half of Americans concerned about the high levels of stress they experience in their daily lives, high anxiety is practically an epidemic in this country. While it's a fact that frayed nerves are often the price you pay for an overactive lifestyle, that doesn't mean you can't diffuse the impact. In fact, odds are your daily routine includes everyday activities that have been proven to lessen the stress factor. From petting your dog to writing in your diary, there are many simple and deliberate actions you can practice to de-stress without reaching for a pill.

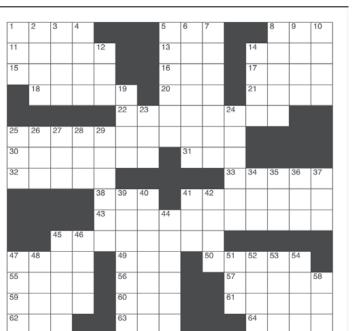
If you drink coffee in the morning, a study by University College of London might convince you to switch to black tea. According to the study, drinking daily cups of the tea has a positive effect on stress hormone levels, which can help a person recover more quickly from everyday stresses.

Theresearch, published in the journal Psychopharmacology, revealed found that people who drank black tea were able to de-stress more quickly than those who drank a placebo tea. Moreover, the participants (who drank black tea four times a day for six weeks) displayed lower levels of the stress hormone cortisol after experiencing a stressful event, as compared to a control group who drank the placebo tea for the same period of time.

Exercise is a proven method of lowering stress levels, and many people make a workout part of their daily routine. And there's good news for those who don't go to a gym on a regular basis. Research reveals a daily 20 minute walk can be as effective as a mild tranquilizer.

It's no surprise pets play an important role in reducing stress. What is surprising is a research study that shows pets may be better at reducing stress than a loved one! According to a report published in the September/October issue of the journal Psychosomatic Medicine, researchers examined the effects of the presence of friends, spouses and pets on the level of stress associated with certain relatively unpleasant tasks. They found that compared with human support, the presence of pets was associated with lower perceived and actual responses to stress.

Even if you're not artistically inclined, dabbling in some form of creative art each day can boost your stress relieving hormones. In fact, the University of California - Irvine offers a class in Art Therapy, utilizing the simple act of drawing and creating art to relieve stress in two ways. First, creating artwork requires focus, and takes your mind off stress causing issues. When the project is done, your head is clearer (and less tense). Also, while creating art, you are engaged in the action to the point of being in a



CLUES ACROSS

1. Prevents harm to young 32. Extensive landed property 5. "Losing My Religion" rockers 33. Male aristocrat 8. Partner to pan 38. For each 11. Cavalry unit 41. More fidgety 13. Peyton's little brother 43. Very happy 14. Mexican dish 45. A place to store info 15. Disseminates info to the public 47. Helps to heal 16. Set an animal on 49. 12th month (abbr.) 17. Canadian flyers 50. Broad, shallow craters 18. Elongated mouths of 55. Nocturnal S. American rodent anthropods 56. Frost 20. I (German) 57. Ethiopian town 21. Opposite of west 59. Curved shapes 22. Glows 60. Company that rings receipts 25. Measures how quickly a 61. Spiritual leader car moves 62. Sheep native to Sweden 63. Cars need it

TAKE THE HINT KAREN TRAINOR near meditative state. This

results in many of the benefits of meditation and you may feel less stressed when you are done.

Gardening is another pastime that has been linked to lower blood pressure and reduced anxiety. An estimated 40% of Americans find that being in the presence of a garden makes them feel relaxed and calm. Retreating to a garden can renew energy, create a sense of peace, and restore well-being. The benefits of gardening, both physically and emotionally, are well-documented. Whether planning, planting, tending, or harvesting, many gardeners describe feeling this emotional "high", which promotes well-being and relieves stress symptoms. Like meditation and relaxation programs, gardening involves both physical movement and mental concentration, a combination that has been attributed to numerous health benefits. Today, a variety of garden programs are used as Horticultural Therapy to promote health and wellness.

Writing in a journal is therapeutic and jotting down your feelings both good and bad, can also help relieve stress. University of Texas at Austin psychologist and researcher James Pennebaker contends that regular journaling strengthens immune cells, called T-lymphocytes. Pennebaker believes that writing about stressful events helps you come to terms with them, thus reducing the impact of these stressers on your physical health.

To boost the stress relieving effect, be sure to "count your blessings" and list them, as keeping a gratitude jour-

Brookfield Community Club hosting town-wide yard sale

BROOKFIELD — The Brookfield Community Club is hosting a Town-Wide Yard Sale on Saturday, May 22.

A map/listing of the participating yard-sale locations will be available to download from the Brookfield those who did not.

nal has been proven to be a

powerful calming aid. On the

other hand, it is also beneficial

to write out your feelings and

negative emotions. According

to Psych Central, journaling

about anger, sadness and other

painful emotions helps to

release the intensity of these

feelings. By doing so you will

feel calmer and better able to

Here are some more stress

*It's a known fact that color

can alter our moods. "Cool'

colors like violet, purple and

green can soothe jittery nerves.

Blue has shown to be the most

ful weapon in the fight against

stress, and can work to head

off a panic attacks. Meditation

and proper breathing can helps

slow the heart rate and calm

nerves A quick calming trick is

to close your eyes and breathe

slowly and deeply, focusing on

in and can offer a calm perspec-

tive on the world. A research

study showed that that college

students who practiced a reli-

gion were less stressed than

their non-religious counter-

parts. Other research suggests

that those who are religious are

less likely to have a stress-re-

change our moods, and in fact,

music can be a powerful weap-

on in the battle with stress and

stretching often not only brings

instant relief to a stressed,

frazzled body, but it has been

shown to lower cortisol levels,

which can help reduce stress

and anxiety. Deep breathing

can also cause a temporary

drop in blood pressure.

apeutic for diffusing

stress. A study found

that workers who nap

for at least 45 minutes

during the day had

lower average blood

pressure after suf-

fering psychological

compared to

stress

*Naps are also ther-

*Taking a deep breath and

*Listening to music can

lated mental illness.

anxiety.

*Prayer helps you focus with-

*Meditation can be a power-

calming color influence of all.

stay in the present.

busters:

the breaths.

*According the Calm Clinic, whole grain snacks, blueberries, peaches, almonds, and dark chocolate are all good food choices with natural calming properties. Also, foods with magnesium, vitamin B12 (and other B vitamins), zinc, and antioxidants can be beneficial for helping you deal with stress.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two at the 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!

Please note the contest had been suspended due to COVID restrictions for seating in restaurants. It is expected to start up again in June. All entries have been collected and will be entered into an upcoming drawing.

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.

SPENCER ALMANAC **REAL ESTATE** LEICESTER

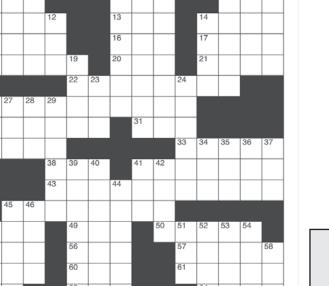
\$800,000, 803 Main St, ATC LLC, to Thompson Leicester Woodmont Rlty.

\$415,000, 609 Henshaw St, Nicholson, Richard, and Nicholson, Heidi A, to Ingels, Adam.

\$320,000, 740 Whittemore St, Bosman, Troy, to Alvarez, Jennifer, and Alvarez, Nereo.

\$250,000, 19 South St, Karam, David, to Jebola Properties Inc.

\$230,000, 18 Lake Dr, Valinski,

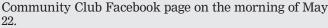


- 30. One who has gained wealth
- 31. Patti Hearst's captors

CLUES DOWN

1. Scientist's high-resolution tool (abbr.)

- 2. Type of school
- 3. Formal close (music)
- 4. Transmits high voltage
- 6. Draws out
- 7. His Airness
- 8. Nocturnal rodents
- 9. South American plants
- 10. Homestead
- 12. Bland or semiliquid food
- 14. Forest resident
- 19. The body needs it
- 23. Atomic mass unit (abbr.)
- 24. Spell
- 25. Relaxing place
- 26. Political fundraising tool
- 27. Make a mistake
- 28. Partner to Adam
- 29. Tyrant 34. Unit of electrical resistance 35. A history of one's life 36. Actor DiCaprio 37. Sea eagle 40. de Mornay, actress 41. Belonging to a thing 42. Not us 44. Motorcars 45. Capital of Bangladesh 46. Ancient Greek sophist 47. Practice boxing 48. Grant, actor 51. Swiss river
- 58. Small island (British)



We encourage all participants to follow Covid safety protocols at the yard sales (masks, social distancing, contact-less payment options, etc.).

For complete details, please visit https://www.facebook.com/events/460055238539381?active_tab=about.



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OR send to Spencer New Leader

Paul, to Coleman, John E, and Coleman, Jessica.\$180,000, 12 West St, Sarmiento, Gilberto, and Sarmiento, Vanessa, to Rijo, Herlin.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$245,000, 23 Bradshaw St, Giguere, Lenny P, and Giguere, Gail L, to Murray, Erin N.

\$145,000, 38 W Brookfield Rd, Carlson, Rodney N, to Edma Properties LLC.

SPENCER

\$321,066, 219 N Spencer Rd, US Bank NA Tr, to Osowska, Krystyna. \$275,000, 12 Longview Dr, Goyette, Shirley J, to Goyette, David W.

WARREN

\$400,000, 152 Southbridge Rd #1B, KDLK Holdings LLC, to Timberwolf Properties LLC.

\$400,000, 152 Southbridge Rd #1C, KDLK Holdings LLC, to Timberwolf Properties LLC.

\$400,000, 152 Southbridge Rd #2A, KDLK Holdings LLC, to Timberwolf Properties LLC.

\$400,000, 152 Southbridge Rd #2C, KDLK Holdings LLC, to Timberwolf Properties LLC.

\$400,000, 152 Southbridge Rd #3C, KDLK Holdings LLC, to Timberwolf Properties LLC.

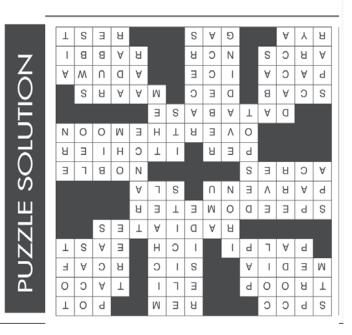
\$400,000, 152 Southbridge Rd #3D, KDLK Holdings LLC, to Timberwolf Properties LLC.

\$355,000, 376 Little Rest Rd, Wilk Bros Inc, to Wilk, Chelsea E, and Swistak, Joshua A.



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5. A way to occupy a certain area 39. Avoiding being caught 52. S. Sudan river 53. A bumpkin

64. Partner to relaxation

54. One point south of southwest

PURPLE HEART

continued from page A1

2020, when retired Marine Lt. Col. James "Jim" Foyle intro-duced selectmen to the opportunity. By becoming a Purple Heart Community, a town commits to honoring and remembering military personnel who were wounded or killed in combat.

initiated the North Brookfield Town Purple Heart action predicated on one of the principles of the Knights of Columbus, which is patriotism." Foyle told the New Leader. "A fellow K of C member had accomplished the same for his community, and I thought that this concept would be very appropriate for North Brookfield also."

The Purple Heart Community designation was inspired by the Purple Heart, itself - the nation's oldest military medal. It was created by General George Washington in 1782 and was then known as the Badge of Military Merit.

On Sept. 1, 2020, the Purple

during his guest mentorship

mances, coach John Legend once

again had glowing praise for

Modig. Throughout the spring,

he has raved about the profes-

sionalism and preparedness of

Modig was thrilled by the

each member of his team.

Following her final perfor-

MODIG

appearance.

continued from page A1

Memorial Day.

Brookfield was signed by selectmen. Chairman Dale Kiley read the proclamation, and officials initially planned to hold a celebratory event during the Veterans Day program. After the event was canceled due to COVID-19, officials made plans to celebrate the designation on

Heart Proclamation for North

Having spent six years in the Air Force, Kularski is thrilled that North Brookfield is joining several other local towns as Purple Heart Communities. These include Barre, Brookfield, Palmer, Leicester, West Brookfield, Warren, and Ware, among others.

Local veterans and their families are also excited about the news. They plan to be in attendance on May 31 for the Memorial Day ceremony and presentation.

"After the dark days of the pandemic, the community can see the light of a Purple Heart Community," Foyle added. "For many, the Purple Heart was gained posthumously, and

opportunity to work with Legend - an undeniable legend in the entertainment industry. Although she only had a few weeks under her new coach's guidance, she gained countless

unforgettable memories. "I think our most memorable moment was when he stole me," Modig told Coach Legend before delivering what would be her final performance on the show. "I remember during my we are forever in their debt for rendering the ultimate sacrifice. There are others who have suffered maiming wounds that have changed their lives forever. They continue to suffer long after the heat of battle has cooled."

Becoming a Purple Heart Community also inspires residents to find ways they can support and honor veterans, officials said. Assistance can come through a number of projects and programs, or simply by taking the time to write a card thanking veterans.

"These veterans need our continued support, not just by words but by action," Foyle said. "I would encourage all that can possibly do it, to contribute to the Disabled American Veterans organization, the Wounded Warrior Program, or even visit a VA hospital to help support those veterans who are still fighting the battle long after it was over.'

For more information about other upcoming town events, visit www.northbrookfield.net.

blind audition when you said my vibrato was captivating.'

Modig attended Saint Peter-Marian High School in Worcester before switching to homeschooling and graduating early. She is currently learning the piano and the ukulele, and she also enjoys tarot card reading.

For more information about the NBC hit show – or to view Modig's previous performances - visit www.nbc.com/the-voice.

PINE GROVE continued from page A1

because he owns family plots at the cemetery.

Speaking to the New Leader in an unofficial capacity, as an individual resident of Spencer, Hicks expressed his support for the town acquiring the cemetery.

"If the town doesn't take it over, I believe it will fall into disrepair," Hicks said. "I believe our town history needs to be protected so it doesn't become blighted."

Other selectmen also supported acquiring the cemetery, but they want to proceed with caution and make sure no details are overlooked. A comprehensive study into ownership of the land must

GRIGG

continued from page A1

ed, with write-in candidate Jeffrey Sauvageau earning the most votes (121).

At East Brookfield's election occurring on the same night, Pelchat defended her seat on the regional school committee with 114 votes, while Sauvageau earned 20 votes. These totals were combined with their Spencer totals to confirm their terms.

For the East Brookfield representative of the regional school committee, incumbent Heather Messier was

take place, officials said. "We need to be able to produce a clear title to that land, or we can't take it," said Selectman Gary Woodbury. "I understand it is a tough situation, but the town needs to be sure we hold a clear title to that property.'

Added Selectman John Howard, "I don't have a problem with the town taking care of it, but there are a lot of details we don't yet know about that need to be discussed."

Looking ahead, in order for the town to officially acquire the cemetery, a Town Meeting article would need to be passed for funding authorization.

For more information about the election results, visit www.spencerma.gov.

chosen for re-election by voters in both towns.

A total of 134 ballots were cast at East Brookfield's election (8 percent of registered voters).

For the Spencer election's non-binding public opinion ballot question, residents voted 732-240 in favor of the town acquiring Pine Grove Cemetery. Selectmen must now discuss the situation before potentially preparing a funding authorization article for Town Meeting.

Voter turnout for the Spencer election was 12 percent. with 1.017 total ballots cast.



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Two wooden sticks formed my world

I've been a percussionist since I was eight years old. For those who are unfamiliar with the term ... I'm a drummer.

A man named Levi Rock handed me a pair of Ludwig 3S laminated drumsticks. Although I didn't know it at the time, the trajectory of my life was set. He then said, "Hey Bill ... strap a drum on this kid and take him outside and teach him to play Paradiddles, Triplets and Shave and a Hair Cut." Bill Buck, still a dearest friend to this day, nodded and I followed him into "the cage," the equipment room for the Kankakee Challengers Drum & Bugle Corps.

It was love at first grip as I held those sticks in hand and looked at that red, silver, and blue sparkle drum strapped to my right shoulder and resting on my left thigh. It felt natural ... as if I were born to wear it.

Time passed, but every step of my life was guided or influenced by this pair of wooden sticks. My junior high and high school years were all dominated by concert band, jazz band, marching band, and drum & bugle corps at the American Legion.

The sticks then took me to VanderCook College of Music for a degree in music education. I won a state NBTA Rudimental Drumming Solo Championship and two months later placed third in the nation. I performed and toured for a season with the National/ World Champion Chicago

Cavaliers. Music never became my vocation but led, guided, and influenced my professional and personal life in profoundly positive ways.

Those sticks took me on a five-week tour as a drummer for Country Star Ray Price. All along the way, I couldn't have ever imagined where my sticks would take me next.

Through the years, I've performed off and on in my church with our praise and worship team, but life, health and professional travel brought me to the point where performing ended.

A few weeks ago, Pastor Matt Smith, arranged an opportunity for me to take those wooden sticks and make music one more time, and maybe for the last time. I was so rusty ... but the band pulled me along and allowed me the privilege to sit at those drums and play. I'm grateful.

What's the point of this column? One point is to emphasize the importance of music education, which I believe is tragically undervalued within our educational system. More importantly, the point is to

highlight the impact of doing what you love and finding your passion. The joy of taking those two pieces of wood into my hands and making a joyful noise, for me, is priceless. It has enriched my life in indescribable ways.

You just never know the profound impact moments in time can have. Lightning may strike at any time. You must always be open to new experiences, as you never know where they will lead.

For my dad, I'm guessing it might be the first time someone handed him a baseball. For my daughter, a Pastor, the first time she was handed a Bible. For my wife, it's gardening. Drumsticks, a baseball, a Bible, a few flowers magically arranged to create beauty ... all unexpected but profound moments that led to a lifelong passion.

We can't choose those moments that lead to our passions. They just happen. We don't plan them and usually are not even aware that they've happened at all until years later. A parent can't choose for a child ... and I don't think we choose at all. Maybe the passion chooses us ... seizing our emotions, creating a lifelong love.

I think the best we can do is give ourselves and our children a wide variety of experiences until they find what they love. And unfortunately, for some, maybe they never find that passion. It's never too late. I know people who in the latter years of their life were struck by something they learned that they loved.

Be open. Let your mind and heart explore the possibilities.

Did you have that moment in your life? If not, are you open to having it?

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

Leicester Community Electricity Aggregation **Program launching in August**

LEICESTER — The Town of Leicester announces that it will launch its electricity aggregation program, known as Leicester Community Electricity Aggregation (CEA), in August 2021. The program is designed to provide more electricity options for residents, businesses, and ratepayers in Leicester. The program was approved by Leicester's Town Meeting in 2014.

The program, with electricity supplied by Dynegy, will offer known, competitive rates for 40 months from August 2021 through December 2024 in two pricing periods. The first pricing period is for 3 months - August 2021 through the meter read in November 2021. The second pricing period starts with the November 2021 meter read through December 2024. For residential customers, the prices during the first pricing period will be below National Grid's Basic Service rates for the same period. However, future savings cannot be guaranteed because National Grid Basic Service prices change every six months for Residential and Commercial customers and every three months for Large Commercial and Industrial customers.

The program will also offer two optional rates with differing amount of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) so everyone can find the product that fits best their budget and their climate

National Grid rate	Leicester CEA	Leicester CEA optional rates			
Basic service (residential customers)	Standard product	Leicester 50	Leicester 100		
\$0.09707/kWh Duration May – November 2021	\$0.09491/kWh Duration: August - November 2021	\$0.11677/kWh Duration: August - November 2021	\$0.13863/kWh Duration: August - November 2021		
	\$0.10455/kWh Duration: November 2021 - December 2024	\$0.12410/kWh Duration: November 2021 - December 2024	\$0.14366/kWh Duration: November 2021 - December 2024		
Meets state Renewable Energy Certificate (RECs) standards	Meets state renewable energy standards	50% more RECs than state renewable energy standards	Includes RECs equal to 100% percent of energy consumption		
	Disclaimer: Savings canno which change every six m every three months for ind				

goals. The electricity rates offered by the program will be fixed over the 40-month term of the electric supply agreement (ESA) from August 2021 through December 2024. The Leicester CEA rates will be: (See Graph)

Leicester has initiated and will continue a broad-based education and outreach effort to make residents and businesses aware of the program. A virtual community meeting will be held on May 26 at 6 p.m. to explain the program and the benefits (meeting link on the Town calendar at www.leicesterma. org). The best place to find the most updated information is the aggregation website www.LeicesterCEA.com.

Around mid-May, eligible residents and businesses will receive a letter from the winning electricity supplier, Dynegy, on behalf of the Town. It will provide detailed program information

and instructions on how to choose an optional Leicester CEA rate or how to opt-out of Leicester CEA. No action is necessary if you would like to participate in Leicester CEA's standard electricity rate, Leicester Standard. All Leicester residential and business accounts on National Grid Basic Service who are eligible to participate in Leicester CEA with automatic enrollment will receive a Customer Notification Letter. Those who do not opt out of the program before launch will be automatically enrolled in the standard electricity rate as of their August 2021 meter read date. Anyone that does not want to participate in Leicester CEA may opt out of Leicester CEA either before the program begins or at any time during the program without penalty.

Electricity customers who are currently enrolled with a third-party supplier will not receive the opt-out letter and will not be automatically enrolled. These customers can voluntarily join the program but may be subject to penalties or early termination fees from the third-party supplier if they switch to the electricity aggregation program during the term of their contract.

For more information about the program, go to www.LeicesterCEA. com, call Dynegy, the electricity supplier, at (866) 220-5696 or the Town Administrator's office at 508-892-7077.

POSITIVELY SPEAKING GARY W. MOORE

Programs provide support for local seniors

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – As local communities begin the long process of recovering from the pandemic, Senior Center officials are working hard to provide support.

The Senior Center is involved in several local programs that provide assistance to seniors and their families. These include the Farmers to Families Food Box Program, a partnership between area communities and the USDA. The program supports farmers by getting their fresh produce into the hands of residents experiencing food insecurity.

Food box distribution events have been held in area towns throughout the spring, led by the Charlton-based Chip In Food Pantry. The pantry has served as a hub for distributing boxes to other organizations and senior centers.

In North Brookfield, the Senior Center's programming and outreach coordinator, Kathleen Griffin, recently registered 50 families for the food box program. She then drove to Charlton to pick up the boxes and bring them back to North Brookfield.

The next food box distribution event in town will take place on May

27. Griffin will once again work with student volunteers from North Brookfield High School to hand out food boxes. If you are interested in receiving a box, please pre-register by contacting the Senior Center.

"We are hoping they will extend this program. It helps farmers and their families, and also local families," Griffin said.

Leaders throughout central Massachusetts have been thrilled with the results of the Farmers to Families Food Box Program. In order to continue, the program will need to secure additional federal or grant funding.

"This program started last year to help the farmers out. Because of the pandemic, restaurants stopped getting products from farmers [during the height of COVID-19 restrictions]," said Michael McGrath, who volunteers at the Chip In Food Pantry and also serves on its board of directors. "We wanted to get the word out about this to people in the area."

Each USDA food box contains approximately 30 pounds of food, including produce, dairy, and protein. A typical box might feature the following items: five pounds of potatoes; three pounds of onions; one pound of root vegetables, such as

carrots or beets; three pounds of hand fruit, typically apples or oranges: one gallon of milk; four pounds of soft dairy, such as yogurt, sour cream, cottage cheese, or butter; one pound of cheese, such as cheddar, American, mozzarella, or parmesan; four pounds of cooked protein, such as roasted chicken quarters, ground turkey, or taco meat; and one pound of deli meat or chicken hot dogs.

The North Brookfield Senior Center has also distributed hygiene bags to seniors this spring. The program is offered through a community development block grant partnership with the Town of Leicester.

Hygiene bags are distributed at the Senior Center on the first Tuesday of every month, from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Bags are filled with basic hygiene products.

If you are interested in receiving a hygiene bag through the program, you must pre-register by calling the Senior Center.

Funds for the program are provided through federal COVID-19 relief funding. The program is expected to end in December.

For more information about upcoming events at the Senior Center, call 508-867-0220.

NBSB'S John Thomasian selected for BusinessWest's "40 Under Forty" Class of 2021

NORTH BROOKFIELD North Brookfield Savings Bank is proud to announce that John Thomasian, Vice President, C.F.O. & Treasurer at North Brookfield Savings Bank, has been chosen by BusinessWest for their " 40 Under Forty"- Class of 2021. A panel of judges reviewed more than 150 nominations and concluded that John's credentials, accomplishments, and contributions to his local community make him a true leader. He will be recognized for this accomplishment at the upcoming BusinessWest Gala in

September 2021. "I am overjoyed to have been selected to accompany the other incredible members in the class of 2021 of BusinessWest's 40 under forty." says John Thomasian, "It is an honor to be recognized for the hard work and dedication I have put

forth to give back to our local communities and develop into a true leader."

It is a true pleasure being able to serve my hometown Bank and its customers. I am very thankful to my fellow colleagues and most of all my family for the support they have provided throughout my career!

Thomasian is а graduate of Nichols College, with a BSA in Finance and a minor in Accounting, as well as a graduate of EASCORP's Advanced Asset Liability Management & Investment Academy. He has served over a decade in the financial industry and has held several positions such as, Financial Analyst, AVP of Finance & Collections, and Vice President of Revenue. He currently serves as North Brookfield Savings Bank's Vice President / Chief Financial Officer& Treasurer. John annually participates in the side by side charity for disabled veterans, Operation Playhouse, co-sponsored by Habitat for Humanity. He is also a former committee member of the National Association of Federal Credit Unions Political Action Committee (NAFCU P.A.C.).

B u s i n e s s W e s t launched their "Class of 40 under forty" program in 2007. This campaign is to celebrate the hard working professionals that have worked hard to become leaders and make an impact in their communities. What was a slow start to this great program has gained much momentum through the years, as local advocates and employees double as community members. Look out for the "40 under Forty" publication of BusinessWest to see the amazing success stories of the whole class of 2021!

Adam Phillips of Brookfield named Nichols College valedictorian

to announce Adam Phillips '21 from Brookfield, as the valedictorian of the Class of 2021

Adam will address his classmates during commencement on Saturday, ful for my time on the hill.

DUDLEY — Nichols College is pleased May 15. He'll graduate Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 GPA and as captain of the track team.

Phillips shares, "Nichols has become mv second home and I'm forever grate-

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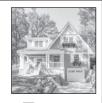
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> **FRANK G. CHILINSKI** PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The pitfalls of 'senioritis'

We've all heard the term 'senioritis' — perhaps even experienced a case of it ourselves — but is this diagnosis real? After some lengthy research, we say absolutely.

Senioritis is defined as, "A supposed affliction of students in their final year of high school or college, characterized by a decline in motivation or performance." The end is near, with graduation just around the corner, and many seniors can taste freedom, but aren't quite sure what to do with it. Even with some students heading off to college, the fear of the unknown combined with a complete change in the cadence in life is enough to make several seniors come down with a serious case of senioritis. The senioritis is a way to break away from the stress and rigors of 13 years of schooling.

Some signs of the affliction include a lack of motivation, a decline in grades, or feeling as though nothing they do in the final months leading up to graduation really matters much. Most students' entire senior years of high school are spent trying to plan for the future, this can be daunting and stressful for these kids, who are still really, just kids. Some symptoms parents should look for include extreme laziness, apathy, spending all of their free time with friends away from home.

Unfortunately, the rapid decline in motivation does not go unseen by universities. After being accepted, many schools will look at a student's last semester, and a substantial decrease in grades raises a red flag. This has admissions offices questioning a prospective student's level of commitment and the question of maturity is also put on the table. If the situation is bad enough, a college or university can rescind an acceptance. Each year, thousands of students receive such letters. ometimes a student will enter their freshman year of college already on academic probation. If a student was issued merit aid from an institution, they risk losing those funds There are things that can be done to help offset senioritis. One thing a student can do is to set tiny goals such as getting a B or higher on the next quiz or test, or to finish an assignment ahead of time. Working on better ways to study for tests is also crucial. Too much pressure can cause students to shut down so taking some time to relax and have fun with family and friends is a great idea. Another idea is for parents and teachers to reassure students that life after high school is an exciting time and that not every graduate needs a definitive plan right away. Explain different opportunities for a gap year, including the pros and cons of taking one. If your child becomes too self-destructive handing out consequences is key. Finding their currency and removing it may change their perspective and keep them on track. Remembering to reward good behavior is a must. If your child is behaving in such a way that they become emotionally removed, disobedient and disrespectful taking a gap year might be the best option as college is expensive and tuition should never go to waste. Sometimes when students see their friends off at school while they are left behind can be motivation to get back into the swing of things.

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

<u>LETTERS TO THE EDITOR</u> A lie cannot be an opinion, and an opinion cannot be a lie

It is my sincere hope that I can live up to the spirit of my May 14 letter.

Truth: Based on the results of the 2020 election, the actions of the Electoral College and the certification of the US Congress, Joe Biden is the President of the United States – POTUS, if you will. I am confident that former President Trump believes this to be true – after all, he had to move.

Opinion 1: President Biden won a free and fair election.

Opinion 2: The presidency was stolen from President Trump by the Democratic Party.

If one was to say that Joe Biden is not the President, then that would be "A Big Lie." But I have never read that nor heard anyone say that. Some may write or say that he is not the legitimate President, but that would an opinion, not a fact. If one man claims that his opinion is a fact, then yes, indeed, another man can claim it to be a lie. You are correct that a lie cannot be an opinion, and I am saying that an opinion cannot be a lie.

The filibuster – I say eliminate it entirely. The Supreme Court – increase the number of Justices to achieve a liberal majority. Beware – if in 2022 the Republicans gain a majority in the House and regain the majority in the Senate, based on the above, Pres Biden's term will be over – "turn out the lights the party's over." And, if in 2024 a Republican wins the presidency, be certain that the number of Justices will be increased to achieve a conservative majority – I can only hope that before we have a 50- or 60-member court, our "leaders" will come to their senses. And, eliminate Advise and Consent while you're at it – those committee meetings are nothing more than a side show.

My children were educated in the Athol/Royalston School District - The Athol Red Raider. Back when they were all in school there was talk of a name change claiming that the name and images were racist and were insensitive and demeaning to our Native Americans. My oldest son asked me how he could approach an upcoming class debate on the subject. I told him to suggest that the name be changed to the Nazis or the Klansmen. We discussed the images and uniforms that could be employed. His teacher was mortified she said that would glorify them and give them relevance and respect. He asked her, how can one group be glorified while another group is demeaned? I knew the answer, and my son did as well, but it led to a very lively debate. Why do we attack a person's intent the same way we attack their opinions? I'm sure Omar can give us his humble opinions on the subject. Please throw in some history as well.

> JIM REID Spencer

Security threats, our kids, and their education

To the Editor:

Last month, our Director of National Intelligence issued the Annual Threat Assessment to the United States. It says that serious threats to our country include:

China's Push for Global Power - more and more an equal competitor, China is challenging the United(?) States economically, militarily, and technologically while attempting to establish itself as The Global Power.

Russia's Provocative Actions Putin's KGB-mafia like Russia, a declining medium level economic power – but much admired by Trump - constantly attacks and seeks to weaken the United States. These attacks include; 2016 and 2020 election interference, using social media to spread false facts and to divide us and allies, placing bounties on our soldiers, using micro-waves to injure government officials, and encouraging/ allowing criminal ransomware attacks on pipelines and other important infrastructure. Putin also openly murders Russians who disagree with him. The Covid Pandemic - first dismissed and then long ignored by Trump, Covid continues to fuel economic, political, and humanitarian crises. Its costs and impacts will continue for years. Climate Change and Environmental Degradation - this, made worse by Trump, continues to cause deaths, disease outbreaks, reduced water and food security, political instability, humanitarian crises, migration, and rising temperatures and worsening storms. Emerging Technologies and Cyber Threats – multiplying disruptive technologies increasingly affect our lives and freedoms, and Racially or Ethnically Motivated Violent Extremists – these extremists, who, directly or more covertly try to promote the superiorty of the white race, have been responsible for at least 26 lethal and dozens of other attempted attacks, including on our Congress. Many countries see white extremist threats as their fastest growing terrorist threat, as do our Attorney General

and intelligence officials.

One almost never reads about these threats to America in the reactionary letters submitted to the New Leader. Rather, these letter focus on dividing us by attacking forward looking conservatives, moderates and liberals and those "different" from them or their views.

In light of these threats, and divisions, the current generation of Americans probably face challenges at least equal to those of our World War II "Greatest Generation". Back then too, it was "all hands on deck' with persons of all races, religions, countries of origins, and political beliefs welcomed and participating in the effort to destroy iascism (none more so than Native Americans where one quarter of its male military aged population served). Now it is not only that our current and future generations face more and stronger, global adversaries. As importantly, due to Trump and reactionaries seeking divide the country, and growing inequalities, we are not so well united, prepared, or linked to our allies, especially those in Western Europe and Asia. In other words, some have dug a widening hole in America, while our adversaries await with bulldozers. We all may not be around to face the full impact of these threats. However, our kids will. As parents and grandparents, we have the responsibility to preserve, protect, and prepare them to improve not only our country, but for the world of 2050 - not for the make-believe 1950's our reactionaries dream of returning to. Most importantly, we need to make sure we give all of America's children the best possible education. This includes: (i) during early childhood years, (ii) upgrading reading, math, science abilities and civic education, and (iii) better funding school districts (such as North Brookfield) and public higher education institutions like Quinsigamond CC, Worcester State, and UMass.

What to expect from a financial review

The COVID-19 pandemic may have unsettled many aspects of your life – including your financial situation. Even if your employment and earnings were not directly affected, you might have concerns about wheth-



FINANCIAL FOCUS JEFF BURDICK er you've been making the right investment moves in such a stressful environment. The pandemic is, hopefully, just a once-in-a-lifetime occurrence, but different events can rattle financial markets. And changes in your own life also can affect your plans. To prepare yourself for whatever tomorrow may hold, you may want to get some profesut what, really, can you

sional help – but what, really, can you expect from a financial advisor?

A financial advisor will look holistically at your life – your family composition, your career, your hopes and dreams, your instincts about saving and spending money, your risk tolerance and other factors. So, during your initial meeting, and at subsequent reviews afterward, here are some of the key areas you'll discuss:

Feelings about your financial situation - Numbers are important to financial advisors, but what's most meaningful to them is understanding what's important to their clients. Are you confident about your overall financial outlook? Are you worried about your cash flow? Are you distressed over volatility in the financial markets? Do you have concerns about your career? By getting at the answers to these and similar questions, a financial advisor can gain a clear sense of who you are and what matters to you. You can then follow an established process to build your personalized strategies and take the specific actions needed to achieve your goals.

Progress toward your goals - It takes patience and discipline to achieve longterm goals, such as helping send your kids to college or enjoying the retirement lifestyle you've envisioned for yourself. As you save and invest for these goals over the years, you'll want to...measure your progress regularly. If you seem to be falling behind, your financial advisor can suggest moves such as increasing your investments or adjusting your investment mix. Changes in your family situation - Marriage or remarriage, the arrival of new children, the departure of children for college, caregiving responsibilities for older parents – any and all of these events can make a big difference in your goals and, as a result, your investment plans. During your reviews, your financial advisor will consider these changes when making suggestions or recommendations. (Changes in your family's status may affect your estate plans, so you'll also need to work with your legal advisor or other estate-planning professional.) Changes in your retirement plans As you near retirement, you might decide that your original plans for this time of your life no longer suit you. For example, you might have once thought that, when you retired, you would stay close to home, volunteering and pursuing your hobbies. But now you've been thinking how much you would enjoy traveling, or perhaps even living abroad for a while. To accommodate your change in plans, a financial professional may recommend certain moves, such as working a couple of years longer or adjusting the amount you eventually withdraw from your 401(k), IRA and other retirement accounts. As you work toward your goals, you may find it challenging to navigate the financial markets and respond to the changes in your life - but you don't have to go it alone. And knowing what to expect from a financial advisor can help smooth your journey.

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Common sense — another oxymoron

To the Editor:

My Facebook friends group, got into an extensive conversation, reflecting upon the connotation of common sense, would have you believe it to be a trait that most of us share, I.E. "common."

An example of deductive reasoning would be, after the mask mandate expires, how would you know if you were surrounded by vaccinated people, or anti-vax/ anti-mask people? My wife suggests "ask them who won the presidential election.

I have been following the controversy, surrounding political correctness, and using variations depicting native Americans. When you consider the fact that the natives got labeled Indians because misguided explorers thought they were in India, and we could not just call them natives because we had used that appellation in Africa. In either case, having gone to school where the rivalry was the Greenwave against the Turner Falls Indians, it was always just a name for me. Being first a Giants, and later a Pats fan, when I was talking about the "skins" and their "hogs," I neither connected signifigance to native Americans or farm animals to those thoughts.

Johnny Cash lamented being a boy named Sue, but a name is just an identification tag. If it is now fashionable to purge all references that are native origin, I have bad news for Delaware, Narragansett, and Agawam, tribal names from the Iroquois nation, and guess where we got Massachusetts, asks the guy from Quaboag Street.

Upon further review of the comments by brother Blais, I find myself wondering if he knows Jesus was a Jew who felt that his calling was as a Rabbi to his people. The bible, of which the old testament is a translation of the Torah, and the New Testament is a compilation of submissions and edits by the Holy Roman Church. The only text claiming God as author, are the ten commandments. History tells us that more wars and deaths, have been religion based, than any other reason. In my earliest grade school years, I always wondered how the Jewish kids felt about reciting the Lord's Prayer every morning.

We are now facing another common sense crisis. While I am not that clear how the assassination of an Arch Duke facilitated our participation in WWI, I am pretty sure that Hitler allied with Hirohito, should have rung some bells of anticipation. Our nation, not only geared up and went all in, but, in victory, rebuilt and restored the conquered. Then we returned home, and tried to

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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.



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

America lurches towards normality

To the Editor:

To respond to Mr. Small, "assault weapon" is a real term and while the definition varies from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, the intent is to create a classification of weapons especially efficient at killing large numbers of humans. Generally, it refers to semi-automatic firearms with a detachable magazine, a pistol grip, vertical forward grip, and flash suppressor or barrel shroud. Some common attributes of assault weapons are folding or telescoping stocks to reduce the length of the firearm when not in use, a bayonet lug, threaded barrel, grenade launcher, etc. These weapons are designs and configured for rapid fire and combat use; however, they need not be automatic or burst mode.

These weapons were banned for sale nationwide from 1994-2004 and remain heavily regulated in states such as Massachuetts, Connecticut, New York, California, etc.

I get it. Mr. Small and others like guns; therefore, anybody who doesn't extol them as protectors of freedom is classified as the enemy.

Some gun nuts have referred to some of these features as "cosmetic," and while the gun nuts may like the features for cosmetic reasons, these features turn the weapons into more efficient mass killing machines. The semi-automatic nature makes it easy to shoot multiple people without being tackled, the detachable magazines make it easy to hold a lot of ammunition and quickly reload, pistol grips on rifles make it easier to maneuver and aim while walking, the features that allow the rifle to collapse make it easier to conceal, and the barrel shroud allows a person to continue to hold a gun which has been fired many times in short succession since it would otherwise get too hot.

The vast majority of assault weapons in the United States are purchased and used by reasonably responsible gun nuts, and that's why we can have 20 million assault weapons sloshing around without mass murders every week in every city, town, and village. The problem is that of the 330 million Americans, about 50 million live with some sort of mental illness. So 15 percent of our population is mentally ill, let's assume 99 percent of them are well medicated. therapized, and controlled. That leaves 500,000 mentally ill people who aren't in a good place in a country with 390 million guns and 20 million assault weapons with features that make mass-killing more efficient. Are all of these guns locked away from the mentally ill? How will a gun shop owner know not to sell if a person is in the process of their first mental breakdown?

The reason the USA has a homicide rate four times higher than peer nations and a mass shooting problem seen in no other developed country is because of how many guns we have in our basements, garages, and homes to get stolen for resale or by a mentally ill relative. The reason a mentally ill person can easily and legally buy an assault weapon by walking into a store such as was the case in the recent Boulder, Colo. shooting is because we have gun nuts demanding their politicians keep it easy to legally buy weapons of war. Perhaps our extremely elevated murder rate is worth it to keep all sorts of weapons easily available – that's an opinion and a judgement call you need to ask yourself. Mr. Reid - In a certain sense I am honored to be considered in a different class from all others - nobody is evil but me? It is wishful thinking to think that nobody is evil and that all actors are fundamentally good and trying their best even though they don't see eye to eye. It is wishful thinking to think that there are no truths or lies, just opinions. I totally agree that we should all listen to each other, understand each other's opinions, and look out for the interests of others. I will even go so far as to say most people are fundamentally good, even if misguided. That being said, falsehoods are not opinions and there is evil in this world. Mr. Robillard, you are right – I have never been a member of "the blue" nor do I have any interest. What I will say is that we operate in a free market economy. Every single prison guard and cop could quit their job if it wasn't worth it. If there was a shortage of people willing to do it we could raise the wages, reduce the hours, or otherwise improve the working conditions. As it turns out, there is a long line of people who want to do that job. At least in Massachusetts, they get paid quite well, they are protected by a union, they have great benefits, and they get a pension which they can draw off of even earlier than other public employees. Sheriff's deputies, police officers, state troopers, etc. are all public employees, not heroes. Every job has certain pro's, con's, training requirements, compensation, working conditions, etc. The way "back the blue" has been woven into the political identity of Republicans is simply bizarre. In the spirit of free-market capitalism I would wager to say everything is in order unless a labor shortage arises. It almost seems...socialistic...to worship certain government employees who function as authority figures and demanding they be treated better than the free market demands... Mr. Robillard – what is your contribution to law enforcement, I mean other

than being friends with a prison guard, owning "back the blue" paraphernalia, some bootlicking here and there, and writing into the paper? Do you or have you ever worked directly with "society's garbage?" My contribution is paying taxes so the government can hire people to do these jobs as well as opining about how my tax dollars should be spent and the human rights of "society's garbage" because that licked boot doesn't belong on anybody's neck.

COVID-19 continues to wane in this country, only 240,072 new cases and 4,291 deaths last week! Within a month the death rate will come down to a weekly 9/11, Woo Hoo!

The latest CDC guidance to discontinue mask mandates for fully vaccinated people even indoors is ridiculous. Yes, vaccinated people can safely go mask-less, but how are businesses like Walmart supposed to check? Honor system? Do they realize that the people who aren't vaccinated are the same people who hate masks, will endanger others, and lie about it? This effectively cancels all mask mandates since there is no way to verify if somebody is vaccinated or not - even as we have a death rate five times that of the flu, vaccination is not at herd immunity levels, and children can't be vaccinated yet. The thought was to offer a reward for getting vaccinated, but the reality is we just told the deplorables who are not vaccinated yet, "you can lie now."

What the CDC should have done is laid out cases/100,000 and deaths/100,000 and vaccination rates that represent 'containment" of COVID-19. When a locality hits all three of those metrics, the mask mandate and other restrictions fall. The tagline could be "Do your part!" The incentive to get vaccinated would then be to part of the solution, not the problem.

It looks like we narrowly avoided an explosion of cases, deaths, and hospital overruns like is seen in India and Nepal right now. We were told in March 2020 that we should expect a 50 percent effective vaccine in 12-18 months, and they had never made a successful vaccine against any coronavirus before. Based on that, I expected 2 million deaths in the US and wasn't sure how we'd handle hospital overruns/collapses (like is seen in India today). According to a University of Washington study and model looking at excess deaths over a 3 year running average we have seen 917,500 deaths due to the pandemic (although only 585,729 are lab confirmed)

Operation Warp Speed really shocked everyone; we had a 90 percent effective vaccine in 9 months and that turned out to be a game changer. Right now, more than 84 percent of senior citizens 65 and up have received at least one dose of a vaccine and 56 percent of eligible people (>12 years old) have had at least one dose. The infection rates are coming down and the death rate is only 5x influ-

Jim Crow Democrats

To the Editor:

Confidence, Courage, and Respect. These things are earned when you compete hard and win with your inner strength. When you push yourself in an honest competition, and win it, you can walk proud with your chest pushed out and receive the respect from your competitors. That's how you empower yourself. When you are given things because they are trying to placate you, you have earned nothing. When they take from others and give it to you like you are a baby you earn contempt not respect. Teaching you about the misgivings of the past does nothing to lift you up for the future. It just breeds discontent and feeling of inferiority. This is the exact process the Democrats use to keep those of color under their control. Good ole Jim Crow politics at work.

That brings me to this point. I'm personally trying to see how voter integrity is being labeled as racist by the Democrats. Many states are shoring up their voting process that requires a voter to show they are a legally authorized citizen that can vote. This requires some form of voter I'd like a driver's license, bill with your name, or social security number. Now personally, I think people of every color have the mental capacity to understand how to obtain one of these and be able to vote. My understanding is, the Democrats believe that this is racist in that it hinders people of color from voting. Is this the fact the Democrats believe that people of color cannot comprehend and understand the process? Do they believe that people of color do not possess the intellectual capability to understand how to do this? It appears the Democratic leadership looks as themselves as stewards of these people because they believe they have a low mental acuity. They are the masters looking after their ignorant children. They think this group of people are only capable of putting an X on a piece of paper where their told to sign, just like on the plantation. By these acts the Democratic party and the elitist who control it are in fact the racist in our society. It appears most of the Republicans seem to think that people of all races can comprehend how to vote. This would make them non-racist in fact. In our Bizarro Biden world with a Democratic doorknob of a president, who was best friends with a renowned southern racist Senator Byrd, the fake news has spun it that voting integrity is racism. I guess if you say it enough you will get enough dumb liberals to believe it. Don't look at the facts. Just call it racist and get it changed to support how the overseer wants it.

You also see the Democrats are using 'racism" in our school system to keep those of color under their control. The whole idea of schools is to teach the basics needed to function in society while also promoting the advancement of the person by pushing their capabilities. It appears the Democrats want to change the curriculum as racist tool to keep those of color down. They believe the curriculum must be "dumbed down" so those of color can understand it. Any classes that require advanced thinking are considered racist because the white students come from a culture where it was promoted. According to the Democrats, special consideration must be given to those of color so they can pass classes easily as a promotion of racial equity. Remember Joes racist remark during the campaign. "Poor Kids" are just as bright as "white kids. Instead of pushing them to succeed with science and technology classes, they instead want to indoctrinate them with racial inequity classes such as the 1619 project. Teach them how they were treated bad in the past and they deserve to be given things as retribution. Don't teach them the skills to compete in a modern world. This is another example of the Democratic elite thinking that they are the masters who must look after the ignorant class. So, what is the OMAR HAR-YAROK consequence of this new "woke-ism." This will keep the colored children at

a disadvantage in the workplace. It creates resentment in them of other groups who work hard to succeed, such as those Asian community. You see the Asian culture promotes academic advancement and hard work in their children. No special curriculum for them. They will take what you give and excel at it. Their parents encourage them to work hard to get good grades. They are encouraged to take and excel at STEM classes. This means they leave well qualified to get the good jobs and open businesses in the communities. The undereducated colored go into the community and feel resentment to the newcomers who are prospering. They have been taught by the Democrats that they cannot succeed without handouts. This fuels their racists attacks on the Asian community that is now happening commonplace. This, my friends, is the ideology promoted by the Democrat Party. Keep their voting base ignorant and easily controlled. Give them hope and promises with no real empowerment. These poor people don't realize empowerment doesn't come from somebody giving you the easy path. It comes from pushing yourself to the limit and believing in yourself. They have leaders in their community like Tim Scott and Candace Owens who see this and are trying to lift them up by getting their message out to believe in yourself. Unfortunately, the Democrats control the media and they have been instructed by the Democrats machine to squash the message. These type of people are called by them another word from the Jim Crow vocabulary, Uncle Toms.

So, who is who is responsible for these problems? You got it! Jim Crow Joe Biden and the elitist Democratic party. They saw their opportunity after the Civil War and used racism in the south to build a powerful Democratic Party. This racism was entrenched in their party for over a hundred years. They grew and established a powerful gang of crooks called Tammany Hall to use racism to get their Democratic power entrenched up here in the Northeast. That's why, in fact, I am a registered Democrat. You see, Massaschusetts has become a essentially a one party state. Once and a while they let a few Republicans win as window dressing. If you want to get ahead or help your friends at the polls you have to be registered as a Democrat. They used their stranglehold on the unions to limit access to good jobs for those of color and passed laws to put roadblocks to limit their advancement. Requiring apprenticeships and licenses to perform basic jobs under the guise of public safety is another way Tammany Hall has consolidated their power These laws were intended as the barriers to keep the poor and colored in their places in society. Make it only those with political connections can move up. You must show fealty to the party leaders The Democrats in our great state of Massachusetts have made the state government in this state one of the most corrupt with many convicted like former speaker Finneran, former speaker Dimasi, former senator Wilkerson, and Boston mayor James Curley. Many convicted of bribery. Others like Billy Bulger get moved into plum positions like presidents of a state college. Then we have the famous old Teddy and the infamous whitewash of the Chappaquiddick killing. Yes, they are truly a party for the people, their own people. They are a party that is and still is being built by racism. Right now, they are using the tools of racism again to push forward their new political agenda. Unfortunately, they have a lot of useful idiots (Democratic voters) helping them to push it forward. Hopefully, in 2022 and 2024, we can get the forces of Trump to push them back to the swamp from whence they came. This guy was a saint compared to the racists and crooks the Democrats put in power.

enza now and slowly dropping.

It can't be said how much of a gamble the US took, even if it seems to be working out now. Our gambles in 2020 didn't work out; we had higher case rates and death rates than any peer nation. If the vaccine hadn't come out early, we would have been ravaged by the B.1117 variant which ravaged Europe in December and was growing here in February. If we were just starting vaccinations now, as was estimated, we would be dealing with the B.1617 variant which is currently exploding in India. If the vaccines were only 50 percent, as we were told to expect, these new more infectious strains would still threaten our hospitals. The gambles we took as a society are simply mind blowing - Gov. Baker pulled back restrictions in March as cases had been rising for weeks under the assumption they would come back down weeks later. While the spring 2021 gambles seemed to have paid off, I can't imagine gambling with lives like that.

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KANE

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What we don't seem to recognize, much less celebrate is our Massachusetts public education system. There is much to be proud of. We have developed the best education system in the United States. In fact, ours is so good that if our state were a country, we would have one of the best systems in the world. Further, if we improved funding for less well-off school districts, Massachusetts would likely rank as one the absolute best.

A big reason for this is. even though badly underpaid. American teachers. etc. work longer and harder for our kids than do teachers in any other country.

However, in our towns, rather than support our

teachers and school systems, reactionaries with false accusations, have attacked and demeaned our teachers and administrators. For example, in one of a continuing series, a recent New Leader "(O)pen letter" called for parents to remove their children from their public schools. (The letter, without irony, also indicated the writer had benefitted from 42 years of schooling and employment in public school systems). Such letters etc. and reactionary agendas, can do great harm to our school systems, we taxpayers, and most of all, our children. They also weaken and divide our towns and country, just what the adversaries of the Unites States want.

f it's important to you,

It's important to us.

KEVIN KANE Spencer

KIMBALL continued from page A8

compete with the antiquated infrastructure we left behind.

Fortunately, it was a time of booming growth. Ike had undertaken the interstate highway system, while warning us that the military industrial complex, would take our last dollar, and let us starve in the streets.

Today, we still spend almost 900 billion a year, China-300 billion, with they and the next highest six nations not reaching our cost collectively. Was it Trump who asked, "If we have nukes, why not use them?" How many trillion-dollar carrier groups, that million dollar missiles can erase, should we have? How do we justify, rifling the Social Security Trust fund, to fund the Vietnam war? Was it a success? Was Korea? Was Iraq? Was Afghanistan?

The Biden administration, has done a masterful job addressing the pandemic. I thought that an end might be in sight, but I have, on prior posts, addressed that Darwin may get the last word, when the natural summer

recess ends and the fall bring resurgence and mutations back, and the apparent, inevitable groundhog day mentality that must revel in the clear absence of common sense.

The pending questions the administration is trying to put before us, includes election rights and security, where multiple states are actually working over 400 bills, designed more to determine election outcomes than rules. There is an infrastructure bill, that the plan includes rolling back the tax cut from 35 percent (Clinton's balanced budget amount, that Trump cut to 21 percent) to 28 percent, so that those who have thrived over recent years, can pay their fair share. They will likely continue to thrive, while chipping in, because the projects would raise all boats and a booming economy won't hurt those who thrived without one.

I may be preaching to the choir here, but, when people hold multiple jobs, had devised answers to child care, school, and transportation issues, until restored in all facets, and dismissal of health concerns, are all needed collectively. Kids returning to school three days a week, is not an answer to the worker who worked five days a week during school hours. Reliable childcare facilities, face the same problems as schools. Do you give up your unemployment to either work part time, or if only one or two of your former jobs is open? If a wait person, bartender or restauranter, Can you make what you did or need?

The scope and reach of what is on the table, rivals the new deal recovery of the FDR era. During the last pandemic, we had a war going on, during the great depression, it was economic issues. We are now recovering from both. It is clear that the stock market, does not mirror real people. Unless or until the investment and adjustments are made, we can all embrace the McConnell position, and work towards nothing. What does your common sense tell you? As Sen. Moynihan said, you are all entitled to your own opinions, but not your own facts.

> KEN KIMBALL BROOKFIELD



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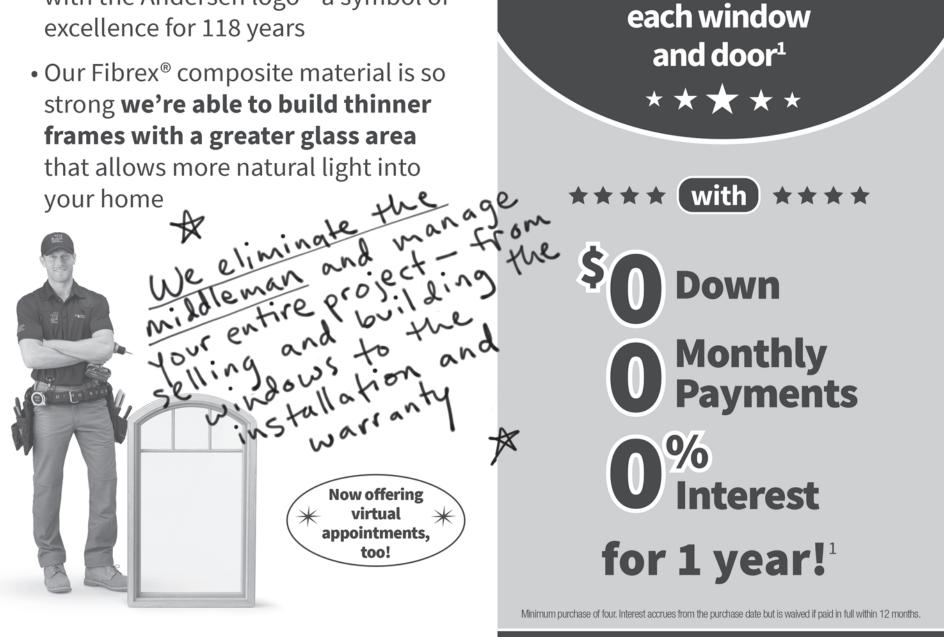
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¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 5/31/2021. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 12 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 5/2/2021 and 5/31/2021. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$50 off each window or entry/patio door, minimum purchase of 4, taken after initial discount(s), when you purchase by 5/31/2021. 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® 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. "ENERGY STAR" is a registered trademark of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. @2021 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved.

Create a garden anywhere with straw bale gardening



Garden Moments

MELINDA MYERS

Add productive garden space and raise your planting bed with straw bale gardening. This technique allows you to create a raised bed garden on the patio, lawn, or poor compacted soil. Straw bale gardening has been around for centuries, but thanks to Joel Karsten's book "Straw Bale Gardens," it has gained new popularity.

All you need are a few straw bales, fertilizer, a bit of compost and time to condition, plant and water your garden.

Purchase straw bales made from alfalfa, wheat, oats, rye or other cereal that have less weed seeds than hay. Start a few weeks before you plan to start planting.

Place bales in their permanent location with the cut sides up and twine parallel to the ground. When you start the condition process, they become very heavy and hard to move. Once the bales are in place, you are ready to start the conditioning process. This is done to start the inside of the straw bales composting, so they will support plant growth.

Day one spread fertilizer over the tip of the bale. Use one half cup of a complete garden fertilizer or three cups of an organic fertilizer, like Milorganite. The organic fertilizers feed the microorganisms that help decompose the straw into a nutrient rich planting medium. Now thoroughly moisten the bale with water.

Continue to thoroughly soak the bale every day. On days three and five you will also add more fertilizer at the same rate used on day one.

Days seven through nine use half the rate used on day one. This would be one quarter cup of a complete garden fertilizer or one and a half cups of an organic fertilizer. And once again thoroughly water the bale.

On day ten you will add one cup of 10-10-10 or three cups of an organic fertilizer rich in phosphorous and potassium. This completes the conditioning process.

Bales treated with a complete fertilizer should be ready to plant. You will likely need to wait a few more days when using an organic fertilizer. The inside of the bale should be the temperature of warm bath water or cooler. If it is hotter than this, wait for the bale to cool a bit before planting.

Use a trowel to pry open a hole in the bale. Place the transplant in the hole and cover the roots with potting mix or compost.

Create a planting bed for seeds by covering the bale with a one- to twoinch-thick layer of planting mix. Follow the planting directions on the back of the seed packet.

Regular watering is critical for success with this method. Soaker hoses or drip irrigation make this an easier task. You can also use gallon milk jugs



Photo Melinda Myers

The straw bale gardening technique begins with the conditioning process which is done to start the inside of the straw bale composting, so it can support plant growth.

with holes in the bottom or inverted 2-liter soda bottles placed near the base of each plant to provide water where it is needed.

Give your straw bale garden a nutrient boost about once a month or as needed throughout the growing season.

You are on your way to growing a productive straw bale garden to enjoy throughout the season. 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 TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her Web site is www. melindamyers.com.



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Brookfield CongregationalBob Jones UniversityChurch plans Memorialstudents named toDay servicePresident's List

BROOKFIELD

A special Memorial Day service will take place at Brookfield Congregational Church.

The event is set for 9 a.m. on Monday, May 31. The church wishes to recognize not only those who have served in the Armed Forces, but also those we have lost from the church and the community over the past year. This will be a simple service of remembrance.

If you are interested in having a lost loved one recognized in the church bulletin, or if you have questions on the process, please send an email to bccmafeedback@ gmail.com. You can also call the church office at 508-867-6262 (Thursdays

and Fridays between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.).

The service is planned to conclude in time to allow residents to attend the town's parade, which begins at 10 a.m.

All are welcome to attend the church service and also experience the newly renovated sanctuary. Please wear a mask to the event.

Knights of Columbus hosting take-out spaghetti dinner

WEST BROOKFIELD—Local Knights of Columbus Council 11080 is sponsoring a Take-Out Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, June 5 at 5:30 p.m. at Sacred Heart Church in West Brookfield. The menu consists of pasta fagioli, spaghetti & sauce, meatballs, sausage, garden salad, and Italian bread.

Tickets for a take-out dinner are \$10 each. Proceeds from this event will benefit local charitable needs. Advance ticket purchase is highly recommended as ticket sales at the door will be very limited. For tickets, call (413) 813-8100 or email connor122@charter.net. GREENVILLE, S.C. — The following local students are among approximately 665 Bob Jones University students named to the President's List for high academic achievement during the Spring 2021 semester:

Abigail Myers, a Freshman Special Education major from East Brookfield. Naomi Myers, a Sophomore Nursing

major from East Brookfield. To qualify for the President's List, stu-

dents must earn a 3.75 or higher grade point average for the semester.

Located in Greenville, South Carolina, Bob Jones University provides an outstanding regionally accredited Christian liberal arts education purposely designed to inspire a lifelong pursuit of learning, loving and leading.

BJU offers over 100 undergraduate and graduate programs in religion, education, fine arts and communication, arts and science, health professions, and business.

BJU has over 3,000 students from nearly every state and more than 40 countries. We are committed to the truth of Scripture and to pursuing excellence in all we do.

"Every Town Deserves a Good Local Newspaper" www.Stonebridgepress.com

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Joanne R. Emerson to BNY Mortgage Company LLC, dated July 11, 2005 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36810, Page 344 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Kondaur Capital Corporation, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of Matawin Ventures Trust Series 2020-1 is the present holder by Assignment from BNY Mortgage Company LLC to Seattle Mortgage Company dated July 8, 2005 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 36810, Page 353, and Assignment from Seattle Mortgage Company to Bank of America, N.A. dated June 28, 2007 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 41471, Page 380, and Corrective Assignment from Seattle Mortgage to Bank of America, N.A. dated March 7, 2012 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 48661, Page 248, and Assignment from Bank of America, N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage LLC dated November 19, 2012 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 50044, Page 10, and Assignment from Nationstar Mortgage LLC to The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development dated September 16, 2015 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 54497, Page 293, and Assignment from The Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to Kondaur Capital Corporation, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of Matawin Ventures Trust Series 2020-1 dated August 19, 2020 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 63103, Page 393, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 3 Spring Street, Spencer, MA 01562 will be sold at a Public Auction at 12:00 PM on June 10, 2021, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit: The land with the buildings thereon, situated on the east side of Spring Street, Spencer, Worcester County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: Beginning at the northwest corner of the premises to be conveyed at an iron pipe in the easterly line of said Spring Street and running N. 81° 35' E about 187 1/2 feet by land now or formerly of Alice R. Brown to land formerly of Briggs; Thence turning and running S. 16° 5' E 83.85 feet on the center line of a wall and by land formerly of said Briggs: Thence turning and running westerly by a wire fence, by land now or formerly of Edward J. and Ethel B. Talbot, 210 feet to Spring Street; Thence turning and running northerly along Spring Street, 83.85 feet to the point of beginning. Containing about 15,450 square feet of land.

a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA 01851 or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Kondaur Capital Corporation, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of Matawin Ventures Trust Series 2020-1

Korde & Associates, P.C. 900 Chelmsford Street Suite 3102 Lowell, MA 01851 (978) 256-1500 Emerson, Estate of Joanne R., 20-037544 May 14, 2021

May 21, 2021 May 28, 2021

Brookfield Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing

ne hours.

LEGALS

Sharon Mahoney, Chair Brookfield Planning Board Friday, May 14, 2021 Friday, May 21, 2021

Town of Spencer Tree Public Hearing

In accordance with MGL Ch 87 §3, The Town of Spencer, MA Tree Warden will hold a public hearing by remote meeting only (Broadcast Live) on **Monday May 24, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.** to consider National Grid proposed removal & trimming of trees - McCormick Rd. 20 trees various sizes.

The Remote meeting may be accessed by: Dialing in from your phone:

1 (224) 501-3412

Enter Access Code: **928-904-381**: Or join from your computer: https://tinyurl.com/SpencerUFmtgRoom Information pertaining to these particular trees may be viewed at spencerma. gov

Ray Holmes Tree Warden May 14, 2021 May 21, 2021

Notice of Public Hearing

Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals Appeal of Decision – Applicant/ Owner: Spencer Solar Farm, LLC; Location: North Brookfield Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R39-14. The applicant 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: May 07, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

May 21, 2021

Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 8, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit for Christine Kiraly-Thomas and Donald Root, for the property located at 32 Cottage Street, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to build an addition on their house, in the General District. This requires a special permit as per section, -1.5 Nonconformity:, §1.52 (a) Nonconforming Structures (a) (et al). The public is invited to attend.

Renee Adams White Clerk

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36810, Page 341.

The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as

In accordance with M. G. L., Chapter 40A, and the provisions of the Brookfield Zoning Bylaws Section 4, Use Regulation Table, §6.1.i; Section 12, Solar Energy Systems; Section 8.C., Site Plan Approval; and Section 12.C., Special Permits; the Brookfield Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on an application for a Site Plan Revision and Review and Substantive Amendment to a Special Permit originally granted in March 2019 for a Commercial Large-Scale Solar Power Generation Installation on property owned by James Evan Turner and Steven S. Skowyra, located at 0 Off Cronin Rd., Warren, 0 Long Hill District, Brookfield (with access at 452 Cronin Rd., Warren), both located in a Rural Residential District.

The hearing will take place on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 via Zoom, starting at 7:30 pm or as soon thereafter as can be heard. Meeting details, agenda and how to attend remotely will be posted at www.mytowngovernment.org/ meeting/5679235840606208. A copy of the application may be inspected at the office of the Town Clerk at Brookfield Town Hall during normal business hours.

Sharon Mahoney, Chair Brookfield Planning Board May 14, 2021

May 21, 2021

Brookfield Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with M. G. L., Chapter 40A, and Brookfield Zoning Bylaws Section 4, Use Regulation Table D.3.r and Section 12.C., Special Permits; the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on an application by Christina Predella for a Special Permit for the operation of a weekly outdoor Artisan Market and Farm Stand on property located at 80 Lake Rd. in a Rural Residential District.

The hearing will take place on Wednesday, June 2, 2021 via Zoom, starting at 7:00 pm or as soon thereafter as can be heard. Meeting details, agenda and how to attend remotely will be posted at www.mytowngovernment.org/ meeting/5679235840606208. A copy of the application may be inspected at the office of the Town Clerk at Brookfield Town Hall during normal business is requesting an Appeal under section 7.1.2.A (Appeals) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw Zoning to appeal the denial of the building permit by the Building Inspector. The property is located within rural residential zoning district. May 21, 2021 May 28, 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. WO06P2740VE1 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Estate of: Matilda G. Bernard Date of Death: 08/15/2006

To all interested persons:

A Petition for SIA - Formal Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Ronald P. Bernard of Concord MA

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Ronald P. Bernard** of **Concord MA**

be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve 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 06/01/2021.**

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 May 28, 2021

Notice of Public Hearing Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals Special Permit – Applicant/ Owner: Daniel Watson; Location: 4 Chickering Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R15-1. The applicant is requesting a Special Permit under section 4.9.2.A.2 (Nonconforming Structures) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to build an addition on the rear and side of an existing home. The property is located within rural residential zoning district.

May 21, 2021 May 28, 2021

May 21, 2021

<u>Notice of</u> <u>Special Public Hearing</u> <u>East Brookfield</u> Zoning Board of Appeals

This Zoning Board hearing will take place at the East Brookfield Town Hall, 122 Connie Mack Drive, East Brookfield, MA on Wednesday June 9th 2021. Hearing will commence at 7:00PM or soon thereafter as can be heard. Interested parties can attend in person adhering to all CDC guidelines for COVID 19 including masks, 6-foot distancing and limited occupancy.

Applicant: Geralyn Morin; owner. Property location: 120 North Brookfield Rd, East Brookfield. The applicant is proposing to demolish an existing non-conforming garage structure and construct a new garage which will exceed a thirty percent (30%) increase in floor space and a fifty percent (50%) increase of the fair market value of the current structure, in violation of Zoning By-law section 4, paragraph 2. The applicant is requesting a finding as to whether the new structure is or is not more detrimental to the neighborhood than the existing non-conforming use. In addition, the new structure, as proposed, violates the rear setback of 25ft with the deck being approximately 9 ft from the property line and the applicant is seeking a variance for the proposed location of the structure. 5/12/21 Mark Carpentier **ZBA** Chair

May 21, 2021 May 28, 2021





Darlene M. Chase, 62

ROCHDALE – Darlene M. (Cote) Chase, 62, of Wells Street, passed away Wednesday, May 12, 2021, with her



loving husband and brother by her side. She passed peacefully after her short fight against COVID-19. Darlene leaves behind her devoted husband of 30 years Scott W. Chase of Rochdale; daughter Kimberly

Patterson and son-in-law Michael Patterson of Dudley, daughter Angela Fongeallaz LeBel of King George, VA; seven grandchildren, Beau and Macy Fongeallaz, Kailey and Noel LeBel, Max, Aden and Mark Patterson. She leaves behind her loving mother Dolores A. (Palmieri) Cote of Cherry Valley; brother Edward F. Cote, Jr of Leicester; two step-children, Amanda Chase of Dudley and Johnathan Chase and his wife Kerri of North Grosvenordale; many aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and friends; including her best friend of 37 years Theresa Labonte of North Grosvenordale, CT; and her goddaughters Lindsay Labonte of North Grosvenordale, CT; and Michelle (Cote) Welton of Leominster. She has been reunited with her father Edward F. Cote, Sr, and many beloved aunts and uncles in heaven.

Darlene spent her last fifteen years as a devoted and loving housewife. She created a loving home, welcome to all. She was often found caring for her seven grandchildren. Before that she worked as a legal secretary in Webster. She spent a short time as a bank teller and before that helped run her uncle's video store, "One Stop Video" in Oxford. Darlene will always be remembered for her cheerful personality, her ability to talk to all people around her, and to make everyone feel like family!

Darlene lived for her family. She loved her husband, daughters, son-inlaw, and her grandchildren more than words could describe. In true Italian form, her home was open to everyone. Cooking and preparing food was a passion of hers, making everything "with love".

Memorial calling hours are Sunday, May 23, 2021, from 2-5 p.m. at Paradis-Givner Funeral Home, 357 Main St., Oxford. A prayer service will be held at 4:45 p.m. on Sunday at the funeral home.

Frances A. Befford, 81

North Brookfield-Frances A. (Mallon) Befford, 81, of North Brookfield, died on Monday, May 10, 2021, at home with her loving family by her side.

She leaves her husband, Gene Befford; her two sons, Michael and Jacqueline Befford of East Brookfield and Daniel Befford of North Brookfield; her five grandchildren, Mikayla, Abby, Andrew, Matthew and Josslyn; her sisters, Elaine Emery and Alice Gilman. She was predeceased by her three siblings, Claire McQuaid, Robert Mallon and David Mallon. She was born and lived in North Brookfield her entire life. She is the daughter of the late John and Adela (Lemieux) Mallon.

Frances was a loving and devoted wife, mother and grandmother. Spending time with her family was important but not as important as her role as grandmother. Birthdays and Christmas were special for grammy and making sure that her family felt extra loved. From watching the kids

and before that helped run her uncle's video store, "One Stop Video" in Oxford. Darlene will always be remembered for her cheerful personality, her ability to talk to all people around her, Center University Campus. Brookfield/Winter Haven, FL - Joyce E. (Perucci) Parker, 72, of Brookfield and Winter Haven, FL, died on Sunday, May 9, 2021 at UMass Memorial Medical Center University Campus.

She leaves her husband of nearly 55 years, Arnold R. Parker; her sons, Robert A. Parker and his wife Nicolette S. Cousins and Roger A. Parker and his wife Tracy, as well as three grandchildren,

Connor A., Amberlee E., and Alex J. Parker. She also leaves her many long-time friends in both Brookfield and Winter Haven. She was born in Ware, daughter of the late John R. and Rebecca L. (Richardson) Perucci.

Joyce worked as a Product Line

dance recitals to soccer games, she lovingly would cheer them on. She was kind, warm, and generous, and will be missed by those who knew her.

She served as a member of the Bereavement Committee at St. Joseph's Church, and as a Cub Scout leader when her boys were young. Her love of travel and adventure took her and Gene to Fort Myers, Florida every winter, in addition to exploring what the East Coast has to offer.

Funeral Services for Frances will be held privately. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Sawyer-Mathieu-Kearns American Legion Post 41, 163 North Main Street, North Brookfield, 01535.

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

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Joyce E. Parker, 72

Manager at the former William E. Wright Co. for several years. She and Arnold lived in West Brookfield for over 45 years, prior to moving to Brookfield. After retirement, they enjoyed their times in Florida being snowbirds, escaping the cold New England winters.

Calling hours for Joyce was held on Monday, May 17, 2021 from 9 to 11AM in Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main Street, West Brookfield. A Graveside Service were held following the calling hours at approximately 11:30AM in Pine Grove Cemetery in West Brookfield. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, P.O. Box 849168, Boston, MA 02284 or www.jimmyfund.org/ways-to-give/

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Haston Library announces spring & summer programs

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Haston Free Public Library patrons and staff members are looking forward to an engaging lineup of spring and summer programs.

On May 3, the library returned to its full pre-pandemic hours. Patrons are still asked to follow several safety protocols, including wearing a mask at all times; using hand sanitizer upon entering the building; and maintaining a six-foot distance between themselves and surfaces. Patrons are thanked for their continued patience and cooperation.

"We appreciate your ongoing attention to these safety protocols, and we look forward to seeing many more of you in the coming days, as we work to expand our programs and return to whatever the new normal will be," read a statement issued by the library.

Looking ahead to upcoming events, LEGO master builder Dan Steininger will visit the library on June 19 at 10 a.m. Henry the Juggler will visit on July 17 at 10 a.m. Both programs are supported in part by a grant from the North Brookfield Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass. Cultural Council.

The library is also gearing up for the fast approach of summer reading season. This year's theme, "Tails and Tales," will kick off with a Zoom-based animal drawing program with award-winning cartoonist Rick Stromoski. The program is set for Tuesday, June 8, from 6-7 p.m. Kids will learn to draw an array of animals.

If your child is interested in participating in the library's summer reading program, call 508-867-0208. You can also stop by the children's library to register. for the taking). Patrons are also encouraged to check out books on gardening in the 635 section downstairs.

The Haston Library Book Group's May meeting will take place on May 25 at 7 p.m. The event will occur in-person at the library and also via Zoom. This month's book is "Behold the Dreamers" by Imbolo Mbue. The debut novel focuses on marriage, immigration, class, race, and the trapdoors in the American Dream. Copies of the book are available in the library. Please call the library least 16 years old to volunteer). Typical volunteer activities include shelving books; managing inventory; helping with cleaning projects; assisting with displays and publicity; and preparing new acquisitions for cataloging. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, call the library at 508-867-0208 to make an appointment to meet with Library Director Dawn Thistle.

Library hours are as follows: Monday (1-7 p.m.); Tuesday (10 a.m.-5 p.m.); Wednesday (9 a.m.-7 p.m.); Thursday (1-6 p.m.); and Saturday (9 a.m.noon). The library is closed on Fridays and Sundays.

other patrons or staff.

The library will continue to quarantine items for three days and regularly disinfect

For beginner and expert gardeners alike, the library is offering a variety of seeds (free (508-867-0208) for more information about the program.

Residents are also reminded that volunteers are needed at the library (you must be at

School DistrictGrants available forrecognized for costsmall businesseseffective programmingimpacted by pandemic

At its 55th Annual Institute educational conference held virtually last week, the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials, Inc. (MASBO, a non-profit organization that provides professional development for public school financial officials), presented the organization's Donald D. Johnson Operational & Cost Efficiency Award to the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District. The award recognizes the accomplishment of a district that has implemented a program, activity, or initiative that resulted in increased efficiency and savings that can be applied more directly to educational priorities. Established in 2011, this award is made possible through MASBO's partnership with VOYA Financial, and comes with a \$2500 contribution to the district in honor of the recipient.

In 2018, Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District (SEBRSD) was experiencing ongoing issues with school boilers, outdated controls, and other building systems.

"The boilers, controls, and systems had run their course and surpassed their useful life," said Superintendent of Schools Paul Haughey.

School Business Administrator Gary Suter and his team spoke to other school districts and learned about Energy Performance Savings Contracting (ESPC), an innovative financing technique that uses energy savings from the building owner's existing operating budget to repay the cost of energy efficient equipment and related facility improvements known as Energy Conservation Measures (ECMs). Building owners make no upfront investment, but rather use the energy savings created by the ECM's to fully fund the project over a term that may extend to 20 years. All energy savings are guaranteed annually to meet or exceed project costs. If a shortfall in savings occurs, the **Energy Service Company** (ESCO) issues a check for the difference, and they make any necessary additional improvements to ensure that future savings are realized. All savings in excess of the guaranteed savings remain 100% with the building owner. SEBRSD installed, upgraded, and/ or improved lighting and controls, building automation standardization, weatherization measures, plug load controls, kitchen hood controls, walk-in cooler controls, new condensing boilers, pumps and domestic hot water, and more. The contract cost of \$4.1 million over 10 years guarantees savings of over \$207,000.

Congratulations to the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, Gary Suter, School Business Administrator and Paul Haughey, Superintendent, for earning this year's Donald D. Johnson Operations & Cost Efficiency Award!

REGION — Grants of up to \$25,000 are now available to qualified microenterprises in six Central Massachusetts communities to help offset income losses incurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission (CMRPC) is accepting applications from eligible microenterprises located in Leicester (lead community for the program), Brookfield, Dudley, Millbury, North Brookfield and West Brookfield. The six-town microenterprise program was launched in late 2020 and previously had a \$10,000 cap on assistance for each participating business.

Participating microenterprises must have five or fewer individual employees, at least one of whom owns the enterprise. Businesses must be located in one of the six participating towns and must able to document and quantify a loss of income resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic. Qualifying business owners' family incomes must be within limits set by the federal government. Grant funds may be used to pay current eligible expenses and may now also be used to reimburse businesses for previously paid eligible costs, as long as grant funds do not duplicate other forms of assistance. Grant awards are based on the amount of pandemic-related lost income documented by the business. Businesses must have been in existence prior to March 10, 2020 to participate. Other exclusions and eligibility criteria apply.

Funding for the microenterprise program is provided through a Community Development Block Grant awarded to the Town of Leicester from the US Department of Housing and Urban Development through the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development. This CARES Act-funded grant is administered by CMRPC on the towns' behalf. In addition to the microenterprise program, the grant supports a variety of social services in several participating communities.

For more information or to download an application for the microenterprise assistance program, go to CMRPC's Web site at www.cmrpc.org/microenterprise or www.cmrpcregionalservices. org/microenterprise. Applications are also available on request by contacting the email address or phone numbers below. Applications for assistance are accepted on a rolling basis and grants to qualified businesses will be made until funds are spent out.

Questions about the program should be directed to microenterprise@ cmrpc.org or CMRPC Project Manager Andrew Loew at (508) 459-3339 or Associate Planner Ian McElwee at (508) 459-3331.

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THIS DAY IN...

• 1849: ABRAHAM LINCOLN RECEIVES A PATENT FOR HIS FLOATING

• 2012: THE TOKYO SKYTREE OPENS TO THE PUBLIC. IT IS THE TALLEST TOWER IN THE WORLD, MEASURING 2,080 FEET

• 1927: AN EARTHQUAKE WITH A MAGNITUDE OF 8.3 STRIKES NEAR XINING, CHINA.

DRY DOCK.

TALL.



WHICH ANIMAL WAS THE FIRST TO BE DOMESTICATED, AND PROBABLY THE FIRST PET OF OUR HUMAN ANCESTORS?

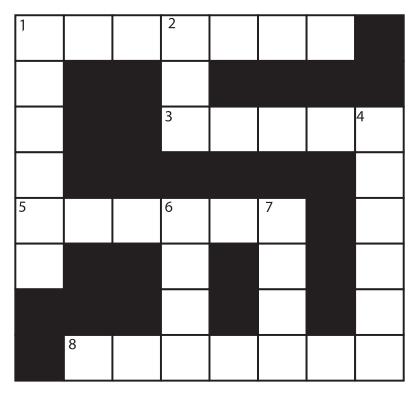
ANSWER: DOG



ENGLISH: Pet

SPANISH: Mascota

Crossword Puzzle



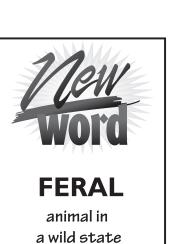
ACROSS

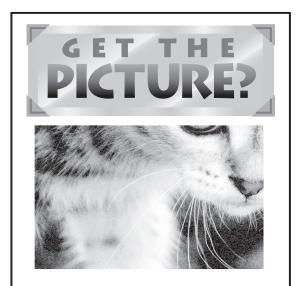
- 1. Living organisms
- 3. Loose garment
- 5. Shelters for dogs or cats
- 8. Being with others

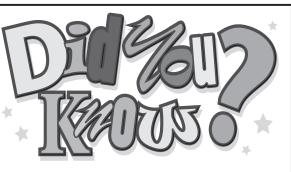
DOWN

- 1. Foolish behaviors
- 2. Small rug
- 4. Pleasant to snuggle
- 6. People working together
- 7. Long story

1. Antics 2. Mat 4. Cuddly 6. Team 7. Saga uwou 1. Animals 3. Tunic 5. Crates 8. Company ACTOSS :SI9W2RA







THE WORD "PET" COMES FROM THE MIDDLE ENGLISH WORD "PETTY," MEANING "SMALL." THE TERM WAS FIRST USED TO REFER TO CHILDREN, BUT THEN SPREAD TO COMPANION ANIMALS.

ITALIAN: Animale

FRENCH: Animal de compagnie

GERMAN: Haustier



Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: KITTEN

Fun By The

Like puzzles? Then you'll love

sudoku. This mind-bending

puzzle will have

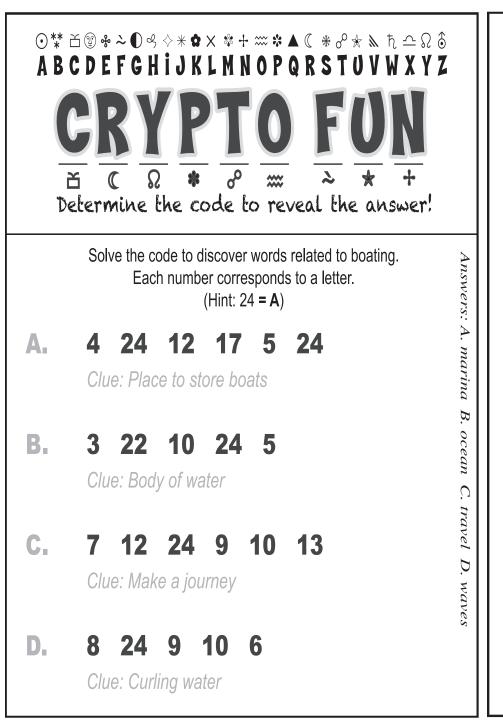
square off, so sharpen your

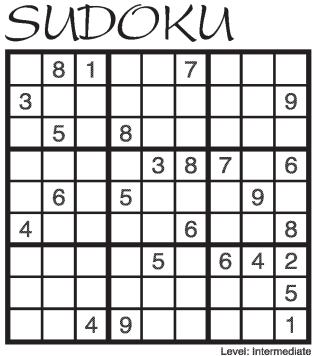
pencil and put your sudoku

savvy to the test!

you hooked from the moment you

Numbers





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!

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6	8	S	G	and	9	٢	4	S
Þ	9	G	٢	2	3		8	6
:RAWSNA								









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.



Terrific opportunity for one Large business or Several businesses. 4784 st bldg. Zoned B5. Off 1395 exit 1. High Traffic & Visibility. Excellent Location! assisted sale **\$695,000.**



Beautiful CAPEI Enormous amount of updates. New Asphalt Shingles, & 8 New SkylightsL. 4 BedroomsI 3 - 1/2 BathsI 24 x 26 Great Rm w/ Gas Fireplacel Master Suite w/ Spa Like' Bath & Soaking Tub/WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT? INGROUND POOL? (XII has that TOOI! All Painted! SS Appliances. New Tankless Hot Water Boiler. **\$467,000** WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD



Estate Sale! Scenic View of Beautiful Webster Lake! Boardering Stone Walls! Split Leve!! 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Hollywood Bath! Master Bedroom & Master Bath. Fireplaced Living Room! Finished Lower Level w/1/2 Bath, Garage. "Salt Water" Inground Pool. \$319,000.



Fach \$24,500.

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 - 100 Lakeside Ave



WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind, Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180^{+,i} - prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining , formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite wiluxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BBs & full bath! Something Special! Remember, Timing Is Everything! \$1,075,000.



Webster - 401 Treasure Island Condo

WEBSTER LAKE! Treasure Island Townhouse! UNIT# 401 end unit. Year round enjoyment! Quiet summers on big & beautiful Webster Lake! 6 Rooms Applianced Kitchen. Open Floor Plan! Dining Area. Hardwood Floor & Carpet. Master Bedroom, W/2 Closets, Master Bath! 2-1/2 Baths Total! Slider to Deck & Slider to the Patio! Central Air! Central Vac! Very efficient natural gas heat & hot Water! 2 Boat Slips D10 & D11 in the Private Marina. Heated Pool! Natural Sandy Beach! \$439,000.



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your builder & do it "your way"

Alton Dr ~ \$149,900

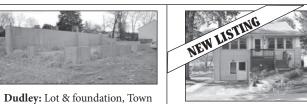
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2 bedrooms each unit, Natural woodwork, 2nd floor and 3rd floor have been updated, Sided, Fantastic lot, Town Services **44 Highland St ~ \$479,900**



Dudley: 3-4 Bedrooms, 7-8 Rooms, including lower level, 2 Baths, Sided, Natural woodwork 2 Ellis St. ~ \$324,900 Great time to sell! Great time to buy! Rates are still low!

Call Diane, Joann or Maria for a Real Estate Consultation

DUDLEY • 57 Mill Road



(8 RM) 3 BR/2BA home w/ 2-BR/1BA apartment! Remodeled with classic details intact. Hdwd flrs. Recent septic and roof. Oil heat. Corner lot w/ wraparound driveway.



POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, MAY 5

1:03 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:35 a.m.: mv complaint (Bixby Road), speeding; 10:51 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: tow info; 11:57 a.m.: restraining order service (Ash Street); 1:26 p.m.: juvenile matter (Clark Street), referred to SRO; 1:28 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), suspicious motorist; 2:28 p.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 2:31 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 2:32 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 3:48 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), assist w/gun safe; 3:51 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 4:40 p.m.: residential alarm (Overlook Drive), services rendered; 5:58 p.m.: disabled mv (Meadow Road), assisted; 6:40 p.m.: fraud (Donnelly Cross Road), SS scam call; 7:25 p.m.: vandalism (Thompson Pond Road), harassment by Trump supporters; 9:25 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 10:44 p.m.: 911 call (Chickering Road), accidental; 11:21 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); (Total daily mv stops – 3).

THURSDAY, MAY 6

12:03-12:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:48 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 12:50 a.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), spoken to; 5:46 a.m.: missing persons/juvenile (South Spencer Road), info taken/13 YOF; 8:51 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 10:06 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 10:48 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), misdial; 10:57 a.m.: sex offender registration/monthly (West Main Street), assisted; 11:01 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), lost cell phone; 11:03 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), a.m. check requested; 11:23 a.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 11:59 a.m.: illegal dumping (Gauthier Road), appliances/ side of road; 12:26 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 12:59 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Chestnut Street), illegal burn; 2:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Avenue), loose dog; 3:46 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:44 p.m.: missing person/juvenile (Pleasant Street), info taken/11 YO; 5:46 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:26 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 6:48 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: mv purchase; 6:49 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 6:55 p.m.: juvenile matter (Howe Village), riding bike in road; 8:26 p.m.: medical/general (McDonald Street); 8:43 p.m.: medical/general (Pleasant Street); 10:36 p.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; (Total daily mv stops - 7).

FRIDAY, MAY 7

1:38-1:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:01 a.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), services rendered; 9:30 a.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), female in roadway; 10:04 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC

electric fence; 10:58 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), open door/vacant home; 11:08 a.m.: disturbance (Bay Path Road), unwanted party; 12:23 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), East Brookfield PD bolo; 1:09 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 1:30 p.m.: animal complaint (Kittredge Road), dead fox in yard; 1:53 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 2:09 p.m.: medical/general (Starr Street); 2:23 p.m.: DPW call (Ash Street), sewer backup; 2:33 p.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), throwing rocks/vacant house; 2:42 p.m.: suspicious persons (Woodland Lane), re: poss. intruder; 3:10 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:53 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 5:34 p.m.: animal complaint (Smithville Road), aggressive hawk; 7:27 p.m.: officer wanted (Meadow Road), illegal dumping; 7:43 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 8:07 p.m.: medical/general (South Spencer Road); 9:04 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), dead fox in road; 9:39 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:39 p.m.: accident (Temple Street), report taken; (Total daily mv stops – 3).

SATURDAY, MAY 8

12:05 a.m.: disturbance (R. Jones Road), lazer light through windows; 12:31 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), unattended mv; 12:32-1:27 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:05 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 9:23 a.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), loose dog; 9:46 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 10:09 a.m.: officer wanted (Browning Pond Road), spoken to; 1:19 p.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), kids entering vacant home; 3:00 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), investigated; 3:57 p.m.: juvenile matter (Mechanic Street), noise complaint; 4:02 p.m.: intelligence/drugs (Chestnut Street), info taken; 5:40 p.m.: medical/general (Greenville Street); 7:03 p.m.: 911 call (Temple Street), accidental; 7:23 p.m.: juvenile matter (Pleasant Street), welfare check; 7:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), neighbor issues; 7:53 p.m.: juvenile matter (Grove Street), group confronting one juvenile; 8:01 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic truck operator; 8:24 p.m.: officer wanted (Temple Street), info taken; 8:41 p.m.: officer wanted (Charlton Road), family matter; 8:47 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 9:24 p.m.: disturbance (Parent Street), Reese Patrick Conners, 25, 2 Parent Street, Spencer, warrant, resisting arrest, arrest; 9:27 p.m.: medical/ general (Bixby Road), Antonio J. Judd, 47, Homeless, Worcester, warrant, arrest; 10:53 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), loose dog; (Total daily mv stops - 2).

SUNDAY, MAY 9

SUNDAY, MAY9 12:58 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Pearl Street), fighting heard/disconnected; 1:08 a.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), investigated; 1:30 a.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), c/o rude officer; 2:59 a.m.: 3:41 a.m.: mutual aid (Northwest Road), message delivered; 4:48 a.m.: disturbance (Church Street),

unwanted party; 4:57 a.m.: medical/ general (Dufault Road): 5:16 a.m.: medical/general (Lyford Road); 8:09 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), traffic cones in yard; 8:31 a.m.: 911 call (Ash Street), hang-up; 10:34 a.m.: building checked, secure; 11:28 a.m.: parking complaint (Pleasant Street), too close to intersection; 11:49 a.m.; animal complaint (East Charlton Road), dog bite; 12:50 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), ongoing noise complaint; 1:02 p.m.: medical/general (North Brookfield Road); 1:34 p.m.: medical/ general (Howe Village); 1:48 p.m.: RV complaint (Lake Street), mopeds on school lawn; 3:38 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 5:23 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 6:09 p.m.: animal complaint (Langevin Street), crow attacked blue jay; 6:19 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 6:40 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 7:14 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:29 p.m.: fire/woods/ grass (Chestnut Street) illegal burn X 3 days; 8:36 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), info taken; 9:02-9:08 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:09 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 9:24 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops - 4).

MONDAY, MAY 10

12:20 a.m.: 911 call (Roys Drive), accidental; 6:42 a.m.: medical/general (Old Farm Road); 7:03 a.m.: medical/general (R. Jones Road); 7:56 a.m.: suspicious persons (Brooks Pond Road), investigated; 12:00 p.m.: restraining order service (Maple Street); 12:05 p.m.: restraining order service (Ash Street); 12:51 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 3:41 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:02 p.m.: mv complaint (Cherry Street), wrong way on one way; 4:59 p.m.: juvenile matter (Chestnut Street), family dispute; 5:10 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 5:51 p.m.: disturbance (Valley Street), unwanted parties; 6:43 p.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Avenue), dog found; 7:31 p.m.: lost/ found (West Main Street), purse found; 7:35 p.m.: mv complaint (Woodside Road), speeding; 7:55 p.m.: medical/ general (Main Street), lift assist; 8:55 p.m.: animal complaint (Prospect Street), missing dog; 9:33 p.m.: officer wanted (Lloyd Dyer Drive), welfare check; 9:34 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), info taken; (Total daily mv stops -0).

TUESDAY, MAY 11

12:50 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:52 a.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), assist MSP; 1:05 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), misdial; 5:59 a.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), report taken; 6:58 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 9:11 a.m.: fire alarm (West Main Street), referred; 9:58 a.m.: medical/ general (Mechanic Street); 9:59 a.m.: citizen complaint (Main Street), voters blocking entrance; 12:04 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 12:06 p.m.: suspicious persons (Temple Street), investigated; 12:57 p.m.: mutu(Thompson Pond Road), caught loose dog; 1:24 p.m.: medical/general (Mercury Drive); 2:21 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 4:02 p.m.: disabled mv (North Spencer Road), assisted; 6:09 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Lakeshore Drive), misdial; 7:26 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), noise complaint; 7:40 p.m.: disturbance (Cherry Street), services rendered; 9:24 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Temple Street), accidental; 9:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Laliberte Lane), red tail hawk in d/way; 9:30 p.m.: accident (Charlton Road), mv vs deer; 9:52 p.m.: officer wanted (Northwest Road), threatened by brother; 9:56 p.m.: medical/general (Greenville Street); 10:19 p.m.: medical/general (Norcross Road); 11:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), welfare check; 11:42 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), noise complaint; (Total daily mv stops – 4).

NOTE: Arrest made sometime during the week but all information – date, name, charges, location of arrest – were redacted from police log. Only info available was age of suspect, 47.

Leicester Police

THURSDAY, MAY 6

1:08 a.m.: mv off road (Rawson Street), report taken; 8:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:26 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, investigated; 9:34 a.m.: investigation (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 12:12 p.m.: investigation (Paxton Street), services rendered; 1:00 p.m.: assist other PD (Hopkinton PD), services rendered; 1:55 p.m.: mv stop (Winslow Avenue), spoken to; 2:45 p.m.: erratic operator (Paxton Street), investigated; 4:27 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 4:47 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:13 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:33 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 6:19 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 8:20 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 8:38 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 9:16 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 10:26 p.m.: suspicious person (King Street Extension), spoken to.

FRIDAY, MAY 7

9:48 a.m.: arrest warrant service (Main Street), Keith Duesberg, 32, 3 Phillips Avenue, Rutland, docket, transported; 11:08 a.m.: threats (Pleasant Street), peace restored; 11:23 a.m.: trespassing (Main Street), spoken to; 12:03 p.m.: assist citizen (River Street), report taken; 1:39 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 2:35 p.m.: mutual aid (Stafford Street, Worcester), transported to hospital; 3:40 p.m.: summons service (Bottomly Avenue), served; 3:53 p.m.: summons service (Coppage Drive, Worcester), served; 6:07 p.m.: fraud (Main Street), ıken; 8:13 a.m.: suspi report

change of address; 10:36 a.m.: animal complaint (Borkum Road), inquiry re:

Street), investigated; 12:57 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Hardwick PD bolo; 1:14 p.m.: animal complaint

Turn To **POLICE LOG** page **A19**



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Outreach Coordinator Town of Charlton

The Outreach Coordinator performs professional and administrative work in communicating programs and services with the Town's senior population. This is a 37.5 hour per week benefited position. High School Diploma with some additional coursework in Social Work, Human Services or Health Service required along with at least 1 year of working with the elderly; or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Please see job description for complete list of qualifications and responsibilities. Salary range: \$20.61hr – \$24.93/hr depending on qualifications. Please apply online at

HR Generalist – Full-Time Town of Charlton

Place your ad today!

VISA

The HR Generalist performs responsible and complex administrative work assisting the Human Resource Director with the overall responsibilities of the department. Responsibilities include scheduling interviews, performing reference checks, onboarding, scheduling trainings, maintaining employee files and

database, payroll processing as well as many other duties. Familiarity with unions and FLSA standards a plus. Must have strong attention to detail. Bachelor's Degree in related field; at least 5 years of related work experience preferred, or any

https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources no later than May 27, 2021.

The Town of Charlton is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity.

TOWN OF SPENCER SEWER DEPARTMENT

Assistant Chief Operator Sewer Department: Assist in the operation and maintenance of a Municipal Sewer System including Laboratory analyses, equipment maintenance, scheduled weekend rotation, collections system maintenance, respond to emergency calls, record keeping, and filing. The position requires a high school diploma or general education degree (GED), and/or three to five years of related experience working in wastewater treatment plants with three years of experience performing equipment and plant maintenance, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Grade 4 Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's License is required with the ability to obtain a Grade 5C within a time period set by Sewer Commissioners and Superintendent.

Submit application letter, resume and standard Town application form, available at www.spencerma.gov to Town of Spencer, Human Resources Department, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562. Open until filled. Reviews begin immediately. Subject to Union Rules and Regulations.

EEO Employer.

TOWN OF SPENCER SEWER DEPARTMENT

Laborer Sewer Department: Assist in the operation and maintenance of a Municipal Sewer System duties including but not limited to, equipment and collections system maintenance, operate filter press, operate sludge disposal process, respond to emergency calls, pump station inspection, grounds keeping and snow removal, record keeping, and filing. The position requires a high school diploma or general education degree (GED), and/or one to three years of related experience working in wastewater treatment plants with three years of experience performing equipment and plant maintenance, or an equivalent combination of education and experience. Opportunity for advancement to Assistant Chief Operator with ability to obtain a Grade 5 Municipal Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator's License within a time period set by Sewer Commissioners and Superintendent.

Submit application letter, resume and standard Town application form, available at www.spencerma.gov to Town of Spencer, Human Resources Department, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562. Open until filled. Reviews begin immediately. Subject to Union Rules and Regulations. equivalent combination of education and experience. Please see job description for complete list of qualifications and responsibilities. Salary range: \$22.59/hr - \$24.93/hr depending on qualifications. Please apply online at https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources no later than *May* 25, 2021.

The Town of Charlton is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity.

Treasurer/Collector Town of Charlton

The Full-time Treasurer/Collector provides high-level financial, administrative and technical work involving the receipt of money and the collection of all taxes due to the town. Bachelor's degree in accounting, finance or related field; a minimum of five years' experience in a municipal supervisory position; or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Massachusetts certification as Treasurer and Tax Collector preferred, but not required. Ability to become bonded. Please see job description for complete list of qualifications and responsibilities. Salary range: \$36.39 – \$40.17 hourly depending on qualifications. Please apply online at https://www.townofcharlton.net/158/Human-Resources no later than *May 27, 2021*.

The Town of Charlton is an equal opportunity employer and encourages diversity.

FULL TIME MAINTENANCE LABORER SPENCER HOUSING AUTHORITY

Applicant must possess a valid driver's license and minimum 5 years' experience in maintenance repair and/or one of the building trades. Applicant must be able to pass a pre-employment physical, drug test and background check. Applicant must be a self-motivated, team member, who is deeply respectful of elderly, handicapped and low-income families. An employee in this classification will be expected to perform a variety of unskilled and semi-skilled tasks in the upkeep of the properties and grounds including cleaning apartments following tenants use to prepare for re-leasing, removing tiles and other floor coverings, lifting heavy objects, mowing lawns, pruning trees and shrubs, snow removal and use of a variety of hand tools and implements. This position requires regular on-call service hours when the staff member cannot travel or be incapacitated in any way. Wage is set by Labor & Industry standards. Supervision is received from the Maintenance Supervisor. Spencer Housing Authority employees are not permitted to smoke anywhere on housing property. Spencer Housing Authority maintenance employees are required to acquire a Mass Pesticide Applicators License within a year from hiring.

Job descriptions and applications are available for pick up at the Spencer Housing Authority office, 13 McDonald Street, Spencer, MA 01562. (508) 885-3904 daily from 7:00 AM – 3:00. PM.

Applications will be accepted until 2:00 PM on Friday May 28, 2021. E.O.E./Affirmative Action Employer

EEO Employer.

POLICE LOG

continued from page A17

(Soojians Drive), unable to locate; 8:16 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), no action required; 8:34 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 9:23 p.m.: gunshots heard (Pleasant Street), unable to locate.

SATURDAY, MAY 8

8:43 a.m.: assist citizen (Mayflower Road), services rendered; 12:54 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), spoken to; 3:32 p.m.: erratic operator (Pleasant Street), unable to locate; 4:20 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 5:27 p.m.: mv stop (Grove Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv towed; 5:55 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), no action required; 9:36 p.m.: erratic operator (Pleasant Street), gone on arrival; 9:54 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), citation issued; 10:14 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 10:54 p.m.: accident (Main Street), transported to hospital.

SUNDAY, MAY 9

12:35 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), unable to locate; 6:17 a.m.: accident (South Main Street), report taken; 10:04 a.m.: malicious mischief (River Street), report taken; 11:48 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), spoken to; 12:25 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 3:02 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), message delivered; 3:22 p.m.: accident (Main

Street), report taken; 5:01 p.m.: suspicious activity (Pleasant Street), gone on arrival; 7:17 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), verbal warning; 7:36 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 7:50 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 9:35 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Street), spoken to; 9:48 p.m.: mv stop (Mill Street), spoken to; 9:54 p.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), spoken to; 10:26 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), spoken to. MONDAY, MAY 10

1:30 a.m.: mv stop (Soojians Drive), spoken to; 6:09 a.m.: welfare check (Tobin Road), spoken to; 9:34 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), cita-tion issued; 10:32 a.m.: welfare check (Paxton Street), assisted; 3:39 p.m.: investigation (Auburn Street), services rendered; 4:39 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street): 5:05 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), no action required; 7:30 p.m.: mutual aid (Mill Street, Worcester), transported to hospital; 8:36 p.m.: family problem (Mannville Street), peace restored; 8:40 p.m.: family problem (Harding Street), report taken.

TUESDAY, MAY 11

8:00 a.m.: restraining order service (Fairview Drive), unable to serve; 8:44 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:56 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:19 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:30 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:34 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 4:44 p.m.: assist citizen (Mannville Street), services rendered; 5:09 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street), spoken to; 7:25 p.m.: investigation (South Street, Auburn), report taken; 11:19 p.m.: assist citizen (Winslow Avenue).

WEDNESDAY, MAY 12

5:44 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), citation issued; 6:50 a.m.: suspicious mv (Mayflower Road), gone on arrival; 11:52 a.m.: welfare check (Town Beach Road), services rendered; 2:40 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), assisted; 3:28 p.m.: ambulance (Austin Street, Worcester), transported; 3:54 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 3:55 p.m.: investigation (Main Street, Worcester), services rendered; 4:11 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Leela Lane), unable to serve; 4:57 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued: 5:13 p.m.: malicious mischief (Baldwin Street), report taken; 5:22 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:38 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, unregistered mv, op w/ suspended registration, mv towed; 6:09 p.m.: assist citizen (Moosehill Road), no action required; 8:17 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), no action required; 8:36 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 8:40 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), citation issued; 9:42 p.m.: mv stop (Mannville Street), spoken to.

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