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Friday, February 12, 2021

Insurance, Call for

Passengers and crew safe after plane crash



Photo Courtesy

All passengers and crew escaped safely after a small airplane crashed in Leicester last week.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Thanks to the teamwork of first responders and local residents, all passengers and crew were rescued from last week's plane crash.

The small aircraft went down at approximately 5 p.m. on Feb. 2, crashing in a field off Moosehill Road. Contending with a foot of recently fallen snow, responders worked hard to reach the crash site beyond remote, wooded terrain.

With the help of two local residents on snowmobiles who heard the plane go down, responders were able to bring two passengers to waiting ambulances, police said. A third person was taken out of the woods on a stokes basket.

A small dog was also safely rescued from

the wreckage.

All of the survivors sustained injuries, but none were listed as life-threatening. The dog, uninjured, was cared for by Leicester's animal control officer.

Members of the Spencer Fire and Rescue Department also responded to the scene, as well as the Environmental Police.

"The crash site is a significant distance from the roadway. To access the site, the Leicester Highway Department responded with two large pieces of heavy equipment to clear a path for investigators," read a statement released by the Leicester Police Department.

First responders thank everyone involved in the rescue for their teamwork. Had the

Please Read CRASH, page A11

New Town Planner bits the ground running

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Having grown up in Oakham, newly hired Town Planner Todd Miller needed no introduction to the area.

Hired in late December, Miller hit the ground running last month by inheriting a packed lineup of ongoing projects. Town officials are thrilled to have him on board to begin a busy 2021 slate.

"Todd brings to Spencer a strong background in planning and economic development, having served as both a regional planner as well as a municipal planner for several communities in Massachusetts," said Town Administrator Thomas Gregory. "I am confident that he will provide leadership and direction while working collaboratively with the various land use boards and business community in Spencer."

Miller earned a Bachelor of Science degree in urban studies from Worcester State University, with a focus in public administration and planning. He is currently pursuing a graduate study program in public administration and policy

When the Spencer position became available, Miller jumped at the opportunity to work in a familiar setting, having grown up on Spencer Road



Photo Courtesy

Todd Miller was recently hired as the new Town Planner in Spencer.

in Oakham. He has appreciated the warm welcome from officials, and he looks forward to continuing to meet residents, town leaders, and business owners.

For Miller, building relationships is just as important as advancing projects.

"I'm a natural collaborator, with consensus building and cooperation a key focus," Miller said. "Fostering that environment to productive ends is a point of satisfaction."

Currently, Miller is heavily focused on the major town projects in the development process. He also looks forward to collaborating with

Please Read **MILLER**, page **A3**

Parents, school officials air concerns about remote learning

BY KEVIN FLANDERS STAFF WRITER

REGION – Frustrated by problems with remote learning, local parents and officials are expressing their concerns to the Quaboag Regional School District.

After operating in the fully remote format throughout January, school officials

returned to the hybrid model last week. This means a combination of in-person and remote learning, with specific days designated under each category. School districts statewide have the authority to return to the fully remote model at any time if COVID-19 conditions worsen and an outbreak occurs.

Although several students in the QRSD have thrived in remote learning, others have encountered an array of problems away from school. Guardians have repeatedly conveyed these issues to administrators, School Committee members, and even selectmen in Warren and West Brookfield.

In some instances, exasperated guardians have enrolled their children in alternative learning environments for the remainder of the year.

"Our kids need to be in school getting educated, not at home sitting in front of a computer all day," said Doreen Piechota, who pulled her granddaughter out of West

Brookfield Elementary School in November due to frustrations with the district.

Piechota's granddaughter, a fifth grader, now attends a private school. Several other guardians are also considering removing their children from the district if in-person learning isn't sustained.

Please Read **LEARNING**, page **A6**

DP Dollar Plus Store opens in Spencer



Photo Courtesy

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Fresh off their grand opening last weekend, the DP Dollar Plus Store team invites residents to check out Spencer's newest family-run business.

Co-owners Casey Osei-Bonsu and her father, Everett Blodgett, are looking forward to meeting residents and travelers from throughout the area. Conveniently located at 160 Main St., their business at the center of town will draw plenty of customers from busy Route 9.

The business held its grand opening on Feb. 6, celebrating with music, raffle opportunities, and giveaways. Looking ahead, the team is eager to establish their business as a trusted one-stop shop for local seniors,

students, families, and residents on the go.
"My dad and I grew up in Spencer and both graduated from David Prouty [High School]. We felt that the town of Spencer

could benefit from a dollar store type business, and the old Alpha Mart building was perfect," said Osei-Bonsu. "My dad and I have been involved in owning businesses for many years and were looking for a new adventure."

Whether residents are walking from other downtown businesses, or stopping in after a visit to Town Hall across the street, the DP Dollar Plus Store allows customers to quickly find what they're looking for and get back on the road.

For store owners, it was a thrill to proceed through each step along the road to the grand opening. The process involved several meticulous phases, beginning with product acquisition.

"It was a lot of fun building the store together and shopping for some great products to offer our customers," Osei-Bonsu told the New Leader.

Former Spencer resident co-authors new book

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

SPENCER - After collaborating on another inspirational project, an author-publicist with local roots is celebrating the latest release of a book spotlighting hope and determination.

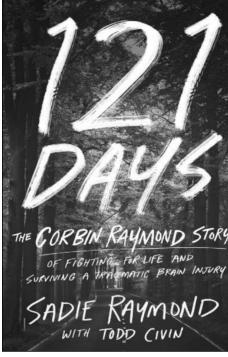
Todd Civin, formerly of Spencer, bolsters several authors' platforms as part of his company, Winchendon-based Civin Media Relations and Publishing Services. Most recently, he was thrilled to work with author Sadie Raymond, of Boscawen, New Hampshire, who penned the book "121 Days - The Corbin Raymond Story of Fighting for Life and Surviving a Traumatic Brain Injury.'

Sadie Raymond's book tells the true story of the 121 days of hardship and hope following her teenage son's car accident on July 4, 2018. A passenger in a vehicle that went off the road and struck a tree, Corbin Raymond was airlifted to a Boston hospital. Experts advised his mother that the damage to his brain would likely prevent him from living a normal life.

"I refused to believe them," Sadie Raymond said of doctors' prognoses. 'Corbin looked at me and he knew who I was. It wasn't a blank stare into nowhere. He knew I was his mother, and he had things he wanted to say to me. He wanted to be here and he wanted

For 121 days, Corbin fought to recover at Boston Children's Hospital and Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital. Even though there was little progress





Author Sadie Raymond recently teamed up with Todd Civin, formerly of Spencer, to produce an inspirational book.

for several months and doctors' predictions remained grim, his mother never gave up hope.

Now, with the publication of their story, Sadie Raymond and her family are hopeful that they can inspire others facing slim odds.

'121 Days' is a creation I am truly

proud of," said Civin, who also co-authored the book. "I became very close to the Raymond family during Corbin's recovery, and of course through the writing of the book. I witnessed him progress more than any of us imag-

Published by Mascot Books, "121

Days" was launched on Feb. 1 and has already earned acclaim on Goodreads, NetGalley, and other major reviewers

For Civin, each book he helps convey to readers is a unique accomplishment. They all have an inspirational story to tell, and it means a lot for Civin to be part of the journey to publication.

'121 Days' is the sixth full-length book I've co-authored," said Civin, a lifelong Spencer resident before moving north to Winchendon. "Giving birth to a new title is a similar feeling to having children. You love each of them equally but love them all differently."

Even though Civin has a special place in his heart for each title, there is something undeniably compelling about "121 Days.

"Every author imagines that his work has the intrigue to become a movie. I honestly believe we will see '121 Days' on the big screen at some point over the next few years," Civin said.

Featuring real-time journal entries and contributions from members of Corbin's family, "121 Days" testifies to the duration of courage and the power

To learn more about the book, check out www.121days.net.

Civin has also authored "One Letter at a Time" with Dick and Rick Hoyt; "Line Change" with Matt Brown; "Beyond the Finish" with Brent and Kyle Pease; "Destined to Run" with Wes Harding; and "Just My Game" with former Major League Baseball pitcher Jason Grilli.

First responders share vaccine experiences

BY KEVIN FLANDERS

REGION – As more local seniors get ready to schedule their COVID-19 vaccination appointments, first responders are helping them feel more comfortable by sharing their experiences with the process.

Per the state's priority group regulations, all residents age 75 and over are now eligible to schedule their vaccinations. Local first-line medical professionals and first responders have already received their vaccinations, including the majority of firefighters, police officers, and EMS personnel.

With the recently opened mass vaccination site at the Eastfield Mall in Springfield – and another site soon to launch at Worcester State University more seniors are scheduling their appointments. Looking ahead to the spring and summer, they can't wait to reconnect with family, friends, and

favorite events.

First responders and seniors who have already been vaccinated are still taking precautions, but they are feeling much more comfortable about being out in public settings. Still, this is no time to become complacent, officials said.

"I feel a lot more confident now. We're still wearing masks and taking all of the precautions, but you definitely feel more confident," said Spencer Fire Chief Robert Parsons, who received the Pfizer vaccine at Harrington Hospital.

Most local first responders, including those with the Spencer Fire Department, have only experienced brief flu-like symptoms after receiving their vaccines. No major symptoms were reported to the New Leader, and many individuals experienced no symptoms whatsoever.

"There were very limited side effects; one person who got the second dose felt a little flu-like for a day, but nothing unexpected," said Leicester Police

Chief Ken Antanavica. "I felt perfectly fine, with no injection site pain and no other side effects.'

Leicester first responders mostly registered for their vaccinations through the UMass system or the Worcester Senior Center through the Health Alliance. These systems were made available to several local departments.

"Both processes were well thought, with no problems getting vaccinated,' Chief Antanavica said.

Spencer Police Chief David Darrin also reported that the majority of his department had received both doses of the vaccine by press time, with no serious reactions reported. The SPD's vaccinations were done through the Harrington Hospital system.

First responders join state leaders in advising residents with a history of allergies to make sure they inform staff members before receiving the vaccine. Also, once you receive both doses of the vaccine, officials urge you to continue

wearing masks, as those who have been vaccinated can still pass the virus to

Over the next few months, the state will continue to approve new groups of residents for vaccine eligibility. The next group to receive eligibility is residents age 65 or over with two or more medical conditions. This group will be followed by a category consisting of educators, transit employees, grocery store workers, public works and health employees, and sanitation workers, among others.

By mid-April, the general public in Massachusetts is expected to become eligible for the vaccine. Additional information will be released next week on the Worcester State University mass vaccination site.

To learn more about vaccine efforts throughout the state, visit www.mass.

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\$280,000, 132 Town Farm Rd, Hill, Kyle T, and Hill, Traci L, to Bobkowski, Madeline L, and

\$260,000, 57 Town Farm Rd,

\$50,000, 9 Howard St, Cook,

\$539,900, 2 Oak Bluff Ln, Olin,

\$330,000, 32 Crestwood Rd, Chupka,

\$311,000, 71 Upton St, Palubeckis,

\$275,000, 29 Warren Ave, Chiusano,

Anthony J, and Chiusano, Kathryn

A, to Stramacchia, Christopher, and

\$255,000, 405 Pine St, Hobby,

\$200,000, 31 Siani Rd, Schneider,

\$365,000, 13 Cushing St, Judycki,

\$365,000, 17 Howe Rd, Laverdure,

\$357,500, 12 Oakland Dr, Barrell,

\$335,000, 109 S Spencer Rd,

Ferrazza FT 2020, and Foster, Susan,

to Zanauskas, John D, and Tetreault,

\$283,000, 7 Langevin St, Keys

\$232,900, 41 Valley St, Mccarthy,

Investments LLC, to Foresman,

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Stephen, to Zalansky, Michael, and

Thomas K, and Hobby, Deborah J, to

Mandie, to Burtt, Mandie M, and

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Gordon, to Sharma, Kristin K.

Donald A, to Birkbeck, Michael, and

Nichols, Joseph G, and Nichols,

Michelle C, to Huang, Ying.

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Benjamin, Ethan P.

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Albertelli, Stephen.

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West Brookfield Historical Commission announces 2021 scholarship

WEST BROOKFIELD — The West Brookfield Historical Commission is pleased to announce its 2021, 10th annual scholarship in the amount of \$2000. Qualified students must reside in West Brookfield and may attend Quaboag Regional High School, or be schoolchoice students, home schooled students, and independent school students.

This award is made possible through the J. Irving and Jane L. England Charitable Trust.

Students must be planning to attend either a four-year college, or a twoyear college with the intent to transfer into a four-year degree program. The Commission will show preference to students with plans for a concentration on History and History-related areas. Major or minors may include Political Science, Social Studies, Anthropology, Archaeology, Historical Preservation, Museum Studies, and Education in these related fields.

Applicants must submit a brief essay based on one of the Notable Persons or Significant Places listed on the application. All necessary information will be found on the West Brookfield Historical Commission Web site, http://westbrookfield.org.

All applicants will have until April 8, to turn in their Scholarship application and essay by e-mailing info@ westbrookfield.org or mailing it to West Brookfield Historical Commission, PO Box 372, W. Brookfield, MA 01585.

QRHS student Awards will be announced at the Awards Presentation, June 2.

The application and details can be found on the Historical Commission Web site- http://westbrookfield.org.

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Area residents named to dean's list at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, Conn. — Aliya Zubi of Brookfield, Evan Chen of East Brookfield, Hannah Wickson of Leicester, and Delaney Giguere of Spencer were named to the dean's list for the Fall 2020 semester at Quinnipiac University:

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Parttime students must complete at least six credits during a semester.

Quinnipiac University About Quinnipiac is a private, coeducational. nonsectarian institution located 90 minutes north of New York City and two hours from Boston. The university enrolls 7,000 full-time undergraduate and 3,000 graduate and part-time students in 110 degree programs through its Schools of Business, Communications, Education, Engineering,

Sciences, Law, Medicine, Nursing and the College of Arts and Sciences. Quinnipiac is recognized by U.S. News & World Report and Princeton Review's "The Best 385 Colleges." The Chronicle of Higher Education has named Quinnipiac among the Great Colleges to Work For(r). For more information, please visit qu.edu. Connect with Quinnipiac on Facebook at facebook.com/quinnipiacunews and follow Quinnipiac on Twitter @QuinnipiacU.

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.

Becker College announces Dean's List for School of Graduate & Professional Studies

WORCESTER — Becker College is proud to announce the Graduate & Professional Studies Dean's List for the Fall 2020 semester.

The Dean's List recognizes all fulltime students (24 or more credit hours earned for the academic year; 12 minimum each semester - September through May) whose term grade point average is 3.50 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete (I) or withdrawal/failing (WF) grades. Natasha Basta of Leicester Julianna Croteau of Spencer Tori Robbie of East Brookfield Samantha Booth of Brookfield Anna Mason of North Brookfield Eileen Zuidema of North Brookfield

Founded in 1784, Becker College is an undergraduate and graduate, career-focused private college, providing a supportive and inclusive learning commu-

nity that prepares graduates for their first to last careers. Nearly 1,700 students from the United States and around the world attend Becker College, which has campuses both in Worcester and Leicester, Massachusetts. With nationally recognized programs in nursing, game design and animal studies, Becker has been consistently ranked as a "Best College" for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review.

continued from page A1

Fellow business owners and town officials wish the team luck in the latest chapter of their journey. Since the downtown revitalization project was completed a few years back, several new businesses have chosen Spencer. Officials expect a big surge in business during the spring and summer months, as the region continues to emerge from the COVID-19 crisis.

To learn more about the DP Dollar Plus Store, check out its social media page on Facebook (DP Dollar Store).

continued from page A1

regional planning agencies on an array of future projects.

Selectmen and other officials are looking forward to continuing their work with Miller during a busy spring and summer.

He comes to us with good qualifications as a regional planner, and we are thrilled to have him here," said Board of Selectmen Chairman Ralph Hicks.

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Simen Nodland named to Millikin University Dean's List

DECATUR, Ill. — Simen Nodland of Moss, is among the outstanding undergraduates at Millikin University named to the Dean's List for the fall 2020 semes-

Students who attempt 12 graded credits during a fall or spring semester and earn a grade point average of 3.5 or higher earn Dean's List honors. Students earning a perfect 4.00 grade point average on 12 graded credits attempted earn High Dean's List honors.

The students named to the Dean's List at Millikin University are listed in alphabetical order according to last

Millikin University is a private, comprehensive university with a diverse student population of approximately 2,000 undergraduate and graduate students. A Millikin education features Performance Learning, a unique learning approach offered only at Millikin that gives students the chance to build the confidence and skills to succeed before and after graduation. Millikin offers more than 50 majors in the College of Fine Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, College of Professional Studies and Tabor School of Business, and is located on a 75-acre residential campus in Decatur, Ill.

Rigoberto Alfonso named to College of the Holy Cross' Dean's List

WORCESTER — Rigoberto Alfonso of Leicester, was named to the College of the Holy Cross Fall 2020 Dean's List. A member of the Class of 2024, Alfonso is majoring in Undeclared.

Alfonso was among more than 1,453 students named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2020-21 academic year.

To qualify, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

About Holy Cross

The College of the Holy Cross, in Worcester, Mass., is among the nation's leading liberal arts institutions. A highly selective, four-year, exclusively undergraduate college of 3,100 students, Holy Cross is renowned for offering a rigorous, personalized education in the Jesuit, Catholic tradition. Since its founding in 1843, Holy Cross has made a positive impact in society by graduating students who distinguish themselves as thoughtful leaders in business, professional and civic life.

P.A.L. of the Week Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC Name: Pokus Breed: DSH

Sex: Female Age: Young Adult Pokus is a beautiful cat who has mellowed considerably.

I pet her and she actually enjoys it. She really is a lovely girl who will need a quiet home where someone can be patient and kind to her. She is not aggressive but still skittish. I know she will bond with the right person as she has to me. We will never know the beginning of her stor but we are hoping someone will give her a happy ending.



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ERIC LaFLECHE, Spencer, MA

We would like to acknowledge Eric LaFleche of Spencer for Person of the Week. Eric has been shopping to feed families in need since December and has helped over 80 families to date. He has put in his own time and money for this great cause. Check out his Facebook page, Buying Friends and Families Food. Thank you Eric for your kindness and generosity at a time when it's needed the most.

— Submitted by Dadra Gercken and Jessica Piwowarski

If you would like to nominate an upcoming Person of the Week, please email your suggestion and the reason you're nominating him or her, or a group of people to June at jsima@stonebridgepress.news.

Person of the Week is sponsored by:



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Leicester Women's Club to offer scholarships

LEICESTER — The Leicester Women's Club will award \$500 scholarships to three Leicester residents who will graduate from high school in 2021.

Also this year, two \$500 scholarships will be awarded to students majoring in nursing in memory of Elizabeth Swan, given by the Swan family.

Applications are available at your local guidance office. Any Leicester resident graduating from high school in the spring of 2021 is eligible.

Applications must be submitted by April 1.

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EMERGENCY HOUSING REHABILITATION ASSISTANCE

The town of Spencer, with the assistance of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) still has funding to assist qualified homeowners in making necessary repairs to their homes. Due to the availability of grant funding, the town is prioritizing emergency projects (including leaking roof, failed heating system, failed septic system, etc.) In order to be eligible for assistance, total household income shall not exceed current federal income guidelines based on the number of people residing in a household. (See table below).

If you are interested in this funding, please fill out the following form and return to Shirley Stephens at the PVPC (address appears below). ALL information received is strictly confidential and will be maintained in the Springfield office of the PVPC. If you have questions, please contact PVPC Housing Coordinator Shirley Stephens, at (413) 781-

Name:							
Property Add	ress:						
Mailing Addre	ess/Zip:					For P.V.P.C. ate Received:	-
Telephone:					I	aff Initials:	
Email:							
Single/Multi F							
Type of impro							
Му	household in	come is not g	reater than (c	ircle one acco	ording to your	household siz	ze):
1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
\$54.950	\$62,800	\$70,650	\$78 500	\$84 800	\$91.100	\$97.350	\$103,650

Return to: Shirley Stephens, Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street - 1st Floor, Springfield, MA 01104

A sticky substance on plant leaves, plant stands, and the floor are often the first clue alerting gardeners to a problem. If a closer look reveals bumps on the upper and lower surface of leaves and stems, it means scale

insects have moved in to dine on your houseplants. Severe infestations can cause leaf yellowing, stunting and dieback of the plant.

If you have battled these insects, you know they can be challenging to control. Arm yourself with an understanding of their lifecycle and be persistent to successfully manage these pests.

Scale insects have needle-like mouthparts that allow them to pierce the leaf and stem surfaces. They suck plant sap through a tube-like structure just as if they were drinking from a straw. These are one of several insects that secrete drops of a clear, sticky substance, called honeydew, as they feed. A black fungus known as sooty mold may grow on the honeydew. It does not directly harm the plant, but it looks bad. In severe cases, sooty mold can prevent sunlight from reaching the leaves, causing them to yellow.

Adult scale insects form coverings that protect them from adverse environmental conditions and most chemical controls. Eggs hatch under this protective covering and the immature scale, called crawlers, emerge looking for a place to feed. Once settled, the crawler continues to grow, shedding layers of skin. These layers of shed skin, or waxy

GARDEN tective covering. MOMENTS

MELINDA **MYERS**

Isolate infected plants as soon as you discover the problem. This will reduce the risk of this pest spreading to your other plants.

You can remove the adult scales with a toothpick, tweezers, or an old toothbrush. Repeat every few

weeks until you have this pest under control. This may be sufficient to control small populations, but if you miss even one adult the problem persists.

The crawler stage is the most susceptible to chemical control. You will need a hand lens or magnifying glass to see these short-lived crawlers. Insecticides and washing small plants with a plantsafe soapy water solution can help manage small populations. Cover the pot and soil to prevent any scale knocked off during the bath from crawling back onto the plant.

Increase your chance of success with the help of an organic insecticide like Summit Year-Round Spray (SummitResponsibleSolutions. com). This lightweight oil suffocates and controls all stages of the scale insect, including the adult and eggs housed under the protective covering. Repeat applications are needed to get this insect under control.

This product is safe for people and pets while harmful to this and other houseplant pests. As always read and follow label directions for the most effective results.

Clean the pot, saucers, plant stands



Photo Melinda Mvers

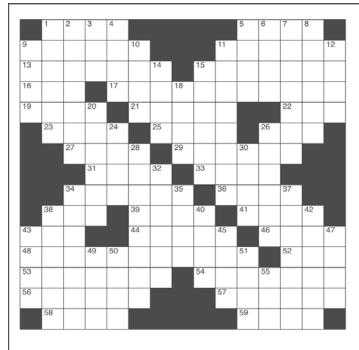
Scale insects may be dining on your houseplant if you notice a sticky substance on its leaves and bumps on the upper and lower surface of the plant's leaves and stems.

and the area around infected plants to remove any honeydew and unseen crawlers. This along with proper control will reduce the risk of these insects infesting treated and nearby plants.

Continue to monitor all your plants for scale and other insects each time you water. It is much easier to manage small populations than larger infestations on more plants.

Melinda Myers has written more

than 20 gardening books, including Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything" DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine and was commissioned by Summit for her expertise to write this article. Myers' Web site is www.melindamyers.com.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Composed
- 5. Lesotho currency 9. Ethnic group associated
- with Hungarians
- 11. Gains knowledge of
- 15. Purchase Pharaoh of lower Egypt
- 17. Where you're going
- 19. The 6th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 21. Fishing net
- 22. Midway between south and southeast
- 23. A way to sort
- 25. C C C
- 27. Discount
- 29. Consumes tobacco
- 31. A way to run
- 36. Supplements with difficulty

- 44. Being of use or service
- 46. Have a yen for
- 48. Unknowingness
- 53. Unwinds
- 59. Moves earth

28. Foodies

- 1. Progressive decay of a bone
- 2. Burrowing rodents
- 4. A professional cleaner
- 5. A Russian river
- 8. Most private
- 10. Masses of fish eggs
- 12. Monetary unit of Samoa
- 15. Film
- 18. Men's fashion accessories
- 20. Flowering shrub
- 24. North Carolina university 26. Former monetary unit of Spain

- 33. Popular musical awards show 34. Pertains to the male sexual organ
- 38. Green veggie
- 39. Deep-bodied freshwater fish
- 41. Holy fire
- 43. Usually has a lid
- 52. Dry white wine drink
- 54. Traveling by sea
- 56. Outdoor entertaining areas
- 57. Stringed instruments
- 26. Popular sports podcast (abbr.) 58. __ Redgrave, actress

30. New Zealand parrot

34. A payment required for not

fulfilling a contract

32. Makes very happy

CLUES DOWN

- or tooth
- 3. French/Belgian river
- 7. True statements
- 9. French city
- 11. Apart from others
- 14. Nanosecond

- 35. Emerald Isle 37. The act of terminating someone's
 - employment 38. Gland in some mammals
 - 40. Commoner
 - 42. Large animals
 - 43. Belch 45. Employee stock ownership plan
 - 47. Work units
 - 49. Wagon 50. Nerve fiber
 - 51. Proclaimed 55. Japanese delicacy
- SOLUTION Ш A a A M Y \forall

Spencer police respond to storm-related accidents

SPENCER - About a foot of snow fell in many communities last week, with February making a memorable entrance by causing treacherous travel conditions.

Multiple accidents were reported during the Feb. 1 & 2 Nor'Easter, most of them minor. Spencer Police responded to a crash on Thompson Pond Road, with a vehicle striking a utility pole and bringing down power lines. No major injuries were reported as of press time, but the road was closed for several hours.

Sporadic power outages were also reported during the storm as wind gusts topped 30 miles per hour. Most households had the lights back on by Feb. 2.



This wreck last week in Spencer occurred during icy conditions on Thompson Pond Road.



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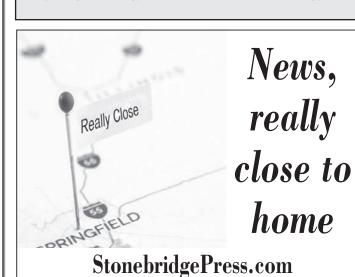


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Spencer's Megan Cyr named to WPI Dean's List

WORCESTER — Megan Cyr of Spencer has been named to the Dean's List at for the Fall semester of 2020 at Worcester Polytechnic Institute.

Cyr, a 2019 graduate of David Prouty High School, is majoring in Biology with a minor in Biotechnology.





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Planning a Therapeutic Backyard Garden

If you plan to have a spring or summer garden, these winter days likely find you plotting out a planting strategy. If your garden inspiration includes growing health promoting plants, read on. From flowers and herbs to vegetables and wild plants, nature provides a wide variety of natural healers that aid in everything from taming a tummy ache to fighting off a fever blister. Here are some garden favorites that offer the bonus of being beneficial health aids. Note: Information is offered for general interest only and should not be taken as health advice. Contact your physician before ingesting or applying any herbs or plants.

Marigolds a.k.a. Calendula, with their bright yellow and orange hues, are not only lovely in the garden, they are useful, with their unique properties offering a variety of benefits. The Marigold not only repels mosquitos and other pests from the garden, its anti-inflammatory properties also aid in treating minor cuts and abrasions - and the flower may be antibacterial (it was used during the Civil War to draw out infection in wounds). Marigolds are also used to soothe and heal such skin ailments as burns and acne. recipe Here's Marigold Balm from Old Schoolhouse magazine's Homestead Newsletter: You will need: 1/2 cup dried calendula petals (available in bulk at a health food store or from your garden), one ounce beeswax, 1/2 cup olive oil, a sterile tin to hold your finished project Place the petals and oil into an oven proof dish. Preheat the oven to 200 degrees. Place the oil and herbs into the oven, then turn it off and leave for three to four hours. Remove from oven to cool for an hour or so on the counter. Once cool, strain out the herbs with cheesecloth. Add the beeswax to the remaining oil and put back into the oven (or you can use a microwave for this part). Heat just until the beeswax is almost melted. Stir until it is completely melted and combined. Pour into your prepared tins and let sit 15-20 minutes until cool. Makes two tins of balm, about two ounces each.

Many backyard gardeners grow tomatoes, and the season's first ripe, red tomato on the vine is a summer pleasure worth waiting all year for! Whether they are in a vegetable plot, container garden, or upside down planter, tomatoes are not only delicious and nutritious, they also offer an array of health benefits. In fact, it's been well publicized that tomatoes are rich in lycopene, a powerful antioxidant. But did you know the tomato is one of the top five food sources of vitamin C, vitamin A, vitamin E, potassium and fiber? Tomatoes are also excellent sources of phytochemicals, polyphenols and carotenoids. And research shows tomatoes an aid in lowering blood pressure. According to an Israeli study, adding tomatoes to a diet can reduce systolic blood pressure by 10 points and diastolic pressure by four points. The secret weapon once again, is the tomato's high concentration of lycopene. The delicious dosage? About four whole tomatoes daily, which



TAKE THE HINT KAREN

TRAINOR

is easy during peak season. Off season, use chopped and canned garden tomatoes in chili, tomato sauces and soups to reach your daily dose.

The pansy is a common, easy to grow flower. With their colorful "faces" a plot of pansies add personality to a garden or window box, but the ancient, edible flower is also a valuable detoxifying and anti inflammatory agent. In addition, its been claimed the pansy is also helpful in treating eczema, asthma and allergies. Pansies grown without pesticides can be enjoyed in their natural state, simply washed and tossed in a salad or cold drink, or the flowers may be made into a healthful tincture or tea. To make a pansy poultice for external skin application to treat eczema and impetigo, simply add two tablespoons of pansy petals to two cups boiling water. Allow to steep for about 20 minutes and cool. Soak clean cloth in mixture and apply to skin,

Growing garlic? The health virtues of garlic have been touted for generations. Here are a couple of garlic remedies to try:

*The book, "The Healing Power of Garlic," suggests garlic nose drops can kill the viruses that cause cold or flu. Here are the book's instruc-

tions on concocting the drops: Crush some garlic to obtain juice, and add ten parts water and mix well. Apply as you would regular nose drops. *According to a home remedy promoted by generations past, if you place a clove of garlic on each side of the mouth between the teeth and cheek, a cold will disappear within a day. It's worth a try!

Natural teas are used to treat many maladies. If you are growing these herbs, you already have the ingredients for some healthful healers!

*Fever Treatment Tea: Some Native American tribes treated a low grade fever with sage, as in this old time recipe. As a bonus, the dried peppermint supplies the tea with a soothing, cooling effect. To do: Pour one cup boiling water over two teaspoons dried, edible sage and one teaspoon dried peppermint. Steep. Strain, and sweeten with honey if desired. Slowly sip up to three cups a

*Cold Sore Cure: Drinking sage tea can prevent and treat fever blisters and cold sores. To do: Pour one cup boiling water over edible sage leaves and a small piece of ginger root (or substitute ginger powder). Steep, cook and drink two to three cups of hot sage tea everyday to get rid of fever blisters.

* Shoo Flu: One of peppermint's claims to fame is that it can alleviates the chills and aid with symptoms of fever and the flu. Try drinking a cup or two of strong peppermint tea made from fresh leaves to relieve cold and flu complaints

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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

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.



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A B C D E F G H i J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to slow cooking. Each number corresponds to a letter. (Hint: 25 = E)

8 9 3 8 19

Clue: Ceramic cooking vessel

В. 22 25 26 20 25 9 6 22 1 9

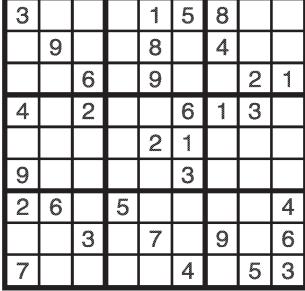
Clue: How hot or cold something is

21 24 26 26 25 9 C.

Clue: Stay just below the boiling point

4 24 2 2 25 D.

Clue: Evening meal



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Answers: A. crock

 \mathcal{B} .

C. simmer

D. dinner

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!

ε	G	2	7	9	vannih	6	8	2
9	work	6	8	2	2	ε	ħ	3
Þ	8	L	6	ε	ç	and	9	2
S	L	9	3	Þ	8	9	anak	6
6	V	ç	yees	2	L	8	3	9
8	S	manda	9	្ន	6	S	L	Þ
quan	S	ε	L	6	Þ	9	9	8
ç	9	þ	S	8	ε	2	6	ocode
L	6	8	ç	en de	9	¥	2	3

:R3WSNA

LEARNING

continued from page **A1**

Guardians are especially concerned about the behavioral problems that have flared up with kids home all day from school. Even during hybrid learning, students are expected to learn from home on certain days.

"A lot of children are struggling with behavioral issues and anxiety. Others are failing their classes and not attending Zooms," Piechota said. "We completely understand that some parents want to keep their kids home from school during this time, but the schools need to be open for the rest of the kids."

Most area schools are using Zoom Video Communications technologies to support remote learning. But QRSD policies governing online classes have drawn the ire of students and parents alike, specifically the policies dictating students' activities and learning conditions at home.

In a Jan. 28 letter obtained by the New

Leader, West Brookfield Elementary School Principal Kellie O'Brien sent an updated list of expectations to students

and guardians.

"Provide your student with the tools necessary to access the live streaming virtual classroom. This means you will provide your students with a stable internet connection and an up-todate computer to access the materials and the virtual classroom," read the letter released by Principal O'Brien. "Students in the elementary, middle, and high schools will have access to a school-owned Chromebook.'

Guardians are also expected to read emails from educators each day; manage students' engagement in virtual learning; and provide students with a dedicated space for learning that is free from distractions.

For parents struggling to balance these added responsibilities with their own jobs throughout the day, remote learning has become a virtual nightmare.

Several students, meanwhile, are

upset with the requirements they must satisfy while trying to learn at home. No family members are allowed to occupy or enter a room while students are taking a test, nor can students leave the testing room for any reason beyond safety issues. These policies have created added stress for guardians trying to monitor multiple kids in the same house while also juggling work responsibilities from home. Without an adult present in the room to monitor progress, many students revert to browsing social media or playing video games, parents said.

Among several other rules outlined in Principal O'Brien's letter, WBES students were required to perform "webcam scans" before taking exams. These scans involved students using their webcams to show the room where they take their tests. By early February, the scans were discontinued by district leadership after officials received multiple complaints.

"Camera scans have been removed from student expectations, and this has been communicated to staff," said QRSD Superintendent Brett Kustigian. "The original intent of the web scans was to prepare students for what they will see in college, and this was indicated in the remote learning guidelines that varied by grade level. Seniors are transitioning to college next year, and web scans are a requirement of many colleges as remote learning is occurring. However, web scans have been removed from student expectations."

Additionally, the WBES virtual education rules demand that the lighting in students' learning rooms must be bright enough to be considered "daylight quality." Also, the source of lighting

cannot be located behind a student or facing the webcam.

Students must also meet time-related constraints that are often beyond their control due to internet connectivity issues, parents said.

"You will be counted tardy if you are not in the virtual classroom at the official start time. Accumulated tardies will be addressed in accordance with the student handbook," read Principal O'Brien's letter.

Despite the detailed policies and

expectations in place, many students are finding it hard to succeed outside the classroom. West Brookfield's Elizabeth Maher has two children and two step-children, all but one of whom attend school in the QRSD. Last year, one of her children earned mostly A's and B's on report cards; but this year, with remote learning conditions, the same student is currently failing five of eight classes.

'When kids are in school, they learn in a controlled atmosphere with no distractions. Expecting them to focus and learn the same way at home is unrealistic," Maher said. "And the added stress for parents of having to be home and teach their kids is creating a lot of problems."

Statewide, remote learning challenges have been compounded by the widespread cancellations of students' sporting events and other activities over the last year. And without getting to see their friends regularly, youngsters have struggled with the absence of social outlets.

"Some kids do well with remote learning, but a lot of them are really struggling at home," Piechota said. "Kids are experiencing anxiety, having trouble sleeping, and becoming depressed."

Local officials have been keeping a close eye on remote learning conditions, and they're worried about the potential long-term impacts of students being away from the classroom. Parents and town officials are also concerned that students will find themselves at varying degrees of readiness when school starts next year, depending on how successful they were during remote learning.

This is not isolated to our towns," Piechota said. "This is a significant issue across the nation that could affect kids for the rest of their lives.'

Parents are also frustrated with the decisions at the state and local levels that have led to different learning environments in almost every community. Some schools in the state have fully reopened, while others are still shuttered. Most schools are currently involved in some form of hybrid education, with periodic weekly returns to fully remote learning.

My overarching frustration is lack of transparency on the part of the town as to what metrics they are using to get our kids back in school," said Jennifer Goodale, a West Brookfield resident who has two children at the elementary school. "There is overwhelming evidence from both federal and state levels that the kids are safest in school. The safety measures schools are implementing are working, and as someone who works in a school daily, with all kids full in person, I see it working.'

Daniel Bigda, the Chairman of the West Brookfield Select Board, recently sent a letter to Superintendent Kustigian on behalf of his Board. The letter reiterated several of the concerns parents have brought to school and town officials.

We are confident that with the current safety measures that have been implemented, it is possible to return to the classroom while still adhering to the parameters set forth by both our state and local officials," Bigda's letter read. "We as a Board fully support and encourage any and all efforts by the administration to return to in-person learning."

* * Triday's Child



Kye Age 11

Hi! My name is Kye and I love to be outdoors!

Kye is a young boy of African-American and Caucasian descent who is looking for a family with room in their hearts and home to provide him with a forever family. He enjoys legos, sports, and video games. Kye does well when he has a chance to be outside; he loves to run and play. He also likes fishing and camping. Kye does well in school when properly motivated and enjoys interacting with other children, especially those that are older than

Legally freed for adoption, a family of any constellation will be considered for Kye, as long as they are willing to maintain his relationship with his sister. Kye does well in a home setting and benefits from structure and routine. Other siblings in the home

are okay, but it would be best if Kye could be the youngest. An active family is highly recommended, as Kye has a great personality with lots of energy.

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Brendan Berube **EDITOR**

EDITORIAL

Why we listen to the groundhog

Tuesday, Feb. 2 was Groundhog Day, and it was reported that Punxsutawney Phil came out of his burrow at Gobbler's Knob, where he saw his own shadow. This means that we will have six more weeks of winter. We'll take it!

This North American tradition is derived from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if the groundhog sees it's shadow due to clear weather, it will go back to its den and winter will last just a few weeks longer. If the animal does not see it's shadow due to the clouds, spring will come early.

This lore originated from German speaking areas where the groundhog is considered the most accurate forecasting animal. Each year, a Groundhog Day ceremony is held in Punxsutawney, Pa., and is always well attended.

The Pennsylvania Dutch, immigrated from German speaking parts of Europe. Groundhog in German is 'grun'daks.' In Europe, the Germans had an existing tradition of marking Candlemas as 'Badger Day,' where if a badger appeared on a sunny day, casting a shadow, winter would be extended. In some areas a bear or a fox took on the forecasting responsibility.

In Irish folklore, St. Brighid's Day, Feb. 1, is the first day of spring, which begins the farmer's year. Seeing a hedgehog was a sign of good weather.

The earliest mention of Groundhog Day appeared in 1840, in the diary of James L. Morris of Morgantown, Pa., who was talking about his German neighbors. In 1886, the observance of Groundhog Day was mentioned in the Punxsutawney Spirit newspaper. It noted, "Up to the time of going to press, the beast has not seen its shadow. One year later, a group of townspeople went to Gobbler's Knob in search of the groundhog and so began the tradition. Pre-COVID, gatherings to celebrate in Punxsutawney grew as large as 40,000.

Clymer Freas, who was born in 1867 and passed away in 1942, is said to be the one who created the idea of Groundhog Day. Freas was the Editor of the Punxsutawney Spirit. In 1899, a Groundhog Club was formed in town including a hunt and a feast. It is said that groundhog tastes like a cross between chicken and pork. We'll pass on finding out.

In 1993, Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell starred in the comedy "Groundhog Day," which is now considered a cult classic. We must admit to enjoying Mr. Murray more in "What About Bob?" but that's an editorial for another time. Baby steps.

LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor. But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA

Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stone bridge press.news.

You'll need to provide your name and place of residence, along with a phone number, so we can verify the letter is yours.

We don't have a set limit, but if you keep it around 600 words or so, you're going to have a better chance at seeing all your words in print.

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn

column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

Remember, libelous remarks and/or personal attacks are a no-no and could lead to your letter not being published.

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!



Opinion and commentary from Spencer, Leicester and the Brookfields

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Candle of Love — a Valentine poem

A strong yet tender light from this

Candle will continue to flicker and

glow. As my love for you is real and per-

manent, I want you to know. This "Candle of Love" shines very bright and clear,

Telling you I will always be near.

Looking at its flame generates a shimmering effect around the room, giving me pleasure and delight,

Knowing what we have experienced, shared and enjoyed in the past was perfect, just right.

The great feeling and love we enjoyed together in the past;

A love that will flourish and a love that will last.

Yes, last for eternity,

My love for you remains constant and bright.

As this "Candle of Love" illuminates my thoughts

And feelings for you throughout the

DONALD L. GAUDETTE, SR. Springfield (FORMERLY OF SPENCER)

Durant & Berthiaume, local RINO's!

To the Editor:

For those unaware, RINO stands for "Republican in Name Only" and is a pejorative term for elected members of the Republican Party who are not sufficiently loyal to Republicans and govern/legislate/lead like Democrats.

Starting in the Jam. 15 edition of the Spencer New Leader, Donnie Berthiaume was asked to weigh in on who legitimately won the 2020 Presidential election. On Jan. 22, four different authors publicly asked both Rep. Durant and Rep. Berthiaume a more detailed battery of questions. On Jan. 29, they were asked once again. On Feb. 5, they were asked a detailed battery of questions regarding the 2020 election and 2021 insurrection.

What have we heard from them? Nothing. Not a peep. Perhaps they don't read this newspaper, but come on, who are we kidding? One would think that 4 weeks in a row would solicit some sort of response, but no... I expected either a full-throated defense of President Trump or a condemnation of how the former president conducted himself after he lost the election...Not a peep.

Obviously, they are embarrassed of their position, leaving it up to us to guess. I am going to guess they are RINO's. The worst-of-the-worst RINO's who want votes from the local Trump supporters but aren't willing to go to bat for Trump because they think he was a terrible president and guilty of all the things the Democrats have charged him with. If Peter Durant and Donnie Berthiaume were in the House I bet they would have voted to impeach, right with Liz Chenev. If they were in the Senate I bet they would have voted to convict and remove President Trump, right along with Mitt Romney.

We know Donnie Berthiaume and Peter Durant aren't willing to defend President Trump... That makes them RINO's just like Liz Cheney, Mitt Romney, Jeff Flake, and so many others. I bet they donated to The Lincoln Project. They've had over a month to set the record straight – who knew that the 'R' next to their names stood for RINO?

Regardless of our personal political leanings, we deserve to know where our local elected officials stand. Everyone should demand an answer. Are they Americans of Trumpiteers? Patriots or Seditionists? Loyal public servants or are they giving aid and comfort to enemy combatants?

The newspaper should be filled with hundreds of individual letters demanding they go on record.

> FRED BAGG SPENCER

Biden criticism and luddites on the far right

To the Editor:

My politics do not mirror those of Joe Biden. However, Joe and I do have a number of things in common, such as the same age and working class Irish Catholic upbringing - including for me Rochdale's former "St. Aloysius by the Railroad Tracks." Because of this, I offer a few Biden insights.

The likable Joe, with the humility of one who sometimes falls short, believes in being forgiven and practices the Ten Commandments - especially the ones that stress and loving doing good for all your neighbors. (This all stands in total contrast to the self-loving, without morals president before him.)

Add his devotion and respect of American institutions, particularly the Senate here he served for 30 years. He is how Greg Minor described another Senator as "An American Burke," both a conservative believer in the

Constitution and American values and a forward looking liberal.

I believe, he and his mainly excellent appointments, with errors will serve us as forward looking Centrists for all Americans, including those previously left out and those who feel ignored.

Despite a shameful and dangerous exit by the now former President - who refused to acknowledge defeat and encouraged a violent attack on Congress the Biden team has quickly moved

Now less than three weeks after its' inauguration, the Biden Administration has not only presented but advanced (with some "real" Republican amendments) a large Covid relief and redevelopment program. Some key parts

\$1,400 Covid relief payments to all individuals below a certain income level Turn To KANE page A10

"Surreality"

To the Editor:

I may have just created a new word, by combining surreal and reality, but that pretty much defines the exact state that we are in. Our fellow frequent contributor, Trump cult stand out and Jan. 6 capital riot attendee, has informed us that he observed the infiltration of the radical "Stop the Steal" army, by what were clearly BLM and Antifa elements, as using Trump flags and MAGA hats, while taking over the direction of the insurrection, "clearly" indicated.

There is little doubt in my mind that a wide variety of shakers and movers from virtually every radical, hard right, fascist, Nazi, and anarchist group, were in attendance. I expect these same groups, along with opportunist looters, have attended every rally, or demonstration, that the expected or encouraged to get out of control.

Would it be too obvious to ask why the people whose candidate won would want to facilitate a coup that could conceivably reverse their win? I have great doubt that either group would ever display Trump gear, under any circumstance. While Antifa could perhaps actually have demonstrators, I believe getting retailers to dump My Pillow, and boycotting those who support their opposition, is more their

mission. BLM is looking for the ticket elected to deliver on promises and their agenda, so stopping a vote they won, would be just too contrary.

I have trouble comprehending a mental process that enables complete denial of undisputable facts. Many of these attendees actually believed Trump would be sworn again on January 20. Republicans, who have Gerrymandered, suppressed, inhibited and found votes while disqualifying others, ended up needing to certify that the Biden /Harris ticket had prevailed. Sixty-two court challenges, were withdrawn or dismissed for complete lack of any evidence of fraud.

Four years ago, Democrats had to concede that a reality show host had secured the electoral votes to become president. This would be the second time, in recent memory, that the person who got the most votes, did not get the job. While I am not happy with the rules, they are the rules. Someone wins and someone loses. I feel sorry for anyone who has not yet figured out the result. OAN sued the voting machine people for millions for cheating or lack of reliability. The outcome is OAN owing Dominion, a quarter million for reimbursing legal fees and court costs.

So, let me bring you up to speed what we socialist Democrats are up to.

Turn To KIMBALL page A10

Financial gifts for your Valentine



FINANCIAL **FOCUS**

BURDICK

For many of us, the COVID-19 pandemic may be putting a hold on dinner at the charming local bistro, but the spirit of Valentine's Day cannot be extinguished. This year, perhaps more so than in the past, you may want to make your Valentine's Day gifts even more meaningful. So, for example, what can you give your loved ones to help them along on the road to financial security?

Here are a few possibilities:

· Contribute (indirectly) to an IRA Virtually anyone with earned income can contribute to an IRA, which offers tax benefits and an almost unlimited array of investment options. Yet, most people never contribute the maximum amount allowable each year, which, in 2021, is \$6,000, or \$7,000 for those 50 and older. You can't contribute to another person's IRA, but you can give that person the money for that purpose. However, an individual can't contribute more to an IRA than he or she earned during that year. So, if you were to give someone \$1,000 to be placed in an IRA, that individual must have at least \$1,000 in earnings. Be aware, though, that the recipient can use the money for any purpose.

shares Give You probably are already familiar with the products your loved ones use - so why not give them shares of stock in the companies that make those goods or services? Most people enjoy being "owners" of businesses whose products they use. Furthermore, owning stocks for the long term can be a valuable component of anyone's financial strategy. If you are unsure of how to give stocks, you may want to consult with a financial professional.

protected otay If your valentine also happens to be your spouse, you can give a gift of tremendous value by simply working to protect what you have. For example, if something happened to you, would your spouse be able to maintain the household, educate children, pay the mortgage and so on? A financial professional can help you find the protection you need, as well as suggest ways to defend yourself against the devasting costs of long-term care. A private room in a nursing home can cost \$100,000 or more each year, according to the insurance company Genworth, and Medicare typically pays few of these expenses, so you'll want to be prepared.

Create (or revise) your estate plans It doesn't sound very romantic but making sure your estate plans are in order is one of the best gifts you can give to all your loved ones. If you haven't created your plan yet, contact an attorney who specializes in estate planning. You may also want to involve your tax and financial advisors. And if it's been a while since you looked at your existing plan, take the time to review it – this is especially important if you've had changes in your family situation.

On Valentine's Day, the chocolate hearts and flowers are certainly always appreciated. But financial gifts can help you make a truly lasting impact on your loved ones' lives.

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



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

What does the GOP even stand for?

To the Editor:

The silence of our local GOP elected officials is certainly deafening. One would think that Donnie Berthiaume (R-Spencer) and Peter Durant (R-Spencer) would write editorials clarifying their positions, but no such luck. Perhaps the real issue is that the national GOP is in disarray and they need to see how things settle and they get their updated talking points in the

Marjorie Taylor Greene, Republican U.S. Representative from Georgia and conspiracy theorist has been in the news lately. Rep. Greene has made some deeply disturbing statements and refused to back off of most of them leading to the Democrats threatening to remove her from committees if the Republicans didn't do it first. The

Republicans held a vote but maintained or committee memberships, then when the vote went to the full House, they stripped them. Eleven Republicans joined the unanimous Democrats in

Ms. Greene has supported a variety of disproven far-right conspiracy theories such as Pizzagate, QAnon, false flag shootings, and 9/11 conspiracy theories. She even claimed that Jewish lasers from space were causing California's forest fires to clear the room for a high-speed rail project because some cabal of Jewish bankers such as the Rothschilds, George Soros, Roger Kimmel supported high speed rail and alternative energy.

Prior to running for Congress, she publicly supported the exe-Turn To ROSENBERG page A10

Sedition and Insurrection is Democratic politics

To the Editor:

The Democrats cry about sedition, insurrection, and treason. They should know it when they see it. They have been doing it since 2016.

It's not just the Democrats, however. It's the entrenched political elite with their oligarch backers. We know for a fact that our internal governmental police forces, the FBI and CIA, were instructed by the outgoing Obama administration to spy and compromise the duly elected incoming Trump administration. Of this there is no question; it is a fact. Material was fabricated by their operatives and brought to the highly unconstitutional FISA court. This is a court that is designed to circumvent the Constitution to allow a government to spy on their own citizens in direct violation of the Fourth Amendment. We know for a fact that emails were doctored by the FBI and the Steele Dossier were used to justify the treasonous attack on our president by these partisan police agencies. The next step was to force a special counsel to investigate the president.

You must question how a Republican controlled house would agree to this? The answer is in Washington at that time, there was not much difference between a Democrat and Republican. They were both cut from the same cloth. Political animals with big money oligarchs supporting and enriching them. The Republican party started to change in the mid-term elections when Trump

Turn To ROBILLARD page A11

"Mourning in America" with specter of Sorry, my mistake election fraud $$^{\rm To\,the\,Editor:}$$

To the Editor:

The words of Thomas Paine read by General Washington to his weary troops in the winter of the Revolutionary War are now painfully clear and relevant to the horrid situation all decent, fair-minded and patriotic Americans—not ideologically or materially corrupted, nor otherwise "on the take"—find ourselves: "These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman. Tyranny, like hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we obtain

too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives everything its value. Heaven knows how to put a proper price upon its goods; and it would be strange indeed if so celestial an article as freedom should not be highly rated."

We likely have an illegitimate President, Vice President and Administration installed—not truthfully and duly elected by the people. We know this based on the now well-identified voter and ballot fraud, widespread among at least those crucial half dozen or so swing States that were targeted (probably elsewhere across the country as well). That so many in positions of power—with the ability to

Turn To **REED** page **A13**

How will you know when a conservative makes a mistake? Don't worry, the Sanctimonious Seven will be sure to write about it! Not so much when a Democrat makes an erreur majeure.

After a summer of staying out past curfew and roasting marshmallows over the latest burning vehicle, while admiring the glow of the fire as the sun set on another city in ruins, ANTIFA/ BLM had a veritable free hand to do as they pleased while they laid waste to anything and everything, all in the name of Social Justice. While cities such as Kenosha, Wisc.; Minneapolis, Mich.; Seattle, Wash.; and Portland, Ore. were scorched during the "mostly peaceful protests," I cannot recall many letters from the New Leader's self-appointed purveyors of all things politically correct and socially acceptable, denouncing the smoldering embers ANTIFA/BLM left in their wake. Only when prompted by, yours truly, did GhostYarok express his objection to the violence caused by the masked/ hooded/helmeted, window-smashing, sucker-punching, concrete-milkshake throwing domestic terrorists.

Just a week before the events in D.C. on Jan. 6, ANTI... Alright, from now on, I am going to call them BLM/TIFA. Better yet, BLAM/TIFA, because, for all intents and purposes, they are pretty much one and the same. As I was saying, BLAM/TIFA had "peacefully protested" a week before just blocks away from where the last Trump rally was held. Store fronts were smashed, people attacked, and yet, not a word from

Turn To HERHOLZ page A15

Disprove science...if you can!

To the Editor:

The silence from our local representatives on the very clear and very pertinent questions being posed to them by multiple people should give us all pause. Without specifying the alleged malfeasance it is clear that most of the country and most of this area regard the events of the last three months as the greatest threat to the United States since the Civil War. It is long past time for Sen. Gobi, Sen. Moore, Rep. Berthiaume, Rep. Durant, and Rep. LeBoeuf to make their positions clear on the events of the past few months surrounding the presidential election.

Silence is the speech of cowards. Some people will agree with you, some won't, but you owe it to everybody to go on record.

I'm never ceased to be amazed at the strange self-destruction going on with the Republican party... Between seeing the Republicans defending a member of congress who has called for the execution of other members of congress because they're worried about the precedent disciplining her might send...to censuring Liz Cheney for voting her conscience to impeach former President Trump culminating in a secret ballot to determine whether or not she could keep her leadership role. We even saw a House member from FL fly to WY to stir up trouble for Cheney. Sen. Ben Sasse, who is a very conservative guy but never supported Trump, was censured by the Nebraska GOP for not supporting Trump in 2020 and he released a great video pointing out that "politics isn't about the weird worship of one dude.'

Well, politics isn't supposed to be about the weird worship of one dude, but that is how a cult of personality works. After four years of chaos, 46.9 percent of this country pulled the proverbial lever for Donald Trump, the leader of his very own cult of personality. Luckily, 51.3 percent chose Joe Biden, the boring guy who acts like a president should. It can't be stated enough that Joe Biden won the 2020 election, and is The President of the United States while Donald Trump is a former president and current loser.

It will be interesting next week as the news cycle changes gears back to the insurrection as Trump's second impeachment trial begins.

Mr. McRae did actually disappoint me somewhat... I was really hoping for a first person account of an 80-year old beating a Capitol Police Officer with a flag pole inside the rotunda all in the name of freedom and protecting democracy for "real Americans."

To see a young amputee from America's recent and ongoing wars certainly takes your breath away. These are often poor folks who joined the military for reasons other than patriotism and were sent to fight wars for rich folks for reasons other than the freedom, security, and safety of the people of the United States. As sad as it is to see these young amputees, they have no special say in our how government should be run, how elections should be run, if elections should be respected, or what should be done about a criminal president. As much of a sacrifice these disabled veterans have given to this country, they have no special knowledge on the broader context or implications of political activity or the ordinary, free, fair, and legal workings of government.

while offering no proof or evidence. The basic story goes as such: "They were bad bad dudes, so they can't be from our side, the only logical explanation is Antifa dressed up in Trump clothes and using Trump paraphernalia as props." There is a better, simpler explanation... These "provocateurs" were radicalized Trump supporters who were minutes earlier riled up by

Turn To HAR-YAROK page A14

It's a mad, mad, mad wor...country!

To the Editor:

"Men, it has been well said, think in Mr. McRae, somewhat predictably, herds; it will be seen they go mad in blamed Antifa for the 1/6 insurrection herds, while they only recover their senses slowly, one by one." Thus wrote Charles Mackay (1814-1889), a prominent Scottish poet/author/statesman, in his study of popular mass movements Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowds."

> Sir Charles should be alive today witness the madness which has descended upon a people--we Americans--who only just recently had a country doing reasonably well for itself, with a record-setting economy,

a regained control of its borders, abundant and affordable energy, significant diplomatic accomplishments, and an end to fruitless military adventurism around the globe.

Everything that was working to the great and good advantage of the average American who was willing to work and play by the rules has now been overturned...overnight. Within 36 hours of the fake inauguration of the fake new President having "won" a fake election, U.S. troops with helicopters and armored vehicles were pouring across

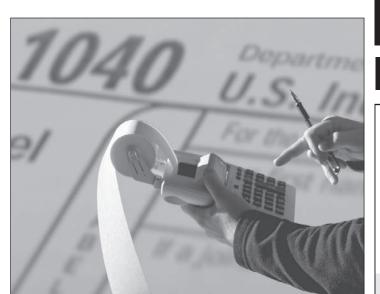
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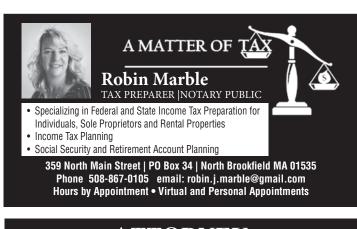
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ROSENBERG

continued from page A9

cution of prominent Democratic politicians and she also supported Former President Trump's efforts to overturn his loss to Joe Biden in the 2020 presidential election. She was also among a group of Republican legislators that unsuccessfully objected to votes won by Biden. To top things off, Ms. Greene filed Articles of Impeachment against Joe Biden alleging an abuse of power his first day in office.

Strangely, she wasn't bothered by being kicked off her committees and said they don't matter. She also stated "It's Donald Trump's party anyway.' The fact she doesn't care about the committees is absurd. Of course committees matter, and if she doesn't think committee assignments matter she shouldn't be in government. If she is unconcerned with having no clout or ability to shape legislation, she should resign, go back to Georgia, and let somebody else who wants to govern do it.

There were glimmers of hope, we are starting to see more anti-Trump Republican activity than we have in the past five years. Mitch McConnell called Rep. Greene's ideas cancerous. Liz Cheney retained her leadership position in the House despite the fact some wanted her removed for voting to impeach the 45th president. Sen. Ben Sasse (R-NE) has released some awesome videos standing up to the Nebraska GOP which is trying to censure him yet again for insufficiently backing Donald Trump. Former Republican Senators have called the current GOP a grotesque caricature of what it once was because it is no longer conservative and simply a populist party.

House Minority Leader Kevin McCarthy should have used the Marjorie Taylor Greene moment as a leadership moment to stand up for the values of the party and the caucus and say loudly and clearly that they will not defend Ms. Greene and she is not a welcome member of the party. McCarthy instead defended Greene essentially saying, "well, this is what the voters in Georgia want." What does the GOP even stand for? Not being Democrats?

The COVID relief plan is starting to take shape. President Biden ran on bipartisanship and unity; however, it looks more and more like this next round of COVID relief will be passed on a party-line vote. There is far more danger in not going big enough than there is in going too big, and after four years of fiscal irresponsibility it is almost like clockwork that the GOP now starts worrying about spending. A group of 10 Republicans did present the President a counter proposal of about 30 percent of what President Biden started negotiations with. Given that the Democrats control the Senate, the House, the White House, and won the election three months ago by a substantial margin that the Republicans would have come back with a counter-proposal closer to what President Biden asked for than zero.

The further issue is that aside from Biden himself, there is no taste for bipartisanship anywhere else in the Democratic party. It isn't as though the Democrats don't want to be bipartisan, there is just no respect or trust for the Republican party among Democrats these days and it is hard to blame them. When President Obama was in the White House he tried desperately to negotiate in good faith with Republicans only to be Charlie Brown to Lucy's football. Despite Obama's efforts the Republicans would say no, be recalcitrant, and Mitch McConnell even filibustered his own bill once when President Obama expressed support. President Biden learned his lesson and doesn't intend to be in the same position and while he is willing to reach across the aisle, he is not willing to let his agenda get derailed.

Former President Trump's second impeachment trial should be starting this week, and I expect it will be short. The case against the former president is damning but it is not terribly complex or complicated. It won't take long to present. The overwhelmingly likely scenario is that Trump will be narrowly acquitted only because it is a public vote in the Senate. If impeachment was a secret ballot and Republican Senators could be impartial without risking censure or primary challenges, he would have been found guilty of both impeach-

> DAVID ROSENBERG SPENCER

KANE

continued from page A8

(Biden agreed with real Republicans to further restrict these payments for people with high incomes)

Extension of emergency unemployment insurance payments of \$400 per week for those whose wages have been hurt or lost because of Trump's terrible mis-management of the epidemic

Funding to help schools and colleges

Raising the minimum wage to \$15 per hour, including for waitresses (This will likely be slowly phased in)

\$440 billion (over and above school funding) for states, cities and towns (like ours). Just ask town officials how badly this money is needed (Under Trump, they and others received very little Covid assistance).

Public health assistance for vaccinations, expanded testing, protective gear, emergency personnel, and supplies as the disease still rages and new Covid varieties arrive.

Allowing paid leave for caregivers dealing with closed schools and day care centers. (state and local governments and businesses with less than 500 workers would be paid back for these costs)

Providing parents with financial help through reduced income tax payments

credits or financial payments of up to \$8,000 for families making less than \$125,000 a year, and

Now, with "real" Republican Mitt Romney proposing income grants of up to \$3,600 per child for American families earning less than \$75,000 a year. I know of no better approach to help so many of our kids.

I see no "Socialism" here, just wanting to do the best for all our people.

Rather, I see a sensible "Made in America" Centrist approach to the terrible Covid mess that the Biden team inherited from our worst ever president.

Changing direction, "Luddites" were early 1800s craft who workers who destroyed cotton and woolen mill machinery. They thought these threatened their way of life and work. In the 2000s, we also have a relatively small group of Luddite type reactionaries willing to tear down our country and our often imperfect but citizen built and defended democratic institutions.

So remember that when our Luddites say Biden, the Centrist Democrat, is a Radical Socialist, this sound and violent fury comes from our own small group of Luddite reactionaries who - unlike us and Biden - are unwilling to move into the world of 2021 and beyond.

> KEVIN KANE SPENCER

KIMBALL

continued from page A8

!) We shut down that leaky Keystone sludge pipe "again", that Canada refused to run across their land- for export around the world. (We still have \$2 gas but addressing climate involves burning less, not obtaining more.)

2) We are rejoining the Paris climate accords which we helped to create and can't influence from afar. The issue is real- we must lead, as following or getting out of the way is how we got here.

Ignoring nuclear proliferation is still a bad option.

4) CDC is back- WHO needs our input. How does ignoring pandemics work for you?

5) The people who passed a \$1.9 trillion tax cut and gave 83 percent of it to millionaires, wanted to cut the same

size rescue package to a third of that, because of the deficit.- No problem, when you get the money, extended unemploymentjust refuse them., along with the testing and vaccine it pays for.

We are living the Chinese curse "May you live in interesting times." Having grown up in a quiet New England town, where most families knew each other, often for generations, with a neighborhood of boomer friends and most everyone like Ike (Dwight David Eisenhower-for those too young), I find myself much stressed by the Republican party becoming the Trump party..

After the invasion of the capital, Senator Ted Cruz said there are many allegations of voting fraud. By now; everyone knows that the source of those allegations, was Trump. He started the

rumor, and his brilliant minions first repeated, then relieved them when they heard them. Zero evidence did not faze them one bit. In some sad cases, it still doesn't.

Trump's own cyber security chief said it was safest most secure election ever. That got him fired. Congress passed an election security bill years ago, that Mitch McConnell buried. We have been doing this over 200 years, and have gotten very good at it.

What we can all look forward for the next two vears, is what the Dems deliver. There has been no bipartisanship in years. Don't look for any soon. Like swearing to uphold the constitution, liberty and justice for all are just rote in an entertaining pledge.

> KEN KIMBALL BROOKFIELD





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TAX PREPARATION SERVICES

Welcome to Everyday Business & Tax solutions! My name is Danielle, and I have been in the field for 10 years, beginning my work in tax preparation shortly after my 2nd daughter was born. The experience made me fall in love with helping taxpayers understand how the tax system works,

To join this page

please Call June at 508-909-4062

or email

jsima@stonebridgepress.news

so I went back to school to complete my Bachelor's of

Science in Accounting. Over the years, I have worked closely with many different small business owners ranging in fields from automotive, restaurants, salons,



Danielle Perron EA, Owner, Enrolled Agent

retail, rental properties, and much more!

After being part of a company merger realizing that the corporate game wasn't for me, I decided to take the leap into opening my own practice, bringing it back to the roots of what I love the most, my clients! I have been established since 2018

and have already met many incredible taxpayers, all of whom have their own varying levels of complexities. Contact me today to see the ways I can help you or your small business!

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ROBILLARD

continued from page A9

infused the party with free thinking Patriots. The swamp had infused the government offices around Trump with spies and operatives. They Orwellian called them whistleblowers. These operatives were agents that reported directly back to seditionist like Adam Schiff. They reported secretly to try to entrap the President. Again, they failed with the fake impeachment. There was one other card up their sleeves. They mobilized their terrorist forces of BLM and Antifa to burn the cities and to organize a full-frontal attack on the White House itself. Who in their right mind watching that summer night the White House was getting attacked by terrorists hurling lethal explosive projectiles and rocks at the security forces could call it anything else? The only thing that kept the president from being assassinated by that violent mob was the brave Federal agents that broke up the terrorist assault with tear gas.

Who can forget the Trump supporter at a rally in Denver who was gunned down execution style by being shot in the head by a Democratic terrorist? Or the Trump supporter executed on the streets of Seattle at point black range by another Democratic terrorist. Make no mistake, these were planned acts to intimidate the Trump supporters. To try and strike terror in them. If you march, we will kill you and there will be no condemnation from the media. Notice that there was no rush from the DOJ to apprehend any of these terrorists during their rioting. In fact, Kamala Harris helped set up a legal fund to bail them out. All these attacks were condoned by Pelosi, Waters, AOC, and Bernie. Have they been impeached for inciting the riots and terrorist acts of the summer? Of course not. Now they have usurped the election with the ballot stuffing. Dimwitted people say, "They recounted the votes." Recounting fake votes tells you nothing. Now they are using their propogandist media arm to attack, punish, and cancel out the Patriotic Americans. Do you hear calls for Joe Bidens Tax returns to see how he declared the China payoffs.? Is the New York State AG office going after Joe's bank records? Of course not. We clearly see there is a systemic corrupt and bias political apparatus. It's

for the plane, but it slowed the rescue response. The plane did just clip the tops of a few trees but ended up intact

on its belly in the snow." The plane, a 2014 Piper Cessna, was on its way to Worcester Regional Airport from Martha's Vineyard. The crash site is only about three miles from Worcester Regional Airport.

Shortly before the crash, the pilot reported icy conditions to the air traffic controller at Worcester Regional Airport. Around that time, an icy mist had begun to overspread much of the region, instantly clinging to surfaces.

As of press time, neither the pilot nor passengers had been named by officials. The aircraft was secured by the State mission for the last four years was to take down our elected President Donald Trump.

One thing you can say about the patriots who were at the demonstration at the Capitol on Jan. 6 was, they are patriotic Americans. These are working class people. Business owners, citizen soldiers, and average people. They saw the seditionist and treasonous actions of the entrenched political class over the last four years. They saw the propagandist news pumped at them when they saw the actual terrorism in their streets. Yes, these are patriots. They had enough of the underhanded, sneaky, and lying politicians who stole the election from not Trump but from them. They had the courage to go there in the broad day light and fight for America instead. It makes me sick when I see those small skulking low levels local politicians who said nothing when our great country was attacked by the progressive terrorist all summer long.

These small little men come out now a bravely call out the Jan. 6 demonstration as an attack on Democracy. They hide behind the skirts of AOC, Omar, and Talib. These are not men

Police for investigation.

The Federal Aviation Administration, National Transportation Safety Board, and the State Police continue to investigate the cause of the crash.

Though rare, plane crashes are hardly a stranger to the area. During Chief Antanavica's tenure at the LPD, he recalls a handful of aviation incidents, the first one in the early nineties when a plane crashed on approach to Worcester Regional Airport.

In the late nineties, a plane crashed on Breezy Bend after the pilot reported a fuel malfunction. Two other wrecks occurred in the fifties, plus one in the early seventies, officials said.

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but cowards. When the time comes. they would sell you out in a minute. I applaud our local politicians who say it like it is and aren't afraid to stand up for the truth. They represent the only area in Massachusetts that was carried by Donald Trump and they know the majority of the people in this area stand behind him. Democracy has been under attack by progressive terrorists for four years, and with the help of the oligarchs, they have won the battle. But they have not won the war. Trump and his supporters will regroup and be back stronger than ever. You can't keep good men down. As I drive around our county, you see the Trump signs up, you meet the people who still believe in a free America. These are the people who cannot be crushed or subjugated. The fire of freedom burns as bright in them as it ever did. You can't keep these good people down with your lies. We now know the nature of our opponents. The turncoats have been revealed. It's time for the patriots to organize, learn, adapt, and strengthen. Time to win the

> MARK ROBILLARD SPENCER



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CRASH

continued from page A1

snowmobilers not been present to assist, the rescue effort would have taken significantly longer.

The area is extremely rural and dark, and the recovery was challenging since the winding driveway takes you to the top and was completely drifted in," said Leicester Police Chief Ken Antanavica. "The snowmobilers certainly helped immensely in expediting the rescue by bringing emergency equipment and people up and down the hilly area very quickly. The snow was helpful by providing a cushion

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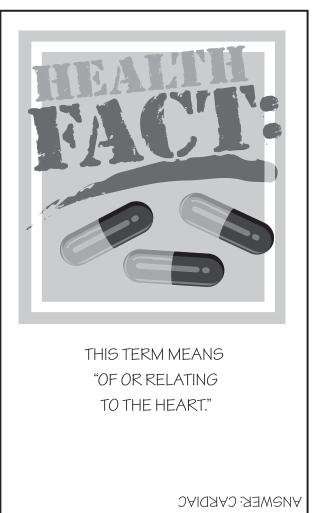
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- 1879: THE ENGLISH CRICKET TEAM IS ATTACKED DURING A MATCH IN SYDNEY.
- 1963: PRESIDENT JOHN
 F. KENNEDY DECLARES
 VARIOUS INTERACTIONS
 WITH CUBA BY U.S.
 CITIZENS ILLEGAL.



AEROBIC

exercise that intends to improve the cardiovascular system

MCRAE

continued from page A9

the border into Syria. The hell on earth that is Syria? Really? Step right up, boys, who wants to be the first to offer an arm or a leg or a life for Syria and the globalists' insistence on a new pipeline to Europe?

Within days, gas prices had begun their inexorable climb; now, three weeks later, you're paying a half-a-buck more per gallon, and it's only just the beginning. Wait for it, proles — gas lines and rationing within six months; home heating oil by winter probably double what the "Orange Hitler" had you paying. In addition to the absolutely certain and steep rise in all your taxes, the costs of energy will be reflected in every single good and service you will purchase--if you have any money to spend. You'll be doing it for the greater good, of course, so enjoy it.

It is cold comfort for one such as myself to conclude, "Well, they massively stole the election, and it's impossible there are that many incredibly stupid voters who overthrew what was working well for most people in favor of an incompetent crooked puppet whose strings were being pulled by an amalgam of America-hating, communist, self-loathing white radicals and race-obsessed black supremacists with a major boost from the crazed professoriat, the mendacious propagandists of the media, and the bottom-line cowards of corporate America." The truth is, sadly, half of America — the fat, lazy, complacent and ignorant half — have lost their minds. Maybe, in time, they will return, one by one, to sanity, but by then, the rot, the destruction, will have so metastasized that Reconstruction will be even more painful and doomed than the one which failed from 1865 to 1877.

But, of all the madness now reigning around us thanks to the nuts of the left, none could be more astonishing than the rise to positions of power and influence in the new regime of the adult male deciding he would rather be a nubile temptress making her way in life wholly in touch with her kinder, gentler inner self. And, by the way, if you, you male pig, dare roll your eyes or slowly shake your head in disbelief, prepare to have the full might of the new regime descend on you without remorse. You will enthusiastically agree with the pronouncements of the Brave New World if you like having your job or an income from any source.

Have you met our new Assistant Secretary of Health, Dr. Levine, former health czar of Pennsylvania? Did you know the doctor is one of ours? That's right — raised around Boston, played football and hockey, and, naturally, matriculated at Harvard--why did I suspect that? But, that was when the doctor was "Richard"; now, for some time, he has made the move, and currently insists on being known as "Rachel." Slide over, Christine Jorgensen and Caitlyn Jenner — there's another high-profile guy-to-gal celeb moving in.

My curiosity piqued, I read up on "Rachel." I wasn't reassured. In the first place, "she" will not be challenging

Melania Trump for the title of "Fairest in the Land," not by a long sight. Frankly, her benignant visage reminded me of middle-aged Yugoslavian "gastarbeiten" (guest workers) I observed sweeping the streets in Cologne in the 1970's; lonely men who lingered long at the bratwurst und bier vendors along the city roadways, and who were afflicted with serious cases of tonsurephobia. In Rachel's--or Richard's — case (you decide), I have no doubt football and hockey are a part of her curricular vitae, despite her golden tresses tumbling down around her shoulders. But, it's not the good doctor's appearance that matters; it's her record as top doc in the Keystone State that concerns me, as it should you.

For starters, as the "Chi-com flu" was getting started and showing signs of becoming an out-of-control contagion, Dr. Levine, in collaboration with another uber-liberal, Wolfe, the Governor, decided to move Covid-infected patients into nursing homes, even while knowing there were no known cases within those facilities. Guess who moved with all deliberate speed to get her/his 91-year-old mother out of such a place. soon to become a charnel house and to safety somewhere? Do I have to tell you? Hey there, don't tell me it's not a great thing to be a part of the ruling class making decisions for everyone else while you exempt yourself from abiding by those same catastrophic decrees. Only an entitled Bay State liberal educated at Harvard could be so clueless, presumptuous, or morally bankrupt to even consider such a perfidious option.

But, don't think our doctor, who wants the best of both worlds for herself, doesn't have you always in his/her thoughts. Under her direction, the Pennsylvania Department of Health issued guidelines for the safest ways to take part in — do I have your attention? — an orgy, even in the depths of the pandemic. If that's your thing, you can read all about it in one of the Department's many official—and thoughtful—releases. Soap, sanitizers, masks, the whole nine yards, but.... what about social distancing, doctor?

Over a century ago, some medical researchers allowed themselves to be bitten by anopheles mosquitoes in Cuba to see if they were the cause of yellow fever; some died as heroes because of their selflessness. There must be a few Medals of Freedom left in Biden's Oval Office desk, since Belichick and Dolly Parton declined to accept one from President Trump. I say drape one around the broad shoulders of Dr. Levine for her great advancement in protecting the health of us all, in all contingencies.

I mean, who here among us haven't found ourselves in such situations where we had forgotten our lessons from the Boy Scouts: "Be Prepared!" Think about it. You could be relaxing with "War and Peace" on the California Zephyr from Chicago to the Golden Gate, and somewhere about 65 miles east of Casper, Wyo., in the middle of nowhere. You haven't noticed it's been snowing and blowing ever since you crossed the Big Muddy at Rock Island/Davenport/Moline, and now, suddenly,

the train has ground to a halt, bogged down in six-foot drifts. Here comes the conductor now — "Sorry people, we ain't goin' nowhere. The rescue train is a day away, and we'll have ten feet of snow here before long. Good thing you brought your Tolstoy along with you, buddy. So, relax folks, and pray the Paiute don't come howling down out of the hills on snowmobiles to sack the train--just like in the old days, heh heh heh. See ya!"

So, all of a sudden, you're stuck with these people--total strangers. After an hour or so of people clearing their throat and casting furtive glances around the car, some guy, probably from Brooklyn, says, "Hey, I've got an idea! Why don't we all just take off our clothes and... have an orgy?!" Immediately, an archetypal ultra-liberal librarian heading home to her feces-begrimed City by the Bay responds, "Well, I'm as unhung up as any manjack on this train, but...really...what about the Covid?" Faster than you can say "Jack Robinson," another wag pipes up "Not to worry, compadres. I've got my copy of Dr. Levine's detailed instructions on how to les bon temps rouler ("let the good times roll") under even the most challenging conditions! Three cheers for her...er, him. Hip, Hip,

Hooray!"
And, it can happen anywhere, anytime. Maybe you're on the streetcar named Desire (how appropriate, eh?) in New Orleans, and BLM/Antifa is rioting up ahead, and the conductor won't let anyone off for their own protection. Same thing. What are you going to do? Thanks to Rachel (who went to medical school across town, at Tulane), you're only limited by your imagination. Tell

me this isnot a great country!

Or, closer to home, you could be caught in a long-endurance wind shear in the restaurant at the summit of Mt. Washington. There's no kids around, no one dares to step outside, and the rescue crew says no way anyone is coming up that road tonight. Settle in. The wind does tend to blow up there, you know — 234 mph back in the 1930's. So, again, thanks to the gal with the "Heart of a Lion and Hands of a Woman" and her cutting edge research accomplishments, you are just so good to go!

But her greatest contribution to the unravelling of Western civilization, to neutering toxic masculinity and vaporizing hetero-normative attitudes and standards, will be seen shortly in her full-on assault the long-held view that young women and girls should not be required to compete against biological males in athletic events.

As I think all reasonable people--liberals, conservatives, black, white, heterosexual or otherwise — can probably agree (if they dare express an opinion that could get them fired), it is simply a question of fundamental fairness. Males are demonstrably--in nearly all cases involving athletes--by nature stronger, quicker, more aggressive, and endowed with greater endurance. You may not like it, but that's the way it is. Get over it.

A few cases in point will suffice, as I've commented on this subject before. The fastest 400 meters ever run by a woman was recorded by Alysson Felix,

in Beijing in 2015, with a phenomenal time of 49:26, about 15 seconds faster than I, in the best shape of my life, could've done. I suppose some girl at some time may have covered a quarter mile downhill running for her life to escape a hungry cheetah and hoping to make it into the Zambezi (cats hate water), but for now, we have to credit this American track phenom with the fastest time ever in that event, the quarter, the "Race of Truth." Ms. Felix is a strong Christian, a superlative sportswoman, and, apparently, a very fine

But — and I hate to tell you this — in 2018, there were over 300 high school boys in the United States alone who had faster times in that one-lap event.

In soccer, the U.S. Olympic Women's Soccer team — the crème de la crème, and led by the loudmouth, kneeling-ingrate Megan Rapinoe — met in a tune-up match with a U-14 boys team in Dallas before heading off to Mexico City. Guess who got their butts kicked?

Why are the hurdles on a track set lower for the female hurdlers than for the males? Why are the women's tees closer to the pin in golf than for the guys? And, for that matter, why are some sports separated by weight classifications (boxing, wrestling, crew, etc.) for both men and women? Fairness — recognition of the physical realities of life — is the obvious answer, I would venture.

In this brave new world, Dr. Levine won't be alone. Another out-of-touch moonbat, Miguel Cardona from — wouldn't you know it — Connecticut, where now 16(!) high school girls' state track records are held by biological males, is all on board with Rachel (or Richard, if you please). I bet neither have athletically gifted daughters. Oh, but they are good people...very kind, very sensitive.

So, I don't know if you get my drift, but I am reduced to asking, where are the fathers in this country? The men? Is everyone so cowed that they will take this madness without a whimper? I mean, Pennsylvania? The birthplace of freedom? The home of steelworkers, coal miners, loggers, farmers, countless war heroes down through the ages, the Nittany Lions, and the Steelers? This is what you send to Washington to impose her/his whackjob, crackpot ideas on the whole country?

Sadly, Professor Mackay had it right. When the masses go mad-as we clearly have--it'll be a very long time, if ever, before there is a return to one's senses. The liberals are always prattling on about their precious "democracy. The acid-tongued H.L. Mencken said "Democracy is the theory that the common people know what they want, and deserve to get it good and hard." Thanks to nutjob feminist activist mothers and pusillanimous weakling husbands and fathers who've aided and abetted this insanity, your children and grandchildren are about to get a first-hand understanding of Mencken's cynical observation. Too bad; it was all so unnecessary.

> JOHN MCRAE EAST BROOKFIELD

LEGALS

Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

Public Hearing for Amendments to Section 1.5 of the Wetlands Regula-

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public remote hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, February 24, 2021, at which time all persons having an interest may call in to participate in the Conservation Commission meeting that opens at 7:00 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman February 12, 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 S/A - 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 and 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 02/23/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed under the MOPG 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: February 03, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman, Register of Probate

February 12, 2021

LEGAL NOTICE

REED

continued from page A9

administer sunshine to this issue and disqualify clearly illegal votes thus enabling justice for the 75 million or more disenfranchised voters-chose to abdicate their duty, responsibility and opportunity to set things straight, instead looking the other way, does not erase the critical importance of getting at the truth, no matter what it takes, nor how long. Truly, this is serious disenfranchisement of all lawful voting Americans, not to mention the terrible dishonor to veterans of all generations who have served and fought for America, especially those who paid the ultimate sacrifice with their lives. They did not do so to enable nor encourage abuse of power, corruption, shenanigans, nor blatant ballot and voter fraud. The vote is sacred, and we need to stop treating voting like it's handing out Halloween candy, starting with dumping fraud-inviting mail-in voting! We are also now witnessing what an authoritarian society looks like. As President, Donald J. Trump was never the authoritarian his harshest Left-wing critics claimed, for true authoritarians don't get their Twitter and Facebook Accounts closed or banned. Au contraire, the governmental Globalist-Leftist authoritarians and their political, giant corporate, and media accomplices (especially "Social Media") have so acted in punishing not just President Trump, but many of his more visible support-

Town of Spencer FY19 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Performance Hearing

The Town of Spencer will conduct a public performance hearing regarding their FY19 Community Development Block Grant Program. This is a requirement of the grant program. The hearing will be held on Monday, February 22, at 6:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room at Spencer Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA.

Current Spencer CDBG activities include the infrastructure improvement project for Cherry, Wall, Lloyd Dyer Streets.

Any person or organization having questions or comments concerning the programs will have an opportunity to be heard.

To listen live go to: SCATV.org Dial in from your phone: 1 877 568 4106

Enter Access Code: 458-634-197 Or join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/458-634-197

Important: please mute your phone/device until the Chairman calls upon you to speak

February 12, 2021

LEGAL NOTICE Fiscal Year 2022 **SCHOOL BUDGET HEARING Leicester Public Schools Notice of Public Hearing**

Date of Public Hearing: Monday, March 1, 2021

Snow Date for Public Hearing: Tuesday, March 9, 2021

In accordance with Chapter 71 Section 38N of the General Laws, the Leicester School Committee will hold a public hearing on its proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Budget on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.via Google Meet: Meeting ID: meet.google.com/jay-detf-

Phone Number: (US) 1-513-666-3059 PIN: 776 859 342#. Immediately following the hearing, there will be an open session meeting.

You may find the Superintendent's budget presentation on the district website: www.lpsma.net.

February 12, 2021 February 19, 2021

Town of Spencer Office of the Board of Selectmen & Town Administrator **Notice of Public Hearing**

Notice is hereby given under Chapter 138, Sec. 15A of the Massachusetts General Laws that a public hearing will be held remotely on February 22 at 6:00 p.m. on the application of Cedric Daniel for a Wine and Malt Beverages Pouring License for a pub-brewery: Concord Brewery Inc., d/b/a Rapscallion, 8 Meadow Road, Spencer, MA. Options to participate:

Dial in from your phone: (Toll Free): 1 866 899 4679 Enter Access Code: 479-429-349

Or, join from your computer, tablet, or smartphone:

https://www.gotomeet.me/Townof-SpencerMA/boardofselectmen Ralph E. Hicks,

Chairman, Board of Selectmen February 12, 2021

PUBLIC HEARING

The West Brookfield Water Department is having a public hearing on March 4, 2021 on the updating of the West Brookfield Water Department Rules & Regulations, and rate increase, to

ers. This includes the My Pillow guy,

Mike Lindell, a wonderful Minnesota

businessman who employs many

Americans and offers great American-

made products. Only a person with

the coldest heart of stone would not

be moved by Mike's personal story of

drug addiction, repentance and accep-

tance of Jesus Christ that turned his

entire life (and fortunes) around. So,

what is his crime? He, like tens of

Millions of Americans, questions the

validity of the Presidential election

outcome based on the evidence we've

seen and testimonies we've heard from

those who were there at these various

polling places. He believes like many

of us that Trump-Pence actually won

this race, electorally anyway, and by

a decent margin, the ballot and voter

fraud, irregularities and illegal chang-

es made to voting rules in various

municipalities and States notwith-

standing. Keep in mind that this is

America. As Americans, Trump sup-

porters, Republicans, Conservatives

(really, anybody) we have the absolute

Constitutional right to both question

and petition our government (of "We

the People") for a redress of grievanc-

es. We are aggrieved that the credi-

bly identified and asserted ballot and

voter fraud has not been duly stud-

ied at the forensic level, nor properly

adjudicated, almost anywhere where

our government officials and repre-

sentatives have the authority and obli-

gation to do so! We will not be intim-

idated, threatened or harassed into

silence either. Silence is complicity,

obtain a copy of proposed updates, please call (508) 867-1421 Ext. 8 or Ext. 306 office to be mailed a copy of planned updates and rate increase or Town Clerks office to review updates during regular office hours. Proposed updates will take effect immediately. The West Brookfield Water Department hearing is in the Town Hall, 2 East Main Street, in the Great Hall, West Brookfield, Massachusetts 01585 on March 4, 2021 at 6:00p.m. Any Person wishing to be heard and have discussion on the proposed updates should appear at the time and place designated. Respectfully Submitted

The West Brookfield Water Department **Board of Water Commissioners** Robert E. Benson - Chairman February 12, 2021 February 19, 2021

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Teresa Johnson and Phyllis Schoof to "MERS", Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., a separate corporation that is acting solely as nominee for GreenPoint Mortgage Funding, Inc., "Lender"; and its successors and assigns dated April 24, 2007 and recorded with the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 41306, Page 356, as assigned by Assignment of Mortgage dated October 26, 2011 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 48090, Page 120 and as assigned by Assignment of Mortgage dated November 20, 2015 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 54663, Page 74, and assigned by Assignment of Mortgage dated July 6, 2017 and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds, in Book 57379, Page 185, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 AM, on March 5, 2021, on the premises known as 115 Charlton Road, Spencer, Massachusetts, the premises described in said mortgage, together with all the rights, easements,

and appurtenances thereto, to wit: A certain tract of land on the easterly side of the Charlton Road, Route 31; in Spencer, Worcester County, Massachusetts being shown as a parcel of land entitled "Norman S. Kenward (sic), et ux, September 12, 1972, Reney Bros. Inc. Registered Engineers and Surveyors, Worcester, Massachusetts" which plan is recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 370, Plan 84 and which property is more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the southwesterly corner thereof, which point is in the easterly line of said Charlton Road, Route 31, and which point is the northwesterly corner of land now or formerly of

Thence N. 05° 44' 05" E., 376.6 feet +1- along said Charlton Road, Route 31, to a point at land now or formerly of Hamelin;

Thence S. 84° 16' 00" E., 155.2 feet along said Hamelin land to a point at land now or formerly of Myron H. Sibley; Thence S. 11° 09' 00" W., along said

Sibley land to a point at land now or formerly of Eaton; Thence N. 84° 16'

00" W., along said Eaton land to the point of beginning.

Granting the right of way to take water for ordinary household purposes from a spring on Myron Sibley's land lying easterly of the granted premises; and subject to the restriction that the grantees premises and the adjoining land of Myron H. Sibley.

Being the same premises conveyed as described in a deed epm (sic) Harold E. Tousignan and Marian L. Cutter to Alfred E. Deschamps dated September 30, 1991 recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 13682, Page 239. See also deed from Irene R. Kenward to Harold E. Tousignan and Marian L. Cutter dated July 31, 1980 and recorded in said Deeds in Book 13616, Page 27 regarding water rights.

Conveyed with an easement to main-

tain an existing barn on land of Myron

W. Sibley as recited in a deed from Harold E. Tousignan and Marian L. Cutter by deed of Myron W. Sibley dated September 26, 1991 and recorded with the Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Book 13682, Page 237. Terms of Sale: These premises are being sold subject to any and all unpaid real estate taxes, water rates, municipal charges and assessments, condominium charges, expenses, costs, and assessments, if applicable, federal tax liens, partition wall rights, statutes, regulations, zoning, subdivision control, or other municipal ordinances or bylaws respecting land use, configuration, building or approval, or bylaws, statutes or ordinances regarding the presence of lead paint, asbestos or other toxic substances, sanitary codes, housing codes, tenancy, and, to the extent that they are recorded prior to the above mortgage, any easements, rights of way, restrictions, confirmation or other matters of record.

Purchaser shall also bear all state and county deeds excise tax. The deposit of \$10,000.00 is to be paid in cash or bank or certified check at the time and place of the sale, with the balance of the purchase price to be paid by bank or certified check within forty-five (45) days after the date of the sale, to be deposited in escrow with Guaetta and Benson, LLC, at 73 Princeton Street, Suite 208, North Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by foreclosure deed to the second highest bidder or, thereafter, to the next highest bidders, providing that said bidder shall deposit with said attorney, the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within five (5) business days after written notice of the default of the previous highest

Other terms, if any, are to be announced at the sale.

Dated: February 5, 2021 Present holder of said mortgage MTGLQ Investors, L.P. by its Attorneys Guaetta and Benson, LLC Peter V. Guaetta, Esquire P.O. Box 519 Chelmsford, MA 01824 February 12, 2021 February 19, 2021 February 26, 2021

and we've already seen the horrific damage that Mr. Biden has inflicted, to the unborn by enabling re-funding for abortion (just prior to the 48th Anniversary of the deadly Roe v. Wade Supreme Court decision in 1973), to American workers, to American energy independence, and our Canadian neighbors—to name just a few—in the very first week of this unfolding disaster called the Biden Administration. Who can really believe that this lying perennial candidate for President, who plagiarized losing British Labor Party leader Neil Kinnock's speech in 1987 forcing Joe to drop out of that Primary race, could, this year, hiding out in his basement, with virtually no rallies or supporter enthusiasm, actually defeat the accomplished, energetic and widely-loved and supported incumbent President for reelection? Well, you have to be a very special kind of stupid (or more charitably, "gullible") to swallow that happening without significant "assists" from felonious voting and ballots, including machines/software designed to deliver a pre-determined outcome.

I've said it before, that any President as allegedly unpopular with the voters as the Democrats/Left have told us Mr. Trump was would not have induced the Republican down-ballot victories that came on Nov. 3, 2020, confounding nearly all of the pollsters and pundits (again). Trump is still the amazing energizer-bunny life of the Grand Old Party, and any astute observer can sense just how popular

and successful he is making inroads with independents and even many Democrats. Those of us who stood out wherever to support President Trump witnessed this phenomenon all through the summer and fall, the Wuhan Virus/COVID-19 outbreak notwithstanding, via the overwhelmingly-positive response from drivers passing by our peaceful sidewalk testimonials. Indeed, the truth is a stubborn thing! It matters less how many flawed, corrupted and compromised persons refused to look into the credible allegations backed up by signed and sworn affidavits, affirmed by vulnerable persons very much "in the know" who essentially put their lives, reputations and positions on the line, so the world would know what was going on. Nope, dishonest Leftists and Democrats (pardon any redundancies there) stole this election where the votes critically counted, so we want our real President and country back. Creepy-sleepy Joe isn't just only not my President, the truth be exposed, he's not our President! Go ahead, do the key voting-machine forensics and election audits, fair and honest with requisite witnessing by all Parties affected and prove us all wrong! No excuses, unless, of course, this great evil collaboration must remain hidden in darkness to advance the ugly totalitarian globalist agenda that cannot win on its own, honestly.

> Dana George Reed SPENCER

OBITUARIES

Paul R. Fitch, 84

WEST BROOKFIELD: Paul R. Fitch, 84, of Wigwam Road died Friday, February 5 in Harrington Memorial Hospital after an illness.



He leaves his wife of 65 years, Audrey M. (LaJeunesse) Fitch, two daughters; Linda M. Ahearn and her husband Joseph of North Brookfield and Joan M. Stearns and her husband Wayne of Leicester, three grand-

children Laura M. Rosa and her husband David of Ontario, Canada, Andrew J. Ahearn of Worcester and Paul J. Ahearn of Trumbull, CT, two great grandchildren; Isabella & Alexandra Rosa and several nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by a brother Earl Fitch.

Paul was born in Worcester, son of Clyde F. and Laura M. (Fancy) Fitch. He graduated from Boy's Trade in Worcester. He owned and operated Fitch Oil Company for over 50 years before retiring. He enjoyed hunting and taking his annual hunting trip to Shin Pond Maine every November, boating at the Cape and flying his plane. His happiest times were spent with his family at their family home in Nova Scotia, Canada. He was a member of the Nimrod Sportsmen's club in Holden.

Private funeral services will be held at a later date. MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main Street, Leicester is directing funeral arrangements.

Campus, and Monson Development

Center. Ruth was the school nurse in

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Ruth L. McNeaney, 89

EAST BROOKFIELD – Ruth L. (Surprenant) McNeaney, 89, of East Main Street, passed away on Sunday, February 7, 2021, with her family by



with her family by her side. She was born in Spencer the daughter of Albert W. and Letitia B. (Doxey) Surprenant. Her husband of 58 years, Richard C. McNeaney died in

2009. She leaves six sons, David R. McNeaney and his wife Lee of West Dennis, Peter J. McNeaney and his wife Anne Reynolds of North Brookfield, John A. McNeaney and his wife Candace of Belchertown, Paul M. McNeaney, James A. McNeaney and his wife Caron, and Timothy S. McNeaney and his wife Jennifer all of East Brookfield; nine grandchildren, Jason, Nicole, Meghan, Brian, Alicia, Alison, Andrew, Matthew, and Ian; her great-grandchildren, Sean, Emily, Gabriella, Rory, Reagan, Tabor, James, Madison. Connor and Sophia; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother, Albert W. Surprenant, Jr., her sister, Eleanor Sandstrom, and a grandson, Patrick Richard McNeaney. Ruth graduated from David Prouty High School in 1949. In 1973 she received her Associate in Science in Nursing from Quinsigamond College; in 1982 she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Worcester State College. She worked as a Registered Nurse at Quaboag Nursing Home, Harrington Hospital, UMass Medical University

North Brookfield for 20 years until her retirement in 1994. Ruth was very active in her community serving as the East Brookfield Town Clerk from 1983 to 1992, and serving on many town boards including the Board of Health, Planning Board, Historical Society, and as a Cemetery Commissioner. She was a member of the Quaboag Historical Socie-ty, the East Brookfield Baptist Church, and the Lashaway Senior Citizens. She was a Justice of the Peace from 1984 till present. Ruth loved to read, dance, study genealogy, and spend time at the family house in North Haven, Maine. As a proud Republican, she enjoyed watching political shows on Fox News and debating (mostly arguing) the issues with her family and friends. The family would like to thank Overlook Hospice and her caregiver, Kelsie Rieder for their professionalism, care, and compassion they gave Ruth. Calling hours were held on Tuesday, February 9 from 5:00-7:00 p.m. in the Miles Funeral Home, 1158 Main Street (Rte. 122A), Holden. Ruth's funeral was held on Wednesday, February 10 with a Mass at 11:00 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Church, 121 Blaine Ave, East Brookfield. Burial will follow in Evergreen Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Ruth's memory to a charity of your choice.

To share a memory or to offer a condolence, please visit www.milesfuneral-home.com

HAR-YROK

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their dear leader who told them to "go fight" or they wouldn't have a country anymore. Considering that the Jan. 6 certification was the last step before Joe Biden's victory was certified, the last chance to stop it, and they didn't breach the building until after the first few states were certified and not objected to, it seems pretty obvious what this was all about.

I'm glad to see that Mr. Robillard has settled into recognizing that the 2020 election results in every state were certified, the results are legal, the results are final, the courts have also supported that view, and Joe Biden is the legitimate President of the United States. I say that Mr. Robillard has settled into the Biden presidency by pivoting to the standard right-wing crackpot theory of denying climate change.

It is quite interesting for a person who graduated with an engineering degree from an accredited university and has practiced as an engineer for years would see modern science as no different than indigenous religious practices. For a college grad proud of what he's learned to view academics as the new shamans is also calling the professors that taught him shamans. To then be proud of the profession of engineering, which is itself the application of scientific principles to solve real-world problems while slamming academics who study scientific phenomena as frauds is curious.

Was Isaac Newton the real deal, or was he a shaman? What about Albert Einstein? Leonard Euler was one of those math geeks "real men" don't respect. Daniel Bernoulli was really just a shaman, of course until we cared about airfoils and carburetors. Do we now accept the work of Copernicus or is his work still in question?

Perhaps these climate scientists should suffer the same fate as Galileo Galilei, who was sentenced to indefinite imprisonment for "vehemently suspect of heresy" in 1633, and he remained confined until his death in 1642 and wasn't exonerated by the Catholic Church until 1992. Galileo is widely considered the father of modern physics, the scientific method, and modern science so by extension he is the grandfather of engineering. He was certainly guilty of heresy in 1633 so perhaps we should treat modern scientists the same way?

All work by academics is cited, peer reviewed, and public – you can even be a peer reviewer! If you can find logical fallacies or evidence of falsifying data, you'll be famous. Computer models are created so that we can analyze more data and do more math than can be

done on paper. My smartphone can do 1.7 billion floating point operations per second, about 10,000,000,000 times faster than my pencil and paper and more accurately. It turns out computer modeling is very good for understanding large datasets and finding correlations we wouldn't be able to do manually. Scientific work is peer reviewed and computer models are verified against real world scenarios to determine how accurately they model real world behavior.

We don't only rely on computer models for future predictions. We also have air temperature data measured by humans over the decades since the industrial revolution and there is a clear warming trend. Sea level has risen seven inches in the last 100 years and this is measured. We study the inside of very old trees to get a few hundred years' worth of data. We have written records of weather in Europe for hundreds of years. We have measured data from ice and sediment cores which gives us coarse data going back 400,000 years. We run controlled experiments with closed containers and external heat lamps. Scientists test that the computer models match measured data.

The evidence for climate change is substantial and it is not disputed by anybody serious. Please check out NASA's easy-to-read explanation: https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/. Perhaps you don't trust NASA which just finished four years of Trump's leadership. It seems that every other country in the world has a similar Web site explaining the evidence that convinced them. I'll expect a link in your reply.

You not understanding computer modeling or the math behind it does not make it false or a computer game. It makes it something over your head. I encourage you though, disprove these "academic shamans" and you'll be fabulously famous and wealthy from your book and speaking deals. Why don't you do some research and publish your findings proving that a stupid regular person can debunk all those elitist PhD's?

After the 1980's, all sorts of harmful aerosols were banned and alternative chemicals are now used. The ozone layer is pretty damaged in the southern hemisphere, but the "hysteria" worked in arresting the damage since we stopped using the worst chemicals before we completely destroyed the ozone. We have discovered more deposits of oil since the 1980's so I guess the scientists were wrong that it was a finite resource that the planet would run out of? No, the scientists were correct it is a finite resource, there is just a few decades more supply than we realized. Recent discoveries of new oil fields doesn't disprove the basic science.

Harvey L. Nadreau,90

SPENCER-Harvey L. Nadreau,90, formerly of Spencer, died Tuesday, Feb. 2 in Quaboag Rehab & Skilled Nursing Care Center in West Brookfield





wife His beloved Jeanette O. (Millette) Nadreau predeceased him on Feb. 8, 2013.He leaves his son John A. Nadreau and his wife Trish of Warwick, RI., his daughter Debra L. Rio and her husband Dale of E.Brookfield, his brother Armand Nadreau and his wife Rita of Nashua, NH. and a sister Lorraine Corcoran of Hudson, NH., a sister in-law Rose Fish of Lewiston, ME; his seven grandchildren; Cory Rio,

Jason Rio and his wife Melissa, Kristen Schaffer and her husband Dr. Bradley Schaffer, Joshua Nadreau and his wife Valerie Nadreau, Jacob Nadreau, Tyler Darcy and Casey Darcy. Nine great grandchildren; Emily, Hope, Abbriella and Ashley Rio, Myles, Elyse and Kirk Schaffer, Owen Rio and Henry Nadreau who was born the same day as his great-grandfather passed.;several nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by a sister Gay Remillard and a brother Hector Nadreau.

Born in Nashua, NH the son of Armand and Vida (Letendre) Nadreau and grew up in Spencer, MA. He later served his country in the US Air Force as a member of the 56th Fighter Squadron as well as the 452nd Light Bomber Wing in Japan and Korea. He was a member of the American Legion Post 138. He was a member of Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish in Spencer.

Harvey started his career as a meat cutter at Gaudette's Supermarket in

Spencer. He became the Buyer and Supervisor for the meat department for Goretti's Supermarkets retiring in 1985 after developing Multiple Sclerosis.



Harvey loved to spend time with his family. Hosting with Jeanette their family cookouts and gatherings around their pool. He loved landscaping his yard and had beautiful flowers and rose gardens surrounding

his pool. Although born right handed he mastered the craft of woodcarving with his left hand due to his disability. His family enjoys the many pieces he carved for them. He had a great disposition, enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and great grandchildren who were all very special to him. Harvey's family would like to extend their sincere thanks and appreciation to Quaboag Rehab and Skilled Nursing Care Center in W. Brookfield. Especially all the caregivers on the 2nd floor Nursing Unit, and the First Floor Unit where he spent his last days. They are grateful for their excellent professional care and heartfelt compassion they gave to Harvey.

A funeral service was held on Wednesday, Feb. 10th. at 11a.m. in the J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer. Burial with Military Honors followed in Worcester County Memorial Park, Paxton. A calling hour preceded the service from 10 to 11 a.m. on Wednesday. Covid-19 precautions, face masks and social distancing must be observed. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to Mary, Queen of the Rosary Memorial Fund, 46 Maple St., Spencer, MA 01562.

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Engineer-to-Engineer... Most of earth's oil was formed 50 to 250 million years ago, sequestering carbon underground and giving the planet and life 200 million years to adapt. Do you not see a problem releasing 200 million years' worth of carbon in only 200 years? Cows fart and burp out a lot of methane which is a very potent greenhouse gas and cattle require land to be cleared for grazing. There are seven times more cows burping and farting on the planet than there were in 1950. probably 15 times more than there were 200 years ago. Since the earth is a closed system, do you not see the potential problem?

Finally, COVID... COVID has continued to abate but now I can say I personally know several people under 30 who were and currently are severely ill at home, multiple people under 40 who spent weeks in the hospital including ICU, I personally know young healthy people who may have permanent lung damage. I know older folks who had a rough time of it and I also know people who had mild cases. Thankfully, I don't know anybody that has died from this....yet.

The new variants are spreading like wildfire. The variant from the UK is more contagious and will likely be dominant here by March. The Brazilian variant is re-infecting people that already had the virus and is causing cities in Brazil we thought had achieved herd immunity to have new outbreaks. The new South African variant appears to be evading vaccines. All of these are present in the USA already. Our only defense is to stop the virus from replicating... Our track record is somewhere between poor and WTF.

New cases have come down since mid-January, only 809,550 new cases were confirmed in the US last week for a total of 27 million Americans. For deaths we are likely on a plateau of the peak death-rate now at 3,300/day. We have averaged more than a 9/11 death toll every day, day after day, for a month for a total of 463,437 deaths and counting. For reference the total number of U.S. combat fatalities since the Civil War (Dakota War of 1862 to Yemen Campaign of 2017) is 436,086. Current COVID death toll is 463,437. I wonder when COVID deaths will eclipse the sum of all U.S. combat deaths since

> Omar Har-Yarok East Brookfield



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POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

1:45 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 3:52 a.m.: medical/general (Sumner Street); 6:44 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:36 a.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 7:45 a.m.: medical/general (Clark Street): 8:00 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 8:54 a.m.: accident (Charlton Road), report taken; 9:43 a.m.: fire alarm (Adams Street), referred; 10:20 a.m.: mv lockout (Wall Street), assisted; 10:29 a.m.: medical/ general (Cherry Street); 11:07 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), LTC change of address; 11:09 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), LTC change of address; 11:30 a.m.: officer wanted (Chickering Road), services rendered; 12:11 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info given; 12:38 p.m.: parking complaint (Maple Street), ticket issued; 12:55 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), Rx stolen; 1:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Lake Avenue), welfare check; 2:31 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 5:09 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Shawn M. Dambra, 34, 60 Mechanic Street, Spencer, warrant, unlicensed operation, arrest; 6:09 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 7:09 p.m.: suspicious persons (Howe Village), investigated; 7:53 p.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), neighbor issues; (Total daily mv stops -2).

ΓHURSDAY, JANUARY 28 12:51 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:53 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Bixby Road), misdial; 7:13 a.m.: disturbance (Temple Street), neighbor issues; 8:05 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:46 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 11:16 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 11:24 a.m.: medical/general (Dufault Road); 11:34 a.m.: disabled mv (Chickering Road), assisted; 12:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Charlton Road), problem w/neighbor; 12:31 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 12:45 p.m.: medical/ general (Paxton Road); 911 call (West Main Street), accident Route 9; 3:20 p.m.: elderly matter (Woodland Lane), info taken; 4:47 p.m.: disturbance (Dale Street), neighbor issues; 5:08 p.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 5:44 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 7:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), annoying phone calls; 9:55 p.m.: 911 call (South Spencer Road), accidental; 11:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Mechanic Street), barking dog; (Total daily mv stops - 0).

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29 12:37 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:37 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued: 5:28 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Linden Street), no contact; 6:20 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 10:35 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 10:39 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:45 a.m.: animal complaint (Bell Street). dog left in cold; 11:52 a.m.: suspicious mv (Meadow Road), investigated; 12:16 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Road), unruly daughter; 12:26 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street), 1:44 p.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), WRTA bus; 2:51 p.m.: animal complaint (Meadow Road), concern re: neighbor's dog; 2:57 p.m.: officer

wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 3:08 p.m.: mv complaint (Wilson Street), trespassing; 3:32 p.m.: medical/general (Linden Street); 3:45 p.m.: animal complaint (High Street), loose dog; 4:02 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:04 p.m.: disturbance (West Main Street), domestic dispute; 5:18 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), req. info; 7:07 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), misdial; 9:46 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), misdial; 10:43 p.m.: 911 call (Prospect Street), accidental; 11:46 p.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), noise complaint; (Total daily mv stops – 1). SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

2:43 a.m.: residential alarm (Charlton Road), services rendered; 10:43 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), unwanted patron; 11:21 a.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 11:41 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 5:03 p.m.: mv complaint (South Spencer Road), Anthony D. Ramsey, 29, 15 Colony Road, Phillipston, OUI liquor, negligent operation, marked lanes violation, arrest; 6:25 p.m.: suspicious persons (Ash Street), investigated; 6:27 p.m.: DPW call (May Street), no water; 6:37 p.m.: residential alarm (Oscars Drive), services rendered; 8:53 p.m.: medical/ general (Charlton Road); 11:00 p.m.: medical/general (Gold Nugget Road); 11:05 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact: 11:06 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); (Total daily my stops -5).

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

9:28 a.m.: DPW call (Lake Street), re: water meter; 10:04 a.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), inquiry re: quarantining; 10:31 a.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 1:03 p.m.: officer wanted (Grove Street), spoken to; 1:25 p.m.: medical/general (Longview Drive); 1:26 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 2:21 p.m.: RV complaint (Thompson Pond Road), noise complaint; 2:41 p.m.: officer wanted (Grove Street), info taken; sometime between 2:52-4:00 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 5:04 p.m.: accident (Main Street), hit/run; 6:06 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), stray cat; 7:09 p.m.: medical/general (North Brookfield Road); 7:19 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 8:45 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 9:05 p.m.: building checked, secure; sometime between 9:35-9:56 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 11:00 p.m.: medical/general (Gold Nugget Road); 11:05 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 11:06 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); (Total daily my stops -5).

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1 12:16 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:28-12:45 a.m.: parking violations/4 (Mechanic, Church, Prospect, Cherry streets), tickets issued; 4:17 a.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), DOT/road conditions; 6:57 a.m.: medical/general (Treadwell Terrace); 8:03 p.m.: animal complaint (G.H. Wilson Road), bobcat in area; 8:20 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 9:48 a.m.: officer wanted (Charron Street), poss. illegal entry; 11:53 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), poss. abandoned mv; 12:29 p.m..: DPW call (Browning Pond Road), tree in road; 12:31 p.m.: DPW call (Bacon Hill Road), tree

down; 12:43 p.m.: accident (Thompson needed to hold his assemblies due to the large crowd numbers. For the claim that the Capitol was besieged by these people they would have had to run a blistering pace of 107.8 mph (actual calculation, do the numbers) setting multiple land speed and world records for covering the distance. I believe this fails to pass the "sniff test". Those who first entered the Capitol by force were not there to listen to President Trump and share in the experience of being a part of history. They (the initial intruders) were there to provide the left with all the evidence they needed to forever

could not conceal their contempt for Trump supporters. I have a feeling that Yorak, Bagg and the rest of the Trump haters will try to get a few more weeks out of the Capitol attack in an attempt to distract us from the disaster that the Biden administration has already been. Or "they" (actually, the lonely wretch that writes these screeds) will divide the goal of fanning the aforementioned flames as well as trying to ignite a new conflagration in an effort to gin up support for this sham impeachment. We all saw what the Obama-era policies did to our economy. Biden is pushing the reset button in the form of executive orders (40 and counting) that will bring us right back to those financially stagnant days. We can also expect vague, convoluted answers, and broken promises. Starting with Mr. 46 making the claim to be the "President for all Americans", just to cancel 11,000 jobs right out of the gate, to his press secretary, Jen Psaki, promising to "circle back" on questions the administration has simply no abili-

ty to answer. In one of her first appear-

label President Trump and his support-

ers as dangerous and violent insurrec-

tionists. And "they" were not, and have

never been, Trump supporters; they

were BLAM/TIFA infiltrators attired

in Trump garb. However, their disguise

Pond Road), report taken; 12:55 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 1:06 p.m.: animal complaint (Clark Road), neighbor's dog; 1:30 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: father; 1:36 p.m.: disabled mv (Thompson Pond Road), assisted; 4:57 p.m.: disabled mv (Browning Pond Road), off road; 5:27 p.m.: accident (Maple Street), report taken; 8:29 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; (Total daily my stops – 0).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

3:54 a.m.: parking complaint (Mechanic Street), mv in lot hindering plow; 5:19 a.m.: accident (Maple Street), report taken: 7:39 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 8:17 a.m.: DPW call (Thompson Pond Road), icy conditions; 8:28 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 8:42 a.m.: disabled mv (Howe Road), DCR plow stuck; 9:25 a.m.: DPW call (Lakeshore Drive), road conditions; 9:36 a.m.: DPW call (Bixby Road), slippery hill; 10:27 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), no heat; 10:34 a.m.: DPW call (Bond Street), elderly father/no phone service; 10:46 a.m.: fraud (Old East Charlton Road), PCH scam; 10:59 a.m.: bylaw violation (Main Street), depositing snow on sidewalk; 12:41 p.m.: building checked, secure; 12:56 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; 1:07 p.m.: mv lockout (Meadow Road), assisted; 3:06 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Adams Street), misdial; 3:13 p.m.: medical/ general (Maple Street); 3:55 p.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 4:13 p.m.: medical/general (Adams Street); 4:34 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 4:57 p.m.: plane crash (Donnelly Cross Road), report taken; 5:33 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 5:56 p.m.: citizen complaint (South Spencer Road), c/o road conditions; 6:10 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: issues w/storage company; 7:06 p.m.: accident (Lincoln Street), report taken; 7:11 p.m.: citizen complaint (Main Street), hdcp spot not plowed; 8:28 p.m.: accident (Chickering Road), report taken; 8:42 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), icy conditions; 9:20 p.m.: accident (Kitteridge Road), report taken; 11:50 p.m.: DPW call (Main Street), need water shut off; (Total daily mv stops -1).

Leicester Police

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

01:00 a.m.: erratic operator (Peasant Street), unable to locate; 12:25 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 1:32 p.m.: accident (Main Street), assisted; 3:28 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), message delivered; 3:54 p.m.: fraud (Grove Street), report taken; 3:56 p.m.: mutual aid (Hawley Street, Worcester), transported to hospital; 4:55 p.m.: disabled mv (Soojians Drive), assisted; 5:15 p.m.: accident (Henshaw Street), report taken; 7:45 p.m.: suspicious activity (Peter Salem Road), report taken.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

12:33 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:21 a.m.: welfare check (Charlton Street), transported to hospital; 2:32 a.m.: ambulance (Charlton Street), transported; 10:01 a.m.: debris in road (Whittemore Street), removed; 1:42 p.m.: accident (Main Street),

assisted; 3:50 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 3:57 p.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street, Worcester), transported to hospital: 4:12 p.m.: investigation (Reservoir Street), investigated; 4:33 p.m.: ambulance (Chapel Street), transported; 5:26 p.m.: mv stop (Mannville Street), no action required; 5:51 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mannville Street), spoken to; 8:17 p.m.: assist other PD (Rawson Street), message delivered; 9:06 p.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), spoken to; 10:00 p.m.: mv stop (King Street), verbal warning.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

12:10 a.m.: mv stop (Soojians Drive), verbal warning; 1:07 a.m.: mv stop (Monterey Drive), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, speeding, criminal application issued; 12:52 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 1:03 p.m.: residential alarm (Parker Street), false alarm; 1:29 p.m.: suspicious person (Soojians Drive), no action required.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

12:40 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), Andrew L. Tomasino, 24, 67 Crystal Street, Leicester, OUI liquor, negligent operation, failure to stop/yield, intoxicated/carrying a firearm, arrest; 8:02 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 9:52 a.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 10:00 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), referred; 1:24 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:49 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), message delivered; 3:45 p.m.: family problem (Mannville Street), peace restored; 4:09 p.m.: residential alarm (Collier Avenue), false alarm; 4:24 p.m.: disabled mv (Ingram Road), assisted; 5:45 p.m.: suspicious mv (Parker Street), gone on arrival: 10:56 p.m.: domestic disturbance (Tobin Road), peace restored.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 1

12:44 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:26 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 12:06 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, report taken; 1:35 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:44 p.m.: disabled mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), gone on arrival; 4:52 p.m.: family problem (Lexington Avenue), report taken.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2 12:03 a.m.: ambulance (Cricklewood Drive), transported; 1:08 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 9:00 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway) transported; 9:10 a.m.: disabled mv (Soojians Drive), my towed; 10:30 a.m.: ambulance (Paxton Street), transported; 11:58 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), spoken to; 2:36 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:05 p.m.: welfare check (Soojians Drive), no action required; 4:50 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 6:36 p.m.: residential alarm (Stafford

Street), services rendered. WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

10:51 a.m.: investigation (Moosehill Road), services rendered; 12:11 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 6:38 p.m.: assault/battery (Collier Avenue), report taken; 7:34 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mannville Street), spoken to.

###

ances, she, with a straight face, spoke about bringing integrity and transparency back into the White House. Allow me to put it this way, when Biden took the oath, I thought to myself, "I hope he proves me wrong and is the best President we have ever had." So far, he has failed on all counts. And just like Biden, Psaki has been unsuccessful in keeping her promises.

I will tell you who did prove me wrong: Donald John Trump. When he announced his candidacy, I didn't give it much thought because my preferred candidate was Ted Cruz. When Trump was the front-runner, I thought, "How in the world is a reality TV show host a better choice than someone like Cruz? I mean, anyone is a better choice than Donald Trump! Well, besides Jeb Bush and John Kasich."

I went to bed on election night in 2016 skeptical that Trump could defeat Hillary Clinton. The main stream media had pegged her as the sure winner, despite her pathetic inability to draw more than a handful of rally-goers now, where have we seen that before? According to the squawking heads on PMSNBC, C(ommie)NN and the bloated ticks over at The Young Turks on the Internet, this election was over before it began. Her victory was an absolute lock and not even worth wasting our time going to the polls to vote for Trump. Even Bill "Slick Willy" Clinton was jumping up and down, celebrating the thought of being back in the White House with limitless access to vulnerable interns. However, her aspirations for the highest office in the land, just like her dreams as girl to be an astronaut, fell hilariously short. Donald J. Trump had become the 45th President of the United States.

To be honest, I did not have high expectations for the former business mogul now Commander-in-Chief. In 2016, I voted for Trump because he wasn't Hillary. In 2020, I voted for Trump because he was Trump. I traveled to many towns throughout the summer of 2020 attending Trump Standouts and took part in a "Rolling Rally" that went from Ludlow to Foxboro. I dutifully took the vile verbal assaults form the 'tolerant" left. Unlike those people who are blinded by their hatred for someone they only know through a spiteful media and congressional members who were scared that they were going to lose their Golden Calf, I see a man who came in and worked tirelessly to put America and Americans first. I can see the good that happened while Donald Trump was president. The history books will show that, during his administration, the United States was experiencing nothing short of a renaissance.

President Trump rescued economy not once, but twice. He will do it again in 2024. If there are any Democrats left after the Biden/Harris Administration drags us to the brink of Venezuela status, I would recommend not engaging these special individuals in conversation. Ignorance is something that can be remedied through knowledge -- but you can't cure stupid, because stupid is to the bone!

I would like to point out one more thing before I draw this epic novel to a close — having only been in office for three weeks, "President" Biden has signed a multitude of executive orders. Back during the campaign in October 2020, one of the candidates gave this response to a question about them: "There are things you can't do by executive order unless you are a dictator. We're a democracy, we need consensus." Thanks for those words of wisdom, Mr. Biden.

> MATHEW HERHOLZ SPENCER

HERHOLZ

continued from page A9

our seven "usual suspects" in the New Leader. Fast forward a week and those who were silent were now shouting at the sky like George Taylor in "Planet of the Apes." While the crocodile tears were enough to make a monsoon look like a light drizzle, the onslaught of Letters to the Editor revealed that they all had smiles behind their non-medical grade masks that stretched from ear to ear. As I stated in a previous letter, this was the one moment for which they had been waiting over four years.

Eyewitness accounts of the events that went on in D.C. on Jan. 6 tell an entirely different story. Contrary to what the mainstream media reports and liberals repeat like the good little parrots they are, the mood during the rally was one of joy, peace, harmony, and excitement as they all shared in the experience of listening to pro-American speakers with a positive and uplifting message. When President Trump spoke (30 minutes later than his scheduled start), there was not a smile that had dropped or a mood that was soured, not to mention, not a decline in attendees as he spoke. Then, supposedly, only a half an hour later, a group of alleged Trump supporters were gathered in front of the Capitol. Question: why would people who came to see their President speak, many likely having traveled considerable distances to get there, leave prematurely into his speech to gather at the Capitol? Then, one minute after the President had finished, the "first wave" of alleged rally-goers began their "assault," 1.8 miles away from the rally. If you don't find that a little uncharacteristic of Trump supporters, then you haven't been paying attention. Throughout all the Trump gatherings held, nobody left the hangars where he





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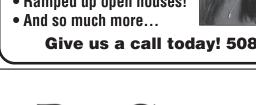
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Offer kisses in the form of a scrumptious dessert



Hugs and kisses are a large part of Valentine's Day celebrations. While physical affection can help express loving sentiments, symbolic kisses — especially when they are made from tasty ingredients — can push displays of love that much further.

The Hershev's chocolate company may have originated the chocolate teardrops that would go on to be called "kisses," but this recipe for "Chocolate Meringue Kisses," courtesy of the King Arthur Baking Company, is inspired by the well-known version. Made from airy meringue, these kisses are light and delicious, but also intensely choc-

Chocolate Meringue Kisses Yields about 3 dozen meringues

large egg whites

- teaspoon cream of tartar Pinch of salt
- cup Baker's Special Sugar
- cup unsweetened cocoa, Dutchprocess or natural, sifted
- cups Valrhona Dark Chocolate or other good-quality dark chocolate, tempered (see below), for dipping
- 1. Preheat the oven to 350 F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
- 2. In a large bowl, combine the egg whites, cream of tartar and salt. Whip until soft peaks form.
- 3. Gradually add the sugar, whipping until the mixture is stiff and glossy.
- 4. Gently fold the sifted cocoa powder into the meringue until evenly incor-
- 5. Fit a piping bag with a 1/2-inch or larger round tip and spoon the meringue into the bag.
- 6. Position the tip and bag directly over the prepared pan, and pipe the meringues onto the parchment, leaving 1 inch of space between the meringues.
- 7. Place the meringues into the preheated oven, then turn the oven off. 8. Let the meringues sit in the oven
- (keep the door closed) overnight, or until the oven is completely cool.
- 9. Remove the meringues from the
- 10. To temper the chocolate, place 11/2 cups of chocolate in a temperer or in a double boiler and melt until completely

Insightful

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11. Remove the melted chocolate from the heat and gradually stir in the remaining 1/2 cup chocolate.

12. Keep stirring until the chocolate is fully melted and warm to the touch; it should be between 86 F and 88 F.

13. To ensure that the chocolate is in temper, you can dip the tip of a knife into the bowl, and let it sit for 3 to 5 minutes. The chocolate should harden and become shiny.

14. Dip half of each meringue into the chocolate, allowing the excess chocolate to drip, and return them to the parchment-lined baking sheet to set.

Tip: If you don't have access to piping bags and tips, you can drop the meringues by large teaspoonfuls onto the prepared pan. TF212688

SOCIAL MEDIA TEXT: Made from airy meringue, these kisses are light and delicious, but also intensely choc-



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Why 'Presidents' Day' actually goes by another official name

An official list of federal holidays in the United States won't feature "Presidents' Day" among the observed holidays. Some may say that's preposterous, as they're certain that post offices and other federal entities are closed on such a day each February. While the third Monday of February is commonly referred to as "Presidents' Day" throughout the United States, the day is legally referred to as "Washington's

According to the U.S. Office of Personnel Management, this holiday is designated as "Washington's Birthday" in section 6103(a) of title 5 of the United States Code, which is the law that specifies holidays for federal employees. Though other institutions, such as state and local governments and private businesses may use other names, it is OPM policy to always refer to holidays by the names designated in the law.

History of Washington's Birthday

The idea to give presidents a little extra fanfare originally was estab-



lished in 1885 in recognition of George Washington. After his death in 1799, Washington's birthday on February 22 became a day of remembrance, according to History.com. Its observance as an official holiday was signed into law in 1879 by President Rutherford B. Hayes. Originally, the holiday only applied to the District of Columbia, but in 1885 it was expanded to the entire country.

Abraham Lincoln, another revered American president whose birthday was February 12, also was largely celebrated during the month of February as a state holiday, particularly in his home state of Illinois. In the 1960s, when Congress proposed a measure known as the Uniform Monday Holiday Act that designated Monday as the day to celebrate various federal holidays, the proposal also included a provision to combine the celebration of Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays to provide more equal recognition of these two influential leaders. The name Presidents' Day was proposed at that time. However, when the bill moving the celebration of Washington's birthday to the third Monday in February went into effect in 1971, Congress rejected the name change, so it remained Washington's Birthday. That name stands to this day.

Why Presidents' Day? Even though federal calendars will list February 15 this year as Washington's Birthday, it will largely be referred to as Presidents' Day. This unofficial moniker developed in the 1970s due largely in part to retailer's use of that name to promote sales and the proximity of the holiday to both the birthdays of Washington and Lincoln. Indeed, a Washington's Birthday furniture sale doesn't have the same ring to it as a Presidents' Day sale.

No matter what the holiday is called. Presidents' Day offers citizens a chance to learn more about the history behind Washington and Lincoln — two pivotal statesmen in American history.



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