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Friday, March 19, 2021

Spencer teen competes on "The Voice"



Photo Courtesy

Spencer's Ryleigh Modig, 18, was selected to perform on the current season of "The Voice."

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
 STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – When the coaches turned their chairs during last week's episode of "The Voice," local fans were thrilled to see central Massachusetts represented.

Spencer's Ryleigh Modig, 18, began her journey on the NBC hit show by wowing the coaches during the blind auditions. Her performance of Billie Eilish's "When the Party's Over" impressed megastar coaches Kelly Clarkson and Nick Jonas enough to turn their chairs for her.

Modig ultimately chose to be a member of Clarkson's team.

"Seeing the chairs turn around for me, knowing I would officially be a part of The Voice, was an overwhelming feeling of pure happiness. I felt like my lifelong dream was finally coming together," Modig told the New Leader. "I have always been a huge fan

of Kelly, and I knew if she turned for me, I would pick her as my coach. I just love everything she stands for, and I look up to her and think she is a beautiful, strong, independent woman."

If anyone can share personal insights with Modig that will help her navigate a singing competition, it's Clarkson. Long before winning Grammy Awards and hosting her own talk show, Clarkson started off exactly where Modig is now – as a young singer chasing her dreams on national television.

Clarkson won the first season of "American Idol" in 2002, and she has spent the last several years mentoring new artists as a coach on The Voice. Clarkson has led three artists to victories on The Voice, and she has high hopes for Modig moving forward.

"How you sang that song was so unbe-

Please Read **MODIG**, page **A4**

Becker College faces uncertain future

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
 STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Amid unprecedented financial challenges, the Becker College community is grappling with the school's uncertain future.

Higher education officials announced earlier this month that Becker's operations may not be financially sustainable into the coming year. The college's admissions office will stop all recruiting activities until a decision is made on the 2021-22 year.

The final decision on whether to close the school will be made by Becker's Board of Trustees.

"To those of you within our campus community, this should not be entirely new information," said Becker College President Nancy Crimmin. "Since the negotiations with a potential affiliation partner ended in January, I, along with cabinet members and appropriate staff, have been working to further analyze the financials, and to develop numerous scenarios regarding our operations."

All colleges and universities have been hit hard by the pandemic, but in particular smaller institutions. Several New England colleges have reduced their admission numbers of incoming freshmen, while others have been merging with larger schools or closing altogether.

At Becker, which operates campuses in Leicester and Worcester, students and faculty are hoping for the best but also bracing for a grim forecast. Many students began evaluating transfer options after receiving a letter from President Crimmin announcing possible academic contingencies.

"In the event that the board decides to make the difficult decision to close Becker College, we are working to prepare academic pathways for each academic program to allow you to transfer," read Crimmin's letter to the student body. "These agreements should allow you to move to a new institution without worrying about deadlines that most institutions have in place for admissions decisions."

Crimmin reassured students that they will be able to complete this semester. Seniors will also be able to graduate without issue.

"Completing this semester and being academically successful is crucial for each and every one of you, regardless of your class year or program of study," read the President's letter.

Looking ahead, however, officials are far less clear on whether the school can survive. In a recent joint statement issued by the Massachusetts Department of Higher Education and the New England Commission of Higher Education, officials chronicled Becker's tenuous position heading into the spring.

"Owing in large part to the impact of the coronavirus, Becker College's financial situation has become sufficiently uncertain such that the Department of Higher Education believes that the institution is unlikely to sustain full operations through the next academic year," the statement read. "The Becker College Board of Trustees has been meeting regularly to explore all reasonable options and determine how best they can leverage all available resources to help support a

Please Read **BECKER**, page **A5**

Haston Library receives grant

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
 STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The Haston Free Public Library staff has big plans for the grant funding it recently received.

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) awarded \$54,900 in 20 grants to libraries across the Commonwealth. This includes a Virtual Programming for Distance Learning Grant awarded to Haston Public Library.

For library officials, it's a thrill to receive the grant fund-

ing and have an opportunity to expand programming. In total, North Brookfield received \$1,660 in grant monies.

"The Haston Library will use this grant to explore the theme, 'Preserving our Memories', through workshops for adults and children, digital scrapbooking, memoir writing, and art journaling," read a statement released by Haston Free Public Library Director Dawn Thistle.

The grant award will also allow Librarian Amy Hietala, of Old Sturbridge Village, to present a program on the dia-

ries and journals found in the Village's collection.

Additionally, the Haston Library staff will create a video documenting North Brookfield residents' responses to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. This video will help future generations understand what it was like when the economy shut down, students did their best to learn at home, and Zoom became a way of life.

"Through this project, the Haston Library would like to encourage the community to record their life experiences and add to the historic record,"

read Thistle's statement.

The latest round of MBLC grant funding was provided through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Grants are designed to help libraries with continued remote and virtual programming during the pandemic. Previously, 27 grants totaling \$72,461 were awarded in July, 2020.

Although many libraries are beginning to reopen statewide, they do not expect to return to their normal schedules of in-person programming for many months. This will mean

the continuation of virtual activities supported by the grants.

State officials commend library staffs at the local level for their commitment to keeping patrons engaged, even with library buildings closed for months. Through curbside services and virtual offerings, residents have still been able to receive materials and programming.

"Libraries have done an incredible job of adapting to virtual and remote programming for residents

Please Read **LIBRARY**, page **A5**

Leicester girl's story of survival inspires community



Photo Courtesy

Leicester Middle School student Jacqueline Gallant is inspiring the community with her story.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
 STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – An eighth grader at Leicester Middle School is inspiring her community after surviving a rare brain disorder and becoming a youth ambassador.

In September 2019, Jacqueline Gallant was on a camping trip with family and friends in Connecticut when she began to experience severe headaches. Shortly after telling her mother about the headaches, she collapsed and became unresponsive. She was first brought to a local hospital, but it was quickly determined that she needed to be airlifted to Connecticut Children's Medical Center in Hartford, where she was diagnosed with a rare brain disorder called AVM (arteriovenous malformation).

Jacki spent multiple weeks at Connecticut Children's Medical Center, then relocated to Spaulding Rehabilitation in Charlestown. It was a long, challenging battle, but family and community support helped her persevere through every obstacle.

"I was able to overcome all the challenges really just with a positive attitude and my

family there to support me. I have an amazing group of family around me that support me and want what's best for me," Gallant told the New Leader. "My town of Leicester has been so incredibly supportive to me and my journey. My amazing neurosurgeon and his nurses at Connecticut also are very supportive of me and love to see my progress."

During her lengthy recovery, Gallant had to relearn everything from walking to eating. She impressed her medical staff with a constantly positive attitude and a determination to meet each goal.

Recently, Gallant was honored with the title of TAAF Youth Ambassador (chosen by The Aneurysm and AVM Foundation, also known as TAAF). Gallant was one of only a few young people chosen internationally to represent the foundation.

"When I got selected to be an ambassador, I was so excited," Gallant said. "I was beyond happy that out of the entire country, I got chosen to be an ambassador. I was just so excited to meet other people just like me and

Please Read **GALLANT**, page **A15**

“Start growing a herb garden,” say local gardening experts

BY GUS STEEVES
CORRESPONDENT

REGION — Even though it hit 65 degrees last week, it’s still too early to plant outside. But many people have food, herbs and flowers started indoors, and now is an ideal time to learn something new about gardening.

That’s the energy behind a regional library collaboration to provide online programs from educators at Blackstone Valley Veggie Gardens. It began Feb. 23 and runs every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom through April 20.

Last week’s session looked at growing herbs.

“If you want to do something easy, no muss, no fuss, start growing a herb garden,” said Kathleen Donovan, who has grown them for food, medicine and gifts for many years. Later, she added, “...If you want to be self-sufficient in the Covid and post-Covid age, you want to save your seeds.”

Starting them from seed “can be tricky because herb seeds are tiny,” but it’s easy from cuttings taken from last year’s plants.

Typically, Donovan said, that should be done “at the end of summer, once the plants are big.” She showed two short

videos — one with Donna Emery, the other with an unnamed male gardener — talking about how to do it. He described the ideal cuttings as being “semi-ripe,” with the base “slightly woody,” coming from healthy but not yet flowering plants. If you get a clean four- to six-inch cut just below a leaf joint, they can be stored in the fridge up to 12 hours before dipping them in an organic gel (Donovan later noted unpasteurized honey or cinnamon work well). They generally root in six to eight weeks, but sometimes take up to four months in a greenhouse, cold frame or under a clear plastic bag, provided they’re not in direct sunlight. When the roots form, they can be potted and/or transferred to the garden, he said.

Emery noted best results require pots with a “lightweight cutting mix” of vermiculite and peat (can make it yourself, but it’s also cheap by the bag). That’s also how she starts from seed, a more complex process. Because “many seeds need light to germinate,” it’s very easy to plant them too deep; all they need is a sprinkling of soil atop them and plenty of water, she said.

They should be started indoors in a warm, well-lit area that’s not in direct sunlight until the shoots come up. When outdoor conditions are good, and the plants are big enough, they can be “hardened” over three or four days in warm shade outdoors, but brought back inside at night.

“Basil is probably the easiest herb to grow,” but “it can’t tolerate any cold” and needs night temperatures above 40 degrees, Emery said. Donovan agreed, describing it as “a finicky annual” that comes in many varieties, but is one of the things she “must do every year.”

“I don’t think it’s summer until I’ve had my caprese salad,” made from tomatoes, mozzarella and basil, she said. It’s also a well-known ingredient

in pesto (garlic, basil and olive oil with or without pine or other nuts) and can become a tea.

Donovan summarized planting issues and uses of several well-known herbs, both annuals and perennials. One of the former is parsley, which is actually a biennial that is a “reasonably sized plant” which dies with frost; that year is best for the leaves. The second year it’s “a parsley tree, almost”; that’s when you get the seeds.

Also popular is cilantro, a parsley relative which is a perennial in areas warmer than New England (planting zone 6A). The plant goes to seed rapidly in heat. She noted the seed (called coriander, which she likes) “doesn’t have the least flavor profile of the leaf” (which she doesn’t). The leaf is a well-known part of Mexican dishes. When ground to powder, the seeds are a key ingredient in India’s garam masala.

Medicinally, chamomile is good to have around. Donovan said she “take[s] it every day and it really cut down my migraines;” it also helps reduce inflammation and can make sleep come more easily. She said she only uses the dried flowers, but other sources note the leaves are also safe.

Dill provides a good example of alternative uses. Besides its leaves and seeds being good for flavoring, oil distilled from them is used in soap, she said.

For perennials, Donovan focused on the large mint family, which are “extremely hardy.” She noted they’re “extremely aggressive at the root, so I suggest you grow it in its own pot.” One mint is lemon balm, which isn’t quite as aggressive but a “very prolific spreader.” ... You never know where it’ll come up.” Like chamomile, it has mild sedative qualities. Several species of mint grow wild in New England.

She also cited sage and oregano — a “hardy perennial, but loses flavor rather

quickly;” when fresh “it’s out of this world.” It also “seems to do a good job on colds,” and other sources note sage has antibiotic traits.

Donovan observed that most perennial herb seeds are “very small,” showing a photo of dozens of them dwarfed by a dime. Herbs generally “don’t have huge roots ... they’re very fragile.” That often makes them hard to transplant, and means they do best in “light and fluffy” soil (“far less than a quarter inch”) rather than denser dirt or pure compost. Likewise, “if you plant [the seed] down too much ... before it pops up, it’s going to run out of steam.”

“It’s good to grow herbs right with your veggies, not only because you get the benefits, but herbs also help repel pests,” she noted. She listed several examples, including dill (repels aphids, squash bugs, cabbage loopers), basil (repels flies and mosquitoes, as do several lemon-scented plants), oregano (“repellent to many pests”) and several mints (repels fleas and squash bugs).

When harvested, most of them can be dried simply by hanging loose bundles of them or laying them flat on a cookie sheet. But the catch is to make sure “they’re bone, bone, bone dry,” because storing them afterward in any container will allow mold to develop otherwise. You can also use a dehydrator on the lowest setting, but that will require frequent checking.

“I grow a lot of things I don’t like [to eat],” Donovan added. “I have to grow things just to see I can do it.”

People can sign up for future gardening forums by going to the websites of the Southbridge, Sturbridge, Charlton, Oxford or Sutton public libraries.

Gus Steeves can be reached at gus.steeves2@gmail.com.

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“One of my favorite things about working at Quaboag is that you can tell the staff is here because they care about the patients. I have also found that my supervisor and administrator are very approachable when I have any concern. There are a lot of places where someone in a supervisor position is not that approachable.” — Nicole F. (CNA)

“I am Definitely glad to be a part of the team as well. I feel like I’m home and everyone has been wonderful.” — Nicole V. (LPN)

“In the time that I have been working at Quaboag I have witnessed the well-being and comfort of the residents as the main priority of the facility. The facility is centered around patient care and is designed in the best interest of the residents.”

— Lynnea T. (CNA)

Old master paintings — and issues of art restitution — the focus of new exhibit at Worcester Art Museum

WORCESTER — This spring, the Worcester Art Museum (WAM) will present an exhibition of works from the collection of Dr. Richard Neumann (1879-1959), a discerning and prolific Austrian businessman of Jewish heritage who was committed to promoting the important role of the arts in civic life—and whose collection of more than 200 paintings and sculptures was confiscated by the Nazis through forced sales or outright theft.

Titled *What the Nazis Stole from Richard Neumann* (and the search to get it back), the exhibition includes 12 Old Master paintings and two sculptures and will trace his and his family's efforts to reclaim these works over the last 70 years. The exhibition opens April 10, and will continue through Jan. 16, 2022, after which the loans will be integrated into WAM's existing Old Master collection galleries, further enhancing the Museum's presentation of such works—and in keeping with Dr. Neumann's lifelong desire to have great art accessible and enjoyed by the public.

Born in Vienna to a well-to-do family of textile manufacturers, Richard Neumann was both president of his family's company—which had mills throughout Austria and Bohemia—and a lover of the arts who earned his Ph.D. at the University of Heidelberg. By the age of 42, he had assembled a grouping of works of such quality that 28 of the pieces were given the status of Viennese "landmarks" in 1921. Among these were the left and right wings of a 16th-century triptych by the Dutch painter Maerten van Heemskerck and two sculptures by Alessandro Algardi and Guiseppe Sammartino. Also included in this exhibition and the loan to WAM are works by Alessandro Magnasco, Giovanni Battista Pittoni the Younger, and Alessandro Longhi.

Following Nazi Germany's annexation of Austria in 1938, Neumann's collection was inventoried in accordance with anti-Jewish laws put in place by the Nazis and most of it was seized through a series of forced sales and the denial of requests for export licenses. Art historian Sophie Lillie documented some 50 of the stolen works in her book "Was einmal war" ("what once was") based on inventories of art works recovered by the "Museum Men" at the end of the second World War. In 1938, Richard Neumann and his wife Alice fled from Vienna to Paris, taking with them some

38 works from their collection. They lived in Paris for a while after the Nazi invasion of France, but in 1942 they managed to escape to the unoccupied zone and eventually to Cuba. At that time, they lost the remaining works of art in their possession.

As a refugee in Cuba during and some years after the end of WWII, Dr. Neumann initially worked as a foreman at a textile factory, while lecturing on art in the evenings to both other escapees and Cuban audiences. Realizing that Cuba lacked a world-class museum, he undertook a major role in the creation of Havana's Palacio de Belles Artes. During this period, he also began an effort to recover his collection but was consistently thwarted by various Austrian museum and cultural officials. In the early 1950s, Dr. Neumann relocated from Havana to New York City to be closer to his daughters. He died in New York in 1959. In the late 1990s, when museums around the world had come to agreements on restituting works of art stolen by the Nazis, his grandchildren resumed the fight for the recovery of his collection. To date, some 16 pieces have been returned to the family, of which 14 are in this exhibition.

"Richard Neumann was clearly a discerning collector with an eye for fine works of art and, at the same time, a connoisseur who believed in the obligation to promote the role of the arts in civic life," said Claire Whitner, the James A. Welu Curator of European Art at the Worcester Art Museum. "While his family's struggle for the restitution of his collection is all too emblematic of the challenges faced by many other Jewish collectors of that period, we are tremendously grateful to his family for their generosity in committing to this long-term loan of these works, which will make it possible for a new generation of audiences to admire them, as well as for us to conduct new research and scholarship."

"My grandfather had a deep love and understanding of timeless fine art, and of its importance to a civilized society," said Tom Sellendorff, grandson of Richard Neumann. "It's been a privilege to work on recovering some of his collection and to pass his passion on to our children and grandchildren."

Recognizing the very personal nature of the works in *What the Nazis Stole from Richard Neumann*, the design of the exhibition will emphasize that the

collection was private property kept in the home, by creating a space that evokes what a family parlor in Vienna of this period might have looked like. A floor-to-ceiling reproduction will be created, made from a photograph of the family's Vienna home. Period-appropriate seating will also be included, so that visitors can view part of the collection from the vantage point they would have had as guests of the Neumann's. There will also be books in this parlor seating area that relate to the topic of Nazi-era provenance and restitution claims, underscoring the challenges that many families have faced since the end of World War II.

Throughout the exhibition, information will be presented that engages art history, historical context—in particular, how these works were seen and presented at the time Neumann lived in Vienna—and the process by which the Neumann family was deprived of these works. Because Neumann wrote extensively on aesthetic theory in European art and art historical trends, the exhibition is an opportunity to explore attitudes towards Old Master paintings from the early 20th century—just as Vienna was becoming a center for modern art. Supporting the exhibition's focus on restitution, and the research required for that process, a couple of paintings will be installed so that visitors can view both the front and back, to illustrate how the backs of frames and backing boards can be used as keys to trace a work's provenance.

"What the Nazis Stole from Richard Neumann (and the search to get it back)" is sponsored by Fallon Health. Additional support has been provided by the Jewish Federation of Central Massachusetts, The Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Clark University, the PEACE Fund, Marlene and David Persky, Carol and Michael Sleeper, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Dean, Dr. Shirley S. Siff, Johanna D. Drooz Yoffie and Alan S. Yoffie, Carol Seager and anonymous donors.

WAM's exhibition builds on an earlier presentation that included two other restituted works from the Neumann collection. In 2010, Martin Johann Schmidt's Saint Florian and Saint Neopomuk—the two outer panels of a triptych by the prolific 18th century artist who was known as the "Kremser Schmidt" after his hometown of Krems—were featured in the exhibi-

tion *The Secret Life of Art: Mysteries of the Museum Revealed* at the Currier Museum of Art in Manchester, N.H. More recently, the large format works (which are not included in WAM's exhibition) were sold to an Austrian museum by Neumann's heirs.

About the Worcester Art Museum
The Worcester Art Museum creates transformative programs and exhibitions, drawing on its exceptional collection of art. Dating from 3,000 BCE to the present, these works provide the foundation for a focus on audience engagement, connecting visitors of all ages and abilities with inspiring art and demonstrating its enduring relevance to daily life. Creative initiatives—including pioneering collaborative programs with local schools, fresh approaches to exhibition design and in-gallery teaching, and a long history of studio class instruction—offer opportunities for diverse audiences to experience art and learn both from and with artists.

Since its founding in 1896, the Worcester Art Museum has assembled a collection of 38,000 objects: from the ancient Near East and Asia, to European and American paintings and sculptures, and continuing with works by contemporary artists from around the world. WAM has a history of making large scale acquisitions, such as its Medieval Chapter House, the Worcester Hunt Mosaic, its 15th-century Spanish ceiling, and the Flemish Last Judgment tapestry. In 2013, the Museum acquired the John Woodman Higgins Armory Collection, comprising two thousand arms and armor objects. It continues to commission and present new works, such as 2019's exhibition *With Child: Otto Dix/Carmen Winant*, which objectively explored pregnancy and birth in works by the German artist Otto Dix (1891-1969), and contemporary American visual artist Carmen Winant (b. 1983).

The Worcester Art Museum, located at 55 Salisbury Street in Worcester, MA, is open Wednesday through Sunday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$18 for adults, \$14 for seniors 65+ and for college students with ID. Admission is free for Museum Members and children ages 0-17. On the first Sunday of each month, admission is free for everyone. Museum parking is free. Admission is by timed ticket only, which must be purchased in advance at worcesterart.org.

Worcester business leaders fund new scholarship at Nichols College

DUDLEY — A new scholarship at Nichols College to benefit transfer students from Quinsigamond Community College has been created through contributions from two long-term Worcester business and community leaders.

R. Joseph Salois, owner and president of Atlas Distributing Inc., and Robert Vaudreuil, retired president and CEO of The Protector Group, have committed to sponsor the Nichols Connect Scholarship, which will assist QCC graduates who pursue a Nichols degree.

"As the scholarship's name implies, this effort will connect our institutions in a meaningful way and enhance our longstanding partnership with QCC through the Affordable Business and Leadership Education initiative," said Bill Boffi, Nichols College vice president for enrollment. "We are grateful to Joe Salois and Bob Vaudreuil for strengthening our bridge to Worcester and extending Nichols' exceptional educational opportunities to its students."

Students enrolled in a minimum of six credits at Nichols are eligible for the Nichols Connect Scholarship. Award amounts will vary based on status as a resident student, undergraduate evening or commuter student, or student in the Affordable Business and Leadership Education initiative.

"From my experience as a non-traditional student, I understand the motivation of students who want to take their education to the next level and the importance of a scholarship that offers them the means to

reach it," said Salois, a 1998 graduate and past trustee of Nichols College.

Vaudreuil, a 1977 graduate of Nichols College and former chair of its Board of Trustees, added, "I see this scholarship as a win for QCC, for Nichols, and for the Worcester business community which will continue to be strengthened by the opportunities and educational resources provided by this partnership."

For more information on the Nichols Connect Scholarship, please call the Nichols College Enrollment Office at 508-213-2038.

About Nichols College
Nichols College is a college of choice

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

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Finance Committee (1 3yr), Trustees of Public Library (2 3yr), Tree
Warden (1 1yr), SEBRD-EB Rep (1 3yr).

Candidate must be resident;

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Minimum 20 signatures of registered voters needed for nomination.
Deadline for returning papers to Board of Registrars is March 23.
Annual Town Election scheduled for May 11, 2021.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4106 or email news@stonebridgepress.com. 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.



PERSON of the WEEK

KEITH AUDETTE, Spencer, MA

Keith Audette is truly one of the best guys. He is always there to help - I know he recently helped a Spencer senior who was in desperate need of some firewood... Her husband was going through chemo - he was there the next day. He helped with the flowers downtown. He has always helped with any parade in town or any town wide function. Anyone needing plowing or towing - he is right there. A few months ago I was in a car accident - a little old man rear ended myself and another car. The poor guy just had his car fixed - had just picked up a trunk load of groceries for his ailing wife...Keith showed up to tow his car - but also drove him home with the groceries (and he lived about 30 minutes away in Oakham).

Thank you Keith for your empathy and compassion and all that you do for our community.

— Submitted by Amy Ekkeberry Parro, Spencer, MA

Person of the Week is sponsored by:

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Country Bank announces virtual Credit for Life program

WORCESTER — Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving central and western Massachusetts, proudly announces it has partnered with eight local banks to transform the Credit for Life program from an on-site event to a virtual event! Credit for Life, a popular financial literacy program, has been offered for more than a decade within many Massachusetts public schools.

With most, if not all, schools adopting a virtual learning model for students, Credit for Life organizers connected last summer to explore a virtual experience in 2021. As part of the virtual transformation, organizers enlisted FitMoney.org, a non-profit financial lit-

eracy organization, to serve as the key fiscal agent, and Stackpole & Partners of Newburyport, for the design and implementation of an interactive website. Contributing partners are Country Bank, Institution for Savings, Cape Cod 5, Bay Coast Bank, HarborOne Bank, The Savings Bank, Rockland Trust, and Westfield Bank.

During the half day online Credit for Life Fair, students will assume the role of a 25-year-old adult and be asked to make financial decisions on how to spend their money.

"The Credit for Life Fair is one of the most important and impactful events we offer every year," stated Jodie Gerulaitis, Vice President of

Community Relations at Country Bank. "We are honored to be able to partner with other local banks to make the fair a reality again for students. The interactive website is a tool that educators and others can use in the current learning environment. Teachers are being asked to do so much right now, this is just one small way we can offer our support."

Development of the Web site is in the final stages; the group is hopeful that the site will be ready for use by high schools towards the end of March. In addition, the partnership group is also in the process of establishing a 501c3 that will allow for the ability to raise funds and plan for future school financial literacy initiatives similar to

creditforlife.org.

For more information, please contact Jodie Gerulaitis, Vice President of Community Relations at 800-322-8233 or jgerulaitis@countrybank.com.

hhAbout Country Bank

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

Cornerstone Bank announces promotion of Maria Salvatore

SOUTHBRIDGE — Cornerstone Bank, a community bank with 12 locations throughout central Massachusetts, recently promoted Maria Salvatore to a new role within executive management. Effective Jan. 1, she was elevated from Senior Vice President, Human Resources (HR) Director to her new role: Senior Vice President, Chief Culture Officer.

A seasoned human resource professional, Salvatore joined

Cornerstone Bank in 2018 after amassing relevant banking and human resources experience from her time spent in comparable leadership roles at financial institutions throughout the Commonwealth. In her previous position at Cornerstone, she was responsible for human resources, training and partnering with management to drive employee engagement. In addition, she negotiated and selected benefits programs and helped to drive company cul-

ture.

As Cornerstone's new Chief Culture Officer, she will build upon the foundation she laid over the past five years, continuing to lead HR functions while overseeing team learning and development opportunities, and facilities and project management activities. In addition, she is responsible for the management of both employee and community relations teams.

Of the promotion, Salvatore shared that, "It is a pleasure to work with a team that embraces positive change. I look forward to embarking on this new journey within an organization that places such an emphasis on both the professional development of its employees and strengthening its ties with members of the community."

A resident of Sutton, Salvatore is a graduate of Rhode Island College and Northeastern University where she received her master's in human resources.

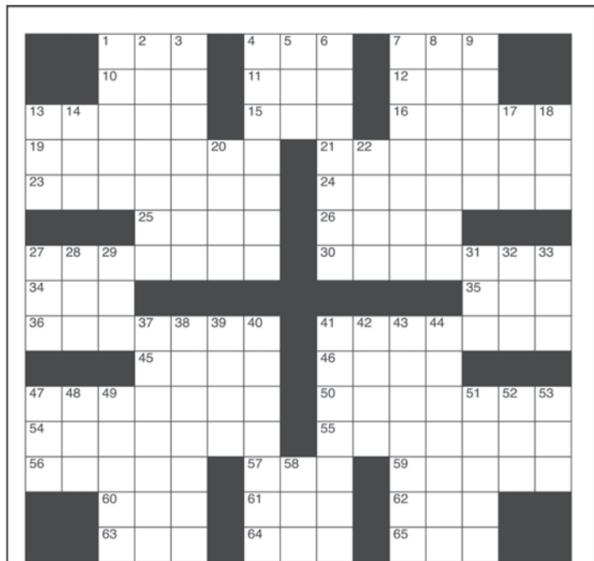
About Cornerstone Bank
Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving residents, businesses and communities throughout Central Massachusetts. Our customer promise, Built on Trust, is not just a brand, but also a corporate focus. Whether a business or personal partnership, Cornerstone Bank rests on the foundation that rela-



Maria Salvatore

tionships are built on trust. Deposits are insured in full by a combination of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund. The Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Equal Housing Lender and SBA

Preferred Lender. To learn about Cornerstone Bank's personal and business banking offerings, please visitcornerstonebank.com or call 800-939-9103.

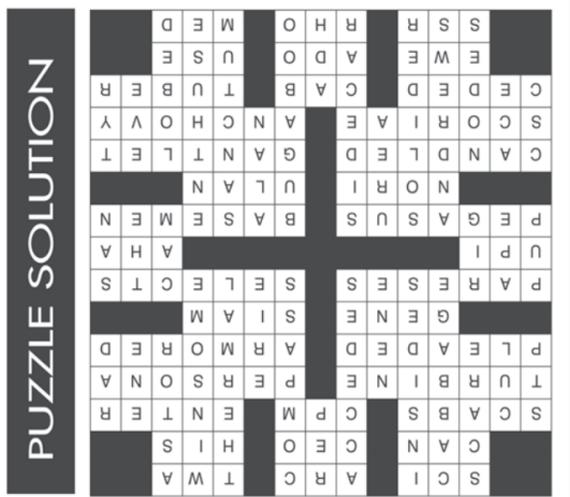


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. __ fi: popular genre
- 4. Curved shape
- 7. Defunct airline
- 10. Beverage receptacle
- 11. Corporate bigwig
- 12. Belong to he
- 13. They cover cuts
- 15. Cost per mille
- 16. Walk into
- 19. Power-producing machine
- 21. Part of one's character perceived by others
- 23. Emotionally appealed to
- 24. Protected
- 25. Wrestling icon Okerlund
- 26. Thailand's former name
- 27. Muscle weaknesses
- 30. Chooses
- 34. American film studio.
- 35. Expression of satisfaction
- 36. Mythical winged horse
- 41. Ballplayers
- 45. Edible seaweed
- 46. Chinese politician
- 47. Tested for fertility
- 50. Glove worn with medieval armor
- 54. Basaltic lavas
- 55. Small shoaling fish
- 56. Surrendered
- 57. Taxi
- 59. Potato part
- 60. Female sheep
- 61. Trouble or difficulty
- 62. Put into service
- 63. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 64. 17th letter of Greek alphabet
- 65. Type of student

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Frighten
- 2. Partner to corned beef
- 3. Parts
- 4. Agrees to a demand
- 5. Elected official
- 6. Navigator's tool
- 7. Relating to heat
- 8. Attractive
- 9. Wealthy US merchant
- 13. Engine additive
- 14. A passage with access only at one end
- 17. Midway between northeast and east
- 18. Cool!
- 20. Brazilian NBAer
- 22. NW Pennsylvania city
- 27. Young dog
- 28. Mimic
- 29. Large truck
- 31. The NFL's Newton
- 32. One and only
- 33. Diego, Francisco, Anselmo
- 37. Julie __, actress
- 38. More nourishing
- 39. Compound
- 40. A small carrier attached to the side of a motorcycle
- 41. Object of fear or alarm
- 42. __ Ladd, actor
- 43. Sacred place
- 44. A way to express enjoyment
- 47. Trigonometric function
- 48. A team's best pitcher
- 49. Intersecting points
- 51. Roundishly shaped
- 52. Adam's partner
- 53. God of battle (Scandinavian)
- 58. Human hormone



MODIG

continued from page A1

lievably rad," Clarkson told Modig after her performance. "I feel like this should have been a four-chair turn."

For Modig, who attended Saint Peter-Marian High School in Worcester before switching to homeschooling and graduating early, it is a joy to pursue her passion on The Voice. And she has her family to thank for helping to spark her journey.

"I think what inspired me the most to audition for the show was my grandmother," Modig said. "She is a super fan of the show, and she loves to watch me perform. I knew it would make her proud."

Modig has many musical influences, and she knew her choice of a Billie Eilish song would provide a great opportunity to showcase her

talents.

"I love Billie Eilish," she said. "I think she is one of the most talented female vocalists, and I love that she is so authentically herself and she is the same age as me. I chose my song because I really relate to the lyrics and the message behind it, as well as the message that Billie portrays."

Modig is currently learning the piano and the ukulele, and she also enjoys tarot card reading. She thanks her family for their constant support of her passion.

"I have been singing for as long as I can remember. My dad has always been very musically inclined, and he is my biggest inspiration," Modig said.

You can follow Modig's journey by checking out upcoming episodes of The Voice on NBC, airing on Mondays at 8 p.m.



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SPENCER ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

BROOKFIELD

\$62,000, 139 Fiskdale Rd, Trifone, Richard J, to Korch, Leonard, and Korch, Megan.

\$62,000, 141 Fiskdale Rd, Trifone, Richard J, to Korch, Leonard, and Korch, Megan.

LEICESTER

\$626,000, 31 Burncoat Ln, Chien, Harrison S, and Perry-Chien, Elizabeth, to Bourque, Kyle S, and Bourque, Patricia A.

\$331,500, 490 Marshall St, Schold Development LLC, to Sulfaro, John B.

\$247,000, 17 Brooks St, Gray, Joseph, and Gray, Emily, to Foley, Daniel, and Briggs, Emily.

\$163,000, 56 Towtaid St, Gonyea, Cecelia R, and Matherly, Katherine J, to Krawczyk, Marek, and Mroz, Marcin.

\$147,000, 288 Pine St, Perry, Thomas E, and Perry, Marguerite H, to Gervais Properties LLC.

\$127,000, 75 Huntoon Memorial Hwy #1-5, Welch, Courtney J, to Huynh, Anh T.

SPENCER

\$340,000, 22 Ash St, Mccaughey, Mariah, to Estras, John K, and Bermudez-Ortiz, Amaris.

\$274,900, 48 Main St, Reno, Krystal M, to Reno, Michael J, and Perez, Francisco.

\$170,000, 8 Marble Rd, Magee Helen E Est, and Parsons, Audrey J, to Phan, Thanh, and Ha, Nghiep.

\$125,000, 54 Grove St, Hackett, Robert F, to Marczewski, Theresa.

WARREN

\$232,000, 68 Shamrock Dr, Abner, April, and Abner, Christopher, to Hines, Shaun P.

\$223,800, 59-A Dean St #1, CBA LLC, to Anderson, Mary L.

\$210,000, 7 Ramsdell St, Melanson, Richard, and Melanson, Nancy, to Round, Norman S.

North Brookfield Savings Bank supports Hearts for Heat with donation and coat, hat & mitten drive

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Thanks to the work of the North Brookfield Chapter of Hearts for Heat and a donation from North Brookfield Savings Bank, many residents didn't have to endure another New England winter without heat. North Brookfield Savings Bank is continuing their support of a vital, longtime community partner, the North Brookfield Chapter of Hearts for Heat.

Not only has North Brookfield Savings Bank recently made their annual \$2,000 matching donation to help North Brookfield residents stay warm during cold winter months, but the Bank also partnered with Hearts for Heat by sponsoring a Hat, Coat & Mitten Drive to benefit the organization. All donations will directly support the North Brookfield Chapter of Hearts for Heat, a community-based, non-profit organization dedicated to confidentially providing payments for fuel; including oil, gas, and wood, to North Brookfield residents on a fixed income, including the elderly, those who are disabled or sick, and unemployed or underemployed individuals and families.

"North Brookfield Hearts for Heat is most grateful for the yearly matching donation of \$2,000; this generous contribution makes a significant difference in our ability to help resi-



Michelle Petraitis of the North Brookfield Chapter of Hearts for Heat with donation items from the North Brookfield Savings Bank Coat, Hat & Mitten Drive.

dents with emergency fuel assistance. Having NBSB pledge to match contributions also creates an extra incentive to residents because their gift will have a greater impact," said Sue Lewandowski, Founder & President of the North Brookfield Chapter of Hearts

for Heat. "Despite the Covid-19 pandemic, citizens and businesses from North Brookfield and surrounding communities have been amazingly charitable. We continue to be most grateful for all of North Brookfield Savings Bank's support."

"North Brookfield Savings Bank is proud to continue our partnership with the Hearts for Heat North Brookfield Chapter and to help our local neighbors to stay warm," said Donna Boulanger, North Brookfield Savings Bank President and CEO. "It is an unfortunate truth that many people struggle to afford their fuel payments, often having to make the difficult choice between heating their homes, feeding their family, or other important needs. Every donation received, no matter what amount, will help local residents of North Brookfield."

North Brookfield Savings Bank is committed to supporting their local communities and knows that just one small act of kindness can extend beyond the initial deed. The "Hat, Coat & Mitten Drive" efforts align with the Bank's established Core Values of "Support Our Communities" and "Share Kindness" and will help bring comfort and peace to local residents. Now more than ever we must support our communities to ensure our citizens are taken care of. North Brookfield Savings Bank is proud to be that partner not just now but for years to come.

For more information about Hearts for Heat or to donate, visit www.HeartsForHeat.org.

Leicester man accused of identity theft

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — A Leicester man is accused by federal investigators of using a stolen identity to fraudulently claim unemployment benefits from the state of Nevada.

William Corder, 26, was arrested on March 5 and charged with one count of wire fraud, as well as one count of aggravated identity theft. Following an initial appearance in federal court in Worcester, Corder was detained pending a hearing set for March 11.

According to documents filed in court, Corder was encountered by police on Aug. 18, 2020, in connection with a domestic violence incident. Police found Corder in possession of 21 prepaid debit cards in 13 different names.

Investigators then determined that on July 17, 2020, Corder had electronically filed a claim with the Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation for unemployment benefits using one of the identities that appeared on the prepaid debit cards. This included the victim's name and Social Security number, officials said.

Corder allegedly listed the prepaid debit card as the account to receive the unemployment benefits. Nevada authorities marked the claim as fraudulent and did not issue the unemployment benefits.

Investigators also allege that Corder's residential address was listed to the prepaid debit card intended to receive

the unemployment benefits. Agents also found documents with the victim's name on Corder's laptop during a search at his residence.

Additionally, investigators' documents detailed that on May 21, 2020, Corder admitted to federal agents that he had fraudulently obtained unemployment benefits from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. That same day, Corder agreed to surrender to federal authorities the balance of \$79,600 in his bank account that were proceeds of his unemployment fraud scheme in Massachusetts, officials said. This occurred before Corder is alleged to have filed the fraudulent unemployment claim with Nevada in July 2020.

The wire fraud charge can carry a sentence of up to 20 years in prison, up to three years of supervised release, and a fine of \$250,000. The charge of aggravated identity theft provides for a mandatory sentence of two years in prison.

Sentences are imposed by a federal district court judge based on the U.S. Sentencing Guidelines and other statutory factors.

The following officials took part in the investigation: Acting United States Attorney Nathaniel Mendell; FBI Special Agent Michael Mikulka; Special Agent Frederick Regan; Leicester Police Chief Kenneth Antanavica; and Marlboro Police Chief David Giorgi.

Assistant U.S. Attorney John Mulcahy, of Attorney Mendell's Worcester branch office, is prosecuting the case.

and expertise," read the Department of Higher Education statement.

The state's COVID-19 restrictions not only created financial havoc for the college, but they also limited students' engagement opportunities over the last year during the virtual education environment. Many students learned of the potential closure of their school while away from their classmates and professors.

"The fact that we cannot gather to support one another makes this incredibly difficult time even more upsetting," read President Crimmin's letter to students. "Please know that I understand that you must be feeling some degree of anxiety and uncertainty about the news I sent out earlier this week regarding the financial status of the College. Trust that I have read each and every email from you and your concerned parents and families."

The college is also in the process of preparing a web page with frequently asked questions. New information will be added to the site as it becomes available.

Kevin O'Neil welcomed into Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society

SPRINGFIELD — Kevin O'Neil, of Brookfield, was among over 80 students from the Western New England University College of Arts & Sciences inducted into Alpha Lambda Delta in a virtual ceremony held on March 5. O'Neil is working toward a BS in Computer Science.

Alpha Lambda Delta recognizes the best and brightest members of the nation's first-year college students. The mission of the Society is to encourage superior academic achievement, to promote intelligent living and a high standard of learning, and to assist students in recognizing and developing meaningful goals in society. Students in Alpha Lambda Delta must have a grade point average of at least 3.5 after their first semester of full-time enrollment.

University President Dr. Robert E. Johnson, Interim Provost Dr. Curt Hamakawa, and Vice President for Student Affairs Kerri Jarzabski joined with the Deans of the College of Arts and Sciences, College of Business, and College of Engineering in awarding certificates to new inductees, who recited the Alpha Lambda Delta pledge:

"I pledge myself to accept membership in Alpha Lambda Delta with the understanding that in doing so I accept the responsibility of maintaining its standards of Service, of Industry and of Integrity. I shall do all in my power to maintain high scholarship throughout my life and to use my education always, for the benefit of the Community, my Nation, and the World in which we live. In this spirit I accept the membership into Alpha Lambda Delta."

Alpha Lambda Delta first-year honor society was founded in 1924 at the University of Illinois and has over 280 chapters in the United States.

Having just celebrated its Centennial, Western New England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Located on an attractive 215-acre suburban campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, Western New England serves 3,690 students, including 2,486 full-time undergraduate students. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs are offered through Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Law.

BECKER

continued from page A1

plan that prioritizes the best interests of students, faculty, and staff."

President Crimmin and her staff expect additional information to be made available soon, whereupon school officials will share a more detailed plan.

"We are aligned with the Department of Higher Education in our shared commitment to address the needs of students and families first, while always mindful of our duty to our campus community and our neighbors," said Becker College Board Chair Christine Cassidy.

The Massachusetts Department of Higher Education is working closely with the college to engage in contingency closure planning. This will ensure that students have opportunities to transfer to other institutions of higher learning, with minimal disruption to their education, officials said.

"We look forward to working in partnership with the College's Board of Trustees, the President, and her leadership team to pursue opportunities where the Department can provide resources

LIBRARY

continued from page A1

throughout the pandemic," said MBLC Director James Lonergan. "These grants continue to support this great work and bring vital programming for everyone in Massachusetts."

The Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners is a state agency that helps organize, develop, and improve library services throughout the Commonwealth. The Board advises municipalities and library trustees on the operations and maintenance of public libraries, including construction and renovation projects.

To learn more about the organization, visit www.mblc.state.ma.us.

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🌿 🌿 🌿 **Friday's Child** 🌿 🌿 🌿

Mariyah
Age 9

Hi! My name is Mariyah and I have a contagious laugh!

Mariyah is a playful girl of African American, Hispanic, and Caucasian descent. Those who know Mariyah best would say she is helpful, bright and very caring. She has strong communication skills and is a great advocate for herself. Mariyah has a wide variety of interests which include arts and crafts projects, dance classes, puzzles, and reading. In school, she is very social and has made quite a few friends.

Mariyah is legally freed for adoption and would do well in a one or two parent family. If there are other children in the home, it is recommended that they are high school aged or older. Mariyah would do best in a home where there is previous parenting experience. The placement should also have a predictable and consistent schedule for Mariyah but also maintain flexibility. Interested families should be open to maintaining visits and contact with Mariyah's birth parents and siblings.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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

Preparations for spring fishing



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

Now is the time to start planning your spring fishing trips, weather it will be saltwater or freshwater. Making sure all of your fishing gear is ready, and what type of bait you will be using, cuts the cost of your fishing trips. Freshwater anglers are finding live bait is becoming very expensive, and there is a way to cut the cost dramatically. Catching shiners only requires a little bit of research to locate a body of water that still has a good population of shiners. Purchasing a small shiner trap at a local bait & tackle shop, will run you around \$12. A piece of light rope will need to be attached to the trap, and a small amount of bread placed into the trap before lowering it into the water.

You should place the trap a foot or two from the bottom of the pond or river, and secure the rope to something solid so that you can easily pull the trap up. After a couple of days, you need to check the trap for any shiners. If the trap is empty, you should find another spot. It may take a few try's before you locate them, but once you do you will have plenty of live bait to fish with. If you can locate a place to store them, you will need to build a small box with wire on all four sides, that you can keep them in. Running water like a brook or small stream is ideal, but you will need to place it out of the way, from other fishermen.

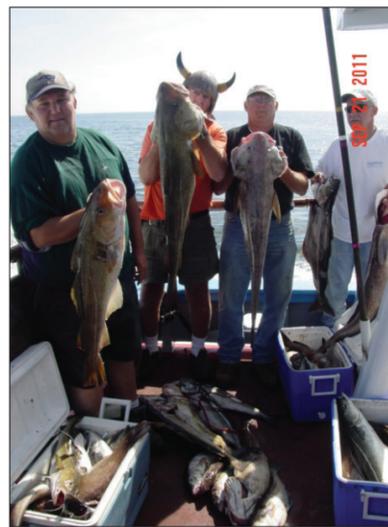
Locating worms and Nightcrawlers is another way to save money. They are easy to catch after a day of rain in the springtime, after the frost leaves the

ground. All that is needed is a small pail and a flashlight. After dark, you need to find a good lawn or golf course to pick your nightcrawlers on. Be sure to ask for permission before going on private property, and be sure to bring the youngsters along. They will have a great time trying to catch them. The trick is not to shine the flashlight directly onto the crawlers or they will quickly retract themselves back into their hole. After picking a couple hundred crawlers, you need to properly store them. A small refrigerator like they use for college is ideal. Locate a couple of Styrofoam boxes that will fit into the refrigerator.

There are many small refrigerators at yard sales that can be purchased cheap. Using a few sheets of damp newspaper on the bottom of the box, you will need to add a few inches of good top soil. Be sure not to get the soil too wet. Place the nightcrawlers on top of the soil and cover them with a piece of an old ragbag, slightly moistened. Set the temperature at 45 degrees, and check them regularly. Adding a few used coffee grounds to the mix works very well.

With trout season starting any day now, many anglers prefer to practice catch & release. Trout need to be handled very carefully if they are going to be released. Try to keep the trout in the water after they have been netted. Anglers that handle the trout that are going to be released, often do not realize that handling them removes the slime coat of the trout leaving them vulnerable to fungus and disease. Saltwater fish like haddock suffer high mortality after being handled and then released. Catch and release of stripers, has fishermen questioning the practice.

Studies have shown a high mortality after releasing big fish. They are often fought and played with until they are exhausted. Reviving the stripers to be released, has proved to still have a high mortality, especially if the angler has a



period of photo shoots before releasing the fish! Allowing anglers to catch and keep a big striper makes more sense than catching and releasing numerous fish which some will die, until he catches and retains his legal striper. It looks as though the same regulations on all species of saltwater fish will remain the same as last year, in Mass. & Rhode Island. Circle hooks may be required for both commercial and recreational anglers fishing for stripers in both Mass. & Rhode Island!

Charter boats are hoping for a good season this year, after strict regulations from last year on limited patrons per trip. Unfortunately, some charter boats went out of business, and will not be reopening. The Clipper Fleet in Salisbury sold their boats and will not return. It had a great family business for many years, and was run by the Grady family, originally from Millville. Many local anglers including this writer, fished many years with Captain Joe Grady. Unfortunately, many of his

patrons decided it was not worth the expense and time to fish, because of the limits placed on legal size fish, and daily bag limits.

Catching numerous limits of haddock which needed to be released because of their size, and a complete shutdown of cod and wolffish left little for anglers to retain for the dinner table. We do have great memories of the good times, as this week's two picture show. First picture shows a huge wolffish taken aboard the Clipper Fleet and the second picture shows some local boys that caught some huge cod aboard the "Challenger" which was also part of the Clipper fleet. Only one cod is allowed in the daily bag limit this year, and the season is short. Haddock limits have been relaxed somewhat and there populations are higher than in previous years.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Local libraries prepare to welcome back patrons

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – As the state continues to reopen in phases, local libraries are preparing to welcome back patrons and programs this spring.

Library officials are in discussion with their respective health boards on the best way to safely return to programming. State leaders are planning to advance to Phase 4 of reopening later this month, which will allow multiple sectors to advance their plans to bring back patrons and programs.

For now, Merrick Public Library in Brookfield is still handling most business through curbside appointments. In-library browsing is limited to one patron or family at a time. Patrons may

call or email to make appointments for curbside pickup and browsing.

"Our other services, such as computer use, photocopying, faxing, and notary service, are also available to schedule," said Merrick Public Library Director Brenda Metterville. "We will continue to monitor the town and state COVID-19 numbers and the vaccination progress as we go forward."

To learn more about Merrick Public Library's updates, call 508-867-6339 or visit www.Merrickpubliclibrary.org.

In Spencer, library officials planned to discuss the reopening process during a board meeting this month. Leicester officials are also hoping to see residents back in the library as soon as possible. "Leicester town buildings are current-

ly closed to the public," said Leicester Public Library Director Suzanne Hall earlier this month. "When they are open, the Trustees will have a plan to open the library for browsing, probably on a limited basis, that is within the state-recommended health and safety guidelines. We miss seeing our patrons in person, and look forward to the day we can go back to business as usual."

Leicester residents seeking more information on the eventual reopening of town buildings can visit www.leicesterma.org.

In North Brookfield, Hoston Free Public Library patrons and staff members can see the light at the end of the long tunnel. The library is currently open for 15 hours per week, but officials

plan to return to regular hours on April 5. This will include Mondays (1-7 p.m.); Tuesdays (10 a.m.-5 p.m.); Wednesdays (9 a.m.-7 p.m.); Thursdays (1-6 p.m.); and Saturdays (9 a.m.-noon).

Meanwhile, the library in North Brookfield continues to offer several virtual programs to keep patrons of all ages engaged. Patrons wishing to request library materials should call 508-867-0208, or send an email to illnb@cwmar.org.

Residents in all area communities are reminded that even after buildings reopen this spring, mask use and social distancing are still urged.

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- Baked Stuffed Chicken Breast with gravy & cranberry sauce (10)
- Roast Stuffed Pork Loin with cranberry apple stuffing and gravy

AND

Choice of one:

- Fresh Mashed Potatoes, Oven Tiny Roasted Potatoes
- Rice Pilaf, Baked AuGratin Potatoes, Ziti & Sauce topped with mozzarella

AND

Choice of one:

- Honey Glazed Carrots,
- Baked Broccoli & Cauliflower AuGratin
- Baked Green Bean Casserole,
- Sweet Corn in a butter sauce

AND

Choice of one:

- Chocolate Cream Pie, Apple Pie, Banana Cream Pie, Blueberry Pie,
- Lemon Meringue Pie

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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 EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Ice safety tips

Naturally, warmer temperatures in the afternoon means the lakes, ponds and rivers will start to melt; however, the cooler mornings could be deceptive as to how thick the ice actually is. More people fall through ice this time of year than in any other.

We wanted to offer some awareness, and a reminder of what to do should you find yourself or anyone else in this unfortunate situation, albeit, completely unavoidable.

First, remember to stay calm. Try not to let the shock of the freezing water take over, it'll take your breath away and is painful, which is frightening. At this time, you will have roughly ten minutes before you get too cold to pull yourself out. Experts say to leave your winter clothes on and let them act as a buoy. These clothes tend to hold onto warm air and can help you float.

Next, turn back toward the direction in which you came and use solid ice to try to pull yourself out. The ice is likely thicker where you were just standing, meaning chances are it is strong enough to hold you while you pull yourself out. If you find that your clothes have trapped too much water, lift yourself up part way and lean on your elbows while the water drains out. You then want to extend your arms flat on the ice and start to shimmy yourself back onto the surface. Remember the two words "kick and pull."

If you do find yourself in a situation where ice could be an issue, carry an ice pick. Avid fishermen have been known to carry screwdrivers or nails on them just in case, as they make for better claws than gloved or bare hands.

Remember to stay flat when you are back on the surface, and don't stand up too soon, as you may cause the ice to crack again. Begin to roll away from the spot where you fell through to keep your weight distributed across the ice.

Once you are in the clear, get into dry clothes and a warm place immediately. Hypothermia kicks in roughly after 30 minutes of being submerged in ice water. Seek medical attention as your body may go into shock as the cold blood from your extremities can reach your heart, causing a heart attack.

If you are with someone who falls through the ice, do not get too close as you may be the next one to fall through. Instead yell instructions to them, on what to do, to get to safety and remain encouraging.

Reaching out to the victim without stepping onto the ice is best if at all possible. Use anything you can such as a pole, ladder or anything else that you can extend to them. If you can't reach the victim this way, try throwing them a rope or anything that you might be able to use to pull them to safety.

If none of the above are options, try to find something to float on so that you can reach the victim yourself. If a floating device is not available, do not walk upright to the victim, try instead to lay flat and roll out to the edge.

Whatever situation you are in, it will require fast action and quick thinking. The best advice is to be prepared with the proper knowledge and equipment if you do plan on spending time on the ice.

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.

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Or e-mail your letters to the editor at news@stonebridgepress.com.

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!

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Become a Town Champion in the fight to end Alzheimer's!

To the Editor:
 The Walk to End Alzheimer's is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. I will be joining people of all ages in the fight against this disease at the Worcester County Walk to End Alzheimer's on Sunday, Oct. 3.

Finding a cure for this disease is personal. I work at a retirement community and have seen the impact of Alzheimer's firsthand. Seeing residents, their spouses, families, and friends struggle to support loved ones who are coping with Alzheimer's has been eye-opening and heart-wrenching.

I am volunteering as a Leicester Town Champion, pledging to bring awareness throughout our communi-

ty while raising funds for the walk. I am looking for folks in Leicester and surrounding towns to join in the fight to find a cure. You can help by becoming a Town Champion to spearhead the efforts in your town, starting your own team, or donating to this worthwhile cause.

Please visit act.alz.org/worcester to start your own team, join a Community team or donate to my Team Begin! If you are interested in becoming a Town Champion or have any questions, please contact me at nkingsburyb@gmail.com or reach out to Catherine Leary at the Alzheimer's Association at caleary@alz.org.

Thank you!

NANCY KINGSBURY BEGIN
 LEICESTER

Thank you to our school staff

To the Editor:
 I am writing to today to simply say thank you. Thank you to the staff of North Brookfield Schools and to the staff of public schools throughout Massachusetts.

Personally, I find it disheartening when the national conversation surrounding public schools focuses so heavily on perceived failures instead of recognizing the tremendous efforts that have been made to continue to connect and educate students. But as a school committee chair, I am truly appreciative of the efforts made this year for the students. Despite the many challenges, public school staff have worked very hard to keep the best interest of our students at the center of their work.

This situation is not easy for any of us, and this is one of the greatest

lessons our students are learning now, to keep trying to learn and to grow, no matter what the circumstance. That "we can do hard things." I am very inspired to see the example set by staff to provide a positive and enthusiastic environment for students by nurturing their natural adaptivity. The good that they have done throughout the past year is something worth acknowledging.

Please remember, to paraphrase Teddy Roosevelt, it is not the critic that counts but those people that are in the arena, who even if they have failed, failed by daring bravely.

Thank you all again.

MARIA TUCKER
 CHAIR
 NORTH BROOKFIELD
 SCHOOL COMMITTEE

A Trumpist accepts climate change!

To the Editor:
 Mr. Robillard, an engineer, just wrote an article welcoming climate change. That's a breakthrough!

My wife is somewhat less enthusiastic, since I took a tick off her last week. I thought those damn things weren't out until later. I think coastal homeowners whose properties will be devalued or destroyed might have an issue, too. Well, at least we have an agreement about climate change although we might disagree as to whether it is a positive development.

Climate change also proves that voting Republican is always a mistake. Texas has had a Republican super majority in its legislature and a Republican governor for decades. A cold snap there crippled their electrical grid for a lengthy period, resulting in dozens of deaths, followed by masses of burst pipes and an extended period without water. Texas purposely did not connect to the national electric grid, since that would mean that they would suffer regulations. Those regulations would have forced them to harden their generators to be able to handle predictable weather situations. Some homeowners got a \$10,000 monthly bill due to the Republican free market design. They are happy burning lots of generator fuel to

run air conditioning in uninsulated housing when it's hot since they like burning oil, as Mr. Robillard also suggests that we should. The Texan crap generators somehow get through the summers, but powerless uninsulated housing is a death sentence when it gets cold. Even poor Ted Cruz had to jet to Cancun to warm up.

Why a cold snap in Texas? Can you spell "Polar Vortex?" That thing getting loose is an effect of climate change.

Jackson, capital of ruby red Mississippi, went for an extended period without water, too. That was cold weather impacting antique architecture; they didn't lose power.

We can recall a recent president who set the stage for 500,000 deaths due to denial, poor leadership, and poor planning.

Republican governance is incompetent.

Still, one Republican person accepting climate change is progress. Now, maybe he will accept that Biden won, fair and square, that approaching three million people have died worldwide of a novel virus, and that maybe he will get vaccinated!

ALLAN JOHANNESSEN
 LEICESTER

In response to Har-Yarok and Bagg

To the Editor:
 Mr. Har-Yarok, why do you insist on being such a bore? If you had actually read my letter, you would have known right off that I have not been elected to any office. I have no constituents to represent in Boston or elsewhere. If you are not quite sure of something, I would suggest you refrain from writing about it. FYI - I am not compelled to answer for anyone. It is, after all, an opinion page, and I simply offered my humble opinion.

Most notably, my answer to the question that seems to upset you the most, regarded misinformation and not information. If my answer "sounded" like another way of "saying," you might want to get your ears checked. I answered the question that was asked, and I stand by that answer. To prove my point, please accept the following:

A collage student majoring in Economics takes a first semester course in Socialism as an economic school of thought. The student takes a second semester course in Capitalism. Both courses were informative - knowledge was obtained through investigation, study and instruction which is pretty much the definition of information. The student has an assignment over the summer to write an essay on which of the two schools of thought is, in

their opinion, the one they wish to live under. Whichever one they pick is based on the facts that were presented in that course. The other, in the eyes of the beholder, is considered to be misinformation based on its accuracy as they perceived it.

To concede is to agree, to yield. President Trump has a strong belief that he did, in fact, win the election, and therefore, his concession would be disingenuous. What you believe, what you can prove is irrelevant. You are not the one that is conceding, and neither is President Trump. If you can't live with that, so be it. I do believe that you are not contributing to the betterment of mankind (or personkind). However, if you think that Spencer and the Brookfields (don't forget Leicester) stand to benefit from anything you write, then you, my friend, are well beyond the pale.

Mr. Bagg, a rhetorical question is one for which the questioner does not expect a direct answer: in many cases, it may be intended to start a discourse, or as a means of displaying the speaker's or author's opinion on a topic. For example, is the Pope Catholic? If your questions are indeed rhetorical, why do you expect an answer? Any question posed to a politician is by its very

Turn To REID page A10

Time for some financial spring cleaning

In just a few days, we will experience the vernal equinox - one of the two times in the year when the sun is exactly above the equator. Apart from this astronomical anomaly, though, the equinox is mostly known as the beginning of spring - a fresh beginning and the time to spruce things up. This year, as you tidy up your home and surroundings, why not also consider some financial spring cleaning?

Here are a few ideas for getting your financial house in order:

"De-clutter" your portfolio. Over the years, many of us tend to pick up duplicate items that find their way into the nooks and crannies of our homes, gathering dust and remaining unused. Over time, your investment portfolio can also accumulate redundancies - that is, you might own



FINANCIAL FOCUS
JEFF BURDICK

several investments that are essentially similar. It might be appropriate to replace some of these and broaden your holdings.

Own your investments purposefully. You own certain things for certain reasons - a broom to sweep the floors, a microwave to heat the food and so on. As an investor, you should be following a goal-based strategy that includes the matching of certain investments with certain objectives. For example, you might own stocks or mutual funds to eventually provide the capital appreciation potential you'll need to retire comfortably. But you might also own other vehicles, such as bonds or other fixed-income investments, to provide you with a source of regular income.

"Dust off" your investment strategy. Over a long winter, your windows can get dirty and grimy, so, when spring arrives, you may want to get out the glass cleaner - and when you're done, you'll be able to see out more clearly. Over time, your investment strategy may get somewhat "dusty," too, especially if you've experienced significant changes in your life, such as a new job, a new child or even a new plan for retirement. By periodically reviewing your investment strategy, you'll be able to clarify your vision for the future.

Protect yourself from hidden dangers. If you poke around your garage, shed or other storage area, you may well find some objects - gardening tools, paint thinners and engine fluids, leaning ladders and so on - that could be dangerous, either because they aren't stored properly or they're hard to see and can cause trips and falls. As part of your spring cleaning, you'd want to get these objects out of harm's way to safeguard yourself and your family. But when you think of your financial situation, are you also exposing yourself and your loved ones to risk? If something were to happen to you, could your family members stay in their home? Could your children still go to college? To help keep their lifestyle intact if you weren't around, you'll need adequate life insurance. And to avoid burdening your grown children with potentially huge expenses should you ever need some type of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay, you may want to talk to a financial advisor about protection strategies.

By taking some spring cleaning measures, you can brighten your living space for the seasons ahead. And by applying some of the same principles to your financial environment, you can help improve the prospects for meeting your important goals.

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COVID relief

To the Editor:
President Biden gave his first prime time address from the Oval Office to announce the passage of the COVID relief bill and the third round of stimulus checks which have likely been deposited in bank accounts across the land by the time of print. The president made reference to the grim toll of American lives lost, 530,000 and counting.

Some have been critical of the government for being too negative with all the things we can't do even if vaccinated. President Biden struck a good balance by highlighting how much devastation there has been, how we must stay vigilant, but also how safe picnics with family and friends by July 4 is within reach, the anniversary of our nation's independence and hopefully our independence from this virus. It is important to highlight how we aren't at the end of this pandemic, but we are near the end if we all keep our eyes on the goal.

A keynote of the president's speech was when he leaned into the camera and said, "I need you." President Biden alone can't end this pandemic; the American people, through our behavior and actions, can end this pandemic. We have an empathetic President, which is especially appreciated after four years of a president who didn't have any empathy and used every utterance, speech, campaign rally, briefing, press release, and

tweet about himself. We now have a president who is giving hope and addressing the pain and frustration all Americans have felt for the past year. Finally, we have a President who uses the word "we" more than "I."

The country, and the world, has changed in this year of pandemic. The historians will note that the Asian countries succeeded and the Western countries failed. The 19th century was very European focused, the 20th century was the American century, and we have been told that the 21st century will be the Asian century, and this pandemic was a turning point. Here in the U.S., we've lost faith in each other. We're a less united country. We've lost so many lives and we stand to lose so many more. Our collective mental health has been affected with stress, anxiety, loneliness, and boredom.

The Republicans are calling the recently passed American Rescue Plan as the worst bill they've ever seen and when asked about the overwhelming bipartisan support with the American people explain that is because the American people don't understand the bill. The Republicans are right that when you throw \$2 trillion onto a hot economy with borrowed money, you run the risk of inflation and excessive government debt. That being said, it is clear that the economy for the last 20 years has not been

Turn To **ROSENBERG** page **A10**

State of the Union under Biden

It's been two months in, and isn't the US under the Democrats wonderful. Let's look at what they have accomplished so far:

President Biden has shown the world how a leader needs to act, dazed and confused. So far, he makes Trump look like a member of Mensa while he looks to suffer from dementia. I mean, let's be real. The White House now is an elder care facility for this guy. He cannot function without the assistance of his caregiver, Jill. He cannot function solo. My wife suffered from Alzheimer's and had dementia, so I know how it affects the function of a person. You can tell by the way his eyes look and how he walks that he clearly suffers from this. It was hidden from the public by the liberal news under the Covid charade. How in the world is he expected to meet privately with world leaders? He cannot even field questions from the reporters. You can clearly see why no State of the Union is possible. The world would see the state of the Biden. We all know under the cover of Covid, they will make it a remote telecast. The people pulling the strings of this puppet are sinking this country into long term debt to fund their takeover. Have fun you liberals who voted for him and are on a fixed income. If you keep on printing money and giving it out, there is only one thing that's for sure is going to

happen, inflation. People who saved for retirement and those on fixed incomes will see their hard-earned monies go down the drain. You can bet our state Democrats will vote themselves huge raises when needed though. The only one to blame are those who voted for the crooked Democrats that seem to perpetuate in our state house. The only way they leave is when the FBI takes them out for accepting bribes.

Elsewhere, we see that the Floyd family got 27 million from the city. So, a drugged guy goes into a store with bogus check and harasses/threatens the store owner. The store owner calls for help and the cops come. In an effort to subdue this criminal, the cop invertedly kills him. Who is the person that precipitated the whole situation? The news makes it seem like the cop was racist and riding around to kill a black man. So, I guess the moral of the story is instead of buying scratch tickets, get drugged up and start trouble. Maybe you'll be able to sue the cops and city if things go bad. We can already see what this is spawning. A police officer shot in the face by a shoplifter at a JC Penney in Omaha. The lowlife crooks of color know now that crime, in fact, does pay. Rob and steal. If you get caught, fight the cop. If you get hurt, you can sue for racism. Who is the cop that gets shot

Turn To **ROBILLARD** page **A10**

I want it all

To the Editor:
While meditating on my letter for the coming week, a title was proving elusive, when suddenly, my wife's Queen CD blared "I want it all and I want it now." I have reflected upon our society becoming expectant of instant gratification, and do confess that I find being able to pull a smart phone out, and google anything I might want to know or recall instantly, has made the concept of Dick Tracy's wrist radio, not only science fiction, but old hat.

In addition to the instant gratification, we are now encroaching on high percentile prediction of outcomes. We examine all aspects of performance of horses and athletes, and handicap probable outcomes.

Who would think Trump could get, not only more votes than he got in 2016, but more than any presidential candidate had ever gotten, and still lose? I am one of the over 80 million who thought that, and did more than just think about it. There was the obvious challenge of holding an election in the middle of a world pandemic. Many states addressed that challenge by expansion of access and voting opportunity. Considering that more votes were cast than ever before, I would say it was a resounding success. It is the loser's position, that so many citizens voting, and particularly against him, could only be fraud.

Setting aside the blatant lie that Covid would soon magically go away, that the only valid votes were election day in person votes, and that voting machines were altering votes, his major downfall was that name calling and lying, were defeated by his actual performance.

After the failed attempt by Trump and his operatives (our own Mr. McRae) to claim that Antifa and BLM were present at the Jan. 6 Capitol invasion, not only did Kevin McCarthy tell Trump they weren't (why would they want to stop count of election they won), this week Senator Johnson said he felt safe knowing they were not there among the patriots (whom we are arresting and prosecuting ASAP).

Assuming that the Don is not in jail in four years (and that is a big if), the cult seems largely intact. Having realized that gerrymandering alone may not be sufficient, the solid South is re-inventing Jim Crow type legislation in hopes of stopping "those people" from voting. There are said to be 243 bills in 43 states, with that goal in mind. The think they are founding fathers.

Founding fathers, were wealthy white, largely slave owning men, who did not want "those people" in charge, but wanted to give the impression of a largesse, that was mostly fictional. I want it all and I want it now, was their theme. Forget women and slaves voting (although they did work out a two-vote owner proxy for ever five male slaves of voting age), if you were not a property owner, no vote. Your monetary worth controlled which offices you might aspire to run for (in fairness, the golden rule was applied-) he who had the gold, made the rules, and with no IRS- paid the bills.

This is essentially the meritocracy we are seeing at play, as those red state legislators, feeling entitled to both make the rules and manipulate the results, and fearing the merits of their positions, are not enough to win the day, are also deciding who can weigh in.

On a lighter note, a few reflections on last publication. I wonder if Brother Kane was as amused as I, where the titles of our letters ran together. My Ignorance was Bliss, now read "Durant & Berthiaume can answer for ignorance was bliss themselves." Brother Blais has referenced the term adonai. While I am only a 13th generation New

England wasp, I have worked with and for Jewish people many years. Over that time I have occasioned to attend many Mitzvahs where the Tora (Old Testament in Hebrew) was read. I remember hearing adonai several times, and am pretty sure it was not in reference to Jesus, who was not mentioned until the New Testament was accepted in Rome. Brother Robillard has some interesting theories in his concluding that we are helping the planet by burning up fossil fuels. Since mankind has only been helping for a couple hundred years, one can only wonder how the planet thrived in prior times.

It is a documented fact that, while melting ice may promote plankton, it will both reshape shorelines and the warming oceans will promote radical weather change and increase global warming.

While we New Englanders may eschew so many less ice fishing days, and building snow forts on Easter, I am thinking the strings of 120 and 130 degree days in Arizona and Texas, will be less appreciated. The severity of weather events seems to be on the rise.

Turn To **KIMBALL** page **A11**

Starting to miss the former president

To the Editor:
I have to say, I miss former President Trump. Politics and news have become noticeably more boring since the former president was muzzled and an appropriate person won the presidency.

I like to be entertained by my politics, and for many years, it just kept getting better and better. Every cycle, I said it couldn't get any better, and then it did, and I was so wrong. The circus around Barack Obama running for office in 2008, winning by a landslide and the multi-year debacle over his birth certificate was unprecedented and unlikely to be topped. Then, of course, the TEA Party to emerged and in his first term the Republicans controlled House of Representatives hold the full faith and credit of the United States over his head to extract concessions before they paid for appropriations the same congress passed. That wasn't it though, it kept getting better...

The 2012 election was its own circus with Newt Gingrich suggesting we colonize the moon and make it a state, Rick Santorum deriding Democrats for brainwashing working class kids by trying to make higher education more affordable and ending with Mitt Romney trying to connect with the

working class. Seeing Mitt Romney defend "Romneycare" while deriding "Obamacare" was the best. Of course, we then lurched into the Trump era which just elevated entertainment politics to a whole new level and it never came down... Until now.

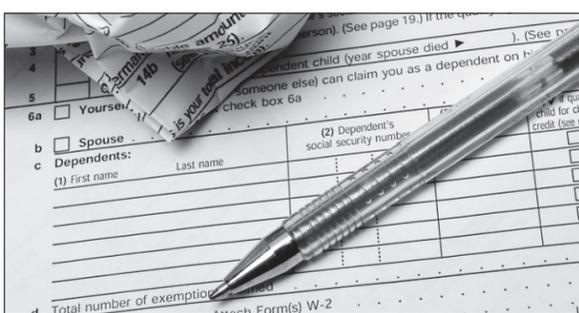
Good thing we have Mr. Robillard to keep us all chuckling. I'm not sure if he believes climate change is good or if he's trolling me, but let's go. I honestly can't believe any engineer, never-mind any college graduate could actually think such a thing. If there was ever Neanderthal thinking, this is it.

The first stop in justifying the continued rape of our planet was to deny climate change was occurring, however 29,000 weather stations including 6,000 weather stations at airports around the globe collecting data continuously for decades is hard to deny... The second step is to say "we can observe it's changing, but change is natural, the climate is always changing" and ignore the fact that we are seeing the climate change at 20x faster than at any point in the fossil evidence. Furthermore, burning fossil fuels releases CO2, we have measured CO2 in the atmosphere

Turn To **HAR-YAROK** page **A11**

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ROSENBERG

continued from page A9

way it used to. It's not working for young adults; our society is bifurcating, and more and more people are being thrown out of the middle class. One way to address that is pumping money into the economy to make a white hot labor market, another way is to make parenting affordable with a child tax credit, and another way is expanding health insurance subsidies. Finally, policy is catching up with the problems our people address.

working for people t h e

As we look at debt incurred by modern American presidents, it's easy to start with Ronald Reagan who increased the national debt by 186 percent, the most for a president not embroiled in a literal world war, caused by tax cuts to the wealthy. When Bill Clinton left office, the United States had a national debt of \$5.6 trillion, and he left office with a budget surplus. George W. Bush increased the debt by 101 percent, doubling it to over \$11 trillion, and he left office with the nation at war, in recession, unemployment rates not seen in a generation, and with large budget deficits (primarily caused by tax

cuts to the wealthy). During Barack Obama's term, the economy recovered, but the debt increased by 74 percent to \$19 trillion. Not to be outdone, Donald Trump inherited a strong economy with low unemployment, and in a single four-year term, increased the debt by \$7.8 trillion with a tax cut to the wealthy and finished his single term in the throes of a pandemic unseen in a century.

Biden's stimulus bill is big, but when the debt is already \$28 trillion and unemployment high, what's \$2 trillion among friends? It's about time a Democratic President went big and went bold, as opposed to cleaning up the mess of his Republican predecessor.

Zero Republicans voted for the American Rescue Plan, but interestingly, 60 percent of Republican voters when polled favored it. We are seeing a growing chasm between Republicans elected to public office and the people who sent them to represent their interests. We are seeing Republican leaders seeming to care more about Dr. Suess and the cultural elements they don't like but it isn't clear what Republicans are actually

for anymore.

So far in President Biden's term, there has not been any bipartisanship; the Republicans seem to have a whole new set of concerns that have been dormant for four years. Bills on all sorts of issues such as infrastructure, immigration, voting rights, etc. are likely to have more than 50 votes but less than 60 votes bringing the filibuster back into the lime light. Hopefully the Republican Senators will have their feet to the fire from the voters where people ask, "if the majority of us are for this, why can't it pass?" Sen. Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia) has suggested transitioning the filibuster back to a speaking requirement which I think would be great. If it is important enough for a minority to block a vote, then it's important enough to make a fool of yourself on television until you literally collapse.

DAVID ROSENBERG
SPENCER

ROBILLARD

continued from page A9

in the face going to sue? You won't see lawyers from the ACLU looking out for his rights by going after the Democrats and BLM for inciting these lowlives. In fact, city where the cop works will probably fire him. The cities and courts have to side with the crooks. If they don't BLM will burn the city or court house down with impunity. If they try to stop BLM, they will be labeled racists by the media. Heaven forbid that "social equality" fuels the power that these Democratic liberals wanted and dreamed about. Were all equal when we have nothing.

Down south on the border, it's not a crisis. It's now a free for all. His administration is doing exactly what all the Dems said during the debates. Remember when he looked lost and raised his hand on if he would open the borders. Well, that's what he gave you. Open borders with everyone rushing to get here. CNN interviewed one lady. She says her home was destroyed by a hurricane in Honduras. She heard that the Biden was in and he will give you a free house and money to come here. Is he going to give your kids a free house and money too?

The payoffs continue with the latest stimulus bill. Give everyone \$1,400 while pushing their racist agenda. The bill has millions of your money being given, free money, to black and Hispanic farmers. I guess if you're white, you're privileged. I guess the Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, where the gov-

ernment cannot discriminate against you based on your color, doesn't apply to white people. I guess white isn't considered a "color." Meanwhile, you can spend your \$1,400 on the nearly \$1 increases in gas prices. Expect it to be \$4 a gallon easy by spring. Thank your neighbors who voted for Biden. It's all part of the building back better lie.

The rioting continues in Portland. Why wouldn't it? If you riot, destroy, and fight police with impunity, it becomes a social activity for the young losers. What do you want to do tonight? Let's put on our outfits and hurl stuff at cops. Let's go see if we can smash and grab some stuff. If CNN is there, we can become famous. Biden and his cronies continue to go after the capital rioters even though they destroyed hardly anything. Imagine if Trump had let BLM and Antifa breach the Whitehouse! He could have called out the army and taken military control of the country. But you see that's not the way of an American leader like Trump. He and his followers love America. He respects our institutions and our way of life. You work hard and contribute, you get ahead. We see clearly that Biden and Pelosi for what they are, Radical Socialist intent on changing our form of government. And the easiest way there is to pander to the lazy, the weak minded, and the parasites that suck off the life blood of hard-working Americans. The State of The Union under Biden, bad and sinking fast.

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

REID

continued from page A8

nature a political question. Also, in the words of the fictitious Col. Nathan R. Jessup, USMC, "...I really don't give a damn what you think you deserve."

I find your answers interesting which is a polite way of saying weird. The Cincinnati Reds became the 1919 World Series Champs, but did they win or did the Chicago Black Socks fix the games? I heard a long time ago the phrase "vote early and vote often." I cannot address what goes on in every election in every state so I won't and neither should you. You didn't ask about President Trump's post-election behavior, but rather only his incitement of insurrection from Nov. 8 through Jan. 20. The question may or may not be tricky, but it is certainly not succinct. - You may have wanted to place "from Nov. 8 through Jan. 20" at the beginning of the question instead of at the end. An impeachment trial is not a legal process, but rather a political one. The vote is either guilty or not guilty. If the 17 Republicans voted yes, then he would have been found guilty, and I would accept that. Don't forget that in a

legal trial, you need 100 percent of jurors to convict, not 67 percent. He was found not guilty, and therefore was acquitted of the charge. Overwhelming was not part of the question, and the 100 you referred to were inside the Capitol. The majority of rioters that were outside the Capital have not been identified. Nothing has been corroborated and you were not there to add any proof as to who did or did not participate. You have opinions and you are welcome to them. However, if you think that 200 or so knuckleheads threatened our country, our democracy and the rule of law than you are beyond the same pale as your co-worker. And finally, there cannot be any ambiguity of silence to a rhetorical question - you seem to be the only one confused.

Please know that I feel bad about your alias. Of the Faux Four men, it seems that Omar got the sexy name and you got stuck holding the bag. I'm very close to identifying your real names. My suspicions may have been confirmed last week through your leader's unambiguous silence.

JIM REID
SPENCER



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HAR-YAROK

continued from page A9

double since the industrial revolution to levels the planet hasn't seen in 15 million years, and we have confirmed in lab tests that CO2 is a greenhouse gas which contributes to warming... Climate change is happening and it is intellectually bankrupt to deny that human activity is the cause.

Why is man-made climate change worse than natural? It is devastating because of the speed. The temperature rise we expect in the next 100 years (two to six degrees Celsius) the planet has not seen happen faster than over 5,000 years, and even that was a mass extinction event. If we consider that an average human generation length is 25 years, we are looking at four generations instead of 200. If we consider smaller plants and animals that have a two-year generation length we are looking at only 125 generations to adapt instead of 2,500. Evolution can only go so fast - in 5,000 years life can adapt to new conditions because each generation has indiscernibly different conditions than the last. With our current excessive rate of change where our own memories tell us the climate used to be different, it leads to species dying off.

Perhaps species will move towards the poles if they can physically move fast enough, plant life might not be able to move fast enough. We are likely to create a giant band around the equator where almost nothing grows because the climate is too inhospitable to any species which currently exists. There is also the chance that crops such as coffee won't be able to grow anywhere but in a lab because they can't grow when it's too hot, they need consistent temperatures year-round, and they need equal cycles of day and night - i.e.: tropical highlands. Packing up and heading north (or south) for species will create seasonal swings they might not be able to handle and diurnal sunlight changes.

What will be the effect of these changes? Desertification of tropical areas now inhospitable to any species, species all moving towards the poles and displacing other species as fast as they can, some species being left without a suitable climate at all, and rainfall pattern changes? Who knows. I sure don't. Mr. Robillard doesn't have a clue either. The likely scenario is mass extinctions, and a refugee crisis like the world has never seen as tropical areas can't grow food anymore.

Mr. Robillard has now graduated from "it's natural" to "climate change is good." Wow. Aside from the climate becoming inhospitable, let's just talk about sea level. If the polar ice caps melt, that water goes into the ocean. Sea level has risen eight inches since the 1800's and at the rate we're going they will rise another 6' in the next 100 years. Forty percent of the U.S. population lives in coastal areas. Nuisance coastal flooding has already increased five times in the last 50 years. Whole island countries are expected to be under water and no longer exist in the next century. If we kept going and melted all the ice, sea levels would rise 181 feet, putting entire cities like Boston, New York, all of Florida, etc. at the bottom of the ocean.

None of us will be alive in 100 years,

so who cares? We can build sea walls, right? Not really... The higher base sea level increases the chances exponentially that a storm will breach the sea wall and it is likely that we will coastal areas not get re-built one "big flood" at a time.

But wait, there's more... More energy in the ocean and more area of ocean will disrupt the thermohaline circulation in ways we don't fully understand, but we do know that the Atlantic circulation has weakened by 20 percent in the last 200 years. This will have an unknown and probably bad effect on the climate. More energy in the oceans will lead to stronger hurricanes, typhoons, and other storms and this has already been observed.

Will it be all bad? No, of course not. Surely some species will thrive in Arctic oceans and there will be an unintended benefit to some unimportant species while we destroy the planet for the rest.

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? Since the earth is a closed system, do you not see the potential problem? What's God's plan after we've burned all the oil, the sea has swallowed up our most valuable land, the earth is hotter, and there is an inhospitable band around the equator? Solar panels and windmills then?

Mr. McRae seems to be very upset about a situation at Smith College which doesn't affect him or anybody he knows. It is a bizarre situation and started in 2018 making me wonder which conservative talk radio host took it up last week and why Mr. McRae wasn't outraged before. From what I've read in the media the accusation of racism from Oumou Kanoute (the student) does seem ridiculous but why this is a national issue is really puzzling.

The "penalty" for an employee being accused of racism by a student of color was to be put on paid administrative leave while they looked into it, the accusation was dismissed, and then the college decided they would require that the entire staff take racial sensitivity training at work while on the clock. An extended paid vacation and then being paid, as part of your job, to learn about the history of racism and examples of implicit bias doesn't sound that bad... Honestly, it sounds better than emptying trash cans for custodial staff. Smith College issued no disciplinary action to the accused employees.

Smith College is a private institution, and I would think Republicans/conservatives would think it is their business and their business alone how they handle personnel issues. If their customers didn't like it, they would stop enrolling their daughters there. It seems like private enterprise and capitalism should make this of no concern to anyone not affiliated with Smith College, but in 2021 it seems that nothing is safe, not even free enterprise, from culture warriors.

It is possible Oumou Kanoute didn't lie or conspire to ruin the life of a white working class American and honestly thought she was being singled out for

not looking like she belonged. Not all misunderstandings are indicative of malice.

What strikes me as amazing is that Mr. McRae seems to want consequences for the woman who accused the staff members of racism. What exactly does he want done? He seems to want the modern equivalent of stringing up a black woman for daring to make an accusation of racism. Why is he so concerned about Ms. Kanoute's country of birth, its religious demographics, or ongoing social problems? Is 21-year-old Oumou Kanoute responsible for anything in Mali?

What's clearly going on here is Mr. McRae is angry that Oumou Kanoute was ever able to immigrate to the United States. He is angry that a black accusing a white of easily misinterpreted wrongdoing was ever entertained or that it was looked into. He is angry that respectable organizations hold racial sensitivity training. He feels that even teaching about racism or helping white Christians view the world for someone else's shoes is anti-white bigotry. He is angry that people still respect academia. He is angry that public schools teach about how Europeans stole this land from the Native Americans, treated African-Americans poorly, committed war crimes, and he's angry children now learn other embarrassing warts of American history. For all of his

KIMBALL

continued from page A9

I do confess to being a tree hugger, but am not an advocate of jumping into the "Green New Deal" as presented. I am more aligned with what I think a Teddy Roosevelt might have embraced. I think it would more closely resemble conservation, than complete infrastructure re design. I will call my plan the "Green New Common Sense." It starts with melting ice caps, rising sea and air temperatures, and cheaper fuels, not being good things- it is less is more plan. Two dollar gas that enables even normal folks to hop in their 10 MPG pickup to go to the mailbox or pickup a gallon of milk, or risking our environment to Canada can pump sludge across our country, that they would never allow in theirs, only so the whole world can appreciate cheaper fossil fuels, defeats any logic.

I own a Chrysler van with fold flat seats. It gets 18 mpg, and I use it when I need the 8 seats, or as a truck, maybe even to go to the dump a mile away. When we went to Boston for my vaccine shot, we took our four cylinder sedan and got 44 MPG. Like brother Robillard, I find myself baffled that the Chev Volt, which can run on gas when battery discharged, has been discontinued. Even with AAA, I think a dead giant battery would be more than inconvenient. Even if it had a solar charger on the roof, I might want to drive at night. For my money, hybrids make more sense-even if pickups (I have kind of had my eye on the Pacifica Hybrids). The bottom line being use

anti-China rhetoric Mr. McRae seems to like how China runs their educational and legal systems so long as White Christian Americans are the infallible and glorious.

COVID-19 continues to wane ever so slowly, but the risks continue to be present for another surge. The UK variant has continued growing exponentially and now represents 40 percent of cases in the United States. In Europe surges were observed when the variant crossed the 50 percent threshold.

We are sitting at 29.4 million confirmed infections, only 400,000 newly diagnosed and very sick people compared to last week would be terrible if we hadn't seen it so much worse earlier this year. We have seen 534,673 Americans die of this disease - only 10,354 since last week! It hasn't been since November when the weekly death-toll was only three 9/11's!

The vaccinations are rolling out in a haphazard par-for-the-course kind of way and it is a race to get people vaccinated before we see the next surge. My money is on one more mini-surge, followed by a pathetically high "background" level of illness and death in our society.

OMAR HAR-YAROK
EAST BROOKFIELD

less fuel.

One of the issues that accompanies discussion about electricity, is how is it generated. Burning coal or other fossil fuels to charge anything is not only redundant, but likely very inefficient at outcome generated. Even as we look at solar generation panels at home, what would the impact be of tax credits and jobs, that insulate, improve heating, cooling and appliance efficiencies, as opposed to creating both glut generation, and expending precious metal and other resources to achieve it?

My common sense question being, what smart thing would you do if gas were \$5 a gallon and that equivalent translated to all of your energy usage? Nuclear might be the immediate cleanest answer, if we were any good at it, but failure to adequately plan safeguards from natural disasters or to at least remove spent fuel rods to safe locations, proves we still can't fix stupid, and these kinds of mistakes have consequences. Do we really know what might still be leaching into the Pacific Ocean from Japan?

Follow the money. don't believe everything you are told, no matter the source. Don't blame every problem on others, the other party, radical organizations and thinkers. In this country, more than any other, it is we the people who must ensure that our voices and will be heard, and we want it all, and want it now culture, must change or perish.

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD



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Expand your planting space



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

When your plant list is longer than the available gardening space it is time to expand your planting options. Create new gardening space by adding raised bed gardens, elevated planters, and containers wherever space allows.

Convert the end of the drive or edge of the patio into raised bed gardens. Just use a raised bed liner to contain the soil. Raising the garden makes planting, maintaining and harvesting easier on the back and knees. It also allows you to create the perfect soil foundation by filling your raised bed with a quality planting mix.

Long lasting cedar is a traditional choice for raised beds. Now you can also find them made of a wood and plastic composite or metal and in a variety of shapes and sizes. Finding one to complement your gardening style and space is much easier these days.

Reduce time spent watering with a self-watering metal raised bed (gardeners.com) or similar product. Self-watering raised beds have built-in water

reservoirs to extend the time between watering. Or use a raised bed drip or soaker hose irrigation system to easily apply water right to the soil where it is needed.

Elevated gardens are just containers on legs. They are perfect for patios, balconies and other hard surfaces. Use them to define space, create privacy and of course grow ornamental and edible plants. Those on wheels can easily be moved out of the way when guests arrive. Or wheel them into the gathering, so everyone can harvest and dress up their meals with garden-fresh herbs and veggies.

Just pull up a chair and start planting or weeding your elevated garden. Grow vines in those with built-in trellises and extend the season by protecting plantings with frost and insect covers. Select elevated planters with a shelf below to conveniently store gardening tools and accessories.

Even small space gardeners can expand their planting space with the help of containers. You'll find plenty of attractive options to fit your front steps, patio, balcony or deck.

Railing planters and window boxes don't take up floor space yet dress up any outdoor area. Grow herbs in planters located near the kitchen and flowers wherever additional color is needed. Add a few pollinator-friendly plants to attract butterflies and hummingbirds to watch and enjoy.

Extend your time outdoors with outdoor lighting. Or look for multi-functional options like solar illuminated planters. Powered by the sun and with a flip of a switch, you can choose a single or multi-changing light color display.

Don't let the thought of frequent watering stop you from growing in containers and elevated gardens. Self-watering options are available in a variety of shapes and sizes including the classic, yet curvy self-watering Valencia window box.

Once you select your raised bed, elevated garden, or container, you will need to fill it with a planting or potting mix. Figure out exactly how much is needed with a soil calculator. Just plug the size and shape into the form. It tells you how many cubic yards or cubic feet of soil are needed for raised beds and the number of quarts for containers and elevated gardens.

Expanding the garden doesn't have to mean a lot more work. Selecting the right option that provides convenience and ease of care can help you grow more flowers and garden-fresh produce this season.

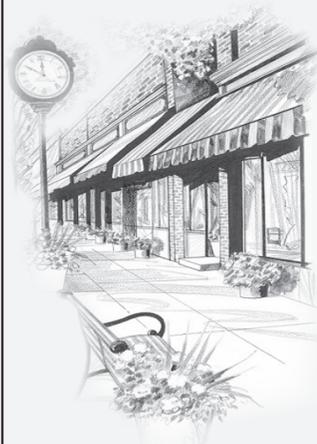


Photo Courtesy - Gardeners Supply Company

Some raised beds have built-in water reservoirs to extend the time between watering.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is

a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by Gardeners Supply for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.





Community Connection

Your area guide to local businesses!

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Blooming Signs of Spring: Part II



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

Last week's column reviewed two flowering signs of spring: Forsythia and Pussywillows. Expanding on that theme, this column with highlight two more favorites, crocus and my all-time favorite - lilacs! Read on for more on these nostalgic favorites:

Crocus
Crocus, dubbed "the little princess of the garden," has a long heritage in New England, as the favored flower is among the first to be brought to North America by settlers. Popping up in gardens in mid-March, the sight of crocus bulbs are cause for celebration by winter weary Easterners. In fact, the crocus has been known to bloom while snow is still on the ground, offering a visual promise of the upcoming season. The humble flowers, boasting an array of hues from pale yellow to deep purple, open their cup shaped blooms fully only on sunny days. Perhaps

the popularity of the humble flower is attributed to its easy going nature. Requiring only a light alkaline soil and plenty of sunlight, and it will reward the eye with many colorful, low growing flowers that multiply each spring.

Crocus in Mythology: The crocus famously appears in a legendary Greek tragedy of Crocus (Krocus) and Smilax. According to the legend a young mortal named Crocus headed into the Athens forest in pursuit of the nymph Smilax. Catching her attention, Smilax is smitten but only briefly, by the handsome Crocus. Soon she becomes bored and spawns his amorous advances. When crocus persists in pursuing the beauty against her wishes, the gods transforms him into a saffron Crocus flower, its orange stigmas symbolizing his undying passion for her.

Planting Crocus: Spring crocus bulbs are best planted in the fall when the soil is below 60 degrees, but well before the first hard frost. Plant pointy side up about four inches apart. For the best visual affect plant in clumps of about a dozen bulbs. Water well and cover with a few inches of mulch for cold weather insulation. Since moles and

mice are also attracted to crocus, those who have such pests in the garden are advised to plant in buried wire cages or other devices designed to repel the hungry critters.

Lilacs
Fragrant clusters of lilacs adorned colonial yards and gardens of early America. Lilacs were grown both for their beauty and their medicinal properties. In fact, in the late 18th century, both Thomas Jefferson and George Washington wrote about their lilac plants. The species is so hardy that early lilac bushes, in a testament of survival, have continued to thrive in colonial homesteads, long after the homes were abandoned or destroyed. Lilacs have been known to survive hundreds of years, making them a true heirloom flower. The Governor Wentworth Estate in Portsmouth, NH boasts the oldest surviving lilac bushes, said to have been planted circa 1750. While there are many strains of the flower, the most nostalgic is the common lavender hued lilac (Syringa Vulgaris), which was brought to America in the mid 1700s from eastern Europe.

Lilac Legends: Legend has it lilac drives away evil wher-

ever it is planted or strewn. It is said that lilac bushes were planted on the homestead by colonists in an effort to protect the inhabitants from bad forces.

Immigrants from Europe brought tales of lilac folklore from the "old country" to America, including the belief that finding a white lilac blossom with five petals is a sign good fortune would follow. Meanwhile, in certain sections of England it was considered bad luck to bring blooming Lilacs into the house and all white Lilacs were especially banned from display inside the home.

Growing Lilacs: New England is the perfect climate to grow lilacs, as it is very cold hardy, requiring a frost to prompt bud blooming. For optimum blooms, a lilac bush should be planted in areas that receive full sun (at least six hours per day). Lilacs like a slightly alkaline soil. Spread roots out vertically and cover with topsoil. A newly planted lilac bush should be kept well watered. Add a loose mulch above the roots to help with water absorption. Keep in mind different varieties of lilacs bloom at different times. When lilac flowers have finished blooming, prune the dead flowers back to just above

where new buds are forming. Be prudent with pruning, as over cutting can result in a decrease of blooms next year.

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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.

LEGALS

(SEAL)
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
Docket No. 20 SM 001570
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: **The Heirs, Devisees and Legal Representatives of the Estate of Joanne R. Emerson, Michelle E. Schuldt, Brooke Emerson**

and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. App. § 3901 *et seq.*:
Kondaur Capital Corporation, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Separate Trustee of Matawin Ventures Trust Series 2020-1

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Spencer, numbered 3 Spring Street, given by Joanne R. Emerson to BNY Mortgage Company LLC, dated July 11, 2005, and recorded in Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 36810, Page 344, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at **Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108** on or before **4/12/2021** or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act. Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Chief Justice of this Court on March 1, 2021. Attest:

Deborah J. Patterson
Recorder
March 19, 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. W021C0072CA CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:
Caitlyn Michelle Morales
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Caitlyn Michelle Morales of North Brookfield MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Cameron Michel Morales**
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes

of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/06/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.**
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 08, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
March 19, 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. W021P0787EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Arthur L Morin
Date of Death: 08/05/2018

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Darlene Gary of Worcester 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 **Darlene Gary of Worcester MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an 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 04/06/2021.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First

Justice of this Court.
Date: March 10, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
March 19, 2021

Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals
A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit submitted by William & Claudette White, for the property located at 95 Lake Shore Drive, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to build a 24 X 25 garage, in the Neighborhood District on the lake side. This requires a special permit as per section, -1.52 Nonconformity., §1.52 Nonconforming Structures (a) (et al). The public is invited to attend.
Renee Adams White
Clerk
March 19, 2021
March 26, 2021

Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board
The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on Tuesday April 06, 2021 in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall and the hearing will be conducted remotely to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and will be broadcast live on Spencer Cable Access channels and at SCATV.org on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard.:
Stormwater Permit – Applicant: Arista Development LLC; Owners: The Estate of William D. Ekleberry, Richard Cormier, and S-BNK Spencer LLC, Location: 4 lots bounded by High Street, Main Street, and Pleasant Street; Spencer Assessor's Map U13-98, 99, 100, & 101. The applicant is requesting a Stormwater Permit, section 4.11 of The Spencer Zoning Bylaw for a proposed CVS project. The property is located within the Town Center and Village Residential zoning districts.
March 19, 2021
March 26, 2021

Brookfield Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing
At a regularly scheduled Brookfield Planning Board meeting on Wednesday, April 7, 2021, a public hearing will be held starting at 7:10 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard to review the following, pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 40, Section 15C:
The applicant of record, Steven Skowrya, of P.O. Box 123, Warren, MA, seeks permission to remove portions of existing stone walls on the Town of Brookfield's right of way fronting property at 29 and 31 Lake Road, a Scenic Road, to facilitate the creation of paved driveways onto the properties. Said properties are owned by Steven Skowrya and are shown on the Town of Brookfield's Assessor's Map 4C, Lot 9.

Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom and may be joined remotely by following the information provided on the meeting agenda at www.mytowngovernment.org/01506.
Sharon Mahoney, Chair
Brookfield Planning Board
March 19, 2021
March 26, 2021

Brookfield Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing
In accordance with M. G. L., Chapter 40A, and Brookfield Zoning Bylaws Section 4.D, Use Regulation Table D.4.c; and Section 12.C., Special Permits; the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on an application by Jake and Shelby Hill for a Special Permit for the operation of a private profit-making school on property located at 8 West Main Street in a Business A District.
The hearing will take place on Wednesday, April 7, 2021 starting at 6:45 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard. Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting will be conducted via Zoom and may be joined remotely by following the information provided on the meeting agenda at www.mytowngovernment.org/01506. A copy of the application may be inspected by appointment at the office of the Town Clerk at the Town Hall, Monday through Friday from 10 am – 2pm.
Sharon Mahoney, Chair
Brookfield Planning Board
March 19, 2021
March 26, 2021

Notice of Public Hearing
In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Wetlands Protection Act, the North Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Tuesday March 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Police Station, 55 School St, N. Brookfield regarding the Notice of Intent submitted by Common Ground Cider Works Inc. for construction of three accessory buildings, primary building, and razing of existing building, and associated activities near riverfront area and bordering vegetated wetland. The property located at 31 East Brookfield Rd Assessors Map 38 Parcel 31. Any person interested in this matter is invited to attend this hearing.
It's for our new business in North Brookfield. Roger and I are no longer running the Tavern.
Cindy Larson
Common Ground Cider Works
31 E Brookfield Road, North Brookfield, MA 01535
March 19, 2021

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POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3
12:05 a.m.: warrant service (Pleasant Street), Francisco Rodriguez, Junior; 31 Pleasant Street, Spencer, warrant, arrest; 1:33 a.m.: parking violation (Elm Street), ticket issued; 3:05 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 7:46 a.m.: DPW call (Ash Street), tree on wires; 8:51 a.m.: parking complaint (Mechanic Street), mv on sidewalk; 9:20 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info given; 9:26 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no emergency; 10:23 a.m.: larceny (McCormick Road), mv break-in; 10:38 a.m.: mv complaint (North Brookfield Road), tailgating; 11:27 a.m.: mv complaint (Mechanic Street), mv blocking road; 11:40 a.m.: harassing phone calls (West Main Street), report taken; 12:31 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Salminen Drive), hang-up; 1:22 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), captured loose dog; 1:40 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), rec'd no trespass notices; 2:11 p.m.: juvenile matter (Clark Street), kids/bikes in traffic; 2:37 p.m.: parking complaint (Mechanic Street), info taken; 2:40 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), unauth. withdrawal/money; 4:13 p.m.: building checked, secure; 4:13 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:38 p.m.: suspicious persons (Wall Street), investigated; 5:23 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 6:06 p.m.: medical/general (Hastings Road); 6:20 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:39 p.m.: debris in roadway (Main Street), removed; 6:49 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), mv vs deer; 7:04 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), loud 'bangs' heard; 8:18 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 8:38 p.m.: suspicious mv (McCormick Road), investigated; 8:46 p.m.: warrant service (Main Street), Chenty E. Nunez, 20, 83 Main Street, Spencer, warrant, arrest; 10:49 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Donnelly Cross Road), open line; (Total daily mv stops - 6).

THURSDAY, MARCH 4
12:47-12:57 a.m.: parking violations/2 (Mechanic, Pearl streets), tickets issued; 6:42 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 7:44 a.m.: 911 call (Bixby Road), misdial; 9:58 a.m.: 911 call (Wilson Street), accidental 10:57 a.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 11:25 a.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road), lift assist; 11:46 a.m.: animal complaint (McCormick Road), loose horse; 11:49 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), inquiry re: LTC; 12:20 p.m.: parking complaint (McDonald Street), spoken to; 12:45 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 2:13 p.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), skunk in area; 2:19 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), wants to file complaint; 3:12 p.m.: animal complaint (High Street), spoken to; 3:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), crossing light not working; 3:25 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), inquiry re: warrant; 4:05 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), loose duck; 5:53 p.m.: officer wanted (Charlton Road), inquiry re: police escort; 5:57 p.m.: officer wanted (Browning Pond Road), spoken to; 7:23 p.m.: missing person (Fourth Avenue), re: daughter missing; 7:58 p.m.: suspicious mv (South Spencer Road), investigated; (Total daily mv stops - 0).

FRIDAY, MARCH 5
12:54 a.m.: suspicious mv (South Spencer Road), investigation; 1:10-1:21 a.m.: parking violations/3 (Mechanic, Pearl, Chestnut streets), tickets issued; 1:43 a.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), noise complaint; 6:26 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:08 a.m.: animal complaint (Maple Street), c/o cats/smell in neighboring apt.; 8:21 a.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), elevator test; 9:10 a.m.: residential alarm (Borkum Road), services rendered; 12:34 p.m.: mv lock-out (Lloyd Dyer Drive), assisted; 1:27 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 1:39 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 1:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; 1:56 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 3:12 p.m.: warrant (Meadow Road), Christopher S. Forsman, 35, 377 East County Road, Rutland, warrant, arrest; 3:21 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; sometime between 4:00-4:33 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 4:33 p.m.; 911 call (Meadowbrook Road), accidental; 4:40 p.m.: fraud (Pleasant Street), SS scam; 4:55 p.m.: parking violation (Main Street), ticket issued; 6:08 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), SS scam call; 8:58 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist;

9:15 p.m.: 911 call (Cherry Street), accidental; 9:25-9:29 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:42 p.m.: medical/general (Grove Street); (Total daily mv stops - 4).

SATURDAY, MARCH 6
1:31-1:37 a.m.: parking violations/2 (Mechanic Street), tickets issued; 3:05 a.m.: disturbance (Casey Street), noise complaint; 8:14 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 9:08 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 9:40 a.m.: 911 call (Bay Path Road), misdial; 11:05 a.m.: suspicious mv (Donnelly Cross Road), info taken; 12:40 p.m.: residential b&e (Franklin Street), bicycle taken from garage; 1:16 p.m.: disabled mv (Wilson Avenue), stuck on ice/ruts; 2:04 p.m.: medical/general (Spring Street); 2:20 p.m.: suspicious persons (Valley View Drive), investigated; 2:38 p.m.: fraud (Church Street), IRS fraud; 3:23 p.m.: medical/general (Temple Street); 4:30 p.m.; elderly matter (Thompson Pond Road), services rendered; 4:33 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Rutland PD bolo; 4:59 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 6:00 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), missing dog; 6:59 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), disabled WRTA bus; 8:41 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), tailgating; 9:45 p.m.: disturbance (South Spencer Road), noise complaint; 9:49 p.m.: animal complaint (Greenville Street), animal in distress; 10:04 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:31 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), m/f dispute/poss. physical; (Total daily mv stops - 5).

SUNDAY, MARCH 7
12:01 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:14 a.m.: suspicious mv (South Spencer Road), investigated; 12:39 a.m.: parking violation (North Street), ticket issued; 12:57 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:03 a.m.: parking violation (Ash Street), ticket issued; 1:07 a.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 2:54 a.m.: suspicious persons (Meadow Road), investigated; 2:58 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 8:25 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 8:52 a.m.: medical/general (Sunberg Road); 9:17 a.m.: officer wanted (Crestview Drive), message delivered; 9:57 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet found; 12:01 p.m.: medical/general (Irving Street); 12:20 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), inquiry re: adoption; 12:20 p.m.: 911 call (North Spencer Road), open line; 3:54 p.m.: officer wanted (McCormick Road), spoken to; 4:44 p.m.: suspicious mv (Temple Street), investigated; 5:02 p.m.: medical/general (Lloyd Dyer Drive); 5:40 p.m.: trespassing (Northwest Road), re: neighbors; 6:10 p.m.: fraud (Donnelly Cross Road), re: call rec'd; 6:51 p.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), loose dog; 7:19 p.m.; medical/general (Bixby Road); 7:26 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); sometime between 7:26-8:44 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 9:59 p.m.: medical/general (South Spencer Road); 10:30 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), spoken to; 11:12 p.m.: disturbance (Lake Street), loud/unruly female; (Total daily mv stops - 2).

MONDAY, MARCH 8
12:21 a.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), spoken to; 2:03 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:04 a.m.: parking complaint (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 2:44 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 3:37 a.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road); 6:53 a.m.: 911 call (Meadowbrook Road), open line; 7:56 a.m.: medical/general (Prospect Street); 9:12 a.m.: fraud (Borkum Road), unemployment scam; 10:55 a.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 11:12 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 11:27 a.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), pkgs delivered to wrong address; 11:48 a.m.: mv repossessed (Hastings Road), info taken; 1:16 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Leicester PD attempting welfare check; 1:29 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 1:52 p.m.: residential alarm (Sherwood Drive), services rendered; 2:34 p.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), info taken; 3:32 p.m.: suspicious persons (Valley Street), being followed; 4:08 p.m.: residential alarm (Pine Avenue), services rendered; 4:27 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 5:20 p.m.: suspicious persons (Fourth Avenue), investigated; 5:51 p.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), loose dog; 6:34 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Duggan Street), misdial; 6:39 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/4 (West Main Street), assisted; 7:57 p.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), drunk driver/white van; 9:05 p.m.: suspicious mv (Elm

Street), investigated; 9:51 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), noise complaint; 10:57 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 11:31 p.m.: 911 call (Duggan Street), pty out of control; (Total daily mv stops - 10).

TUESDAY, MARCH 9
12:04-12:11 a.m.: parking violations/2 (Mechanic, Main streets), tickets issued; 2:30 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 4:24 a.m.: medical/overdose (Duggan Street); 7:27 a.m.: mv complaint (Ash Street), speeding; 8:07 a.m.: juvenile matter (Church Street), no-show at school; 8:39 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 8:45 a.m.: harassing calls (Pauls Drive), ongoing scam calls; 10:50 a.m.: sex offender registration/monthly (West Main Street), assisted; 10:53 a.m.: sex offender registration/annual (West Main Street), assisted; 11:13 a.m.: school alarm (Lake Street), services rendered; 12:02 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), accosted in market; 12:24 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 12:53 p.m.: sex offender registration/annual (West Main Street), assisted; 1:05 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Paxton Road), numerous hang-ups; 1:17 p.m.: DPW call (Mechanic Street), truck snagged wires; 1:56 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), hit/run; 2:27 p.m.: elderly matter (Main Street), req. assistance w/ forms; 2:40 p.m.: RV complaint (Ash Street), speeding on street; 2:52 p.m.: accident (Charlton Road), report taken; 3:08 p.m.: disabled mv (Maple Street), services rendered; 3:23 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 3:27 p.m.: sex offender registration request (West Main Street), req. info on SORI; 3:43 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:56 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), info taken; 4:59 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 5:07 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), accidental; 6:02 p.m.: building checked, secure; 6:44 p.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info taken; 7:53 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:01 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 8:02 p.m.: suspicious mv (South Spencer Road), investigated; 8:16 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), unruly male; (Total daily mv stops - 7).

Leicester Police

THURSDAY, MARCH 4
10:03 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), no action required; 11:33 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 12:14 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, larceny over \$1200, vandalism, conspiracy; name and address redacted from police log, larceny over \$1200, vandalism, conspiracy, services rendered; 12:53 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/revoked registration, uninsured mv, defective taillight, mv towed; 4:15 p.m.: assist citizen (Pine Ridge Drive); 4:25 p.m.: threats (Parker Street), spoken to; 4:42 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 6:31 p.m.: residential alarm (Huntoon Memorial Highway), false alarm; 7:26 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Oxford Street, Auburn), Daniel W. Small, 31, 27 North Main Street, #2, Webster, straight warrant, arrest; 9:02 p.m.: threats (Soojians Drive), spoken to.

FRIDAY, MARCH 5
2:50 a.m.: welfare check (Pine Street), transported; 7:53 a.m.: harassment (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 10:17 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended registration, mv towed; 11:29 a.m.: restraining order service (Pine Street), served; 11:30 a.m.: summons service (Cricklewood Drive), served; 12:05 p.m.: restraining order service (Burncoat Lane) served; 12:12 p.m.: restraining order service (Rawson Street), served; 12:29 p.m.: summons service (Hyland Avenue), served; 12:59 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 1:04 p.m.: fraud (Fairview Drive), report taken; 1:30 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:39 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), referred; 1:43 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:57 p.m.: summons service (Pitcairne Avenue), served; 6:12 p.m.: fraud (Deer Pond Road), report taken; 9:59 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), spoken to.

SATURDAY, MARCH 6
12:45 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:18 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:15 a.m.: suspicious mv (Mill Street),

services rendered; 5:58 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, speeding, mv towed; 8:20 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, op w/suspended registration, mv towed; 9:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed; 10:19 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 11:24 a.m.: welfare check (Parker Street), transported to hospital; 2:44 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Oxford Street, Auburn), investigated; 4:35 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), message delivered; 10:18 p.m.; welfare check (South Main Street), unable to locate.

SUNDAY, MARCH 7
12:24 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 12:49 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv not meeting safety standards, criminal application issued; 12:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 2:19 a.m.: assist citizen (Waite Street); 2:41 a.m.: assist other agency (Marshall Street), services rendered; 4:09 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), Douglas Hoyt, Junior, 24, 19 Portland Street, #3, Fitchburg, op w/license suspended for OUI while driving OUI, OUI liquor/2nd offense; negligent operation, failure to stop/yield, marked lanes violation, possession Class D drug w/intent to distribute, possession Class E drug, arrest; 10:19 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:45 a.m.: mv stop (Auburn Street), mv towed; 11:33 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate; 12:13 p.m.: threats (Soojians Drive), peace restored; 6:40 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 7:58 p.m.: erratic operator (South Main Street), unable to locate; 8:24 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, brakes violation, mv towed.

MONDAY, MARCH 8
3:46 a.m.: mutual aid (Meadow Road), transported; 8:00 a.m.: investigation (Gleason Way), services rendered; 9:48 a.m.: mv stop (Soojians Drive), written warning; 10:12 a.m.: mv stop (Soojians Drive), written warning; 12:02 p.m.: missing person (Pine Street), report taken; 12:41 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), no action required; 1:34 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 2:55 p.m.: suspicious activity (Winslow Avenue), gone on arrival; 3:24 p.m.: accident (Main Street), mv towed; 4:29 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Briana Fredo, 30, 12 Brookline Street, Worcester, straight warrant, uninsured mv, op w/suspended registration, arrest; 6:43 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), peace restored; 9:32 p.m.: disabled mv (Mulberry Street), assisted; 9:35 p.m.: lockout (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 9:54 p.m.: suspicious activity (Marshall Street), spoken to; 10:30 p.m.: disturbance (Soojians Drive), unfounded.

TUESDAY, MARCH 9
12:10 a.m.: ambulance (Washburn Square), transported; 5:06 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 8:52 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 10:42 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 10:45 a.m.: accident (Main Street), transported to hospital; 11:39 a.m.: larceny (Charles Street), report taken; 11:40 a.m.: mutual aid (Outlook Drive, Worcester), transported to hospital; 12:41 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, unregistered mv, number plate violation to conceal ID, criminal application issued; 1:07 p.m.: assist citizen (Pine Street); 4:20 p.m.: assist citizen (Mulberry Street), services rendered; 5:04 p.m.: harassment (Towtaid Street), report taken.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10
5:54 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 7:55 a.m.: ambulance (Towtaid Street), transported; 8:46 a.m.: mv stop (River Street), citation issued; 9:06 a.m.: mv stop (Pine Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, speeding, citation issued; 9:33 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), spoken to; 12:50 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 1:24 p.m.: mv stop (River Street), spoken to; 2:32 p.m.: trespassing (Stafford Street), report taken; 3:17 p.m.: assist other PD (Marshall Street), services rendered; 3:49 p.m.: keep the peace (South Main Street), assisted; 6:08 p.m.: parking complaint (Fairview Drive), no action required; 6:17 p.m.: family problem (Lake Sargent Drive), report taken; 11:35 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning.

GALLANT

continued from page A1

I was looking forward to showing other people that with determination and a positive attitude, it can take you anywhere."

In her role as a student ambassador, Gallant is able to spread awareness of AVM, aneurysms, and strokes. She is also able to meet others who went through similar struggles as her own.

Gallant thanks her school community for its constant support over the last year-plus.

"My school has been unbelievable to me. They show so much support to

me and love to see me succeed," said Gallant, who enjoys spending time with family and also teaching girls how to dance.

During Brain Injury Awareness month, Gallant and her Assistant Principal at LMS, Beth Johnson, sat down to discuss her road to recovery and the importance of promoting brain wellness.

"I really don't remember much from that day," Gallant said during her awareness program with Assistant Principal Johnson. "I remember telling my mom I had a bad headache; then I think I blacked out. I don't remember being in the ICU because I was in a coma and I couldn't breathe on my own. I guess the

first thing I remember is being in the hospital and asking my mom a bunch of questions. I couldn't remember what happened and I didn't understand it."

Gallant also discussed the many therapies she went through, meeting each obstacle with positivity and determination.

"Therapy is where I first started really thinking about how you can teach your brain and how your brain learns things," Gallant told Johnson. "I had faith that I was going to get it back. There were so many things that I knew should be simple, like taking a sip of water. But I would look at the cup and think: how do you do that? What I've learned is that repetition is very

important - your brain needs the same repetition."

Gallant's teachers and administrators at LMS are proud of everything she has done to represent the district and her community.

"Jacki has amazing strength and never slows down," said Assistant Principal Johnson. "Jacki has always been determined, compassionate, positive, and hard-working. And none of this changed on Sept. 22, 2019. That day changed Jacki's life, but it didn't change Jacki."



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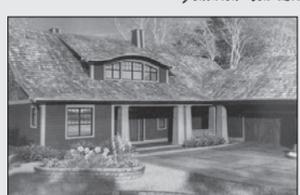
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Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



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New Jersey—BayCoast Mortgage Company, LLC, 330 Swanton Mall Drive, Swanton, MA 02777, 877-466-2676, Licensed Mortgage Banker-NJ Banking and Insurance Department New Hampshire—Licensed by the New Hampshire Banking Department #19631-AJH Rhode Island—Rhode Island Licensed Lender Virginia—BayCoast Mortgage Company, LLC, NMLS # 1082042 (http://www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org) All loans subject to credit approval. NMLS # 1082042

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