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Leicester selectmen support grant application for water district

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Selectmen recently voted to express their support for a grant application that could provide relief for the Cherry Valley and Rochdale Water District (CVRWD).

At their May 27 meeting, selectmen unanimously supported the sending of a grant application requested by Ben Morris, the Superintendent of the CVRWD. Grant funding in the amount of \$400,000 is being sought for the Grindstone Well project.

Regulations stipulate that the town's individual water districts must apply for the grant funding, not the town itself. The deadline for the grant applications to be submitted was June 4.

Because the Grindstone Well project is defined as “shovel-ready,” officials believe it has a greater chance of being approved for grant funding. Residents have sought relief from water challenges for several years, regularly reaching out to town and regional officials for help.

“My office and Sen. Moore’s office are sending joint letters also supporting these grant opportunities identified by the town and endorsed by the Select Board,” said State Rep.

David LeBoeuf. “The state and federal delegations are working very closely with town officials and subscribers to make sure we draw attention to the challenges residents face, and to maximize any available grant funding that could come to Leicester.”

Despite the many complications caused by the pandemic, there has recently been progress made toward finding a solution to Leicester’s water and sewer challenges, officials said.

“The consultants – who received state and federal money – released an initial report of their study of the water and sewer challenges in town and are finalizing their recommendations of how to create a path to a sustainable solution,” LeBoeuf added. “This independent review will give us an idea of what needs to occur from an engineering, environmental, and governance standpoint to address the challenges that have been impacting residents of the town for decades.”

LeBoeuf previously discussed with Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey the issues regarding the USDA and the urgent need for a refinancing of the Cherry Valley Sewer District’s loan. Both

senators, in conjunction with Congressman Jim McGovern, sent a letter to the USDA urging the department to consider the request. The USDA ultimately denied the request, officials said, but there is still plenty of hope moving forward.

“We now have a new federal administration and are in the process of revisiting the issue with USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack’s team,” LeBoeuf added.

Officials are also tracking the potential for federal stimulus monies to land in Leicester. The Mass. House of Representatives created a new committee, House Committee on Federal Stimulus and Census Oversight, to help members understand the use of incoming federal dollars to the Commonwealth from the American Rescue Plan. In addition to funds going directly to cities and towns, the Commonwealth will also be allocated funds for use on specialized efforts. This could mean federal funding for projects like those targeted for Leicester.

“As soon as the committee begins holding hearings on infrastructure investments, I will be testifying about the

Turn To **GRANT** page **A2**

Person of interest named in Molly Bish case

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

WARREN – Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., announced last week a person of interest in the 2000 murder of Molly Bish.

Francis “Frank” Sumner, Sr., who died in 2016, has been named a person of interest in the murder of 16-year-old Molly after investigators recently received new information.

Molly disappeared on June 27, 2000, from Comins Pond in Warren, where she was working as a lifeguard.

Sumner, born in 1945, was active in multiple central Massachusetts communities from 1960 through 2016. He operated auto repair shops in Spencer, Leicester, Rutland, and Worcester.

Sumner lived in Spencer prior to his death. He had a lengthy criminal record, including convictions of

aggravated rape, kidnapping, and multiple probation violations, investigators said. Now authorities are reaching out to the public with a goal of learning more about Sumner’s activities across the region.

“Investigators are seeking tips from the public, looking specifically for information relative to Sumner’s employment practices and personnel, associates, vehicles, travel, and any known habits,” read a statement released by District Attorney Early’s office.

According to documents obtained by the New Leader, Sumner was convicted in 1982 on rape and kidnapping charges stemming from an incident on Oct. 20, 1981. Sumner was ordered to serve concurrent sentences at MCI-Walpole (15-18 years on the rape charge and 9-10 years on the kidnapping charge).

According to the Rutland Police Department, Sumner



Photo Courtesy

Deceased felon Francis Sumner, Sr., has been named a person of interest in the murder of Molly Bish.

operated an auto repair shop (Elite Auto, 217 Barre Paxton Rd. in Rutland) between approximately 2009 and 2012.

Turn To **BISH** page **A4**

Purple Heart proclamation gives special meaning to Memorial Day ceremony

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Even though the road to becoming a Purple Heart Community featured plenty of bumps and twists, it eventually led to an inspiring Memorial Day ceremony.

North Brookfield officially joins more than 100 other towns in the Commonwealth with the Purple Heart Community designation. In a fitting ceremony on May 31, Memorial Day, North Brookfield’s Purple Heart proclamation was read publicly to residents, officials, veterans, and their families.

Additionally, Purple Heart Community signs have been posted at the main entrances to the town from all directions. This will allow residents and visitors to reflect on the meaning of the designation and the town’s commitment to honoring service members.

The process of becoming a Purple Heart Community never would have been possible without the efforts of retired Marine Lt. Col. James “Jim” Foyle. Throughout the

pandemic, despite multiple delays and challenges caused by COVID-19, Foyle kept residents and officials apprised of the next steps in the process.

And his efforts came to fruition during the Memorial Day program. The presentation was originally scheduled to take place in front of Haston Public Library, but rain caused it to be moved to North Brookfield Congregational Church. The event began with an invocation delivered by Frank Potter, the chaplain for the North Brookfield VFW Post. A reading of the Gettysburg Address was done by Jenna Dupel, the president of the North Brookfield High School junior class.

Later in the ceremony, Selectman Jason Petraitis read a proclamation from Gov. Charlie Baker, as well as the town’s Purple Heart Community proclamation.

“Mr. Petraitis was followed by John Tripp, the Clerk of the Select Board, who explained the meaning of Memorial Day and how

Turn To **PURPLE HEART** page **A10**

LMS students join National Junior Honor Society

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – In a proud celebration last month, Leicester Middle School students were joined by their families and educators at the National Junior Honor Society induction ceremony for the Class of 2026.

Each year, the LMS chapter of the National Junior Honor Society selects a new group of students who demonstrate scholarship, service, leadership, character, and citizenship. Students who post a cumulative middle school GPA of 90 or higher are invited to the application phase, where students must then satisfy the additional criteria.

Applications are then



reviewed by faculty members as part of the selection process.

“This year has been one of the most difficult for our students. Our new inductees have demonstrated that despite

these challenges, they succeeded,” said LMS Principal Christopher Fontaine. “I could not be more proud as their principal to celebrate their success with them and their families.”

School Committee members and other representatives of Leicester’s education community were also in attendance. School Committee member Stella Richard has experienced the pride of the process on a personal level, as her daughter Sedona Richard serves in the NJHS Class of 2025.

“NJHS provides a wonderful opportunity for the members to demonstrate strong leadership skills as part of the middle school community,” said Stella Richard. “These students learned invaluable lifelong skills, continuing to provide tutoring and mentoring to their peers in light of the struggles students endured with COVID this past year.”

While hybrid learning was a major challenge for students

this year, several events like trivia and painting nights allowed students to stay remotely engaged outside of school. While in the classroom during hybrid learning, they were able to take part in St. Patrick’s Day activities, spirit week, and other programs.

Superintendent of Schools Marilyn Tencza was also on hand to congratulate the students.

“They have shown their ability to be flexible and to adapt to new ways of learning. I echo the thoughts of some of the speakers and am quite sure that this is the first of many academic achievements for these students,” Tencza said.

School Committee members

Turn To **LMS** page **A2**

LMS
continued from page A1

Thomas Lauder and Donna McCance, both Leicester High School graduates, were also thrilled to be part of a special night for the students. McCance, a longtime educator with the district before joining the School Committee, was especially proud to witness some of her former elementary school students being inducted.

“It’s always exciting for me to see some of my former students as they grow and move forward into the higher grades and beyond,” McCance said.

During the induction ceremony, LMS Assistant Principal Beth Johnson delivered the closing remarks and praised the new inductees for their efforts during a challenging year.

“This would have been an easy year for making excuses, saying it’s too hard, and just checking out. But that’s not what you did. You took the situation, analyzed it, figured out what you needed to do, and then you pretty much crushed it,” Johnson told students.

“That is the key to success for the rest of your lives. Work a little harder, think a little longer, and figure things out. And no matter what, never give up.”

For the inducted students, it meant a lot to share the ceremony with their families and educators. Dakota Zinkevich, a seventh grade student, discussed the challenging but rewarding process of selection.

“Before being inducted, I was required to summarize the community activities I was involved with. I was surprised by the community service I was actually already doing when I completed the essay. And while I have provided service through my involvement with various groups, I am excited about learning ways I can assist the community independently as well,” Zinkevich said.

LMS Nurse Melissa Ledbetter, who serves as an advisor to the National Junior Honor Society Class of 2025, hosted this year’s ceremony.

“They have worked hard to maintain academic excellence and exhibit the five pillars of NJHS, even in a pandemic,” Ledbetter said of the students.

The NJHS Class of 2026 inductees and their sponsors are: Kate Barbato (Jessica Fletcher); Avery Bullock (Colleen Walsh); Jacob Cosper (Nathaniel Cosper); Julia Dee (Amy Dee); Sarah Dee (Mary Redley); Brandon Escobar (William Escobar); John Gahagan (Kathleen Hoey); Arianna Gonzalez (Amy Leite); Brody Grant (Michelle Grant); Emily Hunt (Annie Hunt); Natalia Kallio (Jacqueline Kallio); Casey Knott (April Knott); Isabella LePoer (Daniel LePoer); Hannah Martin (Sandra Boucher-Martin); Christopher Moffat (Diane Moffat); Claudia Moisan (Nicole Moisan); Zoe Morales (Zavier Morales); Kassidy Poce

(Shannon Poce); Grace Price (Tara Price); McKenzie Settle (Chris Settle); Justin Trainor (Stephanie Trainor); Nicole Tuson (Shannon Tuson); and Dakota Zinkevich (Colleen Settle).

The current eighth grade students of the National Junior Honor Society Class of 2025 are Dylan Delage (President), Kayla Bouchard (Vice President), Lorenzo Francis (Clerk), Ryan Delage (Treasurer), Katherine Dolimount (Media representative), Jason Fournier, Jack Ledbetter, Sedona Richard, Vivian Giles, Coddan Nguyen, Jessica Savoie, Cooper White, Alexis Hebert, Nicole Nguyen, and Elizabeth Sosa.

GRANT
continued from page A1

value of investment in water and sewer infrastructure, specifically related to Cherry Valley, Rochdale, and Leicester,” said LeBoeuf, who was also invited to testify before the Massachusetts Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights about the situation in Cherry Valley and Rochdale.

While regional leaders continue to work toward a solution, several local officials are calling on more residents to get involved in the process at their respective districts.

“A lot of people complain on social media, but they are not showing up to the meetings,” said Selectman Rick Antanavica. “The Cherry Valley Sewer

District had a meeting [on May 27], but only ten people showed up besides the commissioners.”

Added Antanavica, “People have to realize that these districts are privately owned by the subscribers, not the town. Subscribers are the ones who have the opportunity to vote on the budget.”

The town is also seeking grants of \$400,000 for the following purposes:

Town of Leicester – Engineering to bring natural gas to a site on Route 56 for economic development purposes.

Town of Leicester – Engineering for Moose Hill to determine its potential as a town water supply.

Leicester Water/Sewer (through the Town of Leicester) – Funding for an interconnection with the City of Worcester for water supply purposes.

All We Know Is Local



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YOUR TEETH MATTER

JUNE IS ORAL HEALTH MONTH

Our next Your Teeth Matter is running on October 15 for National Dental Hygiene Month. Hope you’ll join us.

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Good dental hygiene is very important to overall good health.



Dental hygiene is about more than just your teeth



Individuals tend to learn about dental hygiene at an early age. On the recommendation of their children’s pediatricians,

parents may begin brushing their youngsters’ teeth the moment the first tooth breaks through the gums. While proper dental hygiene is vital to oral health, it also can have a profound effect on the rest of the body.

According to the Mayo Clinic, poor oral health might contribute to various diseases and conditions. Periodontitis is a severe yet preventable gum infection that can lead to tooth loss if left untreated. But the threat of periodontitis doesn’t end in the mouth. The American Academy of Periodontology notes there’s a connection between periodontitis and several other diseases. While bacteria was long suspected to be the link between periodontitis and other diseases in the body, the AAP notes that recent research points to inflammation as the culprit that connects periodontitis with diseases such as diabetes and heart disease.

Diabetes
The AAP notes that people with dia-

betes are at increased risk for periodontal disease, speculating that diabetes patients’ risk is higher because people with diabetes are more vulnerable to infections than those without diabetes. While that suggests periodontal disease is a byproduct of diabetes, the AAP notes that research points to the relationship being a two-way street. Periodontal disease may make it more difficult for people with diabetes to control their blood sugar, making dental hygiene an especially vital component of routine healthcare for people with diabetes.

Heart disease
The AAP notes that research indicates periodontal disease increases a person’s risk for heart disease, with the inflammation caused by the former leading to the latter. People with existing heart conditions also may find that periodontal disease exacerbates those conditions. The Mayo Clinic notes that the link between heart disease and peri-

odontal disease is not fully understood, but enough studies have been conducted for scientists to support the notion that the two are connected.

Can periodontal disease be prevented?

Periodontal disease is preventable. A daily dental hygiene regimen that includes brushing after meals, flossing at least once per day and swishing with mouthwash are some simple, healthy habits that can prevent periodontal disease. In addition, the AAP recommends that people at increased risk for periodontal disease, including the elderly and smokers, should discuss their risk with their dental professionals.

Dental hygiene can do more for individuals than produce a mouthful of pearly white teeth. In fact, people who prioritize dental hygiene may lower their risks for various diseases.

When can children brush their own teeth?

Parents quickly learn that their children go through a transition marked by a desire to be more independent. They’re picking out their own mismatched clothes and no longer want any help when solving puzzles or complex toys. That newfound independence signals getting older and can be a healthy thing to nourish. But what happens when a youngster suddenly believes he or she is capable of brushing his or her teeth without assistance?

Parents wrestling with their kids’ can-do attitude and if it’s wise to allow them to brush their teeth unassisted can familiarize themselves with certain guidelines to determine their youngsters’ readiness. According to Scripps

Pediatric Dentistry & Orthodontics, most kids are at least six years old before they have developed the finesse and dexterity to handle a toothbrush in a manner that will effectively remove plaque. Dentists also may ask if the child can tie his or her own shoes, which can serve as a barometer of readiness to wield a toothbrush without assistance.

Pediatricians and pediatric dentists recommend that children visit a dentist as soon as a child’s first tooth starts to appear. This also is when parents should begin to clean their children’s teeth. As a child ages, the natural proclivity to want to take charge of brushing teeth takes hold. The child may not yet have the manual dexterity to brush

alone, but parents can encourage the child to brush and then go over the teeth as a “double check.” This helps foster independence while also ensuring teeth are fully cleaned.

Flossing may require even more dexterity than brushing, but it is essential for sloughing off plaque that accumulates between teeth and below the gum line, according to Parents magazine. Moms and dads can introduce their children to pre-threaded Y-shaped flossing tools, which are easier to handle than loose floss.

Parents will have to check on children even as they age to be sure they are practicing good oral hygiene. Parents who are in doubt about their children’s

readiness can work with dentists or dental hygienists to assess skills and get other pointers.



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North Brookfield sends off Class of 2021

NORTH BROOKFIELD – The North Brookfield High School Class of 2021 faced unprecedented challenges over the last year of their careers. But in the face of adversity, the seniors rose to meet each challenge and prepare them-

selves for the next chapter.

At graduation on June 5, seniors were all smiles as they celebrated overcoming hurdles and emerging even stronger.



Graduates toss their caps in celebration.



Marrisa Lopez, left, and Evelyn Fantasia celebrate their accomplishments.



Zachary Calcagni celebrates with his guidance counselor, Megan Sears.



Willow McLain with her family.



It's all smiles for Paige Grushey and her family.

Danielle Bartkus celebrates with her parents, Phil and Paula.



Cami Zalaszkas with her mother, Cheryl.



Photos Kevin Flanders

Seniors walk the schoolgrounds one last time as a class.



Joe Duszak celebrates with family.



David Shea celebrates his accomplishment.



Class President Lily Smith, left, and Vice President Johnna Farley

SPENCER NEW LEADER

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

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P.A.L. of the Week

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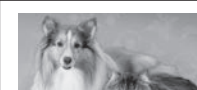
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Breed: DSH Calico
Sex: Spayed Female
Age: 2 Year Old



Meet Lily – she is a vivacious and energetic young feline girl. Lily likes everyone who comes into the shelter and hopes that they will play with her. Because of her exuberance, we feel that she would not be happy in a small apartment. Now that the weather is nice, she spends some of her time in the shelter's outdoor enclosure. Lily had a very difficult life prior to coming to the shelter. She had multiple litters of kittens. Lily must be fed canned cat food only. She cannot eat kibble (dry) food. We will share her health information with any potential adopter. Lily has a sweet disposition, and we are hoping that we can find a home that is compatible with her needs. And she is a very pretty calico!



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PERSON of the WEEK

LEONARD DARLING of Leicester

Leonard is a Vietnam veteran who in the summer of 2014 took it upon himself to clear vines off the arborvitaes at the Leicester Lions park. He became a Leicester Lion in October 2014 and he is passionate about taking care of this park in Cherry Valley.

Thank you Leonard for your service and for your dedication to the Lions Club of Cherry Valley.

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

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SEBRSD earns recognition for business practices

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – At its 55th annual educational conference held virtually last month, the Massachusetts Association of School Business Officials (MASBO) presented an award to the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District.

The district earned the organization’s Donald D. Johnson Operational and Cost Efficiency Award. The annual award recognizes the accomplishment of a district that has implemented a program, activity, or initiative that resulted in increased efficiency and savings that can be applied to educational priorities.

MASBO, a nonprofit organization that provides professional development services for public school financial officials, honors school districts during its annual conference. Established in 2011, the Donald D. Johnson Operational and Cost Efficiency Award is made possible through MASBO’s partnership with VOYA Financial. The award comes with a \$2,500 contribution to the district.

For SEBRSD officials, the award represents the district’s strong commitment to improving facilities in recent years. In 2018, the district was experiencing several issues with school boilers, outdated controls, and problems



Photo Courtesy

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Business Administrator Gary Suter celebrates a recent award for the district.

with other building systems. Officials knew that major upgrades were needed to pave the way for improved efficiency and savings.

“The boilers, controls, and systems had run their course and surpassed their useful life,” said SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey.

In 2018, the district’s Business Administrator, Gary Suter, and his team spoke to officials with other school districts and learned about Energy Savings Performance Contracting (ESPC), an innovative financing technique that uses energy savings from the building owner’s existing operating budget to repay the cost of energy efficient equipment and related facility improvements. Building owners make no upfront investment, but rather use

the energy savings to fully fund a project over a term that may extend to 20 years.

All energy savings through the program are guaranteed annually to meet or exceed project costs. If a shortfall in savings occurs, the designated “energy service company” for a project issues a check for the difference, then makes any necessary additional improvements to ensure that future savings are realized. All savings in excess of the guaranteed savings remain with the building owner.

As part of its energy savings program, the SEBRSD installed, upgraded, or improved lighting and controls, building automation standardization, weatherization measures, plug load controls, kitchen hood controls, walk-in cooler controls, new condensing boilers, pumps and domestic hot water, and several other projects.

The district’s current energy savings contract cost – \$4.1 million over 10 years – guarantees a savings of over \$207,000, officials said.

“Congratulations to the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District, Gary Suter, and Paul Haughey for earning this year’s Donald D. Johnson Operations and Cost Efficiency Award,” read a statement released by MASBO.

Richard Sugden Library announces increased hours

SPENCER – The Richard Sugden Public Library’s staff members and trustees recently announced an increase in hours that the building will be open.

Beginning on June 14, the library’s adult services section will be open on Mondays from 10 a.m.-6 p.m., as well as Tuesdays-Thursdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The library will be open for browsing (no seating available), in addition to computer use. Patrons will be limited to one-hour sessions per device; computers are accessible on a first-come, first-served basis.

The library’s curbside delivery services will continue with

the same hours as adult services. If you are interested in curbside delivery, call 508-885-7513 (ext. 1). Simply pull up to the back door, and staff members will hand you the requested materials.

Also beginning on June 14, the library’s children’s department will be open by appointment on Mondays from 3-6 p.m., as well as Thursdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

For more information on children’s programming this summer, call the library at 508-885-7513 (ext. 2). Please call this number to make your reservation for activities, beginning on June 14.

Masks are still required at all times in the library. You are wel-

come to use the curbside delivery service if you are not willing or able to wear a mask.

For library officials, it’s exciting to welcome back residents, children, and families after a year-plus hiatus due to the pandemic.

“We invite you to browse our many new books, magazines, DVDs, and more. We look forward to seeing you at the library,” read a statement released by the library.

To learn more about the library and upcoming programs, visit www.SpencerPublicLibrary.org.

Alyssa Bettencourt named to Dean’s List at Plymouth State University

PLYMOUTH, New Hampshire — Alyssa Bettencourt of West Brookfield has been named to the Plymouth State University Dean’s List for the Spring 2021 semester. To be named to the

Dean’s List, a student must achieve a grade point average between 3.5 and 3.69 during the spring semester and must have attempted at least 12 credit hours during the semester. Bettencourt is a Nursing major at Plymouth State.

About Plymouth State University

Established in 1871, Plymouth State University serves the state of New Hampshire and the world beyond by transforming our students through advanced practices where engaged learn-

ing produces well-educated undergraduates and by providing graduate education that deepens and advances knowledge and enhances professional development. With distinction, we connect with community and business partners for economic development, technological advances, healthier living, and cultural enrichment with a special commitment of service to the North Country and Lakes Region of New Hampshire.

BISH

continued from page A1

Residents in that community are also asked to come forward if they have any information on the individual or his business, which is listed online as permanently closed.

Spencer Police Chief David Darrin said Sumner was well-known to his department. According to police records, Sumner was involved in 51 officer reports made by the SPD alone. He was also the subject of eight restraining orders and two warrants, police said.

The District Attorney’s

announcement of Sumner as a person of interest came just weeks before the 21st anniversary of Molly’s disappearance. She was a resident of Warren, and her disappearance set off a lengthy search that ended in 2003 with the discovery of her remains in a wooded area in nearby Palmer.

State Police detectives assigned to the Worcester County District Attorney’s Office encourage anyone with information on Sumner, or any additional information on the Molly Bish case, to call the anonymous tip line at 508-453-7575.

SPENCER ALMANAC

REAL ESTATE

BROOKFIELD
\$58,000, 102 Rice Corner Rd, Holdcraft, John D, to Major, Erin, and Lescord, Peter.

LEICESTER
\$127,200, 1156 Stafford St, Walrath, Kenneth J, and Walrath, Sherry L, to Berkshire Prop Buyers LLC.

NORTH BROOKFIELD
\$379,000, 42 Smith Hanson Rd, Phaseup Properties LLC, to Monteiro, David.

\$360,000, 119 S Main St, Remington, William A, and Remington, Karen R, to Crespo, Reinaldo, and Delfino-Crespo, Melissa.

\$83,139, 8 Ayers St, Robertson, Barbara E, and Santander Bank NA, to Santander Bank NA.

SPENCER
\$275,000, 33 Cherry St, Fuller, Stuart R, to Ackerman, Robert V.

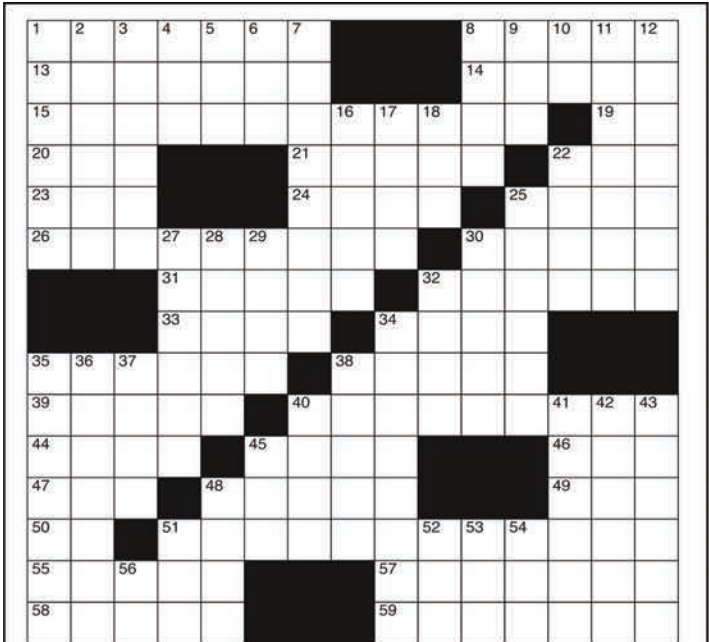
WARREN
\$455,000, 1275 Bemis Rd, Jones, Paul, and Desjardins, Kirsten, to Agard, Troy.

\$398,000, 100 Little Rest Rd, Hogan, James K, and Hogan, Nancy E, to Zucker, Robert, and Zucker, Julia.

\$165,000, 947 Main St, Paquette, Jason L, and Paquette, Chrystine M, to Catt, Nicholas M.

\$120,000, 2271 Main St, Gerstel, Ashley, to Waible, Christine, and Raba, Julie C.

WEST BROOKFIELD
\$55,000, 27 Lyon Rd, Larocque, Paul A, and Larocque, Sharon A, to Pollard, Matthew.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Most courageous

8. Insurance giant

13. Small trace left behind

14. In a way, signals

15. The same letter or sound at the beginning

19. The Great Lakes State

20. Engage in a contest

21. Drinks served to celebrate a birth (Spanish)

22. Manpower

23. Undivided

24. Strong, magnetic metal

25. People of Tanzania

26. Sorts

30. Cop car accessory

31. Trade

32. Sullen and ill-tempered
33. Distinctive practices

34. Motor vehicles

35. Electrodes

38. Polish river

39. Human feet

40. Make very hot

44. Toppin and Kenobi are two

45. Blackbird

46. One point west of due south

47. Large beer

48. Third stomachs

49. Rare Korean family name

50. Hectoliter

51. Aquatic invertebrate

55. Where we live

57. Poked holes in

58. Partner to ways

59. ___ Ann

CLUES DOWN

1. Expressions of approval

2. Replace the interior of

3. Not awake

4. Roman numeral 7

5. Sun up in New York

6. Institute legal proceedings against

7. Bugs homeowners don't want

8. Maltese-Italian composer

9. Very long period of time

10. Touchdown

11. Agents of downfall

12. Complacently or inanely foolish

16. Argentina capital Buenos

17. County in New Mexico

18. An electrically charged atom

22. New Zealand conifer

25. Type of brandy

27. Comments to the audience
28. Tears down

29. Gifts for the poor

30. More painful

32. Good friend

34. Lying in the same plane

35. Line in a polygon

36. Clouds of gas and dust

37. Norse god

38. Health care pro

40. Close tightly

41. One's holdings

42. Became less intense

43. Wilco frontman

45. Woman (French)

48. Expresses delight

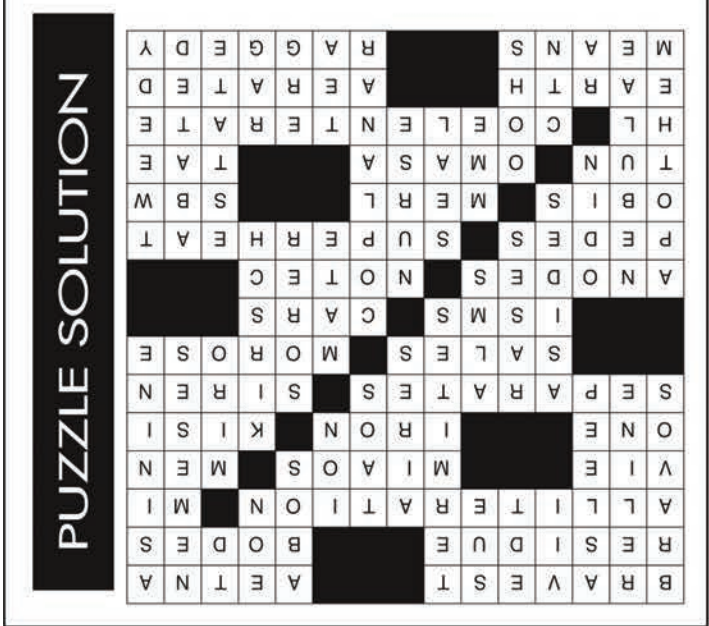
51. TV channel (abbr.)

52. Beverage

53. Unit of work or energy

54. Cleaning accessory

56. Dorm worker



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BROOKFIELD'S ANNUAL PLANT SALE A SUCCESS DESPITE RAIN



Photos Courtesy

The weather was cold and wet, but it did not deter garden enthusiasts from the Brookfield Garden Club. Members provided more than 400 perennial plants for this annual gathering on Brookfield Common on Saturday. With offerings from commercial growers in addition, a steady patronage found the bargains and remained in good spirits throughout. A wide variety of plants, including shade plants and herbs was on offer, besides a raffle for a "Gardener's Dream" tote bucket



containing ten key garden tools for the lucky winner. This proved to be Rachel Gulen at Monday's draw at Spencer's newest brewery, Rapsallion, which opened its doors for the first time this weekend. Pictured (in order), a scene from the Plant Sale, BGC's Chair Bonnie Thomas (right) offering sold tickets for fellow Board member Cheri Snow (left) to draw at Rapsallion and Mrs. Rachel Gulen of West Brookfield was the winner. All inquiries about the Brookfield Garden Club to Bonnie Thomas at 443-838-5199.

No-bake dessert is ideal for warm weather entertaining

Backyard barbecues beckon and poolside entertaining reigns supreme every summer. After guests have had their fill of fire-licked grilled burgers, hot dogs and chicken, a refreshing dessert that won't have summertime hosts sweating preparation can make for the perfect culinary capper.

"Banana Pudding Cheesecake Bars" marry tangy cream cheese with sweet and velvety banana pudding atop a cookie crust. They're easy to prepare ahead of time and easily sliced when the dessert bell beckons. Double up the recipe if you're expecting a crowd or want to have a few leftovers — they're that delicious. Enjoy this recipe, courtesy of Lena Abraham, senior food editor and stylist at Delish.

Banana Pudding Cheesecake Bars

Yields: 9 servings

For crust
1 1/2 cup crushed vanilla wafer cookies
5 tablespoons butter, melted
2 tablespoons sugar
Pinch sea salt

For filling
1 1/2 (8 ounces) blocks cream cheese, softened
1/2 cup sugar
1/2 cup whipped topping
1 3.4-ounce package instant banana pudding mix
1 3/4 cup whole milk

For topping
Whipped topping
1/2 banana, sliced
9 vanilla wafer cookies

1. Line an 8-inch by 8-inch pan with parchment paper.
2. Make crust: In a medium

bowl, combine crushed wafer cookies with butter, sugar and salt. Press in an even layer into the prepared pan. Place in freezer while making filling.

3. Make cheesecake filling: In a large bowl using a hand mixer (or in a stand mixer), beat cream cheese until fluffy and no clumps remain. Add sugar and beat until combined. Fold in whipped topping and set aside.

4. In a medium bowl, whisk together pudding mix and milk. Let pudding stand for 3 minutes in the refrigerator, until thickened. Fold into cheesecake mixture until well combined.

5. Pour filling into prepared crust and smooth into an even layer. Freeze until bars are firm, at least 6 hours and up to overnight.

6. When firm, remove from freezer and slice into nine bars.



Top each bar with a dollop of whipped topping, a slice of banana and a vanilla cookie before serving.

Note: If banana isn't your favorite flavor, replace banana

pudding with lemon pudding and use a thin lemon slice in the whipped topping dollop as a garnish when serving.



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Leicester celebrates Memorial Day



Cherry Valley American Legion Post 443 Legion Riders.

Photos Dave McGrath — Courtesy
The Leicester Memorial parade was kicked off and lead by the Cherry Valley American Legion Post 443 Legion Riders.



Bruce Swett, Parade Organizer and Cherry Valley American Legion Post 443, Adjutant; talking to Leicester police officers.



Honor Guard from the Cherry Valley American Legion Post 443.



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Jake Menzigian, longtime resident and member of Rochdale VFW Post 7556.

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Leicester resident Joe Lennerton playing the bagpipes.

Friday's Child



Zuleika
Age 13

Hi! My name is Zuleika and I want to be a singer when I grow up!

Zuleika is an active, intelligent, and inquisitive girl of Hispanic descent. Her favorite activities include playing with dolls, doing arts and crafts, singing, and dancing. She also enjoys imaginary play. In her current foster home, Zuleika is known to be friendly, mature, and a good helper. She also loves to play with the family dog. Zuleika hopes to be a singer when she grows up.

Zuleika enjoys going to school. While she sometimes needs prompting from adults to do her homework, she does well academically once she puts her mind to it.

Zuleika will do best in a family consisting of a male and female parent, two female parents, or a single female parent. Her social worker is open to families with no other children or with children who are older than Zuleika.

Zuleika is legally freed for adoption.**Who Can Adopt?**

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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.mare-inc.org. The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

United we
stand, divided
we fall

In the 6th century B.C., Aesop shared a fable about the Lion and The Four Oxen. The story, if you have not heard it, goes like this:

A lion used to prowl around a field where four oxen dwelled. Several times he would try to eat them but whenever he approached the four oxen would back their tales up to each other with their bodies pointed outward in different directions. No matter what direction the lion approached, he was met by the horns of one of them and could do nothing. Finally, the oxen began quarreling amongst themselves and so each went off to a pasture of their own in a separate corner of the field. Then the lion attacked them one by one and soon made an end to all four.

The moral to Aesop’s tale has become one of the most well known sayings of our time — United we stand, divided we fall. President Abraham Lincoln parroted the sentiment in his acceptance speech, during this same month in the year 1858: “A house divided against itself cannot stand.”

As of late, it seems the division amongst the country and even in our small communities has grown deeper. What this Editor noticed, however, is that most well minded, kind, compassionate, intelligent people all want the same things. To be happy and successful. The arguments ensue, when people have different ideas on how to reach such a state of success in our government, and even in our own lives. When one person thinks we should reach A by doing x and y, and another thinks we should reach A by doing z, tempers flare. We want to remind you, that there is no reason to get heated when talking to a friend or colleague. Getting heated at a stranger is even more inappropriate. It’s ok if someone disagrees with you. Remain calm.

What needs to unfold, is the ability to hear each other out with a listening ear. Where one person’s experience ends, another’s begins. Solutions always appear in that middle area, where compromises are made.

To be steadfast in your beliefs is important, but it’s even more important to exercise some flexibility, that is where growth takes place. This is where we can learn from someone who doesn’t think the same way we do. It does not make a person weak, when there is a mind shift. It makes them smart.

We’re seeing a lot of arguing on social media, people publicly going back and forth, and the thread never ends with any real change being made. If you want to have a meaningful, productive conversation with someone online, take it to a private message, where the world isn’t watching. In the public eye, we all can be defensive.

Now, there are extremists on both sides of any argument, in those cases, there’s not much you can do. There are people who want to see things through one lens and one lens only. Fine, let them. You will also see ignorance and evil come flying out of the mouths of those you never thought capable, fine let them. Remember that the majority of the people in this country want to unify. It comes down to common sense. United we stand, divided we fall. That statement could not ring truer.

Be strong enough in character, where you are a leader, whether that be in your own community, at work or in your own family. Unity should always be the end goal. Therefore, if you see someone that disagrees with you, and you want to unify, have a conversation that will do just that.

Sometimes, try simply saying, “Hey the country is really divided right now, how can we start to unify on a small scale?” That question puts both people in a position to come up with a solution that works for everyone. Then the domino effect takes hold. Then unity happens, then change, then success.

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Ken Blanchard

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VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Now is the time to combine Leicester’s water/sewer districts

To the Editor:

My Mom was born in Leicester, 1921. It’s 100 years later, and the town still has seven water/sewer districts.

It is time to take Leicester out of the dark ages and give us one viable water/sewer district. The time is now, and the funds are available; please do not waste this opportunity.

The districts are a quasi-private/public entity. The enabling act through the

House of Representatives has the final say on so many requested changes. The money from the American Rescue Plan will allow the town to move forward with a single water/sewer system. We won’t get this chance again; please act now.

MARGARET DARLING
CHERRY VALLEY

Libraries should require masks

To the Editor:

Some folks might object to wearing a mask in a library. We see people in supermarkets and other places not wearing masks anymore, so why would you need a mask in a Library?

Libraries are different than supermarkets. Why? Libraries serve vulnerable populations. Libraries serve children under 12 and people who are immuno-compromised (from having cancer treatments, organ transplants, or for other reasons). They also need to serve people who are not vaccinated yet or choose to not get vaccinated, which makes them more vulnerable to Covid-19.

The Boston Public Library has just

opened to the public, and they are requiring masks for this same reason. The local libraries should emulate what the Boston Public Library is doing and require masks for all patrons.

It should not be too much of a burden to wear a mask in a Library. For those library patrons unwilling to wear a mask, a Library could offer curbside service, where the books you want to borrow are ordered by phone or online, and those books are brought out to you when you come to pick them up.

Sincerely,

PAUL RAVINA
ROCHDALE

We need the Son and sun for living

To the Editor:

There are two types of people, personalities in this world — the godly [wheat] and those who are evil [weeds] who live controlled by Satan, opposing God’s principles. The field represents the world and the wheat and the weeds represent good and evil man and woman.

Throughout our life on this earth, there will be a battle between good and evil; evil contradicts, counterfeits God’s Word. Satan’s people will make every effort to challenge and tempt the godly people to reject God, Jesus principals. Apart from God, Jesus, we the people have little resistance against Satan. That is why we need

the son, Jesus [Holy Spirit] principles to help us grow in this world, life. The sun helps us in our physical needs and the Son; Jesus helps us in our spiritual, eternal and physical world. God, Jesus, provides both the son and the sun. Satan is a deceiver and a liar, and the only assurance you have following Satan is eternal hell. The harvest is the judgment day that each of us will stand before God for sentence.

The choice is ours, choose wisely; eternity is a long time, “eternal!” Matthew 13: 24-30.

ROLAND BLAIS
BROOKFIELD

Election recount affirms Sandra Fritze as Town Clerk

To the Editor:

Friday’s recount resulted in the resounding confirmation of the election of Sandra Fritze as Town Clerk for the Town of Spencer. Chairwoman of the Board of Registrars, Eleanor O’Connor announced the recount results as “unchanged from the election results of 385 for Sandra Fritze, 382 for Michelle Gosselin, 243 for Gary Woodbury, with 1 write in and 6 blanks.”

While every election outcome guarantees that at least one candidate will be disappointed, our community can hold their heads high knowing that our electoral process is accurate and fair. Managing Attorney Lauren Goldberg, of K-P Law, who assisted Interim Town Clerk Brynn Johnson, noted that the organization of the election documents and professionalism of the election workers was among the best she’d encountered in the many recounts she has assisted with.

I am justifiably proud of the Town Clerk’s Office and the entire Election Staff for their hard work and professionalism, particularly in the face of the challenges from social media. It is somewhat ironic that those who made the most negative comments pertaining to this election, did not avail themselves of the opportunity to observe this recount. Apparently, their preference is to spew forth vituperative comments while hiding behind a keyboard, rather than participating in an open and democratic process.

My congratulations to Town Clerk Elect, Sandra Fritz, to Interim Town Clerk Brynn Johnson, and to Candidate and Assistant Treasurer Michelle Gosselin for a clean campaign and professional election. Our community is blessed to have all of you in our employ.

LAURA J. TORTI
SPENCER

The dog days of summer

To the Editor:

Today, it’s supposed to be 95 degrees and humid. I should be out back cutting, splitting, stacking, mowing, planting, watering, etc. in the blast furnace of New England in summer. But, no, thanks for asking; I’m old, now, and more convinced than ever of the wisdom of Rudyard Kipling who said, in “Kim,” “Only mad dogs and Englishmen go out in the mid-day sun.”

For those readers who are convinced I’ve slipped my moorings, I attribute it all to having had my brains fried in the hell that is summer in Texas, as well as other places in the south and southwest when I was a young and a callow fellow.

Have you ever been to Needles, Calif., in the Mojave Desert and hard up against the Arizona state line? It’s only the hottest place in America, nearly every day. Once, I rolled through in a ‘64 Chevy Impala with no A/C and on four bald tires heading for Boston from Salinas, Calif. It was cool that night at 3:30 a.m.; only 95 degrees. I felt so blessed.

Lately, in the sun, I’ve been hallucinating about torrid places where I’ve done time, and this weird vision appears: I’m in some dry-as-dust ghost town in the Great Basin at high noon, and the mer-

cury is hovering around 114 degrees. It is so hot you can feel your lips cracking and your exposed skin scorching like hot dogs in a red hot frying pan.

Suddenly, some desert rat appears walking down the center of the dirt main street with the occasional tumble weed blowing by, and...would you look at that! This buck-naked, bearded old coot in cowboy boots is swinging a dead sidewinder rattlesnake in circles over his head while singing all the lyrics to “Be-Bop-a-Lula.” I mean, he has great range, and, except for the slurred enunciation, Gene Vincent himself would be proud: “Be-Bop-a-Lula, she’s my baby! Be-Bop-a-Lula, I don’t mean maybe... she-ee-ee’s my baby doll, my baby doll, my baby doll. Let’s rock!”

Meanwhile, an onlooking and stupefied female tourist in a sun bonnet, shades, Bermudas and a t-shirt which reads “I Saw Punxutawney Phil!” (and who clearly has stopped at every “Golden Corral” since leaving Pennsylvania) says, “OMG, someone call the EMT’s (The White Coat Division!) This poor man is cray-cray!” To which one of the few locals who still manages somehow to survive, responds: “Lady, there ain’t no medical people for two hundred miles

Discuss financial goals with your family

June is Effective Communications Month. And it’s a good idea to recognize the importance of good communications because it plays a role in almost every aspect of living – including your finances. You’ll want to clearly communicate your financial goals to your loved ones – and you’ll want to hear theirs, too.



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Let’s look at some of the communications you might have with family members:

Your spouse – You and your spouse may have different thoughts about a range of financial topics – how much to save, how much to spend, the level of debt with which you’re comfortable and so on. Try to reach some type of consensus on these issues. However, in regard to investing,

you don’t necessarily have to act in unison all the time. You each may have different investment styles – one of you may be more aggressive, willing to take on more risk in exchange for potentially higher returns, while the other would rather invest with an eye toward mitigating risk, even it means accepting a lower return. Of course, there’s nothing stopping each of you from pursuing your individual investment strategies in your own accounts – IRA, 401(k) and so on. Still, if you are going to work toward common goals – especially toward a shared vision of your retirement lifestyle – you each may want to compromise in your investment choices. And this accommodation is even more necessary in your joint accounts.

Your parents – If you may someday be involved with your parents’ financial plans – which is highly likely – you should know in advance what to expect. This may not be the easiest conversation to have, but it’s an important one. So, for example, ask your parents if they have a durable power of attorney, which allows them to designate someone to manage their financial affairs if they become physically or mentally incapacitated. You might also inquire if they have protected themselves against the potentially enormous costs of long-term care, such as an extended nursing home stay. If not, you might suggest that they contact a financial advisor, who can offer solutions. Once you begin communicating about these issues, you may well want to go further into your parents’ estate plans to determine what other arrangements, if any, they have made. If it seems that their plans are not fully developed, you may want to encourage them to contact an attorney specializing in estate planning.

Your grown children – Just as you talk to your parents about their estate plans, you’ll want to discuss the same topic with your own grown children. Let them know who you have named as a durable power of attorney, what’s in your last will and testament and whether you’ve established a living trust. If you’re already working with a financial advisor and an estate planning professional, make sure your children know how to contact these individuals. Of course, you don’t have to confine your communications to estate plans – if you want to help your children financially, such as loaning them money for a down payment on a home, let them know.

By talking with your loved ones about key financial matters, everyone benefits. So, keep those lines of communication open.

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.

in all directions. What we see is what we got.”

Well, O.K., maybe old Desert Pete (see: Kingston Trio, 1963) doesn’t have both oars in the water; the desert and the hellish heat can push the best of us over the line.

But, do you think the protagonist of my fevered vision is any crazier than the lunatics who have now taken over and are running our once great country right into oblivion, who are happily—and gratuitously—jettisoning the greatest and freest nation in the history of the world into the dumpster of failed cultures, societies, and nation states?

In this PC-mad country in which we currently find ourselves and where everything has been turned on its head, right is now wrong, up is down, free-

Manage mosquitoes to better enjoy your outdoor space

Dine, play, and enjoy your outdoor spaces more than ever this year by managing annoying and disease-spreading mosquitoes. Use a multifaceted approach to boost your enjoyment and help keep mosquitoes away.

Plan your outdoor activities when mosquitoes are less active. Females are the ones looking for a blood meal and are most active at dusk and dawn when looking for warmth and food.

Screened-in porches add a layer of protection but only when they are intact and properly sealed. The same applies to your home. Check screens and seals around doors and windows to help keep these pests from entering your home.

Use bug lights in light fixtures by entryways and in outdoor entertainment spaces. These emit yellow light that is not as attractive to mosquitoes and other insects. Bug lights will not eliminate every unwanted insect but will reduce the number visiting your lights at night and finding their way into your home.

Enhance the ambience and reduce mosquito issues when entertaining outdoors. Use a fan to create a cooler space and keep these weak flyers away. Provide



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MOMENTS
.....
MELINDA
MYERS

fragrant subtle lighting with citronella oil and scented candles. Scatter them throughout the area and within a few feet of the guests for short-term relief.

Reduce the overall mosquito population in your yard by eliminating their breeding grounds. Empty water that collects in items left outside. Change the water in your birdbath at least weekly or whenever you water your container gardens. Add a bubbler or pump to keep water moving in fountains and ponds so mosquito larvae cannot survive.

Toss an organic mosquito control like Mosquito Dunks and Bits (SummitResponsibleSolutions.com) in your rain barrel, pond, or other water feature. Mosquito Bits quickly knock down the mosquito larval population, while the Mosquito Dunks provide 30 days of control. The active ingredient is Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis, a naturally occurring soil bacterium that kills the mosquito larvae but is safe for children, fish, pets, beneficial insects, and wildlife.

Keep your landscape looking its best by managing weeds and grooming neglected gardens. This eliminates some of the resting spaces for hungry adult mosquitoes.



Photo Melinda Myers

Scatter citronella oil and candles throughout outdoor entertainment areas and within a few feet of guests for short-term relief from mosquitoes.

Always protect yourself whenever outdoors. Cover as much of your skin as possible with loose fitting, light colored clothing. Mosquitoes are less attracted to the lighter colors and cannot readily reach your skin through loose clothing.

Further protect yourself by using a personal repellent approved by the EPA. For those looking for DEET-free options, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention has approved products with the active ingredient picaridin, IR3535, and the synthetic oil of lemon and eucalyptus. Check the label for a list of active ingredients and safety recommendations when shopping for mosquito repellents. Avoid products that contain both sunscreen and insect repellent since you need to apply sunscreen more often than the repellent.

Spending more time outdoors is good for our mind, body, and spirit. Using a combination of mosquito-managing tactics will allow you to enjoy and benefit from your time outdoors.

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

MCRAE

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dom is slavery, lies are truth, ignorance is wisdom, indoctrination is education, etc. The so-called "best and brightest" will heatedly defend the proposition that men can get pregnant, that men can menstruate, that men can lactate, that humans born as males with all the natural and insuperable physical advantages that event confers on a masculine body, should certainly be able to compete in high stakes sporting events against females no matter the obvious disadvantage at which the females are put. Ivy League institutions (like Brown University) breathlessly announced last spring they were installing female hygiene product-dispensing machines in all the men's bathrooms. Even Desert Pete would agree: total insanity.

I don't suppose the old Republic will fall just because a few girls who've trained most of their lives to be champions but get their doors blown off by a competitor—or two—who sports muscles and the hint of a five o'clock shadow only a young Carl Lewis could display. Too bad, girls; you were betrayed by your radical, fem-leftist-nut teachers and professors who insisted women could do anything a man could do, even better, even in the physical realm. Oh, you know, things like pole vault 20 feet, throw or hit a 100 mph fast ball, tackle a 240 pound fullback who runs like a gazelle, and everything else in the world of power/contact sports. They lied to you. Where are they now when it comes to fighting for your natural rights? Short answer: they are Communists dedicated to the utter destruction of society as we know it, and couldn't care less about you and fairness. You have been left to twist slowly in the wind.

But, unless some things change—and quickly—the Republic most assuredly will fall, if it hasn't already and irretrievably done so. The other day while I was pumping gas, a somber-faced older man who was doing the same thing at the island asked, "How do you like Biden gas?" That prompted a short conversation, which he concluded sadly as he turned to leave: "I think we've lost our country." I responded, "I think you're right...at least for now."

If you don't think the war—a cold one, at present—for the future of the country is on, you're not paying attention. Wake up, oh sleeper. As Ben Franklin said, regarding the sin of wasting time: "...there will be enough time for sleeping in the grave." Winston Churchill's book (1938) "While England Slept" chronicled the rise of Nazi German power during the time that Great Britain didn't want to hear about it, and pretended all was well. Do I have to sing "Beautiful Dreamer, Awake Unto Me" to get your attention? Out of those racks! On your feet!\

Your war, for those of you young enough to have a future, especially those with children, is raging all around you, and, if you're a typical laid-back American looking forward to the next nice meal or new toy, you're like Churchill's British population: Out of sight, out of mind. The anthem of contemporary America: "Don't worry. Be happy." Just as Bobby McFerrin sang it.

The combat zone, for those who sense that something is very wrong, is in your local schools. Ninety percent of all American children are educated in the public schools, which, in large measure, have become bastions of indoctrination rather than education, of mandated conformity to political ideologies promulgated by either very ignorant or very evil teachers and administrators, and supported by clueless school committees who blithely sign on to pernicious and mendacious curricula like Critical Race Theory, the 1619 Project,

and various so-called Health Curricula which subject children as young as four or five to the most degenerate theories of sexuality—often nothing less than pornography—whether parents know about it, or agree with it, or not. The progressives know whoever controls mass education controls the future. They do, and will, unless a few million good Americans wake the hell up and gird themselves for battle.

If you are willing to hand over your most precious possessions—your children—to fools and knaves who will, among a host of other things, teach them to hate their own country, to disrespect their parents, to mock God, to despise the age-old traditions of their family and their culture, to dismiss as irrelevant the great heroes of our past whose sacrifices for us we just commemorated on Memorial Day...then may the Creator of the Universe forgive you. I won't

The battle is joined all across the country on this issue: the right of parents and taxpayers (who subsidize the whole stinking mess) to have some significant influence on what is and is not being taught in their schools. They are opposed at every step by these brain-washed (and brain-dead) "educators" who insist they and they alone are qualified to decide what should or should not appear in the curriculum. They invariably fall back on any criticism of their program(s) as just more "racism," more "white privilege," more "white fragility," and all the rest of their racist accusations. Every dubious, challenging parent or group of parents is treated as the enemy, as beneath contempt, as just plain stupid. If you even get to the school committee with your complaint or question(s), they will magnanimously grant you two whole minutes to state your case. To which, they invariably answer, "Well, madam, you're the only one who has complained about this." Or, "We're the experts on this...we ask for your trust." Right. The experts who have destroyed true education for most young people in this country.

I understand. This is Massachusetts, a liberal la-la land where a contrary view to that of the prevailing progressive orthodoxy possibly leading to an open, free, and respectful discussion of an issue is simply not tolerated by the massively intolerant forces of the ruling class. However, if you as a parent, grandparent, or patriot love your kids and your country you still have no choice but to fight.

When I was a very young boy, there was a

popular song on the radio, "Stouthearted Men" sung by Nelson Eddy and Jeanette MacDonald. I recall marching around the house singing along with it. Some of the lyrics I remember to this day, though I haven't heard the song in six or seven decades:

"Give me ten men who are stouthearted men

Who will fight for the right they adore
Start me with ten who are stouthearted men

And I'll soon give you ten thousand more.

Shoulder to shoulder and bolder and bolder

They grow as they go to the fore
Then... there's nothing in the world can halt or mar a plan

When... stouthearted men can stick together man to man..." etc.

As far as I can see, the "men" of this country are asleep, like Rip Van Winkle, who was in dreamland for twenty years. Today, June 6, we remember the men—many just young boys—who stepped off into the face of certain death to prosecute their war on the beaches of Normandy. Today, the grandsons of those great—I should say, real—men of the Greatest Generation apparently lack the simple basic levels of testosterone required to go in and confront—very nonviolently—these radicalized idiots (mostly young, white, millennial women and their limp-wristed male supporters) who are determined to turn little boys into little girls, and little girls into Marine Corps Drill Instructors.

Right now, in contentious school board meetings across the country, the "soldiers" standing up and fighting for common sense and the exceptional greatness of America are...women. Tatiana Ibrahim of Carmel, N.Y. on Critical Race Theory in their schools, renders a powerful and gutsy presentation to their school board. Check her out at Bitchute.com. In "How to Unwoke Your School Board," June 1, by Joy Beck in Townhall.com the writer explains what you have to do to start to fight back. Another woman in North Carolina has filed over 200 APRA (Access to Public Records Act) requests to force her school committee to hand over curriculum information which they mightily resisted doing. Why? Something to hide? Those who have to pay for the garbage can't see what they've been forced to purchase?

Well, the hour grows late, men. Anytime, now, that you might feel like turning off the completely useless TV and going down to the school to find

out just what, exactly, they're teaching your kids, and, if you're shocked at what you see, getting up the courage to go speak to the school committee (forget the superintendent, they're all in for the radicalization of the kids) would be nice. When you learn that your kids are being taught you—and your father, and your grandfather—are the problem, were born racists, and are irredeemable, maybe then you'll hear those voices of 350,000 Yankee blue belly soldiers who died in the effort to free the slaves and crying out from their graves "What about us?!" Maybe you'll hear those young men who waded ashore onto beaches being swept by machine gun fire 77 years ago today asking "Is this what you've done to our country? Is this what we gave our all for? If so, we wasted our lives and our deaths. We should've stayed home and had at least some kind of a life." How dare you exhibit such cowardice in this time of grave threats to your country, and in the face of all of those to whom we all owe so much?

Ronald Reagan's famous quote pertains to you, young men and fathers, as much today as to those waiting to go ashore at Omaha and Utah Beaches on that infamous day: "Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."

All glory to those one million-plus Americans who, over the past 244 years, have paid the ultimate price for our freedom and security. All shame to those who, today, see the existence of the "Land of Liberty" threatened more seriously than probably at any time in our history, and yet remain mute, who refuse to even consider that their comfortable—if not luxurious—lifestyle, not to mention their liberty, is under siege right down the street at the local school by zealots intoxicated with power and shot through with hatred for their country, their race, their religious heritage, and everything else the rest of us consider normal and good. To refuse to fight for your liberty, your dignity, your heritage because you're afraid of the repercussions that might possibly come your way, to accept it all without even a whimper is not only pathetic, it's...madness. Just like Crazy Old Desert Pete.

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PURPLE HEART

continued from page A1

important it is to sustain and continue with that meaning," Foyle told the New Leader. "Then came the most hallowed part of the ceremony, where deceased veterans who resided in North Brookfield had their names respectfully announced by Tim Nason in remembrance of their service to the country. In due respect after each name, a drum roll was played by Liam Cloutier from the North Brookfield H.S. band."

To conclude the ceremony, Kaitlyn Foucher led a rendition of the National Anthem. The event also featured the presentation of a proclamation by State Representative Donald Berthiaume.

"The community thanks, and is grate-

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

North Brookfield's process of becoming a Purple Heart Community began in March of 2020, when Foyle introduced selectmen to the opportunity. By becoming a Purple Heart Community, a town commits to honoring and remembering military personnel who were wounded or killed in combat.

"I initiated the North Brookfield Town Purple Heart action predicated

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

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

On Sept. 1, 2020, the Purple Heart Proclamation for North Brookfield was signed by selectmen. Chairman Dale Kiley read the proclamation, and officials initially planned to hold a celebratory event during the Veterans Day program. After the event was canceled

due to COVID-19, officials made plans to celebrate the designation on Memorial Day.

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

Foyle is also thanked for his efforts in making the town's Memorial Day program a success each year. The 2021 program was especially meaningful thanks to the Purple Heart proclamation.

"North Brookfield is also very grateful for Jim's dedication to our town's Memorial Day program every year. Thank you so much, Jim," Kularski added.



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THE GREAT
OUTDOORSRALPH
TRUE

As fishing heats up on the saltwater, anglers are catching a lot of fish on most fishing trips, either on a charter or on a private vessel. Striper fishing has been very good on the Providence River until my brother and myself made a trip last week. Reports were good prior to our fishing trip last Wednesday, launching just above the Bold Point boat ramp. It was a beautiful day with light winds. The sun was just coming up, and the tide was going out for a few more hours. Striper fishing is crazy, and you never know when they are going to be feeding or just become lazy, making for a slow day of fishing. The heavy rain prior to our trip cooled the water down by a few degrees. That is all it takes sometimes.

To make a long story short, we fished for four hours without spotting a single (porgy) baitfish. Unable to catch some fresh for bait, we had us settle for trolling large rebels which produced a single hit, but was lost halfway in. We watched numerous anglers land stripers using porgies, but most were undersize and had to be released. This week, I talked to the owner of Archie's Bait Shop in Providence, R.I., and he revealed the following information. The day we were there, everyone that was looking for the porgies to snag for live bait had a very hard time locating them. The stripers were not driving the baitfish to the top, and when they stay near the bottom, they are hard to snag.

Tides make all the difference



Nine-year-old Leah Varney fishing with her dad Matt at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club last week.

in stimulating the stripers to feed, and sometimes, it is the incoming or outgoing tides that are best. Stripers do not like the sun, and are often slow in there feeding habits, especially in shallow water. It is not always the case, but more often than not, I find it is the norm, at least for me. Last week, when we were on the Providence River, we fished in four to six feet of water hoping to find some bass and bluefish feeding near the top. In the past, many fish would swirl near the top as the boat approached. That is the time to use surface poppers. Anyway, we had no luck and decided that we had enough, and headed for home.

As we passed the area that has a few windmills on the south shoreline, I noticed a

half dozen boats fishing close to it. Slowing the motor to get a better look at what was going on, my hunch was right. A school of baitfish were on top, and anglers were snagging them. We quickly grabbed our rods equipped with snagging hooks and were pleasantly surprised at the dozen of bait fish we snagged in 10 or 15 minutes.

"If only we could have had some of these earlier," I remarked to my brother.

The tide had just changed, and the porgies were driven to the top by feeding fish below, but not many anglers were catching fish, and of those that were, the stripers were small with most being released.

It was now 11 a.m., and I had had enough fishing. It was time to head for home and catch a



An unidentified angler fishing for bass in his kayak last Saturday, at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club.

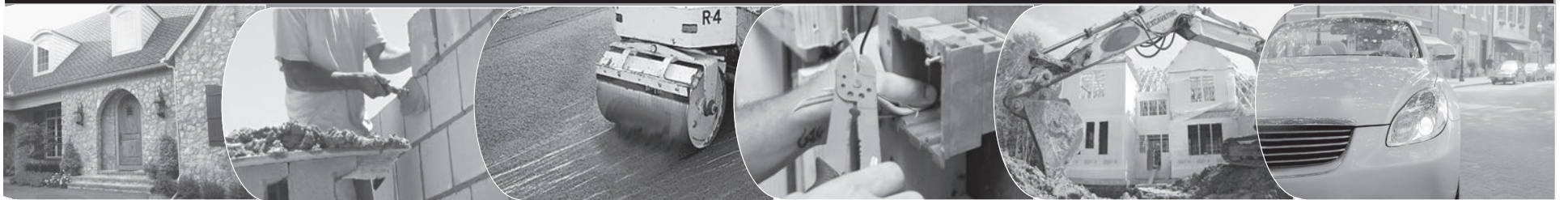
nice nap. I used to fish both tides in my younger years, but now one is enough. It is just nice to go fishing at age 82 with my brother Ken and talk about the good old days. "Just wait till next week, when we return to try our luck again on the Providence River!" Vengeance is sweet. The following week, Archie's Bait & Tackle shop in Providence reported on a couple of anglers catching up

to 14 stripers in the Providence River which all were released but one, because they were too big!

Anglers continue to catch some nice seabass and scup in Massachusetts! Oops! Last week's report stated that Massachusetts was closed to seabass when, in fact, they are open and Rhode Island is closed

Turn To **TRUE** page **A14**

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Valuable philosophy of an old coal miner

POSITIVELY
SPEAKINGGARY W.
MOORE

On May 31, 1975 at 1:15 p.m., I was sitting with my friend Rob at the Sunshine Tap in Traer, Iowa, eating a hamburger, fries and washing it down with a Pepsi. I was wearing cut off blue jeans, an old white t-shirt with Cavaliers Drum & Bugle Corps emblazoned across my chest, and sandals.

Around the corner and across the street in Taylor Park, there was a hundred or so people beginning to gather for a wedding that was set to begin at two o'clock ... a mere 45 minutes later.

The bride's father was nervous and pacing in his tux. With each passing moment

he'd check his watch, look out across the park, and mumble something inaudible.

I asked for the check, paid the tab, then Rob and I began our short walk to the park.

As we crossed the street, I saw the father of the bride rushing towards us. "I can't believe this!" He growled as he approached. "I didn't think you were going to show."

I looked at Rob. "Doesn't it begin at two o'clock?" I asked.

"Where's your tux?" He demanded with increasing anger.

"In the car. I'll get dressed now." I quickly walked away to my 1972 green Pinto and dressed outside the car. I was half amused and half intimidated, but at two o'clock sharp, I was there as promised and waiting at the alter for Arlene.

That was over 46 years ago, and we are still married. Her dad grew to forgive my casual approach to the beginning

of my life with his daughter, thankfully. Fast forward forty-six years ...

Three grown children, two grand kids, and a life together has passed before the blink of our eyes. How can this be? Where does the time go?

Aging and a bad health diagnosis has me pondering what this life is all about. I keep coming up with this ...

"Life is about who we love, who loves us in return, and what we build together."

What else is there? An accumulation of stuff? Accomplishments? Money? It all seems so important at the time but as time passes and we look back on it all, it's meaningless. Who we love, who loves us in return and the life we build together is everything.

I believe too many marriages begin without commitment. "If it doesn't work out, there's always divorce," I heard a bride say a few years ago. Yes,

it's easy to give up and move on. It's harder to stick with it, push through the problems and make it work. And yes, I understand there are some relationships that cannot be fixed and it's necessary to move on from violence and abuse, along with a few other reasons, but I believe most divorces are premature and often unnecessary.

My grandfather was a coal miner. He had a saying, "Stick and stay and make it pay." I asked him what it meant, and he said, "Young men often quit after their first day or two in the mine. Fear of a shaft collapse or just the sickening experience of breathing the thick black dust often cause them to quit. Stick and stay was the advice the old timers would give."

I realize that advice is applicable to almost everything in life, including marriage. If you loved each other enough to get married, love each other

enough to stick with it and make it work. Don't give up.

Our marriage has been far from perfect, but we stuck with each other. We committed to building a life and family together. We smoothed out the rough edges over time. Mistakes were made, worked out and we learned from them and here we are forty-six years later, married, and happy.

Maybe life really is only about who we love, who loves us in return and what we build together. And you know what? I think it's more than enough.

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

A Roundup of Timely Tips for Summer

The "lazy, hazy, crazy days of summer" will soon be here - if you know some tricks of the trade to make your warm weather activities less of a hassle! The following timely tips are a round-up of seasonal hints geared toward carefree summertime living.

Yard & Garden Tips:

***Citronella candles can be costly!** Make your own economical citronella candles to protect your patio or deck from insects by drilling a one inch hole near the wick of an ordinary thick candle.

Fill the hole with citronella, cover with melted wax and pocket the savings!

****Tis the season of poison ivy!** If you find some of the pesky plant in your yard, here's an environmentally safe way to bid the stop the poisonous pest in its tracks. Mix together three pounds of regular table salt with a gallon of soapy water. Spray the solution directly on the plant's leaves and stems. It works for mere pennies a treatment.

***Bug repellents are costly, but not if you cut out the fluff and buy the active ingredient in expensive commercial formulas.** The Center for Disease Control recommends "Repel" as a safe and effective mosquito repellent. Before you run out to buy a pricy pump bottle of the stuff, stock up on its main ingre-

TAKE
THE
HINTKAREN
TRAINOR

dient, lemon eucalyptus - and save a bundle!

***Who wants to spend money on a new garden hose?** Extend your leaky hose to the end of the season this way: Insert a toothpick into the hole, just penetrating the hose wall. Cut off the toothpick flush with the surface of the hose. Wrap the hose with duct tape that covers the toothpick plus two inches on each side of the repair. As the water flows through the hose, the toothpick will swell and fill up the hole and making a tight seal.

***** Produce Pointers:**

***Bananas give off a gas called ethylene.** If you want to speed up the ripening of other fruits place them next to your bananas.

***When green grapes have a yellow tinge to them they are at their sweetest.**

***Never store tomatoes in the refrigerator.** Besides losing their nutritional value, they will also lose their flavor. Store tomatoes above 55°F.

***Washing produce is a necessary chore, but you can save money if you whip up this homemade version of the pricey commercial brand for pennies:** In a spray bottle, mix two tablespoons of baking soda with one cup of water. If you want add a tablespoon of lemon juice. Spray veggies, let sit for a few minutes and rinse!

***To make a homemade "fruit fresh" clone,** dissolve two vitamin C tablets in a large bowl of water. Dunk in the fruits or vegetables to keep them fresher longer.

Vacation Tricks:

***Going on vacation?** You can keep your house plants watered for up to a month by watering the plant well and then placing it (pot and all) in a clear plastic bag. Tie it securely on the top and bottom. Place the plant in northern light. When you return, simply untie the top and let the plant adjust to room air for a day or two before removing the plastic completely. Or, if you have several smaller plants, simply place a thick, wet towel in the bottom of the bathtub and place pots on top of the towel for the duration. The plants should remain moist for about a week.

***Planning a road trip?** Make up economical freezer packs to keep cooler foods chilled while you're on the road. Mix one part rubbing alcohol with two parts water & freeze in a gallon size ziplock bag. The bag will be pliable enough to conform to soda cans, fruits or other cooler items. Just re-freeze and use over and over again. This same formula made up in a smaller batch also works great as an icebag to soothe injuries. Just be sure to put a damp cloth between the skin and the icepack to prevent frostbite.

***Always toss several ziplock storage bags in your luggage.** They can be

used to stow wet swimsuits, dirty socks, sandy seashells, and have dozens more impromptu vacation uses! When you pack, toss a tablespoon or so of baking soda into a large ziplock bag to prevent wet bathing suits from getting mildew on the trip home.

Win Dinner for Two 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 cours dinner for two at the renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

LEGALS

Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

Angela Defalco has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove 5 trees located at 64 Chickering Road, Spencer, MA.

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspection Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, June 23, 2021, at which time all persons having an interest may be present and participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 7:00 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin,
Chairwoman
June 11, 2021

Annual Meeting June 22, 2021 @ 7PM Leicester, Senior Center: 40 Winslow Ave, Leicester, MA 01524

You are hereby directed to notify the Voters of the Burncoat Pond Watershed District to meet as noted above to act on the following articles:

Article 1. To see if the District will vote to elect a District Moderator for one year or to take any action thereon.

Article 2. To see if the District will vote to elect a member of the Management Committee to hold office for a term of three (3) years, a member of the Management Committee shall be elected by ballot, or to take any action thereon.

Article 3. To see if the District will elect a District Clerk to hold office one year from this annual meeting, a clerk shall be elected by ballot for one year or to take any action thereon.

Article 4. To see if the District will elect a District Treasurer to hold office one year from this annual meeting, a treasurer shall be elected by ballot for one year, or to take any action thereon.

Article 5. To see if the District will vote to adopt a budget for fiscal year 2014, the

appropriation of moneys to be raised by assessment upon the proprietors in support thereof, or to take any action thereon.

June 11, 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. WO21P1797EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Rose R Nevins

Also known as:

Rose Rita Nevins

Date of Death: 12/24/2016

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Shirley M Sheridan of Southborough MA**

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Shirley M Sheridan of Southborough MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/29/2021.**

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: May 26, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate

June 11, 2021

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS 6 Central St.

Brookfield, MA 01506

The Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing beginning at 6:15 p.m., Tuesday, July 13 at the Brookfield Town Hall located at 6 Central Street.

The purpose of the hearing is to consider a request from Vernon Lunt to expand a home located at 84 Allen Road. This requires a variance as per Section 7) Dimensional Requirements, sub-section C) Dimensional Regulation Table, of the Zoning By-Law for the Town of Brookfield. The building and lot are pre-existing, non-conforming, and are located in the Rural Residential District.

Timothy Simon – ZBA Chairman

June 11, 2021

June 18, 2021

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD INVITATION FOR BIDS FY 21-22 ROAD MATERIALS

The Town of Brookfield will receive bids for crack sealing, reclamation & paving as needed for the period from July 1, 2021-June 30, 2022. Specifications and Bid Forms may be picked up at the Brookfield Highway Department, 56 Mill Street, Brookfield, MA or requested via email from highway@brookfieldma.us. Bids are to be submitted addressed to the Highway Superintendent and

marked "FY 21-22 Bid for Crack Sealing, Reclamation & Paving". Bids will be received in the Highway Department Office until 10:00 AM, Wednesday, June 23, 2021 when they will be opened and read aloud via a virtual meeting in the Highway Department Office. The Town of Brookfield reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids. Contractors are required to comply with Massachusetts Department of Labor and Industries Prevailing Wage Rates. Contractors desiring to bid on road repair and reconstruction, and/or sidewalk construction must have Mass Department of Transportation prequalification. A 5% bid bond is required. The Town of Brookfield is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

June 11, 2021

June 18, 2021

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on **Tuesday, June 29, 2021**, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at **7:00 p.m.** or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

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

Appeal of Decision – Applicant/ Owner: Spencer Solar Farm, LLC; Location: North Brookfield Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R39-14. The applicant is requesting an Appeal under section 7.1.2.A (Appeals) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw Zoning to appeal the denial of the building permit by the Building Inspector. The property is located within rural residential zoning district.

June 11, 2021

June 18, 2021

OBITUARIES

Dr. Leonard A. Simonelli, O.D., 94

EAST BROOKFIELD- Dr. Leonard A. Simonelli, O.D., 94 yrs. old, formerly of 100 Connie Mack Drive, passed away peacefully at UMASS Marlborough Hospital on Wednesday, June 2nd.



He was the husband of Jean R. (Cahill) Simonelli who died in 2014. He leaves his son Michael L. Simonelli and his wife Colleen of Shrewsbury, his daughters Kathleen A. Simonelli of Worcester and Cara M. Johnson and her husband David of Northborough, his grandchildren; Michael Simonelli, Gianna Simonelli, David Consiglio and his wife Juliane Sousa, Anthony

Consiglio, Kylie Giarrusso and her husband Steven, Taylor Johnson and her fiancé Michael Mandrioli, and great grandson; Jack Giarrusso, many nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his son David W. Simonelli in 1983 his brothers; Vincent, Stephano, Edwardo, Guido, and Henry Simonelli and sisters; Anna Loconto and Irene Lowe.

Leo was a local Optometrist in Spencer for more than 60 years, prior to his retirement. He was born in Southbridge, the son of Italian immigrants Ettore and Theresa (Spinelli) Simonelli. He attended St. Mary's H.S. in Southbridge and then attended Penn. State School of Optometry class of 1948. While at Penn State he was a member of Phi Theta Epsilon Fraternity and finished his doctorate on an accelerated program. He was a member of St. John the Baptist Church, the American Optometric Assoc., and an Honorary Life Member of the

Spencer Exchange Club. He was a long-time benefactor for eyeglasses and eye exams for the monks at St. Joseph's Abbey in Spencer. He was an Honorary Member of the New England College of Optometry Alumni Assoc. in Boston. He once served on the E. Brookfield Board of Health and was a Library Trustee. He was a former Corporator of the Spencer Savings Bank. Leo donated his Optometric Equipment to the MCPH University Optometry School where it is now on display.

Leo met the love of his life Jean in Southbridge at a local dance. This sparked a 61-year romance and marriage. Together they raised a family of four and persevered through the loss of their oldest child. Leo will always be remembered for his love of entertaining family and friends. He especially enjoyed going out with Jean and their large circle of friends every Saturday night for dinner and dancing. Leo liked to live by one simple motto of Family, Faith, and Friends and he was considered a friend by many. Being a kind, devoted husband, and dependable father was of the utmost importance to Leo and he certainly did not disappoint when it came to wholeheartedly loving his immediate and extended family.

Leo's funeral was held on Tuesday, June 8 from the J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer with a Funeral Mass at 10 am.in St. John the Baptist Church, No.Brookfield Rd., E.Brookfield. Burial followed in Evergreen Cemetery, E.Brookfield. Calling hours are Monday, June 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. in the funeral home.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Dr. Leonard A. Simonelli Memorial Scholarship c/o David Prouty H.S. Permanent Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 172, Spencer, MA 01562. www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Raymond A. Lafaille, 77

EAST BROOKFIELD- Raymond A. Lafaille, 77, of E.Brookfield, died Thursday, May 27 at his home.



He leaves his wife of 54 years, Celine R. (Girouard) Lafaille, his son Norman R. Lafaille of Southbridge, his daughters; LynnRae Allain and her husband Jamie of North Port, FL., and Andrea Pope and her husband Kenneth of Boca Raton, FL., his brothers; Denis Lafaille and his wife Paulette of Harrisville, RI., and Roger Lafaille and his wife Darlene of Valley Station, Kentucky, his

sisters; Pauline Gosselin of Newport, VT., Helen Suess and her husband William of Chepachet, RI and Irene Lafaille of Newport, RI., his grandchildren; Andrew and Nathan Lafaille and Kasimera, Katherine and Liliana Pope, several nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by a brother Norman Lafaille, a sister Sylvia Doucette and his brother in law Leo Gosselin.

Ray was a union plasterer for the BAC Local 3 Chapter in Worcester for more than 30 years, retiring in 2008.

Born in Williamstown, VT., he was the son of Emile and Aline (Cournoyer) Lafaille and later served his country with the U.S. Army during the Vietnam War era.

Ray was a longtime member of Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish, and the VFW in Ft. Myers Beach, FL., where he spent his winters. He was an avid golfer and Nascar fan, a member of the Thunderbird's Mens' Club, and loved spending time with friends and family. Ray was a loving and dedicated husband, father, and grandfather.

Ray's funeral was held on Thursday, June 3, from the J.Henri Morin & Son Funeral Home, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer with a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Church, 7 Church St., Spencer. Burial with Military Honors followed in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Cemetery, Spencer. Calling hours were Wednesday from 5 to 7 pm in the funeral home. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish, 46 Maple St., Spencer, MA 01562. www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Sandra (Karlson) True, 68

SOUTHBRIDGE- Sandra (Karlson) True, 68, of 657 Worcester St., died Sunday, May 30 at her home after an illness.



She leaves her husband of 50 years, John H. True, Jr., a son, John W. True and his girlfriend Joelle Levasseur of Leicester, a daughter, Wendy K. Zanauskas and her fiancé David MacGregor of Woodstock CT, two brothers, Bruce Karlson and his wife Sandra , and Winslow Karlson III, three sisters; Diane Paquino and her husband Michael, Linda Trites, and Pamela Rizzi and her husband Robin, 6 grandchildren; Travis, Adrianna and John True, Katie, Danielle and Emily Zanauskas, 4 step-grandchildren; Nicole and Dylan Perreault, Makenzie and Shane MacGregor, many nieces and nephews. Born in Medford, MA., she was the daughter of Winslow & Lois (Mortensen) Karlson. She lived most of her life in Leicester before moving

to Arkansas where she lived for 15 years and then returning to live in Southbridge for the past three years.

Sandra was a graduate of Franklin High School and went on to receive her Doctorate in Psychology from Northeastern University.

She was a Physician's Assistant in Orthopedics in Arkansas and worked at several area banks in Massachusetts.

She was devoted to her family and friends. She was an avid reader and loved to bake. She also started her own online blog for Rheumatoid Arthritis to share her experiences with others. While living in Arkansas she belonged to the New Hope Fellowship church.

Calling hours for Sandra were held Saturday, June 5 from 1-3 P.M. in the MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main St., Leicester. A Memorial Service was held at 3 P.M. at the conclusion of calling hours. Burial will be private. Please omit flowers. Contributions may be made to the Rheumatoid Arthritis Foundation, Help Fight RA. www.morinfuneralhomes.com

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POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26

2:21 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:28 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), services rendered; 9:39 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 9:56 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:54 a.m.: officer wanted (North Spencer Road), spoken to; 11:44 a.m.: 911 call (Monticello Drive), misdial; 12:35 p.m.: accident (Chestnut Street), report taken; 12:45 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:53 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 1:05 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no incident/outcome recorded on police log; 1:22 p.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), grass in roadway; 1:58 p.m.: sex offender registration/annual (West Main Street), assisted; 2:31 p.m.: medical/general (Prospect Street); 3:02 p.m.: animal complaint (Browning Pond Road), loose rooster; 3:33 p.m.: fire alarm (Ash Street), referred; 4:52 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 6:01 p.m.: intelligence/criminal (Bixby Road), info taken; 6:24 p.m.: residential fire (Lyford Road), referred; 6:24 p.m.: disabled mv (Charlton Road), assisted; 6:38 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 6:45 p.m.: citizen complaint (Cranberry Meadow Road), lawn clippings in road; 7:06 p.m.: officer wanted (Dufault Road), spoken to; 8:24 p.m.: elderly matter (Howe Village), threats; 9:47 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), rep. animal abuse; 10:03 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops - 3).

THURSDAY, MAY 27

2:09-2:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:16 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 3:46 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street);

4:55 a.m.: fireworks complaint (Pleasant Street), poss. gunshots; 9:09 a.m.: DPW call (Howe Road), tree/wires down; 9:41 a.m.: officer wanted (West Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 10:12 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 10:46 a.m.: safe keeping property (West Main Street), needle found; 11:01 a.m.: disabled mv (North Spencer Road), assisted; 11:10 a.m.: medical/general (Mercury Drive); 12:35 p.m.: animal complaint (Meadow Road), dog left in mv; 1:21 p.m.: lost/found (Main Street), lost wallet; 2:05 p.m.: fraud (Main Street), rec'd disturbing text; 3:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: previous incident; 3:26 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), landlord/tenant dispute; 4:26 p.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), barking dog; 4:26 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street), 4:32 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 7:40 p.m.: officer wanted (Park Street), spoken to; 8:07 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:11 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Chestnut Street), heavy smoke in area; 10:58 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), tow inquiry; (Total daily mv stops - 10).

FRIDAY, MAY 28

12:31 p.m.: officer wanted (Water Street), info taken; 12:31 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:49-1:52 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:06 a.m.: accident (West Main Street), hit/run; 8:23 a.m.: larceny (Main Street), storage unit burglarized; 9:12 a.m.: residential fire alarm (Sherry Lane), referred; 9:13 a.m.: trespassing (Brooks Pond Road), no trespass order issued; 10:39 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:39 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 11:58 a.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), services rendered; 12:11 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 12:23 p.m.: juvenile matter (Ash Street), student ran from school;

1:44 p.m.: accident (Main Street), hit/run; 5:01 p.m.: DPW call (Condon Drive), broken sign; 5:13 p.m.: suspicious mv (Wire Village Road), mv towed/blocking entry; 5:55 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Valley Street), accidental; 7:25 p.m.: fire alarm (Smithville Road), referred; 7:50 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:04 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), loose dog; 8:15 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 8:33 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 9:43 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 11:34 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); (Total daily mv stops - 4).

SATURDAY, MAY 29

12:05 a.m.: building checked, secure; 2:10 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 2:27 a.m.: medical/general (Thompson Pond Road); 3:10 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:12 a.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), rem. branch from road; 9:43 a.m.: fire alarm (North Brookfield Road), referred; 10:53 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), family issue; 10:53 a.m.: mutual aid (Donnelly Road), open line; 10:57 a.m.: officer wanted (Browning Pond Road), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 11:20 a.m.: fire alarm (Bixby Road), referred; 12:29 p.m.: parking complaint (Clark Street), mvs on sidewalk; 12:36 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street) tent collapsed due to rain; 1:30 p.m.: medical/general (G.H. Wilson Road); 2:10 p.m.: DPW call (Wilson Street), tree across road; 2:57 p.m.: 911 call (Charlton Road), accidental; 3:07 p.m.: disabled mv (Charlton Road), services rendered; 3:51 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 5:04 p.m.: officer wanted (Bellevue Drive), speeding; 5:16 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), spoken to; 8:04 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), North Brookfield PD bolo; 9:03

p.m.: fireworks complaint (West Main Street), services rendered; 10:29 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:41 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; (Total daily mv stops - 3).

SUNDAY, MAY 30

2:07-2:12 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:51 a.m.: burglary (Woodside Road), Michael James Frietsch, 28, 363 Goodale Street, West Boylston, b&e for misdemeanor, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, OUI liquor, arrest; 6:25 a.m.: counterfeiting (West Main Street), fake \$20; 9:01 a.m.: mv complaint (Wilson Street), speeding; 11:50 a.m.: mv complaint 9Main Street), passing in breakdown lane; 1:24 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 1:35 p.m.: residential alarm (Clark Street), services rendered; 4:01 p.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), no action required; 4:32 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), destructive customer; 5:24 p.m.: assault w/firearm (Chestnut Street), earlier incident; 6:04 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 6:16 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Charlton PD bolo; 6:47 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), out of control male; 8:09 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 9:10 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), family issue; 9:21 p.m.: medical/general (Terkanian Drive); 10:03 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:06 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Road), referred; 10:29 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops - 4).

MONDAY, MAY 31

12:24 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:12 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:02 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), unwanted party; 10:09 a.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Street), injured crow; 11:06 a.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info

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

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TRUE

continued from page **A11**

until the 24th of June, opening with a three fish limit. Just another senior moment. Anglers should always check their abstracts for fish limits and regulations. It is crazy that both states cannot agree on season dates and limits!

Numerous kayaks were observed in the Providence River, and are a very common sighting of these seaworthy fishing watercraft. I sure wish they were around in my younger years. Some are equipped with a small electric motor, while oth-

ers are powered with foot pedals, or the old fashion paddles. Standing up in the kayaks are also easy for the younger generation, but not for me! Whatever your preference is for fishing, getting out there and enjoying the great outdoors will keep you young and healthy, and the rewards of catching a striper to bring home for the table is like icing on the cake. Grab your fishing rod and your family and go fishing!

June 5- 6 is Massachusetts freshwater free fishing weekend. Take advantage of the free fishing weekend, and you may just get hooked on fishing.

This week's picture shows

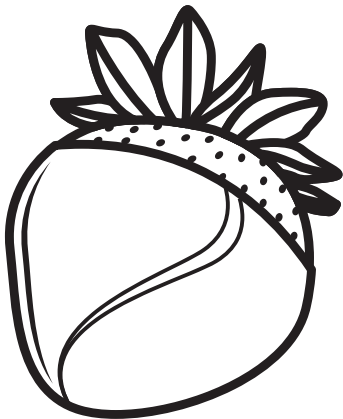
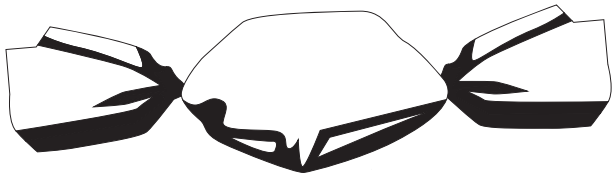
nine-year-old Leah Varney, fishing with her dad Matt at the Uxbridge Rod & Gun Club last Saturday. They had caught one trout, and were given two more by another member fishing at the pond, giving them enough trout for the supper table. The second picture shows an unidentified member in their Kayak, fishing for bass at the Uxbridge pond. The quiet and peaceful surroundings was sure relaxing, away from the crazy, dangerous world around us.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!



Creative Coloring

Celebrate National Candy Month.
Color in this picture to create your own masterpiece.



THIS DAY IN...



HISTORY

- **1770:** CAPTAIN JAMES COOK DISCOVERS THE GREAT BARRIER REEF OFF AUSTRALIA.
- **1919:** SIR BARTON WINS THE BELMONT STAKES, BECOMING THE FIRST HORSE TO CAPTURE THE TRIPLE CROWN.
- **1962:** THREE MEN ESCAPE THE PRISON ON ALCATRAZ ISLAND, BECOMING THE ONLY PRISONERS TO DO SO.



THIS POPULAR CARNIVAL SWEET
WAS ONCE KNOWN AS
“FAIRY FLOSS.”

ANSWER: COTTON CANDY



PULL

to stretch and fold
candies like taffy

How they
SAY that in...

- ENGLISH:** Sweet
- SPANISH:** Dulce
- ITALIAN:** Dolce
- FRENCH:** Sucré
- GERMAN:** Süß



ANCIENT EGYPTIANS ARE CREDITED
WITH INVENTING CANDY.
THEY MIXED DRIED
FRUIT WITH HONEY.



Can you guess what
the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: CHOCOLATE TRUFFLES

⊙ * ☒ ☺ ~ ⓪ ♫ ✱ ✕ ✱ + ☿ ✱ ▲ ☾ ✱ ♂ ✱ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿ ☿
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

CRYPTO FUN

☒ ☾ ☿ ✱ ♂ ☿ ~ ✱ +
Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to surfing .
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 24 = E)

- A. 18 9 7 24 12**
Clue: Undulating water
- B. 18 20 13 24 1 15 14**
Clue: Fall off
- C. 12 18 24 19 19**
Clue: Become larger
- D. 13 20 13 24 19 20 6 24**
Clue: Type of surfing wave

Answers: A. waves B. wipeout C. swell D. pipeline

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Here's How It Works:

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

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

ANSWER:

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Jules Lusignan



T.A. King



Maureen Cimoch



Ellen Therrien



John Kokocinski



Adrienne James


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ON DEPOSIT

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WEBSTER - 155 THOMPSON ROAD


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 assisted sale **\$695,000.**

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SORRY, SOLD!

 Beautiful CAPE! Enormous amount of updates. New Asphalt Shingles, & 8 New Skylights! 4 Bedrooms! 3 - 1/2 Baths! 24 x 26 Great Rm w/ Gas Fireplace! Master Suite w/"Spa Like" Bath & Soaking Tub! WHAT MORE COULD YOU WANT? INGROUND POOL? OK!! has that TOO!! All Painted! SS Appliances. New Tankless Hot Water Boiler. **\$467,000**

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD


SORRY, SOLD!

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

WEBSTER • 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET


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 large 3 Family- a rare find! 1st Floor spacious 2 bedroom apartment. 2 - 2nd floor, 3 bedroom apartments Walkout basement to off street parking.
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On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave


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WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind. Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180' +/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplaced living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining, formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplaced lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! **Remember, Timing Is Everything!**
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Webster - 401 Treasure Island Condo

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

AUBURN

	May 2020	May 2021	Trend
Median Price	\$331,000	\$385,000	▲
Market Volume	\$5,647,350	\$8,190,900	▲
# of Homes Sold	16	21	▲
Avg Days on Market	20	19	▼
Month Supply Inv.	.8	.49	▼

WEBSTER

	May 2020	May 2021	Trend
Median Price	\$279,500	\$298,500	▲
Market Volume	\$2,766,000	\$6,044,200	▲
# of Homes Sold	10	16	▲
Avg Days on Market	34	22	▼
Month Supply Inv.	1.68	.67	▼

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How to help and support the world's oceans

The ocean produces more than half of the world's oxygen. That means oceans are not just fun places to spend summer afternoons, but also vital to life on planet Earth.

It's easy to recognize the role that healthy oceans play in preserving and promoting marine life. But many people may be unaware of just how much humans rely on the ocean, and not just as a supplier of the air we breathe or even the foods we eat. For example, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration notes that many medicinal products come from the ocean. Such products include ingredients that help in the fight against an assortment of diseases, including cancer, Alzheimer's and heart disease.

Despite their importance to human life, the world's oceans are facing strong threats. Greenpeace notes that plastic pollution and overfishing may be contributing to irreversible damage to the world's oceans. Confronting the challenges posed to the world's oceans

may seem like a daunting task, but the NOAA notes that the following are some of the many ways ordinary citizens can do their part to help the oceans.

- Conserve water. Consuming less water results in less runoff. Less runoff leads to less wastewater eventually finding its way into the oceans. Conserving water also has the added benefit of saving people money on their monthly water bills.

- Become a more conscientious consumer. When purchasing products with chemicals in them, such as household cleaners, choose items with nontoxic chemicals and always dispose of chemicals properly. Purchase fewer plastics and bring reusable bags to the grocery store instead of relying on single-use, disposable plastic bags. When shopping for seafood, choose sustainable seafood.

- Reduce waste. Be mindful of what you throw away, making a concerted effort to reduce what you discard.

- Reduce vehicle pollution. Reduce vehicle waste and pollution by choosing a fuel-efficient car or truck when purchasing your next vehicle. In addition, make a concerted effort to drive less, as exhaust fumes are not the only ways vehicles are harming the world's oceans. A 2020 study published in the journal Nature Communications found that microplastics released from car tires and brake systems are a significant source of marine plastic pollution. Reducing reliance on vehicles like cars and trucks can help reduce the amount of microplastics, which can be deposited in oceans thousands of miles away from where they were originated, that find their way into the world's oceans.

- Consume less energy. Another way to save money and help the world's oceans is to make energy efficiency a greater priority. Choose energy efficient products when shopping for everything from light bulbs to refrigerators.



Fossil fuels are burned to help create electricity, and the burning of fossil fuels produces greenhouse gases that hurt the world's oceans. Energy efficient products consume less electricity, helping people save money on their utility bills and

ensuring fewer greenhouse gases are entering the planet's atmosphere.

Oceans are vital to life on earth. Anyone, regardless of where they live, can take steps to protect the world's oceans.



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How to care for perennials

Perennials can add color and vibrancy to any garden. One of the more desirable components of perennials is that they come back year after year, meaning homeowners do not have to invest in a gardenful of new flowers every year. That can add up to considerable savings. Perennials often form the foundation of beautiful gardens.

Annuals only grow for one season, produce seeds and then die. However, perennials die back to the ground every autumn and their roots survive the winter. So the plants reemerge in the spring, according to *The Farmer's Almanac*. Some perennials are short-lived, meaning they will come back a few consecutive years; others will last for decades.

Though planted perennials require less maintenance than annuals, they are not completely maintenance-free. Certain care is needed to help perennials thrive, and that starts with the soil. In fact, soil is the single most important factor for growing healthy plants. Penn State Extension says most perennials grow ideally in well drained, fertile soil with a pH of 6.0 to 7.0. In addition, organic matter can improve soil texture and water-holding ability.

When including perennials in the garden, make sure you wait for the right time to plant them. The ideal time is during the spring or fall. Perennials come as container-grown perennials, which already have been established in the soil. Bare-root perennials are

just roots that are often packed in peat moss. In order to plant bare-root perennials, soak the roots in water for several minutes before gently planting in the ground, indicates the how-to resource Tip Bulletin.

Perennials should be watered deeply, especially during the first growing season. However, the soil should never be overly dry or wet. Most perennials do not need to be fertilized heavily. A single application in the spring typically is all that's needed.

Care along the way can include dead-heading spent flowers so that plants can use their energy on seed production and reblooming. Perennials should be divided when they grow large, every three to four years when the plants are not in bloom. Perennials produce fewer flowers or may look sickly when the time has passed to divide them. Early spring often is a good time to divide perennials, advises *The Farmer's Almanac*.

A thick layer of mulch can help perennials to overwinter successfully. Perennials planted in containers will need to be transplanted into the garden before it gets cold because most containers cannot thoroughly insulate perennial roots.

Apart from these strategies, perennials pretty much take care of themselves. As long as sunlight requirements match plant needs, the perennials should thrive.



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Local students named to Assumption University Dean's List

WORCESTER — Assumption University has announced those students who have been named to the University's Dean's List for the spring 2021 semester. Students named to the Dean's List must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 for a five-class, 15-credit semester to be included on the prestigious list, which is announced at the completion of the fall and spring semesters. Local students include:

Joseph Facticeau of West Brookfield, Class of 2021

Hannah Garabedian of Spencer, Class of 2021

Connor McCaffrey of Spencer, Class of 2021

Matthew Escobar of Leicester, Class of 2023

Erin Hazelhurst of Rochdale, Class of 2023

Aaron Marvin of Brookfield, Class of 2023

Zachary Merow of Brookfield, Class of 2023

Lydia Petit of Rochdale, Class of 2023

Braedon Wood of Spencer, Class of 2023

2023

Kaden Wells of Spencer, Class of 2024 "These students demonstrated incredible resiliency amid the challenges posed by COVID-19 during the previous academic year and remained committed to their programs of study," said Assumption University President Francesco C. Cesareo, Ph.D. "Assumption is proud of these students for excelling in the classroom as they immersed themselves in the University's liberal arts curriculum, steeped in the Catholic intellectual tradition, and their majors preparing them for meaningful lives and careers after graduation."

Assumption University provides students with a comprehensive, Catholic liberal arts experience through curricular and co-curricular programs, including internship opportunities, recreational activities, and more than 60 on-campus clubs and organizations. An Assumption education forms graduates both intellectually and spiritually, inspiring wonder and purpose as they

discover their vocation.

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



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POLICE

continued from page A14

taken; 12:15 p.m.: commercial alarm (Bixby Road), services rendered; 1:31 p.m.: disturbance (Church Street), issue w/tenant; 3:10 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Chestnut Street), poss. illegal burn; 3:26 p.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:29 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), family matter; 5:04 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), debris in road/removed; 6:08 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), noise complaint; 6:13 p.m.: fraud (Browning Pond Road), scam call; 8:01 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 8:15 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Buteau Road), investigated; 8:58 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 9:20 p.m.: obscene phone call (Valley Street), re: text messages; 9:23 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 9:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; (Total daily mv stops – 2).

TUESDAY, JUNE 1

12:11 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 9:21 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), lost license; 9:30 a.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), services rendered; 9:52 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:36 a.m.: DPW call (Northwest Road), damaged sign; 10:51 a.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), req. detective; 10:58 a.m.: DPW call (Northwest Road), wire in road; 11:43 a.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), hears noises; 11:49 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), baby groundhog under shed; 12:03 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; 1:57 p.m.: sex offender registration/annual (West Main Street), assisted; 2:38 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 2:40 p.m.: residential alarm (Charlton Road), services rendered; 2:55 p.m.: accident (Ash Street), previously struck; 3:09 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 4:24 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street); 4:45 p.m.: medical/general (Temple Street); 5:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), re: receipt; 6:12 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:29 p.m.: runaway (High Street), 13 y/o ran off; 6:47 p.m.: 911 call (Wire Village Road), open line; 7:02 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:05 p.m.: disturbance (Pleasant Street), neighbor issues; 8:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), loose dog; 8:29 p.m.: school alarms (Main Street), services rendered; 8:47 p.m.: medical/general (Wilson Street); 9:24 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 9:49 p.m.: 911 call (Howe Village), no emergency; 10:09 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operator; 10:24 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 11:09 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), erratic operator; (Total daily mv stops – 4).

##

Leicester Police

THURSDAY, MAY 27

1:28 a.m.: suspicious mv (Moosehill Road), spoken to; 5:02 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), mv towed; 8:18 a.m.: accident (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log; operating w/revoked license marked lanes violation, mv towed; 8:28 accident (Main Street), report taken; 10:10 disabled mv (Main Street) services

rendered; 2:23 p.m.: fraud (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 4:47 p.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), referred; 8:19 p.m.: disturbance (Boyd Street), peace restored; 11:35 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning.

FRIDAY, MAY 28

12:16 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 12:57 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:42 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 6:15 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, citation issued; 9:34 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 11:17 a.m.: larceny (Main Street), report taken; 2:22 p.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 3:53 p.m.: erratic operator (South Main Street), advised civil action; 4:09 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 9:21 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 11:38 p.m.: ambulance (Tobin Road), transported;

SATURDAY, MAY 29

10:45 a.m.: erratic operator (Stafford Street), gone on arrival; 1:16 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to; 3:56 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), citation issued; 6:58 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 7:04 p.m.: erratic operator (South Main Street), spoken to; 11:24 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued.

SUNDAY, MAY 30

2:04 a.m.: accident (River Street), mv towed; 1:04 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), spoken to; 5:21 p.m.: family problem (White Birch Street), transported to hospital; 5:47 p.m.: assist citizen (Tanglewood Road), report taken; 6:15 p.m.: disturbance (White Birch Street), services rendered; 9:19 p.m.: suspicious activity (Stafford Street), services rendered; 9:48 p.m.: disturbance (White Birch Street), services rendered; 11:26 p.m.: disturbance (White Birch Street).

MONDAY, MAY 31

10:02 a.m.: fraud (Main Street), spoken to; 10:04 a.m.: harassment (Pleasant Street), report taken; 1:22 p.m.: investigation (Main Street), spoken to; 4:16 p.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 4:59 p.m.: trespassing (Main Street), unable to locate; 6:11 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), report taken; 6:29 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning.

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

12:08 p.m.: disturbance (Rawson Street), peace restored; 3:21 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 9:33 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 11:11 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

10:47 a.m.: assist other PD (Victor Avenue, Oxford), no service; 11:59 a.m.: restraining order service (Rawson Street), served; 2:35 p.m.: suspicious person (Soojians Drive), report taken; 3:43 p.m.: investigation (Salminen Drive), services rendered; 3:59 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 5:06 p.m.: family problem (Salminen Drive), report taken; 6:43 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 6:55 p.m.: suspicious person (Sterling Street), unfounded; 7:34 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), mv towed; 7:48 p.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 11:42 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning.

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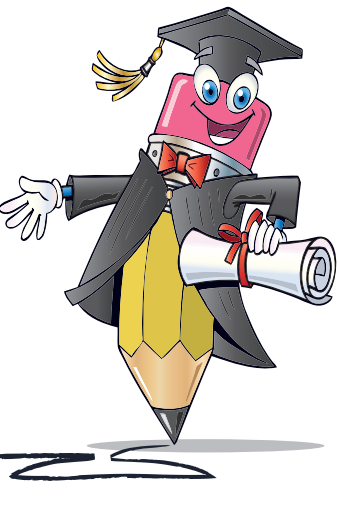
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