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Friday, June 26, 2020

## Leicester Middle School's Olympic Foolery goes virtual

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
 STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Students and staff at Leicester Middle School have made the most of a challenging situation, most recently by reimagining a beloved tradition.

The school's unified arts department holds its annual Olympic Foolery at the end of each year. Because remote learning made the typical tradition impossible, school leaders decided to change it up this year and preserve the fun.

As part of this year's virtual event, students in grades 5-8 competed against each other by taking part in several online challenges. The winning grade level (grade five) watched remotely as a bucket of water was dumped on Principal Chris Fontaine from the school roof.

Although this year's event didn't provide the same in-person teamwork opportunities as the usual tradition, students still had plenty of fun.

"There are still lots of fun games to play, and I am thankful to the teachers who thought of games for us to make Olympic Foolery possible," said LMS student Lena Dolen.

The remote event featured several activities and challenges available through Google Classroom. These included taking part in trivia night, making sock puppet impressions of teachers, creating a balloon-powered car, producing an origami creation, and designing a music album cover, among others.

James DePace, a STEM teacher at LMS, teamed up with several other faculty members to make the event possible. Once students completed a certain challenge, they posted a picture or video



Photo Courtesy

Leicester Middle School Principal Chris Fontaine takes part in a fun year-ending program.

that was shared with the entire school.

"At the end of the week, the grade level with the most points will be able to get a secret Zoom code to watch Principal Fontaine get a bucket of water dumped on his head from the top of the school," DePace said last week. "So far, participation has been outstanding."

Although students often long for vacations and snow days, the extended time off has made them yearn for school. They miss their sports, arts, clubs, teachers, and hanging out with friends – and they

found that daily life will be much different when school eventually returns. For now, LMS students enjoyed the Olympic Foolery as a fun way to wrap up the three-month virtual school year.

"In this Olympic Foolery, I get to tap into my inner creativity. We get 25 challenges to do throughout our school week," said LMS student Ainsley Whittemore. "All of us thank the LMS staff for holding this."

LMS music teacher Kristina

Turn To **FOOLERY**, page A3

## Colleagues wish retiring School Committee member well

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
 STAFF WRITER

WARREN – Quaboag Regional School District leaders recently honored a man who has dedicated more than three decades of service to the school community.

After 35 years on the Quaboag Regional School Committee, Cliff Fountain will not pursue another term. During a June 8 meeting, School Committee members presented Fountain with a plaque honoring his service.

Throughout his tenure, Fountain always enjoyed learning something new while supporting the district's students and staff.

"It was a very good learning experience," Fountain said of his years on the committee. "I was always interested in education and wanted to serve."

A resident of Warren, Fountain has been described by school officials and citizens alike as a local legend. He has received every award available through the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC), including the MASC Lifetime Achievement Award, the MASC All-State Award, and the MASC Life Award.

But although Fountain has been bestowed with several honors in his career, he was

never interested in personal accomplishments. Each time he attended a meeting, he was solely focused on bettering the district.

"I have never met a more devoted family man in my life, and I will miss seeing Cliff at our School Committee meetings," said QRSD Superintendent Brett Kustigian. "The man is a legend in Warren, and he is well known across the state."

From policies to technologies, Fountain has seen many developments in education during his tenure. Increased STEM learning opportunities and electronic innovations in the classroom have been a few of the major advancements over the last decade. For Fountain and his colleagues, it was always a priority to stay current on the latest ways to enhance learning. In addition to his role on the School Committee, Fountain also served on the board of directors for the Massachusetts Association of Regional Schools.

"I enjoyed serving. There have been a lot of changes over the years," Fountain said of his time with the QRSD.

Not only are Fountain's years of service memorable to all school officials and students, but also his kind, compassionate demeanor.

"Cliff Fountain has had a pro-

found impact on my professional life as an educator, as well as my personal life with my own family," Kustigian added. "He truly cares about students, and he was the chair of the QRSD School Committee when I was hired in 2009. I will never forget his words of advice: 'There is a difference between a job and caring. If you care, it's not a job. When you care, you are most effective.' These are words that I live by."

Fountain has several children and grandchildren, most of whom have attended QRSD schools. District leaders said it will be very strange attending meetings without seeing the School Committee fixture in the building.

"He is one of the sincerest persons that I have ever met," Kustigian said. "The first question he always asks me, regardless of the hot button education issues at the time, is: 'How is your family?'"

The June 15 School Committee meeting was Fountain's last official meeting.

From all of us at the New Leader, congratulations to Cliff Fountain on an outstanding career.

## Possible budget shortfall prompts school staff cuts

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
 STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Bracing for budget shortfalls amid the COVID-19 crisis, Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District leaders announced earlier this month that contracts for several educators will not be renewed.

In light of expected budget deficits, district leaders decided not to renew contracts for 22 educators. SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey hopes the district will reinstate most, if not all, of the teachers once state and local budgets become clear.

"The Spencer-East Brookfield Regional Schools, like others across the Commonwealth, are facing financial uncertainty," Haughey said. "The district does not yet know how much the state can provide in Chapter 70, regional transportation, charter school tuition, and circuit breaker reimbursement monies."

Across the state and the nation, the COVID-19 pandemic has devastated countless sectors of the economy. Schools are no different, offi-

cial said, and local educational leaders are steeling themselves for significant challenges ahead.

"This crisis has been expensive in more ways than anyone ever imagined," Haughey said. "It is our sincere hope and expectation to continue the good work we are doing within our regional school district at the local level with our two towns."

SEBRSD officials initially hoped to avoid cutting personnel, but the long-term budgetary impacts of COVID-19 made their decision unavoidable.

"During this unprecedented time, the School Committee, along with the administration, has had to take swift action to make sure the district was financially stable," said Jason Monette, the Chairman of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee. "It is important to note that our financial situation is solely due to this pandemic, which crippled the economy and may change the outcome of our Chapter 70 funding."

Turn To **BUDGET**, page A17



Photo Courtesy

Ben Kenney recently opened Ben's Tackle Shack in Brookfield.

## Ben's Tackle Shack has your fishing needs covered

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
 STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD – With direct access to the Quaboag River, the newly opened Ben's Tackle Shack is the perfect spot for anglers of all ages.

Located at White's Landing along the river (7 Fiskdale Rd.), the business is open daily from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Whether you're planning an early morning fishing outing or a weekend excursion on the river, young entrepreneur Ben Kenney has plenty of offerings to suit your needs.

Kenney, 21, will be entering his senior year at the University of Massachusetts-

Lowell. Majoring in marketing and management, he has used his knowledge in both areas to propel his business to a strong start. He has also received assistance from his father, Daniel Kenney, a long-time fisherman and entrepreneur.

"My business is a bait and tackle shop for beginners all the way up to the hardcore anglers," said Ben Kenney. "My dad is incredibly knowledgeable about fishing and knows all about what lures, worms, and hooks to get for the hardcore anglers."

Turn To **BEN'S**, page A17

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# Local students graduate from Western New England University

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University congratulates over 950 students who received their academic degrees in May 2020.

The following students earned their degrees:

Erin Butts of Brookfield graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science.

Kayla Bolduc of Leicester graduated summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Science.

Matthew Menard of Brookfield graduated with a Bachelor of Science.

Anthony Baldino of East Brookfield graduated with a

Bachelor of Science.

A Salute to Undergraduate students of the class of 2020 featuring a driving parade of the Western New England community, conferral of degrees, memories of the journey, and a live chat can be viewed here (<https://youtu.be/ruftr3pw-1o>).

A Salute to Doctoral, MMaster's, Law, Pharmacy, and Occupational Therapy students of the class of 2020 can be viewed here (<https://youtu.be/XqJt1bKKjY>).

All Class of 2020 students will be warmly welcomed back to campus for a traditional ceremony when it is safe to do so.

Having just celebrated its Centennial, Western New England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Located on an attractive 215-acre suburban campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, Western New England serves 3,825 students, including 2,580 full-time undergraduate students. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs are offered through Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Law.

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**STAFF WRITER**  
 KEVIN FLANDERS (508) 909-4140 [kflanders@stonebridgepress.com](mailto:kflanders@stonebridgepress.com)  
**SPORTS EDITOR**  
 NICK ETHIER (508) 909-4133 [nick@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:nick@stonebridgepress.news)  
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**OPERATIONS DIRECTOR**  
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**EDITOR**  
 BRENDAN BERUBE (508) 909-4106 [news@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:news@stonebridgepress.news)  
**PRODUCTION MANAGER**  
 JULIE CLARKE (508) 909-4105 [production@stonebridgepress.news](mailto:production@stonebridgepress.news)

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**News, really close to home**  
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# Bay State Savings Bank hosts fundraiser for NEADS World Class Service Dogs

**WORCESTER** — Bay State Savings Bank is excited to announce a month-long fundraiser to help support NEADS, a nationally recognized, ADI Accredited 501 c(3) nonprofit that trains highly-skilled Service Dogs to help people who are deaf or have a physical disability. The fundraiser is in honor of the Bank's mascot, Benjie, celebrating his first birthday.

During this time of quarantine, stay-at-home orders, and social distancing brought on by the pandemic, it has become even more apparent just how vital NEADS World Class Service Dogs are to the safety and well-being of their owners, many of whom are without the human assistance and support they might otherwise have.

**Benjie the Bay State Beagle, official mascot of Bay State Savings Bank, is celebrating his first birthday on Saturday, June 27. To celebrate, we are hosting a month-long fundraiser in support of NEADS World Class Service Dogs, based in Princeton, and matching all donations, up to \$3,000.**

Covid-19 has altered many of the existing fundraising strategies organizations like NEADS depend on, such as road races, truck pulls, fairs, etc., which is one of the many reasons why Bay State Savings Bank decided to step in and help support the organization.

Donations are tax-deductible, and all funds raised will be used towards training and placing a dog with an individual in



Massachusetts. Bay State Savings Bank will match every donation, dollar for dollar, up to \$3,000. Donations can be made by visiting support.neads.org/baystatesavingsbank.



## 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.

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## FOOLERY

continued from page A1

Looney was also thanked for her hard work in making the event possible. As challenging as it was for students to be away from school, staff members had to put in even more hours to ensure that each child's needs were met through virtual learning.

The LMS leadership team thanks students, staff, and families for their teamwork over the last three months.



## Second Chance invites local businesses to fight pet homelessness

**EAST BROOKFIELD** — Second Chance Animal Services is inviting local businesses to partner with them in the fight to end pet homelessness through access to veterinary care. The nonprofit is looking for sponsors for the Second Chance Golf Tournament, their first live fundraising event since the pandemic struck, postponing the annual dinner auction. The tournament will be held July 25 at Heritage Country Club in Charlton, and will feature Second Chance's very first online auction where the business community can showcase their businesses and support pets in need.

Second Chance Development Director Lindsay Doray says the need is great right now for pets whose owners have been affected by COVID-19.

"Our vet hospitals are helping so many pets right now. We know how important it is to help these pets at our hospitals

to keep them in their homes and out of the shelter. We cannot let this become a pandemic of pet homelessness," she said.

Doray reports that many pet owners relying on Second Chance Community Veterinary Hospitals remain out of work or have seen their work hours slashed.

The golf tournament is already half full and Second Chance recognized there will be some who are not able to attend the fundraiser this year. In the past, non-golfers were able to attend the luncheon and participate in the silent auctions, but that won't be possible this year so Second Chance decided to add an online auction.

"There are some really cool items already," according to Doray, who is looking forward to debuting the auction in July. In addition to a pair of Adirondack chairs handmade and donated by the Hampden County Sheriff's Office, the auction will feature a copy

of Caddyshack signed by Bill Murray which was donated by a friend of Second Chance.

Information on sponsorships and item donations can be found at [secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/](http://secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/).

Those interested in golfing can still purchase tickets online at [secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/](http://secondchanceanimals.org/events/golf/). Single golfers and foursomes are welcome. Second Chance encourages golfers to purchase tickets early. The tournament is limited to 76 carts with golfers living in the same household able to ride together to comply with social distancing restrictions. Check in will be 7 a.m., and the tournament will commence at 7:30 a.m.



Photo Courtesy

Seven-year-old Artemis, currently available as foster-to-adopt while he is treated by Second Chance for Lyme disease

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# Worcester State University Dean's List

**WORCESTER** — Worcester State University has announced its Dean's List for the spring semester of 2020.

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Sanchez, Alison P Senecal, Anita J Swift

**BROOKFIELD:** Natasha D Austin, Jade E Menard, Aaron C Parker, Faye L Rhault, Mia E Wilbur

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**NORTH BROOKFIELD:** Brodin P Coughlin, Janet M

Fortune, Kalie E Harding, Dakota R Hinerth, Samantha A Howe, Breana L Joubert, Madison J Parker, Megan M Quigley, Tory E Zaluskas

**NORTH OXFORD:** Zachary E Alicandro, Cinthya M Bucaro, Mina L Carrabba, Brooke E Dionne, Austin M Edwards, Heather M Hibbard, Christian D Keeler, Andrew D Ravenelle, Susan L Vigeant

**NORTH UXBRIDGE:** Jacquelynn K Rondeau

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**OXFORD:** Eleni Barakliis, Haley Belanger, Jamie L Blanchette, Samantha L Carey, Julia M Carrier, Michael A DeGaetano, Chelsea Fagnoli, Nicole A Feige, Jessica S Gasiewski, Amanda D Gevry, Austin W Greene, Ian R Inangelo, Nicholas R Iudiciani, Ava R Krantz, Elizabeth L Lambert, Alexander J Lemovitz, Kayli R Lopriore, Maci C Melendy, Alexis N Melton, Jessica Nachilo, Fatima Nadeem, Usama Nadeem, Alexander G Polis, Bianca P Rheume, Christian T Shadis, Julianne E Welsh

**ROCHDALE:** Gina M Endres, Victoria E Keating, Callie Kmon, Alyssia L Peloquin, Justin P Turgeon, Brianna M Walls

**SOUTHBRIDGE:** Brandon M Aviles, Leah Gallipeau, Jane B Ghosn, Alysia H Joppas, Maxwell R Kimball, David A Livengood, Luis R Maldonado, Kaighley S Obuchowski, Chantelle L Ricard, Laurie E Schlatter, Marissa L Stuart, Matthew J Travers

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**STURBRIDGE:** Megan E Curboy, Christen E DiCarlo, Brandon M Gatta, Aaron M Kingman, David J Novack, Mackenzie A Pratt, Katelyn S Seguin, Kathryn E Staples, Taylor R Whittredge

**UXBRIDGE:** Corrine Bianco, Joel N Buabeng, Sara Budic, Allison E Colella, Kristen N Connors, Sean P Creighton, Felicia T D'Ambra, Mikala M Davis, Angelo B DeMalia, Nathaniel I deVries, David S Echavarria, Lucas P Horan, Baron V Horwath, Matthew R Johnston, Jessica L Kollett, Ellie C Lapan, Sara G Lesack, Jade S Letendre, Bruce Marchand, Hannah M Muggeo, Cara M Parker, Victoria L Picotte, Madison L Poirier, Keely R Rancourt, Russell S Wise, Jillian R Zinkus

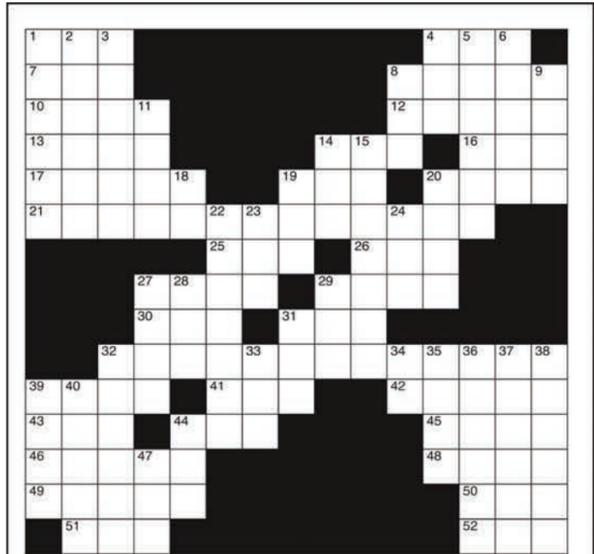
**WALES:** Emily I Bready

**WARREN:** Lauren A Banfield, Jamie E Bergmann, Jordan A Choquette

**WEBSTER:** Cody P Adams, Brian B Aphram, Sheila A Blythe, Emma T Bonneau, Kathleen M Cafarelli, Jake W Ford, Caitlin D Frabotta, Katelyn J Holden, Evan R Maniatis, Danielle L Marrier, Ethan P Melia, Emilia M Noyes, Abigail J Poplawski, Sabrina E Prince, Felicity P Robillard, Alicia M Saladino, Megan R Scully, Pawel Stypulkowski, Andrew S Tadros, Savannah J Walckner, Sarah M Wong-Kam, Sierra E Yuras

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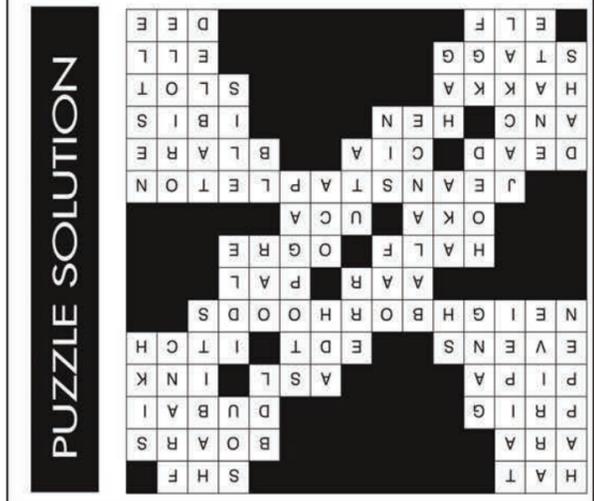


**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Protects from weather
- 4. Superhigh frequency
- 7. Southern constellation
- 8. Swines
- 10. Self-righteously moralistic person
- 12. United Arab Emirates city
- 13. Surinam toad
- 14. Sign language
- 16. Tattoo (slang)
- 17. Makes level
- 19. Sun up in New York
- 20. It must be scratched
- 21. Where people live
- 25. Swiss river
- 26. Buddy
- 27. One of two equal parts of a divisible whole
- 29. Shrek is one
- 30. Egyptian unit of weight
- 31. Fiddler crabs
- 32. Carroll O'Connor's TV wife
- 39. No longer having life
- 41. Former OSS
- 42. A way to emit sound
- 43. Mandela's party
- 44. Adult female chicken
- 45. U. of Miami's mascot
- 46. Southeastern Chinese people
- 48. Casino game
- 49. Amos Alonzo \_\_, US football coach
- 50. Joint connecting two pipes at right angles
- 51. Will Ferrell film
- 52. River in NE Scotland

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Occur
- 2. Show up
- 3. Capital of Taiwan
- 4. Former French coin
- 5. Some are bad
- 6. Monetary unit
- 8. Package (abbr.)
- 9. Indian religious person
- 11. Crew
- 14. Antidiuretic hormone
- 15. Makeshift
- 18. Baseball box score stat
- 19. Make a mistake
- 20. Not moving
- 22. Even distribution of weight
- 23. Clumsy person
- 24. Paddle
- 27. Worked the soil
- 28. Alias
- 29. Plant cultivated in Peru
- 31. Side-blotched lizards genus
- 32. Wild dog
- 33. Immoral act
- 34. Pound
- 35. Manning and Lilly are two
- 36. Put on the shelf for now
- 37. Baltimore ballplayer
- 38. Cuddle
- 39. Dashes
- 40. Related on the mother's side
- 44. Witch
- 47. Kilogram force (abbr.)



**PERSON of the WEEK**

**Ruth Lyon of West Brookfield**

For your generosity with your garden harvest, helping to feed the locals fresh vegetables. Gardening is hard work. Thank you for sharing your bountiful harvest!

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

Person of the Week is sponsored by:



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## Local students named to Dean's List at University of New Haven

WEST HAVEN, Conn. — at the University of New Shelby Miller of Leicester, Haven for the spring, 2020. Emily Ducharme of North About the University Brookfield, and Mackensie of New Haven Plante of Spencer were The University of New named to the Dean's List Haven, founded on the Yale

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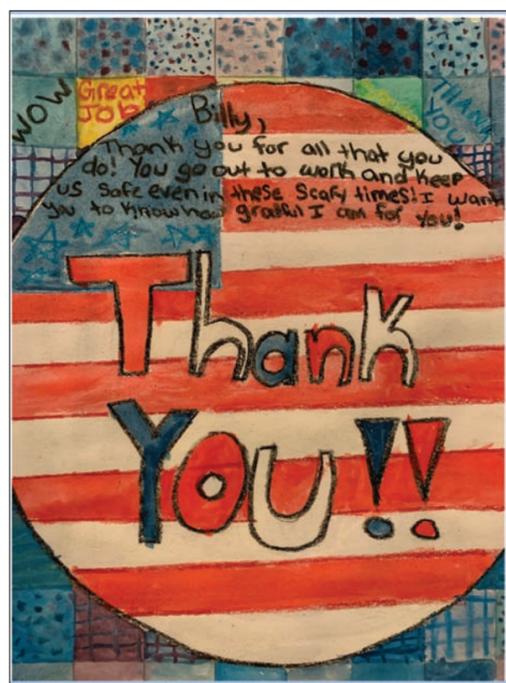
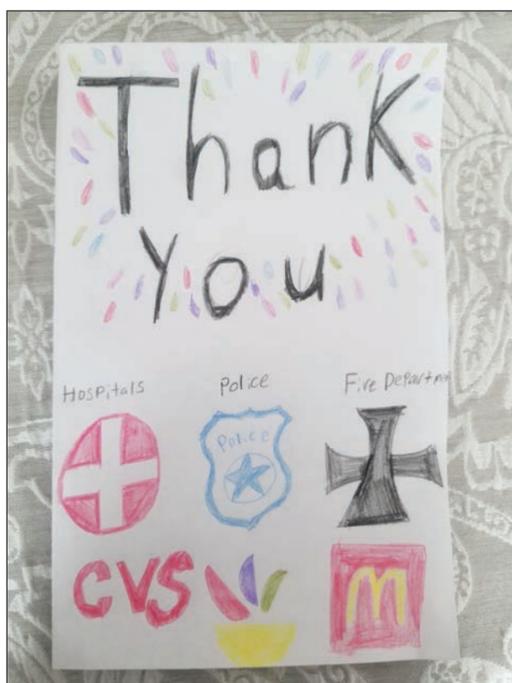
*Massachusetts*  
**MENTOR**

To learn how you can make a difference as a Host Home Provider, visit [www.makeadifferenceathome.com](http://www.makeadifferenceathome.com)

# Knox Trail students show support for essential workers

Photos Courtesy

Knox Trail Middle School art students recently showed their support for essential workers by creating thank-you cards. After completing their cards, students added them to a shared slideshow. A vote was then taken among students to decide the top entries. Winners included Madison Barnett, Hannah Luukko, Brenden O'Gara, Aiden Fausek, and Grace Kates.



## Local teacher and writer reconnect for class at St. John's Summer Academy

REGION — Charlton native Elisabeth Gilbride, is excited to announce that she will be teaching virtual classes Creative Writing to Publish and Intro to Freelancing at St. John's Summer Academy, running from July 6-31 at 1-4 p.m. and 6-9 p.m., respectively.

"Creative Writing to publish will focus on writing short stories, a novel, novella, play, or poetry," states Gilbride. "The course is not limited to working on your chosen literary work, but also discusses the process of how to find an agent (and what you need to do to get there), as well as the steps of publishing once you've found an agent. I am also extremely excited to share that Jenn Bishop, a former classmate of mine, who is the author of several successful middle

grade novels, will be a guest speaker in this class on July 10 at 1:30 p.m. I plan to have additional guest speakers who are equally as talented as Jenn added to the lineup by the time classes begin."

Bishop, a native of Sturbridge, and alumna of Notre Dame Academy in Worcester, where she attended high school with Gilbride, is the author of the middle grade novels "The Distance to Home" and "14 Hollow Road," published by Penguin Random House, and "Things You Can't Say," published this spring by Simon & Schuster.

Gilbride recently made the career change to teaching after spending 12 years in the publishing industry as the Executive Editor at the Equine Journal (formerly "Horsemen's Yankee Pedlar"),

and has freelance written for notable publications including Young Rider, Sidelines, Chronicle of the Horse, and Massachusetts Horse. Gilbride also initially freelanced for the Stonebridge Press and Villager Newspapers, writing for the sports sections of the Charlton Villager and Spencer New Leader.

"Writing for these newspapers helped me develop the confidence that I needed with my writing, and greatly benefitted me not only by helping me add to my portfolio and expanding my resume. I was happy to continue writing for these publications, while also getting my leg in the door at other magazines and journals," Gilbride says. "I learned a lot about how to quickly write and develop a good sports article."

"I am excited to share my love for journalism with students in my Intro to Freelancing class, which is intended to help them obtain experience writing for a media outlet. It will cover the basics of writing shorts, news articles, features, and profiles; how to request or find an editorial calendar from an editor or a publication's website; how to write a query letter to an editor; and how to write your article once you've been assigned one."

For more information on the classes at St. John's Summer Academy, and to learn how to sign up for Creative Writing to Publish and Intro to Freelancing, visit [www.stjohnshigh.org/summer](http://www.stjohnshigh.org/summer).

## Family Dining & Gift Guide

Check with your favorite local restaurants frequently to see if their opening status has changed. Some may be open for outside dining and others may be opening soon!

Please continue to frequent your local restaurants by ordering take-out or purchasing gift cards.

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# The Write Stuff

SINCE 2001

All Ages Welcome! Open topics.  
Please share your creative writing and thoughts with us!

This is the final WRITE STUFF for this school year, as we take the summer months off. Any submissions that come in over the summer will be held for September, and if space becomes an issue, they will be held till the following month.

Thank you once again to Lamoureux Ford for being our sponsor and to our contributors this month. We appreciate your creativity and your participation.

Thank you to the Spencer/East Brookfield Regional School District for your participation this month! We hope you'll join us for our 19th Season!

Happy Reading – Happy Writing!

## CONGDOM'S DONUTS

BY SUE ANGELA HEALY

Every year around the end of September we are off to Maine – a vacation to remember

Going through Wells wanting something delicious and sweet

So we go to the Congdom's Donuts for our favorite treats Fritters, pastries, home-made blueberry pie

So incredibly scrumptious bringing a tear drop to your eyes

The best in New England out of all our six states

One taste and you'll know it was worth the long drive and wait

Mo matter what the season there is always a huge crowd Making you and your team-mates grateful and proud

Taking time out of your hectic day

Catering to each and every customer – going out of our way

Treating perfect strangers as if your own family

So very important to others and me

Tourists standing in line for 20 minutes or more

For breakfast and lunch – people waiting patiently out the side door

Then warmly greeted by a friendly host

Whether just stopping by for a coffee or specialty toast

From all over the country year-after-year

Many return because the staff at your business really do care

You will always leave with a smile on your face

And you will never find a more memorable place

Leaving an impression that shall last forever

You will go back again and again no matter the weather

The reason why this business has such great success

Is because the staff and management are the best of the best

So if you would like to sample some of the most delectable food around

Stop by Congdom Donuts – the most dedicated restaurant in town

Some classmates you have known way back to the first grade

Life will go on but memories never fade

Deciding what color tux-dress you will be wearing to your prom

Dancing all nite to your favorite song

Who you think will be crowned the queen and the king?

When your name is announced the happiness it brings

Never forgetting that very first dance

A hug- a kiss filled with much romance

After the prom you'll all dive to the shore

Just a few pictures of each other – Oh maybe one more

Not comprehending how quickly those school days went by

As you feel endless tear-drops fall from your eyes

It's difficult to know that everyone will be moving on

Never seeing each other again – trying to be strong

If only we could have spent just one last day together

Treasuring every second – making it last forever

All would sit in a circle telling stories from the past

But that too would go by quickly for nothing good could last

How do you say good-bye to your very best friend

When for the past 12 years on them you would depend

In my younger years I could hardly wait for this day

But now leaving family – friends – going to college away

All the teachers and staff were so considerate and kind

In my thoughts and prayers they're on my mind

Most seniors say I'll always stay in touch

So busy with studies – new friends – just seems so much

But somehow each week I'll make time for you

And we'll chat for hours like we used to do

We'll say I miss you – then hang up the phone

Never in your life have you felt more alone

Waking up early in the morning to start a day brand new

For friendship lasts forever that you already knew

So even though you didn't get a chance to receive your diploma on stage

You will be starting a new chapter in your journey thru life – time to turn the page

My heart breaks with – for – and because of you

Now it's time to be proud of all your accomplishments in all you say and do

Hold your head up high – smile – and to yourself you will say

I am no longer a senior – for me it's "Graduation Day!"

## I MISS YOU

BY SHER MORSE, SPENCER, MA

I miss you.  
I miss your voice, your smile, your laugh...  
I miss your face, your hugs, your kisses...  
But most of all I miss our daily chats, the ones where

## AUSTIN B - GRADE 4, SEBRSD

In my opinion working at home is better then working at school. I have a more flexible schedule. I don't have as much school work. I can hang out with my family more.

Working from home lets me have a more flexible schedule. I can sleep in wake up when I am ready. I can stay up later and play video games and video chat with my friends. During school I have to go to bed at 8:30. When I don't have to go to school I can stay up until 9:30. In the morning when I go to school I have to get up and my bus comes at 7:30AM. When I don't have to go to school my mom doesn't make me do school work until 8:30.

Also, when I learn from home, I don't have to do as much work. At school I do six hours of work, and at home I do two, or sometimes three hours of school work, but I also work outside a lot. I can set up my tent and do my work in it. I can take my breaks outside. For breaks I like to jump on my trampoline, play basketball, and go in my woods. This is a picture of me working in my tent.

Most importantly I can spend more time



with family. We play outside more, bake, and play more board games and cards. I also practice baseball with my Dad a lot more. Sometimes on Fridays we do a Wiffle Ball game. My favorite thing to do with my family is any game outside, especailly basketball.

As you can see I would rather learn at home than at school for many reasons.

we connected as only a Dad and daughter are able to do. I have memories, I have photos, but I don't have you, yet you are still alive in my mind and heart. Now and then a tear escapes, but most of the time, I just miss you.

## THE YEARNING

BY SHER MORSE, SPENCER, MA

In this age of social distancing, it creates a deep yearning inside. A need for a hug, a kiss, a mere touch of another's hand. It's not just an expression of love, it's a deep seeded need. There's an emptiness to life without these touches of affection. This distancing creates a void in our world. This deep yearning just keeps rolling on for yet another day, another week... When will it be fulfilled again?

## ABIGAIL W. - GRADE 2 - SEBRSD

I like learning from school better because I can see my friends, teacher and helper teacher. My class has gym class, art,music and library together. My friend Sophie and I always play together. We play family. I also prefer the school lunch better. My favorite school lunch is to make your own taco. Math is my favorite subject. We learned this 89>88. I do like some things about home learning. I can have zoom meetings and learn spanish. My sister and I can have popsicles whenever we want. I like blue popsicles the best,

they're flavored blue raspberry my sister likes purple popsicles the best, they are flavored grape.

What I dislike about learning from home, is that I can not see Mrs Jones. I also miss my friends. When I'm at school, I spend less time with my family. Now I see them all the time and we can do field trips too! In conclusion, if I had to choose, I'd pick school!!

## ADDISON B. GRADE 3, SEBRSD

Why I like learning at school better than learning from home.

Learning from home is way different from learning at school. When I learn from home I get to sleep in and I am not on a schedule, and any time can be snack time! As much as I love these

things I miss being at school. I would rather learn at school than learn at home. I really miss

seeing my friends and my teacher. I like doing fun activities with my friends at school. I really miss doing work with a partner. I really enjoyed doing experiments with the class.

When I learn from home I get distracted easily. It is easier to focus more in school than it

is at home. My mom and I share the same laptop, she works from home during the day.

Sometimes it is hard to get all my work done for that day. When I am at school I am able to

finish most of my work the same day. I miss having art, music, gym, and wim. I do arts and

crafts, read, dance, sing and play sports at home, but it is not as fun because my friends are not there.

Those are the reasons why I would rather learn at school than at home.

## ALIVIA G. - GRADE 4 - SEBRSD

I would prefer to go to school rather than learn from home. At home I don't feel as motivated to learn,

like I was at school. At home, its harder to learn anything new, because my teacher's not there to help explain something to me if I get confused. If I am having trouble getting on a website, my teacher can't show me how to get onto it. If I get stuck on a problem, my teacher can try to help me, but she can't show me how to do it. It's just harder to learn at home.

At home I can't see my teacher in person. At home, it's less fun because I can't see my friends or my teacher. It's more fun when I get to be around other people, instead of just sitting at a table on a computer. Going to school is fun but learning from home is mostly boring. Sometimes we do zoom meetings but other than that learning from home is not fun. It's more fun at school.

At home we can't do the fun activities that we were supposed to do at school. For instance, we have to miss our field trip. We also can't go to field day, or even our spring concert. If we were supposed to do a class project, now we can't. There is so much we are missing while we're stuck at home. Therefore, I would rather learn from school than from home.

## ALYSSA S. - GRADE 1 - SEBRSD

If you ask me, learning at school is awesome! I think learning at school is awesome because you do not have to do zoom meetings and you can see your friends in person. And talk to them. You can learn more. You can also play knock out. These are the reasons why I think learning at school is awesome.

## AMAYA C. GRADE 3, SEBRSD WRITING CHALLENGE

In my opinion I like learning from school because there are skilled teachers there. I also get to see my friends and talk to them. Also, I get to use the playground. There is also an order to do my work instead of my work being random. These are the reasons why I like learning at school instead of learning at home.

All of us at Lamoureux Ford would like to wish our loyal customers, family and friends well during this difficult time. Our Service and Parts Department is Deemed Essential for commercial and emergency work and will remain open Monday-Friday from 8-3pm. Traditional sales is deemed non-essential and operating online and by 1:1 appointments only. Please call to set up an appointment.. Check our website for updates. **SLOW THE SPREAD and stay healthy!**

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# The Write Stuff

SINCE 2001

All Ages Welcome! Open topics.

Please share your creative writing and thoughts with us!

This is the final WRITE STUFF for this school year, as we take the summer months off. Any submissions that come in over the summer will be held for September, and if space becomes an issue, they will be held till the following month.

Thank you once again to Lamoureux Ford for being our sponsor and to our contributors this month. We appreciate your creativity and your participation.

Thank you to the Spencer/East Brookfield Regional School District for your participation this month! We hope you'll join us for our 19th Season!

Happy Reading – Happy Writing!

Be sure to check out next week's Spencer New Leader for additional Write Stuff submissions

ALLISON G.

## WIRE VILLAGE SCHOOL 1ST GRADE Home vs School Writing Challenge

In my opinion learning at school is the best! It is better than homeschool for many reasons but these are my main reasons why.

The first reason why I like learning at school more is because I get to see my friends and teachers in person. At school I get to see them every day and talk to them. Everyone is so nice, especially my wonderful Principals and teachers!

I also like to be at school because my classmates and I get to play fun learning games together. Some of my favorite learning games are Knock Out and Spin the Wheel. We also have Show and Tell where we get to bring in something that is special to us and share it with our classmates.

Another reason I like school is because I get to go to special classes like Music, Gym, Library and Art. These classes are fun because we get to sing, play games, read books, and color. These special parts of the day make learning extra fun!

This is why I like learning at school rather than home. I really miss Wire Village and can't wait to go back!

AUBREE D.

GRADE 3 - SEBRSD

I would rather learn at school than at home for a lot of reasons. Mainly because you get to see your friends, but also because I understand better when I'm in a classroom learning directly from my teacher. I would also rather be learning at school because we have specials like gym and art that are my favorite and now we don't. I miss being at school, we get blue tickets if we're good and positive office referrals with a golden ticket that's worth 5 blue tickets and if you fill up your card you get to go to the school store!

I would not want to learn from school though if we end up having to wear a mask all day.

I think it's hard to breathe when I wear one and it bothers my face. Also, if we have to move our desk 6ft apart it would take up all the space in the classroom. I think it would be hard to go to school if there's so many rules because there's too many kids and not enough space. Especially at lunch because all of the tables are usually full and the kids sit close together. Also on the school bus because there's not enough seats to have everyone sit far enough apart.

In conclusion, I have been having fun learning from home because it's more laid back but I would much rather learn at school in my classroom with my teacher and friends.

AUTUMN G., GRADE 4, SEBRSD

I strongly agree that working from home is better than working from school. There are many reasons why I feel this way.

The first reason why I like working from home better is that I feel more comfortable at home. I can sleep longer. I can eat whenever I want. I can wear pjs while I do my school work. I can also take breaks often. These things make me feel more comfortable.

The second reason why I like working from home better is that I get to spend more time with my family. I can play with my dog more. I can also play more board games and video games with my parents. We can spend more time together because I am not in school all day. Being

home with my parents more makes me happy.

Those are a couple of the reasons why I like learning from home better than school.

CALLEN M.

GRADE 3 - SEBRSD

If I had a choice of learning at home or at my school, I would have to choose my school. From my point of view, learning in school is much easier than learning from home. I cannot concentrate being at home since there are so many different distractions that I am not used to hearing and seeing. When I am in school, I may hear and see distractions all day, but I am used to it, and it doesn't seem to bother me as much. If the distractions bothered me, my teacher knows exactly what to do in order for me to keep learning. When I am home, my mother is busy doing other things and doesn't always see that I am struggling.

I believe that some families don't always have the supplies or technology at home to learn like they would learn in school. My school has everything I need to learn and I never have to worry about any of that. I also know that there are so many different teachers in my school that are there to help me. I get to go to Guidance and talk if I need to when something is bothering me. I have daily specials that I really enjoy and look forward to. My favorite specials are Gym and Art because they are really fun and I love the teachers. As far as I know, not all families have a yard to play in or art supplies to make crafts. That is why learning in school is better because all the supplies and activities are provided by my school.

Finally the last thing that I wanted to point out is about video games. When I am learning from home I would rather be playing video games, and when I am in school I don't think of them as much because of all the different things I do all day. I really hope that I get to go back to school soon and I really miss my friends and teachers.

CAMERON B., GRADE 4 - SEBRSD

I would rather learn at home than at school.

My number one reason I would rather learn at home is that I can get all my school work done in a couple hours rather than be in school until almost 3:00. This gives me more time to do fun stuff like ride my dirt bike and go fishing. When I go to school I have to learn, then I have to come home and do homework so I don't have much time to do fun things.

When I learn from home I get to sleep in late because I don't have to get to the bus stop on time. My mom isn't telling me to hurry up and get ready. At home I also get to eat when I want to and get up from my seat without asking. When I am at school, snack time and lunch time are at the same time every day.

There is only one thing that I miss about school and that is I can't see my friends every day. I only get to talk to them when we play video games together.

In conclusion, I think that learning from home is better than school because there are less rules I have to follow.

CAMERON H.

4TH GRADE EBES

In my opinion, I would rather learn at school than at home. I think there are good and bad things about learning at home, but I did

not enjoy it. During my time learning at home I thought it was hard to stay focused. When I am at home I like to play outside or play video games, but I always had to stop and do schoolwork. I still was able to learn while I was at home, but it was not as fun as being at school learning.

The first reason I would rather learn at school is I enjoy working on group projects. I like getting to work with my friends and learn together. Group projects are a fun way to learn and sometimes it does not even feel like real work. Also, when my teacher chooses our partners or groups for us, we can get to know new people. I also like that it lets us split up the work so everyone has less work to do by themselves. Most importantly, it allows everyone to be involved in the project and help get a good grade.

The second reason I would rather learn at school is because of gym class. In gym, I love playing capture the flag and dodgeball. I enjoy being able to practice my favorite sports like football, basketball, and soccer during school. Gym is also a fun way to get kids motivated to exercise and stay healthy. Our gym teacher shows us a lot of new games and ways to have fun while getting our energy out. Gym is my favorite subject in school.

The last reason I would rather learn at school is because I get to be with my friends. I enjoy getting to play with my friends during recess and sitting with them at lunch. If it were not for school, I would not have all the friends that I do because I met most of them there. My best friends and I enjoy talking about our day during snack time. When we get to school in the morning, we always play wall ball together and it is one of my favorite parts of the day. My friends always make my day more fun and make the day go by quicker.

In conclusion, I would rather learn at school. At home it is not as fun because I have missed my friends a lot during the time I have been out of school. As much as I act like I do not enjoy going to school, I would rather it over being home every day. I hope everything goes back to normal soon so I can return to school and normal life.

CAMERON L., GRADE 4 - SEBRSD

In my opinion working at school is better. One reason I think working at school is better is because I get to be more social, for example I get to see my friends. Another thing that keeps me social is recess because I can play with other kids and stay active.

In addition to being more social I also feel I am more focused at school. At my house there are a lot of distractions, for instance there are televisions, video games, my dog and my brother. It is hard to focus at my house because there are so many other fun things to do.

In conclusion I find working at school much easier than working at home because I get to be with my friends, my teacher keeps me focused, and I think I get the job done better.

CARLEIGH H. 1ST GRADE,  
WIRE VILLAGE

If you ask me, learning at home is amazing! At home I can do schoolwork on the computer. Every day I finish my work early. I have a lot of time to play outside with my brother and sister. These are some of the reasons I like learning at home.

## WRITING PROJECT SPRING 2020

CASON L. - GRADE 3 SEBRSD

My name is Cason and I'm in third grade. I would rather learn at home than school, but I do miss working in class with my friends. I like doing my work at home because I can do my work when I'm ready. I choose the time everyday and my mom is my teacher. Sometimes she doesn't know how to do everything and it's funny. The class work is more fun and I get to have snacks and recess whenever I want.

When I learn in school there is a lot more work. I miss school because I miss gym, recess, and my friends and teachers. School has a lot of fun stuff like relays, field day, and movie nights I miss, but I don't miss waking up early. I always have homework when I'm in school and now I don't.

Learning from home is keeping us safe by not spreading the virus to our friends and family. The virus can be bad for people like my Nana and Pops. Wearing masks and staying home is helping my community and school. I'm sad not seeing everyone, but like that I'm helping to be safe.

CATHERINE C. GRADE 4 - SEBRSD

Me and a lot of people prefer school at home. I prefer school at home because I can sleep in late. Another reason I like school at home is because I don't have to sit at a desk for 7 hours, but my favorite reason of all is that right after I'm done I can relax maybe I can take a nap or play video games the possibilities are endless. Ever since quarantine I have really enjoyed school at home. I am very glad that people closed school due to COVID-19. If they didn't close schools then COVID-19 would spread faster.

Staying at home has its cons though like I am near my annoying brother more and the neighbors are also loud and annoying. Now it's time for more pros now I can express my creativity more I can paint or craft something. I've had time to redo my room and write this paper. I'm not bored sitting in class. I now have more choices of what I want to read or write. I'm not so restricted. I've also been doing fun outdoor activities too. We just recently bought a slip 'n' slide and it is very fun. We've been gardening as well and we've planted lots of things. Another thing we did outside is play outdoor games like pickleball and cornhole. But doing all this fun outdoor stuff has its downside. I got a bad sunburn as a consequence of wearing no sunscreen. We also used a plant identifying app called "picture this" and we found a lot of poison ivy. We also are spending a lot of time with our dog Pepper. I'm writing this with my dog. My brother is trying to teach Pepper how to skate and I'm trying to teach her how to slide on the slip 'n' slide. Another thing we did outside is plant berry bushes. I did the math to evenly space the bushes and I dug one hole out of four holes. So I have decided that I like doing school at home.

CHACE K., GRADE 1 SEBRSD

I think learning at school is better. I like to learn with my friends on the rug. I like to learn math with my teacher. I miss reading books in my WINN group. I miss my classroom!

## Learning from school

BY: CHARLOTTE M. GRADE 4 - SEBRSD

I strongly agree with the idea of working from school because you can actually see the people you work with and you have the materials you need. When I wake up to get ready for school every morning I feel as if I have a responsibility. It's easier to work at school because we can work together.

I like learning from school because you have everything in front of you. When you work from school you can see your friends and you can understand everything easier than from off a computer. Working at school means you can know what's going on and where you should be. At school we can make new friends. Also we can work in groups and get everything we need done. Maybe if we start back up for school we can start wearing masks and gloves (if possible). The second thing we do is social distance 3 feet away but still have a mask. The 3rd thing is no masks. Last step is to go back to normal.

I don't like working from home because some people don't have access to the things they need. Maybe some people don't have access to the internet or electronics. Working from home means shorter classes. Waking up in the morning reminds me that we have to work from home and we can't see our friends. We can get distracted easily too. At home we aren't as productive as we should be. We should open back up the school and do the 4 steps.

When we work from home the only thing we have is Zoom. Zoom doesn't offer a lot of time. If we work from school we have 6 or 7 hours. The teachers can tell us what we need to know and when to do it. We can get distracted at home and forget about the school work. So when we do online classes we can't understand everything.

This is why I prefer working from school.

CHRISTIAN L. - GRADE 4 - EBE

In my opinion, I think learning in school is better than home. Since March, I have not been able to go to school because schools have been closed due to the CoronaVirus. I rather learn at school because I can get help from my teachers and I can learn with my friends in class.

One reason I like learning at school better than at home is because I have my teachers to help me. In school, my teachers help me when I am having trouble with reading, writing and math. For example, I can just raise my hand and my teachers will walk over to my desk and help me. Mrs. Gilbreath, Mrs. Wyszynski, Mrs. Baronoski, and Mrs. Thibeault were always there to help. I miss having gym with Mr. Leroux. My favorite game in gym class is basketball.

Another reason I rather learn in school is because I get to see my friends in my class. It is really lonely learning at home because my friends are not sitting next to me. Also, friends can be helpful too. They can make you smile when you are having a bad day. Learning new things is more fun when your friends are around. I miss everybody in the whole entire school. I miss eating delicious lunches with them and playing with them at recess.

In my opinion, I rather go to school than learn at home. First, I like having teachers around to help me. Second, I like learning and playing with my friends.

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25 Elm St., Southbridge, MA 01550  
Telephone (800) 367-9898  
Fax (508) 764-8015  
www.StonebridgePress.com

**FRANK G. CHILINSKI**  
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

**BRENDAN BERUBE**  
EDITOR

## EDITORIAL

# Strength through survival

While our current economy hasn't quite dipped to the level it did during the Great Depression, the inevitable comparisons have been a dominant topic of discussion since COVID-19 put a halting stop to our economy.

To date, the Great Depression was the worst economic decline in modern times. A hard jump from the 'Roaring Twenties,' when Americans were enjoying a robust economy with more time to spend and recreate.

After the stock market crash in 1929, those who were still employed saw a decrease in pay of roughly 40 percent. This included doctors and other affluent career paths. One quarter of the population remained without a living wage. With that said, the typical American had to adapt to a new way of life that included a level of scrimping and saving never seen before.

Homemakers, which were primarily women back then, were shown how to make due with what they had in the kitchen. Meals were stretched as far as possible. To do so people learned to enjoy more casseroles including macaroni and cheese, chili, Mulligan stew (a mix of anything available), bologna casserole, and a 'poorman's meal' (fried potato with diced hot dogs). Another go to was 'hot water pie' which was made up from simple ingredients such as butter, vanilla, sugar and flour. Potluck gatherings were also a cheap way for people to come together and socialize. Thrift gardens popped up in vacant lots across the country where community members could grow food, feeding thousands.

Movie theaters were a major source of entertainment during the years leading up to the Depression. After the economy bottomed out, people had to find other, cheaper forms of leisure. One third of the cinemas in the country were shuttered. Miniature golf courses charged people no more than 50 cents per round, making the low-key game another popular thing to do. With that said, board games such as Scrabble and Monopoly became all the rage. People were also tuning into the radio for comedy shows and other dramas.

More women became employed to supplement lost income, despite the fact that they were paid significantly less than men. Government help was also more socially acceptable after President Franklin D. Roosevelt introduced his New Deal initiative aimed at putting Americans back to work building infrastructure, such as the interstate highway system, that provided increased mobility not only for civilian traffic, but for the military and law enforcement as well. Before the Depression, those receiving welfare had their names listed in local newspapers, which was a deterrent for many to accept government assistance.

Men grew insecure after not being able to provide for their families, which caused an uptick in suicide. Divorce rates were low because couples could not afford to separate, and though many couples did decide to split, others were inspired to work through their issues and emerge on the other side stronger than before.

Traveling hobos became very common for teenagers who sought work to help their families on the road. Violent crimes did increase, however fell after a few years.

While things have not reached a point nearly that low in our contemporary society (and hopefully won't), this situation has forced Americans to adjust their way of life, just as our forebears in the '30s did. And just as it did for them, that course correction may make us stronger.

# VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### God's loving discipline

To the Editor:

We are presently witnessing, and some are experiencing, the damage protesting can lead to when the local government does not take it seriously; it turns to rioting and terrorism.

It is my conviction that we are presently witnessing is God's discipline allowing evil to overcome some of us with terrorism, and, the murder of Mr. Floyd. These are a good example of evil. God does not promote or encourage murder. God does allow situations like we have been witnessing and some experiencing to discipline us to get our attention.

Mr. Floyd's murder was completely unnecessary, and the officers responsible should be punished to the full extent of the law; however, Mr. Floyd may not be the gentle giant he is proclaimed to be. For whatever reasons, the police and news media did not mention that Mr. Floyd had an ugly past; why? Mr. Floyd and his accomplices allegedly invaded this woman's home, she was brutally beaten and threatened to kill her unborn child for money and drugs by Mr. Floyd. Do your research! What the police in question did was totally without cause and what the people did in response was also totally unnecessary, out of control, defiant of God, Jesus principals of proper conduct.

Un-discipline protest often leads to chaos that we are presently witnessing from Mr. Floyd of Minnesota tragic death.

Discipline is training for our everyday life. When we believe and accept God, Jesus in our life God disciplines us, God's discipline is to help us to control our emotions and actions, helps train us so we can avoid any further discipline. Discipline is a value we need to practice in our family, healthy discipline can only be taught and obtain from God, Jesus.

Yes, we need to protest the injustice that happened to Mr. Floyd; however, we need to protest in a civil way, two wrongs don't make it right. Undisciplined protesting often leads to rioting, rioting to terrorist. Unfortunately the people who are participating have little or no interest in the law, no interest in God's moral law and when we reject God, Jesus we become a people who are subjected to Satan's evil, no regards for our neighbors, we become a stubborn defiant evil mob that leads to rioting terrorist and unfortunately all this is because of our inherited [Adam and Eve] sinful nature that some of us gives their allegiance to Satan's evil destructive, provocative way of life with complete and total disregard for God, Jesus, God's moral values.

What we are witnessing is a classic example of a life apart from Jesus. No God, no peace! Know God, Jesus know

peace! [Romans 2: 12-13]

The incident and attitude of the police officer in question towards Mr. Floyd may not have been premeditated, however, the officers action led to taking Mr. Floyd life, and the attitude of the officers watching can be considered accessories to the fact. The fact is this was a deliberate action provoked by evil, Satan, including the destruction caused by the protesting people who became rioters and provoked into terrorism by Satan. Why are we, this country witnessing so much chaos? The best conclusive answer I can share with you is! When you live a life apart from God, Jesus, you allow evil, Satan to enter, your life becomes subjected to Satan [evil] and unless you confess, repent to God, Jesus God allows [gives us over] us to be taken by the devil Satan. However, there is another choice, confess and repent from our heart to God, Jesus and become redeemed by Jesus and God forgives.

God is very clear and explicit in 2 Chronicle 7: 14-15. The people God is calling and warning is the church people who confess and profess to be believers, followers who identify themselves to be Christians and for whatever reason have decided to live a private life, closet Christians, choosing not to get involve not to defend God's moral laws against radical protesters that leads to terrorist. God is making it perfectly clear, explicit "if my people" [the believing, Christian] will humble himself. What God is teaching, He does not want private [closet] Christians, God wants public, out going people who will speak out and support His Word, Bible, God wants us to come out of our comfort zone, shelter and proclaim and defend God's Word. God wants His people to humble our self, confess their [our] sins of compromise, lukewarm, complacency and publicly submit, commit our self to God, Jesus God's Will, Word, moral law, and to honestly repent and seek God's Word. What God is warning us is that some of the churches have failed, they have become too much like the world and God is calling us to repent and become obedient to God's moral law and until that happens we will continue to be disciplined by God. Church, [people] we must not continue to test God or we could become another Sodom.

Some of us have confessed with our mouth but our hearts are far from Him and that has caused many of us to neglect God's Word and today God is trying to get our attention by allowing this corona virus pestilent, and apparently that was not enough of a warning God is also allowing protesting rioting that leads too terrorist.

To be continued...

ROLAND BLAIS  
BROOKFIELD

### Article was correct to point out a lack of interest in local government

To the Editor:

I write in response to Kevin Flanders' thoughts published in last week's New Leader. He hit the nail on the head, so to speak, as he wrote what so many of us have wanted to say.

In Warren, 734 voters out of 3,395 registered voters turned out to vote. The winner in the three-way Board of Selectman's race was won by 52 votes. The ballot resembled those of neighboring towns, with so few stepping up to the plate.

I urge anyone who did not read Kevin's article to do so. He said "residents have been far more apt to

launch insults from keyboards than get involved in the community and work toward solutions." I would like to say "Thank you" to Peter Krawczyk, who lost his bid for a seat on the Warren Board of Selectmen after having been active and knowledgeable in town government for many years. The time and effort he put in is appreciated by his supporters. As a lifelong resident, he cares deeply about the town. I know Peter as a person who always "does his homework."

SINCERELY,  
MARGARET (PEG) GORMAN  
WARREN

### Thanks for a spectacular sendoff

To the Editor:

We would like to take this opportunity to offer our heartfelt thanks to all family, friends, neighbors, teachers, coaches, and Scout leaders who showed up to give our son, Cameron Laraia, the most amazing send off to the US Navy. A special thanks to the Schimmelpenningh family for orga-

nizing this and to Lt. Ryan Daley for the escort and to Spencer Motor Sales for the sign which was displayed for Cameron.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts,

PATRICK AND MELISSA HORGAN  
SPENCER

## Work to achieve your financial independence

Over the past few months, just about everyone has felt the loss of some type of freedom, whether it's being able to travel, engage in social gatherings or participate in other activities we previously took for granted. Still, as we prepare to observe Independence Day, it's comforting to realize all the freedoms we still have in this country. And taking the right steps can also help you achieve your financial independence.



FINANCIAL  
FOCUS

JEFF  
BURDICK

Here are some moves to consider:

Build an emergency fund. It's a good idea to create an emergency fund consisting of three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money held in a liquid, low-risk account. With this fund in place, you can avoid dipping into your long-term investments to pay for short-term, unexpected costs.

Keep your debts under control. It's not easy to do, but if you can consistently minimize your debt load, you can have more money to invest for the future and move closer toward achieving your financial liberty. One way to keep your debts down is to establish a budget and stick to it, so you can avoid unnecessary spending.

Contribute as much as possible to your retirement plans. The more money you can save for retirement, the greater your feelings of financial independence. So it's essential that you contribute as much as you can to your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan. At a minimum, put in enough to earn your employer's match, if one is offered, and every time your salary goes up, boost your annual contributions. Even if you participate in a 401(k), you're probably also still eligible to contribute to an IRA, which can help you build even more funds for retirement. And because you can fund an IRA with virtually any type of investment, you can broaden your portfolio mix.

Explore long-term care coverage. One day, your financial independence could be threatened by your need for some type of long-term care. It now costs, on average, over \$100,000 for a private room in a nursing home and more than \$50,000 for the services of a home health aide, according to Genworth, an insurance company. Most of these costs won't be covered by Medicare, either, so, if you want to reduce the risk of seriously depleting all your financial resources – or burdening your adult children with these heavy expenses – you may want to consider some type of long-term care insurance. You could choose a traditional long-term care policy – which can cover a nursing home stay, home health care, or other services – or a hybrid policy, which provides long-term care coverage plus a death benefit.

Manage withdrawals carefully. Once you retire, your financial freedom will depend a great deal on how skillful you are in managing the money in your retirement accounts. Specifically, you need to be careful about how much you withdraw from these accounts each year. If you set a withdrawal rate that's too high in your early years of retirement, you might eventually risk outliving your resources. So, set a withdrawal rate that reflects your age, assets, retirement lifestyle and other factors. You may want to consult with a financial professional to establish an appropriate rate.

As you can see, working toward your financial independence is a lifelong activity – but it's worth the effort.

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

## LETTERS

Extra! Extra! Read All About It!

We think you're important enough to tell all our readers to turn to the Opinion pages and read your Letters to the Editor.

But first, you have to write us!

Mail your letters to the Spencer New Leader, P.O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550.

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

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

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

If you want to write a bit longer about a particular issue, maybe a guest Your Turn column is your cup of tea. If you do that, try to keep it between 700-800 words.

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

So, what are you waiting for? Start writing!



www.StonebridgePress.com

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Is “What are they marching for?” an attempt to deceive and distract? We do live in interesting times

To the Editor:  
Dictionaries generally define “Manipulation” as an effort to control or influence, often in a deceiving or dishonest way.

Clues that an attempt to manipulate is underway include;

- Denying or hiding reality,
- Current words not matching earlier words or actions
- Blaming “others”
- Claiming innocence when not the case,

Making serious accusations without providing factual evidence,

Indicating little or no sympathy for those accused or “others”; that is people not like “us,” and

Consistently indicating personal superiority

Often letters posted in The New Leader that, intentionally or not, seem to want to manipulate, deceive, or distract readers.

A June 12 letter, “What are they marching for?” with many clues, provides a good example – as do similar letters. (You can read this New Leader letter online in the Stonebridge Press archives.)

In the days before this letter, our “United” States produced a series of rallies and protests in numbers and diversity unlike any in my lifetime. The immediate, but far from only, cause of the rallies focused around the videotaped killing of George Floyd, a Black man. A policeman was charged with his murder. Floyd’s death became the spark that focused the country on continuing and - especially in the time of Trump - worsening, racial, social, and economic injustices.

The “What Are They Marching For?” letter basically ignored why rallies and protests drew large numbers of people across the nation and world, and in our towns. These protesters, as never before, included white and black, young and old, parents with children, and well and not so well-off Americans.

The letter insulted and tried to belittle local protesters, saying that they were too young, too privileged and in no way equal to those who protested in the 1960’s, especially those who marched from Montgomery to Selma, Alabama.

Along with many others, two who actually participated in both 2020 and 1960’s protests disagree.

The first was, John Lewis, Civil rights era battered and bruised hero and elected member of Congress for 33 years. Standing among protesters in Washington, he said he was “inspired” by our current protesters adding that “It was so moving to see thousands (and far more) of people in the United States and around the world peacefully protesting .... saying through their action ‘I can do something, I can say something’. And they said something by marching and speaking up.” Lewis very ill with pancreatic cancer added, “We must use our time on this little planet ... to make a lasting contribution, to leave it a little better than we found it. You must be able and prepared to give until you cannot give anymore.”

John Lewis’s patriotic voice directly contradicts the letter’s far less than patriotic apparent attempt to insult protesters and divide local communities.

The second 1960’s and 2020s protester is me, a proud graduate of Auburn High, Class of 1961 (and student of the beloved Matt Smith whose obituary was published in the same New Leader. In terms of living life with honesty and dignity, this teacher was a true role model).

Where Lewis was a mountain, I was a mole hill. However, I lived and worked among “Civil Rights” giants in the rural south for about seven years. This included, helping to organize, with some difficulty, and attending the 1968 “Poor People’s March to Washington” rally and protest. This effort began before and ended after the assassination of Martin Luther King

Like Lewis, I attended a recent rally. Like him, I stand inspired and encouraged by the current much larger and more diverse local, national and global protests. Well done, Classes of 2020!

And as Lewis asks, please give some more (and then again more) in these most difficult and dangerous of times. You are making history of the best kind.

KEVIN KANE  
SPENCER

To the Editor:

There is a virtually never ending list of atrocities that the Trump administration seems to deliver on Fridays, in the hope that the storms they create will subside over the weekend. I guess the fact that they were using a large sum of money we had appropriated to Ukraine, ostensibly to fight off any further Russian invasion and territory grabbing had insufficient outrage to impact any punishment, why would we even raise an eyebrow over the half trillion dollar slush fund that the treasury secretary feels no pressure to account for.

When AG Barr announced the resignation of the judge from the Southern District of New York, and his response was that he was not resigning, and intended to continue investigations of Rudy G. and other irregularities, his being fired by Trump on Friday was no surprise. The current plan seems to be holding down convictions so a ridiculous number of pardons won’t be needed.

I am not even sure what to say about the Tulsa fiasco. To have touted a million ticket requests, expect a crowd of 100,000 and fill less than a third of a 20,000 seat venue, with unmasked supporters did not accomplish the ego boost they sought. The actual presentation was a better ad to convince you not to vote for a guy who did a twenty minute diatribe on water drinking and stumbling down a ramp at the West Point graduation where he recalled all the cadets to New York state, should convince everyone to vote for someone else.

There is no shortage of material to reflect on, with this administration. While considering what words of wisdom I might impart today, I paged back through last week’s letters. Over time, I have come to realize that I am congruent with some writers, and less so with others.

I particularly enjoyed the generation Z letter. Having a 20-year-old, red haired, freckle faced grand daughter at the Presidio learning Mandarin, and her younger brother a railroad conductor, I know they have their ducks in a row, and the world will be a better place because of them.

The letter advocating for accepting an invitation to go to Africa, seemed pretty racist as I expect the writer would feel the same with no invitation to reference. Considering that most of their black ancestors were kidnapped and brought

here and sold as chattel, it is not like they were on a two-week vacation or a semester overseas.

I have mentioned before, my people were migrants more than immigrants, as the Massachusetts Bay Colony was still England in 1634. Because I am one of the genealogy keepers of my clan, I know of no slave owners in my bloodline. I come from a long line of people who worked with their hands and backs. My maternal grandmother, who had both the look and coloration of a native American, responded to my one inquiry as to whether we had any native blood with “I’ll not speak of that woman.” End of discussion.

It occurs to me, with an archaeological dig around the corner and a lake across the street, which has a variety of native names, but we call North Pond, that perhaps the former inhabitants would want to invite us to go back where we came from.

I read a thoughtful review on defunding police. I don’t feel qualified to express any actuarial feelings on that. I grew up in a little New England town; 15 minutes could have put you in any of three of the six New England states. I knew the cops, and firemen as I went to school with their families. I have a nephew who is both of those in that county right now.

I would be hard pressed to see any difference between his uniforms now, and the ones I looked at 60 years ago. It is my suspicion that it is not the vehicles or uniforms that are the most hanged from a quieter more rational time. I knew cops who never took out their gun off the range. My earliest recollection of the second amendment, was a blue law that you could not escort a woman to church without a shotgun as defense against any persons or critters you might encounter. Are assault rifles, that nearly anyone can obtain, that can kill 30 people in three minutes, a step up?

On COVID, we are all our brother’s keeper. In the same manner you trust other drivers to not run over you, and to follow the rules, it appears necessary to make rules for the lowest common denominator, and hope to encounter as much respect and common sense as possible. No matter where you go, what you do or say, make sure brain is fully engaged first.

KEN KIMBALL  
BROOKFIELD

### Brazil is catching up

To the Editor:

With no traditional team sports or Olympics to watch, the nation remains focused on the race between nations for the biggest COVID-19 disaster. The USA is in the lead with 2,254,855 cases and 119,719 deaths with Brazil catching up fast at roughly one million cases and 50,000 deaths. Brazil is averaging 30,000 new infections per day while the U.S. is only averaging 25,000. Don’t worry, though; the epicenter of the American outbreak is moving into Republican held states, mostly former Confederate, and it’s off to the races!

It should be noted that Brazil and the American South share an old affinity. The Confederacy was most like Brazil at the time of the Civil War (Brazil was a slaved based plantation economy in a large landmass) and if the CSA won they likely would have turned out more like Brazil than the USA. Tens of thousands of Confederates also fled to Brazil as the Union troops closed in. The city of Americana, São Paulo, Brazil was founded by “Confederados” and continues to have Confederate festivals to this day. After World War II, Nazis also fled to Brazil and it’s hard not to see the

shared values...

In just the past week our infection rate has risen 20 percent, which is pretty impressive given the backdrop of the Northeast continuing to get better. Of course, the situation in the moron states is actually much worse than that – states such as Oklahoma, Texas, and Florida have doubled their infection rates in the past week and they will defend our honor, step up the game, and keep our #1 crown from Brazil. This victory will probably be short-lived though, India gave up on their lockdown and is currently in exponential growth so with their population 3x ours they’ll eventually take the crown...

Jen Gaucher’s letter of June 19 made me think about it, and honestly, Gov. Baker has done a superb job given the unprecedented circumstances. As we stared down the barrel of the 100 year plague his leadership has brought the infection rate in Massachusetts down 90 percent from its initial peak. Gov. Baker takes his responsibility for all of us seriously and couldn’t care less

Turn To **HAR-YAROK** page **A10**

### No mileqtoast reform

To the Editor:

This weekend, we had another local Black Lives Matter protest in West Brookfield. It was great to see and we need this to keep going, every week, until the election at the very least. Our elected officials want to ignore this and go back to “business as usual.” We can’t let them.

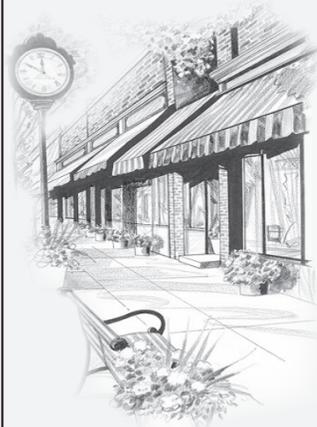
The problems we have with racial inequity in this country, white privilege that people refuse to see, and how our law enforcement intersects with our various demographic groups is a big problem in this country. It has gotten to the point where some would say that silence is violence; those that are silent on the matter are just as guilty as those that are actively abusing our citizens of color. I would say, though, that silence is complicity. Those that don’t join the BLM protests, write into the paper, or at least push back against their worst Facebook friends are complicit in the inequality facing our marginalized communities. White people that just stay out of it are no better than the Afrikaaners that sat back and

said nothing while they benefited from South African Apartheid.

Qualified Immunity (QI) is a concept invented out of thin air by the Supreme Court to shield government officials performing discretionary functions from civil suits and dates back to 1967. It is normally used to dismiss lawsuits for excessive or deadly force by police. Qualified Immunity contributes to our rotten police culture and needs to be eliminated as part of our quest to repair things in America and claw us back from a Fascist police state.

The original problem that introduced QI is that in policing a cop might not do his job if he was worried about getting sued, if doing his job could lead to negative money. Immunity is the wrong way to handle this. The right way to handle this is how we handle other professions which could result in a wrongful death – malpractice insurance. If cops had to carry malpractice insurance there would be financial justice for the families of the slain but more importantly, the free market would take care of our

Turn To **WASHINGTON** page **A18**



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**HAR-YAROK**  
continued from page A9

about political dogma or party. His words and actions struck me as a competent manager and our captain of the ship in rough waters. The problem with explaining things to mentally inept morons lacking common sense is that despite your best efforts you often come across as condescending. I know Gov. Baker has done a much better job than I ever could be pretending to respect the voices in our society that deserve nothing more than to be laughed at.

There is an enormous amount of scientific data on this virus and the problem with the real world is that a controlled experiment can't actually be performed without selecting a population for poor management with an associated body count. This virus is every bit as ravaging as the scientists have always said it was, however if you perceive the world through anecdotes from your friends you wouldn't know because over the objections of the morons, we did our best to contain it. The reality of infectious disease is that individual business owners can't decide for themselves, if disease isn't managed it will spread and infect us all anyway. There is no liberty in the effects of our worst members of society getting us anyway.

Regarding Ms. Foss's letter on uniting around sunscreen, the problem is that after we politicized science it became "Leftist" or a "Democrat plot" to do the right thing. I was thinking about telling people only Democrats want them not to smoke just to see if they start. I know you want to think that we are more united than divided on many more serious things but I really don't believe we are. We are more divided on ever and it has moved from being divided over opinion, to being divided over facts, to being divided over absurd things like sunscreen. Nothing is going to get better if we lie to ourselves that we are united on serious issues. We have to address the fact that much of the country is off the rails.

Mr. Robillard seems to have a textbook case of not understanding white privilege. Perhaps it would make more sense if we said white people were neutral but minorities have a systemic and persistent disadvantage as they move about their lives? If we made a bar chart of your human capital and assigned points to each item being white bought you something. Not everything, but something. To a young person trying to get their first job it is crucial for somebody to take a chance on you. To a young person interacting with the cops,

the difference between a stern talking to and an arrest can start a snowball of events including having trouble getting jobs. Not to say that Mr. Robillard had it easy, but I think it is safe to say he has no idea how much harder it would have been for him had he been black.

Finally, getting to Mr. McRae's letter about Ghana... Whoa... First, I will say I am disappointed those 11 letters didn't get published. Given what the New Leader is willing to publish, I am deeply curious what was in the letters that got "spiked."

Apparently, Mr. McRae's solution for people born here and whose ancestors were brought here as slaves hundreds of years ago who don't like the fact that we memorialize Confederate Generals that lost a war to preserve slavery is that they go back to Africa. As bad as the 2019 "send them back" chant regarding U.S. citizens elected to Congress was, suggesting the descendants of our slaves "go back to Africa" is incredible. The solution to people angry about the systemic mistreatment of our citizens at the hands of our paid employees is, "go find another continent." It is especially interesting that he refers to Americans who do quite well as "sincere Christians."

The United States of America is not a white country, is not a black country, is not a Christian country, or an Atheist country. It is a country that belongs to the people who were born here. My ancestry is not from anywhere near the British Isles but I was born here and that makes it equally mine. I am not, was never, and never will be a Christian (sincere or otherwise) and guess what - I have equal claim to this country. In the United States we vote for our leaders and policies and while voter suppression and the Electoral College can put a thumb on the scale for Republicans, not infinitely so. In the United States it is enshrined in our constitution that we have freedom of speech, assembly, and the right to redress our concerns with the government.

If anything, young people have more of a stake in this country's future than older people and it seems that young people are the ones concerned about racial justice and systemic inequality and it is the older folks who are getting angry at it. The older white folks seem to be the ones most angry about the direction the United States is clearly marching towards. It makes me think, is there a place we can send them back to? Would Scotland or Ireland take back any white nationalists descended from those lands that are deeply upset about the state of affairs in the United States?

OMAR HAR-YAROK  
EAST BROOKFIELD

## Welcome to the Coliseum

To the Editor:

The last days of Rome were when the Emperor built the Coliseum to keep the mob occupied. Our new Coliseum is the social media sites and cable TV. We are the mob. We see the gladiators on TV battling it out. On one side, the police. On the other side, the felons. When the police started winning, the managers of the games (CNN, Washington Post) opened another gate into the ring and out came BLM and the protesters. If they start winning then then Trump brings in the national guard. The Supreme Court, as the final arbitrator of the game, watches the mob and gives a thumbs up or thumbs down to appease the mob. I ask the same question the gladiator shouts to the mob from the movie Gladiator "Have you been entertained! Because that's all it really is. Entertainment for us, the mob. Another civilization being brought down like the thousands that failed before us.

Logically, there can never be true equality in any civilization, one group will always have a majority and others will be in the minority. The minority will always be in a struggle with the majority. The differences can be race, religion, or whatever. Politicians rise and fall. People will fight calling for real change. One of the laws of science is that for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction. So naturally, there will always be a reaction to any change. We induce others to fight thinking we are right. The problem is behind all this struggle there is the natural law at work. It is in everyone's DNA. The human survival nature deep down is to be the dominant one. To be

the winner of the human race. We were made this way and that's why were the dominant species.

To this end, the natural law of survival is to expend the least amount of energy while having the maximum number of prodigies to carry on your genes. This is called natural selection. The ultimate goal is to have only your prodigy as the survivors. So, I ask you, who is correct according to this law. Couple 1 who works hard and supports a limited number of children. Couple 2, who works as little as possible, survives off social programs, then has as many children as possible because well-meaning programs reward them for having more. It's obvious the winner of natural selection is couple 2. They have used a superior Intellect to determine a process where they can have others support their prodigy. They will reinforce this by punishing society unless they are provided these resources. They guilt the others to increase their support under the banners of "social justice" and "income equality." They have intelligently tricked you into taking care of their prodigy.

So, what is a person to do when faced with the unchangeable facts of our nature? Just live life as best as you see fit. If it makes you happy to demonstrate, do it. If it makes you happy to fly a confederate flag, do it. If it makes you happy to send letters into the paper, do it. In the end life is entertainment to occupy our monkey minds till our time is up. Enjoy the show.

MARK ROBILLARD  
SPENCER

## End of Life legislation offers a chance to relieve suffering

To the Editor:

With the Covid-19 pandemic, the subject of death has been brought into the forefront of public discourse. However, for those of us working on behalf of the End of Life Options Act (H. 4782, formerly H.1926), the knowledge and the concern that many people routinely die a painful death has long been with us.

We have had some good news lately. The Legislature's Public Health Committee passed this bill on May 29 by a substantial majority. It has been referred to the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing.

So far, nine states and the District of Columbia have passed bills similar to H. 4782, which seeks to give the terminally ill more control over how much pain they are willing to accept. Although considerable safeguards are built into the bill, the intent is that a little bit of hope and control can remain

with the person even at the end of life.

Unfortunately, this bill cannot apply to persons caught up in the current pandemic, or to persons who are mentally incapable of understanding the decisions that they are making. I say unfortunately, because my poor cat, who couldn't understand what was happening to her either, was nevertheless legally able to have a peaceful and painless death.

However, there are many sufferers whose suffering could be greatly relieved by choosing to end their lives before the pain becomes intolerable. Let's help them (and maybe eventually ourselves) by contacting our legislators soon and asking them to pass this bill before the Legislature adjourns on July 31.

CAROL MAYS  
WEST BROOKFIELD

## East Brookfield Library offering curbside pickup

EAST BROOKFIELD — The East Brookfield Public Library will be reopening for curbside pickup only on a limited schedule starting June 29.

Curbside pickup will be available for all patrons on Mondays from 2:30-6:30 p.m., and on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. There will be special curbside pickup for high risk patrons on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10-11 a.m. Library staff will call you when items are ready for pickup. Patrons may request library materials by phone (508-867-7928) or online through your personal C/W Mars account (cwmars.org).

If placing orders through C/W Mars, be sure to choose "East Brookfield Public Library" from the drop-down menu as the pick-up library. The Massachusetts Library System interlibrary loan program is not yet operational at this time,

so be sure to choose available items only from the East Brookfield Public Library catalog. Please allow 24 hours for us to process your requests.

During pickup, please practice social distancing guidelines. Remain six feet away from

other patrons and wear a mask. Pickups will occur outside. When you arrive, call the library or

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## Friday's Child



Jamellah and Kye  
Age 11 and 13

Hi! Our names are Jamellah and Kye and we want to be adopted together!

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teachers.

Kye is a playful young boy who always wants to be running around outside. He is very active and loves to play different sports, as well as activities like fishing and camping. When he is inside, Kye likes building with Legos and playing video games. Kye has some behavioral concerns in school and will be assessed soon to see if he would benefit from extra supports in class.

Legally freed for adoption, Jamellah and Kye's social worker is seeking a family for them of any constellation where Kye can be the youngest child in the home.

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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 617-6273 or visit [www.mareinc.org](http://www.mareinc.org). The sooner you call, the sooner a waiting child will have a permanent place to call home.



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help save Rachel's life. We have had to shift gears since her passing. Rachel attended the Center of Hope for many years. Her family would appreciate the proceeds in Rachel's memory be applied to purchase needed items for her peers, such as sensory equipment, I pads and music related items at the Center of Hope. We will also be making a donation to Clowning for Kidz Foundation for their help in assisting in the raffles.

Sincerely,  
The Beer Family

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# Open Sky Community Services celebrates EVP of Organizational Development and Diversity

WORCESTER — Open Sky Community Services is celebrating the career and retirement of Michael Seibold, Executive Vice President of Organizational Development and Diversity. On May 29, Seibold received a key to the City of Worcester in recognition of his 40 years of dedicated service to organizations supporting individuals with disabilities. Seibold, who had held the position of Director of Community Services with Alternatives Unlimited, Inc., joined Open Sky in 2018 when Alternatives affiliated with The Bridge of Central Massachusetts as Open Sky Community Services.

Worcester Mayor Joseph Petty presented Michael with the key for his 40 years of work to provide people with developmental disabilities or mental health challenges the support and opportunities they need to lead full and successful lives in the community. Mayor Petty noted that the presentation marked his first "Zoom Key" – digitally presented on the Zoom video conferencing platform.

"We are fortunate to have had the opportunity to work alongside Michael," said Ken Bates, President and CEO of Open Sky Community Services. "His thoughtful approach, breadth of

knowledge and teaching style has left a lasting legacy for the entire central Massachusetts community."

During Seibold's tenure, he oversaw years of extraordinary service growth. Of particular note is Michael's work to develop an agency-wide mentoring program to assist staff members in their career development.

For more information about Open Sky Community Services, please contact Lorie Martiska, lorie.martiska@openskycs.org

About Open Sky Community Services

Open Sky Community Services is dba for Alternatives Unlimited, Inc and The Bridge of Central MA. Open Sky offers a wide range of services for adults, adolescents, and children with mental health challenges, developmental and intellectual disabilities, substance use disorders, brain injury, homelessness and other challenges throughout Central Massachusetts. Open Sky Community Services has over 1,300 dedicated employees and an annual budget of \$83M with more than 100 programs throughout the region. For more information, please visit [www.openskycs.org](http://www.openskycs.org).

# Local boaters look forward to upcoming parade

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER — Local boaters can't wait to show off their patriotic spirit during a debut fundraising event on Lake Sargent.

Set for Saturday, June 27, the boat parade is open to both motorized and unmotorized boats. The event will begin at 2 p.m., and a \$20 registration fee is required for each participant. All funds will support the lake association for weed treatment and other maintenance projects.

"We go to Florida in the winters, and they have many boat parades down there. I thought it would be a nice idea up here as well," said event organizer Bob Richmond, who lives on the lake.

The event is open to

the public. Prizes will be awarded to the owners of the most patriotically dressed boats in both the motorized and unmotorized categories. The top four boats in each category will earn prizes, and judges will also be looking for the most colorful and creative displays.

"We are hoping it's going to be a nice day for everyone to enjoy," Richmond said.

All vessel owners will meet at 1:45 p.m., just beyond Bob Richmond's house. Motorized boats will line up first, and non-motorized vessels will follow. All boaters must attach a parade number to their vessels.

A panel of three judges will review boats from the patio behind Castle Restaurant. To enter the viewing area, there is a

walkway to the left for guests to access. Please wear masks and adhere to social distancing guidelines.

In the event of a rain postponement, the parade will take place on July 4. Boaters are hoping to make the parade an annual patriotic event to show off their spirit.

For more information about event instructions and regulations, contact Richmond at 508-615-8523. You can also call Marilyn Patterson at 857-205-6298, or Sarah Giguere at 508-335-1134.

Richmond thanks all sponsors for their support of the first-time event, including Northeast Pizza, Barber's Crossing, Castle Restaurant, Eller's, Dunkin' Donuts, Dippin' Donuts, Cheoy Lee's, and Subway.

# Nicholas LeBoeuf named to SNHU Dean's List

MANCHESTER, New Hampshire Nicholas LeBoeuf of Rochdale has been named to Southern New Hampshire University's (SNHU) Winter 2020 Dean's List. The winter term runs from January to May. Eligibility for the Dean's List requires that a student

accumulate an academic grade point average (GPA) of 3.5-3.699 and earn 12 credits for the semester.

Southern New Hampshire University (SNHU) is a private, nonprofit institution with an 87-year history of educating traditional-aged students

and working adults. Now serving more than 130,000 learners worldwide, SNHU offers over 300 accredited undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs, available online and on its 300-acre campus in Manchester, NH. Recognized as the "Most Innovative" regional uni-

versity by U.S. News & World Report and one of the fastest-growing universities in the country, SNHU is committed to expanding access to high quality, affordable pathways that meet the needs of each learner. Learn more at [www.snhu.edu](http://www.snhu.edu).



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# URI students named to the Spring 2020 Dean's List

KINGSTON, R.I. — The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce the Spring 2020 Dean's List. The students represent nearly all of Rhode Island's cities and towns, all six New England states, New York and New Jersey, and many other states and countries.

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the

accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

The following students from your area were named to the Dean's List:

Evona Bolaske of West Brookfield

Ben Cote of Leicester

Jack Dorman of West Brookfield

Lexie Duntzee of Leicester

Sarah Laflamme of Brookfield

Sean McCarthy of Rochdale

Jackie Romero Bourassa of Leicester

Lynnea Talbot of North Brookfield

The University of Rhode Island's pioneering research extends the University's influence well beyond its coastal borders, while its unique interdisciplinary courses provide its 16,852 undergraduate and graduate students with global opportunities in an intimate environment. In May 2020, more than 3,500 undergraduate and about 700 graduate degrees were awarded. The University now has more than 120,000 alumni worldwide.

# Police officer recognized for service at LMS



Photo Courtesy

Leicester Middle School officials recently handed out the Linda Colby Volunteer Extraordinaire Award. This year's recipient is Officer James Murphy.

LEICESTER—A local police officer was recently honored with Leicester Middle School's annual Linda Colby Volunteer Extraordinaire Award.

LMS Principal Chris Fontaine nominated Leicester Police Officer James Murphy for the award because of his outstanding service to the school. He received a plaque honoring his service during a small ceremony earlier this month.

"Officer Murphy has done so much with our school this year and working with the fifth grade," Principal Fontaine said. "Between the DARE program and

everything else he does, we would like to award him this plaque."

Officer Murphy was instrumental in implementing the DARE program for fifth graders. He even came in on his off days to provide instruction to students.

The school typically presents the award at a graduation ceremony, but current circumstances necessitated a virtual celebration.

"With COVID-19, we are doing the best we can to be sure he gets the recognition he deserves. Congratulations, Officer Murphy," Fontaine added.

# Bay State Savings Bank appoints Lori L. Kowal Commercial Loan Administration Officer

WORCESTER — Bay State Savings Bank is proud to announce Lori L. Kowal has been appointed Commercial Loan Administration Officer at the Bank's 28 Franklin St. location in Worcester. In this role, Ms. Kowal will work with the Lending team, with a particular focus on Commercial Lending business development and marketing efforts, along with Commercial Loan Administration responsibilities.

Ms. Kowal joins Bay State Savings Bank with over twenty years of banking experience. Prior to joining Bay State Savings Bank, she served as Vice President of Marketing for Cornerstone Bank, where she worked for 18 years. She is a Certified Financial Marketing Professional.

"Lori joins Bay State Savings Bank with many years of valuable banking



Lori Kowal

experience," said Bay State Savings Bank Senior Lender Maria Heskes-Allard. "The experience she has will allow us to increase effectiveness when working cross-departmentally, resulting in enhanced operations and overall better service to our customers."

Ms. Kowal currently resides in Spencer with her husband, Robert.

# Drive-in movie night planned for local veterans

BY KEVIN FLANDERS  
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Several community members recently teamed up to thank veterans by providing a free drive-in movie night.

The event will take place at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, June 29, at Leicester Triple Drive-In Theatre (located at 1675 Main St. in town). Registration is required for admission; please register by Saturday, June 27.

The event took plenty of teamwork and creativity to pull off. The idea was hatched during a session of an online, Zoom-based veterans group called Veteran Coffee Talks. The group focused heavily on connecting veterans during the COVID-19 crisis and providing information on helpful organizations, resources, educational tools, and other local benefits.

During the height of the pandemic, with everyone sheltering in their homes, ideas started to flourish about how to eventually connect veterans in person through a fun event. Once the idea for a free veterans' drive-in movie night gained momentum, a group of local veteran advocates and non-profits teamed up to make the idea a reality.

Bill Moore, of Project New Hope, Carolyn Jette, and Don Jarvis worked as a team to establish the drive-in movie night. The event will be free for veterans and Gold Star families.

"It is important in these trying times that we are able to provide a safe place for our veterans to be,"

Jette said.

Committed to benefiting mental health and overall wellbeing for veterans during these challenging times, event organizers knew this program would be a great way to offer safe entertainment. Many older veterans who are at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 have been searching for ways to stay engaged as the summer begins.

"There is a therapeutic benefit in being out with the family and other veterans. I'm grateful to work with this team of veterans to provide a great opportunity for families to come out and enjoy time together at absolutely no cost to them," Jarvis said.

Special guest Ayla Brown will start the evening with the singing of the National Anthem.

The movie will run until 10 p.m.

Veterans must provide proof of military service upon arrival. Please adhere to all safety and social distancing guidelines during the event.

To register for the movie night, visit [www.projectnewhope.org](http://www.projectnewhope.org). The website also features information on several other upcoming local events for veterans and their families.

Established in 2011, Project New Hope assists veterans through multiple services, events, and programs. The organization is based in Worcester and offers an array of retreats and support programs.

Organizers thank Project New Hope and Leicester Triple Drive-In Theatre for facilitating the event.

# Second Chance low-cost spay/neuter program resumes

NORTH BROOKFIELD — Second Chance Animal Services is taking on many challenges in resuming low-cost spay/neuter at their three nonprofit veterinary hospitals. The popular program that offers pet owners an affordable option to have their pet fixed was put on hold as the COVID-19 pandemic began affecting the region in March, postponing hundreds of appointments indefinitely. As critical supplies became more readily available, Second Chance focused efforts on carefully resuming the program.

The Springfield and Worcester spay/neuter programs have fully resumed in late May, while the North Brookfield program remains limited to accommodate the increased need for emergency surgeries at this time. With some

veterinary hospitals still closed or limiting services, Second Chance continues to see twice their normal caseload of emergencies.

Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato wants pet owners to know just how hard Second Chance is working to schedule the backlog of appointments.

"We really, really hated to suspend several of our programs like spay/neuter because we know just how much pet owners rely on them, and how important they are to the health of pets in our community," Blancato said. "There are currently hundreds of applications awaiting scheduling on top of the rescheduling postponed appointments. We regret the unavoidably long wait. We're doing everything we can to get caught up as quickly as possible."

Dedicated staff are calling pet owners in the order their application or message was received. Pet owners who have already submitted an application are encouraged to be patient and make sure their voicemail is able to receive messages. Anyone with an urgent spay/neuter need such as pyometra should call the veterinary care line to see which hospital can assist. New spay/neuter applications can be submitted at [secondchanceanimals.org](http://secondchanceanimals.org).

Second Chance is currently working on plans to resume further programs in late June and July. Interested pets' owners can watch for future announcements on the nonprofits website and Facebook page.

# LEGALS

## TOWN OF BROOKFIELD ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

The Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals will hold two Public Hearings beginning at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 8 at the Brookfield Town Hall located at 6 Central Street.

The purpose of the first hearing is to consider a request from Stephen J. Comtois II to build a new home located at 41 Rice Corner 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. This property is located in the Rural Residential District.

The purpose of the second hearing is to consider a request from Amanda Normandin to keep livestock or poultry at her home located at 35 River Street in Brookfield. This requires a special permit as per Section 5) Accessory uses, B) Residential Districts, (4) Livestock or poultry...subject to approval of a special permit by the Board of Appeals such use shall be allowed in the Village, Business A, Business B Districts, of the Zoning By-Law for the Town of Brookfield. This property is located in the Village District.

Timothy Simon – Acting ZBA Chairman

June 19, 2020  
June 26, 2020

## Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

Patricia A. Stark has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove a dead pine tree from the lake front located at 6 Cedar Road, Spencer, MA.

Pamela Bombard has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to install an above ground pool at 14 Paxton Road, Spencer, MA.

Peter Bowler has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to upgrade the Septic System at 51 Lake Avenue, Spencer, MA.

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional 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, July 8, 2020, at which time all persons having an interest may be present and participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 7:00 p.m., public hearings begin at 7:15 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman  
June 26, 2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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### Docket No. WO20P1489EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Gloria Anne Mayer

Date of Death: 04/20/2020

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Bradley A Mayer of Newton Lower Fall MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner Requests that:

**Bradley A Mayer of Newton Lower Fall MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and

objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/28/2020.**

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

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.

Date: June 10, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman,  
Register of Probate

June 26, 2020

# OBITUARIES

## Jean Mary (Barrass) Flint, 95

HOLDEN- Jean Mary (Barrass) Flint, 95, of Holden and formerly of Leicester died Sunday, June 14 in the Lutheran Home after an illness.

Her husband Harold F. Flint died in 1992. She leaves a son David R. Flint and his wife Lucinda of Worcester, a daughter Marilyn J. Glasier and her longtime companion Ronald F. Ladner of Holden, 4 grandchildren; Matthew Glasier and his wife Kerry, Jeffrey, Sarah and Andrew Flint, 3 great grandchildren; Gillian, Owen and Tanner Glasier a great great grandson; August Matthew LaLonde and a former daughter in law, Jeanie Reilly, several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a daughter Susan Flint, a son Alan Flint, a brother Richard Barrass and a sister Margaret Zientek.

Jean was born in Loughborough, England, daughter of Rowland and Clarice (Mound) Barrass. She was a bookkeeper for over 25 years at Leicester Die and Tool, Inc. retiring

in 1989. She served in the Women's Royal Air Force in England during WWII. She was a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Rochdale and was a member of their Allen Guild for 25 years. She was a member of Leicester Senior Citizens Club. Jean was a talented artist and calligrapher. She completed many works of art and calligraphy which have been distributed to friends and family. A heartfelt thank you to the staff at the Lutheran Home for their compassionate care.

A Graveside service was held Wednesday, June 17 at 1p.m. in Mooreland Cemetery, Paxton. Due to the current COVID restrictions, the service will be open to family and close friends only. MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main Street is directing funeral arrangements. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to Christ Episcopal Church, P.O. Box 142, Rochdale, MA 01542.

## René George Ravenelle, 62

Hudson/E. Brookfield-René George Ravenelle, 62 passed away peacefully following a long illness on June 18, 2020 surrounded by his loving family.



René will be deeply missed by his wife of 33 years Maureen (Mitchell) Ravenelle; to whom he is forever grateful for the love, care and strength she provided to him on a daily basis. René also leaves his two daughters and their husbands Ashley and Jay Brown of East Brookfield, MA and Megan and Ed Morrissey of Hudson, MA; a granddaughter Bailey Brown and a grandson Bentley Brown; three brothers Paul, André and Robert Ravenelle and eleven nieces and nephews. René was predeceased by his parents Joseph and Rita (Jolicœur) Ravenelle.

René was born and raised in Southbridge, MA and was a longtime resident of East Brookfield, MA. where he and his wife raised their family. He graduated from Marianhill High School in Southbridge, MA and attended Nichols College and Quinsigamond Community College. He worked for many years in construction and then later as an underwriter and disability benefits specialist at the former Paul Revere/UNUM Insurance Company. As a natural athlete, René was a devoted New England sports fan with a love for the Red Sox, Celtics, Patriots and Bruins. René had a lifelong love of sailing and spent many years sailing his Flying Dutchmen on Webster Lake. He faced many significant health challenges throughout his life but approached every new challenge with a smile and never gave up. He lived by the saying, "You can't control the wind but you can adjust the sails."

René was a voracious reader, a tal-

ented craftsman, a history enthusiast, an avid "HGTV" watcher, a graham pie connoisseur and a practical joker. Anyone on the other end of René's practical jokes will remember his quick wit and large repertoire of impressions in his comedy tool kit. René could make any situation a humorous one. René will be remembered as an easy-going, kind soul and loyal husband, brother and friend, but his greatest legacy and the joy of his life were his two daughters. He basked in their accomplishments, he was their biggest cheerleader, he was a fierce protector and their go-to problem solver on home fix-it projects, gardening, home decorating, cars and good 'ole dad advice and jokes.

A kidney transplant recipient in 2007, René volunteered with New England Donor Services for many years. René was always grateful for the gift of life provided by donation and encouraged others to become organ donors.

The family would like to thank Dr. Martha Pavlakis and the transplant team as well as Drs. Wilson Grandin and Thomas Hauser and the cardiac team at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston and his team of medical professionals at St. Vincent's Hospital and ARA Auburn Dialysis for their tremendous care and ongoing support.

Donations may be made in René's memory to New England Donor Services or the American Heart Association [www2.heart.org](http://www2.heart.org).

A memorial service will be held in the future. Sansoucy Funeral Home, 40 Marcy Street, Southbridge, MA 01550 is assisting the family with arrangements. [www.sansoucyfuneral.com](http://www.sansoucyfuneral.com)

[ps://neds.org/](http://neds.org/) or the American Heart Association [www2.heart.org](http://www2.heart.org).

A memorial service will be held in the future.

## Jason Nicholas King

Jason Nicholas King of Ashford, CT. 37, went to be with his Lord on April 27th, 2020.



Jason was born April 7th, 1983 in New Haven, CT to Peter and Melinda Basto King. A 2001 graduate of Woodstock Academy, he worked as a skilled carpenter and became versed in plumbing and electrical. He made his home in Maine, Rhode Island, East Killingly, Eastford and Ashford. Jason was a gentle soul, always eager to say a kind word and lend a helping hand. Nature was his soul mate. In the woods with Ox, his loving golden lab, was where he felt

most comfortable.

Jason is survived by his parents, Peter (Springfield, Ma) and Melinda King (Ashford, Ct.) His brothers, Peter (Woodstock CT) and Brandon King (Eastford, CT) and his Grandparents, Dana Basto (Woodstock, CT) and Marieann MacGinnis (Auburn, MA).

In lieu of flowers, donations in Jason's memory may be made to: The Evangelical Christian Ctr., 574 Ashford Center Road, Ashford, CT 06278.

Memorial Service to be held Saturday June 27th, 2020 at 11:00am, Eastford Baptist Church, 133 Union Road, Eastford, CT, 06242

\*In accordance with COVID-19 regulations, masks will be required for attendees and social distancing will be practiced.

## Jean Bayliss, 74

EAST BROOKFIELD- Jean (Neeser) Bayliss, of East Brookfield passed suddenly on June 16, 2020, she was 74. Jean was born in Elmira, NY to Helen and Henry Neeser.



She is survived by her loving husband of ten years Eric Bayliss; three daughters Rhonda Duhamel and her husband Richard of Dudley, Donna Behrens and her husband Peter of Oxford, and Charlotte Fisk of N Grosvenordale, CT.; grandchildren Megan, Matthew, Mason, Richard III, Ryan; three great grand-

children Krystopher, Joshua and Isabella; four brothers Robert Neeser, Richard Neeser and his wife Elaine, Charles Kozlowski and his wife Cheryl, and Timothy Kozlowski and his wife Maria. Jean was predeceased by her granddaughter Brenna Ann Larson, daughter of Charlotte.

She will be remembered for her love of family and friends.

A private memorial service for family will be held at a later date. Donations may be made in her name to Alzheimer's Association at [ALZ.ORG](http://ALZ.ORG). Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home Pillsbury Funeral Home 3 West Brookfield Rd. Brookfield.

## Rebecca "Becky" Seale Ekstrom, 70

SPENCER: Rebecca "Becky" Seale Ekstrom, age 70, of Spencer, died peacefully on Sunday, June 14 surrounded by her loving family after a long battle with cancer. She leaves her devoted husband of 44 years, Robert C. Ekstrom, her two sons



Rodger S. Ekstrom and his wife Nadine of Boylston, Jesse W. Ekstrom and his wife Kara of Boylston, and her daughter Kaitlyn M. Ekstrom.

Doig and her husband Nick of Putnam. Becky leaves three brothers; Jonathan Seale and his wife Helen of Worcester, Nathaniel Seale and his wife Sharon of Worcester, Timothy Seale and Sandy Seale of Spencer. She leaves five granddaughters; Meaghan, Nicole, Bronwyn, Awen, and Zora who she loved spending time with, whether reading books, talking about their accomplishments, or sharing her love for gardening. Becky leaves several nieces and nephews who will always remember her love and compassion for family and friendship. Born in South Attleboro, she was the daughter of the former Reverend George E. and Nancy B. (Brown) Seale. She later graduated from Burncoat High School in Worcester and received a bachelor's degree from Clark University in Worcester. She worked in public relations at Worcester State University,

Girls Inc., and later became the Moderator at Greendale People's Church in Worcester. During her time of volunteering at Greendale People's Church, Becky produced and directed the annual Christmas pageant, Angels Among Us. The production ran for nearly 15 years, included more than 100 cast and crew from all parts of the community, live animals from the Heifer Project, and original music written with her brother Tim and close friends from the church. Her deep connection and love for horses remained constant as she became an equestrian masseuse upon retirement, volunteered, and sponsored horses at the Central New England Equine Rescue (CNEER) in West Brookfield. She had a passion for helping others, always giving to organizations that supported those in need. Becky was a youthful, vibrant, upbeat, and caring person who embraced every day with an open mind and an open heart. She enjoyed walking with friends, hiking, yoga, horseback riding, traveling, and most importantly her loving family. Due to Covid-19 health concerns, no public services are planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to CNEER, Inc. 96 New Braintree Rd., West Brookfield, MA 01585 or [www.centralnewenglandequinerescue.com/donate](http://www.centralnewenglandequinerescue.com/donate). J.HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terr., Spencer is assisting the family with arrangements. [www.morinfuneralhomes.com](http://www.morinfuneralhomes.com)

## Knox Trail salutes top performing students

SPENCER – The Knox Trail Middle School staff has released its latest edition of top weekly performers.

The following list of students includes write-ups provided by the KTMS staff:

Fifth Grade: "Jack Hallihan is this week's fifth grade top performer. Jack completes all assignments on time, his work is thorough, he participates in Zoom meetings, and reaches out to his teachers consistently. Jack is doing an outstanding job with all aspects of remote learning.

Another fifth grade top performer is Shery Ataalla. Shery consistently completes all assignments with extraordinary effort. She goes above and beyond what is assigned to her daily. Shery participates in Zoom meetings and reaches out to her teachers for help when needed. Shery is a hard-working, self-motivated student who continues to excel academically through remote learning."

Sixth Grade: "Hannah Ingalls has stepped up her game and not only turns in quality work on time, but is also an active participant in Zoom sessions. She has a great, light-hearted sense of humor that we all desperately need during these stressful times. Way to go, Hannah!

Our second top performer in the sixth grade is Zachary Whigham. He has been showing up since day one. He is an

active participant in Zoom sessions and never hesitates to reach out to teachers when he needs help. Way to go, Zach! Keep up the great work."

Seventh Grade: "Our seventh grade top performer is Ben Wytas. Ben has been an active participant in remote learning and Zoom meetings since the closure of the school. He has been working hard on many of his skills in math and reading, and also working hard on his daily living skills such as cooking and chores."

Eighth Grade: "Jaydon McCormack has participated from the very first day out of school. Jaydon doesn't just participate – he is always one of the first to get his work done. He is quick to help the teachers make sure things are posted correctly and identify things we need to fix because he is very focused. He is always in a good mood and is so pleasant to interact with.

Eighth grader Jon Forget has been a consistent performer throughout the fourth quarter. He has completed all the work in every one of his classes the entire quarter and regularly participates in Zoom meetings.

Finally, Melanie McHatton has continued to work hard throughout the fourth quarter. She puts in a lot of effort, and asks for help when she needs it. She has used the time outside of school to keep her education moving forward."

## Local residents named to Becker College Dean's List for Spring 2020 semester

LEICESTER — Becker College is proud to announce that the following local residents were named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2020 semester.

Kylie Bulger, of North Brookfield, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Equine Studies.

John Durkan, of Leicester, is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interactive Media, Game Arts Concentration.

Elizabeth Goyette, of Spencer, is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Design, Graphic Design Concentration.

Shelby McMillan, of Brookfield, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Derek Olson, of Spencer, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Veterinary Science, Lab Animal Management.

Scott Simons, of Spencer, is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Interactive Media Design, Game Development and Programming Concentration.

Caitlyn Waddell, of West Brookfield, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing.

Cameryn Whitcomb, of Leicester, is pursuing a Associate of Science degree in Veterinary Science, Veterinary Technology Concentration.

Kostandina Witham, of Leicester, is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Forensic Science, Criminalistics Concentration.

The Dean's List recognizes all full-time students (24 or more credit hours earned for the academic year; 12 minimum each semester (September through May)

whose term grade point average is 3.50 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete (I) or withdrawal/failing (WF) grades.

Founded in 1784, Becker College is an undergraduate and graduate, career-focused private college, providing a supportive and inclusive learning community that prepares graduates for their first to last careers. Nearly 1,700 students from the United States and around the world attend Becker College, which has campuses both in Worcester and Leicester, Massachusetts. With nationally recognized programs in nursing, game design and animal studies, Becker has been consistently ranked as a "Best College" for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review.

# POLICE REPORTS

## Spencer Police Logs

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

12:27 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:31 a.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), info taken; 12:39 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 1:51-2:36 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:34 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), poss. suspicious activity; 6:08 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 8:23 a.m.: animal complaint (Bacon Hill Road), bear in yard; 9:24 a.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 10:44 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), speak w/ACO; 10:49 a.m.: 911 all (West Main Street), no contact; 10:51 a.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), missing dog; 10:51 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 11:29 a.m.: fireworks complaint (Ash Street), info taken; 11:51 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 12:24 p.m.: accident (Jolicoeur Avenue), report taken; 12:33 p.m.: illegal dumping (Adams Street), needles disposed in pond; 12:40 p.m.: medical/general (Park Street); 12:48 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 12:53 p.m.: elderly matter (West Main Street), info taken; 1:01 p.m.: larceny (High Street), bike stolen; 1:52 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), dog in mv/windows up; 2:07 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 2:07 p.m.: medical/general (Sherwood Drive); 2:11 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), ID theft; 2:35 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; between 2:35-3:03 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 3:07 p.m.: restraining order service (Buteau Road); 3:59 p.m.: illegal dumping (South Spencer Road), gas grill/bag dumped; 4:16 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), re: text message; 5:01 p.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 6:00 p.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 6:41 p.m.: disturbance (Adams Street), services rendered; 8:06 p.m.: residential alarm (Ash Street), services rendered; 8:14-10:07 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:20 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 11:10 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), info taken; 11:51-11:58 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

### THURSDAY, JUNE 11

12:04-12:52 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:08 a.m.: mv stop (Meadow Road); 1:24-2:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:25 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:21 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 7:19 a.m.: officer wanted (Adams Street), spoken to; 7:57 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 9:11 a.m.: RV complaint (Rustic Lane), spoken to; 9:54 a.m.: FID card issued (Main Street), assisted; 10:36 a.m.: fraud (Lake Avenue), unemployment scam; 11:15 a.m.: building checked, secure; 11:33 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: violend FB post; 12:21 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Leicester PD bolo; 12:58 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 1:35 p.m.: animal complaint (Bacon Hill Road), dog found; 2:05 p.m.: DPW call (Lincoln Street), tree limb on lines; 3:32 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Jolicoeur Avenue), accidental; 3:36 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Smithville Road), misdial; 6:20 p.m.: DPW call (Route 49), washout; 6:44 p.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 8:06 p.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 8:48 p.m.: animal complaint (Smithville Road), bear in yard; 9:14 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street), lift assist; 9:19 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Charlton PD bolo; 9:32 p.m.: mutual aid (North Brookfield Road), Rutland PD bolo; 10:10 p.m.: building checked, secure.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 12

12:15 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:41-1:33 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:34 a.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; 2:23-2:24 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:47 a.m.: mv alarm (School Street), services rendered; 5:36 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street); 5:55 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 6:09 a.m.: mv stop (Mape Street); 7:56 a.m.: animal complaint (Hastings Road), speak w/ACO; 8:47 a.m.: accident (North Brookfield Road), report taken; 9:09 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC inquiry; 9:34 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 9:38 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 9:42 a.m.: medical/general (Linden Street), lift assist; 9:57 a.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 10:04 a.m.: fire alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 10:17 a.m.: school alarm (Main Street); 10:50 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 11:35 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 1:05 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), spoken to; 1:16 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 1:49 p.m.: 911 call (Pleasant Street), accidental; 2:16 p.m.: accident (Maitreet), investigated; 3:02 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), accused of shoplifting; 3:09 p.m.: disturbance (Lake Street), m/f dispute; 3:33 p.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), welfare check; 4:24 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operation; 4:26 p.m.: fraud (Wilson Street), unemployment scam; 4:30 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 4:35 p.m.: mv complaint (Chestnut Street), speeding; 4:46 p.m.: disturbance (Condon Drive), neighbor dispute; 4:55 p.m.: parking complaint (sh Street), mv on sidewalk; 5:29 p.m.: juvenile matter (Thompson Pond Road), kids on bridge; 6:03 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 6:52 p.m.: animal complaint (West Avenue),

raccoon on porch; 8:02 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 8:06 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), threat of violence; 9:15 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 9:30 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Lyford Road), gunshots heard; 9:37 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Hastings Road), spoken to; 9:41 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:57 p.m. mv stop (Main Street); 10:01 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), medication issue; 10:03 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:14 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:23 p.m.: suspicious persons (Olde Main Street), investigated; 11:03 disturbance (South Street), noise complaint.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 13

12:41-1:01 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:02 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 1:05-1:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:08 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 5:55 a.m.: officer wanted (McCormick Road), loose horse; 6:24 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 6:32 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 7:27 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:51 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:07 a.m.: fraud (Wildwood Avenue), unemployment scam; 9:25 a.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 9:44 a.m.: medical/general (Prospect Street); 10:45 a.m.: 911 call (Clark Street), no contact; 11:00 a.m.: building checked, secure; 11:20 a.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 12:07 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:13 p.m.: RV complaint (Lyford Road), dirt bikes; 1:20 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Rte. 9 blocked/mva; 1:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), suspicious person; 2:03 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Paxton Road), info taken; 3:12 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), tailgating; 3:16 p.m.: RV complaint (West Main Street), dirt bikes/Rte. 9; 3:42 p.m.: animal complaint (Borkum Road), loose dog; 3:59 p.m.: 911 call (Mechanic Street), misdial; 4:30 p.m.: mv stop (North Brookfield Road); 4:44 p.m.: mv stop (North Brookfield Road); 5:44 p.m.: animal complaint (Briarcliff Lane), baring dogs; 6:25 p.m.: vandalism (North Spencer Road), walls spray painted; 6:26 p.m.: mv lockout (Howe Village), assisted; 6:31 p.m.: fireworks complaint (West Main Street), investigated; 7:10 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 7:26 p.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), info taken; 9:53-10:00 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:04 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Elm Street), info taken; 10:11 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:18 p.m.: disabled mv (Prospect Street), assisted; 10:21 p.m.: building checked, secure.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 14

12:15-12:28 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:33 a.m.: accident (Marble Road), mv vs deer; 1:08 a.m.: lost/found (Sunberg Road), package found; 1:12-1:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:29 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 1:31 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 1:51-2:35 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:29 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:14 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:26 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info taken; 7:43 a.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), baby fox in area; 8:37 a.m.: officer wanted (Water Street), FB scam; 8:40 a.m.: tnr money/person (West Main Street), courtesy transport; 9:04 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 9:16 a.m.: medical/general (Barclay Road); 10:29 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:36 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:22 p.m.: 911 call (Pleasant Street), open line; 12:36 p.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 12:44 p.m.: medical/general (Prospect Street); between 1:49-3:00 p.m.: two incident, including times, completely redacted from police log; 3:00 p.m.: 911 call (Pauls Drive), accidental; 3:16 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), clear children from park/per BOH; 3:41 p.m.: juvenile matter (Temple Street), riding bikes in road; 4:40 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), landlord/tenant dispute; 5:11 p.m.: mv complaint (Gold Nugget Road), speeding; 6:26 p.m.: building checked, secure; 6:44 p.m.: 911 call (Mechanic Street), hang-up; between 6:44-7:52 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 7:52 p.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), loose dogs; 8:18 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:23 p.m.: medical/general (Lake Whittemore Drive); 8:28-8:52 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:30 p.m.: animal complaint (Donnelly Cross Road), bear in area; 11:59 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

### MONDAY, JUNE 15

12:00 a.m.: disturbance (Powers Street), verbal altercation; 12:20-12:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:42 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 2:02 a.m.: building checked, secure; 6:32 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:42 a.m.: animal complaint (Hastings Road), complaint re: chickens; 10:02 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 10:19 a.m.: disturbance (West Main Street), silent call/procedure attempted; 11:44 a.m.: mv lockout (Elm Street), assisted; 12:15 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; between 12:15-1:41 p.m.: complete incident, including time, redacted from police log; 1:41 p.m.: DPW call (Main Street), wires hanging; 1:42 p.m.: animal complaint (G.H. Wilson Road), request ACO; 2:08 p.m.: citizen complaint (Charlton Road), re: assessor

visit; 2:16 p.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), incorrect package delivery; 2:41 p.m.: medical/general (Holmes Street), no contact; 2:57 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), noise complaint; 3:28 p.m.: mv stop (Sampson Street); 3:46 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 4:02 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/9 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:15 p.m.: medical/general (Prouty Street); 4:53 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operatin; 5:21 p.m.: suspicious mv (Pleasant Street), attempted theft; 5:33 p.m.: disturbance (Adams Street), alleged threats; 5:49 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mechanic Street), investigated; 6:39 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), rep. shoplifting; 6:54 p.m.: vandalism (Lake Street), kids smashing windows; 7:04 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 7:06 p.m.: disturbance (Greenville Street), noise complaint; 7:28 p.m.: medical/overdose (West Main Street); 7:28 p.m.: juvenile matter (Adams Street), kids on bikes in traffic; 8:27 p.m.: suspicious persons (Linden Street), investigated; 8:30 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 9:13 p.m.: animal complaint (Park Street), bear in area; 9:37 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:49 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address.

### TUESDAY, JUNE 16

12:49 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:50 a.m.: medical/general (Greenville Street); 1:18-1:52 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:02 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 5:59 a.m.: officer wanted (Greenville Street), heard explosion; 7:59 a.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo; 8:07 a.m.: illegal dumping (Ash Street), unauthorized dumpster use; 8:17 a.m.: accident (West Main Street), info taken; 9:12 a.m.: medical/general (Linden Street), lift assist; 9:14 a.m.: fraud (North Street), unemployment scam; 9:21 p.m.: animal complaint (Buteau Road), bear on property; 9:45 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 10:47 a.m.: 911 call (Charron Street), accidental; 11:06 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), misdial; 11:12 a.m.: open door (Lake Street), investigated; 11:17 a.m.: mutual aid (Main Street), Leicester PD bolo; 11:46 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 2:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Buteau Road), restraining order inquiry; 3:07 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 3:14 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 3:21 p.m.: accident (Marble Road), report taken; 3:51 p.m.: medica/general (Ash Street); 3:55 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), unemployment scam; 4:16 p.m.: citizen complaint (Old East Charlto Road), signage complaint; 5:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Terkanian Drive), sick porcupine; 5:12 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), Rutland PD bolo; 7:14 p.m.: animal complaint (Brown Street), baby possum in yard; 7:49 p.m.: disturbance (Vista Lane), fight/assault; 8:22 p.m.: suspicious persons (Smithville Road), investigated; 8:57 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:00 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 9:11 p.m.: fire (Valley View Drive), water in basement; 9:24 p.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), services rendered; 9:29 p.m.: 911 call (Hastings Road), phone issue; 9:37 p.m.: larceny (Main Street), John Mowry, 57, 204 Main Street, Spencer, shoplifting by concealment, arrest; 10:24 p.m.: suspicious persons (Temple Street), info taken; 11:40 p.m.: building checked, secure.

## Leicester Police Logs

### THURSDAY, JUNE 11

1:45 a.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), no action required; 2:46 a.m.: debris in road (Waite Street), removed; 8:09 a.m.: investigation (Chapel Street), services rendered; 9:33 a.m.: fraud (Redfield Road), report taken; 10:31 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 10:55 a.m.: fraud (Auburn Street), assisted; 11:25 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 12:07 a.m.: family problem (Parker Street), report taken; 12:27 p.m.: fraud (Reservoir Street), report taken; 3:16 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), spoken to; 3:49 p.m.: disturbance (Laurelwood Avenue), peace restored; 6:35 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), unfounded; 9:13 p.m.: name and address redacted from police log (Main Street), failure to stop for police, negligent operation, spoken to; 9:52 p.m.:

mv stop (Stafford Street), spoken to; 10:21 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:31 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 10:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.

### FRIDAY, JUNE 12

1:19 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, possession Class B drug, transported to hospital; 1:39 a.m.: domestic disturbance (Pleasant Street), peace restored; 10:12 a.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 10:33 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 10:35 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 11:51 a.m.: suspicious activity (Pine Street), gone on arrival; 3:03 p.m.: RV complaint (Marshall Street), unable to locate; 4:57 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 6:43 p.m.: property found (Main Street), services rendered; 8:04 p.m.: illegal dumping (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken.

### SATURDAY, JUNE 13

12:19 a.m.: residential alarm (Baldwin Street), false alarm; 5:45 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), gone on arrival; 8:02 a.m.: vandalism (Main Street), assisted; 8:20 a.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), unable to locate; 8:51 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:55 a.m.: investigation (Reservoir Street), services rendered; 1:52 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), no action required; 3:07 p.m.: erratic operation (Main Street), unable to locate.

### SUNDAY, JUNE 14

2:37 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 8:16 a.m.: investigation (Town Beach Road), services rendered; 10:09 a.m.: suspicious activity (Stafford Street), services rendered; 11:41 a.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), spoken to; 12:47 p.m.: family problem (McCarthy Avenue), report taken; 4:13 p.m.: RV complaint (Main Street), no action required.

### MONDAY, JUNE 15

10:06 a.m.: mv stop (Rawson Street), verbal warning; 12:38 p.m.: disturbance (Mannville Street), peace restored; 5:27 p.m.: mutual aid (Main Street), unable to locate; 5:36 p.m.: assault (Collier Avenue), report taken; 6:34 p.m.: welfare check (Soojians Drive), investigated; 8:16 p.m.: suspicious activity (Rawson Street), spoken to; 8:48 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), spoken to; 9:40 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:40 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), spoken to.

### TUESDAY, JUNE 16

7:51 a.m.: gunshots heard (Marshall Street), investigated; 8:13 a.m.: erratic operation (Main Street), unable to locate; 8:14 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 10:33 a.m.: disabled mv (Henshaw Street), no action required; 11:14 a.m.: investigatin (South Main Street), services rendered; 11:16 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), unable to locate; 1:37 p.m.: larceny (Main street), spoken to; 2:23 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), no action required; 2:55 p.m.: property found (Main Street), services rendered; 10:26 p.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), peace restored; 11:35 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.

### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17

1:07 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:43 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:09 a.m.: erratic operation (South Main Street), gone on arrival; 9:38 a.m.: fraud (Water Street), investigated; 10:54 a.m.: ambulance (Green Street), transported; 11:44 a.m.: ambulance (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported; 4:18 p.m.: accident (South Main Street), mv towed; 4:55 p.m.: fraud (Soojians Drive), Kelvin Opoku Twumasi, 25, 328 Greenwood Street, #B11, Worcester, shoplifting by asportation, credit card fraud over \$1200, larceny under \$1200 by single scheme, conspiracy, identity fraud (2 counts), arrest; 7:09 p.m.: restraining order service (Maple Lane, Spencer), unable to serve; 7:25 p.m.: investigation (Howe Village, Spencer), spoken to; 7:48 p.m.: restraining order service (Maple Lane), unable to serve; 8:01 p.m.: noise complaint (Main Street), unable to locate; 8:16 p.m.: assist citizen (Marshall Street), services rendered; 9:22 p.m.: restraining order service (South Main Street), served; 11:53 p.m.: suspicious person (Waite Street), spoken to.



News, really close to home



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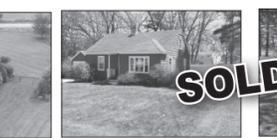
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## Listings Always Needed – We're Always Busy Selling!

 <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p><b>SUTTON</b> – 121 Douglas Rd! Gorgeous 10 Room, 5 Bedroom, 6.5 Bathroom, 6,000' Custom Built Home set on 7 Park Like Acres! Room for Everyone Including a Her Dream Kitchen w/2 Islands, Thermador 6 Burner Gas Stove &amp; Large Walk-in Pantry! Enjoy Your Morning Coffee on the Master Balcony or Afternoon Refreshments in the Backyard Escape which includes Incredible Stone Work and Patios with Built-in Fire-place, Saltwater Gunite Heated Pool, Spectacular Pool House with an Amazing Kitchen/Bar &amp; Bath and Of-fers Seasonal Views of Lake Manchaug! Other Home Amenities include Entire House Generator, Security System &amp; 5 Car Heated Garage! Listed by another "SOLD" By Century21 Lake Realty! <b>\$1,000,000.00</b></p>	 <p><b>SOLD</b></p> <p><b>DUDLEY</b>– 6 Lakeside Dr! 6 Rm Cape! Move-in Ready w/3-4 Bdrms in a Great Neighborhood! 1-2 Bdrms on 1st Flr (1 could be a Dining Rm). 2 Additional Bdrms Upstairs! 1st Floor w/Hardwoods! Interior Painted in Neutral Colors! Gas Heat on the 1st. Electric Heat on 2nd! Detached Garage w/Newer Door being used as a Hobby Rm! Newer Roof! New Insulation Added! Home is Wired for a Generator! Newer White Vinyl Fenced-in Level Backyard! Town Services! Take advantage of Dudley's School System and Low Taxes! Walk to the Town Beach or the Playground at the Elementary School! Won't last long... <b>\$263,000.00</b></p>	 <p><b>ON DEPOSIT</b></p> <p><b>DUDLEY</b> – 8 Tanyard Rd! 5 Rm 3 Bdrm Ranch! Some Sweet Equity Needed! 13,000' Lot! Eat-in Kit! Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flrs &amp; Picture Window! Mudroom/Sunroom! Bdrms w/Hrdwds &amp; Ample Closet Space! Full Tile Bath w/Linen Closet! Unfinished Lower Level! Gas Heat! C/Air! Garage! <b>\$249,000.00</b></p>	 <p><b>ON DEPOSIT</b></p> <p><b>DUDLEY</b> – TOBIN FARM ESTATES! 9 Tobin Rd! 7 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Federal Front Colonial! Move Right In! 2 Story Grand Entry w/Cleaning Hrdwds in the Din Rm, Liv Rm &amp; Kit! Frplc Fam Rm w/Cathedrals &amp; New Wall to Wall! Granite Kit w/Center Isl, SS Appliances &amp; Din Area! Tiled Mudrm! 2nd Flr w/Open Balcony! Master w/Full Bath &amp; Walk-in Closet! Comfortable Bedrooms! Full Hall Bath w/Laundry! New Wall to Wall in Bdrms! Private Backyard w/Deck &amp; Hot Tub! 2 Car Garage! Shed! Fire Pit! <b>\$449,900.00</b></p>
 <p><b>ON DEPOSIT</b></p> <p><b>WEBSTER LAKE</b> – 112 Gore Rd! NORTH POND! Sucker Brook Cove! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Ranch is Ready for You! Southwestern Exposure! Gorgeous Sunsets! Unique Waterfront! An Open Floor Plan! Lake Views from Nearly All Rooms! 2x6 Construction! Energy Efficient Blinds in Every Room! 4 Oil Tanks - Fill Up Once a Year! C/Air! Gas Fireplace! Whole House Fan! Meticulously Cared For! Large workshop! 3 Car Garage! Carport! 2 Sheds w/Electric! Back Yard is Perfect for Family Gatherings! Plenty of Off Street Parking! Summer is Here! <b>\$539,900.00</b></p>	 <p><b>ON DEPOSIT</b></p> <p><b>WEBSTER</b> – 110 S. Shore Rd! Across the Street from Webster Lake! Killdeer Island! Access to Swimming &amp; Boating w/Killdeer Island Club Assoc. Membership! Perfect 1st Home or Summer Retreat! 7 Rms! 2 Bdrms! Full Bath! 12x25' Deck w/Water Views! Garage! Don't Delay! <b>\$249,000.00</b></p>	 <p><b>NEW PRICE</b></p> <p><b>WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT</b> - 3 Lakeview Rd! Middle Pond – Reid Smith Cove! Ideal Summer or Yr Round 6 Rm Ranch! Western Expo – Beautiful Sunsets! Near All the Excitement that "Indian Ranch" provides, Dining, Concerts &amp; the Indian Princess! An Arched Bridge to Your Own Private Island, a Great Place to Enjoy the Lake from! Open Flr Plan! Being Sold Fully Furnished! Recent Kit w/Quartz Counters, Breakfast Bar, SS Appliances, Tile Flr &amp; Recessed Lighting! Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr, 6x14 Lake Facing Picture Window &amp; Stone Frplc! 3 Remodeled Bdrms w/Ceiling Fans &amp; Hrdwd Flrs! Master w/Bath &amp; Laundry Closet! Screen Porch w/Lake Views! Dock! Carport! Shed! Still Time for this Summer! <b>\$579,900.00</b></p>	 <p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> <p><b>DUDLEY</b> – 12 Glendale Drive! Conveniently Located 6+ Room Split Entry set on .52 Acres – 22,500! Ready For You to Move Right In! New Flooring Throughout! Freshly Painted! Newly Appliance Kitchen! Cathedral Ceiling Living Room with Ceiling Fan! 3 Comfortable Bedrooms! 2 Full Bathrooms! Finished Lower Level with Kitchenette! Recent Deck! Forced Hot Water by Oil Heat! 1 Car Garage! <b>\$289,900.00</b></p>

 <p><b>NEW PRICE</b></p> <p><b>WEBSTER LAKE</b> – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rms, 6 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kit! Formal Din Rm w/ Cherry Hrdwds! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hrdwds! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bdrm w/Full Bath, Cherry Hrdwds &amp; Walk-in Closet! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 1st &amp; 2nd Flr Laundries! 2 Car Garage! <b>\$999,900.00</b></p>	 <p><b>NEW LISTING</b></p> <p><b>WEBSTER LAKE</b> - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrooms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand &amp; Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Flr to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub &amp; Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/King Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry &amp; Breakfast Bar! Open Flr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplc Liv Rm &amp; Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal Heat/A/C! Recessed Lights &amp; Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! <b>\$2,499,900.00</b></p>
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**Featured New Listing!**

**WEBSTER - 195-199 THOMPSON RD**



3 ACRE COMMERCIAL SITE --- APPROX. 550 FT ROAD FRONTAGE ON STATE HIGHWAY RTE 193 A/K/A THOMPSON ROAD. STRATEGICALLY NESTED BETWEEN TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) ON-RAMPS & TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) OFF-RAMPS. PROPERTY DIRECTLY ABUTS I-395! 48'X80' CONCRETE BLOCK BUILDING, 7,680 SF TOTAL (3,840 SF MAIN / 3,840 SF LOWER LEVEL) FULL LOWER LEVEL USE AND ACCESS THRU DRIVE IN GARAGE DOOR! BUSINESS ZONED (GB-5) MUNICIPAL WATER, SEWER AND NATURAL GAS! HIGH TRAFFIC - HIGH EXPOSURE - LOCATED RIGHT AT THE TRAFFIC LIGHT INTERSECTION OF RT 193 AND I-395 OFF RAMP! TWO (2) FINISHED OFFICES & LAW - MANY POSSIBLE USES - WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED???

**\$600,000.**

<p><b>WEBSTER - 548 SCHOOL ST</b></p>  <p>Aesthetically pleasing 4-5 BR CAPE!! Spacious 1,800 SF . Features 8 rooms, including 4 large rooms &amp; full bath on 1st floor, eat-in kitchen, living room, family room, office or possible 1st floor in-law bedroom. 2nd floor features 4 large bedrooms &amp; full bath. Municipal water &amp; sewer, situated on a 27 acre lot with 95' of road frontage. 2 car detached garage, level private yard. With a little paint &amp; maintenance, this home will be well worth the small effort!</p> <p><b>\$199,900.</b></p>	<p><b>WEBSTER - 36 PARK AVENUE</b></p>  <p><b>ON DEPOSIT</b></p> <p>Well cared for Colonial on Park Avenue! Hardwoods throughout! Large formal dining room, eat in kitchen, 3 generous size bedrooms! Hollywood Bath. 1-1/2 baths total. Large deck! Garage! Corner lot! Freshly Painted &amp; Thoroughly Cleaned! <b>\$264,900</b></p>	<p><b>LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS</b></p> <p><b>Dudley</b> - Marshall Terrace 12,000 +/- Sq. Ft. Potential for a 2 family to be built! Town Water, Sewer. <b>SORRY SOLD \$70,000</b></p> <p><b>Webster</b> - 85 Upper Gore w/View of the Lake. 1+ acre! Much work done! Artesian well, Septic Design &amp; Conservation <b>\$130,000</b></p> <p><b>Webster</b> - Potential 6 Buildable on Lots! Water/ Sewer Access, Zoned Lake Residential <b>\$129,400</b></p> <p><b>Douglas-Mount Daniels Lot #2-2.5</b> Acres of flat land that abuts Douglas State Forest <b>\$132,900</b></p> <p><b>Oxford</b> - 4 Leicester St. approx. 8.47 acres! River frontage! Possible to be subdivided. <b>\$99,900</b></p>	<p><b>DUDLEY - 25 MARSHALL TER.</b></p>  <p><b>ON DEPOSIT</b></p> <p>Custom Hip Roof Ranch! 1,480+- Sqft. One Level Living, Spacious Open Floor Plan. Combination Kitchen/Dining w/Breakfast Bar, Cooktop Range &amp; Built-in Oven, 3 Large Bedrooms w/Large Closets, Linen Closet, 1st Floor Laundry Room, Hardwood Floors, Separate Bath Tub &amp; Shower. Forced Hot Water Heat by Oil w/High End Cast Iron Baseboard, Recently Shingled Roof, Overlooks Attractive, Level Landscaping! <b>\$274,900.</b></p>	<p><b>WEBSTER LAND - COOPER RD</b></p>  <p><b>LAND FOR SALE</b></p> <p><b>2 BUILDABLE LOTS</b></p> <p>Potential for 10,000+ sq. ft. Lot. Need to be divided. Town Water/Sewer. Zoned Lake Res. <b>\$24,500. Each =Total \$49,000</b></p>
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*On the shores of Lake Chargoggagogmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg*

**Featured New Lake Listing!**



**WEBSTER LAKE - 100 LAKESIDE AVENUE**

**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, upscale features & amenities! Nicely situated on a 25 acre level peninsula, 180 +/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline, exceptional views, professional landscaping & privacy. All you need to live is located on the 1st floor... including a grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplace living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining , half bath & laundry, 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! It Truly is a Great Opportunity to Own Something Special! Remember, Timing Is Everything!

**\$1,075,000.**

**WEBSTER LAKE – 32 JACKSON RD**



**SORRY, SOLD!**

**DEVELOPMENT POTENTIAL! EXTREMELY UNIQUE** 3.32 ACRE WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT PROPERTY! Charming, year-round, 2 BR, 2 bath Ranch, located at the Southern most end of Webster Lake's South Pond beyond Cedar Island! Extremely private w/direct Lake access. The home offers a full finished LL w/walkout access, a screened in 18x20 patio, 18x26 det'd garage & 8x8 storage shed. Park like grounds!

**\$375,000**



POSITIVELY  
SPEAKING

GARY W.  
MOORE

As I age and travel through my life, I find that time and experience are changing me.

I've always been on the go. As a CEO for a quarter of a century, I worked long hours and spent countless time on the road. As an author on book tour for my three books, I've traveled to 31 cities in 35 days, did 92 media interviews and spoke to 32 groups. I've spent my life always on the move mentally and ahead of where I was physically.

I'm not retired. I appear in 50-plus different publications weekly and have one new book

out for publishing and two more in the works. I'm also cofounder and Interim COO of CubeStream, Inc., a free-market streaming platform that will launch this fall. So, I'm busy ... but I've changed. I've become a "noticer."

I see things I've never noticed before. I'm certain my eyes have seen it all, but I never took the time to engage my brain and heart to notice. My eyes were focused on what was ahead and I was never in the moment. I'm sure my eyes glanced at the beauty around, but my brain and heart didn't engage to see what my eyes were beholding. But things have changed. Through time and a medical diagnosis, my heart and mind have engaged in everything

and for the first time, I'm really noticing the wonderment of creation.

Arlene is a gardener. She loves putting her hands in the dirt and planting flowers. I've always known gardening was a passion but before, I looked at it as busy work. It was something she did. I thought if it as a chore. Wow ... was I wrong.

No different than Beethoven or Bach ... or Monet or Van Gogh ... each year, Arlene gets on her knees, lovingly plants, weeds, and tills, while composing a symphony of colors. The soil is her pallet and she paints a work of art in our backyard that changes and evolves with each day. She's been doing it for years. She's honed and improved her craft and created a magnificent living work of art for us to enjoy, and in doing so, she's living in the moment. It's been there for years. My eyes saw it, but my mind and heart never engaged. That's

a loss ... a tragedy of missed opportunity to see beauty and experience joy. But not now. I spend time every day taking in the beauty.

I have two focuses to my life's work. I write to uplift and encourage optimism in my readers and to help others enjoy and live life in the moment. As a business leader I always said things like "keep your eyes on the future," but time has taught me that if you keep only looking ahead, you miss your life in the moment. It's not just a loss for you but also your friends and family. They want you with them in the here and now. In the future, you can look forward to life's rewards, but you never arrive in the future. It's a moving target that is always ahead. So, open your eyes and heart to the right now and enjoy your life in this moment.

How do you begin?

Take five minutes each morn-

ing and live in the moment. Empty your brain of distractions. Block the thoughts of the future and the things you must do. Sit in your backyard or take a walk and look for the little things you've never taken time to notice. Tune in to your surroundings. Notice the sunshine on your face and think about how it feels. Take in the color of the sky and shape of the clouds. Sniff the air. Engage all your senses.

Look people in the eyes when you encounter them. Smile and acknowledge you know they are there. I was in the grocery store last week. I encountered another shopper. We were both wearing masks, so it was hard to recognize others, but she called me by name and told me she was praying for my health. Gail Emme could have just passed me by, but instead decided to act in the moment and brighten my day. Speak to

Turn To **MOORE** page **A18**

**BUDGET**

continued from page **A1**

School officials are hoping state assistance doesn't drop substantially, but they have created a budget capable of withstanding a significant reduction.

"The district has not received the Chapter 70 numbers from the state yet. This has caused a budgeting nightmare," Monette added. "It is never an easy decision to make cuts in staff and programs, but unfortunately, we have to prepare for the worst case to make sure the district stays afloat financially."

Looking toward the upcoming school year, there are many uncertainties looming for educators and students. When will school return? What new policies will be in place to enhance safety? Can sports and other activities safely resume with crowds? What will happen if there is a local or statewide resurgence in COVID-19 cases during the late fall or winter?

District leaders will be

working hard throughout the summer to provide answers to these questions and prepare a comprehensive safety plan. SEBRSD officials will also rely heavily on guidance from the state.

"We look forward to continuing the dialogue at town meetings later this month and throughout the summer months ahead," Haughey said.

Expanding their view toward a long-term emergence from the crisis, school officials are hopeful that all personnel and programs can be restored. There are no speculations as to how long this could take, but officials are optimistic about the district's eventual recovery from COVID-19.

"As a district, I believe we are going to come out of this even stronger," Monette said. "The communication and teamwork from the administration, staff, and School Committee has been outstanding, which has resulted in a greater understanding of where we are at the current time."

**BEN'S**

continued from page **A1**

Kenney was inspired to open Ben's Tackle Shack by a combination of family, passion, and faith. Having previously watched his father quit his 9 to 5 job to pursue his dream of running fishing expos, Kenney understood that taking risks is often the only way to follow your passion in entrepreneurship. His father now runs the New England Fishing Expo, the New Hampshire Outdoor Expo, and the Massena Fishing Expo in New York.

"Personally, I know working 9-5 for a big corporation is not for me, and I have always been an entrepreneur so I figured there is no better time than now," Ben Kenney said of his decision to launch the business. "Also, my faith in the good Lord has really inspired me to do things and take leaps of faith. I try to go at

life full force and create opportunities for myself, even if they are uncomfortable."

When guests visit Ben's Tackle Shack, they don't simply arrive for supplies but also knowledge and great conversation. It's a fun way for guests to begin any excursion before heading down to the water.

"It is a warm and friendly environment, and we love talking about fishing all day every day," Kenney said. "You can come to our shop either by car or boat on our newly installed docks. We have direct access to the river, and it couldn't be a better location for a fishing business."

Saturdays are especially busy at the Shack, with guests enjoying conversation on the outdoor patio. Whether you live locally or are traveling from out of town, it's a fun opportunity to meet new people and share old fishing stories.

"My favorite part is everyone coming out to hang at the Shack

and talk for hours on end. It is a daily thing and a highlight of the atmosphere here," Kenney said. "We have people from all walks of life who come down, talk, and have a great time. Two guys even came here and caught up after not seeing each other since they were teenagers."

Employees and customers also enjoy a fun tradition at the Shack - "Ring That Bell" - which occurs when a guest spends more than \$100. The Shack team responds with a special social media announcement as a way to show appreciation.

Additionally, guests can enjoy locally roasted coffee. For Kenney, this is a surefire way to get through challenging but rewarding 12-hour days. He is also managing an internship and summer classes while operating his startup business.

Kenney and his family of local anglers hope to see you this summer at the Shack.



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**Dudley:** A Private Setting - Yet Convenient Location, A multi-level home offers space for everyone with an open floor plan. Flooring on first level has been replaced and kitchen had a recent remodel including new counter-tops with a separate dining area. Family room with an easy access to office area is a great opportunity for those working from home.. A sun room off the dining room and leading to the deck adds additional "get away" space and overlooks a private, wooded, back yard. This is a property that will give you living options for formal and informal living. Roof was replaced in 2014, and property is easy to finance under low down payment programs. **7 Joseph St ~ \$319,900**

**Worcester: Condominium, 2-3 BR, 2.5 BA, Hardwood Flrs, Skylights**  
43 Whispering Pines #46 ~\$274,900

**Charlton: New Construction, 49' Split, 3 baths, Oak floors, Central air, Cathedral ceilings, Finished family room.**  
196 City Depot Rd - \$415,000

**Dudley: In-ground pool, 3-4 Bedrooms, Garage, 6 room. Private lot.**  
11A Paglione Dr. ~ \$253,500

**MOORE**

continued from page A17

others, if only to smile and say hello. Acknowledge only your immediate surroundings. At this moment, pretend nothing else exists.

It's not easy to change life-long behavior, but its worth the effort. As you learn to live and love in the moment for a few minutes, expand the length of time and the number of times per day. Trust me ... it's worth the effort.

What have you noticed lately?

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](http://www.garywmoore.com).

**WASHINGTON**

continued from page A9

out of control cops. Insurance rates will be cheaper for those with more training, cheaper for those willing to wear cameras, and cheapest for those with clean disciplinary records. Just like a doctor, if a cop had higher than normal claims or other damning evidence, the insurance rates would become very high and even potentially making the worst cops uninsurable. Malpractice insurance allows the invisible hand of the free market to keep things in check because the "wall of blue" good ol' boy system sure isn't doing it.

We should reconsider if all cops should be armed all the time. In other civilized countries this isn't the case. We need to consider that simply arming the people we send for noise complaints

and stop sign violations increases the risk of an innocent person getting shot.

Many may not be aware, but in the backdrop of the George Floyd incident was Breonna Taylor. Breonna was killed in her bed after a no-knock search warrant was executed looking for drugs. A bunch of cops kicked Breonna's door in, her boyfriend shot one of them in the leg because he thought they were intruders, they returned fire, and Breonna was killed in her bed. The boyfriend was arrested and held for months for "Attempted murder of a police officer". It should be noted that the boyfriend was licensed for the firearm and Kentucky has a stand-your-ground law. After 2 months, the case against the boyfriend was dropped. There were no drugs found in the raid either.

If we send a militarized force out on our streets with guns, tell them they are the occupying force, and instruct them

to kick doors in without knocking there will be collateral damage. If we tell our cops to treat our streets like Fallujah we will have results like Fallujah. We need to ask ourselves why we are sending paramilitary roving through our streets looking for trouble and kicking doors in only to return fire and shoot people in bed. "No knock" search warrants should certainly be eliminated, the risk of violence is just too high and the potential benefit too low.

If we had real malpractice insurance and no qualified immunity, then perhaps some of the cops that killed Breonna Taylor would have refused the mission from the outset because they would actually care about the safety of the mission and the necessity to risk to much life and limb.

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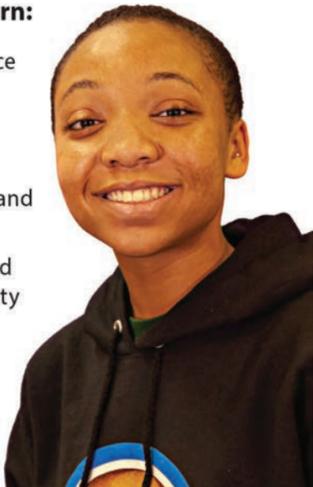
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