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A Summer of Support in Leicester



Leicester's Maddie Cole meets her new service dog, Banjo, during a remote session. Courtesy photo.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Thanks to its many shoppers and donors, Deja New is funding a “Summer of Support” to benefit the entire community.

Deja New, a nonprofit charitable organization based in Leicester, is committed to supporting local organizations and families in need. This past year has been especially busy for the organization during the pandemic, with several families struggling after parents lost their jobs.

For the Deja New team, it means a lot to assist families and organizations with critical needs.

“The past year has been difficult for many people, including Leicester’s first responders, highway crew, and school personnel. To thank these town employees, Deja New will be providing the police, fire, EMS, and highway departments with requested items that will help in their daily operations,” read a statement released by the organization.

Deja New will provide up to \$5,000 for the following items: an automated external defibrillator for the police department; fitted extrication gloves for the fire department; summer and winter hats with identifying logos for all EMS responders; and various requested tools and supplies for the Highway Department.

Last month, Deja New awarded \$500 scholarships to three Leicester High School students: Jamison Metcalf, Joshua Orsi, and Jacob Zawalich.

“These three students worked as interns for Deja New last year and were extremely instrumental in helping Deja New move to its new location at 100 South Main Street, Leicester,” read the organization’s statement.

In the fall, school department personnel will be able to use Deja New assistance to apply for mini-grants to purchase supplies that will advance innovation in the class-

Please Read **SUPPORT**, page **A5**

Wire Village School behavior analyst no longer employed by the SEBRSD

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – A Wire Village School behavior analyst is no longer working in the school district following an incident involving a student in April.

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District Superintendent Paul Haughey confirmed last week that Kory

Madden is no longer employed by the SEBRSD.

“As this matter is personnel in nature, I am unable to comment further at this time,” Superintendent Haughey said.

The incident occurred on April 15 at the school. The parent of a student with special

Please Read **WIRE VILLAGE**, page **A9**

Brookfield’s first ever town administrator to be announced

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

BROOKFIELD – After hiring Brookfield’s first ever town administrator, officials are eager to announce their choice in the coming days.

Prior to publicly naming the new hire, selectmen decided to wait a few weeks for the person to notify her current employer. Officials are encouraged by the administrator’s background, experience, and skillset.

“She comes from a small community and will be a great fit for our town,” said Selectwoman Linda Lincoln.

“She has strong experience and knows the inner workings of small communities like ours.”

The new hire has previously served as a town administrator in two other small towns, officials said.

The process of naming

Brookfield’s first administrator was delayed by an Annual Town Meeting citizen’s petition seeking to remove the TA position from the town’s personnel. James Cooke, the petitioner, and a few other residents spoke in favor of the petition at Town Meeting. Ultimately, the motion was defeated by a moderator-declared majority.

Members of Brookfield’s Town Administrator Search Committee initially set a goal of having the administrator in place by the start of the next fiscal year on July 1. Even with the delay, committee members still expected the new hire to be installed close to their original goal.

Town officials thank search committee members for their dedication to the process

Please Read **TA**, page **A3**

Former LEGO master builder Steininger, visits Haston Free Public Library

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Determined to rebuild its programming this summer after a lengthy pandemic shutdown, the Haston Free Public Library staff got a little help last week

from a man who knows a thing or two about building.

Dan Steininger, a former LEGO master builder, visited the library on June 19. Even on a hot, sunny day, several kids and their families dropped in to learn about how Steininger

constructed a successful career, one colorful block at a time.

“I put over 300 hours into a 7-foot-tall [The Hulk] model,” Steininger told guests. “We glue the models together, and many have steel going through

them [for reinforcement].”

Throughout his career at LEGO, Steininger built multiple large-scale models, many requiring hours of planning and labor. The sets themselves were designed by LEGO experts in Denmark prior to

arriving in the U.S. for assembly. As one of only eight LEGO master builders in the world during his career, Steininger was always kept plenty busy.

In addition to his years as a

Please Read **LEGO**, page **A5**

18 Under 18

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – From volunteering at local animal shelters, to umpiring Little League games, to serving as a Project 351 ambassador, to competing on The Voice, local young people have had no shortage of impressive recent accomplishments. Last weekend, the community celebrated their achievements with a debut event.

Hosted by the Exchange Club of Spencer, the first annual 18 Under 18 event highlighted local students with often unheralded stories. The award winners were honored on Sunday, June 27, during the first event in a weekly concert series at Powder Mill Park.

While several local awards for students concentrate on excellence in academics and athletics, Exchange Club

members wanted to create an award that acknowledges additional traits and accomplishments. These include community involvement, leadership, work ethic, compassion, and dedication, among others.

Many of this year’s award recipients are active in their community, church, recreation organization, or another venue. Others were nominated by a school official for serving as strong students and peer leaders in the classroom. The 2021 18 Under 18 class also includes Spencer’s Ryleigh Modig, who inspired the entire community with her journey this past spring on NBC’s The Voice.

Each 18 Under 18 winner earned a cash award, a certificate from the Exchange Club, and a certificate from the State House. All award winners reside in Spencer or East Brookfield.



Local young people are honored as part of the Spencer Exchange Club’s 18 Under 18 program. Kevin Flanders photo.

State Representatives Donald Berthiaume and Peter Durant, both from Spencer, were also on hand to celebrate the students’ accomplishments.

“What a tremendous honor for these young men and women to receive this first of its kind honor from the Spencer Exchange Club,” Representative Berthiaume

said. “Congratulations to the winners, and thank you to the members of the Exchange Club for recognizing the

Please Read **18 UNDER 18**, page **A5**

Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy holds pinning ceremony for graduating nursing students

Charlton, MA – Bay Path Practical Nursing Academy Director Gretheline Bolandrina, DHA, MSN Ed, RN, CRRN is pleased to share the commencement of the PN Classes of 2020 and 2021.

The graduation and pinning ceremony took place Friday, June 25, at the Lakeside Pavilion of Indian Ranch, in Webster, MA along the shores of Lake Chaugogogg-m a n c h a u g g a g o g g -chaubunagungamaugg.

“We are proud of our graduates, both from PN Class of 2020 and PN Class of 2021 who worked hard amid the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic,” Bolandrina said. “Each student graduating the rigorous program at Bay Path had undergone a stringent admission process, qualified, and has proven to have met and some have exceeded the academic and clinical learning objectives to be equipped with the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitude of a prudent nurse. Our faculty and staff have demonstrated tremendous dedication, leadership, and resilience. I am

touched by all the support and lasting impact each contributed to our graduates’ success.”

The ceremony included a processional with faculty and staff in full academic regalia, welcome address from Bolandrina, an inspirational speech from Donna Pope, LPN of Southbridge (PN Class of 2017), a speech from Amanda Wonderlie voted Class Speaker, presentation of certificates and pins, presentation of The Virginia Dockstader Academic Excellence Award to Grace Mwangi of Worcester, Clinical Excellence Award to Khamphan Houatchanthara of Southbridge, and the Community Service Award to Kalie Hernandez, LPN (Class of 2017) of Southbridge, reciting the Practical Nursing Pledge led by Monique Bull of Worcester, and a recessional.

Of the 25 graduates from PN Class of 2020, the following attended the joyful event with their loved ones, Kristin Bates, LPN of Charlton, Robin Peters, LPN of Douglas, and Sikorrya Seguin of Dudley.

The following is a list of the



Practical Nursing Class of 2021 graduates:

Auburn- Angela Letourneau,
Meghan Reidy
Brookfield- Brianna
Pincince- McLeish
Charlton- Brianna Cloutier
Cherry Valley- Carolyn Jenkins

Manchester, CT- Isabella Boateng
Oxford- Tianna Welcome*
Southbridge- Khamphan Houatchanthara, Angeley Santa, Sonya Ugrinow
Spencer- Julia Martinez, Ashley Winters
Webster- Brianna Laforest,

Elizabeth Larson, Stefanie Lauretano, Risper Wanjiru*, Amanda Wonderlie
Worcester- Monique Bull*, Loise Kamero*, Beatrice Kamunyu, Luz Mercado, Grace Mwangi*, Dignary Sanchez
*Denotes National Technical Honor Society Inductee

Households In Need Encouraged To Apply To Good Neighbor Energy Fund In Anticipation Of End To Moratorium On Shut-Offs

CANTON, MA, June 24, 2021 – Due to the end to the moratorium on home energy shut-offs for customers of investor-owned utilities not on protected status next Thursday, July 1st, 2021, the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund’s sponsoring energy companies are encouraging those in need to apply

for assistance as soon as possible by visiting their local Salvation Army Corps Community Center. If unsure of where the nearest Community Center is located, please visit www.magoodneighbor.org.

The Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund is often the last resort for

families who are in temporary financial difficulty and do not qualify for federal and state fuel assistance programs such as LIHEAP. The Salvation Army Massachusetts Division pays the energy provider directly for households whose gross income falls between 60 and 80 percent of the state’s median income levels. For example, a household size of 4 would need to have a total gross yearly income of between \$75,202 and \$100,268 to qualify. This campaign year’s Fund disbursement is \$300 per eligible household per heating season.

“Once the investor-owned utilities’ moratorium on energy shut-offs ends there is often a spike in the urgency of need for energy assistance,” said Marie McCabe, Chairperson of the 2021 Good Neighbor Energy Fund campaign and Customer Service Representative at North Attleborough Electric Department. “With this in mind, households who are having trouble making ends meet due to the pandemic or another crisis shouldn’t delay in looking to the Fund as a potential source for help.” McCabe added that the easiest way to determine if a household qual-

ifies is to visit the Fund’s website at www.magoodneighbor.org.

The Fund’s distribution award letter will also serve as qualification for the Mass Save Enhanced Insulation Incentive for customers of a Massachusetts investor-owned utility. Specifically, the offer provides qualified customers with no-cost insulation, as well as other no-cost energy savings measures.

The Fund’s 35th annual “Give The Gift of Warmth” campaign is a cooperative effort between the Fund’s 19 sponsoring energy companies, the general public and the corporate community to raise \$500,000 and help an anticipated 1,500 households. The campaign relies on the generosity of individuals, families, local corporations and foundations for support and has raised more than \$22.5 million and assisted over 91,250 households since its inception in 1985.

Massachusetts residents and businesses that wish to donate to the Fund are encouraged to use the green Good Neighbor Energy Fund donation envelope found as an insert in monthly energy bills. Some energy companies offer an ‘add a dollar’ program which allows customers to contribute on their monthly bill payment by one dollar or more. Anyone can also donate with a credit card online at www.magoodneighbor.org. Donors can also simply mail a check payable to “Good Neighbor Energy Fund”, c/o The Salvation Army, 25 Shawmut Road, Canton, Massachusetts 02021-1408. Participating energy companies support their respective customers’ generosity through various giving programs.

For more information about how to apply for the Massachusetts Good Neighbor Energy Fund, visit your local Salvation Army Corps Community Center or call 800-334-3047 if you live in area codes 508, 617, 781 or 978 or 800-262-1320 if you live in area code 413. Web: www.magoodneighbor.org.

P.A.L. of the Week
Sponsored by Cormier Jewelers

Name: Lily
Breed: DSH
Sex: Female



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

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PERSON of the WEEK


Carter Bemis of Spencer

Carter is the next generation of philanthropists- always giving for the joy of giving with no expectations in return. Among the many things Carter does for others was his most recent gesture to the Spencer Little League in honor of Mr. Delongchamp, who passed away in March 2018.

“Tonight it was the honor of my lifetime to present the first annual Philip Delongchamp Diamond Kindness Award, presented to a Little League player who best exemplified Mr. D’s kindness and care for others. Gavin received a game ball, a DQ gift card, and a \$100 voucher towards his Little League fees for next season. This was all made possible through funds from my children’s book co-authored with Todd Civin. Thank you to everyone who made this possible, and great job Gavin!”

— submitted by Todd Civin

Person of the Week is sponsored by:



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the HOT SARDINES

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Ken Bates named to Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers (ADDP) Board

Worcester, MA –Ken Bates, President & CEO of Open Sky Community Services, has been named to the Association of Developmental Disabilities Providers (ADDP) Board of Directors.

ADDP is a state-wide association that focuses on issues relating to developmental/intellectual disabilities, Autism and brain injury services. They provide financial and political advocacy for their over 130 member organizations and also offer professional development opportunities.

According to the ADDP website, their mission “is to promote and ensure strength of community-based providers so provider members can be successful in improving quality, access and value of services in the community.”

Bates has served as President & CEO of Open Sky since its formation in 2018 and oversaw the affiliation of The Bridge of Central Massachusetts and Alternatives Unlimited. Prior to his position at Open Sky, he served as President & CEO at The Bridge of Central Massachusetts and as Executive Director of New Business and Financial Growth for the Commonwealth Medicine at UMass Medical School. He has also served as Vice-President of Behavioral Health



Ken Bates

at Advocates, Inc. and as Director of Outpatient Services at Spectrum Health Systems.

He received his undergraduate degree in Urban Studies from Worcester State University and his Master's Degree in Counseling Psychology from Assumption University. In 2021 he was awarded an honorary Ph.D. from Assumption University.

Bates currently serves as Vice Chairperson on the Board of the Association of Behavioral Healthcare of Massachusetts and as a Corporator for Greater Worcester Community Foundation.

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 \$89M with more than 100 programs throughout the region. For more information, please visit www.openskycs.org.

SPENCER NEW LEADER

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

TA

continued from page A1

during unprecedented COVID-19 challenges.

“The town is very fortunate, with the pandemic and all going on at this time, to have these volunteers stepping up,” said former Select Board chairman Clarence Snyder in a previous interview. Snyder did not seek re-election this past spring.

Looking ahead, officials are eager to work with a town administrator for the first time and receive support in a number of areas. From coordinating with department heads, to serving as a liaison between residents and elected officials, town administrators have a role in all facets of leadership.

Additional areas of specialty for administrators can include town finance, communications, media relations, and even legal knowledge, depending on the candidate.

Selectman Adam Jolicoeur referred press inquiries on the town administrator search process to Board Chair Beth Coughlin, who could not be reached for comment by press time.

Ribbon Cutting Celebrated the Expanding Services at Summit Agency For Youth With Autism In The Worcester Area

A ribbon cutting celebration to announce the opening of Summit Health & Wellness Center and Summit Campus for children and young adults with Autism and related diagnoses took place on Thursday, June 17th.

Thursday night's ribbon cutting was a celebration of the addition of the Summit Campus and Health & Wellness Center which was a natural progression of the Summit Agency's mission. Their goal is to support this vulnerable and underserved population in the Worcester community, and the surrounding areas.

This comes at a good time as the prevalence of ASD (Autism Spectrum Diagnosis) and related diagnoses are on the rise. According to the CDC 1 in 54 children are diagnosed with ASD. In the US alone there are roughly 550,000 children with ASD who will be transitioning into adulthood over the next decade, and it is expected that approximately 45 percent of these emerging adults will enroll in a university, college, or technical/vocational school in the coming years. Springer's Journal of Autism and Developmental Disorders. (January 2018)

The Summit Health & Wellness Center and Summit Campus ribbon cutting took place on Thursday June 17th, 2021 from 5pm - 7pm outdoors at the corner of Fruit Street and William Street in Worcester. The Summit Health and Wellness Center will be opening July 1st, appointments can

be made now by visiting the website: www.summitagencyma.com or by calling 774-701-0670.

Guests at the ribbon cutting included: Senator Michael Moore, Worcester Councilor-at-Large, Kathleen Toomey, Worcester District 2 Councilor, Candy Mero-Carlson, and Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce President, Tim Murray. Summit Agency was recognized by the State of Massachusetts with an Official Citation.

“Think back to 20-30 years ago and the services that were available for young adults who had intellectual or developmental disabilities, we were just learning, we were just providing services in K-12, we were beginning inclusive enrollment legislation to provide more services for this demographic in colleges and universities; so I think it is great that we've been able, through your advocacy, and grassroots efforts and getting the attention of legislators and other policy officials to tell us what your children need to be successful and have a good quality of life.” stated Senator Michael Moore.

There were over 70 guests, and the celebration included a tour of the facilities, refreshments and hor d'oeuvres, along with raffles for a Worcester Railers Gift Basket and gift cards to Wings Over Worcester, Smoke Stack Urban BBQ, 'Olo Pizza and Meze Estiatorio.

The Summit Health & Wellness Center will offer the following clinical

modalities that include: psychiatric services, behavioral services, counseling services, and general health & wellness practices with Dr. Oliver Joseph, as the Agency's Chief Medical Officer. Many are excited to begin making appointments. It will serve both the Summit Campus residential students and the Worcester ASD community.

Summit Campus, which is accepting applications for the 2021-22 school year, is a residential program providing a dormitory experience for college students with autism. Summit Campus was created to provide critical support to students attending any of the consortium colleges and universities in Worcester.



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Erika Ramsland Joins EXIT Realty in Spencer

Brookfield, Massachusetts - EXIT Real Estate Executives in Brookfield today announced the addition of Erika Ramsland to its team of real estate professionals.

“We're excited to welcome Erika to EXIT Realty,” says Michelle Terry, Broker & Owner of EXIT Real Estate Executives. “EXIT is growing and attracting quality business people like Erika each and every day.”

Erika is a lifelong resident of Western Massachusetts. After living in North Carolina for three years while attending college at East Carolina University, she graduated with a degree in Architecture technology and returned home to begin her real estate career. After going through both the home buying and selling process herself, Erika has gained immense knowledge that she continues to build on about all aspects of real estate and transactions. Erika's expertise in architecture paired with a passion for helping clients through the home buying and selling process allows for the utmost attention and care for each client that she assists.

About EXIT Realty: EXIT Realty is a company founded and built on human potential. A full service, forward-thinking, real estate franchi-

sor with offices across North America, EXIT has to-date paid out more than a half a billion dollars in single-level residual income to its associates. The Expert Marketing Suite™ including geolocation Smart Sign™ technology gives sellers an edge in a competitive marketplace. The Focus on Good Health blog promotes wellness at work and home. A portion of every transaction fee received by EXIT Realty Corp. International is applied to its charitable fund. To-date, more than \$6 million has been pledged to charity. For more information, please visit www.exitrealty.com and www.joinexitrealty.com.

EXIT Real Estate Executives is located at 130 W Main Street, Spencer. For more information, please call 508-885-5555.



Friday's Child



Henry
Age 13

Hi! My name is Henry and I love sports!

Henry is an outgoing teen of African American descent who enjoys being active, whether he is playing outside or engaging in sports-related activities. He has a natural athletic ability. Some of Henry's other interests include listening to music, dancing, and playing video games. His teachers report he is doing well in school. He has a great sense of humor and loves to joke around.

Legally freed for adoption, Henry would thrive in a permanent family as the youngest or only child. It would be ideal for his future family to initially

serve as a visiting resource, and build a relationship with Henry over time. One he is placed in his permanent home, Henry will need to maintain contact with his birth mother and his siblings.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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



New summer series launches July 8 with free concert by the Brubeck Brothers Quartet

VENUES IN JULY INCLUDE THE RILEY-PAPPAS PAVILION IN AUBURN, INDIAN RANCH IN WEBSTER, & THE HANOVER THEATRE IN WORCESTER.

Music Worcester begins its first summer series of concerts, Summer @ MW, on Thursday, July 8 with a free presentation of the Brubeck Brothers Quartet, the sons of legendary Dave Brubeck, in Auburn, MA. Two other concerts later in the month bring the Hot Sardines to Indian Ranch in Webster, MA on July 22, and the Gospel choir Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar to The Hanover Theatre in Worcester on July 25. This inaugural Summer @ MW season will continue through early September, with additional concerts being announced very soon. “As Music Worcester started planning to emerge from this recent pandemic, virtual season of programming, it became apparent that we could move somewhat quickly and bring back our live music presentations to Greater Worcester far earlier than our usual October season opener,” noted Adrien Finlay, Executive Director. “We

are extraordinarily excited to add summer programming to our annual activities from this point forward, which will allow us to explore new venues and welcome even more varied artists and ensembles to the region.” The concerts at Indian Ranch and The Hanover Theatre will feature seating sections where distanced “pods” of seats will be available for patrons who prefer or need such an option, with general admission seating available elsewhere at both venues. Calendar listings for July: Brubeck Brothers Quartet Thursday, July 8 at 6pm Riley-Pappas Pavilion, Auburn, MA Free, open to the public Hot Sardines Thursday, July 22 at 6pm Indian Ranch, Webster, MA \$35+, tickets required, limited distanced seating available Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar Sunday, July 25 at 6pm



The Hanover Theatre, Worcester, MA \$25 students; \$35+ adults, tickets required, limited distanced seating available About Music Worcester: Music Worcester, Inc., originally known as the Worcester County Music Association, for years ran the Worcester Music Festival. Current programs reflect the merger in the mid-1990s of the Festival with International

Artists Series and the MA Jazz Festival. Great performances by world-renowned orchestras and guest soloists, chamber music, ballet, world music and dance, jazz and choral masterworks are hallmarks of Music Worcester’s annual operations. Multiple educational programs currently serve youth and families of greater Worcester: masterclasses by visiting artists, Tickets to Opportunity,

in-schools residencies, and the Young Artist Competitions. The 2020-2021 virtual season has featured violinist Joshua Bell, pianists Asiya Korepanova and Simone Dinnerstein, the vocal ensemble Chanticleer, folk musician Rhiannon Giddens, and The Worcester Chorus. WWW.MUSICWORCESTER.ORG

Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission’s 2021 Summer Concert Series continues

(SPENCER) – The Spencer Parks & Recreation Commission’s 2021 Summer Concert Series continues from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday, July 11 at Powder Mill Park, corner Smithville and Meadow Roads, Spencer with the Deloreans.

The Deloreans is a seven-piece horn band that performs mostly pop, rock and soul hits of the 70s and 80s. The instrumentation is guitar, bass, drums, keyboards, sax, trumpet and trombone. Four members sing and create great harmonies and backups. The series continues on July 18 with The BritWits and continues every Sunday through August 22. The concert series is proudly sponsored by Cornerstone Bank. Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving the residents, businesses, and communities throughout Central Massachusetts from



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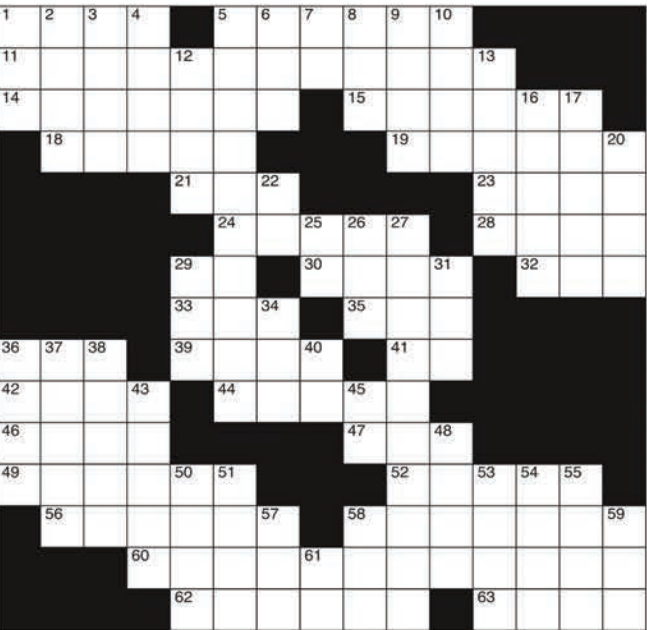
offices in Charlton, Holden, Leicester, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster and Worcester.

Brookfield Summer Concert series starts tonight

BROOKFIELD – The Summer Concert Series on the Town Common starts tonight, July 2, with a 5:30 p.m. performance from Matt Genaway. Also on July 2, a 6:30 p.m. per-

formance will feature Brookfield Rhythm. Additional concerts will take place on July 9 (The Superchargers); July 16 (Cold Train); July 23 (Henry the Juggler at 5:30; The Sunshine and Blue Skies Guys at 6:30); and July 30 (The Blues Brothers Briefcase). All concerts will take place on Friday evenings, starting at 5:30. Please bring your own chairs,

food, and drink to all events. No refreshments will be sold this year. For more information about upcoming concerts, check out the Summer Concert Series Facebook page. Organizers are also hoping to schedule The Great Escape in August, plus another band performance.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Absence of difficulty
- 5. Preserve a dead body
- 11. Gratitude
- 14. The act of coming together again
- 15. More cushy
- 18. Visionaries
- 19. Fish-eating bird
- 21. Indicates near
- 23. NY Mets legend Tommie
- 24. Icelandic poems
- 28. Pop
- 29. Hammer is one
- 30. Senses of self-esteem
- 32. Trigraph
- 33. Not around
- 35. Electronic data processing
- 36. Driver’s licenses and passports
- 39. Snake-like fishes
- 41. Military flyers
- 42. Raincoats
- 44. Type of community
- 46. Feature of worm’s anatomy
- 47. In the center
- 49. Laid back
- 52. Jewelled headdress
- 56. In slow tempo
- 58. ___ Falls
- 60. Saying things again
- 62. Periods in history
- 63. Hyphen

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Body part
- 2. Mimics
- 3. Expel or eject
- 4. Sea eagle
- 5. Subdivision of cenosespecies
- 6. Dialect of Chinese
- 7. Mr. T’s character on “The A-Team”
- 8. Consumed
- 9. Chinese dynasty
- 10. NFL great Randy
- 12. Ireland
- 13. Palm trees
- 16. Fungal disease
- 17. Willis and Jerry are two
- 20. Affirmative!
- 22. Potato state
- 25. “The First State”
- 26. A way to develop
- 27. Associations
- 29. Woman (French)
- 31. Sunscreen rating
- 34. Brew
- 36. Mosque prayer leader
- 37. Indigo bush
- 38. Burn with a hot liquid
- 40. Jr.’s father
- 43. Scad genus
- 45. Morning
- 48. Length of a straight line (abbr.)
- 50. Double curve
- 51. Small thin bunch
- 53. Worn by exposure to the weather
- 54. Mars crater
- 55. Humanities
- 57. Of the ears
- 58. “To the ___ degree”
- 59. Residue
- 61. It keeps you cool



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St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church announces Raffle Winners

St. Nicholas Albanian Orthodox Church announces the winners of their raffle held on Sunday, June 27, 2021. First Prize: \$1,500 Cash, James Walckner Port St. Lucie, FL Second Prize: \$700 Cash, Alex

George ; Avon, CT Third Prize: \$300 Cash, Jorgjeta Bukli; Holden, MA Fourth Prize: \$300 Lottery Tickets, Rob Pano ; Sutton, MA The Church appreciates the support of everyone who helped to make it a success.

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\$495,000, 126 Rice Corner Rd, Galuska, Charles B, to Perro, Deena, and Perro, Jeffrey.
\$290,000, 24 Gay Rd, Brookfield RT, and Curtis, Marc D, to Lavallo, Denise, and Lavallo, Joseph.

LEICESTER
\$430,000, 80 Rawson St, Kopytko, Robert A, to Buckley, Leon, and Buckley, Rochanna.
\$325,000, 145 Clark St, Davis, Randy L, and Davis, Sharron M, to Cardinal Storage Inc.
\$300,000, 46 Rawson St, Haskins, Gregory, to Perry, Timothy.
\$270,000, 4 Crestwood Rd, Stephens Matthew T Tr, and Stephens, Donald N, to Margadonna, Jessica L.
\$230,000, 44 Howard Ter, Positive Spin RE Inv Inc, to Libera, Vanessa L.
\$142,500, 25 Pleasant St, Oxford Deleaging Inc, to Ayers& Digioia LLC.

NORTH BROOKFIELD
\$340,000, 23 Town Farm Rd, Cro, David, and Cro, Nicol, to Wright, Zachary.
\$320,000, 12 Cushing St, J Dion Properties LLC, to Criollo-Chica, Fabian R.
\$155,000, 6 Mad Brook Rd, Kimball, Joan M, and Redekas, Jean M, to Bowlin, Jonathan C.

Worcester County Overdose Response Program Sees Successes in First Year

WORCESTER – More than half of those offered services following an overdose accepted treatment as part of a program launched last year by District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. and all 60 police departments in Worcester County.

Critical Incident Management System (CIMS) launched in March 2020 and was used by police departments in all of Worcester County's cities and towns over the last year to collect overdose data and respond to non-fatal overdose victims to offer services. The response visits were performed with a plain-clothes police officer and a recovery coach usually within 48 hours of an overdose incident.

Data from the last year shows that on 52 percent of the follow-up visits, individuals accepted services. In another 9 percent of instances the individuals were already seeking services.

"These are encouraging numbers," said Mr. Early in a press conference today. "It was a challenging year to launch this program with the roadblocks presented by the COVID-19 pandemic. These numbers are a promising start. Any time we can help even one person get access to treatment is a life that is being saved."

The District Attorney's office purchased the CIMS software for \$40,000



using drug forfeiture funds in 2019 from developers Kelley Research Associates. The implementation of CIMS was a successful partnership between the District Attorney's Office, local police departments and municipalities.

"By getting the names of the folks who've had the non-fatal overdoses and by giving the opportunity for the follow up...what you've done is open the door. You've made the connection. You've provided an opportunity for that person when they're ready to take advantage of the treatment options that are available to them," said Worcester City Manager

Edward Augustus.

CIMS allows police departments to share information, as well, so that when a person overdoses outside of their hometown they are still receiving a follow up visit.

"Addiction has no jurisdictional boundaries," said Fitchburg Police Chief Ernest Martineau, former President of the Central Mass. Chiefs of Police Association. "When there's no boundary for that, there can be no boundary for helping people. And that's what this does. It connects 60 cities and towns police departments in respond-

ing and helping."

"The beauty of CIMS coming on board is now we have a centralized database that's tracking and we get an alert when we have to go offer up services. And the other thing that we were missing was when people were outside of Webster having an overdose, we never knew. Now with CIMS, we can follow up with them. It's a really integral part of getting these people the help they need," said Webster Police Chief Michael Shaw. Webster's responses to those in need are assisted by a partnership with Opening the Word Recovery Center, run by Rev. Janice Ford, which opened in June 2020 and served more than 2,000 people.

In fall of 2020, the District Attorney's office was awarded a \$1.2 million grant from the federal Department of Justice-Bureau of Justice Assistance to fund recovery coaches that will respond with police to follow up and offer services after an overdose.

Mr. Early was also joined at the press conference by Worcester Police Chief Steven Sargent, current President of the Central Mass. Chiefs of Police Association and Southbridge Chief Shane Woodson, Dudley Police Chief Steven Wojnar, and Worcester Fire Department Deputy Chief John Powers.

LEGO

continued from page A1

master builder who worked out of LEGO's factory in Enfield, CT, Steininger also served as a professional clown for 25 years. He has enjoyed entertaining crowds throughout his life, and his presentation last weekend inspired local youngsters to keep building and dreaming big.

For library officials, the event was an important tool to help resurrect programming in general, specifically the library's LEGO Club.

"We used to have a very active LEGO Club, which met every Wednesday before the pandemic," said Library Director Dawn Thistle. "North Brookfield res-

idents Carol and Bob Wheeler served as advisors and benefactors, regularly donating LEGO kits for the club members to assemble. The kids looked forward to working together to build the more complicated projects. I hope that Dan Steininger's presentation will get them excited about LEGOs again, and that we can restart our regular LEGO Club meetings soon."

Last weekend's program with Steininger was supported, in part, by a grant from the North Brookfield Cultural Council.

If you are interested in signing your child up for the library's LEGO Club, call 508-867-0208 for more information.



18 UNDER 18

continued from page A1

accomplishments of these future leaders."

The 18 Under 18 program will be a yearly event to help recognize the often unseen accomplishments of local young people.

The Exchange Club also reminds residents about its ongoing Buy a Brick Fundraiser. Bricks will be added to the existing layout in

SUPPORT

continued from page A1

room, or provide much-needed items to the support staff.

The Deja New team also continues to expand on projects from previous years. In 2018, Deja New hosted "A Taste of Leicester" to help raise \$17,000 to purchase a seizure alert dog for Maddie Cole. Maddie is a child in Leicester who suffers from a form of epilepsy that causes her to experience medication-resistant seizures daily. On some days, Maddie can experience up to 100 or

front of the newly renovated Cole William Victor Memorial Pavilion at the Powder Mill Park Playground. This is not only a great way to help keep the playground updated with your donation, officials said, but also an opportunity to be a part of Spencer town history.

If you are interested in purchasing a brick, send an email to SpencerExchange@hotmail.com. To complete your purchase, make checks payable to: Spencer Exchange Club, P.O. Box 219, Spencer,

MA, 01562.

The Powder Mill Park Summer Concert Series will continue on July 11 with a performance from The Deloreans. The free event will take place from 2-5 p.m. Concerts will continue weekly through August 22.

The complete list with verified spellings of 18 Under 18 award winners was not obtained by press time. The New Leader will print all names in an upcoming edition.

more seizures.

In 2020, Deja New sponsored a toy sale to help send the Cole family to Ohio to pick up their new family member, Banjo, a Golden Doodle.

"Banjo has been working hard to become Maddie's best friend and keep her safe," the Deja New statement read.

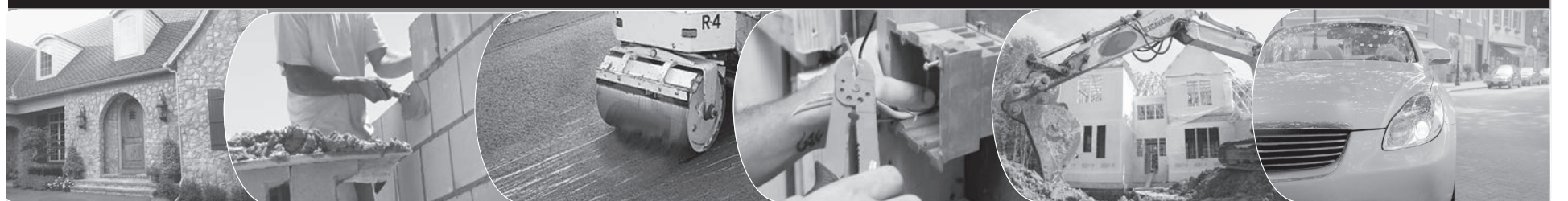
Over the next few weeks, Deja New will host a virtual "Doggie Shower" to provide items that Banjo will need to settle into his new home in Leicester. If you would like to view the wish list, visit Deja New's website or Facebook page to access the link. You

can also drop off purchased items at Deja New during regular business hours.

"The volunteers at Deja New appreciate all of the assistance they have received over the past few years," the Deja New statement read. "They are looking forward to a bigger and brighter future to further meet the nonprofit's mission of providing support to the community of Leicester and its residents."

To learn more about the organization, visit www.DejaNewLeicester.com.

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Local Covid Heroes Honored at Chamber's Business Comeback Party

Sturbridge, MA – The Chamber of Central Mass South hosted its first in-person event since March of 2020 on the evening of June 24 at the Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge. Nearly two hundred guests attended the celebration which commemorated many of the moments we missed sharing together over the last 15 months and paid special tribute to our Local Covid Heroes who stepped up to keep our neighbors and friends safe during the pandemic crisis.

Nominated by Chamber members and selected by the Chamber's Board of Directors, the following heroes were presented proclamations from local dignitaries and honored in a short film, which was shot on location at the various local businesses and premiered at the Chamber party. All of these local heroes are described as going above and beyond during the health emergency, dedicated, selfless and community-minded. For details on the awesome contributions made by these folks, you are invited to view the short film which can be accessed by visiting the Chamber's facebook page at www.facebook.com/cmschamber.

The Chamber of Central Mass South's Local Covid Heroes are:

Lisa Daoust, Town of Spencer Health Agent

Emily Dunnack, Old Sturbridge Village and Old Sturbridge Academy

The entire Staff of Big Bunny Supermarket & Micknuck's Market

The Construction & Maintenance Team at The Center of Hope



Lisa Daoust, Health Agent for the Town of Spencer, accepts her Local Covid Heroes proclamation from Rep. Peter Durant (r).

Tom Kelleher, Old Sturbridge Village
The entire Staff of Joshua Hyde Library, Sturbridge

Wilson Wang and Sara Bloomfield, Baba Sushi & Hot Pot

Kathi Grenier, Tri-Valley, Inc. Meals on Wheels, Southbridge Nutrition Site Coordinator

Andrea Healy, North Brookfield Savings Bank

Leslie Wong, Town of Sturbridge Senior Center

Heather LaFlamme RN, Jason



Keep them aloft! Making up for lost time with fun networking activities.

Osbourne RN, Magda Rodriguez, Harrington Hospital

Stacy Santiago, Vocero Hispano Newspaper

Management & Membership Front Desk Staff of the YMCA Tri-Community Family Branch

The Chamber wishes to extend its sincere thanks to our hosts at The Publick House and to the sponsors of the Business Coming Out Party including Karl Storz Endovision (Platinum sponsor), The Center of Hope (Gold sponsor), Alternatives For Health Herbal Apothecary and Your Hometown Shopper (Bronze sponsors).

Is it time you joined the Chamber to grow your business and join a dedicated and passionate business community? Visit the Chamber of Central Mass South online at cmschamber.org or contact the Chamber office at 508-347-2761 for more.



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

“What would Barry say?”

When sitting down to write this Editorial, this Editor had heavy on her mind her old mentor from the radio days, Barry Lunderville who has since passed on, or as he called it “taking a dirt nap”. Barry owned radio stations in NH and worked for CBS out of Boston. He was especially great to talk to when discussing small town politics and joked, “Well between us girls,” During one particular time of discord, he passed this poem along and it is one that is read often, especially when thinking, “What would Barry say?”

If
BY RUDYARD KIPLING


If you can keep your head when all about you
Are losing theirs and blaming it on you,
If you can trust yourself when all men doubt you,
But make allowance for their doubting too;
If you can wait and not be tired by waiting,
Or being lied about, don’t deal in lies,
Or being hated, don’t give way to hating,
And yet don’t look too good, nor talk too wise:

If you can dream—and not make dreams your master;
If you can think—and not make thoughts your aim;
If you can meet with Triumph and Disaster
And treat those two impostors just the same;
If you can bear to hear the truth you’ve spoken
Twisted by knaves to make a trap for fools,
Or watch the things you gave your life to, broken,
And stoop and build ’em up with worn-out tools:

If you can make one heap of all your winnings
And risk it on one turn of pitch-and-toss,
And lose, and start again at your beginnings
And never breathe a word about your loss;
If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew
To serve your turn long after they are gone,
And so hold on when there is nothing in you
Except the Will which says to them: ‘Hold on!’

If you can talk with crowds and keep your virtue,
Or walk with Kings—nor lose the common touch,
If neither foes nor loving friends can hurt you,
If all men count with you, but none too much;
If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds’ worth of distance run,
Yours is the Earth and everything that’s in it,
And—which is more—you’ll be a Man, my son!

A Potato



Has Eyes,

But it doesn’t read this paper
You ought to be different.
Don’t be a potato.

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VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Missing Andy Rooney

Last night, while trying to tune in 60 Minutes, but instead getting at least 5 extra hole of golf playoff, I was perusing John McCrea’s letter that was published last week, reflecting on the “woke” comment regarding a mascot name change, from Indians to Bobcats. While I did not find John’s inclination for a recall surprising, considering his Capital visit of January 6, indicating that any decision that you don’t like might be subject to reversal, I do think that, at some level, elimination of the term Indian, from all things, is ludicrous.

Start with the fact that even the name Indian, was a case of mis-identification, by explorers, who thought they were in India. If you are truly “woke”, you would be eliminating the term Native or Native American, as shouldn’t it be up to the nation called India, to take issue with mis-appropriating their identity? I note that this issue is being remediated a lot, and even see some sense with changing NFL Redskins, since no one ever considered the old Celtics being called the Whiteskins, or the Globe Trotters the Blackskins.

My wife’s question to me, who of the native Americans do you ask? That might have been a hot potato, that even Andy Rooney would not have addressed. He might have wondered about our borrowing of names from the Iroquois of tribal names like Delaware, Narragansett, Agawam, or hijacking their names for places, like Quaboag or Massachusetts, or Connecticut. Would my uncle naming his company Mohawk Plastics have caused offense?

Join the CRT (Critical Race Theory) Rebellion

To the Editor:
Massachusetts used to be home to the most determined and accomplished defenders of the precepts of individual and collective liberty. We are all familiar with the names Revere, Adams, Hancock, Warren, Otis, and Boston-born Franklin-to mention just a few-but the spirit of resistance to tyranny didn’t reside only in the men. When Thomas Jefferson, in a letter to Abigail Adams in 1782, remarked, “The spirit of resistance to government is so valuable on certain occasions, that I wish it to be kept always alive”, he found a receptive audience on the staff side of the revolutionary movement in the old Bay State. In addition to the intellectually brilliant and wise Mrs. Adams (wife of the second president and mother of the sixth), Massachusetts produced Mercy Otis Warren, daughter of one of the great intellectual forces behind the Revolution, James Otis, and a powerful writer, pamphleteer, and activist for the patriotic cause in her own right. She was able to articulate the reasons why the fight for liberty was worth the sacrifice and effort, and in ways the masses of people in the colony could understand. In my high school (in the great city of Brockton), there was a girl named Deborah Sampson of whom, students were told, a direct line of descent could be traced to her namesake, one Deborah Sampson, born in Plympton, Massachusetts in 1760. A poor farm girl, and not possessing the soaring intellect and communication skills of Mesdames Adams or Warren, Deborah was desperate to get into the fight-on the ground and not on paper-so she, as all Massachusetts school children used to know, disguised herself as a boy, adopted the name Robert Shurtleff, and joined the Continental Army in which she fought as a private soldier with her true nature finally revealed only upon being wounded in action near Tarrytown, N.Y. in 1782. Another Massachusetts female warrior “in drag”, Prudence Wright of Pepperell, Massachusetts, organized the women of the town, armed and dressed them in the clothes of their farmer husbands who were off fighting in the Battle of Bunker Hill, June 16, 1775, and defended the town against Loyalist partisans.

Many decades later, another Massachusetts heroine-and from this area, Oxford, Massachusetts--determined to play her part in the great struggle for human liberty, demanded the right to serve as a battlefield nurse caring for suffering wounded Union soldiers in the Civil War. Until Clara’s insistence upon being allowed to serve, it had been thought unseemly to allow women to witness the agonies of the

I do miss Andy and Paul Harvey giving us the rest of the story, or at least furnishing perspective. There is a much weightier issue, which deserves as much, if not more, attention. I am sure we are all waiting impatiently, for what the QAnon Cyber Ninja will have gleaned from what I can only deem a clown show in Arizona, but that aside, legitimate authorities all concur that the last presidential election, was the most secure in history, so let’s focus on what is real and vital.

The underlying question is, if we truly are the land of the free, should all citizens that are legally entitled, be enabled to vote? Should steps be taken to actually make that process easy and painless? Should it be a process where vetting is accomplished upon registration, and proving that you are that person, getting checked off from the list and submitting a ballot, be something less than rocket science? Even AG Barr, Trumps personal lap dog, found no evidence of significant fraud. In fact, he has labeled the continuing Trump claims, as pure BS. He has probably noted Rudy G., being disbarred, and would not want the same fate.

By the time you read this, we will have celebrated the birth of our nation. The secret to long life, is continuing to have them. Now that we can ,let’s all pitch in make sure we continue to be the land of the free, where we speak with our votes and will accept nothing less.

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD

sick and dying young men and the horrors of their wounds. So beloved would she become by the victims of the cruelties of war, Clara earned the sobriquet “Angel of the Battlefield”, and in 1881 would found the American Red Cross. Yes, despite its current reputation of being at the epicenter of a mindless American-style political correctness, socialism, radical feminism, globalism and everything else that has contributed to the piecemeal destruction of our culture and heritage, Massachusetts once was able to produce intelligent women who understood America-for all its faults--was the last best hope on earth for freedom for everyone, not just the chosen few, the elite. I had lost hope that those kinds of women still existed: learned in things that matter (like freedom); appreciative of those who had gone before and whose sacrifices and service had produced those beneficial conditions of existence for all; and, above all, possessed of sound common sense and a rational understanding of human nature.. Lately, though, my hopes have been at least somewhat rekindled. I am greatly enthused and re-energized to read and hear of the uprising, the insurgency, if you will, of women-mostly mothers of school-age children-across the country descending upon school committee (board) meetings to express in the strongest and most confrontational terms their absolute refusal to go any further down this insane road of political, racial, and sexual indoctrination and propaganda being force fed their children by school administrators and teachers (themselves the victims of brainwashing techniques in their own educations). Some of the best on-line video content of the past month or so has been of these women-and some men-lambasting these clueless school committees and school superintendents over their perfidious mal-education of the students in their charge. These moms refuse to be good little socialists who should simply sit down and shut up. No, no, no, the battle is on, and these women don’t have to disguise themselves as soldiers.... they’re ready for combat dressed as they are. And real patriots ought to be ecstatic and enthusiastic supporters of them for their courage and defiance of those who consider themselves to be smarter, better, and more qualified to mold and shape children’s minds than their parents. I am hearing of this nationwide resistance movement gaining steam in nearby North Brookfield, and can only hope and pray it succeeds in waking the parents and other citi-

Turn To **MCRAE** page **A9**

Declare your financial freedom



FINANCIAL
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Independence Day is almost here. And as we make progress in moving past the COVID-19 pandemic, more of us will be able to enjoy Fourth of July activities. However you observe the holiday, it’s important to recognize all the liberties we enjoy in this country. But you may still need to work at one particular type of freedom – and that’s financial freedom. How can you achieve it?

There’s no one instant solution. But you can work toward financial independence by addressing these areas:

Retirement savings – Approximately 45% of Americans think the ideal retirement involves “enjoying my well-earned freedom,» according to the March 2021 Edward Jones/Age Wave Four Pillars of the New Retirement study. But when you’re retired, the risk to this freedom is obvious – the paychecks have stopped but the bills haven’t. Furthermore, you could spend two or three decades in retirement. That’s why it’s so important to contribute as much as you can afford to your tax-advantaged retirement accounts, such as your IRA and your 401(k) or another employer-sponsored plan. At a minimum, put in enough to earn your employer’s matching contribution, if one is offered. Whenever your salary goes up, try to increase the annual amount you put in your 401(k) or similar plan. And if appropriate, make sure you have a reasonable percentage of growth-oriented investments within your 401(k) and IRA. Most people don’t “max out” on their IRA and 401(k) each year, but, if you can consistently afford to do so, and you still have money you could invest, you may want to explore other retirement savings vehicles.

Illness or injury – If you were to become seriously ill or sustain a significant injury and you couldn’t work for an extended period, the loss of income could jeopardize your ability to achieve financial independence. Your employer may offer disability insurance as an employee benefit, but this coverage is typically quite limited, both in duration and in the amount of income being replaced. Consequently, you may want to consider purchasing private disability insurance. Keep in mind that this coverage, also, will have an end date and it probably won’t replace all the income lost while you’re out of work, but it will likely be more expansive and generous than the plan provided by your employer.

Long-term care – Individuals turning 65 have about a 70% chance of eventually needing some type of long-term care, such as a nursing home stay or the assistance of a home health aide, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. And these services are quite expensive – the average annual cost for a private room in a nursing home is more than \$100,000, according to Genworth, an insurance company. Medicare typically covers only a small part of these expenses, so, to avoid depleting your savings and investments (and possibly subjecting your grown children to a financial burden), you may want to consider long-term care insurance or life insurance with a long-term care component. A financial advisor can help you choose a plan that’s appropriate for your needs.

By addressing these areas, you can go a long way toward attaining your financial independence. It will be a long-term pursuit, but the end goal is worth it.

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
Edward Jones, Member SIPC

ENTERTAINMENT AND
EVENTS



DON'T MISS
A THING!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

SNL Inclusive Prosperity

Appointed by then President Donald Trump, the Republican Jerome Powell, serves as Chair of the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank.

Responding to a question in Congress about limited employment and income upward mobility Powell responded;

“There is a growing realization,... across the political spectrum that we need more inclusive prosperity (meaning everyone, not just the rich benefit from our country’s resources and economy). (This) holds us back as an economy and as country.” He went on to say the Federal Bank alone cannot solve our inequality issues. Instead, he said Congress needs to develop and approve a much broader set of policies and programs such as the Biden administration’s physical and “human” infrastructure programs.

Studies have shown that America’s high levels of inequality can hurt economic stability and growth.

Powell obviously thinks that all our Americans, not just the rich, need the education, skills, and living conditions required to contribute to and fairly share the benefits our country can provide.

In other words, America needs to do better, right now!

Meanwhile the United States has lost its’ lead in education overall and in investment in its own children. Estimates indicate that today’s American children will achieve only 70% of their potential productivity. So we while we hurt them we also hurt our country.

As examples:

Greece has higher high school graduation rates

Russia, Poland, Latvia, and other countries are better at math.

Twenty per cent of American 15 year

olds can only read at the level of a 10 year old

Meanwhile fake news letters on the these pages say what is really important is whether or not our local schools retain sports teams nick names and teach “Critical Race Theory” – which they don’t.

Likewise, in recent global studies - going backwards -the US ranked 28th in health, safety and well-being, and 35th in competitiveness. As a global researcher describes it:

“America’s chronic failure to turn its’ economic strength into social progress is a huge drag on American influence . (Western) Europeans do a much better job on....social outcomes from health to education to the environment. .. Rivals like China (and Russia) may see the fraying of America’s social fabric as a sign of strategic weakness.“ Also other countries may be may be less willing to follow the lead of the United States.

n addition to quote, Willian Kristoff, “(T)hey also comment aghast , about the Capital insurrection and Republican attempts to impede voting. American democracy.....is certainly tarnished now. “

Here as reported in business oriented Defense Daily, the Secretary of Defense and former four Star General Lloyd Austin and the Trump appointed Joints Chief Chair General Michael Miley recently pushed back on Republican “Critical Race Theory” accusations.

The disgraced (and very likely to face facing sex trafficking charges) Matt Gaetz led a series questions challenging the Defense Secretary’s initiatives to address documented racism and extremism in the ranks. Geatz also tried to minimize supporting respons-

es from the Joints Chief Miley and rudely challenged and and interrupted Austin our country’s first African American Secretary of Defense indicating he didn’t know everything he needed to know and Gaetz did. When Miley tried to offer his view, Gaetz cut him off.

Later came a presentation by the West Point Military superintendent Lt. General Williams on why two lessons in just one course concerned Critical Race theory.

Then an Air Force veteran member of Congress offered Miley an opportu-

MCRAE

continued from page A8

zens of the town as to the absolute menace posed to their children--and to the entire country--if this racist madness called Critical Race Theory, as well as the damnably inappropriate sex-ed curriculum for even the youngest children is not stopped.....right here and right now. In a country--or a town--that had not lost its mind, these programs and those who implement and defend them--like liberal idiots on the school committee, in the classroom, and in supervisory positions--would all be gone. History. Fired in disgrace and replaced by adults who actually care for and about children, and who know that real education--not indoctrination--is the only hope most working class children actually have of one day living a worthwhile life while able to think logically and rationally, and not infected with a sense of shame and a poisonous hatred of their own country, its history and culture, and themselves. I think these women in North Brookfield are cut from the same cloth as Mses Adams, Warren, Sampson, Barton, Wright, and other brave

nity to respond. Miley - much different to some letters seen on these pages responded;

“I want to understand white rage, I’m white and I want to understand it. So what is it that caused thousands of people to assault this building and try to overturn the Constitution of the United States. What caused that? I want to find out.”

Something all of us should want to do.

KEVIN KANE

Massachusetts female patriots throughout history. Borrowing from Helen Reddy, they are women, hear them roar, in numbers soon to be too large to ignore! They are not going to sit down and be quiet; they know some things are more important than just keeping a low profile. Support them, North Brookfield patriots. They, it appears, are your only hope to stave off the utter destruction of what’s left of your pubic--oops, sorry, a Freudian slip there, that should read “public” schools which, I am told, used to be pretty good. You pay for these schools and those who are employed in them, it’s your time and labor that covers the freight. Do not tolerate being told there’s nothing the people of the town can do about school committee policies demonstrably at odds with the wishes, values, and beliefs of a clear majority of those who pay all the bills. Your example of good old-fashioned Massachusetts resistance to tyranny will well serve other communities in this area who soon will be waging the same desperate battles for their own kids.

JOHN MCRAE
EAST BROOKFIELD

Gudman responds to Mitt Romney and the BIG Lie

This week Mitt Romney told Jake Tapper that the Big LIE was like “the WWF Entertaining but not real” and ,” bombast not going anywhere.” (CNN). While on the surface this is true, much like what we see on TV and the Internet, it’s not true enough. Problem is, Mitt is so unknowledgeable about the world of (fake) wrestling he doesn’t even know it switched to WWE years ago, or that in fact, despite its “bombast” and not-realness, people still get hurt. Long time veteran “Fake” wrestler Owen Hart was killed in a tragic stunt attempt on live TV some years ago, and any casual fan knows or understands that the performer-athletes are injured regularly and most retire due

YOUR
TURN
.....
SPENCER
GUDMAN

to Injuries. It may be fake but the lasting wounds are real. So Mitt, it carries with the big lie. Let’s say it doesn’t go anywhere, especially in respect to “re-instating” the former president. I for one believe that the

Republican Party will not concede another losing election, ever. This is the injury that will last because of the big lie. Democracy will never walk the same again here in America. Even if Mitt himself runs again and loses again this injury will flare up again . I can see it now. Mitt giving a concession speech while our neighbors prepare for something more than the sedition of January 6th. Mitt could even tell his voters to concede, let democracy run its course. They won’t. Look at the numbers. In March, Forbes

(right leaning) reported that 60% of Republicans believe the election or parts of it were fraudulent. This is despite contradictory statements made by the best our country has to offer. The Department of Homeland Security(established by R- GW Bush) and the Department of Justice both put out a joint statement, “The Departments investigated multiple public claims that one or more foreign governments owned, directed or controlled election infrastructure used in the 2020 federal elections; implemented a scheme to manipulate election infrastructure; or tallied, changed or otherwise manipulated vote counts. The Departments found that those claims were not credible.” (Justice.gov). These are two of the largest law enforcement entities and operations the world has ever

seen. How many of the “back the blue” flag fliers are the 60% that believe in a fraudulent election? And how many of these “back the blue” flag fliers cheered when Capitol and Metro Police were being assaulted on the steps of the Capitol on January 6th? This example of hypocrisy is simple enough and I could list much more, here’s three more. They want us to “back the blue”, but not the DOJ or DHS. They got made when athletes took a knee, but won’t denounce the people who beat a cop with a flag. They want to keep the statues of southern traitors and racists, but not talk about the ugly legacy and lasting impact of slavery and racism. Let me be clear, I am writing about the 60% of republican election deniers, who, by denying the legitimacy of the 2020 election, in turn, approve of the violence

of January 6th. I know and love plenty of conservatives who accepted the election and were appalled at 1/6. But the poison has been injected. This contingency of conservatism values party and power over our Democratic Republic and the values our forefathers fought and died for. (Men that the 45th president called “suckers” and “losers”) They would rather win than abide by our constitution. They would rather call every republican loss election fraudulent, than grow up and develop policies that are popular with their electorate. Yes Mitt, the Big Lie is bombast and it is not going anywhere. But much like the lasting injuries of “fake” wrestlers, the pain will be real.

Plant Roses in Honor of National Rose Month



GARDEN
MOMENTS
.....

MELINDA
MYERS

Celebrate National Rose Month (June) by adding a rose or two to your garden or containers this month. Now it is easier than ever to enjoy their beauty and fragrance thanks to lower maintenance and disease resistant varieties.

Many gardeners have switched to hardier, more pest resistant shrub roses for just this reason. The Earth-Kind roses are among the easiest and most environmentally friendly roses for all to grow.

The goal of the Earth-Kind program was to help gardeners enjoy roses while limiting the use of fertilizers, pesticides and water. The Texas Agrilife Extension Service started the program by conducting field trials of 100 rose cultivars for at least four years. They evaluated the roses for outstanding performance, superior pest resistance and tolerance of a wide variety of soils from acid to alkaline and sand to clay. To earn the Earth-Kind designation, roses also needed heat and drought tolerance once established.

The effort has expanded and now the National Earth-Kind research study includes test sites throughout the United States and several countries.

A few popular roses you may recognize carry this designation. The Fairy is a dwarf

polyantha shrub rose covered with bouquets of small pink roses throughout the summer and is hardy in zones 4 to 9. Carefree Beauty, hardy in zones 4 to 9, has fragrant double pink roses all season long on 5 feet tall and wide plants. It’s no surprise the popular Knock Out™ rose with its raspberry red flowers and glossy green leaves, hardy in zones 5 to 9, received the Earth-Kind designation in 2004.

Evaluations continue and the list of Earth-Kind roses grows. You are sure to find one suitable to your garden design and growing conditions.

Repeat blooming, hardy and disease resistant shrub roses are another group to consider. This group of species, hybrids and varieties tend to be hardier, tolerant of a wider range of soil conditions with greater disease resistance. Bonica and the Carefree series are two that have been gracing gardens for years. Newer introductions are continually being introduced, expanding your planting options.

Once planted, enjoy your roses outdoors in the garden and indoors in a vase. Proper harvesting and dead-heading will keep your repeat blooming roses beautiful throughout the season.

Cut roses for arrangements in the morning just as the top of the bud is starting to open. Make the cut above an outward facing, five-leaflet leaf. Cut flowers back to a three-leaflet leaf on young plants that may not tolerate or be large enough for more severe pruning. Remove the

lower leaves, recut the stem on an angle and place it in a vase of fresh water.

Keep your plants looking their best and encourage new blossoms by removing faded flowers. Deadhead single-flower roses back to the first five-leaflet leaf to encourage stouter and stronger stems. Remove only individual flowers as they fade from roses that bloom in a cluster. Once all the flowers in the cluster are done blooming you can remove the flower stem back to the first five-leaflet leaf. Always leave at least two, five-leaflet leaves attached to the plant.

Start looking for a few sunny spots in your landscape to fill with easy care roses. They are sure to boost your landscape’s beauty and your enjoyment for years to come.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including The Midwest Gardener’s Handbook and

WIRE VILLAGE

continued from page A1

needs told police that Madden shoved her child, which prompted a Spencer Police investigation. Due to privacy concerns involving the child, the New Leader has kept the family’s name anonymous.

“We were made aware of the incident on 4/15/21 involving a staff member and a juvenile student, and an investigation was conducted,” said Spencer Police Department Lt. Michael Befford. “Based on that, a summons was requested



MelindaMyers.com

The Carefree series of shrub roses, like this Carefree Spirit rose, are repeat bloomers, hardy, and disease resistant.

Small Space Gardening. She hosts The Great Courses “How to Grow Anything” DVD series and the nationally-syndicated Melinda’s Garden Moment TV & radio program. Myers is a colum-

nist and contributing editor for Birds & Blooms magazine. Her web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

for assault and battery.”

As part of their investigation, police reviewed surveillance footage from a camera at the school. It was not publicly disclosed whether the footage captured the entire incident, or just a portion. Ultimately, police determined that there was enough cause to move forward with the assault and battery court summons.

Madden is expected to appear in court in August.

The student’s family elected against publicly discussing the incident until after legal proceedings have taken place.

The New Leader was unable

to reach Madden for comment on the incident. He started working for the SEBRSD in March 2019. Previously, he worked at Crossroads School for Children in Natick, spending more than five years as a supervisor of home services.

From 2010-13, Madden worked at The New England Center for Children.

Madden is licensed as a board-certified behavior analyst. He earned a master’s degree in applied behavior analysis from Western New England University.

Tips for Skill at the Grill

Backyard grilling has become much more than a casual and tasty cooking technique. Today, serving up creatively prepared foods grilled to perfection has been elevated to a fine culinary art. The good news is you don't have to be a cooking school graduate to earn your BBQ apron. Whether you're striving for the title of neighborhood grill master or simply want to receive rave reviews for supper, the following strategies are sure to earn you top chef status behind the grill this season.



TAKE THE HINT

KAREN TRAINOR

Certified Angus Beef Signature Steak Marinade

This recipe from the country's premiere beef brand is a tasty tribute to grilled steak suppers.

Ingredients: 1/2 cup Lea & Perrins Worcestershire Sauce; 3 tablespoons balsamic vinegar; 1 1/2 tablespoons Dijon mustard; 1/2 teaspoon pepper.

Instructions: Combine all ingredients. In large, shallow non-aluminum baking dish or plastic bag, pour marinade over steaks; turn to coat. Marinate in refrigerator for 30 minutes. Remove steaks; discard marinade. Grill or broil steak to preferred doneness.

No Fail Marinade

This unconventional recipe from the retro era promises taste and tenderness.

Ingredients: one third cup steak sauce; one half cup packed brown sugar; one twelve ounce can 7Up or Sprite; one half cup melted butter; four tablespoons red wine vinegar; one quarter teaspoon each onion powder, garlic powder, salt and pepper. Instructions: Combine all in a bowl or zip lock bag. Allow meat to marinate in mixture for at least an hour, or as long as overnight.

Hot off the Grill: Gauging Doneness

Gauging meats grilled to perfection can be a tricky challenge. Beyond checking the temperature of the meat, backyard chefs have learned to rely on a few "rules of thumb" to test for doneness.

*This "old school" chef trick is still a reliable way to gauge your meat without cutting into it:

To test doneness by "feel" this method compares your hand and fingers to the firmness of the cut of meat. Pressing on the middle of the steak, a rare steak should feel the same as the heel of your hand (the fleshy area between your

thumb and wrist) when hand is relaxed; a medium rare steak should feel like the heel of your hand when you press your thumb and forefinger together (which is firmer); a medium rare steak will feel as firm as the heel of your hand when you touch your middle finger to your thumb (firmer yet); and medium well should feel as firm as the heel when you press your ring finger and thumb.

*Another common "rule of thumb" for doneness is the inch method is to cook by thickness of the meat. For a one inch thick steak, cook seven minutes for rare; nine minutes for medium; and 11 minutes for well done.

*When using an internal thermometer: a rare steak should be cooked to 125-130 degrees; 130 to 140 degrees for medium-rare; 140 to 150 degrees for medium, 150-160 degrees for medium-well or 160 to 170 degrees for well done.

**

BBQ Basics

•As a general guide, when you grill with charcoal, it takes about 30 minutes for coals to reach a medium temperature and become ash covered.

•For gas grills, allow about 15 minutes for the grill rack to preheat properly.

*To increase the heat on a charcoal grill, simply push the coals together, add more coals as needed lower the grilling surface, or fan the fire and tap the ashes from the coals.

•Steaks best for grilling without the need to tenderize, are such cuts such as Ribeye, Filet Mignon, T-Bone and Porterhouse.

•For best results cook pork on direct heat to seal the juices. Then finish it with indirect heat to ensure the center is completely cooked. Just be sure to preheat the grill so it will seal in the juices quickly.

•Cooking for a crowd? To ensure even grilling, meats should be placed about three quarters of an inch apart on the grill rack.

•Does your fish dry out and break up when you cook it on the grill? Brush it with lemon juice while cooking to keep

it moist.

*Fish should be from one to one and a half inches thick to prevent drying out.

•Always apply sweet basting sauces made with sugar, honey or syrup during the last few minutes of grilling only to prevent burning.

•When cooking steaks on the grill don't season the meat until each side has browned to keep the cut tender.

•When using a dry rub during barbecuing, always allow the meat to cook for approximately one third to one half of the total time before applying any basting sauce. This allows the meat to become warm and start absorbing the dry rub seasonings.

•If you are marinating meat, you'll need one to two cups of marinade for every one and a half to two pounds of food. You want enough marinade to completely surround the food.

**

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House – Contest has resumed!

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

Do you have a helpful hint or handy tip that has worked for you? Do you have a question regarding household or garden matters? If so, why not share them with readers of Stonebridge Press newspapers? Send questions and/or hints to: Take the Hint!, C/o the Southbridge Evening News, PO Box 90; Southbridge, MA 01550. Or email KDRR@aol.com. Hints are entered into a drawing for dinner for two at the historic Publick House Inn.



Community Connection

Your guide to local businesses and events! To join us, please call June at 508-909-4062 or email jsima@stonebridgepress.news.

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Which antiques and collectibles are hot now?

It's been over five years since I shared my top-10 list of hot selling antiques and collectibles. Many of the items from that column are still doing well over five years later. Some have even gained in value while others have dropped. There are also many other items that have become valuable in the years since.

- Here's my list from 2015:
1. 1960's and earlier toys, comic books and other collectibles
 2. Early Chinese and other Asian antiques
 3. Mid-20th century Scandinavian and other modern design art and furnishings
 4. Arts and crafts and art deco design furnishings
 5. 1960's and earlier baseball and other sports memorabilia
 6. Advertising signs, posters, and displays
 7. Gold coins and jewelry – silver coins, flatware, and hollow ware
 8. Important historical memorabilia
 9. Antique and classic automobiles and motorcycles
 10. Paintings by listed artists
- In recent columns, I've shared how hot baseball and other sports cards cur-



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES

WAYNE
TUISKULA

rently are. They would certainly move up from the No. 5 spot if I wrote the list today. Gold coins and jewelry would also move up the list. Gold prices averaged \$1,158.86 per ounce in 2015 Gold is close to \$1,800 per ounce as I write this column. Silver also took a big jump from when it averaged \$15.66 in 2015. It's at \$26.10 as I write.

1950s classic cars are items that have dipped in value since my original top-10 list. Hagerty.com's index of collectible American cars of the 1950s shows that classic 1950s cars were averaging around \$105,000 in 2015. The average is now well under \$100,000. This isn't a huge drop in price but is noteworthy.

A search of recent online auction results shows items selling for huge sums that I never could have imagined would be so popular when I wrote my list back in 2015. For example, a box of O-Pee-Chee Canadian Star Wars bubble gum cards with 36 wax packs recently sold for over \$8,400. A Super Mario 64 factory sealed 1996 first print Red Label video game went for \$16,000 in May. That same month, a 1985 pair of Air Jordan 1 size 13 sneakers in used condition sold for \$24,000. In April, a 1985 Topps Garbage Pail Kids First



Series # 1a Nasty Nick graded PSA # 9 brought \$50,000. A Magic the Gathering Beckett graded and authenticated 8.5+ grade Alpha Mox Ruby card went for nearly \$100,000. In a March online auction, a sealed Fossil 1st edition mint English Pokemon cards Wizards of the Coast booster box sold for \$1.3 million. Looking back even further to when I started selling antiques over 30 years ago, I could have never imagined that I might see 18th century high boy chests selling for under \$1,000 while a 20-year-old game card brought \$100,000. I will be updating the top-10 list in a future column.

Our next online auction of model railroad trains, die-cast cars, and model kits will begin soon. We will be offering more 1950s sports cards in another online auction later this summer. Other events are also being planned. Visit our website for details on upcoming events: <https://centralmassauctions.com>

Contact us at: Wayne Tuiskula Auctioneer/Appraiser Central Mass Auctions for Antique Auctions, Estate Sales and Appraisal Services www.centralmassauctions.com (508-612- 6111) info@centralmassauctions.com

Dying in public

I'm asked lately why I'm still writing. My answer is, "it's what I do. I'm a writer." For me, not writing is like not breathing. Something occurs to me, and my mind and heart conspire to create the words that come out on paper. It's just what I do and it's who I am.

Then I'm asked the question, "How can you write and speak so openly about your death?" That's a different question with a different answer. I write openly about my upcoming death in hopes of helping others deal with the inevitable. We are all going to die, and I don't believe death is something to be feared, but even welcomed.

Then there are those who are left behind and there will be grief, but I also hope to help my loved ones joyfully celebrate with me as I pass.

Then of course there are 'Death and Taxes.' I've been too sick to properly deal with my taxes, and I'm currently on an extension. I think it's weird that in my last days, I'm more concerned about the IRS than dying. I understand they can't chase me into heaven, but they can pursue my family. A simple

flat tax could solve it all but that won't happen in my lifetime. And besides, it would end an entire unnecessary industry, so this week is "tax week."

What's so interesting about dying? First and foremost, it's what we don't know that stirs the mind ...

We are glued to stories about near death experiences (NDE's are highly debated, by the way), only because we all want to know what it will be like when we ourselves die. As consumers, we are obsessed with reviews before eating at a restaurant or purchasing a product. There is no "Yelp" for death. We read reviews because we want to know if the purchase is worth it, and we want to know what it would be like to have said product. But when it comes to death, we don't really get to read reviews. We also don't get a choice. We will all die, and no one really knows exactly what to expect. I won't know how it will be experienced, but I do trust



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

in the heavenly promise. I do trust God is and will be present every breathing moment.

I find it fascinating, the small daily changes in my body. I'm not really experiencing much pain. My lungs become a little more congested daily. I see my family slowly coming to terms with the impending reality, which is what I hope for. I'm told my kidney and liver function is weakening. Death may not come easy but easier is always better.

I still have not given up. I serve the Great Physician ... my God of Miracles and Wonders. I do not understand His plan, but I'm confident that whatever it is, it serves the greater good. As much as I'd prefer to live, I submit my life to His will.

My greatest prayer is not for me, but for my family. I know there will be grief even though I pray for joy. Where there will be sadness, I pray for celebration of a happy life. The best I can hope for is an understanding that those I love

are still loved and know and pray that I carry my concern as an eternal devotion to them with me to the grave.

And finally, I pray the words to this old country and western song over all those whom I love and love me in return ...

"Will the circle be unbroken, by and by lord by and bye? There's a better home there waiting in the sky lord in the sky."

Yes, I believe with all my heart that I will soon return to my eternal home, prepared for me by my Lord and Savior where I'll spend eternity with my loved ones surrounded by peace and joy.

May God bless you all.

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.garyw-moore.com

YMCA of Central Massachusetts Water Safety Tips

As temperatures begin to rise in the northeast, the number of drownings will likely rise with it.

Over one weekend in June there were five tragic drownings involving both minors and adults, bringing the total to ten drownings in Massachusetts since May. The majority of these deaths are preventable through age appropriate swim lessons, or at the very least, knowledge about how to be safe around water.

Each year there are nearly 3,600 fatal drownings — about 10 deaths per day — in swimming incidents. Even more alarming, drowning is the leading cause of death for children aged 1-4, and about one in five people who die from drown-

ing are children aged 14 and younger.

The best way to prevent drowning is to learn basic swimming — knowing how to float and move through the water — at an early age.

As "America's Swim Teacher," the YMCA of Central Massachusetts teaches 7,500 people, both children and adults, to swim each year. However, since pools were closed for a portion of the pandemic, many children and adults did not have the opportunity to learn to swim. With that in mind, the YMCA of Central Massachusetts is now offering swim lessons year round.

"We have seen an increase in drownings all over the state, as well as in our area, and now

that our Y is fully open, we are in a unique position to offer critically important swim lessons and safety around water courses," said David Connell, President and CEO.

Here are just a few simple water safety tips from the YMCA that can help save a life:

Never swim alone. Teach your children that they should only swim in locations where lifeguard is on duty.

Supervise your children whenever they're in water. Whether it's bath time or taking a dip in a pool or lake, make sure your children are within an arm's reach of you at all times.

Don't engage in breath holding activities. Children shouldn't hold their breath for

a prolonged amount of time while swimming, as this can cause drowning and has several other severe physical side-effects.

Wear a life jacket. Inexperienced or non-swimmers should wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.

Don't jump in the water to save a friend who is struggling in deep water. If a child finds their friend in deep water unexpectedly, their natural reaction may be to jump in the water to try to save them. Even if a child is a great swimmer, a panicked person will overpower them, pulling them underwater with them. The Y teaches the "reach, throw, don't go" concept of using a long object to reach for them and pull them

to safety. By using this technique children can help their friend without compromising their own safety.

While swimming lessons alone will not prevent all tragic drownings, it is important for more people to have the knowledge and skills necessary to move through the water safely and with confidence.

The YMCA of Central Massachusetts is committed to helping you and your family be safe around water. Please contact us at 508-755-6101 or www.ymcaofcm.org for more information on water safety and swimming lessons.

Massachusetts Department of Transportation and Fundación MAPFRE Launch “Look Both Ways” PSA to Promote Road Safety

PSA CHALLENGES MASSACHUSETTS DRIVERS TO BE “AGGRESSIVELY NICE”

BOSTON and WEBSTER, Mass., June 22, 2021 – Fundación MAPFRE and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation today announced a new public service campaign to engage people in changing their behavior on the roads. The campaign is part of an effort to reduce road-related injuries and fatalities, particularly as pandemic restrictions are lifted and people get back on the roads for summer travel.

The PSA, launched in partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, the Executive Office of Health and Human Services and Fundación MAPFRE, challenges the stereotype of a typical “Massachusetts driver” by encouraging people to be “aggressively nice” on the road. [https://](https://youtu.be/xIv1Tmxyz8)

youtu.be/xIv1Tmxyz8

“We are pleased to support our Goal Zero vision to eliminate fatalities and serious injuries, with our new Look Both Ways program this year,” said Jaime Tamayo, Chief Representative of Fundación MAPFRE in the United States and Chief Executive Officer of MAPFRE USA. “As more people hit the roads this summer, it is important to encourage drivers, passengers and pedestrians to think twice about their behavior and look out for each other. Fundación MAPFRE is proud to work with MassDOT to help share this important campaign and message.”

“MassDOT’s first priority is ensuring that members of the public safely reach their travel destinations,” said MassDOT Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver. “We are happy to partner with MAPFRE Foundation on the Look Both Ways PSA to improve safety and reduce injuries and fatalities on our roadways.”

MassDOT encourages anyone looking for information about crash data to check out the MassDOT IMPACT dash-

board at <https://apps.impact.dot.state.ma.us/cdp/home>.

In addition to the PSA, Fundación MAPFRE is planning a Look Both Ways Road Tour, bringing an interactive road safety program to high schools, colleges and public events across Massachusetts and Connecticut. The program features React Challenge, a digital gaming experience that tests users’ reaction time when faced with obstacles on the road. The tour also includes a custom art installation by Jason Tetlak. The PSA and interactive campaign aim to change people’s behavior on the road by changing their perspective, using a unique combination of education and empathy.

Details about Look Both Ways, including the PSA, React Challenge and road safety resources, can be found at lookbothwaysafety.org.

Look Both Ways supports Vision Zero, a global initiative to eliminate traffic-related fatalities and serious injuries, a cause Fundación MAPFRE has long championed internationally.

According to a study conducted by

the Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy in the Department of Health Policy and Management at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, with support from Fundación MAPFRE, the most common cause of unintentional injury death among children 1-14 years of age (49 percent) was transportation-related, including children as passengers in cars, on motorcycles and bicycles, and as pedestrians.

About Fundación MAPFRE

Fundación MAPFRE is a nonprofit organization created by MAPFRE in 1975 to promote the well-being of society and citizens across the company’s footprint. Active in 30 countries, Fundación MAPFRE focuses on five areas: Road Safety and Accident Prevention, including fires, mishaps at home and drownings; Insurance and Social Protection; Culture; Social Action; and Health Promotion. Please visit <https://www.fundacionmapfre.org/en/> for more information about Fundación MAPFRE.

POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police Log

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 16
12:23-12:28 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:32 a.m.: officer wanted (Linden Street), mental health issue; 12:33 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:42 a.m.: medical/general (Point Eastalee Drive); 1:01-1:15 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:24 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 6:44 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Garrette Lane), 3 calls/no contact; 7:29 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 8:02 a.m.: animal complaint (Woodside Road), injured possum; 10:29 a.m.: harassment prevention order service (Woodside Road); 10:35 a.m.: juvenile matter (Marble Road), spoken to; 10:38 a.m.: fraud (High Street), SS scam call; 10:56 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: status of restraining order; 11:14 a.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), loose dog; 12:07 p.m.: animal complaint (Meadow Road), dogs left in mv; 1:32 p.m.: disturbance (Ash Street), services rendered; 1:57 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), East Brookfield PD bolo; 2:55 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), poss. drunk driver; 3:22 p.m.: animal complaint (Crown Street), poss. rabies exposure; 5:01 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:10 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 6:34 p.m.: disturbance (Church Street), fight w/pregnant female; 7:09 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), welfare check; 9:30 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Main Street), investigated; 9:45 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 10:05 p.m.: officer wanted (Lake Street), welfare check; 11:15 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), fem. passed out; (Total daily mv stops – 1).
THURSDAY, JUNE 17
1:04 a.m.: officer wanted (Wilson Avenue), info taken; 1:25-1:47 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:49 a.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info taken; 2:12 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 2:19 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:50 a.m.: commercial alarm (South Spencer Road), services rendered; 6:33 a.m.: medical/general (Sunset Lane); 9:42 a.m.: building checked, secure; 9:52 a.m.: officer wanted (Wilson Avenue), rec'd bad check; 10:06 a.m.: officer wanted (Thompson Pond Road), welfare check; 11:48 a.m.: juvenile matter (Cherry Street), DCF req. assistance; 12:16 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 12:47 p.m.: medical/general (High Street); 2:02 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 2:24 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 3:22 p.m.: lost/found (Meadow Road), cell phone found; 3:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), landlord/tenant issue; 5:04 p.m.: 911 call (Oakland Street), accidental; 7:03 p.m.: disturbance (Williams Drive), neighbor dispute; 9:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Lambs Grove), spoken to; 9:24 p.m.: medical/general (Borkum Road); 10:18 p.m.: medical/general (Lake Avenue); (Total daily mv stops – 2).
FRIDAY, JUNE 18
12:52-2:01 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:13 a.m.: disabled mv (Valley Street), assisted; 9:07 a.m.: animal com-

plaint (Depot Road), cats missing; 9:08 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 9:22 a.m.: fraud (Mechanic Street), Medicare scam call; 12:13 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), spoken to; 12:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Sherwood Drive), snake in shed; 12:47 p.m.: officer wanted (Woodside Road), info taken; 12:53 p.m.: fraud (Lincoln Street), real estate scam; 1:50 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 2:05 p.m.: fraud (Mill Street), scam call; 2:21 p.m.: 911 call (Leon Drive), open line; 2:37 p.m.: building checked, secure; 3:09 p.m.: mutual aid (Lake Street), DCF req. assistance; 4:01 p.m.: officer wanted (Powers Street), crew closed road; 4:03 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:33 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Borkum Road), no contact; 4:36 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 4:59 p.m.: medical/general (Lake Street); 5:23 p.m.: 911 call (Maple Street), misdial; 5:26 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:47 p.m.: commercial alarm (Maple Street), services rendered; 5:47 p.m.: commercial alarm (Maple Street), services rendered; 6:32 p.m.: medical/general (Duggan Street); 7:51 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 9:09 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Church Street), investigated; 11:27 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); (Total daily mv stops – 5).
SATURDAY, JUNE 19
12:51 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:40 a.m.: juvenile matter (Chestnut Street), services rendered; 5:40 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 7:18 a.m.: residential alarm (G.H. Wilson Road), services rendered; 10:40 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Northwest Road), accidental; 11:15 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), poss. intoxicated fem.; 12:11 p.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 1:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Meadow Road), info taken; 1:59 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), poss. mv break-in; 2:28 p.m.: accident (North Spencer Road), report taken; 3:31 p.m.: disturbance (Sherwood Drive), services rendered; 4:18 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 5:35 p.m.: 911 call (Smithville Road), misdial; 6:03 p.m.: animal complaint (Howe Road), loose dog; 6:20 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 6:30 p.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), erratic operator; 6:35 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), services rendered; 7:05 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 7:40 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 7:57 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Westland Drive), accidental; 8:03 p.m.: mutual aid (Browning Pond Road), SPD bolo; 8:17 p.m.: medical/general (Crestview Drive); 9:37 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), assist Southbridge PD; 10:25 p.m.: suspicious persons (Maple Street), investigated; 11:22 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), child w/phone; (Total daily mv stops – 3).
SUNDAY, JUNE 20
12:27-12:37 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:26 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), rep. break-in; 7:21 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), caught loose dog; 9:54 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), lost cash; 11:28 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (West Main Street), referred; 11:44 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 12:22 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 12:50 p.m.: officer wanted (High Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 2:04 p.m.: abandoned 911 call/2 (Polar Springs Road), no contact; 2:22 p.m.: mv complaint (Charlton Road), erratic operator; 2:41 p.m.: mv complaint (West Main Street), erratic operator; 3:12 p.m.: juvenile matter (West Main Street), re: custody exchange; 3:12 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), welfare check; 6:09 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), wrong-way driver; 6:21 p.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 6:25 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; 7:34 p.m.: accident (Chickering Road), hit/run, wires down; 9:05 p.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), accidental; 11:04 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); (Total daily mv stops – 8).
MONDAY, JUNE 21
12:22-2:16 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:01 a.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 11:13 a.m.: medical/general (Summit Street); 12:15 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 1:05 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet lost; 1:40 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 1:59 p.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 2:25 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 2:54 p.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), inquiry re: detour sign; 3:13 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 3:50 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 4:18 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (North Street), info taken; 4:29 p.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Avenue), missing dog; 6:10 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 7:10 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: family matter; 7:32 p.m.: medical/general (Kingsbury Road); 7:34 p.m.: mv complaint (Cranberry Meadow Road), kids speeding; 9:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Chickering Road), re: former fiancé; 9:57 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); (Total daily mv stops – 1).
TUESDAY, JUNE 22
12:08 a.m.: parking violation (Maple Street), ticket issued; 12:51-2:24 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:55 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 10:28 a.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), residential lockout; 10:30 a.m.: RV complaint (Rustic Lane), c/o dirt bikes; 10:54 a.m.: medical/general (Duggan Street); 10:55 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 11:40 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 11:44 a.m.: harassment prevention order service (West Main Street); 11:48 a.m.: RV complaint (Mechanic Street), dirt bikes; 12:12 p.m.: DPW call (Ashview Drive) loud bang/power out; 12:22 p.m.: DPW call (Main Street), light malfunction; 12:39 p.m.: DPW call (Temple Street), no water; 1:21 p.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), wants advice; 2:28 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 2:33 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Marble Road), child w/phone; 3:34 p.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 6:06 p.m.: medical/general (Norcross Road); 6:11 p.m.: 911 call (Howe Village), accidental; 8:49

p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 9:50 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 11:23 p.m.: 911 call (Chickering Road), accidental; 11:45 p.m.: building checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops – 1).

Leicester Police Log

THURSDAY, JUNE 17
1:46 a.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), spoken to; 2:06 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:51 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 5:51 a.m.: welfare check (Pine Street), services rendered; 8:03 a.m.: restraining order service (Stone Ridge Drive), report taken; 8:11 a.m.: harassment (Stafford Street), report taken; 12:11 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 1:51 p.m.: accident (Reservoir Street), report taken; 3:31 p.m.: soliciting (Sabina Circle), spoken to; 9:31 p.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), unfounded; 9:55 p.m.: noise complaint (Watch Street), unable to locate.
FRIDAY, JUNE 18
12:11 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 12:24 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 12:33 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 1:37 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Angel Noel Alvarado Sanchez, 51, 40 Belmont Street, #510, Worcester, op w/suspended license, arrest; 11:21 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 11:59 a.m.: family problem (Ackley Drive), gone on arrival; 2:28 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street), unfounded; 2:42 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 6:12 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, op w/suspended registration, uninsured mv, mv towed; 10:10 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to.
SATURDAY, JUNE 19
12:08 a.m.: mv stop (River Street), verbal warning; 12:42 a.m.: mv stop (River Street), verbal warning; 1:03 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:31 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:33 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 1:39 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 2:31 a.m.: suspicious mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), investigated; 8:02 p.m.: erratic operator (Atwood Road), gone on arrival; 8:15 p.m.: assist other PD (Marshall Street), message delivered; 9:52 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), message delivered; 11:24 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:36 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), written warning; 11:52 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.
SUNDAY, JUNE 20
12:01 a.m.: assist citizen (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 12:45 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:17 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 10:42 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street),

Turn To **POLICE LOGS** page **A14**

QCC is a Vaccine Champion College

WORCESTER, MA— June 23, 2021— Quinsigamond Community College has joined President Biden’s COVID-19 College Vaccination Challenge. Colleges across the country are being asked to commit to taking actions that will engage their college communities and encourage everyone to get vaccinated. Statistics show that a significant portion of the older population have been vaccinated; however, the younger generation is lagging behind. Colleges and universities offer a significant opportunity to reach that younger generation.
“We are committed to keeping our college community, our city, and the Commonwealth safe. The best way to do

this is by getting vaccinated,” said QCC President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. “This is a challenge I hope all colleges and universities will stand behind so that we can put an end to this global health crisis.”
QCC has taken a visible role in COVID-19 community outreach. The College developed a comprehensive, COVID-19 vaccination webpage offering vaccination information through public service videos in multiple languages, along with fact sheets in multiple languages, a link to vaccination locations and a link to the Massachusetts COVID-19 information website.
QCC has already hosted two Moderna Vaccine Clinics on its campus (670 West

Boylston, Street, Worcester) for the QCC community, as well as faculty, staff and students from Assumption University, Anna Maria College and Becker College. Approximately 90 people were vaccinated at each clinic.
“Spreading the word about the importance of getting vaccinated has been a priority at QCC. Offering information that is easily accessible, in multiple languages, enables us to reach more in our community,” President Pedraja said. “By hosting vaccine clinics, we are providing easier access for our students, their families, as well as QCC employees, which enables more in our community to be vaccinated.”

President’s Biden’s goal is to have 160 million Americans being fully vaccinated by July 4.
For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508.854.7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu
Quinsigamond Community College provides the community with high quality, affordable higher education in Worcester County. As a regional leader in education and workforce development, QCC serves the diverse educational needs of Central Massachusetts by providing affordable, accessible, and high quality programming leading to transfer, career, and lifelong learning.

Volunteer Drivers Needed: Career Exploration Program for Legally Blind Youth

Now that COVID is finally passing by us, why not consider getting out and doing some volunteer work that is both satisfying and much needed by a small 501(c)3 non-profit agency that provides opportunities for young people who are blind or visually impaired?
The Envision Success Project (ESP) is one of the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind’s Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS) programs for students age 14-22 who are legally blind. In this action learning experience, participants tour a variety of businesses and explore careers

that might be of interest, learn workplace readiness skills, and participate in internships, projects, and other paid work experiences.
We make the arrangements with local businesses to give the group a walk around the facility to view various jobs, talk to current employees, and get a feel for that type of work environment. Students ask questions, view materials, and explore whether this might be a place they can imagine themselves working. Tours have included hospitals, lawyers’ offices, the State House, photography studios, and news sta-



tions. There are also fun tours, such as experiencing audio-described theater productions with a back-stage tour of jobs in the theater industry.
The group then shares a meal together, meeting at a local restaurant to discuss lessons learned and whether that occupation may be one the student might be interested in pursuing (or not!).
Volunteers are needed to help trans-

port students to the tour, to the restaurant, and back home. Most tours are after-school, mid-afternoon and go until early evening. Training is provided and mileage and expenses will be reimbursed. For more information go to www.poluscenter.org or call Nona at 774-420-5678.

Governor Baker launches VaxMillions Giveaway program

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
NEWS STAFF WRITER

REGION – Just in case getting protected against COVID-19 wasn't incentive enough, the Baker-Polito Administration recently added over five million more reasons for residents to schedule their shots.

In a partnership with the Massachusetts State Lottery, Governor Baker and his team announced last month the launch of the VaxMillions Giveaway program. All Massachusetts adults who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are eligible to enter for a chance to win one of five separate \$1 million cash prizes.

Additionally, fully vaccinated residents between 12-17 years of age may enter for the chance to win one of five \$300,000 scholarship grants.

Although Massachusetts ranks third in the nation in vaccine rate, (59.76-percent of the population), state officials are determined to raise that number even higher.

"The VaxMillions Giveaway is one of the many ways our administration is encouraging people to get the vaccine, and we are grateful for the partnership of Treasurer Goldberg and the Mass. State Lottery in developing the program," said Governor Charlie Baker.

Eligible residents will be able to enter the drawing on July 1. Drawings will be held once a week for five weeks, beginning the week of Monday, July 26, and continuing through the week ending Friday, August 27. "Getting vaccinated is the best way to protect yourself and your loved ones from COVID," said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito. "We are hopeful that this new initiative will encourage even more residents to get the COVID vaccine and help return our Commonwealth to a new normal."

Added State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg, "The Massachusetts State Lottery is proud to join Governor Charlie Baker and the Department of

Public Health to ensure the health, safety, and wellbeing of every person across the Commonwealth. The Lottery has decades of experience and know-how to hold drawings with integrity, and our team is excited to fulfill an essential role in this initiative."

The Commonwealth is launching the VaxMillions Giveaway as one of many strategies to increase awareness of the availability and efficacy of the COVID-19 vaccines. Beginning July 1, Massachusetts residents will be able to enter the VaxMillions Giveaway online. If you do not have access to the internet or require assistance, there will be a call center available. Signup information and call center contact info and hours will be made available prior to July 1.

"We greatly appreciate the trust that Governor Baker, his administration, and Treasurer Goldberg have in the Mass. Lottery to assist in the implementation of this important

public health initiative," said Michael Sweeney, Executive Director of the Massachusetts State Lottery. "The Mass. Lottery has worked diligently to build a reputation as one of the most successful lotteries in the country, and it is an honor to be entrusted with this responsibility."

Massachusetts residents 18 years of age and older who have received two doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine, will have a chance to win.

Massachusetts residents between 12-17 years of age who have received two doses of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine will have a chance to win one of five \$300,000 scholarship grants via a 529 College Savings Plan managed by the Massachusetts Educational Financing Authority (MEFA). Funds in a 529 Plan can be applied to cover tuition, room and board, and related expenses at any college, university, or technical or trade school, or

another post-secondary educational institution eligible to participate in a student aid program administered by the U.S. Department of Education. Winners with a qualifying disability may elect instead to receive an equivalent financial contribution to a special needs trust or federally qualified ABLE account to cover qualified expenses.

Only lawful, permanent residents of Massachusetts who are fully vaccinated can apply. Residents must have received their vaccine doses within Massachusetts. Residents must be fully vaccinated prior to submitting their entries.

There are over 900 vaccination locations across the Commonwealth, with appointments and walk-ins widely available. Residents seeking a vaccine can visit www.mass.gov/COVIDVaccine.

For more information on the Mass. VaxMillions Giveaway, visit mass.gov/VaxMillions.

LEGALS

Town of West Brookfield Zoning Board of Appeals

A public hearing will be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the West Brookfield Town Hall, to act on an application for a Special Permit for Michael and Doreen Zimmerman, for the property located at 4 Avalon Place, West Brookfield. The applicant wishes to build a garage on their property, in the Neighborhood Residential District. This requires a special permit as per section, -1.5 Nonconformity-, §1.52 (a) Nonconforming Structures (a) (et al). The public is invited to attend.

Renee Adams White
Clerk

June 25, 2021
July 2, 2021

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals Variance – Applicant/ Owner: Kristopher Lauzon; Location: 13 Jolicoeur Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R10-07. The applicant is looking for a variance under Section 7.3 (Variances) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to erect an above ground pool. The property is located in the Rural Residential zoning district.

June 25, 2021
July 2, 2021

At the Zoning Board of Appeals special meeting to be held on Tuesday July 13, 2021 the hearing will be conducted remotely and in-person to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and will be broadcast live on Spencer Cable Access channels and at SCATV.org on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals Special Permit (Renewal) – Applicant/ Owner: Royal Crest Farm/ Robert Moschini Location: 30 Howe Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R23-25. The applicant is looking to renew their Special Permit under Sections 4.2 (H.1) and 4.8.6 (Earth Removal) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to continue a gravel removal operation. The property is located in the Rural Residential zoning district.

June 25, 2021
July 2, 2021

At the Zoning Board of Appeals special meeting to be held on Tuesday July 13, 2021 the hearing will be conducted remotely and in-person to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and will be broadcast live on Spencer Cable Access channels and at SCATV.org on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

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June 25, 2021
July 2, 2021

Brookfield Planning Board
Notice of Public Hearing

At a regularly scheduled Brookfield Planning Board meeting on Wednesday, July 14, 2021, a public hearing will be held starting at 6:45 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard at the Banquet Hall of the Town Hall, 6 Central Street, to review the following, pursuant to M.G.L., Chapter 40, Section 15C:

The owner and applicant of record, ASD Cronin MA Solar LLC, of Denver, Colorado, seeks permission to remove portions of existing stone walls on the Town of Brookfield's right of way fronting property at 134 Long Hill Road, a Scenic Road, to facilitate the creation of a curb cut onto the properties. Said property is shown on the Town of Brookfield's Assessor's Map 5A, Lot 9. Any persons interested in or wishing to be heard on this application should appear at the time and place designated. Sharon Mahoney, Chair
Brookfield Planning Board
June 25, 2021
July 2, 2021

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, July 13, 2021, in the McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall, 157 Main Street, Spencer, MA, a public hearing will be held on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Notice of Public Hearing – Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals Appeal of Building Fee – Applicant/ Owner: James and Rachel LaLiberte; Location: 195 Charlton Road, Spencer Assessor's Map R13-16. The applicant is requesting relief from a building permit fee calculated by the Building Inspector for an indoor arena/barn. The property is located within the rural residential zoning district.

June 25, 2021
July 2, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate**

**and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200**

**Docket No. WO21C0264CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:
Holly Marie Banford**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult
has been filed by **Holly Marie Banford of West Brookfield MA**

requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Holly Marie Hopkins**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/13/2021. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: June 14, 2021

Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate

July 2, 2021

**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:

Corey Haynes has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove a tree located at 25 Lakeview Drive, Spencer, MA.

Steve Lovejoy has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to build a garage at 31 Old Farm Road, Spencer, MA.

Alan Bianchini has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to cut down a tree at 101 Wilson Avenue, Spencer, MA.

Stephen & Christine Simakauskas have filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to replace an existing deck at 44 Lambs Grove, Spencer, MA.

Richard Martunas has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to raise the house 2 feet, replace the septic and rebuild a retaining wall at 41 Lakeshore Drive, Spencer, MA.

Doreen Surette has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to install a new septic system at 37 Point Eastalee Drive, 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 14, 2021, at which time all persons having an interest may be present and participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 7:00 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman
July 2, 2021

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Wetlands Protection Act, the Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a public Hearing on Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall Offices, 6 Central Street, Brookfield MA regarding a Notice of Intent submitted by:

Tyler Latour for the construction of a single family residence and associated site work within the 100' Buffer Zone of a bordering vegetated wetland.

The property is located at 5 Molasses Hill Road, Brookfield

Assessors Map#004B Parcel# 19B

Any person interested in this matter is invited to attend this hearing.

July 2, 2021

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Docket No. WO21P2049EA
Estate of:**

Denise L. Morrow

Also Known As:

Denise Morrow

Date Of Death: April 17, 2021

**NOTICE OF
INFORMAL PROBATE**

To all persons interested in the above-captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **James M. Noonan of Westerly RI**

Petitioner **Jane M. Noonan of Westerly RI**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate

James M. Noonan of West erylly RI

Jane M. Noonan of West erylly RI

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

July 2, 2021

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RESEARCH SAYS THE OIL FROM THIS POPULAR FLOWER MAY HELP TREAT AN ASSORTMENT OF MEDICAL CONDITIONS.

ANSWER: ROSE

Maze Craze

Can you find your way through the maze?

THIS DAY IN... HISTORY

- **1613:** LONDON'S GLOBE THEATRE BURNS DOWN DURING A PERFORMANCE OF SHAKESPEARE'S HENRY VIII.
- **1915:** EDMONTON IS RAVAGED WHEN THE NORTH SASKATCHEWAN RIVER FLOODS.
- **1995:** THE SHUTTLE ATLANTIS DOCKS WITH THE RUSSIAN SPACE STATION MIR, FORMING THE LARGEST MAN-MADE SATELLITE EVER TO ORBIT EARTH.

New Word

BUD
a compact growth on a plant that develops into a leaf, flower or shoot

How they SAY that in...

ENGLISH: Petal
SPANISH: Pétalo
ITALIAN: Petalo
FRENCH: Pétale
GERMAN: Blatt

Did You Know?

ROSES LACK THE SPECIFIC GENE THAT HAS THE ABILITY TO PRODUCE A "TRUE BLUE" COLOR. BLUE ROSES ARE ACTUALLY MADE BY DYEING WHITE ROSES.

GET THE PICTURE?

Can you guess what the bigger picture is?

ANSWER: FONDANT ROSE

⓪ * ✎ ☺ ☼ ~ ① ② ③ ④ ⑤ ⑥ ⑦ ⑧ ⑨ ⑩ ⑪ ⑫ ⑬ ⑭ ⑮ ⑯ ⑰ ⑱ ⑲ ⑳ ㉑ ㉒ ㉓ ㉔ ㉕ ㉖ ㉗ ㉘ ㉙ ㉚ ㉛ ㉜ ㉝ ㉞ ㉟ ㊀ ㊁ ㊂ ㊃ ㊄ ㊅ ㊆ ㊇ ㊈ ㊉ ㊐ ㊑ ㊒ ㊓ ㊔ ㊕ ㊖ ㊗ ㊘ ㊙ ㊚ ㊛ ㊜ ㊝ ㊞ ㊟ ㊠ ㊡ ㊢ ㊣ ㊤ ㊥ ㊦ ㊧ ㊨ ㊩ ㊪ ㊫ ㊬ ㊭ ㊮ ㊯ ㊰ ㊱ ㊲ ㊳ ㊴ ㊵ ㊶ ㊷ ㊸ ㊹ ㊺ ㊻ ㊼ ㊽ ㊾ ㊿

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

CRYPTO FUN

☼ ☾ ☿ ✎ ♂ ☿ ~ ✎ ✎

Determine the code to reveal the answer!

Solve the code to discover words related to biking.
Each number corresponds to a letter.
(Hint: 4 = E)

A. 11 21 3 26 4 7
Clue: Move from point A to B

B. 11 8 21 4 24
Clue: Rubber wheels

C. 4 16 4 21 25 8 24 4
Clue: Physical activity

D. 11 21 3 8 7
Clue: Path

Answers: A. travel B. tires C. exercise D. trail

SUDOKU

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

Level: Intermediate

Fun By The Numbers

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

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

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

ANSWER:



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WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Real Nice Set on .68 Acres of Park Lake Grounds with 297' Waterfront! Over \$4 Million Spent! Nothing was Spared! 18 Spacious Rooms! 5 Water View Bedrooms, 4 with their Own Bathrooms! 5.5 Bathrooms Total! Brazilian Cherry Hardwood Floors, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator from the Ground Floor up 3 to the Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bathroom with Steam Shower just off the Mirrored Exercise Room! Billiard Room! Media Room with Custom Cabinetry & Wet Bar! Fantastic Center Island Granite Kitchen with Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Refrigerator, 16' Butler's Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Floor Plan! Dining Area, Family Room with Cherry Entertainment Center & Wet Bar! Open Formal Dining Room, Fireplace Living Room & Atrium! Library with Private Deck! Waterfront Master Suite with Private Office, Bedroom with Triple Glass Door to its Private Deck with Panoramic Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Lake View Bathroom with Huge Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool Tub, Double Vanity Sinks & Separate Commode/Bidet! Pedestal Sink Area! 16 Zones of Updated Geothermal Heat & Air Conditioning - 30 Tons! Recessed Lighting & Sprinkler System Through Out! 3 Car Heated Garage! Full House Generator! Slate Roof! All Decks & Railings Brazilian Ipe Hardwood! Copper Gutters & Downspouts! It's Time to Reward Yourself! **\$2,149,900.00**

DUDLEY WATERFRONT! 14 Elizabeth St! Sought After Merino Pond, AKA High Pond! Full Recreational - All Water Sports and Activities! Your Kids will Love the Sandy Beach! 7 Rm Colonial! First Floor Features a Spacious Eat-in Country Kitchen w/Tons of Cabinet Space, Plenty of Room for a Huge Dining Table, Island w/Lunch Counter, Laundry Closet, Pantry Closet & Entry Closet! Comfortable 13 X 26' Living Rm! Possible Office or Bedroom off the Kitchen! Full Tile Bathroom! Second Floor w/4 Possible Bedrooms, 2 w/Water Views! Convenient Second Full Bathroom! Full Storage Basement! 2 Zone Oil Baseboard Heat! Town Services! **\$379,900.00**

SUTTON - 30 Jones Rd! 9 Room 2,156' Colonial! 5.31 Acres of Privacy! Long Circular Drive! New Granite Kitchen! Dining, Living & Fireplaced Family Rooms w/Hardwood Floors! Year Round Sunroom w/2 Skylights! 3 Bedrooms! 24' Master w/ Master Bath! 2.5 Bathrooms Total! 12x24 3 Season Porch w/3 Skylights! Expandable Attic! Wraparound Deck! 2 Car Garage! Central Air! Super Easy Access to Rte 146! **\$549,900.00**



DUDLEY - 10 Camelot Circle 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath, 2,520' Center Hall Colonial featuring an In-Ground Pool on a 28,131' Lot! Tile Entry Foyer w/ Guest Closet! SS Appliance Granite Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Spacious Dining Area, Tile Flr, Pantry Closet, Recessed & Pendant Lighting! Formal Din Rm w/Hrdwd Flr & Chair Rail! Formal Liv Rm w/Crown Molding! 13.6X27' Fam Rm w/Fireplace w/Wood Pellet Insert, Soaring Cathedral Ceiling, Ceiling Fans & Skylight! Half Bath! 3 Season Porch! 1st Flr Laundry! The 2nd Floor w/4 Bdrms! Spacious Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Dble Granite Vanity! Full Hall Bath w/Dble Vanity! C/Air & Vac! 2 Car Garage! Fire Pit! Many Updates! Original Owner - Pride of Ownership! **\$509,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rooms, 6 Bedrooms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' A/C'd Colonial! Custom SS Appliance Granite Kitchen! Formal Dining Rm w/ Cherry Hardwoods! Lake Facing Living Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hardwoods! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bedroom w/Full Bath, Cherry Hardwoods & Walk-in Closet! Fireplaced Lower Level Family Rm! 1st & 2nd Floor Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$979,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE - 504 Treasure Island! 6 Room Townhouse Overlooking the Pool! 1,874 Sq Ft! Stainless Steel Appliance Granite Kitchen! Open Floor Plan! Dining Room - Full Mirrored Wall - Sliders to the Trex Deck! 2 Bedrooms! Master Bath! 2.5 Baths! Fireplaced Family Room! Garage! Central Air! Gas Heat! C/Vac! 2 BOAT SLIPS! Sandy Beach! Complex Recent Siding & Roof! **\$389,900.00**



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Heritage Pines Condo Town House - Everything one would expect and then more! 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths, all Hardwood floors, granite, stainless steel appliances, central air, 2 decks, 2800 sq ft +/- of finished living area, and so much more! **\$329,900.**

June Cazeault * Laurie Sullivan * Matthew Ross * Lori Johnson-Chausse * William Gilmore II * Brian Bohenko

WATERFRONT THOMPSON - BECOLA RD



ON DEPOSIT

5+ Acre Waterfront Land On "Little Pond/ Schoolhouse Pond. Private Setting. Open Field. 250+ feet Waterfrontage. Dead end road! **\$179,900**

FEATURED NEW LISTING - WEBSTER - 22 ELAINE STREET



Bonnett Acres - Beautiful Residential Neighborhood! 3 bedroom Ranch, Hardwoods, cabinet packed kitchen! Tile bath, partially finished lower level! 20' X 12' deck! Garage! all on a nice level lot. Private well plus town water & sewer! A must see. **\$255,000.**

FEATURED NEW LISTING - WEBSTER - 135 LAKE STREET



2 THUMBS UP! A RARE FIND! A TRULY ABOVE AVERAGE-TOP NOTCH-HIGH QUALITY-TWO FAMILY! SPACIOUS, CLEAN, UPDATED & EXTREMELY WELL MAINTAINED! Apt# 2 - 1,536 SF+ & 3 BRs on the 2nd Flr. Apt# 1 - 1,290 SF+ & 2 BRs on the 1st floor. Perfect setup for the INLAWS or MORTGAGE HELPERS. 1st Flr. HWBB By Oil, 2nd Flr apt. HWBB by natural gas. Spacious Rooms, High Ceilings, Impeccable hardwood flrs & solid doors, granite tops, laundry hookups in ea. unit. Incredible Common Areas to Enjoy like the L-Shaped Covered Farmers Porch! Level Lot! **\$399,900.**

LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

Webster - Douglas Rd (Rte. 16) 26 ACRES on Sugarloaf Hill. 1000+/- ft of road frontage

SORRY SOLD! \$200,000

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! **\$89,900**

Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. **\$115,000.**

Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **ON DEPOSIT! Each \$24,500.**

WEBSTER - 99 UPPER GORE ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Location! Scenic, Upper Gore! "BIRDS EYE VIEW" of Webster Lake! Spacious Tr-Level. 2,279 sf., 4 BRS, 1 full Bath, 2 half baths. Inground pool. 2 Car Garage **\$275,000.**

WEBSTER - 155 THOMPSON ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Terrific opportunity for one Large business or Several businesses. 4784 sq bldg. Zoned B5. Off I395 exit 1. High Traffic & Visibility. Excellent Location! assisted sale **\$695,000.**

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WORCESTER - 28-L BOSTON AVE



SORRY, SOLD!

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WEBSTER • 233 - 235 NORTH MAIN STREET



SORRY, SOLD!

large 3 Family- a rare find! 1st Floor spacious 2 bedroom apartment. 2 - 2nd floor, 3 bedroom apartments Walkout basement to off street parking. **\$289,900.**

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Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave



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EDUCATION

Spencer residents graduate from Anna Maria College

The below Spencer residents graduated with the Class of 2021 from Anna Maria College.

Korey L. Dillon	Master of Education
Alexandra R. Zajko	Master of Arts
Ryan J. Morton	Bachelor of Science
Magdalene Njuguna	Bachelor of Arts
Scott D. Brooks	Bachelor of Arts

Ethan Grenier Graduates from Ithaca College

ITHACA, NY (06/28/2021)-- Ethan Grenier of Spencer (01562) graduated from Ithaca College with a BS in Business Administration.

About Ithaca College

Founded in 1892, Ithaca College is a residential college dedicated to building knowledge and confidence through a continuous cycle of theory, practice and performance. Home to some 5,000 students, the college offers more than 100 degree programs in its schools of Business, Communications, Humanities and Sciences, Health Sciences and Human Performance, and Music.

Students, faculty and staff at Ithaca College create an active, inclusive community anchored in a keen desire to make a difference in the local community and the broader world. The college is consistently ranked as one of the nation's top producers of Fulbright scholars, one of the most LGBTQ+ friendly schools in the country, and one of the top 10 colleges in the Northeast.

Justin Howard Named to the American International College Dean's List for Spring Semester 2021

SPRINGFIELD, MA (06/23/2021)- Justin Howard, of W Brookfield, has been named to the American International College (AIC) Dean's List for Spring Semester 2021. Dean's List students are full time students who have achieved a 3.3 to 4.0 GPA. AIC commends the accomplishments the Dean's List scholars for their efforts during an unprecedented year.

Founded in 1885, American International College (AIC) is a private, co-educational, doctoral granting institution located in Springfield, Massachusetts, comprising the School of Business, Arts and Sciences, the School of Education, and the School of Health Sciences. AIC supports and advances education, diversity, and opportunity for its students and the community.

Tessa O'Leary Named to Dean's List at Ithaca College

ITHACA, NY (06/24/2021)-- Ithaca College student Tessa O'Leary of Rochdale (01542) was named to the Dean's List for the spring 2021 semester.

About Ithaca College

Founded in 1892, Ithaca College is

a residential college dedicated to building knowledge and confidence through a continuous cycle of theory, practice and performance. Home to some 5,000 students, the college offers more than 100 degree programs in its schools of Business, Communications, Humanities and Sciences, Health Sciences and Human Performance, and Music.

Students, faculty and staff at Ithaca College create an active, inclusive community anchored in a keen desire to make a difference in the local community and the broader world. The college is consistently ranked as one of the nation's top producers of Fulbright scholars, one of the most LGBTQ+ friendly schools in the country, and one of the top 10 colleges in the Northeast.

Local student earns Dean's List recognition at Norwich University

NORTHFIELD, Vt. - The following student from your readership area has been recognized on the Dean's List at Norwich University for the Spring 2021 semester: Benjamin Dae Berthiaume, North Brookfield (01535) Full-time undergraduate students, who earned a semester grade point average of at least 3.40 and had no failures in the previous Fall or Spring semester are awarded Dean's List honors. These students cannot have any pending Incomplete (I) grades. Dean's List honors are noted on the official transcript each term earned. In addition to the above criteria, students in the Spring 2021 semester had to meet the following criteria in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which introduced the option for students to choose an alternative grading system or to maintain earned letter grades. To be eligible for President's (GPA 4.0) and Dean's lists (GPA 3.40) for the Spring 2021 Semester, students must have additionally maintained full time enrollment for the Spring 2021 Semester, chosen to keep letter grades in at least 12 credits of classes, and must not have received any Incomplete or No Pass grades. About Norwich University Norwich University is a diversified academic institution that educates traditional-age students and adults in a Corps of Cadets and as civilians. Norwich offers a broad selection of traditional and distance-learning programs culminating in Baccalaureate and Graduate Degrees. Norwich University was founded in 1819 by Captain Alden Partridge of the U.S. Army and is the oldest private military college in the United States of America. Norwich is one of our nation's six senior military colleges and the birthplace of the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC). www.norwich.edu

Local High School Student Named Rensselaer Medal Winner Award recognizes promising students who excel in math and science

Troy, N.Y. - For more than 100 years, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, in

conjunction with high schools around the world, has awarded the Rensselaer Medal and scholarship to promising high school juniors who have distinguished themselves in mathematics and science. Rensselaer is pleased to announce the 2021 winners of the Rensselaer Medal.

Jenna Dupell who hails from North Brookfield, MA, is this year's honoree. Jenna Dupell is a student enrolled at North Brookfield Jr. Sr. High School.

"The Rensselaer Medal is a wonderful way to pay tribute to the high school students who have achieved excellence in math and science," said Karen Long, director of undergraduate admissions. "As we do so, we are aware that these early achievements, as impressive as they are, mark only one milestone on their future journeys of commitment to hard work, drive, focus, and collaborations. The Rensselaer Medal winners represent the next generation of leaders, scientists, innovators, artists, scholars, game designers, architects, humanitarians, and entrepreneurs."

The Rensselaer Medal was first presented in 1916 with two purposes: to recognize the superlative academic achievement of young men and women, and to motivate students toward careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) disciplines.

The Medal, the oldest prize of its kind in the United States, is awarded at more than 5,000 high schools throughout North America, Latin America, Europe, and Asia. More than 150 Medalists enroll in each freshman class at Rensselaer.

Each participating high school is allowed to select one member of the junior class to be honored with the Rensselaer Medal Award. The responsibility for designating the Rensselaer Medalist belongs to faculty and staff within the secondary school.

The merit scholarship, with a value of \$30,000 per year, is guaranteed for four years (five years for the Bachelor of Architecture program) for each Medalist who is accepted and enrolls at Rensselaer.

For more information, contact the Medal Program in the Office of Admissions, at (518) 276-6216 or via email at medal.program@rpi.edu.

About Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, founded in 1824, is America's first technological research university. For nearly 200 years, Rensselaer has been defining the scientific and technological advances of our world. Rensselaer faculty and alumni represent 86 members of the National Academy of Engineering, 18 members of the National Academy of Sciences, 26 members of the American Academy of Arts and

Sciences, 8 members of the National Academy of Medicine, 8 members of the National Academy of Inventors, and 5 members of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, as well as 6 National Medal of Technology winners, 5 National Medal of Science winners, and a Nobel Prize winner in Physics. With 7,000 students and nearly 100,000 living alumni, Rensselaer is addressing the global challenges facing the 21st century- to change lives, to advance society, and to change the world. To learn more, go to www.rpi.edu.

Springfield College Recognizes 2021 Graduates

SPRINGFIELD, MA (06/25/2021)-- Springfield College Recognizes the following local 2021 graduates:

Shelby Tytula of West Brookfield, MA has earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Applied Exercise Science.

Marlena Zaniewski of Brookfield, MA has earned a Master of Social Work degree in Social Work.

Springfield College concluded its 2021 Commencement Weekend ceremonies with eight separate in-person ceremonies at Stagg Field on the Springfield College main campus, four on Saturday, May 15 and four on Sunday, May 16.

"To the Class of 2021, I congratulate you and I thank you, you have made us proud in more ways than we can count," said Springfield College President Mary-Beth Cooper. "Please remember to stay connected to us and to each other. Through the Springfield College network, great things can be accomplished. And remember to come back and visit us. You will always have a home here. All the best as you continue your journeys."

Springfield College is an independent, nonprofit, coeducational institution founded in 1885. Approximately 4,100 students, including 2,500 full-time undergraduate students, study at its main campus in Springfield, Mass., and at its regional campuses across the country. Springfield College inspires students through the guiding principles of its Humanics philosophy - educating in spirit, mind, and body for leadership in service to others.

Local Residents named to Spring 2021 Dean's List at Saint Michael's College

COLCHESTER, Vt. (Grassroots Newswire) June 28, 2021 - The following local students were named to the Dean's List at Saint Michael's College for the Spring 2021 semester.

* Mikayla Halloran, a senior psychology & education studies major from Spencer (01562) and a graduate of David Prouty High School. * Catherine O'Donnell, a senior international relations & education studies major from Warren (01083) and a graduate of Quaboag Regional High School.

About Saint Michael's College Saint Michael's College, founded in the great Catholic intellectual tradition, which also recognizes the principles of social justice and compassion, is a selective, fully residential Catholic college in Vermont's beautiful Green Mountains. Our closely connected community delivers internationally-respected liberal arts and graduate education near Burlington, one of the country's best college towns. To prepare for fulfilling careers and meaningful lives, young adults here grow intellectually, socially, and morally, learning to be responsible for themselves, each other and their world.

University of New Hampshire's Dean's List for the Spring 2021 Semester

DURHAM, NH (06/24/2021)-- The following students have been named to the Dean's List at the University of New Hampshire for the spring 2021 semester.

Turn To **EDUCATION** page **A18**



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The history of America’s Independence Day

Few summertime holidays elicit as much excitement as the Fourth of July, also known as Independence Day in the United States. Each year, family, friends and revelers anticipate the arrival of the holiday so they can host barbecues, enjoy the sun, listen to their favorite summertime tunes, and commemorate the freedoms afforded by the monumental events that led to the holiday’s establishment.

Independence Day became a federal holiday in 1941, but July 4th has stood as the birth of American independence for much longer. July 4th marks a pivotal moment in the American Revolution. According to PBS, the colonies were forced to pay taxes to England’s King George III despite having no representation in the British Parliament. “Taxation without representation” became a battle cry and was one of several grievances colonists had with Great Britain.

Conflict between the colonies had been going on for at least a year before the colonies convened a Continental Congress in Philadelphia in June of 1776, says Military.com. On July 2,

1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence from England. Two days later, on July 4, 1776, delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence.

The Declaration of Independence is an historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. Jefferson was considered the strongest and most eloquent writer of the declaration writing committee charged with putting the colonies’ sentiments into words. Richard Henry Lee of Virginia was one of the first people to present a resolution for American independence, and his commentary was the impetus for the formal Declaration of Independence. A total of 86 changes were made to Jefferson’s original draft until the final version was adopted. The signing of the document helped to solidify independence, and eventually lead to the formation of the United States of America.

A total of 56 delegates signed the document. Although John Hancock’s signature is the largest, it did not hold more weight than the other signatures. Rather, rumor has it, Hancock signed it so large so that the “fat, old King



could read it without his spectacles.” However, the National Archives says it was also customary that, since Hancock was the president of the Continental Congress, he be the first person to sign the document centered below the text.

The Pennsylvania Evening Post was the first newspaper to print the Declaration of Independence on July 6, 1776. The first public readings of the Declaration were held in Philadelphia’s Independence Square on July 8, 1776.

EDUCATION

continued from page A17

Caitlin Morrison of Rochdale, MA for earning Honors

Jacqueline Robidoux of Rochdale, MA for earning High Honors

Benjamin Butensky of Spencer, MA for earning High Honors

Students named to the Dean’s List at the University of New Hampshire are students who have earned recognition through their superior scholastic performance during a semester enrolled in a full-time course load (12 or more graded credits). Highest honors are awarded to students who earn a semester grade point average of 3.85 or better out of a possible 4.0. Students with a 3.65 to 3.84 average are awarded high honors and students whose grade point average is 3.5 through 3.64 are awarded honors.

The University of New Hampshire is a flagship research university that inspires innovation and transforms lives in our state, nation and world.

More than 16,000 students from all 50 states and 71 countries engage with an award-winning faculty in top ranked programs in business, engineering, law, liberal arts and the sciences across more than 200 programs of study. UNH’s research portfolio includes partnerships with NASA, NOAA, NSF and NIH, receiving more than \$100 million in competitive external funding every year to further explore and define the frontiers of land, sea and space.

To learn more about the opportunities at the University of New Hampshire visit: www.unh.edu.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute Announces Spring 2021 Dean’s List

WORCESTER, MA (06/24/2021)– The criteria for the WPI Dean’s List differs from most other universities as WPI does not compute a grade point average

(GPA). Instead, WPI defines the Dean’s List by the amount of work completed at the A level in courses and projects. The following undergraduates were named to the Spring 2021 Dean’s List:

Shayne Barton of Spencer, MA class of 21 majoring in Mechanical Engineering
Emily Stead of Leicester, MA class of 21 majoring in Biology and Biotechnology

James Copeland of Leicester, MA class of 22 majoring in Biomedical Engineering

Morgan Emery of Rochdale, MA class of 22 majoring in Civil Engineering

Megan Cyr of Spencer, MA class of 23 majoring in Biology and Biotechnology

Jack O’Neill of Leicester, MA class of 24 majoring in Mechanical Engineering
About Worcester Polytechnic Institute

WPI, a global leader in project-based learning, is a distinctive, top-tier technological university founded in 1865 on the principle that students learn most effec-

tively by applying the theory learned in the classroom to the practice of solving real-world problems. Recognized by the National Academy of Engineering with the 2016 Bernard M. Gordon Prize for Innovation in Engineering and Technology Education, WPI’s pioneering project-based curriculum engages undergraduates in solving important scientific, technological, and societal problems throughout their education and at more than 50 project centers around the world. WPI offers more than 70 bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree programs across 17 academic departments in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts. Its faculty and students pursue groundbreaking research to meet ongoing challenges in health and biotechnology; robotics and the internet of things; advanced materials and manufacturing; cyber, data, and security systems; learning science; and more. www.wpi.edu

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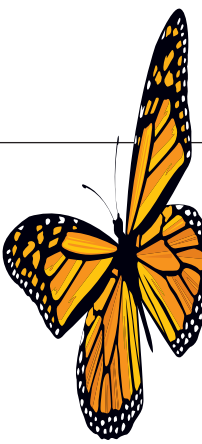
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We will be closed on July 4th, and open July 5th from 11am - 4pm

Be sure to check our website for weekly specials!

Rt. 20, 630 Main St. • Sturbridge, MA 01566 • 508-347-7077
Open 7 Days a Week • 11am-7pm - ENTRANCE IN BACK

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Rating system for: Health Inspections, Staffing and Quality Measures.

Dive Into A Rewarding New Career this summer
We are grateful to be a part of this wonderful community. Thank you for "social distancing" to keep us all safe. We hope you'll consider Quaboag as your next career move.

Positions Available

7.5K SIGN-ON BONUS FOR FULL TIME EVENING & OVERNIGHT NURSES FOR A LIMITED TIME

CNAs all shifts (sign-on 3k)
Nurse day shift (5k sign-on)
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• Referral Bonus (for when you bring a friend)
• Education Reimbursement

We are a Deficiency-Free community facility in a beautiful small town with a family feel.



For more information please contact: Julie Stapleton at 508.867.7716
Or apply online at: quaboagonthecommon.com

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

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

"In the time that I have been working at Quaboag I have witnessed the well-being and comfort of the residents as the main priority of the facility. The facility is centered around patient care and is designed in the best interest of the residents." — Lynnea T. (CNA)