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Friday, March 12, 2021

Project 351 nomination takes local student by surprise

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD – Knox Trail Middle School eighth grader Alivia Sauvageau was surprised by her Project 351 nomination, and she looks forward to representing her school.

One eighth grade student from each town and city in the Commonwealth is selected to take part in the program each year. Project 351 usually involves a day of community service in Boston neighborhoods, but this year the program will be virtual.

For Sauvageau, who lives in East Brookfield, it means a lot to be chosen for the project by her teachers and administrators. She is eager to immerse herself in the Project 351 experience and find new ways to help the community.

"Being a Project 351 representative means giving back to people and doing everything we can for everyone less fortunate than us," Sauvageau told the New Leader. "It's being a role model for your community and trying to change some vital issue that this world has."

Sauvageau keeps herself very busy outside of school, taking part in several activities. She's been riding horses at least twice a week since she was five, and she also enjoys playing softball. Additionally, she volunteers at Second Chance Animal Shelter and Hearts and Hooves Rescue and Sanctuary, both in East Brookfield.

Sauvageau's family is also heavily involved in community service and volunteerism. She has been able to learn from them over the years and get involved at an early age.

"My grandma runs the Spencer Toys For Kids every Christmas, and I've been helping since I was probably seven," said Sauvageau, who has also served as a Peer Leader at KTMS for two years. "I love seeing how happy my help makes people and animals alike. It's always great when we bring the bags of presents out to the parents when we do Toys For



Photo Courtesy

Knox Trail Middle School eighth grader Alivia Sauvageau was chosen as a Project 351 ambassador.

Kids. I've seen parents start crying and hugging everyone."

Looking ahead, Sauvageau will have even more opportunities to get involved and give back as part of Project 351. The program is holding a virtual launch event this month.

Turn To **ALIVIA**, page **A2**

Local legislators work to expand vaccination options for seniors

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Local legislators and first responders continue to team up to ensure that seniors have convenient options for COVID-19 vaccinations.

Vaccine appointments continue to be booked at the regional site in Rutland. Spencer residents have taken full advantage of the close proximity, and officials urge seniors to register as soon as possible. Vaccine locations in Southbridge and Worcester have also seen a surge of residents from the Route 9 corridor.

"Spots have been filling up very quickly. If you're looking for a close site, you will want to schedule right away," said Spencer Fire Chief Robert Parsons.

Officials at all levels have been working hard to help seniors navigate the vaccine registration process. Sen. Anne Gobi has coordinated with local fire chiefs and other leaders to ensure that no seniors fall through the cracks.

"[Rutland] Fire Chief [Seth] Knipe will be in touch with the area chiefs to coordinate," Gobi said late last month. "I also requested that there be a plan in place to vaccinate homebound residents. I appreciate all that our communities have done to serve the residents in a timely and professional way."

Seniors and their family members are encouraged to keep an eye out for new vaccine sites that are opening up locally. Existing sites will also

Turn To **VACCINATIONS**, page **A2**



Photo Courtesy

Power lines were down throughout the area during the March 1-2 windstorm, causing thousands of outages.

Leicester middle schooler speaks during virtual summit

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Education analysts across the country are eager to hear directly from students about their learning experiences during the pandemic. Last month, a local eighth grader had the opportunity to share his thoughts as part of a virtual summit.

Leicester Middle School student Jack Ledbetter was selected to participate in a Feb. 26 summit run by Tech and Learning. The organization and its publications disseminate information on educational trends, products, and strategies.

Over the past year, Tech and Learning has focused heavily on researching the educational models employed during COVID-19. For Ledbetter, it was a thrill to convey his experiences during the unprecedented 2020-21 school year.

"It really is amazing to have the opportunity to speak at such a big event. Not many students have been able to speak on learning through COVID matters, so that makes it ten times more meaningful to know that I might be paving the way for students and their voices," Ledbetter told the New Leader.

Turn To **JACK**, page **A4**



Photo Courtesy

Leicester Middle School eighth grader Jack Ledbetter recently took part in a virtual education summit.

Windstorm leaves thousands in the dark

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – March roared in like a lion last week, pummeling the region with damaging winds.

At the height of the March 1 & 2 windstorm, thousands of customers throughout the area were without power. Spencer was especially hard hit, with widespread outages causing schools to be closed and the emergency shelter at Knox Trail Middle School to open on March 2.

Wind gusts topped 60 miles per hour along the Route 9 corridor, combined with temperatures that didn't exceed the twenties. For many residents, early March felt more like January.

"There were several outages all over town, but especially in the southern part of town," said Spencer Fire Chief Robert Parsons.

Leicester emergency management officials nearly activated their shelter as well, but crews were able to clear most roads in a timely fashion.

"The Highway Department was quick to react to several trees blocking streets, as well as National Grid to shut off power where we had trees on live wires," said Leicester Police Chief Ken Antanavica. "Once the Highway Department cleared the trees, they restored the power in short order. All in all, the town fared pretty well, except for some tree-related property damage to private homes in the area."

By the end of the day on March 2, most Spencer and Leicester customers had the lights back on. Other area towns also saw significant wind damage, including downed power lines, damaged vehicles, and minor structural damage to homes.

In Brimfield, Dunhamtown Palmer Road was closed for several hours due to wires strewn across the road. Sturbridge residents contended with the extended closure of Holland Road, and major tree damage was also reported on Woodlawn Drive.

QCC's Dental Assisting Program highlighted during Dental Assistant Recognition Week

WORCESTER — During the week of March 7, the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) will recognize the invaluable contributions these healthcare workers make to quality dental care through Dental Assistant Recognition Week,™ held each year on the first full week on March.

Quinsigamond Community College's Dental Assisting Certificate program has become an important part of the education landscape in Massachusetts and dental assistants who graduate from the College are making important contributions to the region.

"We are continually getting calls from dentists in the area looking for quality assistants," said Professor of Dental Assisting/Hygiene, Jennifer McKeon. "This demonstrates the value that is placed on graduates from QCC's program."

As the only program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation in Worcester, students who come from QCC's program often have job offers before they graduate, according to Ms.

McKeon.

"Our students can take their Certified Dental Assistant (CDA) exam in the last few weeks of the program so they are credentialed with Dental Assisting National Board and are a certified dental assistant when they graduate," she added.

The one-year Dental Assisting Certificate program prepares graduates to perform a wide range of patient care duties in the dental office that includes hands-on education in digital radiography, as well as taking part in the College's state-of-the-art dental materials lab. Lab equipment such as CAD/CAM technology; digital cameras, a milling machine that can make crowns; a high-tech scanner; staining unit and oven, and other cutting-edge dental equipment help students become proficient on equipment they might one day work within a dental office.

Students also have the opportunity to experience different avenues of dentistry while in the program, by being placed in different offices, such as an

oral surgeon's office and an orthodontist's office.

Additionally, students who complete the program will be prepared to continue their studies at the Associate's degree level in such disciplines as allied dental services or dental hygiene.

"We have a bridge program that allows two students every year from the dental assisting program to bridge into the dental hygiene program and bypass the waitlist. Student must have all the admission requirements for the dental hygiene program to qualify to bypass the waitlist," Ms. McKeon said.

According to the state's Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, the number of Massachusetts dental assistant jobs is projected to grow by 12.5 percent over a 10-year period ending in 2022.

To learn more, visit www.QCC.edu. For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

QCC receives millions to help drive student success

QCC receives millions to help drive student success

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College has received \$2.4 million in federal emergency funds from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund II, authorized by the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSAA), to support students. The College has also allocated an additional \$1 million in institutional funds to assist students during the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic.

"This unprecedented time in our history requires us to dig deep and support our students in every possible way. This funding will go a long way in helping students realize their dreams of a better life," said President Luis G. Pedraja, Ph.D. "QCC is the first choice for many students in our region, from traditional high school students, non-traditional students, and students interested in beginning their education to transfer to a four-year college or university."

QCC has continued to increase its support services since the onset of the Coronavirus/COVID-19 pandemic, recognizing the financial challenges many students are currently facing.

"Students have lost jobs, or had their hours decreased, and are now facing emergency expenses. Yet they continue to persevere in their quest for a better life through higher education. Our goal is to make sure that every student who has a dream for a quality education can obtain one," Dr. Pedraja said.

The College instituted a Student Emergency Fund for students in significant hardship at the onset of the pandemic. These funds are also available to students exempt from receiving certain federal aid due to citizenship, residency or enrollment status. Thanks to the Student Emergency Fund, 571 students have received emergency aid to date.

"It is imperative we do everything we can to help our students mitigate the cost of higher education. In today's economy, people are realizing that minimizing debt through affordable college options is a smarter decision that will have positive and far-reaching implications," Dr. Pedraja said.

For more information about QCC, contact Josh Martin, Director of Institutional Communications at 508-854-7513 or jmartin@qcc.mass.edu.

QUABOAG SENIOR SIGNS WITH ST. MICHAEL'S



Photo Courtesy

Senior Paisleigh Atwood, a five-year starter for the Quaboag Regional Field Hockey Team, made it official as she signed a National Letter of Intent to attend Division 2 St. Michael's College in Colchester, Vt. At St. Michael's, she will play for Coach Carla Hesler. Atwood, a two-time captain and team MVP, led the Cougars to three MIAA, Central Massachusetts, Division 2 tournaments - two of these being Sectional final appearances. Quaboag captured the Southern Worcester County League West Division title three times. During a Covid shortened 2020 season, Quaboag finished 8-1-1 (no league or tournament play). Paisleigh was also a member of the Worcester Telegram Division 2 Honor Team and Massachusetts State Field Hockey Coaches Association Academic All-State Team.



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.

P.A.L. of the Week

Sponsored by Leicester Veterinary Clinic, LLC

Name: Buster

Breed: DSH

Sex: Male

Age: Adult



Buster Brown is one handsome dude! He is a big boy who was found as a stray in a local town. Buster has a reserved but friendly personality. He is very inquisitive and he loves to watch the birds at the bird feeder. In spite of being found outside, we think he would be happy being an indoor companion. He is good with the other cats at the shelter and there is history indicating that he is good with dogs. Buster has great tiger markings and he really is a nice boy.

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Veterinarian

PERSON of the WEEK

SUSAN SADUSKY, Spencer, MA

Susan is our Person of the Week for her service for 28 years working for the Spencer/East Brookfield Regional School District. Her hard work, dedication and tireless support of the Student Services Department deserves to be acknowledged.

Thank you Susan for your long-time service and commitment to the communities of the SEBRSD!

— Submitted by Melissa Pervier, Warren, MA

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

Person of the Week is sponsored by:

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Nomination Papers for the Town of East Brookfield are available from the Town Clerk's office—call 508-867-6769 x301 to schedule pickup!

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Board of Assessors (1 3yr), Planning Board (3 3yr),
Board of Health (1 3yr), Cemetery Commissioners (1 3yr),
Trustees of Shade Trees/Cemetery Funds (1 3yr),
Finance Committee (1 3yr), Trustees of Public Library (2 3yr), Tree Warden (1 1yr), SEBRD-EB Rep (1 3yr).

Candidate must be resident;

Finance Committee must also be registered voter.

Minimum 20 signatures of registered voters needed for nomination.

Deadline for returning papers to Board of Registrars is March 23.

Annual Town Election scheduled for May 11, 2021.

West Brookfield
Historical commission
announces scholarship

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

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

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

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

All applicants will have until April 8 to turn in their Scholarship application

and essay to info@westbrookfield.org or West Brookfield Historical Commission, PO Box 372, W. Brookfield, MA 01585.

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

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

Le Moyne College
names Kelly Krull to
Dean’s List

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Kelly Krull, a Junior Political Science major from Leicester, has been named to the Le Moyne College Fall 2020 Dean’s List. To make the list, students must achieve a GPA of 3.5 or above.

Located in a suburban setting on a picturesque 160-acre campus in Syracuse, N.Y., Le Moyne College is one of only 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States. Offering more than 30 majors, Le Moyne provides a values-based education that helps students explore their potential through academics, experience and service. In 2020, for the eighth consecutive year, Le Moyne was ranked by The Princeton Review as one of the nation’s best institutions for undergraduate education, an honor achieved by only 15 percent of the colleges and universities in the nation. A Le Moyne education provides students with the intellectual skills necessary to succeed in the world and the will to use their abilities to promote a more just society.

Spencer native
launches new
podcast

SPENCER – A Spencer native is getting ready to launch an eclectic new podcast, and he invites residents to check out the show.

Bret Herholz will serve as the host of The Mental Suppository, a podcast featuring pop culture, pulp fiction, animation news, and comic nostalgia in a multi-dimension format.

The podcast is supported by M the Media Project, a grassroots initiative that features a wide array of audio and video offerings. The first episode of the podcast will go live on Friday, March 19.

Herholz, a 1994 graduate of David Prouty High School, attended Savannah College of Art and Design. He went on to become an accomplished illustrator and script writer.

Herholz is excited to lead the podcast and focus on all things pop culture. Residents can check out The Mental Suppository by visiting www.facebook.com/mentalsuppository.

The show will also feature interviews with stars of animation and illustration. Additional segments will include regular live-script reading features, remote live events, and activities for subscribers.

Early episodes of the podcast will feature interviews with authors like Johan Michaels and Flint Dillie. Viewers will also enjoy a discussion about Batman the animated series and the genre of horror movies.

Herholz is supported by members of the comicon and pop culture community, including sound designer Jamie Billings, filmmaker-photographer Andrew Shanley, and radioman Kevin



Photo Courtesy

Spencer native Bret Herholz will host a new podcast.

URI students named to
Dean’s List

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

Julia Cierpich of Charlton
Charlotte Doubleday of Uxbridge
Elena Franzosa of Uxbridge
Jenny Frick of Uxbridge
Emma Kraich of Uxbridge
Alex Matkowski of Uxbridge
Rachel McGee of Uxbridge
Sarah McGee of Uxbridge
Taylor Perry of Uxbridge
Mina Roufail of Charlton
Julia Vanelli of Uxbridge
Eric Vario of Uxbridge

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

As a public Land Grant University in a highly competitive region in the United States, URI carefully monitors and manages its tuition and fee rates to remain one of the most affordable universities in the Northeast for both in-state and out-of-state students. An estimated 90% of undergraduate students receive annual financial aid and

institutional support

The University’s total fall 2020 enrollment of 17,649 students comprises 15,393 full- and part-time undergraduate students, including 748 pharmacy six-year professional practice, and 2,256 full- and part-time graduate students. About 52% of the total student body is from Rhode Island and 48% are from out of state or foreign countries. The student body includes students from 48 U.S. states and territories, and 67 nations.

The University of Rhode Island’s pioneering research in ocean, environmental and health sciences extends the University’s influence well beyond its coastal borders, while its interdisciplinary courses provide students with unique opportunities and experiences.

Over the last ten years, the University has completed more than \$710 million in capital projects, including new construction, and renovation and rehabilitation of existing buildings across its four campuses. The University’s campus locations, include the main campus, located on 1,248 acres in rural Kingston, the Graduate School of Oceanography, located on 165 acres on Narragansett Bay, the W. Alton Jones Campus in West Greenwich, a 1,200-acre nature preserve, the Alan Shawn Feinstein College of Education and Professional Studies and the Rhode Island Nursing Education Center, both in the capital city of Providence, R.I.

JACK
continued from page A1

The theme of this year’s summit was “Leading and Learning Beyond COVID.” Students from throughout the nation were selected to speak about their learning environments, as well as improvements they would like to see made to virtual and hybrid learning.

For Leicester school officials, it was an honor to have one of their students participate in the summit. Information gathered at the summit will help improve educational best practices nationwide.

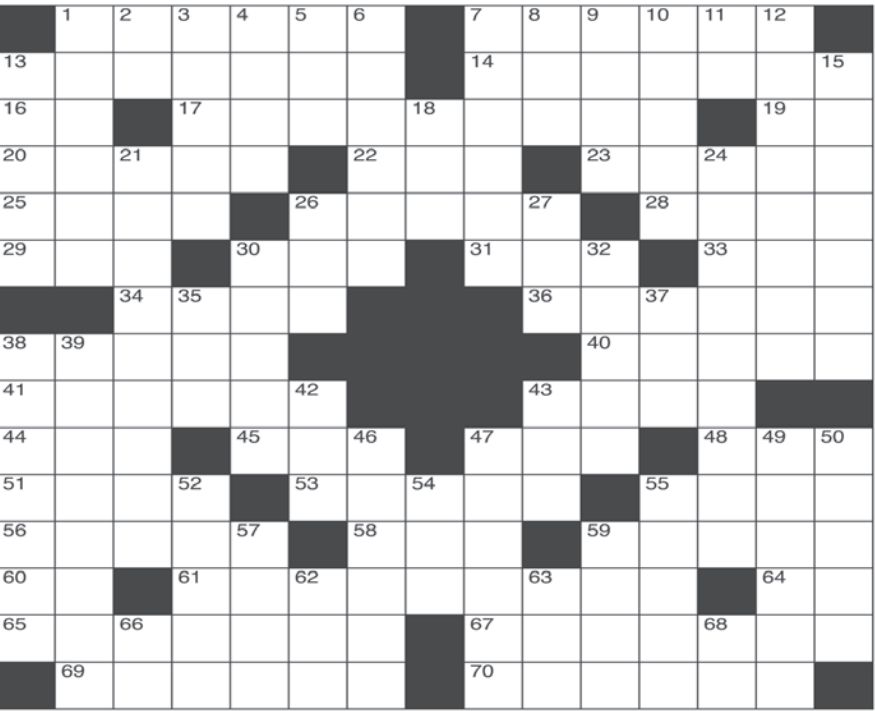
“We are so proud of Jack for representing our school and our communi-

ty by sharing how we are navigating this pandemic,” said LMS Principal Christopher Fontaine. “Jack is a leader both in the classroom and throughout our school. As a member of our National Junior Honor Society, he helps create positive culture within our school, even during these difficult times.”

Added LMS Assistant Principal Beth Johnson, “Jack is the rare student who combines athleticism, an impressive work ethic, a scholarly nature, and an engaging personality. He is constantly looking for ways he can make a difference, and has already done a great deal to improve our school and help his classmates. His presentation at this conference reminded us all of how confident and authoritative he already is at age 14.”

Looking ahead, school officials hope to continue identifying chances for Leicester students to shine on the national stage.

“One of our goals is to branch outside the zip code and find more opportunities for our students and community,” said Matthew Joseph, Leicester’s director of curriculum, instruction, and assessment.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Large dung beetle
- 7. Representation of a plan
- 13. In a fervid way
- 14. The Book of Psalms
- 16. Morning
- 17. Exactly the same
- 19. About
- 20. Brown and basmati are two
- 22. Swiss river
- 23. Philippine island
- 25. Expressions of surprise
- 26. An ant
- 28. Common Japanese surname
- 29. Deoxyribonucleic acid
- 30. Car mechanics group
- 31. A person’s brother or sister
- 33. Ancient pharaoh
- 34. Quantitative fact
- 36. Vividly colored bird
- 38. Your home has one
- 40. Organic compound

CLUES DOWN

- 1. An ape or monkey
- 2. Chemical element
- 3. Zodiac sign
- 4. Removes
- 5. Brew
- 6. Nickname
- 7. Architectural structures
- 8. Trigonometric function
- 9. Postmodern architectural building in Vienna
- 10. Henderson and Fitzgerald are two
- 11. Mountain (abbr.)
- 12. Landscaping practice
- 13. Capacitance unit
- 15. Redirect
- 18. Hat for women
- 21. In a way, dressed down
- 24. Granny
- 26. Feed
- 27. Endpoint

- 41. Section at the end of a book
 - 43. Flat tableland with steep edges
 - 44. Criticize
 - 45. Split pulses
 - 47. Brief trend
 - 48. Cool!
 - 51. Purposes
 - 53. Brews
 - 55. Skin condition
 - 56. Pops
 - 58. American air travel company
 - 59. Minute bug
 - 60. Anno Domini (in the year of Our Lord)
 - 61. One who rides in your car
 - 64. One of the Gospels
 - 65. City in southern Spain
 - 67. Inquisitive
 - 69. Jean Paul __, author
 - 70. Pop singer Harry
- 30. Indian instrument
 - 32. Bleated
 - 35. Cablegram (abbr.)
 - 37. Root mean square (abbr.)
 - 38. Jellyfishes
 - 39. Individual TV installments
 - 42. Talk
 - 43. More (Spanish)
 - 46. Leaseholder
 - 47. Monetary units
 - 49. Hostility
 - 50. Work stations
 - 52. Linguistics giant
 - 54. Female sheep
 - 55. Calendar month
 - 57. Seasoning
 - 59. Lofty nest of a bird of prey
 - 62. Single Lens Reflex
 - 63. A way to remove
 - 66. Virginia
 - 68. Old English

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Insightful

Local nurse honored for work with homeless COVID-19 patients

REGION – Homeless COVID-19 patients from throughout the area have been greatly assisted this winter by a local nurse, whose selfless efforts were recently honored.

Last month, Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early, Jr., honored Nurse Rebecca DeCoteau, who works at the Worcester COVID-19 field hospital.

Nurse DeCoteau continues to collect and donate clothing and other items for homeless individuals being discharged from the Worcester field hospital. In recognition of her efforts, she was presented with the District Attorney's Team Excellence and Merit Award (TEAM).

Presented annually, the award recog-

nizes outstanding service by employees in public safety.

"Working as a nurse on the front lines, she has seen others struggle to not only fight COVID-19, but face life after recovery," DA Early said. "Nurse DeCoteau's care goes far beyond the field hospital, bettering the lives of those who need it the most."

Throughout the pandemic, Nurse DeCoteau has witnessed sick patients in need of winter clothing and self-care items. These challenges have severely affected the region's homeless population, officials said.

Recognizing the need to immediately address the problem, DeCoteau created Nurses for Hope, a nonprofit orga-



Photo Courtesy

Nurse Rebecca DeCoteau recently received an award from Worcester County District Attorney Joseph Early.

nization that collects winter clothes, cleansing wipes, and socks for COVID-19 patients. She has since donated essential goods to several discharged patients.

DA Early created the TEAM Award in

2019 to recognize public safety employees who go above and beyond the call of duty. If you would like to nominate someone for the award, contact the Worcester County District Attorney's Office at 508-755-8601.

West Brookfield Historical commission announces scholarship

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

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Museum Studies, and Education in these related fields.

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

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Memories of fishing with Mel



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The month of March will hopefully bring us some continued warm weather like we are experiencing this week. Mass. Fish & Wildlife will be stocking more than 500,000 trout in waters throughout the state starting any day now. More than 75 percent will be over 12 inches long. Ice conditions will become extremely dangerous in the days and weeks ahead, until total ice out. Most ponds and lakes rarely receive an allotment of trout before ice out, but if the waters are suitable for stocking, and the PH is correct, they could still receive trout.

This week's two pictures of largemouth bass caught in local waters last week are a good indicator that there are plenty of big bass out there for this year's fishing, by diehard bass anglers. Catching largemouth bass and smallmouth bass in New England, provide some exciting fishing for anglers with bass boats during derbies, or just fishing with friends and family. Although I am not a big freshwater bass fishing angler like I was in my younger years, I still

enjoy the excitement of landing a large bass on a flyrod, or other light fishing tackle. I have been told by numerous anglers that freshwater bass fish, that the colder New England waters provide a longer fight from the bass, than in the warmer waters of Florida and other Southern states.

In my younger years, I fished Meadow Pond and Arcade Pond in Whitinsville for many species of freshwater fish. Our dad often took my brother Mel & me fishing on Meadow pond in a 12-foot rowboat at least once a week. The boat was kept in a portion of the pond called Kanes Cove. The Kane family lived right on the water just off of Border Street, and was accessible to anyone that wanted to go fishing. The boat was moored out from the shoreline approximately 150 feet, and our dad kept a throwline and a block of wood to retrieve the boat when we wanted to go fishing.

My brother Mel and I sat in the back of the boat trolling a double spinner and worm combination, as our dad slowly rowed the boat. I can remember my brother Mel shouting to my dad to stop the boat, as he was stuck on the bottom! Suddenly, a huge bass broke the water, and the fight was on. Back then a steel rod and a level wind reel loaded with a Dacron fishing line, was all that we had for fishing



Mike Daniels with a six-pound largemouth bass caught last Saturday in local waters. Nice fish!

gear. Landing the fish took some time, but he did manage to land the fish. That was the start of my brother's fascination with fishing, and he became hooked on fishing big time, even more so through his adult life.

Meadow Pond and the Arcade Pond also offered some great Calico Bass (crappie) fishing, using a fly rod and a Micky Finn streamer fly. A bridge on the Meadow Pond Road (Main Street) was removed a number of

years ago, but was a great place to fish for crappie. The water was crystal clear back in the day, and you could watch the crappie chasing the fly as it was retrieved just under the surface of the water. I can remember bringing home a stringer of them for my dad to clean & make a great fish chowder. Oftentimes, we caught yellow perch and bluegills to add to the pot. I sure do miss his fish chowder!

This past weekend, this writer was informed



Jim Nickelson with a huge seven pound, two ounce largemouth bass, also caught last weekend while ice fishing local waters.

by a local sportsman, about a deer that had fallen through the ice in the West River. He was drawn to the deer carcass by a large Bald Eagle that was feeding on the deer. Sightings of Bald Eagles are at an all-time high throughout the state, and in the valley area. The informant tried to get a picture of the Eagle, but it left the area before he got ready to snap the photo. I am sure he will be back to dine on the deer carcass in the coming days and weeks. Maybe he will get

another chance to snap a photo!

March is the month for the Saltwater Fishing Show in Providence, R.I., but because of Covid, this year's show has been canceled, as were most other Fishing & Sportsmen's shows. Looking over the latest in fishing equipment, meeting old friends, and telling big lies about all of our fish we caught last year has been put on hold. Just wait until next year!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Antique reproductions and fakes



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES

WAYNE TUISKULA

Antiques have been copied for years. For example, in 1876, the Centennial Exposition took place in Philadelphia. Americans were interested in their history and cabinet makers produced many quality reproductions of pieces from the previous century. Often, the goal with reproductions is to create copies of furniture or other antiques for people who couldn't afford to pay what an original would cost. Other times though, the goal is to deceive an unsuspecting buyer.

When I started selling antiques over 30 years ago, a friend informed me that he was running a golf auction. I was new at the antique business and bought some cast iron doorstops of a man and woman golfer that I thought would be a good fit. My friend who was running the auction informed me that the doorstops were reproductions. Someone had artificially aged them by exposing them to weather and hitting them with chains. Even when accurately described as reproductions in his golf auction catalog, the pair sold for well over \$200 and I was able to make a small profit, despite my mistake.

Around 15 years ago, I was helping a friend set up his booth at the Brimfield Antique Show. We finished early that night and walked around to see what other dealers were offering for sale. My friend specialized in antique furniture and saw a barrister's bookcase that was reasonably priced. Barrister's (or stacking) bookcases are rectangular sections that fit on top of each other. The glass fronts lift upward and slide inward at the top. When my friend examined the bookcase more closely, he found a "Made in Malaysia" sticker in the back. Around the same time, we auctioned a



great collection of Tiffany Studios desk accessories for a client who had collected them for many years. Fortunately, the collector sold the collection when they did. Many copies have been made in Asia since we sold the collection. The flood of reproductions has caused the price of originals to drop considerably.

There are so many reproductions that it may be easier to list antiques that haven't been reproduced than things that have. A search of Wayfair's Web site of antique reproductions lists: telephones, tea sets, telescopes, bottle openers, scrimshaw boxes, toilet paper holders, statues, and furniture. There are hundreds more. I should point out that they are doing nothing illegal or unethical by selling these. They are merely offering decorative pieces to people who want them.

On the other hand, U.S. Customs

seized 36 fake guitars that were shipped from China, according to a February NBC Washington report. Many of the guitars were Gibson Les Paul copies. A Gibson Ace Frehley had a suggested retail value of \$9,000. The total suggested retail value for all the guitars was \$158,692. Guitar.com reported that the bogus guitars were en route to buyers in 21 states and Australia.

If you are a collector, here are some things that you can do to make sure you are buying legitimate pieces. Buy from a reputable dealer. Learn as much about the items you collect. Before I became a full-time auctioneer, I spent a lot of free time in local antique shops. If I saw the same item in multiple shops I looked closely and found it was typically either a reproduction or a recent warehouse find. Sometimes, it can be obvious that what you are looking at

is a reproduction. If you see "copy of," reproduction," or a modern "Made in China" label on a piece, you don't have to look any further.

We will soon auction another group of antique, vintage, and contemporary model trains, die-cast cars, and other toys online. We also picked up a large collection of sports and non-sports cards that will be sold by online auction. We are also still accepting quality consignments of valuable items like jewelry, coins, art, and better collectibles for our May multi-estate auction. See our website for details: <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

Disappointment? Join the club



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

So, I get an email last night from a reader of this column ...

"You always write about optimism, now that you have cancer, what do you think?"

What do I think? Let me begin with this ... If you want to avoid disappointment, don't do anything. Do not try to live your dreams. Stop reaching for the stars. Never build a business or try to compete. Don't apply for the promotion. Refuse to take a risk. Don't try to beat cancer. And above all ... never fall in love. If you want to avoid disappointment, its easy, just be the anti-Nike and Just 'Don't' Do

It.' Problem solved, right? Not hardly ...

The best of life is available for those who go for it.

The rewards of life go to those who risk, and when you risk, you will often be disappointed. I've suffered more emotionally crushing moments in my life than I can recount. It's all part of the game. You win some, you lose some and some are rained out. Some disappointments are minor, and you move on quickly, while some stay with you for an exceptionally long time. So yes, I've suffered great disappointment, while also enjoying great success. You can't have one without the other.

By coincidence, previously, on a day where I got the call from another reader about disap-

pointment, I personally suffered a major disappointment.

About an hour before the call, I suffered a business setback that was stunning. It was something I didn't expect, and the disappointment lingered for an exceptionally long time. I was pursuing an opportunity that I was convinced was a sure thing, and had been working on it for months. I felt assured by the client that they were eager to take advantage of my proposal. It was a great program, and there was every reason that the group I was courting should have said yes. When I was told no, it was like a punch to my gut. I was given no reason for the refusal other than "we just think we'll pass at this time." When I came home from the meeting

with my tail between my legs, my wife consoled me for a few minutes then said, "Get on the tractor and mow the grass" ... and I did.

The grass doesn't stop growing because I'm disappointed.

Life goes on. I had to pick myself up off the floor, get on the tractor and get cutting, and for me, the tractor is a great place to plan (or plant) my next move.

So, you are disappointed? Join the club. You are not alone. You were laid off from your company or your spouse left you. Your team didn't win the big game and your diet isn't working as fast as you'd like. Your son or daughter was cut from the team or didn't get into the college you'd hoped. There are different levels of dis-

appointments and different people feel them to different degrees. But the fact is that we all suffer disappointment, but here's the key ...

It's not important that you were knocked down. All that matters is that you get back up again.

It is all a matter of personal resilience. As my dad always said to me, "You gotta keep on keepin' on." So, I was deeply disappointed that morning. At 11:20 a.m., I felt like I was punched hard by a friend, but by 3 p.m. the same day, I was planning my next move. The pain of the morning was eclipsed by the optimism of the afternoon. I was still hurt



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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
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EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Here comes the sun, and we say it's all right

After a long (but, we think, mild) winter, warmer, longer days are finally here. As the official first day of spring nears on March 20, we're noticing people have more of a pep in their step. A refreshing sight given the year 2020 delivered.

While each season has its own perks, there is something about spring that seems to surprise us each year. We re-acquaint ourselves with our yards as they slowly reveal themselves as the snowbanks melt away. Muddy grass has never been a kinder sight.

Over the past few weeks, the common chatter has been about baseball, spring-time fitness goals, gardening, hiking, you know the usual. This week we reminisced about old April Fool's Day pranks in the office. Tacks on seats, the soda bottle filled with water sitting on top of a door waiting to be opened in order to drench an unsuspecting individual, saran wrapped cars, fake lottery winnings, fake wedding proposals and lost wedding rings, to name a few. Stunts to make Larry, Moe and Curly proud.

With spring comes "spring fever." In modern times this is a semi-positive term, however back in colonial times, 'spring fever' referred to the poor quality of health everyone was in, after sustaining a winter without fresh vegetables and proper diet. Today's "spring fever" will have children restless, new romances transpire and people attacking their homes with dust cloths and Windex.

Experts say the changes that a person goes through during the springtime are due to hormonal changes in the body. During the winter months, the body secretes a large amount of melatonin, (the sleep hormone). The presence of more sunlight in spring sends the body a message to stop producing as much melatonin. This causes folks to be more awake. Add this to the uptick in your serotonin levels due to the sunlight and you will not only be awake but enthusiastic.

Interesting to note is that during the springtime the body becomes more susceptible to illnesses. Way back when, scurvy outbreaks always occurred during this time of year as did rubella and measles. Doctors note that in spring, gout, a condition that affects joints, peaks in individuals. Because there are more allergens in the air, you will see more cases of rosacea and other skin irritations on the rise.

We encourage everyone to spend as much time outdoors this spring, including the days leading up to its official start. Get back to basics, back to nature, keep things simple and pick up an old hobby you have abandoned but have been meaning to reconnect with, life is meant to be fun.

Politics over science

To the Editor:

As our Governor and Secretary of Education are now beating the drum of wanting in-person schooling for full days, five days/week for all students I hope nobody forgot that the virus metrics right now are still about five times higher than they were in September, when it was "too dangerous." It should be noted that the "start remote" and then "phase in" in-person learning for the 2020-2021 school year was asinine given that the virus metrics would be substantially worse in November than they were in September.

It is clear that politics and not science has been driving the school debate. In September, the beginning of the pandemic was fresh in our minds, the Massachusetts Teachers Association (the union) exploited that to keep schools closed. The MTA and their political allies weren't about to let the facts get in the way of their keep-the-schools-closed plans. The exceedingly low numbers in Massachusetts or the fact that it was known that children were not major vectors of spread and schools around the world had not been sources

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Involved now in future investments

To the Editor:

If you've ever considered getting into the political arena, you might first think about starting right where you live. Yes, right here in Spencer — unless, of course you live in Leicester or East Brookfield; then you see what positions need to be filled there. There are not only many elected offices to consider but you could be appointed to a town board or committee, i.e., the Finance Committee or Planning Board, to name two. Serving on the Finance Committee is an excellent way to get yourself introduce to town finances and just what's involved in running our town. The necessary information can be obtained by contacting the town clerk, where you can ask questions with regard to becoming a Finance Committee member, for instance.

In May 2021, the town will be electing the following officials, three-year term: Selectman, Assessor, SEBRSD (Spencer East Brookfield School District) Spencer Rep, SEBRSD East Brookfield Rep, Water Commissioner, Park Commissioner, Library Trustee, Board of Health (two seats, one three-year term and one one-year term to fill a vacancy), Town Clerk, Sewer Commissioner and Housing Authority (this last office is a five-year term). Nomination papers are now available from the Town Clerk or for School

Committee candidates, from the Superintendent of Schools Office. The deadline for submitting nomination papers is March 23.

Many times, candidates run unopposed, which means our community needs more people like you (Spencer residents) to step up and give the voters a choice. Give it some thought, because you know your community best! The smaller the community, the easier it is to know the issues that matter to you and your community. You know where the potholes are, the parks that need renovating, or struggles your schools are having. When you're involved in your community, you know better whom you need to involve to get things done.

While you may be thinking about things globally, you can be acting locally. This phrase has been used ad nauseam, but it speaks to the power we have at the local level. Local/town governments have been breeding grounds for new ways of doing things for many years. While state and federal offices hold a lot of power and influence, local governments have the ability to try new ideas and see the impacts of those policies.

Whether you want to run for a seat on the Board of Selectmen or School

Turn To **HERHOLZ** page **A10**

Adonai

To the Editor:

Adonai; Hebrew word ["my lord"], comes from yesteryears Hebrew worship [God is my Lord] and this same worship has been passed on to us through the years for us to adopt and until we this new generation recognizes and accepts God, Jesus in your hearts as the Lord God, the sovereign God of this world, this universe you will not be able to experience any blessings or peace from this covid [virus] "and" the potential and possibility of becoming exposed, becoming a victim, a life controlled by socialism is very likely.

For those of you who do not believe and those who would like to believe, would like to learn, would like to know more about God, Jesus the following should be an encouragement to you.

In 2 Chronicle 7: 14 God is teaching us what we need to do to receive His blessings, help. It is because of our disobedience that God removed His Crown [protection] from us. How do we regain

God's blessings? We need to humble our self, we need to pray and seek God's face [God's moral standards, laws] God's instruction are in 2 Chronicle 7: 14. When we humble and repent God will not only remove the virus plague God will also save us from this potential socialist life style. For those of you who may not have this information available to you, God is crying out to us today. "If my people, the people, who are called by my name [God, Jesus] will humble themselves and pray, and seek my face [God] and turn from their wicked ways, sin, "then" I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sins, and heal their land.

To whoever is reading this the choice is yours, ours, I would suggest you make that choice now, today tomorrow may be to late, we are not promised tomorrow.

Another reason to take God serious,

Turn To **BLAIS** page **A10**

Our Choice: Better days ahead or "false facts" holding us back?

To the Editor:

Most Americans want to move forward with President Biden following a particularly free, fair, and broadly certified election. Biden won by about seven million votes and 306 to 232 in the Electoral College. In News Leader (NL) towns, as compared to 2016 the gap between Republican and Democratic Presidential candidates likewise shrunk by 5 -10 percent.

A little over a month into the Biden administration, it seems the American people have made a good choice. Consider the following comparisons.

Recently, President Biden visited Texas and meet with its Republican Governor, Gregg Abbot. This happened after a blizzard caused massive damage. Governor Abbott is no friend

of Biden, Democrats, and others who doesn't share his very conservative views. However, with the President in the lead, they quietly treated the other with respect and focused on the task at hand-attacking the problems caused by a terrible winter storm and a less than protected power grid.

Compare this to how then President Trump and his administration behaved when another climate change related emergency — wildfires — devastated parts of California. First, rather than assist, he ignored Californians. Then rather than cooperate with the Governor, a Democrat Trump criticized him and falsely claimed that "blue" state policies were the primary

Turn To **KANE** page **A10**

outbreaks were pesky things cited by the anti-teacher parents who had to be back at work while their children were still home from school.

By November, it had just "been too long" so despite every metric getting worse since September when it was "too dangerous" we sent the kids back to school half at a time on a part-time basis. Of course, we used 20 percent of the available school days for a deep clean despite the fact it was known that COVID-19 was spread through the air and not on doorknobs or un-mopped floors. Now that it has been even longer and the virus metrics are far worse than last summer, enough is enough, so now the kids will be going back into school buildings. It's still 5x worse than when it was too dangerous — so much for following the science.

The MTA pitched a fit about teachers being forced to go back to work before they are vaccinated, as though the rest of the workforce didn't have to go back some time in 2020. It seems as though the anger about the school closures has gotten high because neither the CDC or Massachusetts wants to wait until

teachers are vaccinated to open schools. The MTA though was successful in getting pushed up the vaccine priority list which highlights just how political everything about COVID has been.

In-person teachers have not been shown to have any special COVID risk; they get COVID and die from COVID at similar rates to other people in the community, suggesting that they are getting infected in the community, and not in school. Their political foot stomping has gotten them a spot on the vaccine priority list despite no special risk, so of course, that shoves down people that do have a special risk. Why aren't grocery workers on the priority list? They worked every day through the pandemic and have the COVID death rate to show for it. What about meatpackers? Agricultural workers? Transit workers? They have severely elevated rates of getting and dying from COVID since they've had to work with the public and each other throughout the pandemic. They aren't behind the teachers on the priority list, they aren't on it at all.

Turn To **KASPI** page **A10**

Resilience is key to meeting financial goals

You can demonstrate this resilience by answering these questions: What is your specific goal? What obstacle do you face in achieving this goal? How can you overcome this obstacle?



FINANCIAL
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BURDICK**

Here are some examples of how this resilience process works:

Goal: Building sufficient retirement funds To build sufficient retirement income, you need to invest in the financial markets through your 401(k), IRA and other accounts. But how should you respond when these markets go through periods of volatility? Your best defense is to remain invested. If you were to jump out of the market every time it dropped, you'd probably miss out on the rebounds that followed. Also, over a period of decades, the effects of short-term market fluctuations tend to diminish, so while the results of any particular day or week may not look good on your investment statement, the importance of these results may diminish in 10 or 20 years.

Goal: Maintaining steady cash flow Keeping a steady cash flow is essential to meeting your daily and monthly expenses. So, it's obviously important that you maintain sufficient earned income. But what happens if you encounter a serious illness or injury that keeps you from work for an extended period? Depending on the length of time you're not working, you could feel a real financial pinch, so you may want to consider some type of disability insurance. Your employer may offer a short-term policy as an employee benefit, but it might not be sufficient, so you may need to look at private coverage.

Goal: Keeping retirement accounts intact Ideally, you'd like to leave your IRA, 401(k) and other accounts intact until you need to start tapping into them when you retire. But what if you face an unexpectedly large medical bill or you need to replace your furnace or get a new car? If you don't have the money readily available, you might be forced to dip into your IRA and 401(k), incurring taxes and potential penalties and leaving yourself fewer resources for retirement. You can help avoid this setback by creating an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid, low-risk account.

Goal: Having confidence in your strategy To achieve your important financial goals, you need a strategy — and you need to believe in it strongly enough to keep following it during all types of stress on the financial markets. It's not always easy to maintain this conviction — less than half of Americans are confident in their abilities to recover quickly from difficult financial situations, according to a new survey from Edward Jones. One way to help gain this confidence is by working with a financial advisor.

In fact, 36 percent of those surveyed began working with a financial advisor in 2020 for help navigating the past year. The importance of receiving good advice became apparent during the COVID-19 pandemic, which brought about a variety of financial worries, such as job loss, retirement considerations, caregiving for elderly parents or providing financial support to adult children.

You will face some challenges on your journey toward achieving your financial objectives. But by being resilient, you can stay on the right road.

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



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

COVID’s fiscal binge

To the Editor:
On the Senate floor this past week and weekend was the \$1.9 trillion COVID relief bill, and it has been an exercise in parliamentarian tap dancing to get it passed in a 50/50 Senate. President Biden wanted this bill to be bipartisan, he wanted to work with Republicans, and he even met with 10 Republican Senators in the Oval Office. Reality of course set in and the bill passed with no Republican votes against a wall of opposition.
This is a big, expensive bill. It is another \$2 trillion thrown at the COVID-19 disaster which, while enormous, it is important to remember that President Trump signed \$4 trillion in COVID relief in 2020, starting about two months after he told Bob Woodward how deadly and contagious COVID-19 was but that

he preferred to “downplay” it. This bill is going to add \$1.9 trillion onto the national debt in a single year which is a lot, but to put it in perspective, our 45th President’s single term, the guy who self-styled himself as “the kind of debt” added \$7.8 trillion to the debt.
Joe Manchin (D-West Virginia) has really turned out to be the kingpin of this all where he alone is deciding exactly how long enhanced unemployment insurance will last. This bill is going to lead to a white hot economy and hopefully it will return the United States to full employment in 2021, and that is the best prescription for reducing inequality which continues to plague our social fabric.
There are real concerns with this bill
Turn To **ROSENBERG** page **A11**

Climate change is a good thing

To the Editor:
Oil is nature’s solar power. Oil was created from plants that absorbed the energy from the sun. Over time, this condensed into oil. Unfortunately, the carbon is tied up and not in a condition to be recycling back into the environment. In fact, the oil is harmful to the environment. If you pour oil on the ground or pour it down the drain, it is considered environmental contamination and must be cleaned up. It pollutes the earth and harms living animals. This would seem to infer that Mother Nature is one of the biggest polluters of the environment. We have seas of noxious oil and gas underneath polluting the water table.
In Alberta, Canada, we have millions of acres of the Tundra polluted with tar like oil on the surface. It is our duty,

as conservators of the planet, to collect this oil and change it to less hazardous form that is more conducive to the plant life on this earth. To free the carbon to a form that can be readily reused by the planet. How to do this? Burn it in our cars and homes. This will provide the carbon dioxide necessary for plants to thrive. Healthier plants will mean more vegetation for the animals to graze upon. Logically you see that the burning of fossils fuels is a plus for the planet. As the polar ice caps recede, the oceans up north are open to the life energy of the sunlight. This will trigger the vast and abundant growth of plankton in places where there was none. This will open the frozen sterile environments to the shrimp, fish, and
Turn To **ROBBILARD** page **A12**

Durant & Berthiaume can answer for Ignorance was bliss themselves

To the Editor:
The questions I have posed to Reps. Durant and Berthiaume are not (or at least shouldn’t be) political in nature. They are not questions on policy, priorities, or values but are questions on whether or not we live with a shared set of facts in a shared reality. I have not asked about any official political action from President Trump such as legislation, executive orders, foreign policy, or judicial nominations. I think it is clear that Reps. Durant & Berthiaume and a slight majority of this circulation area generally approved of President Trump’s term in office.
I believe all of us – supporters of these representatives, those who wish others occupied their offices, or those

of us without an opinion deserve to know where they stand on the basic facts of the 2020 election and the events after the election.
I appreciate Mr. Reid attempting to sidestep my questions with “politician non-answers” on behalf of the elected officials who have chosen silence, but honestly Reps. Durant & Berthiaume can answer for themselves. These aren’t trick questions, and they should be proud to publicly own their answers.
I will answer my own rhetorical questions:
Question 1: Who won the 2020 presidential election?
Answer: Joe Biden. The question is
Turn To **BAGG** page **A13**

To the Editor:
Being a baby boomer, I grew up largely saluting a 48 star flag. We worried about the Red menace, and were taught to hide under desks when the air raid alarms were sounded, as defense against nuclear attack (same drill now, but for shooter invasions). Weekly Reader kept us up to date as we added a 49th and 50th star. I would think those 49 star flags would be collector’s items, as their time was so short.
Ignorance was bliss, as Rock and Roll was one of society’s largest dangers, until Russia started positioning missiles in Cuba, and JFK’s naval blockade, moved the realities of what a nuclear attack might actually look like (even hiding under a desk, you would still be vaporized), and that an

all out attack and retaliation would end life on this planet as we know it. It was no longer just the National Enquirer that was shattering the ignorance is bliss theory. Too many hamburgers would give you cancer, and the real truths about aliens were hidden at area #51. Naturally, Rock and Roll would still rot your brain, and promote decadence and promiscuity.
That last part turned out to be true, and we need to add ignorance, to decadence and promiscuity.
I would be remiss to give the impression, that I was not an active participant in those “attributes”
In my youth; moms stayed home. Divorce was a scourge. Forget racial intermarriage; my grandmother
Turn To **KIMBALL** page **A12**

R0 has stalled

To the Editor:
Not all authors, not all letters, and not all points made in a particular letter require a response. I have responded to letters on the political right, left, and center as well as not commented on letters on the political right, left, and center (Roland Blais: I often don’t even know what say about yours...). I began writing in to the Spencer New Leader as a platform for my viewpoint, although every week, like clockwork, there are absurd things printed in this paper worth responding to.
Mr. Small – I think we are in agreement – drones and fools absolutely exist on both sides. I have written much about the cult of personality built around Donald Trump and conservative fools in general however that doesn’t mean that there aren’t hard-left progressive activists that can be described as fools and drones, there are. I will say that I consider the GOP leadership/elected officials to be the evil ones and the DNC as a combination of incompetent but also in the unenviable position of herding cats in their “big tent” and very diverse party. General thesis, I agree with Mr. Small...Details, not so much.
Mr. Reid – I’m not quite sure you feel compelled to answer for elected officials that have chosen not to answer, but where you attempted to answer the questions posed to the state reps you largely didn’t answer or answered different questions. Most notably though the accuracy of information is not in the eyes of the beholder – this sounds like another way of saying everyone is entitled to their own set of facts. Donald Trump believing he won the 2020 election does not supersede evidence nor make it so. Not conceding the election he lost is beyond the pale.
Mr. Reid, did your constituents elect you to represent them in Boston? It seems you have the “how to say a bunch of words that sound like an answer while evading the question” down pretty well... People don’t elect journalists, letter writers, or commentators on national issues, FYI...
Mr. Herholz – I love the name calling and intentional name butchering – keep it coming! Given your staunch right-wing and pro-Trump views I find it curious you aren’t demanding to know where your State Rep’s allegiance lies. Aren’t you concerned that he thinks like the Republican Senators who voted to impeach & convict?
I know I am never going to convince any of the conservative authors in this publication of anything. The political tribalism is amazingly strong. I write not to convince them, I write to hopefully stir some thought among those who read this newspaper without strong preconceived views. The purpose of highlighting the absurdity of some and pushing others to respond with more extremism is for the audience. I’m not contributing to the betterment of mankind, but I think Spencer and the Brookfields stand to benefit from some pushback.
Last summer, we discussed at length the “coexist” bumper stickers, Prius owning Trump haters, Trump stand-outs, those that bring children to deplorable political rallies and expect them to be miniature human shields to criticism, the issues surrounding private companies functioning as the

public square, systemic racism, and even the de minimis “problem” of transwomen and sports. There is no real need to re-litigate any of those things.
I invite Mr. Herholz to engage on the issues, on the points made, and on the content of the letters he disagrees with.
This week Dr. Suess Enterprises, a wholly owned subsidiary of Penguin Random House, LLC, decided to stop publishing six books that contained racist messaging, portraying people in ways that are hurtful and wrong. These books had caricatures and stereotypes of
Turn To **HAR-YAROK** page **A11**

To the Editor:
As one who has, for much of my life, been both interested and involved-to some degree-in “education,” I often reflect on the most important phase of that process which, for me, consisted of grades one through six, and the “Old Maid Irish School Teachers” who dedicated their lives to teaching us the fundamentals of reading, geography, science, composition, history, art, arithmetic, penmanship, and music. It would not be hyperbole for me to say that any hunger I ever had for knowledge, any love of books, any interest in things beyond simply earning a liv-

ing was piqued by those single women who were “married” to their profession which, at that time, was more interested in imparting skills and knowledge than it was in promoting a social, racial, sexual, and political agenda to even the youngest and most impressionable developing minds, as is the case, sadly, today.
I suppose we munchkins of working class American elementary schools of the 1940’s and ‘50’s can look back with regret to see what we weren’t taught. We weren’t, for example, informed
Turn To **MCRAE** page **A12**

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KASPI

continued from page A8

How could this be? Oh, yeah; they don't have public sector unions and political allies willing to fight their battles. We're going to first vaccinate people who have been working home, abdicating half of their function, for full pay while protected by public sector unions since the beginning of the pandemic before we send them back to a workplace with no special COVID risk... After we get through those folks, we will then open up vaccinations to the general population and the folks who have been working in-person every day to keep food on our tables and getting sick and dying at very elevated rates will have to fight the computers for appointments with everybody else.

This isn't about science at all; this is about politics.

The vaccination appointment system is full of all sorts of scams before even getting to the general population. If you accompany/chauffeur and elderly per-

son to get a vaccine you can get it yourself even if you don't qualify, so perfectly able-bodied elderly people are going with younger people so they can jump the line. You can get a shot if you have two severe comorbidities, but the vaccination site isn't allowed to require documentation or even ask what the comorbidities are. The appointment websites are impossible to get into but once you're in you can schedule multiple appointments so once someone gets in, they schedule everyone they know on their behalf leading to lots of no-shows and cancellations to appointments. Vaccination sites are allowed to give shots to literally anybody if the vaccines are going to expire otherwise, so anybody that knows somebody who works at one of those has gotten a vaccine because too many vials were thawed (what do you know...).

All the games above mean that the people who actually are at high risk can't get their vaccines since so many early appointments and supplies are taken up by the scammers. With everybody scamming the system a person in the general population that waits until it's their turn is just a sucker who is deciding to be last.

Like everything COVID... The regulations, restrictions, priority groups, etc. aren't being enforced and there is no enforcement mechanism leading to chaos, inefficiency, and undesirable results. The vaccine priority system is working about as well as mandatory quarantine from other states which is universally ignored, the state has made no attempt to enforce, and the state has no enforcement mechanism for. The vaccine system has turned into a weird non-monetary black market more resembling how consumer goods were traded in the Soviet Union than either an orderly government program or a capitalist market.

TANYA KASPI
SPENCER

HERHOLZ

continued from page A8

Board, every candidate must begin their campaign by making the decision to actually run. It will take time, effort and depending on what position you are running for, some out-of-pocket expenses (i.e., campaign signs).

Getting involved with local politics (elected office or being appointed to a position on a committee), is one of the best ways you can give back to your community. There's much to be said for the person who plants the tree in order to provide shade for future generations.

To make a difference in the world, start with your town!

NANCY E. HERHOLZ
SPENCER

BLAIS

continued from page A8

God, Jesus is the only source [help] that can lead us, this country, this world to peace, health, safety, and most important eternal life.

Bless is the nation, the people that reverence God, Jesus.

Do you want to be blessed, live by God's moral laws and receive, accept God, Jesus warning, 2 Chronicle 7: 14. The choice is ours!

In this world, the good and the bad [evil, sin] must live together, Jesus is explaining what heaven is really like as apposed to our expectation in Matthew 13: 24-30. Heaven is God's throne and eternal Kingdom and we have been redeemed by Jesus and invited to live with Jesus when we make that confession of faith from our heart, "and" there will be a day, only God knows the day, God is going to make a new heaven and a new earth [Revelation 21] What a day that will be a new earth, no more sin no more sickness, no more death, Just

pure heavenly living with God, Jesus, "however" we can only live on this new earth when we make that confession of faith from our heart to Jesus.

Unfortunately, till that day in this world, the wheat [born again] and the weed [those who reject Jesus] will have to live together "and" "on that glorious day when we stand in judgment before God, Jesus the wheat and the weed will be separated. [Matthew 13: 24-30] it is our responsibility, our choice, our decision, do you want heaven or hell?

If you don't have a Bible and or attend a church to help you make that decision, transition, heaven or hell, you can send me your address, the town you live in to P.O. Box 189 and I will send you the information, the Bible I recommend, the pastor and church nearest to you. Who can lead you in God, Jesus Biblical truth, eternal life.

Do you want to be spiritually and physically healthy? Live by God's moral and dietary law.

ROLAND BLAIS
BROOKFIELD

KANE

continued from page A8

ry cause of the fires. Actually, badly maintained private sector power lines caused many fires and other causes had no links to forests.

Earlier, after Hurricane Maria, Trump, while attracting maximum personal attention, performed even worse in Puerto Rico.

A second example offers two comparisons. First, President Biden and his administration have been pushing a \$1.9 Trillion Covid Economic Stimulus Plan. It will help ordinary people, the economy, businesses, state and local governments, schools and many organizations working on Covid related problems. In comparison, rather than ordinary people and local governments,

show up to 83 percent of the benefits of the approved Trump 2017 Economic Stimulus Plan went to big businesses the those with high incomes.

A different comparison. As part of the Biden plan, the minimum wage would be raised to \$15 per hour. However the respected Senate Parliamentarian ruled this could not be included in the Covid Stimulus Plan. Biden and the Democrats expressed disappointment. What Biden, unlike Trump, did not do is question the integrity of or personally attack the parliamentarian.

If we want American democracy to work, we need to respect and protect our fellow Americans that choose careers as public servants and politicians – even when we do not agree with them.

Turn To KANE page A17



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HAR-YAROK

continued from page A9

Asians and Africans as animals and less than those of European descent published from 1937-1976. This sent us down a rabbit hole of “cancel culture” and even memes on Facebook accusing President Biden of banning books.

Dr. Suess was a product of his time and he published his first book in 1931 and last one in 1990. Dr. Suess himself was actually a liberal anti-racist and made changes to his own books over time as his understanding of soft implicit racism developed. Dr. Suess even expressed regret over insensitive WWII anti-Japanese propaganda he produced. Before he died, Dr. Suess had expressed regret over some of the racist imagery he was responsible for but also unaware of why some of his depictions were racially insensitive. While Suess was aspiring to do anti-racist work but at the same time was recycling racist images in his work because he was unaware of how the images in his imagination were steeped in American racist culture. There doesn't appear to be malice behind Suess's racist imagery, but that doesn't change what it is and our understanding of it today.

I don't think it is a terribly big deal, but as I look at those classic six Dr. Suess books that are being retired, I say to myself, “Yeah, that's kind of racist.”

No book should be banned, and Dr. Suess books haven't been banned.

It's important to note, Dr. Suess didn't get cancelled, and there are still 39 of his books still in print. It is also important to note that Dr. Suess's works are not in the public domain, not owned by the United States, and certainly not owned by our culture. Suess' works are owned by a private company, Penguin Random House. PRH as a private company is free to make business decisions with the intellectual property they own, it isn't a political issue, isn't a Congressional issue, and it certainly isn't a presidential issue. PRH is free to print more copies or less copies of the intellectual property they own. PRH is free to discontinue selling something they own, and that is their decision and their decision alone. PRH is free to make business decisions, and if it is a bad business decision it is their

freedom to do so. I'm sure the pro-capitalism and pro-freedom crowd will see nothing of interest here...

Turning to COVID-19 for a moment, it seems as though the daily case numbers which had been dropping for 6 weeks have stalled out for the past 2 weeks or so. While 65,000 cases/day sounds amazing compared to our January peak of 313,000 it is important to put that in perspective... While we have had a total of 29 million confirmed cases and are logging 65,000 new cases/day, Australia has seen 29,000 total, and Australia is averaging 10/day. We have seen 524,541 confirmed deaths so far. Our deaths/day have come down from a mid-Jan peak of 4,400/day to 1,800/day and while a reduction is great let's put that in perspective, Australia has seen 909 confirmed deaths total. Australia hasn't had a COVID death since Dec. 27, and their peak in the austral winter was 59/day.

I know, comparing the United States to Australia simply isn't fair, we just love freedom more than they want to save lives. Let's put the current numbers in perspective against the recent past. The U.S. infection rate is similar to what it was in late October as our winter surge was getting going, and similar to what it was during the summer 2020 southern outbreak which actually forced Florida, Texas, and Arizona to swallow their pride, pull back, close bars, and impose mask mandates. The death rates are similar to what we saw in December 2020 and April 2020 which seemed mind-blowingly bad until the January carnage. The case rate cutting by 75 percent from peak and the death rate cutting by 50 percent is great news, but the numbers today are not good – they are still unacceptably high.

The new cases/day crashed for six weeks, then for two weeks stalled out and plateaued. Anyone with a decent math background should find that curious. If $R_0 > 1$, the pandemic grows exponentially, if $R_0 < 1$ it shrinks exponentially. R_0 was clearly ~ 1.1 from Sep-Jan, then from right after New Year's for about 6 weeks R_0 was consistently ~ 0.9 . R_0 for the past 2 weeks has been about 1.0, explained by the stalled progress. The big question we should be asking ourselves is why, what changed, is this upward R_0 pressure that is indicative

of a point of inflection and a new surge?

The B.1.1.7 variant of COVID-19 known as the “British variant” is substantially more contagious, given the same society and mitigation techniques, B.1.1.7 will have a greater R_0 than the Italian variant which infected NYC and Boston 1 year ago. In the U.S., B.1.1.7 represented nearly zero of the COVID cases on Jan. 1 but has been growing exponentially as a proportion of all COVID cases. By Feb. 1 it represented 4.2 percent of COVID cases and March 4 it represented 28 percent of COVID cases. R_0 plateaued and our progress stalled out just as B.1.1.7 started to become relevant just as we are becoming more complacent, indicating another surge is building. Time will tell if we are rolling out vaccinations faster than B.1.1.7 is spreading...

The Governors of Texas and Mississippi made news this week by rescinding all pandemic restrictions – all business restrictions, capacity restrictions, and even the mask mandates. It is obvious that they didn't care about preventing death and suffering, but only ever cared about literally running out of hospital beds and that risk has largely passed. What is especially amazing is that both these Governors through their actions and statements over the past year have indicated a basic understanding of COVID-19 and even with vaccines rolling out, they

ROSENBERG

continued from page A9

that are deeper than a GOP with amnesia from how they governed for four years stonewalling a bill just 'cuz. We are blowing the deficit up and that simply isn't sustainable. We already have more than 100 percent of our GDP in debt. The United States collects an unusually low percentage of our GDP in taxation so my concern isn't that we are spending too much, my concern is we are mortgaging future generations instead of paying for it now like the adults we're supposed to be. There is also an inflation concern – too many smart people are being too dismissive of inflation. Larry Summers has written several op-eds explaining that this COVID relief bill is about 30 percent larger than the GDP lost in the

decided to score some cheap political points but kill several hundred people and spend countless healthcare dollars by repealing the restrictions before the vaccination effort is complete. Gov. Tate refers to himself as a “math guy” and justified restrictions months ago with the fact his state simply didn't have enough hospital beds, but now that he has the spare beds to sustain another surge he's fine with that? Gov. Abbott when questioned has said people should wear masks and socially distance, but he trusts Texans (I don't...).

Freedom and Republican politics has turned into a death cult where the leaders all know exactly what they're doing and they all seem to blink when rationing of care, insufficient hospital beds, people dying waiting to check into a hospital, and triage are predicted within 2 weeks.

The only way to stop these variants and mutations is to stop the virus from multiplying, and that means socially distancing until you're vaccinated. The only way to end this pandemic once and for all is for everyone to get vaccinated. Time will tell whether the vaccine hesitancy and anti-vaxxers in America cause the US to continue to be the world disaster zone.

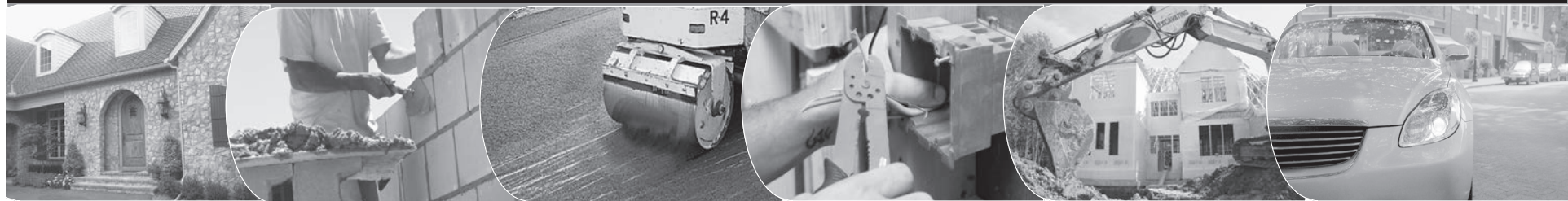
OMAR HAR-YAROK
EAST BROOKFIELD

COVID crisis while Democrats are basically admitting that we will underspend next year so we must overspend this year. The United States seems to be going through fiscal yo-yo dieting where we starve ourselves with austerity, then binge, then starve again, while putting the whole thing on credit. This is no way to govern. We need a real plan.

Since President Biden won the 2020 election and former President Trump lost his bid for reelection, there has been a major push in Republican controlled states to cut back access and ability to vote as well as limit the ease at which registered voters can vote. In response Democrats in congress are moving to do just the opposite, and make voting easier. It is an interesting strategy when you consider at the end of Reconstruction

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ROBILLARD

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whales. A new garden of Eden, Some call this the “greenhouse effect.” As the name suggest, it is an ideal climate for vegetation to grow and thrive., The human population will need the added food crops and additional sea bounty to survive as our population grows. The vast areas underground where previously there were seas of oil, will now be filled with rainwater freed from the melted ice caps. The recharged aquifers will ensure water for drinking and farming for future generations. My computer modeling and calculations show this to be the ideal solution for us to ensure we can meet these future needs. No Soyilent Green required.

Recent events clearly show that the windmills and solar panels will not work. In fact. these do more harm to the environment. Where there were once plants that supported animals and provided clean air, there is a sterile field of solar panels. These take all the energy without providing any for the animals

MCRAE

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that people of our race--especially our grandfathers, fathers, and uncles--were responsible for all the ills of the world, or that we were living “on stolen land,” or that we needed to be “less white, less ignorant, less oppressive,” etc. Our benighted teachers thought it a better use of their time to make sure, among other things, we knew the times tables through 12; that “i comes before e”; that the monument to the Union soldier at the cemetery stood for something noble; that you can pronounce a large new word if you can isolate the syllables; and that New York City is not the capital of New York State.

We were exposed regularly to moral truths and life wisdom as expressed in the sayings of Benjamin Franklin, in bits of poetry and short stories which the teacher would read to us, of epigrams, and of fables such as those of Aesop, and Grimm’s Fairy Tales. We recited the Lord’s Prayer, read a Psalm, and pledged our allegiance to Old Glory. We were a captive audience without the distraction of cell phones, video games and all the rest of it, and I am so eternally grateful for that huge advantage we enjoyed without even knowing it. We were being set up for a life of at least trying to be good and productive citizens who played within the boundaries, and who did the best we could with what we had.

One of the many fables we learned probably in the first grade was “The Boy Who Cried Wolf.” The point being made was don’t lie, and don’t make things up just to attract attention, for sooner or later nobody is going to believe anything you say even if it’s true. That one little story told to very young and impressionable children may have been the reason most of them, for the rest of their lives, would avoid creating false narratives simply to draw recognition to themselves. A cynic might call this operant conditioning, but I see it as just good sense. Teaching youngsters to strive to be truthful in all situations can never be a bad thing, can it? That way they’ll never become Democrats.

I think, though, that practice of sharing age-old bits of moral wisdom at an early age with the 90 percent of American students who are enrolled in public schools must have gone out of fashion over the past few decades. How else to explain the phenomena of regularly reported race-instigated “hate” crimes which invariably turn out to be hoaxes? Going all the way back to

KIMBALL

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stopped interacting with her youngest daughter for marrying a Catholic. She lived long enough to see my sister marry an Italian Catholic, and one brother and myself marry Polish Catholics. My brother is a reader in his Catholic church today. Turns out we use the same Bible as my wife learned while serving as religious education chair of our congregational church.

Between me and my three siblings, we have had seven marriages. My two brothers still in their first and my bride and I just crossed 43 years. None

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and plants. Not very green if you ask me. Also, the production of these uses heavy metals, thus leaving future generations will landfills filled with chemicals to leach into our drinking water. The left tries to tell you that it was a “winterization” problem in Texas. What a load of baloney! Any mechanic knows that if you put lighter oil or grease for winter operation, then it’s not going to be good for the high temps of summer. So, I guess Joe Bidens job solution will be continued maintenance of windmills. Solar panels only work good of they are kept clean of ice, snow, and debris. I guess all the laid off oil workers can grab a squeegee and go clean solar panels for a career. Good job Joe. Build back better. The left is trying to tout electric cars. Yeah, wait to you get one of these on the road in the winter. And when you run out of charge, maybe somebody will come running over with a 200-pound battery. No form of energy is more economical or transportable that good old gasoline made from nature’s bounty, oil. You see God in his infinite wisdom has provided us with the ultimate green energy, gaso-

the Tawana Brawley fake rape case (1987), to the Duke lacrosse fake rape case (2006), to the Jesse Smollett fake assault case (2019), and too many other instances of false accusations of bias crimes to be recounted here, it seems now to be a way of life: some angry, resentful, envious individual seeking to draw attention (and maybe big bucks?) to her or himself concocts a story that from the outset seems improbable and strains credulity. Eventually, the fraud is exposed--although it pains the investigating authorities to have to reveal their findings--and the real victims (those falsely accused) have to pick up the pieces and try to get back to life as they once knew it, while the lying, scheming perpetrator doesn’t generally suffer any adverse consequences that we ever hear of. Does it never occur to these great pretenders that, before long, if these tales are routinely exposed as fake dramas, when an authentic one comes along, no one will believe it?

The hoaxers, who seem to be above the law, and are callously indifferent as to the consequences for the ruined lives and opportunities of their victims, are typically members of aggrieved racial and sexual minority groups who, time and time again, ignore the likelihood they will be caught by tech surveillance, eyewitness testimony, handwriting analysis, etc. I think they have been driven to this reckless and irresponsible behavior by their frustration in knowing that in a country of 340 million people most of whom they view as hopeless bigots and white supremacists, the actual incidents of race-inspired criminality against “victim groups” are so few as to be negligible. So, they have to be manufactured. And, eventually, these are exposed as total frauds--every, single, time.

The most recent one to come to light is the matter of Oumou Kanoute, a student at Smith College just down the road (Route 9) in the epicenter of all that is trendily left-Northampton--and where you, too, can send your daughter--for \$78,000 per year--to have her brain washed clean and filled with socialist, radical feminist, man-hating, white-loathing claptrap, if you wish.

If you want to read the story to find just how repulsively craven the presidents and administrators of liberal colleges can be, it’s all over the Internet. But, here are the essentials: Two years ago, Ms. Oumou, then a 19 year-old African who hails from Mali, an 87 percent Muslim country which, curiously, still maintains “descent-based slavery” for a few hundred thousand of its citizens, opted to ignore posted rules

of us were stay at home parents except for the kids very earliest years. Single income homes have become quite rare. On the subject of decadence, I am seeing something that seems increasingly to seem that the line between living for working and working for a living ,are increasingly blurring. In a best case scenario, we all love our jobs and approach them eagerly and enjoy time we spend doing them. Being fulfilled , feeling appreciated and vital is fantastic. Being well compensated, and having pride in what you do are bonuses.

When my wife was a paralegal, she went to her boss and pointed out that something he had asked her to do, was un-necessary and redundant. This is where I give you a few of the pearls of wisdom that working 55 years have gained. The attorney’s comment--”I pay you well to waste your time, just do it.” One of my boss’s incentive program- “Do your job today, and you will have it tomorrow”

While, I think it is sad that it is necessary to have to make an exceptional effort, to review what is a reasonable minimum wage, instead of making it something that is constantly and regularly under review (We on Social Security do get COLA- cost of living allowances, with some regularity).

Any success I have ever had as a manager, has involved motivating people by praising effort where due, and compensating accordingly. Two old lessons from a mentor are things are worth what someone will pay. If you want good fresh oats, you must pay a fair price. Oats that have already passed thru the horse are cheaper. A customer came in and asked how much are your eggs. We said \$2 a dozen. Customer said they are only \$1 a dozen

line. It truly is a miracle fluid derived from the fluid God made for us, oil. It truly is part of the circle of life, Simba. Ask yourself, why else is there such a thing as oil and so much? The answer is clear, it was put here on earth for humanity to use and prosper.

The fake news narrative of climate change being bad really has nothing to do with saving the planet. The planet will do just fine. It’s just a mechanism for the global control by the elite. A mechanism to control you and redistribute your wealth to less developed countries, all with the goal to promote their new world order. Lift those poor free stupid third word people up by providing them the means to obtain all the wonder of high- tech. The goal is to bring Apple iPhones and Google’s Internet. No need for a chip in your head when you have a phone on your ear. They will have free access to Facebook and Twitter to bring them the “Truth” of the elite. Where there was once ignorant bliss and freedom there will now be control and security. The global news feed and information will be controlled to filter the “Truth’. A uniform news feed to

regarding being in closed-off areas of the campus. After being asked politely by college employees to leave, she went ballistic and charged Smith with persecuting her for “eating while being black.”

What happened next was as predictable as the leaves falling from the state-ly maples dotting the 145 year old campus in October: Total capitulation, groveling, and begging for mercy from the pusillanimous administration and faculty. Immediately, four employees of the college were put on administrative leave; the mandatory Chi-com style brainwashing sessions called «workshops» where white kids confess their irredeemable guilt and shame--always in style on almost any campus these days--were ramped up to the satisfaction of the Marxist professoriate. And, the Martyr from Mali was spoken of in hushed and reverent tones across the campus by students and faculty alike--a veritable Rosa Parks.

But, wait a minute. Something on the order of a miracle rivaling the turning of water into wine occurred: Smith College actually engaged an outside, independent law firm to conduct an apparently honest investigation into the allegations and events of that day and concluded, miraculously, that the whole thing was a lie, from beginning to end. Anyone with any sense had to know from the outset that, given an honest investigation, that would be the case. I mean...Smith College? Having Ku Kluxers on the payroll? Really?

So, now that two years have been lost to this lie, four people’s lives and reputations have been irretrievably damaged, a thousand students have been forced to be hectored simply because of their race and “privilege,” where do we stand? Again, it required two years to right this wrong, something that could’ve been cleared up in fifteen minutes of honest, courageous effort on the part of the adults in charge. Will the wrongly tainted employees receive justice? Will the false accuser receive hers? Don’t hold your breath. Indeed, the archetypal, hapless, cringing, fawning Smith President, one McCarthy, insists that even though there was nothing there, there had to be “something there.” It is engraved on granite: liberals can never admit they were wrong about anything, at any time, for any reason.

As for the Maiden from Mali, just add a “c” and an “e” to her country and you’ll get her defining character trait, that being one of “malice.” Do you suppose there will be any consequence for her as a result of bringing two years of

all cultures around the world to spread the Lefts new religion of equality and diversity. “China good, USA bad”. Just think, instead of purchasing goods from local suppliers, they can purchase from Amazon just like the developed world. Destroy the local provider and replace with one that can control the supplies and provide the information to your elite overlords. Once you control the food source, you control the people. Even here in the USA they are still at work on you. After all, it’s their duty to hammer this into the heads of the Neanderthals and undesirables. As stated by Taxachusetts’ \$130,000 a year undersecretary for climate change, David Ismay’s recent comment, that they need to “break the will of taxpayers when it comes to heating homes and driving cars.” So, the reality is the Democratic Lefts Climate Change is not a process to save the planet, but a tool to control the people that live on it. Biden’s campaign slogan said it all: “Lies over the truth.”

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

turmoil to the campus based entirely on a diabolical lie? Oh, come on, buddy, you know better than that. The Connecticut River will flow north under the Calvin Coolidge Bridge before that happens. This is Massachusetts where the truth doesn’t set you free, it just inconveniences you.

The only possibly good thing to emerge from the entire sordid saga is the breaking news that an administrative staff member--herself a “Smithie” graduate and a liberal--felt obliged to resign her position, despite being the divorced mother of two young children and their chief means of support. She could no longer work in the environment of an unrelieved and openly hostile anti-white atmosphere on campus where she was made to feel she must constantly apologize for the accident of her birth as a white person.

This brave soul, one Jodi Shaw, who has challenged the reigning progressive elitist orthodoxy, must continue to live in Northampton, in many ways the most intolerant and least classically true liberal community in the Commonwealth, is a fighter, and through GoFundMe contributions has managed to raise enough dough to sue the college for maintaining a hostile workplace based on racial discrimination. It may turn out that racial justice is a two-way street. Who knew?

It is way past time for those falsely accused of racial crimes or offenses--including police officers, teachers, supervisors, schools and other institutions--to fight back, to sue the daylight out of those responsible for these dreamed up scenarios where innocent people are made to suffer so as to appease the opportunistic, mendacious cranks who concoct these demonstrably bogus incidents.

And that includes Oumou Kanoute. If not her, then her father. Someone has the money to send her to Smith; if she never learned the lessons we in the bad old days learned in elementary school, such as “Oh, what a tangled web we weave when we endeavor to deceive!”, then let her character education begin now.

As for Smith College, the best thing that could happen for them to return to some semblance of respectability would be to issue very public and sincere apologies to their wronged employees and as well to agree to significant and salutary financial contributions to their present and future well-being.

JOHN MCRAE
EAST BROOKFIELD

thy of your attention as Seuss, 43 states have introduced 243 bills that are designed to deprive citizens of their vote. What has been declared fraud is states address of their being a pandemic, which the prior administration has thoroughly botched, creating the necessity to let the citizenry vote without putting lives at risk. Gerrymandering, repression and intimidation at polling places, inconvenient hours, locations, rules that remind one of illegal poll taxes have long been in the GOP tool box. Any true analysis confirms the one fact. These are all designed to restrict voting to only those the GOP deems appropriate.

We have turned people’s rights in this democracy into a sham. In Australia, you, as a citizen, are required to vote, can do so by mail or in person for a full month, and will be tracked down and fined for failure to return your ballot, even if blank. We all go out and party on July 4 and Memorial Day, celebrating freedom that we don’t put enough value on to make election day a holiday. If this alone is not ignorance, what is.

I was so proud when meeting my son at the airport, with my tyke grandkids holding their welcome home daddy sign, as he returned from a 15-month Iraq deployment, and when those desert camo’s came into view and a whole airport broke into applause, that tears ran down my face. They still do, but for the wrong reasons.

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD

LEGALS

**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. WO21P0654EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
David Alan Shepard
Date of Death: 11/16/2020**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **David W Shepard of Warren MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that **David W Shepard of Warren MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/06/2021.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 02, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
March 12, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21C0020CA
CITATION ON PETITION TO
CHANGE NAME
In the matter of:
Maliati Bt Maisham**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Maliati Bt Maisham of Brookfield MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Malia Cayman Wexler**
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 03/23/2021. 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: February 17, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman
Register of Probate
March 12, 2021

**NOTICE OF
INTENT TO FILE FOR FEDERAL
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**
The Town of North Brookfield proposes to file an Application for Federal financial Assistance with the USDA, Rural Development. This application for financial assistance will be for funding under the Rural Utilities Service, Part 1780, Water and Waste Loans and Grants (CFDA 10.760) and is anticipated to be submitted by April 2020. The specific elements of the project include upgrades to the North Brookfield Wastewater Treatment Facility to replace aging equipment, and update the treatment process to comply with the new NPDES Permit discharge limits. The project is anticipated to cost is \$13,100,000. Any comments regarding this application should be submitted to the Town of North Brookfield within fifteen days of this publication.
March 12, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21P0643EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Pamela A. Paradis
Date of Death: 09/14/2013**
To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Brenda L Polleys of Spencer MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.
The Petitioner requests that **Brenda L Polleys of Spencer MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.
IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of

the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/06/2021.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 02, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
March 12, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
Docket No. WO21P0215EA
Estate of:
Rita Ann Ruggere
Also Known As:
Rita Connoly
Date of Death: October 3, 2020
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Amy K. Ruggere of North Attleboro MA**
Megan M. Packard of North Brookfield MA
Rebecca M. Ruggere of Marlborough MA
a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
Amy K. Ruggere of North Attleboro MA
Megan M. Packard of North Brookfield MA
Rebecca M. Ruggere of Marlborough MA
has been informally appointed as the Personal Representatives of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representatives 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.
March 12, 2021

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Probate and Family Court
225 Main Street
Worcester, MA 01608
(508) 831-2200
Docket No. WO21P0545EA
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
Estate of:
Jeffrey W. Toppin
Date of Death: 11/11/2020**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Jason A. Topping of Ware MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Jason A. Toppin of Ware MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **an unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/23/2021.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.
UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.
WITNESS, Hon. Leilah A. Keamy, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 03, 2021
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
March 12, 2021

BAGG

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who won the 2020 election not “who became president”.

Question 2: Was the 2020 election a free and fair election?

Answer: Yes. The question was a national question, not only Massachusetts. No election is perfect, but there was no substantiated evidence of widespread fraud, Trump’s own administration called it the most secure election in American history, the courts threw out 60-something challenges as without merit, international observers found nothing of concern, and Republican election officials in states Trump narrowly lost certified their results. Only Republican politicians with no skin in the game indulged Trump’s conspiracy theories.

Question 3: Question 3: Do you approve of former President Trump’s behavior, misinformation, refusal to concede the election he lost, and incitement of insurrection from Nov. 8 through Jan. 20. Regardless of whether you support or condemn the former president, please use his name in your statement. Be specific. Nothing squishy.

Answer: I don’t approve of the former president’s post-election behavior. Reps. Durant & Berthiaume should be proud to either support or condemn. This isn’t a trick question...

To respond to Mr. Reid on this one... This is not a question about the 45th President’s record generally; this is specific to his behavior from the election until inauguration day. The accuracy of information is NOT in the eyes of the beholder, a person believing things that aren’t true doesn’t make those things true, they’re still false. Donald Trump did not win the election and his belief that he did was not supported by any evidence other than him not being able to grasp the concept of loss. His belief that he won had no bearing on

reality. As for incitement of insurrection, he was convicted by a majority of Senators but less than the two thirds required for a constitutional conviction. Impeachment is a legal and political proceeding, not a determination of truth. Many Senators voted to acquit on jurisdictional and procedural grounds, many more voted to acquit for political reasons, and besides – two thirds of Senators elected from the 50 states can’t determine truth... If 17 Republican Senators defected instead of 10 and he had been convicted, would your opinion on the matter have changed? I doubt it...

Question 4: Of what political loyalty are those that stormed the Capitol on Jan. 6? Choices are Trump supporters, Right-wing domestic terrorists, Antifa, foreign agents, BLM, Patriots.

Answer: Overwhelmingly these were right-wing domestic terrorists and Trump supporters. This has been corroborated has the identities of 100’s of people arrested have become known.

Question 5: Which events were a more serious threat to the United States? George Floyd’s tragic death and the BLM protests/riots of Summer 2020 or former President Trump’s refusal to accept the outcome of the 2020 election and resulting storming of the Capitol?

Answer: My opinion is that former President Trump’s refusal to accept the outcome of the 2020 election is a much more serious threat to the United States.

Adam Przeworski, in his book “Why Bother with Elections,” described it well... “In the end, the miracle of democracy is that conflicting political forces obey the results of voting. People who have guns obey those without them. Incumbents risk their control of governmental offices by holding elections. Losers wait for their chance to win office. Conflicts are regulated, processed according to rules, and thus limited. This is not consensus, yet not mayhem either. Just regulated conflict; conflict

without killing. Ballots are ‘paper stones.’”

The United States, if nothing else, stands for democracy, government by of and for the people. Democracy depends on the fact that those in power can lose elections and that losers will allow the winner to assume office on the assumption that they’ll fare better in the next election. At least in my opinion, an incumbent threatening domestic tranquility and attempting to overturn the results after the fact and baselessly eroding trust in future elections for a generation is an enormous threat to what the United States is and why it exists.

George Floyd’s tragic death and the civil unrest which followed was a difficult time but didn’t threaten the United States and rule of law itself. While it’s true that only 93 percent of those protests were peaceful, a minority of protestors caused hundreds of millions of dollars of property damage. It seems lost on some that by the end of June, some 14,000 people were arrested for violence in BLM protests. The fact that the civil unrest of summer 2020 is brought up to deflect from the post-election chaos should be insulting to everyone.

Reps. Durant & Berthiaume may have a different opinion on question 5 and they should be proud to own their position, whatever it is.

I invite Reps. Durant & Berthiaume yet again to set the record straight. I invite them yet again to make their positions public, to own their positions, and be proud of who/what they support and why.

They have had months to carefully consider their words and selecting silence should make it clear they don’t have a good answer, they know the truth conflicts with their political best interests, and they think you guys will let them get away with the ambiguity of silence.

FRED BAGG
SPENCER

ROSENBERG

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black voter registration was at an all-time high, it collapsed with Jim Crow laws, it rebounded with the Civil Rights Act, and now black voter participation is actually higher than white people. Now that Democrats have won more votes in 7 of the last 8 presidential elections, consistently win more votes in the congressional races, and are turning states like Georgia purple it is interesting to see the GOP strategy shift to disenfranchisement.

Just as we seem to be turning the corner with COVID, just as we see light at the end of the tunnel with three safe and effective vaccines, we see several governors rescinding mask mandates and repealing business restrictions generally. I’m actually not worried about the rescinded mask mandates because they are only being rescinded in states that had little to no enforcement anyway. Texans that wore a mask last week will wear a mask next week, and Texans not wearing a mask today weren’t wearing one last week either. President Biden accurately described these moves as “Neanderthal thinking” which brought criticism from Republicans complaining about the president’s language. Calling people Neanderthals is inappropriate even if it is true, but it is so hilarious to hear Republicans complain about Biden’s language after four years of ignoring, pretending not to see, hear, or read, any of the tweets or public statements from the previous president.

The pandemic in the United States is within reach of getting under control. Hospitalizations, infections, and deaths are on the downslope. We have seen hospitalizations and infections have stopped going down. Many red states are now simply giving up while the scientists are warning of an upswing in infection while we can see the finish line. There is no cost to wearing a mask, and it’s simply sad and irresponsible that seemingly everything in public discourse has turned into a symbol of a broader culture war.

DAVID ROSENBERG
SPENCER

OBITUARIES

Arthur M. LaMay, 85

WEST BROOKFIELD - Arthur M. LaMay, 85, of West Brookfield died on Sunday, February 28, 2021, at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center.



Elsie (Capper) LaMay.

Mr. LaMay is a United States Army Veteran of the Vietnam War.

He worked as a printing press and coating machine operator at Ludlow Specialty Paper Company for 36 years from 1962 to 1998. He served as President

of the Union Local 708 for 6 years from 1970 to 1976. As an operator, he was instrumental in the production of the Polaroid Film products and was a key employee in the expansion of what was the chart department in the late 1970's.

Arthur was quiet by nature, and enjoyed woodworking, crafting birds and flowers. He also liked to work on cars and kept his garage organized and immaculate. Along with Doris, they enjoyed traveling to the local casinos to try their luck.

He was a former member of the First Congregational Church of West Brookfield.

A Graveside Service with Military Honors will be held in Pine Grove Cemetery in West Brookfield in the spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the First Congregational Church of West Brookfield, P.O. Box 371, West Brookfield, MA 01585.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting his family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Theresa M. Dolan, 71

WARREN/HOLDEN- Theresa M. Dolan, 71, died Saturday, March 6, 2021 at UMASS Memorial Hospital in Worcester surrounded by loving family. Born in Southbridge, she was the daughter of Eleanor B. "Betty" (Leigh) Gorak and Arthur George Sandoli.



She leaves a son, Matthew Giza and his wife Holly of Holden; a daughter, Melissa Weinheimer and her companion Jeff of West Warren; 4 grandchildren, Nicholas and Ryan Giza, Aidan Fitzgerald, and Taylor Cairns; brothers and sisters including, Ray and Pam Therrien, Phyllis and Dick Hibbard, Patty and Stew Bacon, Deborah Greenslit, Art Sandoli, Tim Sandoli, Bill Sandoli; many nephews, nieces and extended family. She is predeceased by her brother Bob Sandoli.

Whether you knew her as Theresa, Teri, Terry, T, Sis, Aunt, Mom, Grandma, or something else, it is likely she had a very positive impact on your life. The medical challenges that she had in her life with Lupus and related complications, gave her reverence for life. There was nothing that she could not accomplish, and she inspired others with that passion every day.

Teri was a graduate of North Brookfield High School and the Faulkner Hospital, Jamaica Plain, MA where she earned her RN degree. She was very proud to be a nurse and maintained her license even when she could not work. She really loved her work as a psychiatric nurse counselor at Worcester State Hospital and later at the Griswold Center at Wing Memorial Hospital. Teri was the first female firefighter and EMT in Warren and was one of the first female police officers

there. She trained and became a member of the Critical Incident Debriefing Team and was a member of the Red Cross. She organized Christmas Toys for Tots in Warren, and always made sure that kids received at least one present that they really wanted. She always made a difference by caring deeply and making everyone feel special and loved. Teri owned two successful businesses. One was Teri Designs, where she made work out suits and leisure wear. Richard Simmons, nationally known workout guru, even wore one in the early 1980's that she gifted him. The second business was Up, Up & Away Balloons, where she provided services for event decorating and deliveries in various costumes in the late 1980's and 1990's. She hired many Quaboag Regional High School students to help.

Teri enjoyed traveling, with Italy and the National Parks out West being a couple of her favorites. She also loved weekend trips with family and friends. Teri enjoyed gardening, Mustangs and Jeeps, and even had her own motorcycle at one time. She loved the Red Sox, attending games, and watching them on TV. She loved to read, was an absolute master at Scrabble, and could hold her own playing Rummy with her family and friends. Most of all, she loved intimate gatherings with friends and family and spending quality time with her treasured grandchildren whenever she could.

Friends and family are invited to attend calling hours on Friday, March 12, 2021 from 5-7PM in Pillsbury Funeral Home 44 Gilbert St. North Brookfield. A private burial will be held at a later date in Grove Cemetery in Holden. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Lupus Foundation of America, <https://www.lupus.org/>

John D. Ruddy Jr, 62

CHARLTON- John D. Ruddy Jr, 62, passed away peacefully in UMass Memorial Health Center University Campus surrounded by his family on Friday, February 26, 2021 after suffering a stroke.



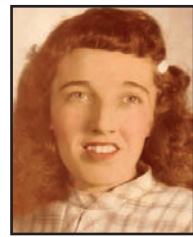
ter, Elaine Hibbard.

John was born July 6, 1958 in Ware, MA to John D. Ruddy Sr and Beverly

(Bostrom) Wentworth. He was a 1976 graduate of Quabbin Regional High School. John served in the United States Marine Corps from 1976-1979 and was honorably discharged due to injury. After serving in the USMC, John became an EMT and also worked at the USPS in Springfield from 1985-2006.

John was an avid New England sports fan and especially loved Ted Williams, a Marine himself, and the Boston Red Sox. He loved to collect sports and military memorabilia. He enjoyed spending his summers with his wife at their campsite at Sutton Falls Camping Area in Sutton, MA.

Family and friends were invited to calling hours on Thursday, March 4, 2021 from 4-6PM in PILLSBURY FUNERAL HOME 96 S.Barre Rd. Barre. Funeral services will be private. Burial with Military Honors will be in Worcester County Memorial Park in Paxton. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to the Wounded Warrior Project or Disabled Veterans of America.



Brookfield/West Palm Beach, FL - Gladys E. Porter, 97, passed on, in her beloved home, Friday, February 26, 2021, surrounded by family and friends. She was born in Worcester, MA, November 29, 1924 and she lived in Brookfield all of her life. Gladys was a kind, generous, loving spirit - her home was devoted to happiness, love and family. To know her

was to love her. She made sure all family gatherings were with cousins, aunts, uncles and grandparents. She was the heart that kept us together, then and now.

She took great pride growing roses, tending to her flower gardens, and making sure that we all helped plant and care for her vegetable patch. She loved springtime when the orioles, bluebirds and hummingbirds peeked in the window and saw mom's beautiful smile and her amazement. Her real passion in life was reading and writing. Her hundreds of poems, compositions and short stories track her life from teen to the present. She also loved and collected books. In

Georgette A. Korzec, 90

WEST WARREN eorgette A. (Raymond) Korzec, 90, of West Warren, died on Saturday, March 6, 2021, at her home with her family by her side.



She leaves her sons, Mark Korzec and his wife Judi of Hardwick, and Matthew Korzec and his wife Lisa of Warren; two daughters, Martha Louvitakis of West Warren and Michelle Holmgren and her husband Bill of Warren; 7 grandchildren, Sam Louvitakis and his fiancé Savannah Craig, Emily Freeland and her husband Mike, Sarah Petrucci and her husband JJ, Jacob Korzec, Celina Korzec, Stephanie Korzec-Miller and her husband Mark, and Helen Korzec, as well as 2 great-grandchildren, Evan and Isabella. She was predeceased by her husband of 52 years, Walter A. Korzec and her grandson, George Louvitakis III. She was born in West Springfield, daughter of the late George D. Raymond and Helen D'Ambra and lived in Warren most of her life.

Along with Walter and son-in-law Bill, they owned and operated the Korzec Insurance Agency in West Warren since 1980. In her younger years, she resided in Washington, DC where she worked for the Department of the Navy as a records keeper. Over the years, some of the other occupations which she held were as a telephone operator for the former New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, a secretary at Warren Pumps, and as a secretary for

the President of Warren Savings Bank.

Georgette was active in town and enjoyed giving back and volunteering. She served on the Board of Directors at the West Warren Library, the Warren Rural Improvement Association, and the Rotary of West Brookfield. She was active in fundraising events for Baystate Mary Lane, as a member of the Auxiliary, and as a volunteer in the Gift Shop.

Georgette had a strong faith in God, belonging to St. Stanislaus Church in West Warren where she taught CCD, was a member of the Parish Council and volunteered for their annual Polish Picnic. She was also a member of All Saint's Church in Ware. Georgette credits her long and well fulfilled life to God and the love of her family. Despite being busy, her family and faith came first, and she was a devoted wife, mother, and grandmother who will be greatly missed.

Due to COVID restrictions, Funeral Services for Georgette will be held privately. Burial will be in Pine Grove Cemetery in Warren.

In lieu of flowers, please make memorial donations in Georgette's name to:

St. Aloysius Catholic School, P.O. Box 522, Gilbertville, MA, 01031

or All Saints Church "High Altar Window Project," 60 South Street, Ware, MA 01082.

Charbonneau Funeral Home, 30 Pleasant Street, in Ware is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at charbonneauhf.com

Gregory J. Chase Obituary, 77

Gregory J. Chase, 77, of Venice, Florida passed away on March 7, 2021 of ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) in the comfort of his home surrounded by his family.



Greg is survived by his wife of 32 years, Roberta Lincoln, and brother Peter Chase of Denver, CO, his daughters Heather Dumais and her husband Robert, Michelle Horne and her husband Kevin, Sarah Chase and her fiancé Jeff Jarmulowicz. He also leaves his stepchildren Laurie Lincoln and her husband John Goodell, Kimberley Freund and her husband Tom, Jr., Chip Lincoln and his wife Valerie. Also his 8 loving grandchildren Kate, Keira, Hanna, Leah, Will, Alex, Connor and Chase and his first wife Karen Higgins and her husband Barry.

Greg was born on July 22, 1943 in Worcester, MA to Allen and Ruth (Cotton) Chase of North Brookfield, MA where he grew up. He graduated from Vermont Academy in 1961 and Defiance College in 1966. Greg was employed as a teacher in Ohio before returning to North Brookfield to work with his father to build Chase Precast Corporation. The company was a leader and innovator in the precast concrete industry. He was an active member of the National Precast Concrete

Association serving on their board of directors and as president in 1990. He was selected for their annual Robert E. Yoakam Award of Merit for his dedication to the industry.

Growing up Greg was an avid golfer, skier and baseball player. At Vermont Academy he was a star pitcher for the baseball team and sang in the choir and octet as a baritone. In college, he played on the golf team. After college he settled in West Brookfield, MA to raise his family where he served as a selectman, was on the school committee and was president of the Rotary Club. In 1988 he married Bobbie and they enjoyed traveling both nationally and internationally before settling down in Cape Cod, MA and Venice, FL. They also enjoyed boating and taking cruises. Greg was committed to education and always working to be a better person in business and life. His retirement was focused on spending time with family, teaching leadership courses, serving on the board of trustees for Vermont Academy and of course anything related to golf.

Burial will take place at the Pine Grove Cemetery in Harwich, MA.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Vermont Academy in Greg's name sent to PO Box 500, Saxton's River, VT 05154.

Notes of comfort may be made to Greg's family at www.ccgfuneralhome.com/locations/harwich

Kathleen Rhault, 75

SPENCER WORCESTER- Kathleen M. (Kelly) Rhault, 75, died peacefully on Monday, March 1, 2021 at Hermitage Health Care in Worcester.



She leaves her two daughters, Yvette M. Rhault and her partner Michael Gianfriddo of North Brookfield and Michelle Rhault of Concord, NH; her son Philip Rhault of Spencer; her brother, Raymond Kelly and his wife Leona of Brookfield; her sister, Nancy Zaik and her husband Robert of North Brookfield; her 5 grandchildren and 1 great-grandchild as well as many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her grandson, Michael Rhault, and her sisters, Beatrice Casavant and Rita Juare. She was born in Worcester, daughter of the late Raymond and Doris (Lachambre) Kelly.

Kathleen was a homemaker, house-

keeper, and bartender in her younger days. She loved to remodel houses, scratch lottery tickets, and go to Bingo with her mother. She was a loving mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. She loved to sing karaoke, and loved to be in the spotlight. "Thank you very much!" she would say after every song. Everyone that knew her, loved her crazy fun personality. She just loved people and would talk to anyone she met, anywhere that she was.

Calling hours will be held on Sunday, March 21, 2021 from 12 to 2 PM in the Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield. Masks must be worn and social distancing guidelines followed while in the funeral home.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Gladys E. Porter, 97

fact, she opened a small bookstore in 1968 at "Poor Richards" craft and gift shoppe at Sagendorph Farm in Brookfield.

Gladys and her beloved husband Clement loved Florida and the warm weather. They had a home first in Miami Beach in 1965, then finally settling in West Palm Beach. They both loved going to the horse and dog tracks. Mom was a real handicapper, playing her favorite dogs at the Palm Beach Kennel Club. We thank her Florida friends, Frank and Barbra Cornish who were great comfort and joy and always left her smiling and happy.

Diary entry, December 26, 1946 - "Now when I think of Christmas, the most

wonderful present I ever received was the night you were born, a beautiful baby boy was given to me, my Christmas baby, we named him Clement." Mom and Dad went on to have three more boys, James, Michael and Andrew, each loved and cherished equally. Their four sons were their pride and joy and it's what they worked and lived for. A home of love, laughter and happiness.

Gladys is survived by her sons, Clement H. Porter, II and James M. Porter and his wife Bonnie; grandchildren, Jamie Porter of Wintergarden FL, Jason Porter of Charlton; great-grandchildren, Jordon, Jacee and Kennedy; great-great

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POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24
2:49 a.m.: animal complaint (Route 49), dead animal in road; 3:03-3:16 a.m.: parking violations/3 (Pioneer Valley Drive, Duggan, Grove streets), tickets issued; 5:18 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 8:08 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 10:17 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 10:18 a.m.: medical/general (Prospect Street); 10:23 a.m.: mv lockout (Charlton Road), assisted; 11:11-11:38 a.m.: parking violations/2 (Mechanic Street), tickets issued; 11:39 a.m.: mv lockout (West Main Street), assisted; 12:32 p.m.: juvenile matter (Charlton Road), social media threat; 12:34 p.m.: DPW call (Paxton Road), poss. water leak; 12:52 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Main Street), illegal burn; 2:33 p.m.: medica/general (Crestview Drive); 3:23 p.m.: mv lockout (Meadow Road), assisted; 4:05 p.m.: juvenile matter (North Spencer Road), call for assistance; 4:13 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/4 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:54 p.m.: abandoned mv (West Main Street), spoken to; 4:56 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 5:52 p.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), domestic disturbance; 6:09 p.m.: accident (Route 49), mv vs deer; 6:47 p.m.: mutual aid (Maple Street), school req. welfare check; 7:42 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Drive); 7:42 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 8:42 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), referred; 8:57 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Drive); (Total daily mv stops – 6).

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25
12:09 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 3:27 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:00 a.m.: mv fire (Main Street), referred; 7:30 a.m.: animal complaint (Lake Street), loose dog; 9:07 a.m.: officer wanted (North Street), welfare check; 9:15 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Rutland PD bolo; 10:32 a.m.: accident (Chickering Road), mv off road; 11:05 a.m.: fraud (Jolicoeur Avenue), unemployment scam; 11:53 a.m.: fraud (Main Street), forged checks; 11:54 a.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), rep. b&e; 12:15 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 12:51 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 1:01 p.m.: lost/found (Brown Street), keys lost; 1:10 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), keys found; 1:25 p.m.: illegal dumping (Cherry Street), numerous needles; 2:48 p.m.: FID issued (West Main Street), issued; 3:06 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operator; 3:28 p.m.: fraud (H.J. Perron Road), unemployment/cc scams; 5:01 p.m.: mv complaint (Clark Road), van off road; 5:06 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Water Street), hang-up; 5:34 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Donnelly Cross Road), Javiel Ramos, Jr., 27, 26 Donnelly Cross Road, warrant/2, arrest; 5:59 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), identity theft; 6:13 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), family issues; 8:51 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:55 p.m.: suspicious mv (South Spencer Road), investigated; 9:30 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Barry B. Maxell, 38, 19 Old Farm Road, Spencer, warrant, arrest; 9:39 p.m.: medical/general (Church Street), lift assist; (Total daily mv stops – 12).

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26
12:26-12:34 a.m.: parking violations/3 (Mechanic, Chestnut, Pond street), tickets issued; 1:04 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:48 a.m.: accident (Northwest Road), report taken; 9:43 a.m.: 911 call (Cherry Street), hang-up; 10:22 a.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), neighbor issue/barking dogs; 11:00 a.m.: fraud (Robin Road), unemployment scam; 11:08 a.m.: restraining order service (Cherry Street); 11:54 a.m.: disabled mv (West Main Street), services rendered; 12:03 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 12:38 p.m.: residential fire (Mechanic Street), referred; 12:46 p.m.: officer wanted (Hastings Road), PPE donation; 1:02 p.m.: officer wanted (Mechanic Street), harassment; 1:43 p.m.: medical/general (Prospect Street); 1:58

p.m.: juvenile matter (Chestnut Street), teens harassing motorists; 3:51 p.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info taken; 4:22 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 4:36 p.m.: DPW call (Main Street), re: utility pole; 5:22 p.m.: medical/general (Donnelly Road); 6:08 p.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 6:18 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 6:44 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 11:36 p.m.: suspicious mv (Park Street), investigated; (Total daily mv stops – 2).

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
12:14-1:24 a.m.: parking violations/6 (Mechanic, Chestnut, Main, High, Cherry, Pleasant streets), tickets issued; 1:28 a.m.: building checked, secure; 5:21 a.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), concern re: parents; 5:43 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 7:54 p.m.: fraud (Meadow Road), unemployment scam; 8:29 a.m.: 911 call (Old Farm Road), child w/phone; 9:01 a.m.: residential fire (High Street), referred; 9:35 a.m.: lost/found (Woodside Road), lost LTC; 9:45 a.m.: building checked, secure; 10:23 a.m.: suspicious persons (Browning Pond Road), investigated; 12:16 p.m.: medical/general (Borkum Road); 1:20 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), wallet found; 3:17 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), spoken to; 3:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), req. check on animals; 3:47 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), spoken to; 4:51 p.m.: commercial alarm (Chickering Road), services rendered; 5:09 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Rutland PD bolo; 5:42 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 6:01 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 9:02-9:48 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:01 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), icy conditions; 10:04 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), services rendered; 10:44 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), wrong-way driver; 11:47 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), stray cat; (Total daily mv stops – 0).

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28
12:16 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 12:42 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 1:05 p.m.: fire (Bemis Road), illegal burn; 1:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), re: domestic situation; 3:10 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), wrong-way driver; 3:52 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), poss. scam, elderly victim; 4:24 p.m.: lost/found (Howe Road), iPhone found; 4:37 p.m.: threats (Ash Street), services rendered; 5:12 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), iPhone found; 5:40 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (East Charlton Road), fire in woods; 5:56 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 6:42 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 7:46 p.m.: building checked, secure; 7:54 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), unwanted parties; 8:41 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), noise complaint; 9:00 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:13 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 10:41 p.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), noise complaint; (Total daily mv stops – 2);

MONDAY, MARCH 1
12:27 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 3:57 p.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 6:38 a.m.: officer wanted (North Spencer Road), family issue; 9:05 a.m.: mutual aid (Wilson Street), Paxton PD req. welfare check; 9:32 a.m.: residential alarm (Donnelly Cross Road), services rendered; 9:36 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. escort/moving out; 11:31 a.m.: restraining order service (Grove Street); 11:46 a.m.: suspicious persons (Stiles Avenue), investigated; 11:57 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), wallet stolen; 12:02 p.m.: restraining order service (Cherry Street); 12:23 p.m.: fraud (Chickering Road), re: COVID testing; 12:43 p.m.: mv complaint (Clark Road), erratic operator; 12:50 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 1:42 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 1:47 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), req. welfare check; 2:04 p.m.: fraud (Church Street), scam calls; sometime between 2:21-2:40 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 2:40 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (North

Spencer Road), no contact; 4:13 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/6 (West Main Street), assisted; 5:33 p.m.: medical/general (Northwest Road); 5:44 p.m.: odor of gas (Smithville Road), referred; 5:49 p.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 6:16 p.m.: 911 call (Church Street), misdial; 7:03 p.m.: officer wanted (Charlton Road), re: tenants; 9:15 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 9:35 p.m.: DPW call (Wire Village Road), tree down; 9:48 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), lg. animal in road; 9:54 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), power lines down; 10:22 p.m.: DPW call (West Main Street), power out; 10:23 p.m.: DPW call (Woodside Road), power out; 10:24 p.m.: DPW call (Irving Street), tree on power line; 10:25 p.m.: elderly matter (Howe Village), power out; 11:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), req. welfare check; 11:11 p.m.: DPW call (Hastings Road), tree on wires; 11:27 p.m.: DPW call (Kingsbury Road), limb blocking road; 11:53 p.m.: DPW call (Nottingham Circle), lines down in road; 11:56 p.m.: DPW call (Main Street), lights out; (Total daily mv stops – 6).

TUESDAY, MARCH 2
12:10 a.m.: DPW call (Ash Street), tree on wire; 12:25 a.m.: DPW call (Browning Pond Road), tree on wires; 12:42 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:41 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 2:26 a.m.: DPW call (Depot Road), tree blocking road; 2:47 p.m.: 911 call (Church Street), needs O tank; 4:38 a.m.: DPW call (Ash Street), tree on primary line; 6:17 a.m.: fire alarm (Pauls Drive), referred; 6:40 a.m.: animal complaint (Chickering Road), deer stranded on ice; 7:35 a.m.: 911 call (Pleasant Street), open line; 8:02 a.m.: elderly matter (Howe Village), welfare check; 8:05 a.m.: 911 call (Irving Street), accidental; 8:52 a.m.: commercial alarm (Wall Street), accidental; 9:04 a.m.: DPW call (Pleasant Street), hazardous tree; 9:18 a.m.: DPW call (South Spencer Road), hazardous tree; 9:39 a.m.: disabled mv (South Spencer Road), TT stuck at bridge; 10:23 a.m.: officer wanted (Water Street), alarm reset problems; 10:51 a.m.: officer wanted (Northwest Road), spoken to; 10:59 a.m.: fire alarm (Grove Street), referred; 11:25 a.m.: officer wanted (Cherry Street), req. escort/retrieve belongings; 11:45 a.m.: 911 call (Ledge Avenue), accidental; 1:28 p.m.: juvenile matter (Main Street), family issue; 1:33 p.m.: officer wanted (West Avenue), poss. scam; 4:40 p.m.: juvenile matter (North Spencer Road), unruly son; 4:51 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 5:39 p.m.: mutual aid (Maple Street), Michael J. Joslin, 43, 16 Maple Street, Spencer, warrant, arrest; 5:48 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: wrong order; 6:41 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Route 49), accidental; 7:33 p.m.: disturbance (Elm Street), unwanted parties; 11:28 p.m.: intelligence/parole (West Main Street), info taken; (Total daily mv stops – 4).

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Leicester Police

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25
1:01 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 3:53 a.m.: ambulance (King Street), transported; 9:06 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 12:18 p.m.: investigation (Town Beach Road), services rendered; 12:51 p.m.: animal complaint (South Main Street), referred; 1:33 p.m.: investigation (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 3:33 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 3:45 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:16 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 4:36 p.m.: arrest warrant service (King Street), William B. Swenson, 33, 59 King Street, Leicester, warrant, arrest.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26
8:48 a.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 9:41 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Boyd Street), services rendered; 11:55 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:11 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), mv

towed.
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27
1:29 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:46 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:00 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), John Adalard Labaire, 39, 591 Wachusett Street, Holden, failure to appear upon recognition, arrest; 7:51 a.m.: restraining order service (Pine Street), served; 8:30 a.m.: accident (Chapel Street), report taken; 12:06 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), no action required; 4:12 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), no action required; 4:58 p.m.: family problem (Stafford Street), peace restored; 7:39 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 11:47 p.m.: accident (Paxton Street), report taken.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 28
12:38 a.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), no action required; 10:36 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 1:09 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, op w/revoked registration, mv towed; 6:09 p.m.: welfare check (River Street), unable to locate; 6:33 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 7:17 p.m.: mv stop (Soojians Drive), no action required; 8:49 p.m.: suspicious person (Stafford Street), spoken to; 8:50 p.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), spoken to.

MONDAY, MARCH 1
12:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:49 a.m.: suspicious mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), unable to locate; 10:05 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:48 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 11:34 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:26 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 2:04 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 3:50 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 3:55 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv towed; 4:40 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 4:49 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:26 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed; 10:28 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (River Street), spoken to.

TUESDAY, MARCH 2
2:10 a.m.: debris in road (Pine Street), removed; 2:51 p.m.: debris in road (White Birch Street), removed; 2:52 a.m.: debris in road (Hemlock Street), removed; 2:53 a.m.: debris in road (Gerald Court), removed; 8:18 a.m.: debris in road (Main Street), spoken to; 9:48 a.m.: assist citizen (Lake Street), advised civil action; 1:34 p.m.: investigation (Winslow Avenue), services rendered; 1:56 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), report taken; 5:00 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, op w/suspended license, mv towed; 11:39 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), Jessica Battle, 29, 31 Courthouse Square, Ossipee, NH, op w/suspended license, possession Class B drug, mv lights violation, arrest; 11:52 p.m.: harassment (Town Beach Road), spoken to.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 3
1:41 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), assisted; 4:57 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 8:35 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 10:38 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 11:00 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), mv towed; 11:35 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 11:45 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 12:34 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 2:01 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 5:09 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 6:31 p.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), no action required; 9:07 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), report taken; 10:04 p.m.: disturbance (Boyd Street), spoken to; 10:21 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), Svannah Iris Salvador, 19, 9 Maple Street, Enfield, CT, possession of Class D drug w/intent to distribute; marked lanes violation, no inspection sticker, speeding, arrest.

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PORTER

continued from page **A14**

grandchild, Monty. Her special niece and godchild, Shiela Fortier, who she loved like a daughter; sister-in-law, Audrey Flannery; nephews, James, Michael and Jeffery Flannery; daughter-in-law and friend, Judy Flannery; life-long friend, Paul White whose caring, company and conversation always made her day, as well as John Buzzy White and her nephew, Ronnie Lucier.

Gladys was preceded by her loving husband of 67 years, Clement (Mike) Porter; sons, Michael and Andrew Porter; brothers Phil and James Flannery; sister Claire Lucier; nephews Philly, Kevin and Brian Flannery, sister-in-law Margaret (Serry) Flannery and niece and godchild Kim Flannery.

Mom's last request, was to include her "True Love Story" first published in the Brookfield Citizen, ten years ago. "I was 16

and lived in the country, he was 18 and lived in the city. We met at a birthday party on Valentine's Day. When he walked in the door, my crush began. We saw each other a few times after that, and then drifted apart. World War II came, he joined the Coast Guard, I didn't see him again for three years. I thought of him many times and hoped that I would see him again. One day, I received a phone call at my place of work, and it was him. He wanted me to come to the city and meet, my heart was pounding, I said yes. When I saw him, he had been wounded in the war on Normandy Beach, he received the Purple Heart for bravery and was waiting to get discharged. After that, we saw each other every weekend. My girl hood crush became real, one year later we were married, I was 20 and he was 22. Now years later my heart still skips a beat when he walks through the door. Through the good times,

bad times and happy times, we survived. Now the love of my life is no longer with me, I'll always have beautiful memories to look back on, he went on his journey, two years ago, he was 88. When it is time for me to join him, I won't be afraid because I know he will be waiting. He will open the door, my heart will skip a beat, he will smile and take my hand, we will walk down a new path wherever it takes us, together again."

So, to all you husbands, wives, friends and lovers - laugh, live and love, but most of all be happy.

A Remembrance for Gladys will be held this summer with family and friends.

Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 East Main St., in West Brookfield is assisting her family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

MOORE

continued from page **A6**

and disappointed, but I made a choice to leave my unfulfilled dream of the morning behind and embrace the future of my next idea. I made the choice to move on.

Always fish with more than one pole.

The more baited hooks you have in the water at one time, the more chances you have of landing the big fish. Be creative. Have more than one idea, project, or proposal. Pursue more than one job. Apply to multiple schools. Never rely on a single outcome and never allow the disappointment of one day, stop you from taking a chance on the next. Keep going. Keep trying and never give up.

There are only two things you can control in life ...

So back to the reader question. Having cancer has not changed my attitude or optimism. I'm focused on living a happy and optimistic life. I believe I can beat this cancer and am working to do so.

You can't control the weather ... or how others feel about you ... or the decisions others make that influence your future. You can control your attitude and your attitude will drive how you respond to the inevitable disappointments ... and you can also control your effort. Be optimistic and work hard. Next time you won't be disappointed.

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMOore721 and at www.garywmoore.com.



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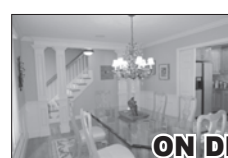
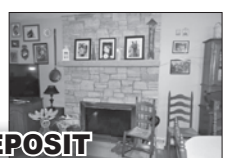


WEBSTER LAKE – 7 Cedar Drive! Middle Pond! 8 Rm English Tudor across the street from w/Direct Waterfront Lot – Full Lake Access! Offering the Option of an In-Law Apartment or Plenty of Room for Family & Friends! Entry Foyer enters from 3 Sides w/locked door access into the house, stairway to the lower level In-law and the convenience of a Half Bath! The 1st Floor features Appliance Kit w/Breakfast Bar, Open Floor Plan – Frpld Beamed Cathedral Ceiling Great Rm (Dining & Living Rms), Comfortable Bdrm & Hall Full Bath w/Laundry! Upstairs to the Spacious Master w/Master Bath & Slider to Lake View Deck! Additional Bdrm w/Built-ins! Lower Level with 2nd Kitchen, Open Dining & Living Area w/Brick Hearth, Full Bath & Possible (4th) Bdrm! Central Air! Huge Carport! Detached 3 Car Garage! Lakefront Lot w/Deck, Concrete Patio & Boat Dock! Take Advantage of the Low Interest Rates & make this House Your Home! Summer's Just Around the Corner! **\$489,900.00**

WEBSTER – 6 Nicholas Circle! 8+ Rm Center Hall Colonial! 1.22 Acres! Sought After Neighborhood! Great Commuter Location Accessible to Many Major Routes! Spacious Stainless Steel Appliance Cabinet Packed Eat-in Kitchen & Formal Dining Rm! 23 x 24 Frplace Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceiling & Slider to the Huge Deck! Front to Back Living Rm! 1/2 Bath w/Laundry Closet! The 2nd Floor You'll Find the Comfortable 12X17 Master w/Walk-in Closet & Full Bath w/Linen Closet! 2 Additional Bedrooms plus an Office/Nursery/Bedroom all w/Ample Closets! 2nd Full Bath off the Hall w/Linen Closet! 2.5 Total Baths! Lower Level Ideal for Storage or Future Expansion! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers w/Dble Door Entry to the Basement for Moving Larger Items aka Boys Toys! 2 Z Oil Heat, 2 AC, Separate Oil Water Heater! Irrigation! Don't Delay! **\$418,900.00**

WEBSTER – 31 Park Street! 3 Family! 6/6/6 Rooms! 3/3/3 After Neighborhood! 7 Room 1,632' Colonial! 1st Flr Features Open Flr Unit is nearly 1,300' Featuring Spacious Kitchens, Living Rooms & Frpld Liv Rm, 1.5 Baths! 2nd Flr w/3 Good Size Bedrooms! Remodeled 10 Yrs Ago! Updated Electric! Heat! **\$284,900.00**

WEBSTER – 44 Sunny Ave! Sought After Neighborhood! 7 Room 1,632' Colonial! 1st Flr Features Open Flr Plan, Kit w/Sl, Din Area, Fam Rm, Frpld Liv Rm, 1.5 Baths! 2nd Flr w/3 Bedrooms & Bathrm! 2.5 Baths Total! Tile Flrs Throughout! LPG Heat & Hot Water! Town Services! **\$289,900.00**



WEBSTER – 69 Minebrook Rd! Conveniently Located 7 Rm Split Entry! 1.04 Acre Lot! House set well off the Road for added Privacy! Open Floor Plan! Eat-in Appliance Kit w/Island & Seating, Tile Flr, Tile Backsplash & Ceiling Fan! Din Rm w/Hrwd Flrs & Slider to the Deck Overlooking the Private Backyard! Frpld Liv Rm w/Hrwd Flr! Ideal for Entertaining! Down the Hrwd Hall find a Full Bath w/Tile Flr & 3 Bdrms w/ Wall to Wall Carpeting! Master Bdrm w/2 Dble Closets, Ceiling Fan & Master Bath w/ Marble Tile Flr & Shower Surround! Hrwd Stairs, the Finished Lower Level Fan Rm w/Recessed Lighting, Stone & Tile Hearth w/Woodstove, 1/2 Bath w/Tile Flr, Laundry Rm w/Sink & Tile Flr, Utility Rm w/Storage! 2 Car Garage w/Electric Openers & Door to Backyard! Oil Heat! Steel "I" Beam Construction! Shed! Won't Last!! **\$349,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 11 Henry Road! Bates Point - Middle Pond + Panoramic Views + Western Exposure = Beautiful Sunsets! Never 2 the Same! 3,184' 9 Room Fully Furnished Colonial Built from the Ground Up as a New Home in 2005! This Home Features 4 Bedrooms, 2 of which are Master Suites, 1 of which Overlooks the Lake, 4.5 Bathrooms, 2 of which have Separate Showers & Whirlpool Tubs, 3 of which have Double Granite Vanities, 2 Complete Granite/Stainless Kitchens! The First Floor Open Floor Plan with Hardwood Floors Features an Eat-in Kitchen with LP Gas Jenn-Air Range, Double Drawer Dishwasher & Trash Compactor! Spacious Formal Dining Room with Crown Mouldings & Chair Rails! Lake Facing Great Room/Living Room with Gas Fireplace, Wet Bar with Bottle Cooler, Surround Sound & Slider to Composite Deck! Half Bath with Laundry Closet! The Second Floor with 4 Bedrooms! Comfortable Front 16x16 and Back 17x17 Masters with Tray Ceilings, Recessed Lighting, Ceiling Fans, Surround Sound & Full Tile/Granite Bathrooms! Full Hall Bath for the other 2 Bedrooms! Fully Finished Walk-out Lower Level with Full Summer Kitchen, Family Room with Gas Fireplace, Surround Sound, Slider to Paver Patio & Full Bath! Buderus 3 Zone Oil Heat! 3 Zone Air Conditioning! Central Vac! Security! 2 Car Heated Garage! Boat Dock! **\$1,099,900.00**

CHARLTON – 74 Daniels Road! Completely Renovated 9 Rm, 4 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Gambrel w/Attached In-Law Apt! Picturesque 3.39 Acres! Deeded Water Rights to South Charlton Reservoir! Extensive Updates! House w/New Roof, Siding, Kit, Bthrms, Windows, Int Doors, Electrical, Flooring, R60 Insulation in Attic, Water Heater, Well Pump & More! In-Law w/Open Flr Plan, Kit, Bdrm w/Walk-in Closet, Full Bath w/Laundry! Both Fully Appliance! 2 New Driveways, Irrigation, AG Pool! Shed! Security! Generator Hookup! **\$489,900.00**

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THOMPSON - 5+ ACRE WATERFRONT LAND - BECOLA ROAD


5+ Acre Waterfront Land - on "Little Pond". Also known as Schoolhouse Pond. Private, pastoral setting. Open Field surrounded by tree line. 250+ feet waterfrontage. At the end of a Dead end road! **\$179,900**

THOMPSON - 25 TERRACE DRIVE


Off Thompson Hill! At the end of a Dead end road, well maintained & loved! Kitchen with double wall ovens, gas cooktop, granite countertops. Formal dining room. Fireplace Living room! master, on the first floor, 4 bedrooms total! 2nd full bath - second level. 2 car garage! assisted sale **\$325,000.**

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD


Home "Sweet" Home! TOTALLY Renovated! New Roof - Updated Electrical - New Heating System!! Bedroom, 1.5 Bath - 2 Story Conventional Home. Dead-End St. Rare find, Large Lot. 77 Acre - Inside - Neutral Palette of Complimentary Paint Colors throughout the Entire House! Loads of Character **\$319,000.**

LAND
WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS

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! **Each \$24,500**
 Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! **ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900**

WEBSTER - 29 WEST AVE.


Cozy 2 Story House with 3 BIG Bonuses! #1. Land almost 1 ACRE! #2. Zoning is MR-12 - Possible Multi Family Use - Investment Opportunity! #3. Large Over-sized 2+ Car Garage, Work Bench, Power & 2nd Floor! Great Space for the Hobbyist, DIY or Contractor! 1st Floor - Living rm, Bedroom, Large Kitchen/Dining Area with Galley Pantry & Full Bath! 2nd Flr, 2 Bedrooms! All New Carpets - Recent Paint! Multi Level Back Deck with Jacuzzi! **\$255,000.**

WOODSTOCK - 33 DEER MEADOW LANE


Beautiful 2,422 Sq Ft Colonial! 4 Bedroom! 3 Bath! Fireplace, 2 Car garage! So much more! assisted sale **\$415,000**

DUDLEY - 22 ROBERTS ROAD


Lovely 3 bedroom Ranch! Single door 2 car garage with storage! Eat-in kitchen. Fieldstone Fireplaced Living Room! 3 bedrooms, hardwood floors, Remodeled bathroom! Lower Level fieldstone walls/ fireplaced In-ground pool - 3.58 ACRES includes extra lot. **\$312,000.**

WEBSTER - 20 KINGSBURY


NEW TO THE MARKET! Custom Sprawling Split 2800+ SF! Central Air! Kitchen, Dining Room, Cathedral Ceiling Living Room, 3 Bedrooms! Granite Counters & New Flooring! New Boiler - Hot Water Tank - Oil Tank! FULL finished Lower Level w/ Full Bath & Laundry! THERE'S MORE! 2 Car Garage, renovated to include Hydro Heat, AC & 1/2 Bath! Great for Fitness Studio, Game Room or Home School! Over 1.4 Acres! **\$360,000.**

WEBSTER - 52 CUDWORTH ROAD


1.99 ACRE INDUSTRIAL ZONED LOT! GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO LIVE & WORK FROM HOME! Amazing 1790 Antique Colonial! Undergone major updates & renovations, maintaining Antique Charm! Great Room graced by an Open Hearth Stone Fireplace! Soaring Cathedral Ceilings! **\$499,900.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

Webster Lake - 100 Lakeside Ave


WEBSTER LAKE! PANORAMIC VIEWS! BEAUTIFUL SUNSETS! Extraordinary Waterfront Contemporary! Architect designed with Lake Living in mind, Custom Built with Attention to High Quality & Detail. Outstanding open concept, water view from almost every room. Nicely situated on a .25 acre level peninsula, 180' +/- prime lake frontage! Enhanced by a all natural shoreline! All you need to live is located on the 1st floor. Grand 2 story foyer, cozy fireplace living room, gourmet kitchen, lake facing dining / formal dining room, media room & spacious 1st floor guest BR Suite w/ private bath. Incredible 2nd floor fireplace lake-facing corner master suite w/luxurious private bath, 3 more 2nd floor BRs & full bath! Something Special! **Remember, Timing Is Everything!** **\$1,075,000.**

Lake Shirley - 647 Reservoir Rd

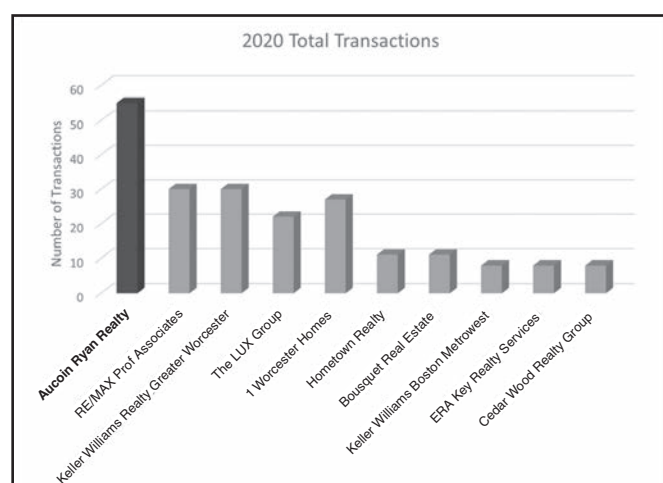

Lakefront! Lake Shirley! Modern Flare on a Lakefront Colonial! 1st level Formal large entry foyer, living room, gas fireplace, chef kitchen, Impala black granite, center island, 3 season porch, overlooking the lake. 1st FL bedroom suite w/ shower and jacuzzi tub. 2nd floor Master Suite! Lower level Summer kitchen, full bath, game room. Crown moulding & hardwood floors throughout, wired sound system, radiant floors. oversize 2 car garage. Additional Guest House! assisted sale **\$1,040,000.**

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KANE

continued from page A10

Compare Biden with Donald Trump and his most recent attacks on conservative Republicans, who in good conscience, voted for his impeachment. Likewise think about Trump's lies and crude and ugly attacks on those who certifies a particularly free and fair American election. Finally compare Biden's reverence for Congress and the people who work there to Trump inciting followers to march on our Capital and stop his Vice President' from confirming that Trump lost. This attack on the Capital, watched around the world, weakened belief in our government when the aggressive, pow-

erful Chinese government seeks to "replace" America.

Lies usually have the purpose of hiding the truth. Trumps often repeated 30,000 lies have an added purpose - to try and convince those who might support him that what he says are facts, even when they are false. This includes lies that Antifa-not Trump hard right supporters - rioted at the Capital

A two issue New Leader letter (Jan. 29 & Feb. 5), "A Trip to Washington ..." also asks readers to believe a personal account that Antifa and the radical left caused and led the attack on the Capitol. Curiously, the this letter's description almost mirrored another personal account published two weeks earlier by the The Federalist.

Both say it wasn't Trump and

his right wing supporters who caused and led the Capital riot. This ignores a blizzard of real facts, such as: (i) real time on site TV reports by respected Public Broadcasting Service reporters (and later ones by the even more respected BBC); (ii) audio-visual recordings of the damage and mayhem committed and the "MAGA" people doing it; (iii) testimony by police and national guard officers who attempted to halt and then limit the riot and (iv) of the close to 300 arrested all most being Trump supporters and /or hard right wing reactionaries intent on bringing down American democracy. Likewise "false fact" letters such as "My Trip to Washington..."

KEVIN KANE
SPENCER

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Month Supply Inv.	.86	.34	▼

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Spring has (Almost) Sprung: Ode to the Botanical Signs of Spring

New Englanders have long searched for signs of spring after a long, cold winter, and few promises of warm weather are more welcome than the annual arrival of early spring buds. From fuzzy pussy willows to blazing golden forsythia, nature ushers in the season with an abundance of color, texture and beauty that has inspired artist and poets for centuries. Such common “backyard blooms” are simple pleasures that evoke sentiment from both novice and experienced gardeners. Plentiful and easy to grow, these nostalgic perennials are gaining a new appreciation for the simple beauty the early spring blooms bring to the landscape.

Forsythia: As March arrives, so does Forsythia. Bursts of yellow blooms along country roads and splashes of gold color in New England yards bring a welcome change to the dreary winter landscape. Forsythia bushes are a mainstay of the Northeast, and these beloved flowers never cease to impress. While Forsythia is in bloom for only about two weeks, its early presence is so appreciated that it remains a popular plant, with its leafy shrub providing privacy throughout the rest of the growing season.

Arguably, the Forsythia signals the arrival of spring more than any other botanical cue. Named after the English horticulturist William Forsythe (1737-1804), the flowering plant is hailed for its hardiness and fast growth. The yellow bloomer, which is a member of the olive family, is native to China and Southeastern Europe.

Forsythia Folklore: Since it's not uncommon for snow to fly after the Forsythia has bloomed, it's not surprising the early spring plant has earned its way into American garden folklore.

“Three snows after the Forsythia blooms” was an oft repeated phrase by farmers of yore. The old weather forecasting method reminds us that although the blazing yellow Forsythia may be in full bloom, the New England

winter is not yet over.
Forsythia, with its bright golden flowers and ability to thrive (and survive) harsh weather conditions, has been hailed and celebrated throughout the years. The Forsythia boasts several namesake festivals and celebrations held annually throughout the country; the most prominent Forsythia Festival held each year the second weekend in March in Forsyth Georgia.

Rooting Forsythia: Forsythia is easy to propagate. In fact, many gardeners report good results by simply cutting a branch on a slant and inserting the fresh cut end into a few inches of prepared soil.

Another option is to place fresh cutting into water to root. Leave in a cool, dark area until roots form. Once roots grow, plant outside in well watered soil.

Pussy Willows: Native to the Northeast, the tiny, furry grey buds of the pussy willow plant have long served as a welcome sign of spring. Long stalks of branches bearing “kitten toes” spring up in wetlands across New England, to be plucked and displayed in vases as a reminder warmer weather is on its way. A childhood favorite, the velvety grey buds are a sentimental reminder of a simpler time, when the sprigs of willows discovered in the woods, or along a pond's edge proved an unexpected, yet delightful find. The simple form of the pussy willow continues to amaze today, as artists both past and present have replicated the lofty twigs in oils and ink, and naturalists gather the catkins to create long lasting bouquets.

Pussy willows do more than decorate a dismal wintry landscape, as they are very beneficial to wildlife. Wild birds, particularly cardinals and finches, consume the flower buds, and densely growing pussy willow shrubs offer nest-



TAKE THE HINT

KAREN
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ing and shelter for a variety of native birds. Bees rely on the early season blooms of the pussy willow for pollen, and some species of butterfly larvae feed on the pussy willow's leaves.

Deer, beaver, grouse and squirrels all include willow in their diets, and the leaves of the pussy willow provide much needed vitamins and nutrients including hefty doses of Vitamin C and zinc.

Pussy Willow Folklore: As adorable as it is unusual, it's not surprising the fuzzy pussy willow has a place in folklore. According to an old Polish tale, a litter of kittens had been chasing butterflies at the river's edge and one by one fell into the moving waters. The mother cat, unable to save her kittens began crying out. The willow trees, located on the banks of the river swept their long branches into the water – to which the kittens clung on tightly and were rescued. Legend has it that is why each spring the willow branches sprout grey furry buds – a reminder of where the little kitten's paws grasped onto the twigs.

Another Polish legend isn't quite so “warm and fuzzy” but nonetheless has earned pussy willows a place in Ukraine tradition. It is said just before Easter, families go into the woods to pick pussy willows with the intention of beating out the long cold winter. Reciting a childhood rhyme family members playfully strike each other with the long, pussy willow branches, an act which symbolizes the strength to break away from the winter season to welcome spring and new beginnings.

Propagating Pussy Willows: Pussy willows are moisture loving plants can be found wild along wetlands. The plant is a favorite remedy to remedy poor drainage areas and are useful for controlling soil erosion. Their tall branches are also used for privacy or borders,

but most people enjoy the pleasures of pussy willow in bloom simply to display as a centerpiece.

Propagating pussy willows is not difficult and usually results in success. An easy way to plant pussy willows in the spring season is simply to cut a foot long branch of new growth and insert it into moist soil. Sink it into the ground at least three inches and allow a few nodes to remain above ground. With luck, roots will form within a couple of weeks. The trick is to make sure the cutting is from a male pussy willow (males change color and are often larger; female branches remain dull and grey). Keep in mind that roots are aggressive so be sure to plant them away from anything you do not want them to invade such as sewer systems, etc.

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

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Most holy Virgin Immaculate, my Mother Mary, to thee who art the Mother of my Lord, the queen of the universe, the advocate, the hope, the refuge of sinners, I who am the most miserable of all sinners, have recourse this day. I venerate thee, great queen, and I thank thee for the many graces thou has bestowed upon me even unto this day; in particular for having delivered me from the hell which I have so often deserved by my sins. I love thee, most dear Lady; and for the love I bear thee, I promise to serve thee willingly forever and to do what I can to make thee loved by others also. I place in thee all my hopes for salvation; accept me as thy servant and shelter me under thy mantle, thou who art the Mother of mercy. And since thou art so powerful with God, deliver me from all temptations, or at least obtain for me the strength to overcome them until death. From thee I implore a true love for Jesus Christ. Through thee I hope to die a holy death. My dear Mother, by the love thou bearest to Almighty God, I pray thee to assist me always, but most of all at the last moment of my life. Forsake me not then, until thou shalt see me safe in heaven, there to bless thee and sing of thy mercies through all eternity. Such is my hope. Amen. N.F.L.

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Leicester teacher selected for National History Day spring Webinar series

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Mr. Norman Everett, a teacher at Leicester Middle School, is one of only 120 teachers selected for a National History Day® (NHD) spring professional development program. This course focuses on using online Library of Congress resources to develop and support historical arguments and is a feature of NHD's membership in the Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources (TPS) Consortium.

The teachers chosen for this honor represent NHD's 58 affiliates across the country and around the world, and the National History Day program in Massachusetts selected Mr.

Everett. NHD affiliates include all 50 states and the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, Puerto Rico, and international school programs in China, South Asia, and South Korea.

"The skills and strategies Mr. Everett is developing through this series will benefit his students over the course of their academic and professional careers," said National History Day Executive Director Dr. Cathy Gorn. "As a Library of Congress TPS Consortium member, NHD is incredibly fortunate to be able to offer this opportunity for

teachers, especially now as teachers and students continue to address challenges of non-traditional learning settings required by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic."

For several months, Mr. Everett works with his peers around the country and National History Day staff to build knowledge for teaching with online Library of Congress resources. Upon completion of the series, he will have demonstrated the ability to share with his students' key strategies for researching, supporting, and presenting historical arguments bolstered by these primary sources.

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