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Friday, October 23, 2020

Lovvorn returns for rematch with McGovern



Photo Courtesy

Tracy Lovvorn is looking forward to her rematch with Congressman Jim McGovern next month.

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Challenger Tracy Lovvorn is bringing a re-energized platform into her Nov. 3 rematch with Congressman Jim McGovern for the Massachusetts Second Congressional District.

The Grafton Republican fell to McGovern, 67-33, in 2018, but she has since rallied her supporters around a nucleus of regional and state issues. These include healthcare reform, congressional term limits, infrastructure improvements, and protecting constitutional rights.

Frustrated with the ideas and policies of many elected leaders in Washington, D.C., Lovvorn hopes to bring a new voice to the mix.

“I worry about the country. I particularly do not like the direction the extreme left is moving in,” Lovvorn said. “Today’s Democratic Party is no longer the patriotic, hard-working party of JFK. I want to bring a new energy to Washington – a positive energy focused on unification and solutions. I am tired of being lied to by career poli-

*Please Read **LOVVORN**, page **A3***

School District moves forward with reopening plans

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – School officials recently announced their plans to reopen more buildings this fall, assuming COVID-19 conditions don’t significantly worsen.

After consulting with the Board of Health, Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District leaders plan to expand the hybrid model of learning. The district’s two elementary schools have seen success with the alternating A-week/B-week hybrid model, which places students into cohorts to help maintain social distancing and reduce transmission risks.

Looking ahead, district leaders are targeting Monday, Oct. 26, as the return date for students in grades 4-8. Students would take part in the same alternating hybrid schedule as the elementary school level. High school students, meanwhile, would return to school on Monday, Nov. 16.

The district’s reopening plans are contingent on local COVID-19 case rates remaining manageable. District officials have been pleased with the use of social distancing and facial coverings in school buildings, which has paved the way for the current plans.

“I have every confidence we can open our schoolhouse doors to the students in these grades,” said SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey.

Phone calls, emails, surveys, and other outreach efforts began earlier this month to inform the school communi-

ty of the reopening updates. School officials urge all parents and students to be aware of the safety policies and schedules ahead of the return dates.

“As we progress forward, it is important that everyone realize it is each and every single person’s responsibility to remain vigilant with the safety protocols so that we are able to not only open our schoolhouse doors to the students of these grades, but keep them open,” Haughey added.

School principals and administrators are in the process of communicating with each parent or guardian about safety protocols and expectations. For those seeking further guidance, virtual information sessions for families will continue to be held.

In addition to readying the reopening operations at the physical school buildings, district officials have also put together a comprehensive plan for transportation. AA Transportation officials have teamed up with school leaders to develop a plan that focuses on maximizing safety for students and drivers. This will require assistance from parents and guardians, as state COVID-19 regulations limit the number of students who can occupy a bus.

“AA Transportation continues to do an outstanding job of getting our young people to and from school. However, we need your help,” Haughey said. “Our regional school district only

*Please Read **REOPENING**, page **A7***

Camp Marshall announces Halloween events

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Committed to providing a safe, fun Halloween experience for families, Camp Marshall has unveiled a packed schedule of programs for the final weekend of October.

Although this Halloween season has already featured plenty of nasty tricks, youngsters will still have an opportunity to receive treats thanks to the Camp Marshall

staff and local volunteers. If trick-or-treating is canceled in your town, be sure to check out fun events at Camp Marshall from Oct. 30-31.

The festivities will begin on Friday, Oct. 30, with a haunted campground Fright Walk from 7-10 p.m. Guests are asked to park in designated areas and stay with your family or cohort of no more than 10 people. Face coverings are required for this event, and

*Please Read **HALLOWEEN**, page **A7***

New thrift shop fulfills owner’s longtime dream

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

EAST BROOKFIELD – Annie Wuelfing’s long-held dream of entrepreneurship recently became a reality with the opening of her own thrift shop.

Located at 221 East Main St. (Route 9), Annie’s Thrift and Vintage has been open for three weeks in a part-time capacity. The business is run out of a former carpet store, and Wuelfing is thrilled to give new purpose to an old building.

“It is a building with quite a history, initially as a gas station in the 1950’s, then at various times a tack shop

on one side with a card shop on the other side,” Wuelfing said.

Shortly after Wuelfing moved to the area from West Virginia in 1983, the building became a vacuum shop. It later served as a flower shop, a plumber’s office, and a carpet store, but its latest incarnation focuses on thrift and vintage items.

Wuelfing has already had the opportunity to connect with many residents and patrons who enjoy shopping locally.

“I have met so many folks who have shared some interesting and tender stories about their life’s journey,” Wuelfing said. “This

is something I have wanted to do for quite a while, and the location is good for business.”

As Wuelfing eventually winds down her decades-long career in human services, where she worked with seniors in multiple positions, she is excited about the next chapter. Among other positions, she previously directed a senior center, worked at HUD housing, and also served as a senior activities coordinator for a decade.

“I have loved and devoted myself to such work, and I am now preparing for a

*Please Read **ANNIE’S**, page **A3***



Photo Courtesy

Annie Wuelfing recently launched a new business in East Brookfield.

SUPPORTING
BREAST
CANCER
AWARENESS MONTH

THINK PINK IN OCTOBER!

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

Please see some important info below.
Thank you to the businesses supporting this special page.

Prevention

More than 200,000 women are diagnosed with breast cancer in America each year, but there are steps you can take to reduce your risk. Healthy lifestyle choices like consuming a low-fat diet rich in fruits and vegetables, engaging in regular physical activity and avoiding cigarettes and excessive

alcohol are all important steps in helping to prevent breast cancer. Early detection is also key in the fight against breast cancer, so be sure to perform a breast self-exam each month, and ask your doctor when to schedule mammograms and other screenings.

Treatment

A breast cancer diagnosis can be devastating to the more than 200,000 American women who receive one each year, but it's important to remember that great strides have been made in successfully treating the disease. At Harding Cancer Center, we take a multidisciplinary team approach to breast cancer treatment, using

the latest technological advances and research findings to help patients experience greater success rates with fewer side effects. We also offer a variety of support services to ensure a level of care that goes beyond the standard to make each patient experience the very best it can be.

Hope



It is estimated that more than 200,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year, but we find hope in knowing that there are more than 2.9 million breast cancer survivors in the U.S. today.

Great strides have been made in early detection and treatment of breast cancer, and these survivors are living proof. During Breast Cancer Awareness Month and all year, we are committed to fighting the disease with education outreach, screening tests, advanced treatment options and a team of dedicated medical professionals whose commitment to beating breast cancer never stops.



During October, National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we remember the mothers, daughters, friends, sisters and wives who have lost their lives to breast cancer. We also salute the survivors whose successful fight against breast cancer gives us hope for the future and a cure.

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Statistics indicate there will be more than 256,000 new cases of breast cancer diagnosed in American women this year, and breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women of both countries. Thanks to early detection and treatment advances, survival rates have improved dramatically, but much room for progress remains. As diagnosis and treatment options continue to evolve, medical experts agree that early detection is a key factor in overcoming the disease, and performing a monthly breast self-exam is often vital to detecting abnormalities, including lumps or tenderness, in the breasts that may indicate illness. Take steps to protect yourself against breast cancer during Breast Cancer Awareness Month by initiating healthy lifestyle changes, beginning monthly breast self-exams, and talking to your doctor about the appropriate clinical breast exam and screening mammogram schedule for you.

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STAFF DIRECTORY

MANAGING EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
(508) 909-4106
news@stonebridgepress.news

STAFF WRITER
KEVIN FLANDERS
(508) 909-4140
kflanders@stonebridgepress.com

SPORTS EDITOR
NICK ETHIER
(508) 909-4133
nick@stonebridgepress.news

ADVERTISING EXECUTIVE
JUNE SIMAKAUSKAS
(508) 909-4062
jsima@stonebridgepress.news

STAFF DIRECTORY

PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER
FRANK G. CHILINSKI
(508) 909-4101
frank@stonebridgepress.news

BUSINESS MANAGER
RYAN CORNEAU
(603) 677-9082
ryan@salmonpress.news

OPERATIONS DIRECTOR
JIM DiNICOLA
(508) 764-4325

EDITOR
BRENDAN BERUBE
(508) 909-4106
news@stonebridgepress.news

PRODUCTION MANAGER
JULIE CLARKE
(508) 909-4105
production@stonebridgepress.news

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LOVVORN
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ticians. I am done with allowing them to advance their personal agendas and careers, instead of working for us in support of our needs.”

Having practiced as a licensed physical therapist since 1997, Lovvorn is currently working to earn her Doctorate degree. As a wife, mother, healthcare provider, operational manager, and a small business owner, she thrives in the arenas of multitasking and planning.

“I grew up on a small farm, and I know the value and results of hard work and sacrifice. I lost both my parents at very young ages, and despite these challenges I worked hard, put myself through school, and attained success in both my personal life and career,” Lovvorn said.

If elected, Lovvorn pledges to bring her work ethic to Washington – and demand the same level of commitment and issue-driven focus from her peers. To that end, she believes congressional term limits would go a long way toward ensuring quality elected service and relatively fresh voices in office.

“I am exhausted from the dead-end political extremism in Washington D.C. that works to incite and divide us,” Lovvorn said. “It is past time to put an end to the nonsense of 20-, 30-, and 40-year career politicians who have gotten rich at our expense, and every eight years they simply blame a new POTUS for their personal inabilities. I’m running for Congress to bring accountability and function back to this broken

branch of our government.”

Lovvorn strongly supports a fiscally responsible government, lower taxation, and a decrease in regulations. If elected, she would promote a smaller government and an increased focus on state and individual rights.

“I believe in the U.S. Constitution and the freedoms it bestows, and I support law and order,” Lovvorn said. “I want to do everything I can to bring opportunities and federal resources here that haven’t been here since the mills left. We need to incentivize businesses to come.”

Throughout her campaign, Lovvorn has met residents seeking change for a number of reasons. Many of them are apprehensive college students or recent graduates struggling with debt and an uncertain future. If elected, she would carry their stories to D.C. and fight for those who are starting their careers.

“We have 10 colleges and universities just in Worcester, and many more throughout the district. These graduates come out with so much potential, but there are not a lot of local jobs for them to stay,” Lovvorn said. “So many have to move out of the area or go to work in Cambridge. We have such a great opportunity. Our district is in the heart of the Commonwealth, and we have the potential to be an economic hub of the region.”

In addition to supporting students and recent graduates, Lovvorn is also promoting small businesses and the need for a heightened focus on products made in America.

“With the right people in place, with

the right drive and focus, so much is possible for us,” Lovvorn added.

Of course, all local challenges and issues have been amplified by the COVID-19 crisis. Lovvorn has personally endured the devastating effects on businesses, and she hopes to have the opportunity to support local owners.

“I am a small business owner, and like so many others, I have lived through this shutdown and I have been diligently working to restart my company,” Lovvorn said. “One thing that can be done immediately, right now, is to work with the federal government, instead of constantly against it. There are federally identified ‘opportunity zones’ – areas in which federal tax benefits are given to investors who realize capital gains and then invest them in such zones. We have 10 of these zones located throughout District 2. They are located in Athol, Orange, Leominster, Spencer, Worcester, Ware, and Webster. We need to be working with – and using the force of – the federal government in support of our needs in order to benefit from these proven programs.”

Throughout her career, Lovvorn has held multiple regional and corporate healthcare clinical/operational management positions across the U.S. She has worked with the Department of Health and Human Services, the Office of the Inspector General, and the Assistant U.S. Attorney General’s office in Philadelphia, among several others.

To learn more about Lovvorn and her platform, visit www.TracyForCongress.com.



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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ANNIE'S
continued from page A1

retirement enterprise,” Wuelfing said.

Although Wuelfing continues to hold her regular positions, she has also worked hard to build up her small business. She is currently offering several

pictures for sale, mostly of nature, and she plans to feature more local photography by the spring.

Wuelfing is also heavily focused on efforts that benefit the community and the environment. She believes that the principles of reuse can be applied well to business; rather than see items wasted or thrown away, she enjoys finding a

second home for local treasures.

“I have been selling some consignment items here and there for years, and I enjoy that. Having coordinated about a dozen Earth Day festivals, I am an advocate for ‘reduce, reuse, and recycle’, which is part of the nature of a thrift shop,” Wuelfing said. “We have many lovely old things, as well as creative and unique items and all kinds of treasures. Sometimes the best gifts are the second time around.”

Looking ahead, Wuelfing aims to create a social media presence and continue spreading the word about her business.



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\$350,000, 99 Fiskdale Rd, Rand, Erica, and Rand, Gabriel, to Hurl-Bastian, Susan, and Bastian, Michael.
\$47,600, 29 Kimball St, King, Wayne G, and FNMA, to Bayview Loan Servicing.

EAST BROOKFIELD

\$245,000, 149 North St, Kent, Jered, to Tebo, Jeremy.
\$75,000, 100 Prouty Ln, Mc Carey, Katherine D, to Lochiatto, Victoria D.

LEICESTER

\$3417,500, 98 Moose Hill Rd, Coleman, Jessica, and Coleman, John E, to Saunders, Zachary.
\$235,000, 5 Lillian Ave, StPierre, Patricia, and Murphy, Thomas A, to Parella, Josh.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$60,000, 11 Old West Brookfield Rd, USA Properties Inc, to Wales, Jessica.
\$40,000, 13 Old West Brookfield Rd, USA Properties Inc, to Chaffee, Richard.

Richard.

\$40,000, 15 Old West Brookfield Rd, USA Properties Inc, to Chaffee, Richard.
\$40,000, 63 Bates St, USA Properties Inc, to Chaffee, Richard.
\$40,000, 9 Old West Brookfield Rd, USA Properties Inc, to Chaffee, Richard.

SPENCER

\$430,000, 83 Lakeshore Dr, Riopel, Diane J, and Don Riopel Inc, to McNulty, Susan M, and Leo, Raymond C.
\$399,900, 163 Paxton Rd, Williard, Jolene C, and Sicard, Matthew, to Pichette, Michael.
\$282,500, 117 Ash St, Nagbe, Leon, and Nagbe, Mariah, to Perry, Katherine.
\$218,500, 58 Thompson Pond Rd, Schwartz, Ryan A, to Roberts, Micah, and Hammond, Dylan.

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\$300,000, 16 Otis St, Filkins, David E, and Filkins, Kathleen R, to Chamberlin, Kari V.



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Friday’s Child



Lariah
Age 14

Hi! My name is Lariah
and I want to be a
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Lariah is a creative girl of African American descent. She enjoys watching TV and doing crafts. She also loves pampering herself and enjoys getting her nails and hair done. She is very strong-willed and can be described as an engaging and happy young woman.

Legally free for adoption, Lariah would do best in a family with a mother and family or a two-mom family with no other children. A single mom would also be considered pending experience working with or parenting children with trauma.

Her new family should have knowledge of or be willing to learn about Lariah’s culture, including foods and personal care. In addition, Lariah needs positive praise, love, affection, consistency, and a structured home life. Her new family will need to help Lariah maintain contact with her siblings as well.

Who Can Adopt?

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

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

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



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Fall garden tasks to protect your landscape from winter wildlife damage



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As the seasons change, we adjust our gardening tasks and plantings to match. Animals also make changes this time of year, often changing their eating habits and dining locations. These adjustments can impact your gardens. Reduce the risk of damage by starting in fall to protect your landscape from hungry animals this winter.

Take a walk around your landscape to evaluate plants and plantings for their susceptibility to animal damage. Look for pathways that animals use to access your landscape and areas of potential damage. Note new plantings, animal favorites and those special plantings you would hate to lose. Make sure these are protected.

Check mulch around trees and shrubs. Deep layers of mulch and mulch piled around the trunk of trees and the base of shrubs provides shelter for mice and voles. These rodents like to gnaw on the bark of trees and shrubs in winter. Pull mulch off tree trunks and stems and spread out deep mulch so it is only two to four inches deep.

Protect young trees and shrubs with a four-foot-tall fence of hardware cloth sunk several inches into the ground to prevent vole damage at ground level and most rabbit damage. Mature trees

are usually only bothered during years where the vole and rabbit populations are high and food is scarce.

Fencing around garden beds filled with animal favorites is another option. Make sure your fence is high enough, tight to the ground and gates are secure. You will need a four-foot-high fence for rabbits and at least five- to six-foot-high fence to keep deer out of small gardens. A fence of several strands of fishing line has proven to be successful for some gardeners.

Repellents are another less obtrusive option. These use smell or taste to discourage animals from dining in your landscape. Check the label to see if the repellent works on the animals and rodents you are trying to manage. Apply repellents before animals start feeding for best results. Then reapply as recommended on the label. Look for one, like organic Plantskydd (plantskydd.com), that is rain and snow resistant, lasting up to six months on dormant plants over the winter so you will need to apply it less often.

Scare tactics may be effective depending on where you live. In urban and suburban areas animals are used to human scents and sounds. Gardeners often hang old CDs and shiny ribbons in tree branches to scare hungry animals. If you opt for scare tactics, be sure to employ a variety of options and change their location to increase your chance of success.

Constantly monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the methods used and check all plantings for damage. When animal populations are high and hungry, they will eat about anything.



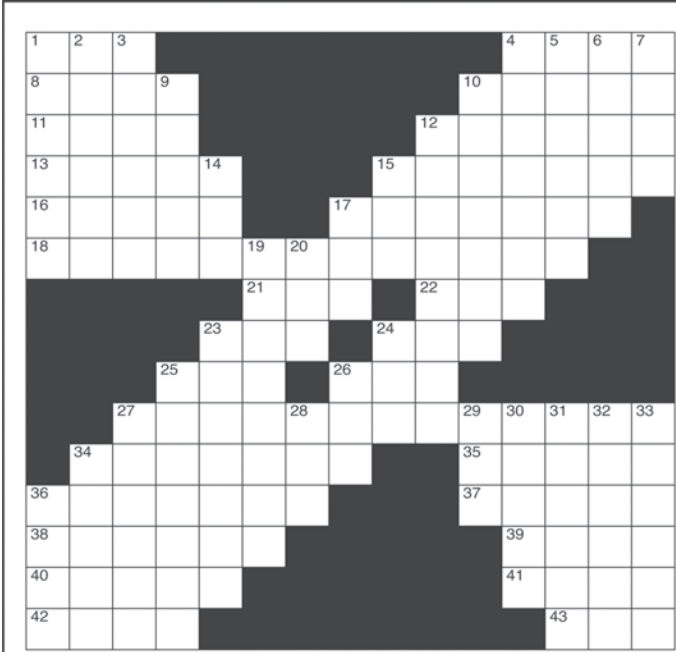
Photo Melinda Myers

To protect plantings from rabbits, use fencing that is at least four feet tall or a repellent that discourages them from dining on plants.

Be willing to change things up if one method is not working. Using multiple tactics will help increase your level of success.

Protect your landscape from hungry deer, rabbits, and voles this winter. Start preparing in fall before their winter dining habits begin. If you are vigilant and persistent, you can coexist with these creatures and still have a beautiful landscape.

Melinda Myers has written more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses* “How to Grow Anything” DVD series and the *Melinda’s Garden Moment* TV & radio segments. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Tree World Plant Care* for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

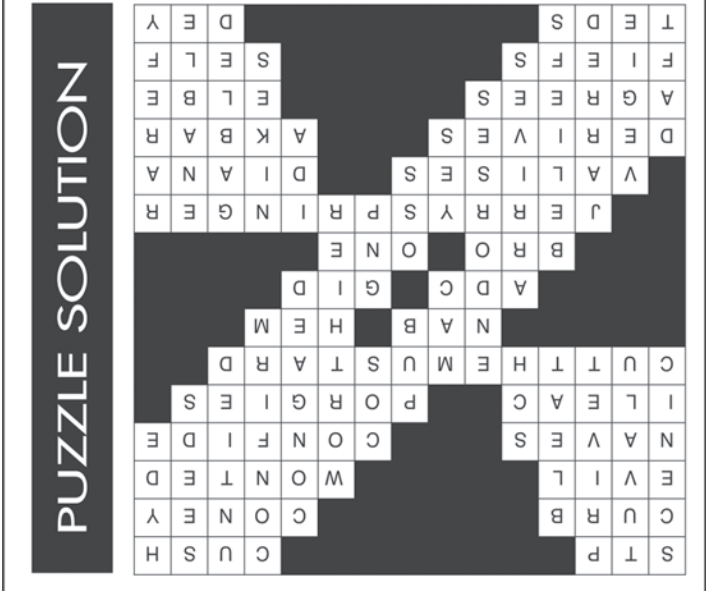


CLUES ACROSS

1. Engine additive
4. Undemanding
8. “__ your enthusiasm”
10. Well-known island
11. Not saintly
12. Habitual
13. Central parts of church buildings
15. Trust
16. Intestinal
17. Deep-bodied fish
18. Live up to expectations
21. Snag
22. Partner to haw
23. General’s assistant (abbr.)
24. Sheep disease
25. Male term of endearment
26. United
27. Popular TV host
34. Overnights
35. Beloved British princess
36. Obtains from
37. Third Mughal Emperor
38. Shares the opinion of
39. Central European river
40. Feudal estates
41. KU hoops coach Bill
42. Spreads out for drying
43. “The Partridge Family” actress Susan

CLUES DOWN

1. Picturesque
2. South Pacific island country
3. Shrub of the olive family
4. Establish the truth of
5. Unfettered
6. Originations
7. Famed English park
9. Sheep’s cry
10. Danced
12. More upstanding
14. Upstate NY airport (abbr.)
15. Type of lettuce
17. Place to call a pint
19. Backs
20. Partner to cheese
23. Makes it there
24. Value
25. One’s convictions
26. Former CIA
27. Clashed
28. Affirmative
29. Journalist Tarbell
30. Athletic shoes
31. Roof style
32. Make possible
33. Make less dense
34. Healthy food
36. Silly



A Roundup of Timely Tips

Fall is here, and from picking the last of the harvest crops to raking up (and jumping in) piles of fallen leaves, the chores of autumn season are a labor of love. Read on for a medley of seasonal tips that are geared toward making New England’s favorite season a little more enjoyable!

Harvesting herbs from the fall garden? When chopping fresh herbs such as basil and tarragon, sprinkle the leaves with a few drops of olive oil. This effectively slows the darkening of the chopped leaves. And to enhance the flavor of dried herbs, simply chop up some fresh parsley with them!

Wondering how to store all those onions and other garden root vegetables through the winter? If you don’t have a root cellar, pack Styrofoam packing peanuts into a wooden crate. As long as the vegetables are kept cool and dry, this method will do the trick.

Local apples are a seasonal treat that are not only delicious but super healthy too. According to Cornell University researchers one apple packs more cancer-fighting antioxidants than a 1,500-milligram dose of vitamin C. Want more bang for your bite? Eat Red Delicious Apples, as they have twice the antioxidant activity than Empire apples. Northern Spy came in second; then Cortland, Ida Red, Golden Delicious, McIntosh, Mutsu and Empire.

Did you know not only can an apple a day keep the doctor away - it may even help keep the fat away! Pectin in apples contains soluble fiber, which absorbs water in the intestines, mixes the food into a gel and can actually limit the amount of fat your cells can absorb!

Have some native apples you need to use up? Believe it or not, you can make homemade applesauce in the crock pot. To do: Peel, core and slice ten large apples, add one cup water, one



TAKE
THE
HINT
KAREN
TRAINOR

cup sugar and one teaspoon cinnamon. Cover cook on low for eight to ten hours! Start it in the morning and it’ll be done when you get home.

Flu season will soon be here. Want another weapon in the fight against flu? According to several Japanese studies, gargling with black tea twice a day from October to March, significantly improved participants abilities to fend off the flu bug.

Feel a case of the sniffles coming on? The fiery spice cayenne is a hot commodity in home remedies, Have a head cold? A dash or two of cayenne powder in a cup of hot tea relieves congestion. Touted as a natural antibiotic, a few shakes of Tabasco sauce into tomato juice is said to boost the immunity and fight flu. But never give cayenne to kids!

Did you know 3% hydrogen peroxide is a natural disinfectant that can help keep cold and flu germs at bay? Hydrogen peroxide is a thrifty alternative to pricey germ killer sprays. Use it full strength to kill germs on phones, keyboards, door handles or more.

Want to capture your best fall foliage shots on camera this season? While experts agree there’s no bad time of day to photograph colorful fall foliage, they note morning and late afternoon often provide the most interesting shadows. And try later too: The golden light just before sunset highlights not only leaves on trees, but those on the ground too.

To preserve colorful fall leaves for decorating try this quick

drying tip: Place leaves between two paper towels and microwave on medium one to 1 ½ minutes checking every 30 seconds for dryness. This will remove moisture from the leaves, and they’ll retain their brilliant colors!

Outside garden chores are winding down, so here’s some help for house plants! Using a flowerpot with large draining holes? Keep water in by placing a large coffee filter in the bottom of the pot. And if you cut and old sponge into small pieces and add it to the potting mix. You won’t have to water plants as often.

Now’s the time to give your neglected indoor plants some TLC. To make your lackluster indoor plants glow feeding them a tablespoon of castor oil, mixed with water. And simply dusting the leaves exposes them to more beneficial light!

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House

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

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

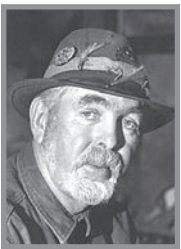
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Bowhunting season begins



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
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A good soaking of rain last week sure helped alleviate the threat of brush fires and helped bring some of the small ponds and lakes water table up a bit, but we still need a few more inches of rain to get into the water table before a ground freeze, and it hopefully will happen this week.

The start of the Massachusetts bow hunting season started this past Monday in zones 1-9. Some white oak trees had a good number of acorns this year, while others had very few. Bowhunters setting up tree stands in the areas of a heavy drop of acorns, should increase hunters' chances of harvesting a deer. The heavy winds and rain of last week helped defoliate many trees, and made observing deer a lot easier as they approached a tree stand or ground blind.

Tree stands are the number one choice of most bow hunters, but as some deer hunters age, it is time for them to keep their feet on the ground. Numerous fatal or serious injuries happen every year by hunters falling from a tree stand. If you do hunt from a tree stand you

need to be sure you use a safety belt or harness. Even then they do not protect a hunter from falling from a tree stand, as most accidents happen while climbing into their stand. The most popular tree stand is a ladder stand, but they too can be dangerous.

Ground blinds work very well for deer hunting, and keep a hunter a bit warmer and dry during the hunt. They also work very well for deer hunters that bring along their son or daughter, introducing them to the sport of deer hunting. There are more women that hunt deer and birds than ever before. Hunting is not for everyone, but if they enjoy the sport, they will get to enjoy quality time with their adult parent, and will hopefully pass it along to their children.

Hunting during the rut is the most exciting time to be in the woods, and will make your chances of a deer encounter almost a guarantee. It is also the time of year to harvest that big buck that has avoided you for many years. They often let their guard down as they chase a doe in heat, and if you are in the right spot at the right time, you could get lucky and harvest the deer of a life time.

Cleaning and field dressing a deer needs to be done properly, or you could taint the meat, making it uneatable. Many people that do not like eating venison have more than likely had venison that was not properly cleaned and packaged. A

lot of venison is ruined during field dressing. There are plenty of videos that can be watched on YouTube. Taking the time to watch one can insure some great eating in the coming weeks and months. Choosing the correct meat cutter to process your deer is very important, and be sure that you are getting your deer meat, and not someone else's.

Proper dressing of the trophy deer that you are planning to take to a taxidermist also needs special care. Be sure to check that out also on YouTube or from your taxidermist. Choose the right Taxidermist & be sure to ask the following questions. What is the final cost? How long will it take before I get my mount back? Ask to see some of his or her work. Ask for references, and never pay in full before you receive your mount back.

Tautog fishing remains great as this week's picture shows. Recently stocked trout are being caught at some local hotspots. Check out the stocked waters by going to Massachusetts Fish Hunt Web site. One local angler caught a huge rainbow trout at an undisclosed site last week.

Goose and duck hunting were great for most hunters last week, but the absence of mallard and black ducks were noticeable in many areas. Wood Duck were providing the best shooting opportunities.

My apologies for the incorrect date for pheasant season



Photo Courtesy

This past Sunday's catch of Tautog, Seabass and one cod, taken at Point Judith light, while fishing with Matt Fontaine of Uxbridge.

in last week's column. You should always check your abstracts prior to hunting any species, but I still take my reporting seriously, and try to

be as accurate as possible. It is not easy growing old!

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending.

Latest antiques, collectibles, and auction news



It has been over a month since my last antiques, collectibles, and auction news report. A lot has happened since. Let's begin with an upcoming Halloween auction in Ireland.

The Irish Times reports that Mullen's Auctioneers of Dublin, Ireland will be holding a Halloween auction. The auction features many prints, photos and medals related to historical events in Ireland. There are two items fitting for an auction on Halloween. A movie poster from the 1958 film "Dublin Nightmare" which has an estimate of

150 to 200 Euros (approximately \$175 to \$235 U.S. dollars) will be one of the offerings. A death mask of Irish novelist James Joyce is the other. The Irish Times reported that Joyce's wife Nora authorized sculptor Paul Speck to make two death masks of Joyce when he died in 1941. Speck made an additional mask for himself. The two authorized masks are owned by the James Joyce Foundation. The third was sent to the Irish Library of Congress. Speck made 6 bronze castings before he presented the mask to the Library of Congress. Speck gave one of the castings to film director James Huston. Huston in turn had 12 more bronze castings created by Lunt's Castings. One of the 12 Huston created will be auctioned on Halloween. Its auction estimate is 1,500 to 2,000 Euros (approximately \$1,750 to \$2,350).

There are very few paintings by 15th Century Renaissance painter Sandro Botticelli in private hands. It's rare for one to come up for auction, but this noteworthy event will take place in January, when his "Young Man Holding a Roundel" will be offered. A Mutual Art article states that "Botticelli's striking paintings in the late 15th-century made his work sought after by some of Europe's richest patrons, and his works' appeal was widespread." CNN reports that this painting was produced in the 1470s or 1480s. According to Mutual Art: "it's reasonable to assume that the sitter is an elite nobleman, due to his



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
.....
WAYNE TUISKULA

high quality clothing and pensive, refined appearance." The current owner purchased it for \$810,000 (a little over \$1 million U.S. at the current exchange rate) in 1982. Despite the pandemic, the auction house and the consignor have found the auction market to be resilient. The auction estimate on the painting is \$80 million.

A Kalamazoo, MI couple recently found that their \$5 estate sale buy may be worth thousands, according to WWMT TV. The husband bought a poster rolled up in a tube without a price. He collects movie posters and thought that's what he was purchasing. He offered \$5. The seller accepted and the buyer gave the tube with the poster to his wife. It sat in their basement for five years until their son was searching for some wall art. He looked through the items his parents had accumulated and opened the tube with the poster. It was much larger than the family expected. WLNS TV reported that the poster they thought to be movie poster size was instead a whopping 8 feet x 13 feet large. The poster was produced by Air France in 1959. Their research determined that it was an original lithograph created by French artist Lucien Boucher. It depicts aircraft flying to destinations around the globe. The couple found auction results for a similar piece that sold for 18,750 British pounds (over \$24,000 U.S.) in 2014. The couple decided to donate the poster. WWMT reported that the airline map

is expected to land at the Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum.

Bidding ends on Oct. 28 for our online coin auction. Our next auction featuring gold estate jewelry, sterling silver, pocket watches, World War I and II Red Cross posters, a 1931 Auburn automobile and a wide selection of other antiques and collectibles will be online soon with bidding ending November 17th.

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

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This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

HALLOWEEN

continued from page A1

groups will be let into the campground in a staggered fashion to maintain social distancing. Please follow the designated path through the campground to ensure a smooth flow of traffic.

The next night, Halloween, the campground will host a trunk-or-treat event from 3-5 p.m. Volunteers will hand out candy to youngsters as they move through the procession; local business owners are also encouraged to contact the camp and get involved. Pre-registration for all trunk-or-treat vehicles is required, as space is limited.

Also, volunteers are asked to use gloves to pass out individually bagged treats. Please park in designated spaces as directed by Camp Marshall staff members. All participants are required to wear face coverings for this event.

Also on Halloween, Camp Marshall will offer a pair of spooky walking tours through the haunted campground. The first event, geared toward youngsters and families, will take place from 4-6 p.m. The second program – this one a little scarier – is slated for 7-10 p.m. Guests attending the Fright Walk programs should adhere to all safety guidelines.

For the Camp Marshall staff and volunteers, it means a lot to help salvage

Halloween for local families. Many towns have canceled celebratory programs, and the Camp Marshall team wants to make sure kids have a safe venue to show off their costumes and collect candy.

“We are committed to finding ways in which we can serve the community and restore as much of a sense of normalcy as possible to the youth, in particular,” said Camp Marshall Executive Director Sheryl Moore.

The camp currently has over 40 volunteers ready to provide thrills and chills during the Fright Walk tours. The entire camp community came together to prepare a “spook”-tacular experience for families.

REOPENING

continued from page A1

has 16 buses under contract, and given the COVID-19 guidance put forth by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education – as well as from our medical professionals statewide – we are unable to serve more than 22-25 students per bus. This limits us to having only 400 total seats for the elementary bus run and 400 seats, at best, for the secondary bus run.”

As a result, district officials ask all guardians who are able to provide transportation for their children to do so this year. School leaders want to reserve the limited number of bus seats for students who have no other transportation options.

Looking long-term, district officials are emphasizing the

need for students, guardians, and staff members to not become complacent with mask use and social distancing. Large private gatherings, improper distancing, mask fatigue, and other factors have already led to an increase in COVID-19 cases regionally. If conditions worsen, school reopening plans in those communities could be adversely affected.

“There are local communities in the Southern Worcester County region who have experienced difficulties along the way with reopening,” Haughey added. “Our administration, faculty, and staff have done an outstanding job adhering to the safety guidelines and worked diligently to make sure we mitigate the risk of exposure. We ask that you continue to partner with us and support us in this work, as

we prepare to return to school in a measured and phased manner.”

In a recent letter to the community, school officials highlighted the following ongoing safety protocols in all schools:

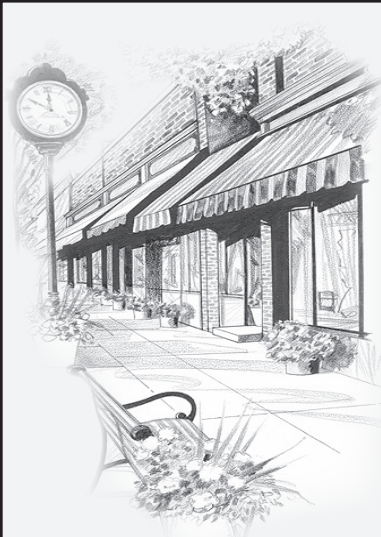
Wear face coverings
Wash/sanitize hands frequently
Maintain social distancing of at least six feet apart in learning spaces

“We want to open our doors and keep them open, but we can only do that if we remain vigilant in our actions individually and with each other,” Haughey said. “As always, thank you for your ongoing support and collaboration while we navigate the pandemic. Your support and partnership are deeply appreciated by everyone within the district.”

TRUST
Your Neighbors

1. Make formal introductions, get to know your neighbors.
2. Get out there, Participate
3. Build a community network
4. Assist those who need extra care
5. Keep promises, Try your best to keep your word
6. Manage confrontations, If a problem should arise try your best to handle it tactfully
7. Pool resources. Sharing resources can save money and build a sense of community
8. Be a neighbors' eyes and ears, just keeping an eye out for your neighbors can be a help.
9. Organize a community project, neighbors worked together for the community's greater good
10. Act responsibly, When neighbors have good boundaries, are respectful and considerate, and offer assistance to one another, it creates a lot of good will and trust and long-term, close relationships can grow,

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FRANK G. CHILINSKI
PRESIDENT AND PUBLISHER

BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Time
traveling
with
television

It's been a tough 2020 for many; there's no denying that. Life as we know it has changed. Hopefully, the pandemic will be nearing an end soon, but let's remember not to get complacent, and to continue practice guidelines distributed by the experts. There's no harm in being cautious.

While we don't spend too much time watching anything but the news, a flip through channels one evening made us realize that television shows are not what they once were. For nostalgic reasons, we thought it would be fun to ask staff about some of their favorites from the past. Thinking back to a time when life was seemingly easier than it is now.

Our Sports Editor (currently on hiatus, but still very much a part of the family) says that "Cheers" was one of his favorites. Of the Boston based show, he said, "Cheers had great writing and the best T.V. Theme song of all time as well as the best ensemble casts ever." Spaulding added one more to his list, "ER is my favorite show of all time. It started prior to 2000, but lasted until well after. It had a great cast, great stories and great action."

Our Editor, known around the office for his extensive knowledge of movie and TV trivia said one of his favorite shows was "In Search Of," a show that debuted in 1976 hosted by Leonard Nimoy. Berube said, "Every episode explores a different mystery, whether it be paranormal phenomena, famous disappearances from history or buried treasure. I own the entire series on DVD, and to this day I still marathon all seven seasons once or twice a year." He added, "I love it because it's like opening up a time capsule. The topics they covered show you what was in the american zeitgeist back in the late '70's and early '80's."

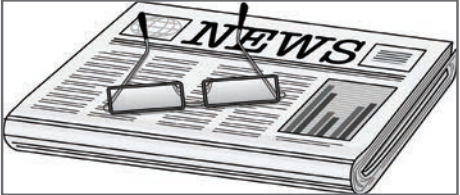
"My other favorite, and I'm not ashamed to admit it, is 'Star Trek: the Next Generation,'" said Berube. He went on to tell us, "My dad and my brother got me into the show when I was growing up and that was my reward on weeknights for finishing my homework." He added, "I would get to watch reruns of Star Trek at 6 p.m. on the old WNDS channel, when Al Kaprielian was the weatherman. Then at 7 p.m., A&E would play an hour-long block of 'In Search Of' reruns."

One of our writers can say, with great enthusiasm, that "Three's Company" was, and still is, the best sit-com of all time. There has been no better trio than Jack, Chrissy and Janet. Cameo's by Larry and Mr. Roper made the show even better. The fact that John Ritter who played Jack Tripper, was willing to trip over couches and fall all over the place with his slapstick comedy speaks volumes. If there ever was a show to bring you out of the dumps, it's "Three's Company."

Added to that list is "Quantum Leap." The show began in 1989 and starred Scott Bakula, who played Sam Beckett. Beckett would time travel, taking the place of other people in hopes to correct historical mistakes. Time travel shows are always interesting and fun to watch.

"The Mary Tyler Moore Show" was an iconic show that demonstrated a rise for women in the workplace. Mary's friendship with Rhoda Morgenstern and work relationship with Lou Grant always made for good entertainment. Noted most however, was the main character's optimism.

Honorable mentions go to "Gilligan's Island," "Happy Days," "Different Strokes," "What's Happening," "WKRP in Cincinnati," "Lassie," "Highway to Heaven," "I Dream of Jeannie," "Dennis the Menace," "Leave it to Beaver" and "The Wonder Years."



VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We the people know what's best for our interests

To the Editor:
Media pollsters and pundits are professional pontificators of partisan pollution!
Its best to tune them out!
America is a democratic republic; the people possess all the power via their vote!
Hollywood hacks, academic elites, social media tech giants and wealthy athletes don't comprehend the best interests of the United States. They

Another opinion

To the Editor:
If you have no problem with your freedoms being limited, vote Biden/Harris. When Biden was chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, under his leadership, two bills limiting the First and Second Amendments to our Constitution passed. Those control freaks seriously tried to limit our speech and our right to protect ourselves. Luckily, a case was heard before the Supreme Court, and these bills were overturned.
Today, those who control the national news media and Internet have done the same. They've used their positions to limit what we hear, read and see. They don't report the news, they create it. This is why I call them the propaganda arm of the Democratic Party. Here's just a few examples of their daily shenanigans. Those in charge of the Internet have blocked Republican voices for longer than I can tell, the national news media have either said nothing or altered what has truly happened on the Republican side to serve their purpose. How many Americans

Getting political

I know it makes some people sick to talk about elections and politics; alas, no matter what they say, I'm expounding on it anyways!
This election year, there is a lot at stake. Voter apathy would be a huge mistake.
It's not so much who we're voting for, but the important issues on the Congressional floor.
Rove v Wade, women's right to choose, Supreme Court case law on the line, if you choose to snooze.
New appointees will set grave precedents, all depending on who we elect as President.
Sound education, gun law reform, affirmative action, LGBT rights recognition, Social Security protection
Medicare improvements for our elderly folks, along with "not free," but affordable health care access for you and for me
College cost relief for the middle class, climate and environmental issues we all surely must heed.
World pressures and trade, foreign policy snafus, all are large concerns that affect all of us too.
Old trickle down theory that just doesn't flow must be adjusted, along with repairs to the infrastructure that is so worn and so busted.
Workable policy that will help those in need, health, education and welfare for all society
Strong consensus, built with fair regulation, must be legislated with fairness and skill throughout our nation
We must do our part by participation. We must push for ideals worth emulating.
We must focus on those elections where progressives must win and then we must back them, through thick and

Me Too, but not you

To the Editor:
The confirmation of Amy Coney Barret (ACB) is winding down with no 11th hour victims popping up from out of nowhere like a political game of Wack-A-Mole. Compared to what the democrats put Associate Justice Brett Kavanaugh through when Congresswoman Feinstein produced a letter, allegedly written by Christine Blasé Ford, accusing Kavanaugh of rape, the confirmation hearing for ACB seemed pretty tame. In fact, Lindsey Graham and Diane Feinstein actually complemented each other at the close of the hearings and then, to the shock and horror of triggered lefties, they embraced. Because of this brazen act of bipartisanship democrats are now calling for her to step down. So much for the left endeavoring to reach across the aisle to find common ground...
When Kavanaugh was dragged through the mud he took the full brunt of the "Me Too" movement. If I recall correctly, "Believe all Women," was/is their battle cry. Believe them all, even if it is a verifi-

are lunatic lobbyists for their own agendas!
Social engineering at the expense of working-class America has backfired and "The Forgotten Man" or the collective "Silent Majority" is wide awake!
Four more years!

JEN GAUCHER
SPENCER

know that the lowest unemployment ever for blacks was 5.5 percent under Trump? CNN altered a video of Trump in Charlottesville to make it look as if he was saying white supremacists are nice people. Speaker Pelosi was recently videoed laughing about how all she needs to do is smear or demonize someone, wrap up and smear as truth; the press prints it, so it must be true. If she truly spends any time praying, she'll have to do a lot of it!
You may have already voted. Actually, it was wise for the Democrats to promote mail-in ballots before the truth of the Russian hoax with Biden's involvement and the connection of the Bidens to Burisma was broken by minor news media. I can't suggest that any of you should look up anything I've said because just like Communists, these manipulative propagandists have made that very difficult.

ANN MARCEL
LEICESTER

through thin.
For winning this inning is only the start of this season of the battle for power between money and reason.
Democratic success depends on voting and financial involvement. It takes lots of voters and their money to keep campaigns running and solvent.
The polls are open, 6 to 8. Get up, get out; there is a lot at stake. Don't just gripe about problems, remember the "they" is really the "we"...democracy means only those who vote will help shape policy.
Forego the apathy, spare the criticism. Do not make "not voting" your silly expression of cynicism. To affect a change, to be effective in voice, it is the duty of each to do deep research and make a best choice.
This is not a simple challenge we have in store. Change is full of knocking heads and breaking down doors. It will not happen overnight, it will not happen without a fight. We all must vote; don't be naïve. We all must vote for what we believe.
Ideas and ideals mean nothing when left in our heads and in comfy armchairs. It is in participating and practicing democracy that we make societal structure fair.
My last words I write, my sentiment sincere, as a final note on issues expounded on here,
May all of us work for the best solutions for all, no matter which of our brave candidates may rise or may fall
Aside from that, to be exact...no matter who I vote for, my goals are strictly Democrat.

LINETTE POWELL
SPENCER

Caregivers must also care (financially) for themselves

If you're a caregiver, possibly for a loved one dealing with an illness such as Alzheimer's disease, you're probably already facing some significant emotional and physical challenges – so you don't need any financial ones as well. Yet, they are difficult to avoid. What steps can you take to deal with them?
First of all, you may be interested in knowing the scale of the problem. Consider these numbers from the Alzheimer's Association: About 5.8 million Americans ages 65 and older are living with Alzheimer's disease, and in 2019, caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias contributed more than 18 billion hours of unpaid care – worth about \$244 billion in services. Furthermore, about two-thirds of caregivers are women, and one-third of dementia caregivers are daughters.
But whatever your gender or relationship to the individuals for whom you're providing care, you can take some steps to protect your own financial future. Here are a few suggestions:
Evaluate your employment options. If you have to take time away from work – or even leave employment altogether – to be a caregiver, you will lose not only income but also the opportunity to contribute to an IRA and a 401(k) or other employer-sponsored retirement plan. But you may have some options, such as working remotely, or at least working part time. Either arrangement can give you flexibility in juggling your employment with your caregiving responsibilities.
Explore payment possibilities for caregiving. Depending on your circumstances, and those of the loved ones for whom you're providing care, you might be able to work out an arrangement in which you can get paid something for your services. And as long as you are earning income, you can contribute to an IRA to keep building resources for your own retirement.
Protect your financial interests – and those of your loved ones. You may well want to discuss legal matters with the individual for whom you are a caregiver before Alzheimer's robs them of the ability to think clearly. It may be beneficial to work with a legal professional to establish a financial power of attorney – a document that names someone to make financial decisions and pay bills when the person with Alzheimer's no longer can. And whether you or someone else has financial power of attorney, the very existence of this document may help you avoid getting your personal finances entangled with those of the individual for whom you're caring.
Keep making the right financial moves. As long as you're successful at keeping your own finances separate from those of your loved one, you may be able to continue making the financial moves that can help you make progress toward your own goals. For example, avoid taking on more debts than you can handle. Also, try to maintain an emergency fund containing three to six months' worth of living expenses, with the money kept in a liquid account. Of course, these tasks will be much easier if you can maintain some type of employment or get paid for your caregiving services.
There's nothing easy about being a caregiver. But by making the right moves, you may be able, at the least, to reduce your potential financial burden and brighten your outlook.

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

The Biden “MCGA” plan

To the Editor:
You know Donald Trump’s “MAGA” plans. Lessen taxes so our businesses can grow and compete globally. For three years, we had the lowest unemployment ever, the cheapest oil, and real wage growth. He fought the unfair trade practices with China, which no other politicians ever did. Then China released the plague forcing the world to slow down. So, what is Beijing Biden’s plan? It is effectively a “MCGA,” or “Make China Great Again,” plan.
On jobs, Biden says he would create 17 million jobs. How? If they are mfg. jobs how does it help by raising the corporate tax rate. This will only make the US uncompetitive. Jobs will be sourced overseas. Guess what country will get the jobs, you got it China. Biden may create new government agencies to push the new Green Deal. How will

these jobs be paid for? You got it, new taxes or fees. What will the qualifications for hiring in these new agencies? It will be political patronage and race. Another advantage from Joe to China.
On climate change. Biden says he will rejoin the Paris Climate Accord. This accord favors China as a “Developing Country” and exempts them from having to meet the same goals as the US. That means China can still use cheap polluting coal to drive their mfg energy needs. The US has severe limits we must meet or pay fees if we exceed. So which country is going to have lower costs to gets the jobs? You got it, China! Another advantage from Joe to China.
On converting to solar and energy modifications to the two million buildings Joe talks about. Where do you think the solar panels and electri-

Turn To **ROBILLARD** page **A13**

The election heats up

To the Editor:
We have all come to expect three quadrennial presidential debates hosted by the non-partisan Commission for Presidential Debates. Normally, candidates fight for space on the debate stage and only in 1992 did we have more than two candidates. For the first time in my memory a candidate for president has refused to debate. President Trump came down with COVID and the CPD changed the second debate to a virtual event, then Trump refused. Instead we ended up with each candidate hosting a town hall event in the same time slot on different TV networks.
Personally, I got the full debate experience. I opened a YouTube window on the left side of my 65 inch TV with Trump’s event on NBC and a YouTube window on the right side of my screen

with Biden’s event on ABC. Initially, I had planned on muting 1 to listen to the other but I decided to unmute both for a while to get the full experience of Trump talking over Biden, moderators, and these mythological undecided voters on both sides.
What was really striking about these head-to-head town halls was the ratings. Joe Biden got much higher ratings and during the live YouTube stream had two to three times the number of viewers. Official television ratings weren’t as different, but Biden still had higher ratings. This is incredible because Biden’s event was expected to be more boring and it was more boring. Trump’s event was a show and Samantha Guthrie did a great job as an adversary and confounded him as an interrogator.

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

Election is coming; pick your team!

To the Editor:
I have said many times, politics is a team sport. In last week’s New Leader, Ms. Carol McPherson made loud and clear what team she is on. She asked for people to vote for either Peter Durant or Donnie Berthiaume. Now, Durant and Berthiaume are in different districts, but both encompass the New Leader’s circulation. She didn’t mention the 17th Worcester District which is also covered by this paper. Very clearly, Ms. McPherson is an unabashed Republican and I will venture to guess she was very proud of Donald Trump when he was egging on his supporters to “Lock her up” in reference to the sitting Democratic Governor of Michigan... Of course, weeks after the FBI stopped a plan to tase Gov. Whitmer and “put her on trial” in an undisclosed location.
Peter Durant is running unopposed, yet for some reason, it is important that she rally the troops to go vote for him. Donnie Berthiaume has an opponent,

but let’s be honest, Donnie is going to win by a landslide. I don’t know why Sam Biagetti is wasting his time – makes me think he doesn’t understand his district well. When thinking about teams – let’s not forget the 2017 Las Vegas shooting when 61 people died and 867 were injured at the hands of somebody shooting into a crowd from a hotel room. That man used a “bump stock” which allowed any semi-automatic rifle to be converted into a poorly aimed fully automatic weapon good for nothing but spraying bullets into crowds. Bump stocks are now banned in Massachusetts and the ban passed the House 157-3. Of the three votes to keep bump stocks legal, Peter Durant was one and Donnie Berthiaume was the other. Go team...
The 17th Worcester District has a Democrat running unopposed for re-election, so I guess not worth men-

Turn To **BAGG** page **A13**

Here I whine, again

To the Editor:
First and foremost, I want to commend the Spencer New Leader for allowing extensive discussion of the racially charged term “Chinavirus” and now finally censoring it. It was awesome to see “[Corona]virus” as a reminder that some intentionally tried (unsuccessfully) to use racist language. In the future when censoring racist language I suggest replacing the unacceptable word with “[racist].” These people will not be reformed; they are immune from reform. With any luck “Proud Racist” t-shirts will start showing up and at least we’ll all be on the same page.
It struck me as quite odd that Dana George Reed went from skepticism to disgust to anger when reading about a large vandalized political display and described the article as “1 sided.” He goes on to assume that perhaps Ms. Powell destroyed her display herself for sympathy or a Leftist destroyed it to garner sympathy. He refers to Ms. Powell’s “alleged” experience. I hope we can all agree that vandalism of private property is never OK. As much as I disagree with nearly everything Mr. Reed says, if he says GOP/Conservative/Trump signs were stolen or destroyed from his property I am inclined to believe him, and I am inclined to believe the perpetrators were political opponents.
Mr. Reed seems pretty convinced that we all read propaganda because Massachusetts is a blue state, more Trump/Republican signs are vandalized, and he sees vitriol coming from the left. Mr. Reed should probably take a step back and realize that while a blue state, Spencer is a red town. He should probably consider for a moment that the people he chooses to associate with are very much tilted to 1 side (Trump). He participates in public Trump displays. He only reads about the majority of this state and this country that he doesn’t associate with. His personal experience is very 1 sided and while there is nothing wrong with that, he should realize that his own experience is not representative of the whole.
Mr. Robillard’s letter was uncharacteristically pleasant, until of course I was called a “whiner.” Am I a whin-

er for pointing out things others are happy to ignore? Of course, the “No Irish or French Allowed” signs were rampant, and that is important history to understand. It is a recurring theme in America, a melting pot of waves of immigration, to treat newcomers like dirt. We can’t forget though that within a generation the Irish and French got rolled into the American concept of “white” when the first generation born here grew up without accents. That didn’t happen with other groups. Anti-Irish discrimination is in the dustbin of history. Anti-black discrimination is alive and well. A proper understanding of history allows for a full understanding of our glories as well as our sins. It seems that conservatives want to whitewash our sins and talk about only our glories which feed a dangerous nationalism feedback loop. We are in a

We are following Putin’s playbook

To the Editor:
“Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities.” Though it’s a quote for our time, it was written in 1765. What absurdities are being disseminated? One is QANON’s basic premise that Democrats are a satanic cult of pedophiles, and that they use the blood of children to stay young. (Actually Trump took a COVID drug made by Regeneron developed from human fetal cells originating from an abortion, a practice repeatedly denounced by Trump, but we know his ethics are flexible. But I digress.)
Any hateful, idiotic thing Trump Tweets is picked up by his friend Putin and reiterated and embellished by the Russian trolls and bots. Putin has a playbook developed over many years in the KGB. The book has seven steps. The first is to look for the cracks in a soci-

ety. It doesn’t matter what: white vs. black, blue vs. red states, rural vs. city, Christian vs. non-Christian; and exploit it. Divide a nation against itself. A student of Putin’s ideas says “Fighting war on the battlefield is a stupid way of fighting a war, the highest art of warfare is not to fight at all but to subvert anything of value in your enemies country.”
What do we have of value? Our democracy, our reliance on one another in times of trouble, our belief that each person has value and that our laws and institutions will work for us as a nation, these are our strengths. So how does Putin exploit the cracks to divide us and take away our democracy and trust, how does he exploit the cracks? According to FBI reports there are thousands of Russian troll accounts picking up on all the division and amplifying it thousands of

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

“Whiner?” Moi?

To the Editor:
I have been accused of drinking the “Marxist FoolAyde.” I am aware (originally from the Spencer New Leader no less) that BLM has been accused of being a Marxist movement by right-wing media outlets and by the Trump White House. I’d be so lost without my weekly regurgitation of Rush Limbaugh’s and Breitbart’s latest...
All movements have founders and one of the three co-founders of BLM has self-identified as a Marxist. This begs the question, what is Marxism? In 1848, it meant a march towards communism, but in 2020, it generally means analyzing social change through an economic lens, with the assumption that the rich and the poor should become more equal.
The movement, the idea of Black

Lives Matter, has grown and broadened dramatically. Many Americans, few of whom identify as Marxists, support Black Lives Matter, drawn to its message of anti-racism. Regardless of the professed politics of people who are prominent in the movement or were on board early, they don’t represent its breadth. There are certainly socialists within the BLM movement, as there have been socialists in every single social movement in American history. The politics of a fringe few do not speak for the vast majority of the supporters of BLM. Many in this publication have complained of BLM’s substantial support among white middle class people who wholeheartedly support the idea of BLM and the anti-racism movement.
The term “Marxist” is nothing more

Turn To **WASHINGTON** page **A12**

Autumn leaves drift by my window...

To the Editor:
Say what you will about 2020 being the cataclysmic year from the “hot place”; no one with eyes to see can deny that the foliage this fall has never been more spectacular. As I drive the backroads of central and western Massachusetts these past couple of weeks, I marvel that for so long I-and, face it, maybe you too-took it all so much for granted: the kaleidoscopic blending of orange, scarlet, violet, pink, crimson, yellow, maroon, and, strategically interspersed within the palette of primary colors, the dark greens of the pines and hemlocks. The “Greatest Show on Earth” is right here, and it’s free--all we have to do is open our eyes.
There are only a very few places on earth to match what we see with a monotonous regularity here in old New England on a yearly basis. Being old, now, I find it all means so much more to me, and I pay acute attention to the spectacle whenever I can shift

my glance from the road to the side of a hill in full flame, like a wildfire on an Oregon mountain. How many more times will I see this, a voice in my head asks. I know, before long all that will remain will be the skeleton of the trees stripped of their crowning glory, sort of like life when freedom is lost, when all the joy and excitement of living disappears and life becomes a drudgery-filled desperate search for the means of survival.
Every year, about this time, and without exception, a classic Johnny Mercer tune comes to mind: “The falling leaves...drift by my window...The autumn leaves of red and gold...I see your lips, the summer kisses...The sun-burned hands I used to hold. Since you went away, the days grow long... And soon I’ll hear old winter’s song... But I miss you most of all my darling... When autumn leaves start to fall...” A

Turn To **MCRAE** page **A13**

childish.
Of course, the “99 percent survival rate” only refers to those who contract COVID-19. Epidemiologists say that herd immunity won’t occur until 80 percent of the population has been infected – so my apologies – we shouldn’t assume the entire U.S. population gets infected, only 80 percent. Natural immunity from other coronaviruses wanes after six months, so it is likely we’ll never reach herd immunity and it will whip back around again – kind of like the common cold.
I encourage all to re-read my letter of Oct. 4. Mr. Herholz did not respond to nearly any of the points I made. Mr. Herholz was specifically trying to compare COVID-19 to the 2009 H1N1 and while COVID might have a 99 percent survival rate (leading to three-plus-million dead Americans), H1N1 while

tually dishonest to compare COVID-19 to anything else in our lifetimes and I continue be shocked that people try. Even if you don’t believe the mainstream media, take a look at the rest of the world. Is the entire planet in on a plot to self-harm their economies in order to make Trump look bad?
Mr. McRae – You must be aware that the circulation are of the New Leader has lots and lots of Trump. Lovvorn, and Hall signs that are there day after day. Political polarization is a big problem in this country and vandalism of private property is never OK, but it seems pretty obvious that the Trump side is more rabid and has been for longer. There is blame to go around, it is a false equivalence to even assign equal blame to “both sides,” but to think that the Dems are primarily responsible for

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

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HAR-YAROK
continued from page A9

the incivility of our current discourse is mind boggling.

The thwarted plot to kidnap the sitting Governor of Michigan, Gretchen Whitmer, by right-wing militias should concern us all. They had planned on kidnapping her, putting “on trial” for treason, and who knows what their plans next were. Also thwarted was a plan to “take out” the sitting Governor of Virginia. This is the ideology that drove Timothy McVeigh to commit the Oklahoma City bombing. This is the kind of stuff that happens in failed states. This is the kind of stuff that starts civil wars. How can anybody not see that Trump cozies up to these militias and emboldens them with his tweets. Remember when he tweeted “LIBERATE MICHIGAN!” among many other things? Just this weekend Trump egged on a “LOCK HER UP!” chant in reference to Gov. Whitmer.

Trump of course came down with COVID-19 and he continued his schedule as normal until he started coming down with symptoms. Who knows how many

people he personally gave it to. The President recovered after a multi-day stay in the hospital with an elite medical team dedicated to his care and after taking a combination of experimental treatments that he somehow became part of the study and drugs normally reserved for severe cases. Make no mistake about it – nobody would receive the same level of medical care. If you get COVID, you will suffer until you are in respiratory distress, and then you go to triage.

I don’t know if I should have been shocked or not, but he resumed his activities while still contagious and still testing positive for COVID. The non-partisan Commission on Presidential Debates changed the debate to virtual, then Trump backed out. I guess he only wants to debate if he can yell over his opponent and it isn’t easy to cut his microphone. Up until now we didn’t know that presidential debates were optional – this could be the beginning of the end of debates.

Why do I bring up COVID-19 week after week? Because it is the single largest disaster in any of our lifetimes and it is being mismanaged so extremely badly in this country, so many people don’t

understand, so perhaps hitting them over the head with it will work?

COVID-19 has now very clearly entered the fall surge in the United States. Some call this the third wave but in reality the 1st wave never ended – this is the third surge of our first (and likely only) wave. Cases have been growing every week since Labor Day. We are currently sitting at 8,111,105 confirmed cases with 219,328 deaths. 387,845 NEW people got sick and 5,010 NEW deaths occurred in just the last week in the U.S.

Mr. McRae states that the Trump administration has handled the pandemic “about as good as any fair-minded person could have asked.” Dead wrong. Last week, on a per-capita basis we had 3.1 times the number of new cases and 4.6 times the number of deaths compared to Canada. This virus thrives in the cold and the population weighted average temperature of Canada is much lower than the U.S. making their out-performance even starker. The United States managed COVID-19 the worst in the developed world. Hands down. The worst.

The U.S. is still #1 for both cases and

deaths. It looked like India, with 3x our population, would take the crown...not so fast... India has seen its new daily cases and new daily deaths drop over the last month while the pandemic has been accelerating in the U.S. Assuming this trend holds, the U.S. will retain our crown for #1 COVID disaster in the world for the foreseeable future.

Somewhat curiously, even our governor is growing tired of plague management. As the weather gets colder and cases continue to rise, he has relaxed restaurant and other business restrictions. Just this week he changed the threshold for quarantine-free travel from other states from 6 per 100,000 to 10 per 100,000 (both per day). As the weather gets colder our risk goes up, not down, yet our will to control this virus is expiring with time.

How did we get here? How did the USA become the worst specimen among rich countries to manage this global catastrophe? It is sad. It is pathetic. It is a total failure of government.

OMAR HAR-YAROK
EAST BROOKFIELD

ROSENBERG
continued from page A9

Biden’s event was boring – kind of like how a presidential town hall should be. Biden came across as presidential whereas Trump came off as a clown. The higher ratings for Biden indicate that people are not looking at the clown like they did in 2016. In 2016, people thought the show was fascinating and funny. In 2020 people are tired of the show and they wanted to watch the next President.

I have to admit, I am a political disaster rubbernecker. I was more interested in watching Trump on TV than Biden, Trump is an entertainer after all. After turning the TV off, I was most impressed with Samantha Guthrie. She was relentless, she was smart, and she was a one-woman fact check. She deserves credit for calling Trump to task on his retweeting of falsehoods such as the claim that Navy Seals did not kill Osama bin Laden but it was really a body double, his refusal to denounce white supremacists, and his claim to not know anything about

that he retweets as being the height of irresponsibility. She said on national live TV: “You’re not somebody’s crazy uncle. You’re the president of the United States.”

Unfortunately for the United States, all we have is somebody’s crazy uncle in the Oval Office and that is all we have had for nearly four years.

Trump’s only argument for why he should get four more years is that the economy was good before COVID, ignoring of course that the economy had been on the same steady trajectory since 2010 and Trump’s first three years looked just like Obama’s last seven years. Of course, Trump’s pre-COVID economic argument ignores the fact that the United States has handled COVID worse than any other peer nation, hands down. At this point though this election is about personality, character, and COVID. Trump’s character is tough guy who won’t be confused with the facts. Some people like that but a clear majority of Americans are exhausted by it.

National polls give Biden is double-digit lead. If (a free and fair) elec-

tion were held today it would lead to landslide election in Biden’s favor on a scale unseen since Reagan won 49 states in 1984. This is different though because Reagan was running for re-election. We have to go back to 1932 when FDR beat Herbert Hoover to find an election where a sitting president running for re-election was as despised as Trump. Not surprising given that in Trump’s term we have seen both a once-in-a-century pandemic and a once-in-a-century unemployment event.

It has been a chaotic, traumatic, and bizarre year. Yet, it has been a remarkably stable year for president. Back in January Joe Biden led Trump by eight points or so. He has maintained that lead in every single poll throughout the year since before the pandemic and if anything, he’s enlarged his lead.

Every election seems important at the time but it is hard not to see this one as the most important in our lifetimes. This is an opportunity to right the ship which is taking on water. This is a referendum on America’s role in the world, science, and race. These are big issues.

We are in for unstable times ahead. The fact that so many Trump supporters truly and honestly think that Trump will win in a landslide is concerning because the results of a free and fair election will come as a complete shock to them and Trump is likely to try and incite violence. Republicans know what a losing hand they hold and are doing everything they can to put their thumbs on the scale. Blue cities in red states are seeing 5+ hour lines to votes in an effort to make them give up. The mail is slowing down to thwart mail-in ballots which are likely to break for Biden. A major effort will be undertaken to disqualify mail-in-ballots for trivial reasons. Trump is encouraging voter suppression and intimidation by encouraging armed poll watchers. If Trump appears to win, a large majority of Americans will know that the election was stolen and it isn’t clear how they will react.

Whatever the next few months hold, we are certainly in for interesting times.

DAVID ROSENBERG
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WASHINGTON
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than a dog-whistle for something horrible and is used with the obvious attempt to delegitimize and dehumanize the BLM movement and all of its supporters. Black Lives Matter is not an organization but a fluid movement; it doesn't actually matter if one of its founders was a liberal, Marxist, socialist, or capitalist.

It is important to recognize that movements evolve. The group's support is broad. The McCarthy style red-scare items several authors have referenced no longer appear on BLM's website. In 2017, 37 percent of registered voters supported BLM. In 2020, 50 percent of registered voters support BLM. Black Lives Matter may be the largest movement in U.S. History with estimates that as many as 26 million people in the US have participated in demonstrations since George Floyd's death. It is time to either get on the right side of history or at least shut up and stop embarrassing yourself.

As for me being a "whiner" – I've been called a lot of things but that's a new one. I believe all I have done is pointed out disturbing trends in our body politic, set the record straight on a few items written about in this publication, and provided much needed context. With all the mud-slinging in these Letters to the Editor pages I take it as a compliment that "whiner" is the best attack so far... I guess my content and context was harder to attack.

It is important that we all understand the news shaping our world as

it unfolds. 2020 has been a big year in terms of racial strife and while we can differ in our policy prescriptions we can't move forward unless we all agree on the basic facts of History. The founders of this country saw black folks as property no different from livestock worthy of three fifths representation in congress to be voted on by white folks. We had legalized and official institutional racism for 100 years after slavery was ended. Black folks have only been equal de jure for 50 years.

We need to stop lionizing and revering our founding fathers as demigods but understand they were flawed people with prominent roles in history and their reputation should be considered mixed. Some pushed us in the direction of a better more equitable and just world with limited success. Others fought for the economic interests of the monied elite, fought to protect slavery, and created a new more modern aristocracy than what existed in England. The American War of Independence was sold to the peasants as a freedom fight but it was really a war fought for the interests of the land-owning elite who were unhappy with taxation to pay for the colonies' common defense at rates far below modern levels. We also shouldn't forget that the British Empire abolished slavery peacefully by an act of Parliament in 1833, more than a generation before slavery was ended in the USA as the result of a bloody war.

Fifty years of "on paper equality" might sound like a long time, but it isn't. Wealth passes down through generations. The GI Bill excluded black veterans, so after WWII, they did not

obtain educations and buy homes like white veterans did. White people of that generation had an easier time providing for their kids, giving them a start to life, and ultimately passing down property. Even today, black people have a much harder time getting hired, getting promoted, and getting raises even after we adjust for everything. The reality is the black community is more troubled, and because of that people don't want to give them a chance, which only deepens their issues. The black community is so troubled because of hundreds of years of slavery followed by 100 years of second class quasi-citizen, followed by unofficial yet insidious racism.

I demand that everyone understand our history, warts and all. It is a necessary condition to moving forward. Anyone willing to comment on current events or participate in our politics ought to understand what is going on and ought to understand the broader context. If I'm wrong, I encourage anyone to set the record straight. History is written by the victors and purging history is an old Soviet trick to wining over "the people." If you think that making sure people don't understand the full context of our history and current events in order to paint a pretty picture so they can be happy Americans, it sounds like your concept of America is a White Supremacist Ethno-state.

I intend on continuing to highlight the context many wish to ignore. If that makes me a "whiner," I intend to continue whining.

TERRANCE WASHINGTON
SPENCER

HERHOLZ
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vice presidential debate was more like a polished turd. In short, she is would undeniably be the worst thing to ever happen to this county. We dodged a huge bullet in 2016, when Hillary was notelected president (take your popular vote argument and stick it in Biden's basement). Let's face it, the Dems are trying to play the shell game and think we are too stupid to understand what is going on. They know Biden has cognitive issues. He can hardly get his prepared speeches out of his mouth without immediately putting his foot in it. When challenged beyond what he prepared for, he struggles worse than a one legged man in a butt kicking competition. Nobody knows this more than Nancy Pelosi, or as the late Great Jay Severin called her, Bela Pelosi... She wants to suck your Constitution! (If you say it like Count Dracula did, it makes it much more comical). Pelosi tossed around the idea of the 25th Amendment, but it wasn't to try and find yet another way to oust President Trump, it is a failsafe in the event that Biden actually wins. Once in, they just wait for the next Biden moment, call him unfit, and boom! First female president. I'm not saying this country isn't ready for a female president... Just not Kamala Harris. Candice Owens on the other hand, now you're talking!

We are less than 15 days away from the election! That means there are only a few Trump Stand Outs left! This Friday we will be back at the Paxton Common, 4 until 6 p.m. Bring a flag, bring a friend and enjoy the time outside!

MATHEW HERHOLZ
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BAGG

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tioning. I’m surprised Ms. McPherson didn’t suggest Leicester residents write in somebody really deplorable just to deny LaBeouf a few hundred votes.

Many have said that this upcoming election is the most important in our lifetimes. Both the Biden campaign and Trump campaign have said this. I couldn’t agree more. I want to plagiarize Mike Pence’s favorite line though – “If you want to keep America, America.” Look at what has happened to this country in the last four years. Listen to Trump’s rhetoric. Look at the economy, the pandemic, the racial strife, the riots, the militias. This all happened under Trump’s watch. His rhetoric is not American rhetoric – he sounds more like a Fascist leader like Mussolini than an American president.

This election is about America vs. Trump. If you want to keep America, America then vote for Joe Biden. Not because he is young, not because he doesn’t stutter, not because he’s a great entertainer... Vote for Biden because he is a reasonable man who wants what is best for America. Vote for Biden because he is more interested in putting America back on the tracks than he is stroking his own ego.

MCRAE

continued from page A9

genius, like Mr. Mercer, could make a heart-breaking love song out of a typical October scene of leaves simply being evicted from their summer home, and the Chairman of the Board’s version is especially haunting.

I know what you’re thinking: “Is the old man going to write about something other than politics?” No, I’m not. Sorry. As I traverse the roads of the area and survey the omnipresent seasonal scenic splendor at all points of the compass, my awe and fascination is tempered somewhat by the imposition upon my visual perception of signs-political signs, Democrat political signs (since they’re the ones that don’t get knocked over or stolen by the sign vandals).

I then find myself pondering, “Why are you a Democrat?” I know some of these residents, and I had no reason to think they were not good or intelligent people. But this year, I have to wonder. You really want to publicly endorse a candidate who appears to be clearly suffering from serious cognitive decline, and who, after 47 unmemorable years at the public trough, has managed to earn the title of the most spectacularly corrupt politician in recent U.S. history (well, check that-there’s always crooked Hillary to compete with for that dubious distinction.) Is Hiden Biden the best your Party could find? Kind of pathetic, don’t you think?

I would remind these purblind defenders of the modern Democrat Party, yours is no longer the Party of your grandparents or even your parents. Gone are the days of Roosevelt, Truman, Stevenson, Kennedy, Humphrey, Mondale, “Scoop” Jackson, and others who weren’t ashamed of their country, and who, in their view of things, respected the Constitution and the Rule of Law and were willing to work within the strictures of long-established ways of getting things done legislatively.

Today, the Democrat Party is entirely different, something utterly alien to the way of thinking and acting of those Party leaders of the not-too-distant past.

Now your Party is consumed by an irrational hatred of one man, and marked by a disgraceful litany of unethical, illegal, and immoral attempts to discredit and destroy that one man and all he has been able to accomplish for this country despite his being opposed at every step along the way (from even before his inauguration) by virtually

This election has been remarkably stable. Latino support of Trump at 24-27 percent isn’t growing, but it isn’t shrinking. The polls haven’t changed since before the worst pandemic since Woodrow Wilson was president, the worst race riots since Nixon was president, and the worst economic collapse since the Great Depression. Yet we are exactly where we were a year ago – Trump is behind by high single digits. Partisanship is one hell of a drug.

In more functional countries like New Zealand, they re-elected their governing party by a landslide not seen in 70 years. People who had never voted for the New Zealand Labor Party observed the world and were willing to change their allegiance. In the UK, Boris Johnson is losing support and he will likely pay a price for poorly managing their economy and the pandemic. Here in the U.S. though, fundamentally nothing has changed since 2016 except demographics. There is virtually nobody who voted for Trump in 2016 that won’t do it again and virtually nobody who voted Hillary in 2016 that will vote Trump. If nothing changes then we (collectively) aren’t looking at how the last four years went with clear eyes. We (collectively) aren’t making decisions based on evidence and data. Are we looking for the more entertain-

every organ of power in the culture today: the mainstream press; the Deep State bureaucracy (F.B.I., C.I.A., Dept. of Justice, politicized federal judges); the universities; Hollywood; the social media tech tycoons; mainline churches; Democrat mayors and governors; the public health establishment, etc.

Yours is the Party of BLM/Antifa burning, looting, and murder, causing three billion dollars of destruction in Democrat-run cities whose leaders, in a misbegotten effort to bring down President Trump, chose to allow the rioting, arson, and assaults to continue unimpeded even though many of those most harmed were black citizens who owned businesses destroyed by the mobs.

Your Party endorses “cancel culture” where people’s jobs, careers, and lives are wrecked because of some comment or incident so far in the past as to be irrelevant. Nowhere is this more true than in the “academy” where dissident opinion is simply not tolerated in any form.

Your Party (Cuomo) tells Jews in New York City “Cooperate with the State or we’ll lock the synagogue’s doors.” And you want to call Trump “Hitler?”

Your Party endorses defunding the police, surely the most idiotic and (to black citizens of the inner city) the cruelest policy goal of the long list of stupid, bound-to-fail ideas the geniuses who run the organization have yet come up with.

Your Party and its radical mayors and prosecutors release hundreds-of-thousands of convicted prisoners to return to their old haunts where, in many cases, they simply return to their old, bad habits. In Democrat-run cities, arrested violent criminals are released almost immediately since the concept of bail is now viewed as racist. And, once again, the honest and decent people are left to pay the price of Democrat lunacy.

Yours is the Party of the Squad: Ocasio-Cortez, Rashid Tlaib, Ayanna Pressley, and, the Somalian ingrate, the hate-America anti-Semite, the vituperative, corrupt little coral snake, Ilhan Omar. This quartet of race-obsessed radicals who loathe the very country that enriches and protects them are a disgrace to the People’s House and, at a saner time in our history, would have been expelled for their detestable behavior. And, they belong to you, Democrats.

Your Party, taking everything out of context, tears down statues of great American heroes like Columbus, Washington, Lincoln, Grant, Douglas, and Roosevelt not to mention icons of

ing of the dueling town hall “debates?” Do we want an entertainer-in-chief? Somebody who kicks sand in the eyes of those you don’t like?

The mail-in-ballot fiasco is likely to turn this election into a murky mess. Sixty-two percent of those who plan to vote in person plan to vote for Trump. Sixty-seven percent of those who plan to vote early plan to vote for Biden. Seventy-two percent of those who plan to vote by mail plan to vote for Biden. Overall, Biden has a 9-point lead. The ballots are so tilted between in-person and mail-in though that if enough mail-in ballots were destroyed, invalid, rejected, late, etc. Trump would win despite historic unpopularity.

As this election nears, I encourage all to either vote in person or drop your ballot off at the official drop box in each town. Do not trust the USPS. Trump has installed a crony, Louis DeJoy, as Postmaster General. DeJoy is a major GOP donor who has no experience with the mail. In summer/fall 2020 DeJoy has taken mail sorting machines offline, removed blue boxes, and caused the mail to take weeks when it previously took days.

Texas has responded with an “All Counties Matter” response. 1 ballot drop location per county. As fair as this sounds, consider that Loving County,

the South such as Lee, Jackson, and Forrest. Your Party hates our flags and our history--all of it not, just the negative, and wants it completely expunged.

Your Party’s presumed leader says pro-life Christians are the “dregs of society.” Not a single Democrat anywhere (that I know of) repudiated the comments of the ghoul Governor of Virginia, Ralph Northam, Democrat, who said in the event of a baby being born alive and kicking after a botched abortion, it would be up to the mother and her “doctor” to decide if the perfectly healthy little guy or girl should live or die. And you’re O.K. with that? I didn’t think so.

Your Party is the Party of slavery, segregation, Jim Crow, and the ongoing seemingly unsolvable problems of the American inner-city, thanks to the disastrous social and economic policies of the Democrat Party. Your Party depends entirely on the unanimous support of black America, and becomes unhinged when black conservatives advise their fellow blacks to wake up and get off the Democrat plantation.

I could go on: the Party of war, the Party that execrates the police, the Party that ruined the once-great public schools, the Party that hates free speech, etc. But, there are leaves to be raked, and other more important things to attend to.

To the lifelong Democrats of my age cohort, just as I wonder if I’ll be around to see another spectacular display of the Master Artist’s creative genius next year, so, too, do I consider that this could be my last presidential election. You’re no different: if your conscience is troubled at all by having voted your entire long life for this Party that has turned out to be the Party of rage, rebellion, and ruination, understand: this may be your last opportunity to do the right thing, to leave as your legacy that when the scales fell from your eyes you chose America, you chose your children and your grandchildren and walked away from the Party of your ancestors. To withhold your vote from Trump, who offers a sane and efficacious path forward for our country, because you don’t like his personality, is foolish and, possibly, suicidal.

The remaining autumnal colors will still be vibrant on Friday, Oct. 23 at 4 p.m.. when Trump patriots will gather at the Common in Paxton. We invite you, especially Democrats whose vision has been restored, to come and join us for a great time.

JOHN MCRAE
EAST BROOKFIELD

Texas with 134 people has 1 drop location. Harris County which includes Houston with 4.6 million people has 1 drop location. Then consider that in rural counties like Loving County, Trump got 89 percent of the vote in 2016. Hillary got 54% of Harris County’s 4.6 million people. Clearly, they are making it absurdly difficult for Democrats to vote.

Lastly, the census. The Supreme Court has intervened to allow the Trump administration to end the census count early. No prior administration even tried to make the census political – it was about getting an accurate count. Those days, unfortunately, are in the past. Dense minority communities are generally the hardest to count and require the most work from the Census Bureau. The Trump Administration, for the first time caring about COVID-19, has decided that due to elevated COVID risk they should end the census early. Why would they want to count likely blue voters, anyway? How did we get here? How did counting “all persons” become political?

Do not trust the USPS. Drop your ballot off at the Town Hall. Luckily 1 box per town works around here...

FRED BAGG
SPENCER

ROBILLARD

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cal equipment is going to come from? Obama and Biden financed Solar companies that developed this technology during their eight years with over \$400 million of tax money. These companies promptly left and built their factories in China. Now Joe will be sending more of your tax money to buy these products. More cash from the US to China. Another economic advantage from Joe to China,

Joe pledges he will not raise taxes on the middle class. We all know who writes the tax laws. They are the lobbyists from the companies donating money to the political parties. And in this election, these companies are Twitter, Facebook, Microsoft, Amazon, and Google. They are making record profits, and they want the lockdowns to continue. They are the biggest donors to the Democrats, so you can be sure the tax law will have plenty of loopholes for them. So, where is Joe going to go after the revenue? It’s obvious it will be stocks, which are in everyone’s retirement accounts and funds our pensions. He will tax these funds which in turn will kill the market. Destroying of our capital markets will mean borrowing from someone else. Guess who? You got it China. Another gift to China from Joe.

The role of government is to give everyone the same rights and protections under the law so that you have an equal chance to work, prosper, and pursue your dreams. That was what the country was formed around. The Democrats want to try to make everyone equal in wealth and status. That is communism. It doesn’t work because we are not all equal. God made some of us smarter, some stronger, some better looking, and all degrees in between. If the government gave everyone a million dollars, guess what would happen. At the end of one year, 80% would have lost it to the 20 percent who are smarter. The system we have in America works pretty well. Most people live fairly good. I personally don’t want to live in a China type US. That’s why I urge everyone to fight to keep the US strong and vote for Trump.

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER



LEGALS

Town of Spencer
Conservation Commission
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

Joseph Zalieckas has filed a request to Amend the Order of Conditions with the Spencer Conservation Commission to replace a retaining wall with a block retaining wall located at 57 Oakland Drive, Spencer, MA.

Larry Tomasino has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to install a paver pathway and granite steps at 98 Chickering Road, Spencer, MA.

Ethan & Diana O’Brien have filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to demolish a camp and propose a single-family dwelling at 111 Wilson Avenue, Spencer, MA

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A remote public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at which time all persons having an interest may call in to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 7:00 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman
October 16, 2020
October 23, 2020

**Notice of Public Hearing
Spencer Zoning Board of Appeals**

At the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, the hearing will be conducted remotely to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and will be broadcast live on Spencer Cable Access channels and at SCATV.org on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard:

Special Permit – Applicant/Owner: Donald Bonder; Location: 32 Lamoureux Lane, Spencer Assessor’s Map U25-29. The applicant is requesting a Special Permit under Section 4.4.1.B (Private Garage) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to build a 2-car garage, with carport, and 2nd floor storage. The property is located within the Lake Residential zoning district.

Variance – Applicants/Owners: Ethan & Diana O’Brien as members of Island View LLC; Location: 111 Wilson Ave, Spencer Assessor’s Map U28-27. The applicant is requesting a variance under Section 5.2 (Table of Height & Bulk Requirements, Maximum Building Coverage) and 7.3 (Variance) of the

Spencer Zoning Bylaw in order to remove and replace an existing seasonal camp and build a year-round single-family dwelling. The property is located within the lake residential zoning district.

October 23, 2020
October 30, 2020

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Worcester Division
Docket No. WO20P2270EA
Estate of:
Dane F. Varney
Date Of Death: July 14, 2020
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Richard W. Varney** of **Spencer MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Richard W. Varney of **Spencer MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested par-

ties 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.

August 28, 2020

**Town of Spencer
Office of the Board of Selectmen
& Town Administrator
Notice of Public Hearing
Town of Spencer**

The Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on November 9, 2020 at 6:00 pm on the Annual License Renewals for 2021, including Class II, Class III, and Gravel. Due to the Coronavirus, the hearing will be held remotely. To participate, please dial in to: 1-866-899- 4679 and enter Access Code: 508-702-341

Ralph E. Hicks Chairman
October 23, 2020

OBITUARIES

Michael C. Payette

Michael C. Payette passed away on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at his home in Spencer, MA. surrounded by his family.



Michael was born July 3, 1955 and raised in Burlington, Vermont by his parents, H. Moore and & Doris Payette. He grew up with his three siblings, Barbara, David and Patrick.

The stories they share about their time growing up together are ones you could listen to for hours. They always involved friends, often involved cars and sports, and sometimes even included a little help from local fire and law enforcement. He soon set his sights on a lady, Gwyneth (Wendy), who would become his wife in 1977. They had two children, Matthew and Samantha.

In the early years of their marriage, Michael's love for helping people and his community led him to become a volunteer EMT for the Essex Junction Rescue Squad for several years. He served as squad captain for a few of those years and was awarded "EMS Officer of the Year" for the state of Vermont in 1990. In his professional career, through encouragement from his wife, Michael was able to turn his love for cars and trucks into a growing path that would span more than forty years, three states. Michael retired in 2018 as the Director of Fleet and Equipment for Staples North America after 19 years with the organization.

In all of the work he has done in his career his greatest achievements were born from passion. He was a defender of the environment and always on the hunt for sustainable solutions in the trucking and transportation industry. He made major strides towards this sustainability through his fleet work, replacing fossil fuel with clean energy vehicles including electric, compressed propane and biodiesel powered trucks wherever possible. Through his efforts at Staples and throughout New England, he quickly became known as a thought leader in the transportation industry. He was a member and officer of the North American Fleet Administrators (NAFA) and also hosted and delivered the keynote address to the New England based organization "ALTWheels" in 2009. This work brought him into the national spotlight in the fleet management field where he was asked to offer his insight by participating in and leading panels throughout the country. This included an opportunity to meet then President of the United States, Barack Obama.

Michael was always proud of what he was able to achieve in his career, but was often too humble to share

many of these highlights unless asked. Even when asked, instead of stories of achievements, you would be rewarded with stories of the people he met along the way. He loved people and often said the best part of his work were the friends and relationships that he built. Whether he meant to or not, Michael became a mentor to many. In the days preceding his passing, he was thanked by friends and neighbors for being a great friend who was always willing to help, a generous mentor, and the person who believed in them, even when they did not believe in themselves.

As a family man, Michael was no different than he was as a career man. Husband, "Dad", "Pepa", "Uncle Mike", "Brother" - no matter what you called him, you knew he would be there for you when you needed it. Michael is the proud father/father-in-law and grandfather to his son, Matthew and his wife Jessica, their four children, Zachary, Nathan, Carter, and Tyler (Connecticut); and his daughter Samantha and her husband Michael Welch (California). In addition to his children and his grandchildren, he leaves behind his wife and best friend of 43 years, Wendy, with whom he happily built the life they imagined for themselves. He loved exploring New England, playing with his grandchildren at the family farm, cruising the local lakes on his pontoon boat, driving his backhoe and heavy equipment and spending time with their rescued dog, Cleo. Michael is also survived by his sister Barbara and her husband Tom (Haraden) and their children Melissa & Jay, all of Vermont; his brother David and his wife Carol and their children Ken & Lori, of Maine; brother Patrick and his wife Bonnie, and their children, Molly and Alaina, all of New Hampshire. Wendy's siblings and their nieces and nephews were incredibly special to him too: His sister-in-law Karen Babcock and children Rick, Wendy (Gopsill), Brad and Craig; Barbara (predeceased) and Bill Oster; David and Vivian Otto and daughter Jennifer.

Michael and the family would like to acknowledge their gratitude to the care team at the Harrington Memorial Hospital Cancer Center in Southbridge, MA. His nurse Stacey and the rest of the team managed his care for over five years. He called them "Michael's Angels" and they were such a special part of his life through treatment.

The family requests in lieu of flowers, donations be made in Michael's name to the Northeast Animal Shelter in Salem, MA where they adopted their beloved Cleo, or to your local animal shelter.

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

James W. Biando, 96

SPENCER - James W. Biando (Bumpa) 96, of Spencer, died peacefully on Thursday, October 8, 2020 at Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center.



He leaves five sons, David Biando and his wife Linda of Philadelphia, Ernest Biando and his wife Kelly of East Brookfield, James Biando and his wife Irene of East Brookfield, Anthony Biando and his wife Kimberly of Townsend, and William Biando of Spencer; two daughters, Brenda Biando and her companion Scott Davis of Spencer, and Bonnie

Harvey and her companion Tony of North Brookfield; 21 grandchildren, 26 great grandchildren and 2 great-great grandchildren. He was predeceased by his wife, Corrine J. (Benoit) Biando in 2011. He was born in Junction City, Kansas, son of the late Joseph and

Mildred (Baker) Biando.

James enlisted in the United States Navy in 1943 at the age of 19 and served proudly in WWII. James was assigned to the Navy's PBY-5As' known as the "flying boats." He served for four years as an Aviation Machinist's mate and earned the American Theatre award, the Asiatic-Pacific 2-star Medal and the WWII Victory Medal. James also held a private pilot's license and loved to fly.

Jim was employed by Rexnord, Inc. of Auburn for 21 years and the former Sturbridge Isle Truck Stop where he worked alongside his former son in-law Richard Ford until age 77.

A Graveside Service with Military Honors for James will be held on Friday, October 16, 2020 at 10:00AM in Worcester County Memorial Park in Paxton. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Quaboag Rehabilitation and Skilled Care Center's Activities Fund, 47 East Main St., 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

TRUE

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times with bots on

Twitter and Facebook.

The goal is to turn western countries on themselves and bring democracy down from the inside. Putin sees a unified western world as lessening his standing. If countries are not united, he can take them down one by one easier.

The second rule of the playbook is to create a big, bold lie, and the third rule is to wrap it in a kernel of something that could be true. A sex ring in the basement of a pizza parlor, no, use an even better, bigger lie, make it a child sex ring. The kernel was emails of John Podesta hacked by Wikileaks where a pizza parlor was mentioned. What kind of story can be woven around it? Pizzagate!

This has worked for Putin for many years, and Mr. Trump has learned from him, very well. He is the divider-in-chief. As I said Putin's playbook has seven steps. Rules one through three were outlined already, Rules four, five and six are: 4.) Conceal your hand, 5.) Deny everything even if the truth is obvious. Keep denying and 6.) play the long game, repeat steps 1-6 over and over again until the cracks are larger and things break. 7.) Finally, the student of Putin says "When the country is disoriented and confused, when it is demoralized and then destabilized ...then the crisis will come...Then you just take this country."

We are at a breaking point, my friends. Every institution has been undermined by Trump. In 2018, at the Helsinki Summit, Trump stood next to Putin and

NANCY TRUE
SPENCER

Although "Born in the USA," The Boss may be packing his bags

I guess his hit song, "Born to Run" may turn out to be prophetic. Bruce Springsteen announced last week that if President Trump wins re-election, he'll be on the next plane to Australia.

It seems to happen every election cycle. A celebrity ... usually an actor or singer ... makes the grand announcement that if the election does not go as they wish, they will move to Canada, France, Australia, or some distant land. Like a spoiled child, their threats are made as if they honestly believe it will change voting hearts and minds.

Barbara Streisand and other celebrities have made similar threats during past elections. Mötley Crue's Tommy Lee told The Big Issue recently that he'll go "back to my Motherland." (Wherever that is.) But is there any evidence that they ever really leave? Do their threats change anything?

There is a pattern. It's almost

always a musical performer or actress/actor ... and it's usually someone from left of center making the threat. The next part of the pattern is that it always seems to backfire, having the opposite of the desired impact, and the final step of the pattern is ... they never actually leave.

I'm always surprised by how much political power celebrities believe they carry. Why would Springsteen think we care about his political views and what would bring him to the conclusion he would sway a single vote?

Arrogance, maybe?

When Bruce, Barbara, Tommy Lee and others spend years stepping onto a stage to standing ovations and adoring crowds, I think the thrill of the adoration gives them a false sense that because we enjoy their performance, that we are willing to take their directions on politics and general life. I respect the views of Bruce and



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING

GARY W.
MOORE

his activist group of entertainers, but their successful lifestyle is nothing like the life that those without the same talents and opportunities live. In my opinion, the only thing to come from Bruce Springsteen's threat to leave the USA is that he has totally shattered his "blue-collar-common-man persona" forever.

So why do we look to Bruce for direction?

We don't.

Only Bruce, and a few others are narcissistic enough to believe we do.

And it has nothing in my mind to do with left or right ideology. I read this morning that President Trump said, "If Biden wins, maybe I'll have to leave the country." My response is the same to our President as it is to the celebrities on the left ... "Go!" If President Trump loses the election, I don't care where he lives, if he leaves the White House in an orderly and peaceful transition ... and I believe he will.

I'm not an America, "Love it or leave it" kind of guy, but these kind of threats from entertainers have grown tiring and I believe ineffective.

We assume Bruce lives somewhere in New Jersey, but we really don't know. I always assume Streisand is somewhere in California, but it doesn't matter to us where they

live. Does their address impact our lives in any way?

When the Beatles exploded into our lives, we heard and saw them so often, they could have been the garage band next door. The fact they lived across the ocean didn't limit their exposure. If Bruce moves to Australia and releases a new album, does he think the distance will somehow limit the play in the USA and therefore punish us by depriving us of his music? If the album is good, it will get just as much play as if he were still in New Jersey.

So, what's the point?

The point is that this exposes the false sense of influence and power entertainers believe they hold over our lives. Arrogance is never attractive. I think entertainers who become activists become less popular in their genre and often have the opposite impact on the public. Think not? Ask the "Dixie Chicks."

I think comedian, Michael Loftus, said it best. "They really think they're that important," he said. "They really think we're walking around going, 'Wait, what? Springsteen's going to leave? And Tommy Lee? Oh, I'm changing my vote!'"

So, what's positive about this?

I believe if we love our country, we will not let the results of an election chase us out. We stay and work hard because we believe in our Declaration of Independence, our Constitution and Bill of Rights ... and we realize the importance of our nation in the balance of the world.

The American people will vote on November 3 based upon

their beliefs and not because an entertainer threatened. Even though I don't always agree, I always trust the will of the voting public and the power of our system. I believe the right person for the job is usually selected and when mistakes are made, we can make a correction in four years. And during those four years, we have a system of checks and balances that can keep things from going horribly wrong. The brilliance of our Founding Fathers still shines through after almost two-hundred and fifty years.

Vote. Make your choice heard. Don't threaten anyone. Don't lose friends. Don't damage family relationships. Because half the nation, and many people you know and love, may feel and vote differently, it doesn't make them wrong. It certainly doesn't make them your enemy. I've always been a Streisand fan. I'll still listen to Springsteen's music wherever he lives.

Rather than being angry over politics, let's celebrate the incredible opportunity that the American system provides. And once the final votes are counted and the selection is made ... let's accept the will of the American people and move forward together.

May God continue to Bless America.

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.

Volunteers sought for Cable Advisory Committee

SPENCER — The town of Spencer is seeking volunteers to serve on the Cable Advisory Committee to assist with the renewal of the Charter Communications Franchise agreement which

is set to expire on Jan. 31, 2023. Please visit www.spencerma.gov for more information and to obtain a volunteer form or call 508-885-7500, ext. 155.

POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 7
12:14 a.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 12:37-1:57 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:05 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 2:08 a.m.: building checked, secure; 8:50 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Nat'l Grid storm notification; 9:46 a.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 9:48 a.m.: medical/general (Shore Drive); 10:27 a.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 10:50 a.m.: building checked, secure; 10:56 a.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), stray cat; 11:10 a.m.: mv theft (Main Street), trailer plate missing; 12:12 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 1:32 p.m.: medical/general (Sherman Grove); 1:54 p.m.: fraud (Brown Street), unemployment scam; 2:13 p.m.: fraud (West Main 3:39p.Street), unemployment scam; 2:29 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 3:31 p.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), mv on sidewalk; 3:39 p.m.: RV complaint (Main Street), unsafe scooter op; 4:01 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operation; 4:25 p.m.: mutual aid (G.H. Wilson Road), assist DCF; 5:15 p.m.: animal complaint (Cranberry Meadow Road), info taken; 5:26 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 5:37 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 6:04 p.m.: medical/general (Old East Charlton Road); 6:56 p.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 9:15 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), apt. lockout; 9:31-9:38 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:12 p.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 10:36 p.m.: medical/general (Donnelly Cross Road); (Total DPW calls for trees, wires down – 24); (Total daily mv stops – 17).
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8
12:16-2:06 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:48 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address/2; 8:07 a.m.: DPW call (Donnelly Cross Road), drop in road; 8:20 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address/2; 8:42 a.m.: medical/general (Chestnut Street); 9:39 a.m.: suspicious mv (North Brookfield Road), investigated; 9:39 a.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), TV never delivered; 9:40 a.m.: officer wanted (Irving Street), spoken to; 11:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Gauthier Road), req. extra checks; 11:46 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 1:00 p.m.: mv lockout (MainStreet), assisted; 1:06 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 1:07 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 1:15 p.m.: accident (Howe Village), report taken;1:34 p.m.: DPW call (Cherry Street), no power; 1:37 p.m.: accident (MainStreet), report taken; 2:17 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 2:52 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), domestic dispute; 3:30 p.m.: mv complaint (Kingsbury Road), spoken to; 4:11 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 4:42 p.m.: animal complaint (Howe Road), bears in area; 5:13 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), ID theft; 5:23 p.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), rally-goers in road; 6:46 p.m.: disturbance (Chestnut Street), tenant/landlord issue; 6:47 p.m.: medical/general (Gold Nugget Road); 6:47 p.m.: animal complaint (Grant Street), bear in road; 8:11 p.m.: animal complaint (Lyford Road), mv vs cat; 8:53 p.m.: animal complaint (Lyford Road), animal bite; 9:09 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 9:15 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:22 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street), lift assist; (Total daily mv stops – 25).
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9
1:13-2:12 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:04 a.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), re: landlord issue; 8:29 a.m.: DPW call (Thompson Pond Road), lg. branch in road; 9:36 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 11:51 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), dog food donation; 12:15 p.m.: lost/found (Grove Street), DL found; 1:40 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), inquiry re: mail in ballot; 3:00 p.m.: animal complaint (Shore Drive), injured cat; 3:47 p.m.: arrest/juvenile (Pleasant Street), kids riding bikes in street; 4:14 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:30 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), accidental; 5:53 p.m.: lost/found (Chickering Road), keys found; 6:19 p.m.: disturbance (Lake Street), neighbor dispute; 7:05 p.m.: suspicious persons (West Main Street), Joelberto E. Caesar, 37, 19 Bixby Road, Spencer, disorderly conduct, disturbing the peace, arrest;7:49 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49), erratic operator; 9:45 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 9:46 p.m.: suspicious persons (Paxton Road), investigated; 10:00 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:03 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), investigated; 11:45 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Street), rept. of theft; 11:51 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; (Total daily mv stops – 14).
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
12:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street),

Bicyclist injured in collision with car

LEICESTER – A bicyclist was seriously injured last week in a collision with a car on Route 9.
The Oct. 15 incident occurred at 5:15 p.m. in the area of 119 South Main St. The bicyclist, Marco Jimenez, of Leicester, was riding westbound when he was struck from behind by a 2008 Toyota Camry, which was also traveling westbound.
Jimenez was transported to the hospital with serious but non-life threatening injuries, police said.
The driver of the Camry, Francis O'Connell, of Leicester, was unin-

Marissa A. Elwell, 26, 151 Franklin Street, Haverhill, warrant, arrest; 1:47-2:19 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:48 a.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 8:10 a.m.: vandalism (Powers Street), pumpkin smashed/mail tampered with; 8:22 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), open line; 8:31 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 8:56 a.m.: animal complaint (Lyford Road), missing cat; 10:55 a.m.: 911 call (Route 49), misdial; 11:23 a.m.: lost/found (Valley Street), knife found; 12:28 p.m.: fire alarm (School Street), referred; 12:29 p.m.: officer wanted (North Spencer Road), assisted; 1:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), info taken; 2:01 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), VIN verification; 2:06 p.m.: entire incident redacted from police log; 2:10 p.m.: animal complaint (Jolicoeur Road), poss. rabies exposure; 3:07 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 3:21 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 3:31 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Holden PD bolo; 3:53 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Smithville Road), no contact; 4:04 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), female/panic attack; 4:47 p.m.: parking violation (Adams Street), ticket issued; 4:52 p.m.: assault (Gold Nugget Road), assaulted by neighbor/report taken; 5:08 p.m.: juvenile matter (Smithville Road), son bitten by another child; 5:18 p.m.: lost/found (Maple Street), lost cell phone; 5:45 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), injured raccoon in road; 7:28 p.m.: officer wanted (Adams Street), poss. restraining order violation; 8:01 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 8:13 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), dead coyote; 8:28 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:29 p.m.: RV complaint (Cherry Street), info taken; 9:15 p.m.: disturbance (Hastings Road), mvs screeching tires; 9:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dogs; 9:59 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:47 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), info taken; (Total daily mv stops – 8).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
12:00 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 12:21-12:51 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:55 a.m.: medical/general (Blueberry Hill Drive); 1:05-1:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:41 a.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), referred; 3:39 a.m.: fire alarm (Mercury Drive), referred; 5:18 a.m.: officer wanted (North Spencer Road), unattended mv; 8:34 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), child w/ phone; 8:55 a.m.: 911 call (Highland Street), programming phone; 9:17 a.m.: fire alarm (Mercury Drive), referred; 9:46 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 1:47 p.m.: threats (West Main Street), threats from ex gf; 1:52 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 2:43 p.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue), lift assist; 3:38 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Smithville Road), no emergency; 3:40 p.m.: RV complaint (Temple Street), dirt bike on road; 3:44 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:14 p.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), chased by fox; 4:26 p.m.: officer wanted (Jolicoeur Avenue), yard sign taken; 4:37 p.m.: medical/general (I. Capen Road); 4:44 p.m.: RV complaint (South Spencer Road), dirt bike on rail trail; 4:59 p.m.: mv lockout (Bay Path Road), assisted; 5:15 p.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), welfare check; 5:48 p.m.: disturbance (Temple Street), noise complaint; 5:59 p.m.: parking complaint (Howe Village), mv in wrong space; 7:33 p.m.: fire alarm (Howe Village), referred; 7:50 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), unwanted party; 8:01 p.m.: officer wanted (Wall Street), neighbor complaint; 8:18 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:00 p.m.: disturbance (Prospect Street), noise complaint; 10:58 p.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 11:06 p.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 11:53 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), investigated; (Total daily mv stops – 8).
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12
12:06-12:55 a.m.: buildings checked,

injured. During the investigation, Route 9 traffic was diverted onto Main Street, which caused a backup for several hours.
The cause of the collision remains under investigation by the Leicester Police Department, the CEMLEC accident reconstruction team, and the District Attorney's Serious Crash Investigative Unit.
Investigators indicated that Jimenez was wearing a helmet when the collision occurred.
As of press time, no charges had been filed against the driver.

secure; 12:56 a.m.: 911 call (Hastings Road), misdial; 12:58-2:12 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:54 p.m.: commercial alarm (Mechanic Street), services rendered; 4:15 a.m.: open door (Langevin Street), secured; 6:08 a.m.: elderly matter (West Main Street), spoken to; 6:43 a.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), unauthorized use/mv; 6:54 a.m.: fire alarm (Brown Street), referred; 8:05 a.m.: fraud (Starr Street), unemployment scam; 8:10 a.m.: larceny from mv (Old East Charlton Road), 2 mvs ransacked; 8:49 a.m.: intelligence/criminal (West Main Street), info taken; 10:15 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 10:17 a.m.: animal complaint (Grove Street), raccoon issues; 10:33 a.m.: officer wanted (Woodside Road), welfare check; 11:16 a.m.: disturbance (Mechanic Street), belligerent tenant; 11:49 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info given; 12:43 p.m.: DPW call (Wilson Street), sewage backing up; 1:03 p.m.: accident (Mechanic Street), report taken; 1:09 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 1:56 p.m.:officer wanted (Browning Pond Road), spoken to; 2:41 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 3:02 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 3:28 p.m.: mv complaint (Route 49) erratic operator; 3:30 p.m.: animal complaint (South Spencer Road), rep. of wound; 4:10 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 5:40 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 5:51 p.m.: suspicious persons (Paxton Road), investigated; 7:43 p.m.: suspicious persons (Paxton Road), investigated; 8:01 p.m.: 911 call (Browning Pond Road), sawhorse left in road; 8:10-8:11 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:43 p.m.: stolen property (Main Street), cell phone; 11:24 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 11:57 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:58 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), state hwy barn unsecured; (Total daily mv stop – 16).

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13
12:03-1:37 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:20 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 7:42 a.m.: animal complaint (Greenville Street), spoken to; 8:01 a.m.: 911 call (Main Street), open line; 8:53 a.m.: DPW call (South Spencer Road), lg. branch in road; 12:08 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 12:11 p.m.: medical/general (Paxton Road); 12:38 p.m.: illegal dumping (Clark Road), mattress discarded; 1:07 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Holmes Street), accidental; 2:46 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), assistance re: siblings; 3:31 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:38 p.m.: restraining order service (Paxton Road); 4:40 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (West Main Street); 5:54 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), loose dog; 6:34 p.m.: mutual aid (West Main Street), North Brookfield PD bolo; 9:49 p.m.: DPW call (Vernon Street), truck hit low-hanging wire; (Total daily mv stops – 1).

Leicester Police

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 8
12:00 a.m.: suspicious vehicle (Paxton Street), unable to locate; 12:07 a.m.: suspicious mv (Mannville Street), spoken to; 6:51 a.m.: assist citizen (Locust Street); 9:37 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:46 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 1:25 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:37 p.m.: fire/spill/leak (South Main Street), services rendered; 2:23 p.m.: larceny (Mannville Street), report taken; 3:50 p.m.: fraud (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 5:14 p.m.: mv stop (Pine Street), verbal warning; 8:03 p.m.: suspicious mv (Charlton Street), spoken to; 9:58 p.m.: disturbance (Boyd Street), peace restored; 11:34 p.m.: assist citizen (Huntoon Memorial Highway), unable to locate.
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

2:13 a.m.: suspicious mv (Stafford Street), services rendered; 6:38 a.m.: ambulance (Waite Street), transported; 8:51 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 10:30 a.m.: investigation (Lake Avenue, Worcester), services rendered; 12:59 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 2:10 p.m.: investigation (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 2:51 p.m.: threats (Huntoon Memorial Huntoon), assisted; 4:01 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), peace restored; 4:28 p.m.: harassment (Main Street), peace restored; 5:31 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), no action required; 6:05 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 6:52 p.m.: debris in road (River Street), gone on arrival; 7:24 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), message delivered; 7:28 p.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), no action required; 8:59 p.m.: assist other PD (West Street), report taken; 9:36 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mannville Street), services rendered; 10:49 p.m.: suspicious mv (Main Street), assisted; 11:46 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 11:53 p.m.: welfare check (Earle Street), dispersed group.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10
1:12 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:45 a.m.: family problem (Market Street), peace restored; 2:05 p.m.: domestic disturbance (Utica Street), peace restored; 3:10 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 4:07 p.m.: mv stop (Whittemore Street), name and address redacted from police log, uninsured mv, op w/ suspended registration, not in possession of license, criminal application issued; 4:39 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), unfounded.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 11
12:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:45 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), name and address redacted from police log, unlicensed operation, speeding, criminal application issued; 10:01 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 11:04 a.m.: b&e/past (Warren Avenue), report taken; 2:19 p.m.: assist citizen (Soojians Drive); 4:18 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 5:49 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 5:50 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 6:03 p.m.: assist other PD (Paxton Street), services rendered; 6:16 p.m.: trespassing (Paxton Street), spoken to; 6:19 p.m.: suspicious mv (Mannville Street), dispersed group; 7:52 p.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 7:52 p.m.: harassment (Wesley Drive), services rendered.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 12
2:28 a.m.: gunshots (Whittemore Street), services rendered; 6:45 residential alarm (Pleasant Street), false alarm; 11:53 a.m.: accident (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 3:12 p.m.: keep the peace (Stafford Street), assisted; 5:11 p.m.: suspicious person (Boyd Street), spoken to; 5:43 p.m.: investigation (Warren Avenue), verbal warning; 6:18 p.m.: welfare check (Tobin Road), services rendered; 6:56 p.m.: investigation (Wesley Drive), services rendered; 8:46 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 10:02 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), no action required; 10:13 p.m.: assist other agency (Earle Street), services rendered.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13
12:06 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:14 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), verbal warning; 12:30 p.m.: disabled mv (Stafford Street), no action required; 2:11 p.m.: fraud (Warren Avenue), report taken; 2:14 p.m.: investigation (Parker Street), report taken; 4:12 p.m.: summons service (Lexington Avenue), served; 4:19 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 4:24 p.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 4:40 p.m.: fraud (Virginia Drive), assisted; 7:37 p.m.: ambulance (Stafford Street), transported; 11:57 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), criminal application issued.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14
1:00 a.m.: assist other PD (Paxton Street), services rendered; 1:52 a.m.: animal complaint (King Street Extension), assisted; 2:41 a.m.: debris in road (Henshaw Street), services rendered; 8:02 a.m.: fire/CO detector (Main Street), services rendered; 8:24 a.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 9:03 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 9:24 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 10:33 fraud (Pine Street), report taken; 1:50 p.m.: fraud (Stafford Street), report taken; 2:38 p.m.: erratic operator (Winslow Avenue), gone on arrival; 3:42 p.m.: summons service (Baldwin Street), served; 3:54 p.m.: summons service (Rawson Street), served; 5:08 p.m.: assist other agency (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 7:22 p.m.: mv stop (Mannville Street), no action required; 9:47 p.m.: suspicious person (Pine Street), gone on arrival; 10:07 p.m.: suspicious mv (South Main Street), spoken to; 11:20 p.m.: welfare check (Huntoon Memorial Highway), transported to hospital.



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CHARLTON – 64 Bond Rd! Gorgeous 2,800' 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 2.5 Bath Contemporary Ranch set on a Professionally Landscaped 1.49 Acres w/Natural Stone Walls! Quality Craftsmanship Throughout! Featuring a Spacious Granite Kitchen w/Cherry Cabinets & Cathedral Ceiling! Formal Dining Rm! Spacious Frplc Family Rm w/Cathedral Ceilings, Built-in Bookcases, an Open Fr Plan for All Your Entertaining Needs! Capacious Master Bdrm Suite w/Master Bath & Huge Office! Mostly Finished Walk-out Lower Level Featuring a Large Exercise Rm, Bar Area, Plenty of Storage & 3rd Garage! Unfinished Bonus Rm Over the 2 Car Attached Garage! Private Back Yard for Entertaining w/Multi Level Decks and New Patio! Listed by Another, SOLD by C21 Lake Realty! **\$535,000.00**

DUDLEY – 26 River St! 6 Room Colonial! Granite Kitchen w/Cherry Cabinets, SS Appliances, Cathedral Ceiling w/Ceiling Fan & Hardwood Floor! Dining Area & Living Rm w/Hardwoods! 3 Bdrms w/Hrdwds! 2 Granite Vanity Bathrooms! 3 Seasons Porch! Deck! Listed by Another, SOLD by C21 Lake Realty! **\$313,000.00**

DOUGLAS – 102 SE Main St! Start Packing! Spacious 9 Rm Colonial! 2.23 Acres! Center Island Granite Kit w/Soft Close Cabs, SS Appliances! Slider to 24' Deck! Open Floor Plan! Hickory Wood Floors throughout the Kit, Din & Liv Rms, all w/Recessed Lighting! 1st Flr Office or Possible 4th Bdrm w/Oak Hrdwd Flr! Full Bath in the Hall! 2nd Flr w/Full Dble Vanity Bthrm & 3 Comfortable Bdrms, all w/Beautiful Wood Laminate Flrs! Master w/Cathedral Ceiling, Skylight, Ceiling Fan, Bay Window overlooking the Back Yard and a Master Bath! Lower Level w/2 Finished Rms, Utility Rm w/Laundry and Half Bath! 3.5 Baths Total! Recent C/Air, Heat & Roof! 24x26 2 Car Detached Garage! Huge Shed! Nearby Nature Trails & Wallum Lake Beach! **\$379,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 112 Gore Rd! NORTH POND! Sucker Brook Cove! 8 Rm, 3 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath Ranch is Ready for You! Southwestern Exposure! Gorgeous Sunsets! Unique Waterfront! An Open Floor Plan! Lake Views from Nearly All Rooms! 2x6 Construction! Energy Efficient Blinds in Every Room! 4 Oil Tanks - Fill Up Once a Year! C/Air! Gas Fireplace! Whole House Fan! Meticulously Cared For! Large workshop! 3 Car Garage! Carport! 2 Sheds w/Electric! Back Yard is Perfect for Family Gatherings! Plenty of Off Street Parking! Summer is Here! **\$539,900.00**

HOLDEN – 315 Holden St! 6 Rm Ranch! Meticulously Maintained! 2 Spacious Bdrms, Full Tied Bath & 1 Car Garage! Move In Ready! Granite Oak Cabinet Kit w/Tiled Back Splash & JennAir Stove! Frplc Liv Rm! Fam Rm! Gleaming Hrdwds! Perfect Yard w/Major Landscaping this Year! New Roof 2019! **\$344,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE WATERFRONT – 3 Lakeview Rd! Middle Pond – Reid Smith Cove! Ideal Summer or Yr Round 6 Rm Ranch! Western Expo – Beautiful Sunsets! Near All the Excitement that "Indian Ranch" provides, Dining, Concerts & the Indian Princess! An Arched Bridge to Your Own Private Island, a Great Place to Enjoy the Lake from! Open Fr Plan! Being Sold Fully Furnished! Recent Kit w/Quartz Counters, Breakfast Bar, SS Appliances, Tile Flr & Recessed Lighting! Liv Rm w/Hrdwd Flr, 6x14 Lake Facing Picture Window & Stone Frplc! 3 Remodeled Bdrms w/Ceiling Fans & Hrdwd Flrs! Master w/Bath & Laundry Closet! Screen Porch w/Lake Views! Dock! Carport! Shed! Still Time for this Summer! **\$579,900.00**

GRAFTON – 168 Brigham Hill Rd! 8 Rm Garrison Colonial set on 1.3 Acres! 4 Comfortable Bdrms & 2 Full Bthrms! Freshly Painted, Floors Recently Refinished! Spacious Kit w/Lunch Counter! SS Appliances w/Gas Cook-Top! Grand Dining Rm for Family Gatherings! 19x26 Living Rm w/Pellet Stove! Master Bdrm w/Dble Closets & Hot Tub! Bright & Airy Mudroom out to the 2 Car Garage! Furnace & Hot Water Tank 5 Years Young! Radon tested at 2.5! Newer Roof on Garage & Breezeway! New Well Water Tank Installed! Title V in-hand! Property Abuts Grafton Land Trust - Hiking Trails Right Out Your Back Door! Convenient to Routes 90, 9 & 20! Immediate Occupancy! **\$449,900.00**



WEBSTER LAKE – 62 Bates Point Rd! Middle Pond! Absolute Prime 51' Level Waterfront Lot w/Western Expo! Beautiful Sunsets! Fantastic Panoramic Lake Views! 11 Rms, 6 Bdrms, 4 Bathrooms, 3,269' AC'd Colonial! Custom SS Applianced Granite Kit! Formal Din Rm w/Cherry Hrdwds! Lake Facing Liv Rm w/Cathedrals, Cherry Hrdwds! Slider to Waterfront Deck! Spacious 1st Flr Master Bdrm w/Full Bath, Cherry Hrdwds & Walk-in Closet! Frplcd Lower Level Fam Rm! 1st & 2nd Flr Laundries! 2 Car Garage! **\$949,900.00**

WEBSTER LAKE – 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrooms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Flr to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Fr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplc Liv Rm & Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal HVAC! Recessed Lights & Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! **\$2,499,900.00**



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WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD



Estate Sale! LOCATION, LOCATION, LOCATION! Scenic Upper Gore Rd! Amazing View of Beautiful Webster Lake! Main level has 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Common Bathrm, Master Bedroom & Master Bath - Fireplaced Living Room! Finished Lower Level has 1/2 Oversized, Multi Level, Tiered deck, with Screened in porch, leads directly to backyard FUNTIME! Your "Salt water" Inground Pool is waiting for Seasonal enjoyment! **\$319,900.**

WEBSTER - 17 STEPHEN DRIVE



Georgian Style Colonial! Beautifully updated open concept floor plan! 4 bedrooms! 2 full baths! Forced Hot Water Baseboard, Oil Heat! Central Air! Inground pool! 2 car garage. Nicely Landscaped! Hurry, Won't last! **\$410,000.**

THOMPSON - 452 FAYAN ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Impressive Gambrel Colonial! 2,343 SF, 3 BRs, 2-1/2 Baths, 1st Flr Master BR Suite! Master bath w/whirlpool tub & shower. Country Home on 2.41+/- PRIVATE Acres! Cathedral wood ceilings! Granite counter-tops, stainless appliances, & ceramic tile floors! 2nd Flr - 2 bed rooms & full bath, lot/great room w/balcony! Over-sized 3 car, detached garage, w/2nd story room! TRULY A FAR-AWAY PLACE NEARBY! **\$398,500.**

DANIELSON CT- 52 TAFT STREET



SORRY, SOLD!

Spacious Ranch, 1520+/- Sq Ft 8 room 3 Bedroom, 2 Full Baths. Hardwood Floors throughout. Fireplace family room. FHW/OIL Heat. - New Furnace, Windows, Also, recent Asphalt Driveway! Over sized Garage! 1/2 Acre Lot. Dead end road. Close to I-395! **\$255,500.**

WEBSTER - 195-199 THOMPSON RD



3 ACRE COMMERCIAL SITE! APPROX. 550 FT ROAD FRONTAGE ON STATE HIGHWAY RTE 193 A/K/A THOMPSON ROAD. STRATEGICALLY NESTLED BETWEEN TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) ON-RAMPS & TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) OFF-RAMPS. PROPERTY DIRECTLY ADJUTS I-395! 48'x80' CONCRETE BLOCK BUILDING. 7,680 SF TOTAL! FULL LOWER LEVEL USE & DRIVE IN GARAGE DOOR! HIGH TRAFFIC - HIGH EXPOSURE! WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED? **\$600,000.**

WOODSTOCK CT - 110 JOY RD



Quisential Woodstock Farmhouse w/Spectacular views of Pond. Detached Studio Building! 2.5 Acres. Prof. Landscaped. 5 Bedrooms, Fireplaced Dining, library/Music room, Master Bedroom, 2 Full Baths! Renovated Kitchen. Upstairs, 4 Bedrooms w/Full Bath. **\$425,000.**

LAND

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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. **NEW PRICE \$115,000.**
Webster - Cooper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Res! **\$49,000.**
Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! **ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900**
Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000+/- Sq Ft Lot! Potential for a 2 Family! **SORRY SOLD! \$70,000.**
Dudley - Packard Dr. 2 Lots! Very Private! off Ridge Dr. Will not last! **SORRY SOLD! \$50,000**

WEBSTER - 52 CUDWORTH ROAD



ON DEPOSIT

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.**

SUTTON - 470 BOSTON ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Updated Home that is on a 1 Acre, Professionally Landscaped Grounds. 5 rooms, 2 bedrooms. 3 bedroom septic will be installed. Baseboard oil heat. Recent exterior paint and newer Windows, Wood Flooring, Fireplace, Sunroom. 2 car garage! assisted sale **\$379,900.**

WEBSTER - 56 CUSHING ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

FIRST TIME OFFERED! Meticulously Cared for & Loved - 4 Bedroom / 2 Bath, 1963 Cape! Natural GAS Heat/Town Services! Boiler - Just like New! Corner Lot. Garaget 2nd Flr - 2 Lg Bdrms! Bathroom, Hardwood Floors, This House is Ready for a New Family, is it YOU?? Call today, Don't Delay! **\$272,900.**

WEBSTER - 548 SCHOOL ST



SORRY, SOLD!

Aesthetically pleasing 4-5 BR CAPE! 1,800 SF Cape! 8 rooms, 4 lg rooms & bath on 1st flr, eat-in kitchen, living room, family room, office/possible 1st flr in-law bedroom. 2nd flr - 4 lg bedrooms & bath. 2 car garage. **\$199,900.**

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE - 100 LAKESIDE AVE



SORRY, SOLD!

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

LAKE SHIRLEY - 647 RESERVOIR RD



SORRY, SOLD!

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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Communities continue to work through phased reopening

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – After receiving the green light earlier this month from Gov. Charlie Baker, several towns are proceeding through the state’s next phase of reopening.

On Oct. 5, communities at low risk for COVID-19 transmission were permitted to enter the second step of the reopening plan’s third phase. All towns in the medium-risk and high-risk categories will remain in the first step of Phase 3.

Baker also issued a revised gatherings order as part of his latest announcement. Moreover, industry-specific guidance and protocols were updated.

“The order applies only to lower risk communities. Other communities are not permitted to move forward in the reopening process until the data indicates that it is safe to do so,” Baker said.

Effective Oct. 5, the following businesses, organizations, and sectors of the economy were authorized to reopen in low-risk towns:

Indoor performance venues will be

permitted to reopen with 50 percent capacity, with a maximum of 250 people.

The outdoor performance venue capacity will increase to 50 percent, with a maximum of 250 people.

For arcades and indoor and outdoor recreation businesses, additional activities like trampolines, obstacle courses, roller rinks, and laser tag will be permitted to reopen.

Fitting rooms can reopen in all types of retail stores.

Gyms, museums, libraries, and driving and flight schools will also be permitted to increase their capacity to 50 percent.

The state’s limit for indoor gatherings remains at a maximum of 25 people for all communities. Outdoor gatherings at private residences and in private backyards will remain at a maximum of 50 people for all communities.

Meanwhile, outdoor gatherings at event venues and in public settings will have a limit of 50 people in Step I communities, and a limit of 100 people in

lower risk, Step II communities.

Locally, many residents have become confused and frustrated with the ever-changing guidance at the state level. Now, with various communities staggered at different stages of reopening, several businesses have found themselves at competitive disadvantages with their counterparts in neighboring towns.

Meanwhile, multiple area business owners have taken it upon themselves to briefly close for precautionary reasons, even though no state or local mandate required it. Eller’s Restaurant in Leicester was recently closed for a week after a kitchen worker tested positive for COVID-19, and other businesses have decided to reduce days and hours for sanitation protocols.

Additionally, area cities and towns have made tough decisions like canceling trick-or-treating. Leicester and Worcester both called off trick-or-treating, and Spencer officials will likely decide on Oct. 19.

Last month, the Baker Administration

began releasing new COVID-19 data to help towns, businesses, and residents make decisions based on the most detailed information possible. Newly released data includes the average daily COVID-19 cases per 100,000 residents, the average percent positivity, and the total case counts for all 351 Massachusetts cities and towns.

As we move deeper into the fall, state leaders urge residents and business owners to follow all COVID-19 guidelines. These include avoiding large gatherings, wearing masks in public spaces when social distancing isn’t possible, and maintaining proper spacing.

“We have all worked together to fight this disease. As we gradually reopen more of the economy, it is important that businesses and customers continue to follow appropriate protocols,” said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito.

For the latest information on the state’s protocols and regulations, visit www.mass.gov.

School District chooses project manager

SPENCER – At an Oct. 5 meeting, the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) hosted Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District leaders regarding their owner’s project manager selection for the district’s David Prouty High School core project.

The SEBRSD chose Colliers International as their owner’s project manager for the next three phases of the high school core project. On Oct. 5, the MSBA approved the award to Colliers International with a contract not to exceed \$250,000.

Six firms originally applied for the DPHS core project. Five firms were chosen by the local owner’s project manager subcommittee to interview for the position, based upon recommendations

and experience with school building projects.

Following the interview phase, reference checks were conducted by members of the OPM subcommittee. Members reviewed proposals, discussed the relative merits of each firm, and then chose Colliers International on Sept. 8.

Colliers International provides school districts with managerial and technical support for the design and construction of major capital projects. In Massachusetts, the firm has been involved with projects at West Springfield High School, Cape Cod Regional Technical High School, Easthampton High School, Assabet Valley Regional Technical High School,

and Webster’s Bartlett High School.

Colliers International employees Alan Minkus, Tim Alix, and Phil Palumbo will now develop a request for qualifications for an architectural firm to create detailed plans for the DPHS renovations.

“Architect selection is critically important, as it forms the foundation for all other work to come,” read a statement released by the SEBRSD. “As part of this work, the team will meet with the School Building Committee to discuss the process for architect selection, develop a timeline, and develop and manage the RFQ process.”

Colliers International will also work with municipal and district leaders to develop cash flow models to inform bor-

rowing. They will also help maximize reimbursements for all expenditures incurred.

For district leaders, it’s exciting to move forward with the process and work with an experienced firm.

“The Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District will seek Colliers’ input on the eventual construction procurement options, such as the utilization of a general contractor or a construction manager,” said SEBRSD Superintendent Paul Haughey. “Finally, they will help the David Prouty High School Building Committee communicate progress with all stakeholders, including the School Committee, local Boards of Selectmen, parents, families, students, and staff.”

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