

SPENCER NEW LEADER

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Friday, July 31, 2020

Efforts underway to preserve historic landmark



Photos Courtesy

The Lashaway Dance Hall, also known as the Mosquito Ballroom, was once a major hub of social activity in North Brookfield.



BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Most people have never heard of the Mosquito Ballroom, but a local resident is working hard to preserve the memory of a lost treasure.

Also known as Lashaway Dance Hall, the Mosquito Ballroom was a popular venue during its operation from 1932-1941. Located on Green Road near the intersection with Shore Road – a stone's throw from Lake Lashaway – the dance hall

Please Read **BALLROOM**, page A6

Officials urge caution amid increase in local COVID cases

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Officials are urging residents to stay vigilant after a recent rise in COVID-19 cases, including a transfer station employee who tested positive.

Town Administrator Thomas Gregory confirmed that the transfer station employee, who is not a resident of Spencer, tested positive last week for COVID-19.

"All safety protocols were followed – and continue to be followed – at the transfer station," Gregory said. "These protocols require employees to wear masks and gloves, and require contact points to be disinfected on an hourly basis during the hours of operation."

The employee is currently in quarantine, Gregory said.

Additionally, the town reported seven active cases among residents during its July 23 COVID-19 update. Nine days earlier, on July 14, the town reported zero active cases.

As of July 23, Spencer has had 55 total confirmed cases of COVID-19 (seven active cases). Town officials implore res-

idents to use caution and not let up on efforts to control the spread of the virus. Multiple sources told the New Leader a large party occurred in town earlier this month, and some officials believe it may have contributed to the rise in active cases.

"I can confirm that there was a gathering in town at some point in the recent past. I have no information about date, location, and number of people attending," Gregory said.

Statewide, positive test rates increased from 1.7 to 2 percent over a seven-day average ending on July 26. State leaders are attributing the increase primarily to social gatherings and out-of-state travel.

"Obviously we would prefer to see zero new cases of COVID, but we know that's not going to be the case until we have a medical breakthrough like a vaccine," Gov. Charlie Baker said. "We're closely analyzing the data for trends. We are aware of small clusters that are associated with gatherings."

During a July 27 press conference, the Governor mentioned

Please Read **UPDATE**, page A6

Leicester High School seniors to graduate Saturday

– Members of the Leicester High School Class of 2020 will finally have their day of celebration, as the rescheduled graduation ceremony is set for Saturday, Aug. 1.

The event will take place at

11 a.m. on the high school football field. Several regulations are in place to ensure the safety of students and their guests.

Please follow all social distancing and mask guidelines.

Questions surround unintended release of school employee information

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Residents and educators are seeking answers from school officials after a partial release of personal employee information.

On July 2, resident Joel

Hart made a public records request seeking information on a recently discussed pay increase for school administrators. The information was provided to Hart by school leaders on July 7, and he then shared it on the Facebook page, "Truth

about Leicester."

Town officials were later alerted that the information released to Hart and subsequently posted to social media – including a school warrant and payroll sheet – contained partial personal records for

certain school staff members.

"A public records request for a school payroll warrant resulted in a report being released that contained partial employee personal information," Town Administrator David Genereux confirmed. "The

Town was made aware of the situation and is taking corrective action."

Leicester Police Chief Kenneth Antanavica was informed of the Facebook post by a concerned citizen shortly

Please Read **INFORMATION**, page A6

Baker offers funding to special education providers

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – The Baker-Polito Administration announced last week that \$16.1 million will be made available to assist special education providers.

The relief funding will be distributed among 32 special education residential school providers to defray costs related to the COVID-19 pandemic. Gov. Charlie Baker, Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, and Mass. Health and Human Services Secretary Marylou Sudders made the announcement during a visit to the New England Center for Children, a special education school in Southboro.

"Throughout the pandemic, special education residential schools remained open to support their students with unique challenges," Baker said. "Schools incurred unanticipated

costs related to the purchase of personal protective equipment, infection control measures, increased staffing costs, and enhanced cleaning protocols."

The latest funding package is in addition to \$3 million provided by the Department of Early Education and Care in April to support the residential education school system. The funds will help schools remain open on a 24/7 basis throughout the pandemic while ensuring high safety and sanitation standards.

The state's Executive Office of Health and Human Services previously implemented \$139 million in funding through its existing system for residential and congregate care service providers. The funds were used for increased staffing, enhanced infection control procedures, and personal protective equipment. However, certain facilities missed out on the



Photo Courtesy

Gov. Charlie Baker announces a funding package to assist special education providers.

funding, and Governor Baker was committed to making sure they were covered.

"Due to the structure of special education residential schools, they were not eligible for this earlier rate

increase, but today's announcement will bring them in line with the previous rate increases provided to other residential and congregate care pro-

Please Read **FUNDING**, page A6

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Donation helps first responders stay safe

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – Sanitation is about to get a lot easier for first responders, who will benefit from specialized products purchased through a local fundraiser.

Spearheaded by Laurie Letendre, of A. Arsenault and Sons, Inc., the community fundraising effort began in March and generated \$5,200. The funds were used to purchase disinfectant sprayers for the police department, fire department, and the Spencer Rescue Squad.

When the COVID-19 pandemic steeply escalated in March, Letendre was eager to step up and help first responders. She learned that the electrostatic disinfectant sprayers were desired by first responders, but the high cost prevented departments from purchasing them.

Thanks to Letendre's determination and the community's generosity, the sprayers will soon be arriving at their

respective Spencer locations. The police department, fire department, and rescue squad will each receive two sprayers.

"We wanted to give back to the community and our first responders. We thought this would be a great way for us to help out," Letendre said.

First responders will use the sprayers to disinfect vehicles, offices, and equipment. The technology will save significant time and money, as departments will no longer have to use contractors for disinfecting services.

The fire department currently cleans its vehicles and facility using a mixture of hydrogen peroxide and water extruded through a paint-sprayer. Firefighters are looking forward to a solution to the time-consuming process.

"This will tremendously cut down on the time that we need to clean," said Spencer Fire Chief Robert Parsons. "It will be a lot easier to use these sprayers than mixing

up a concoction. Right now, it takes most of the morning to clean the buildings."

Spencer Police Chief David Darrin described the fundraising effort as extremely generous. He and Chief Parsons can't wait to employ the state-of-the-art technology, which will also enable them to disinfect buildings and vehicles with greater regularity. Moreover, staff members will no longer have to use large quantities of antibacterial wipes to clean vehicles each time they return from a call.

First responders thank Letendre and her family business, as well as the many residents who contributed to the fundraising effort. Run by Letendre's husband and brother, A. Arsenault and Sons, Inc., has been in business for 45 years. The staff has been thrilled to contribute to the battle against COVID-19.

"Residents were very generous. We want to thank everyone who helped us

achieve this goal," Letendre added.

In the coming weeks, a specialist will instruct first responders on how to use the disinfecting chemical that is released by the sprayers. Additional community donations will be accepted to help defray the costs of the chemicals, which aren't just effective against COVID-19 but also other viruses and bacteria.

The sprayers will be used by first responders long after the COVID-19 crisis ends. Community members are thanked for their investment in the health of those who serve and protect.

"We will have a heavy focus on disinfecting common areas and high-touch areas," Chief Parsons said. "This will help put a lot of people at ease."

Additional donations can be sent to Laurie Letendre, 16 West Main St., Spencer MA, 01562.



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.

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Quaboag School District finalizes reopening plans

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

WARREN – Local school officials are finalizing their plans for getting students safely back into the classroom this fall.

Several area school districts, including the Quaboag Regional School District, have sent out surveys to parents. It is important to receive feedback from all corners of the school community, officials said.

"We issued three surveys, and we will use the results to help guide our plans," said QRSD Superintendent Brett Kustigian, who has worked closely with administrators and staff members this summer to discuss the safe reopening of schools.

The online surveys gauge parental concerns about a number of factors related to the reopening of the district's schools. Although QRSD leaders are hopeful that the school year will not be disrupted, they are making contingency plans that would be used if COVID-19 conditions worsen this fall.

School districts statewide are being required by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education to prepare plans for in-person learning, remote learning, and a hybrid model.

"We are focused on reopening all three school campuses. We may later be

required to consider alternatives, such as partial home learning or full home learning," read a statement released by the school district. "The administration is working diligently on reopening safely and considering the community's concerns."

The surveys asked parents about their concerns over several topics, including the ability for staff members to enforce sanitation measures; guidelines for students with special needs; internet access for remote learning; personal protective equipment; student socialization opportunities; mask breaks throughout the day; and extracurricular activities.

The surveys also asked parents what their educational plans would be if they choose to not send their kids to school this year. Moreover, the surveys gauged parent and student responses to remote learning this past year. Several students throughout the area thrived in the online model this spring, while others struggled to learn outside the classroom. Students with limited or no internet access are also at a significant disadvantage for remote learning, and school officials want to ensure they don't fall behind if remote education is necessitated.

After compiling all of the survey data, QRSD leaders will likely release the district's reopening plan early next month. All students in grades two and

higher will be required to wear masks throughout the day, as well as staff members.

Parents and students are advised to review the full plan once it is released. Per state guidelines, parents will have the option to not send their child to school this year if they do not feel safe doing so. The school district must have a plan in place for continued remote education for those who require it.

Additionally, staff members who are at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 are advised by DESE officials to consult a doctor prior to returning to the classroom.

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Freed for adoption, Markis will need a two-parent family to help balance his needs. This family will need to be comfortable with setting limits and creating structure. His thinking can be very concrete at times, and he will need things presented to him clearly

and concisely. Markis loves animals and would thrive in a home with pets. He should be the only child in his new home. Markis has eight siblings, one of which is a twin with whom he visits upon request, as well as another brother in a program whom he visits with as well.

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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.



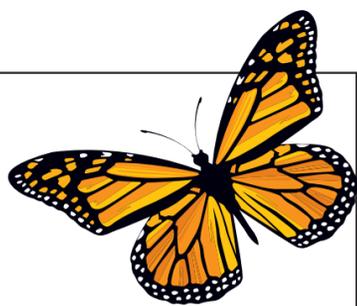
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Bay State Physical Therapy partners with local provider

REGION — Bay State Physical Therapy, Massachusetts' leading provider in outpatient physical therapy services, is pleased to announce that it has partnered with Comprehensive Physical Therapy in West Brookfield and Leicester.

Comprehensive PT has been serving the central Massachusetts community since 1991 and has a strong reputation for providing high-quality clinical care with a patient centered approach. The Comprehensive PT team that James Buzzell and Rose Wolanski built over the years have created deep ties in the

communities they serve. They are committed to providing their patients with a continued level of care with the same dedicated team.

“Comprehensive Physical Therapy's great reputation as a provider of high-quality care in the area caught our attention as we looked to expand our ability to serve the Central Massachusetts market,” said Dr. Steve Windwer, founder and CEO of Bay State Physical Therapy.

“The alignment of our cultures and values made this a special partnership opportunity, and we could not be more excited to welcome the employees, patients and families of Comprehensive PT to the Bay State Physical Therapy fami-

ly,” said Windwer.

Jim Buzzell, who will be staying on as Managing Partner stated, “Upon reflection of the past few years, we have felt that a partnership may be able to provide our team and patients with greater resources. After much thought and consideration, we decided Bay State Physical Therapy will provide us with these resources in addition to sharing the same mission and values. The support they will provide our team will better enable us to serve our communities. We are excited for this partnership and the new opportunities it will bring.”

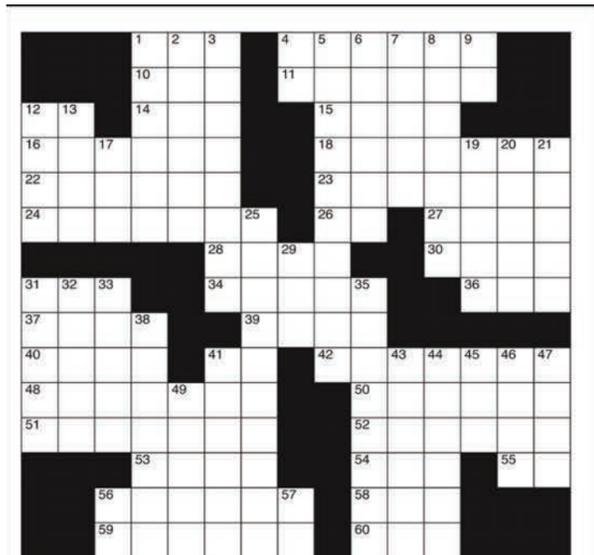
The acquisition of Comprehensive Physical Therapy reflects Bay State Physical Therapy's continued desire to enhance access and better serve its patients and partners in their expansion into the Central Massachusetts communities. Since its inception, Bay State Physical Therapy has prioritized the outcomes and experiences of its patients and will continue

to invest in developing New England's clinical leader in physical therapy.

To learn more about partnering or transitioning with Bay State Physical Therapy, visit www.baystatept.com or contact Brady Hill, Vice President of Corporate Development, bhill@baystatept.com.

About Bay State Physical Therapy

Headquartered just outside of Boston, Bay State Physical Therapy (“Bay State”) is a leading provider of physical therapy and chiropractic services throughout New England. Bay State's mission is to be devoted to the health and wellbeing of our patients by offering exceptional, innovative rehabilitation services, to restore each individual's maximal function with integrity and compassion. Bay State supports its partners and affiliates by investing in the resources, operating expertise, and systems to allow therapists to focus on the patient and the provision of clinical care.

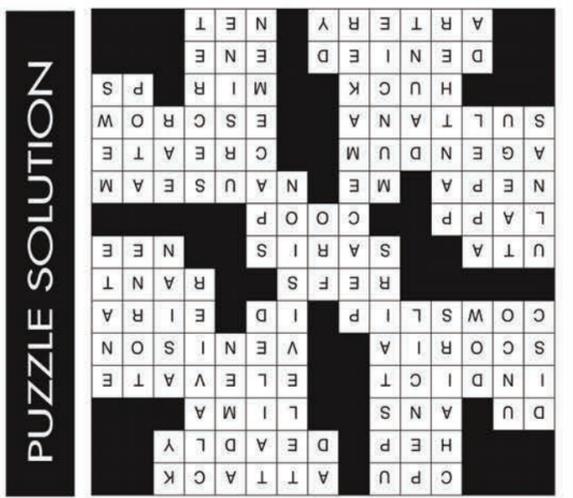


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Central processing unit
- 4. Military action
- 10. How electricity gets to train carriages (abbr.)
- 11. Unsafe
- 12. Of (French)
- 14. Autonomic nervous system
- 15. Type of bean
- 16. Accuse formally of a crime
- 18. Promote
- 22. Type of lava
- 23. Meat from a deer
- 24. Herbaceous plants
- 26. Potato state
- 27. Helsinki neighborhood
- 28. Sports officials
- 30. Shout wildly
- 31. Reptile genus
- 34. Frocks
- 36. Born of
- 37. N. Scandinavian indigenous people
- 39. Poultry cage
- 40. Aquatic insect genus
- 41. Of I
- 42. Ad ___: tirelessly repetitive
- 48. Item
- 50. Produce
- 51. Seedless raisin
- 52. Bond in a third party's control
- 53. Legendary character ___ Finn
- 54. Space station
- 55. Note at the end of a letter
- 56. In a way, contradicted
- 58. Midway between northeast and east
- 59. Bears important traffic
- 60. Brooklyn hoopster

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Presides
- 2. Artist's tool
- 3. On a higher floor
- 4. Commercial
- 5. Something to watch
- 6. Chased
- 7. Commercial producers
- 8. Keyboard instrument
- 9. Blue grass state
- 12. Phonograph recording
- 13. Unusual
- 17. Popular average
- 19. A native or inhabitant of Asia
- 20. N. Sweden river
- 21. Related on the mother's side
- 25. Mediator
- 29. Partner of to
- 31. Arm bones
- 32. Korean seafood dish
- 33. Tap of the foot
- 35. Astronauts
- 38. Carolina footballer
- 41. Indiana city
- 43. Of or relating to bears
- 44. Not widely known
- 45. Body part
- 46. At the peak
- 47. High-pitched cries of a cat
- 49. A way to intimidate
- 56. Prosecutor
- 57. Atomic #66



School officials ponder payments to bus companies

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

WARREN – Quaboag Regional School Committee members

recently discussed payment of transportation vendors for the three months when school was out due to COVID-19.

Committee members addressed the issue during their July 20 meeting, with QRSD Superintendent Brett Kustigian in attendance. Selectmen in both Warren and West Brookfield, as well as school officials, have all weighed in on the issue in recent weeks.

“The school committee is trying to decide how much to pay the transportation vendors for the period of the closure, which is March 13 through June 16,” Kustigian said. “Although the transportation vendors did not provide service during

this time, the Massachusetts Department of Education recommends paying the vendors.”

Each school district in the state will negotiate its own payments to bus vendors for the three-month period. Prior to the QRSD's discussion of the issue, members asked selectmen to take votes in their respective towns.

In West Brookfield, selectmen voted unanimously to not pay the bus vendors for the last months. In Warren, meanwhile, selectmen voted unanimously to pay the bus vendors a certain amount.

The QRSD uses two bus vendors – McCarthy and Sons (Brookfield) and Lizak Bus Service (Warren). For McCarthy, the payment amount for the last months of work is 88% of the contract, as McCarthy kept its employees on payroll. For Lizak, the amount is 70 percent of the

contract. Lizak did not keep its employees on the payroll during the three months when school was not in session.

The school committee did not vote on the issue during its July 20 meeting. Committee members plan to fully discuss the issue at their next meeting and take a vote.

Additionally, West Brookfield selectmen asked for an extension so they can comprehensively discuss the payments. Selectmen plan to make an official press statement following further discussion.

Officials from the bus companies could not be reached for comment by press time.

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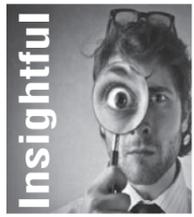
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GOOD NEWS

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North Brookfield Savings Bank awards \$10,000 in scholarships

NORTH BROOKFIELD — North Brookfield Savings Bank has always been committed to improving the lives of community residents through various means, including the empowerment for all residents to excel through educational and growth opportunities. In line with their established core value to commit to excellence, North Brookfield Savings Bank provided a combined \$10,000 in scholarship commitments to support local 2020 high school graduates as they continue on their path to excellence. The funds are intended to help graduating students offset the cost of attending college and help them to pursue their dreams of furthering their education.

Scholarship recipients were selected to receive the North Brookfield Savings Bank scholarship by each high school's designated scholarship committee. They were chosen because of their exemplary commitment to excellence and proven dedication to their community, values that North Brookfield Savings Bank holds in high regard, and the Bank's employees embody every day.

North Brookfield Savings Bank proudly awarded scholarships totaling \$10,000 to these graduating students from local high schools in the Bank's geographic area.

Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School: Abigail Anna Rangelbeje

Belchertown High School: Ryland Charron

David Prouty High School: Emma Bain

North Brookfield High School: Hannah Schultz

Palmer High School: Jerzey Torres

Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School: Mackenzie Misterka

Quabbin Regional High School: Emily Hood

Quaboag Regional High School: Kaitlyn Howard

Tantasqua Regional High School: Shannon Tweraser

Ware High School: Brooke Anne McCormick

"2020 has been a difficult year for our local graduates, forcing them to miss pinnacle senior years moments and adapt to a new way of learning. To say we are impressed with their ability to adapt and overcome would be a grand understatement," said Andrea Healy, Chief Administrative and Human Resource Officer of North Brookfield Savings Bank. "We are extremely proud of the graduates for their strength in the face of a challenge and their resilience through this all. We are confident that these life-defining moments will only add to the already committed nature and good character of the 2020 graduating students. Their futures are bright and filled with promise."

Spencer to receive funds for small business assistance

SPENCER — The Town of Spencer is pleased to announce that it has been selected by the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to receive \$250,000 in funds from the federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program issued in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The award is part of a larger statewide allocation of \$19.6 million in CDBG-CV funds.

"I'm thrilled that the federal government has committed these funds to deserving low-income residents and small businesses who continue to

struggle during this prolonged pandemic," said Ralph Hicks, Chairman of the Board of Selectmen.

The Town will be contracting with Tri-Valley, Inc, a private non-profit agency providing in-home services, nutrition services, and caregiver support for residents throughout Massachusetts to provide food assistance for as many as 400 seniors in Spencer.

The small business assistance component of the award will directly benefit eligible businesses in Spencer, many of which were deemed non-essential during the

state's recent shutdown. This funding will have a direct and immediate impact in allowing these businesses to continue operation by providing working capital to cover business costs such as rent, staffing, and utilities.

The program will be run jointly by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) and the Town's Office of Development and Inspectional Services (ODIS). Questions about eligibility may be directed to Paul Dell'Aquila, ODIS Director, at 508-885-7500, ext. 180, or pdellaquila@spencerma.gov.

Operation Clean Sweep — local action to combat a national issue

BROOKFIELD — The fourth annual John T. O'Leary Memorial Operation Clean Sweep, originally postponed in the Spring due to Covid-19, will now occur in Brookfield beginning on Aug. 8 and ending on Sept. 5.

John O'Leary single-handedly organized the town-wide clean-up for many years until his death; this is the fourth year since the event was named in his memory. Operation Clean Sweep is sponsored by the Brookfield Board of Health and coordinated by George Hirtle and Peter O'Connell. Our partners include the Town Highway Departments, Tip Top Country Store, and the town's scout groups.

Last year, a large number of volunteers picked up more than 200 bags of trash in colorful orange bags that were piled high into a "Tower of Trash." Volunteers are encouraged to sign up again this year at the Brookfield Transfer Station on Quaboag Street beginning in late July. Large items such as tires, mattresses, and contain-

ers - mosquito-breeding havens - will be picked up by the Highway Department; volunteers should contact the Highway Department Tuesday through Thursday to arrange pick-up.

To call attention to the impact of plastic waste on our environment, residents can participate in a special Operation Clean Sweep "Nip It In The Bud" Contest this year to help rid Brookfield's streets and roads of the thousands of plastic liquor and wine "nips" thrown out of passing cars. Plastic litter ends up in storm drains, polluting rivers and oceans. Cash prizes of \$75 donated by a local citizen will be awarded to the individual and group who collect the most liquor and wine nips. Registration for the contest is at the Town Transfer Station. The goal is to fill a large orange "flower pot" - about 3,000 nips - to help educate our citizens about the size of the problem caused by this kind of littering. Winners will be announced in early September. Help make Brookfield an even better place to live!

THE OTTERS TO PERFORM ON LEICESTER COMMON

LEICESTER — Leicester's 30th Annual Concerts on the Common Series continues Wednesday, Aug. 5 with The Otters.

Committed to giving audiences a fun, old fashioned Rock n Roll show, The Otters play a mix of '50s, '60s and '70s music. Bring your gal and enjoy this fun night with Leicester's favorite band!

Concerts on the Common begin at 6:30 p.m. This project is supported in part by a grant from the Leicester Arts Council (a local agency supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council), the Leicester Savings Bank Fund and The Fontaine Fund at the Greater Worcester Community Foundation, along with community donations.

For postponement information, visit www.leicesterma.org. In the event of rain, next week's concert will take place on Thursday, Aug. 6.



Family Dining & Gift Guide

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

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

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Petco Foundation invests in work of Second Chance

EAST BROOKFIELD — Second Chance Animal Services announced it has been awarded a \$6,500 grant from the Petco Foundation to help with medical costs for pets that are surrendered or transferred to the shelter.

The Petco Foundation investment will help Second Chance meet the medical needs of homeless pets, which can sometimes be extensive.

“For many of the pets that come to us, we are not just a ‘second chance’ but

a ‘last chance,’” said Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato. “We are grateful for the continued support of the Petco Foundation who helps make our work possible.”

This grant investment is part of the Petco Foundation’s recent distribution of more than \$13 million to animal welfare organizations nationwide. In addition, the Petco Foundation distributed \$1 million in emergency product and cash donations to partner organizations

facing the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and put out a national call to mobilize animal lovers to take action and [Pledge to Save Pet Lives](#).

Second Chance is a nonprofit organization helping pets in need in Massachusetts and beyond since 1999. Second Chance helps more than 40,000 animals a year through adoption services, veterinary care at three full-service hospitals, low-cost spay/neuter and vaccine clinics, community and

educational outreach, training and a pet food pantry.

For more information about Second Chance, visit [secondchanceanimals.org](#). For more on the Petco Foundation, visit [petcofoundation.org](#) and join the conversation on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) by using the hashtag #PetcoFamily.

INFORMATION

continued from page A1

after it was released. The Chief then contacted the man who runs the Facebook page and asked him to consider taking it down. The post was quickly deleted from social media, and the incident is not a police matter, Chief Antanavica said.

School officials did not disclose the number of staff members whose information was included in the document. Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Marilyn Tencza said the matter has been reviewed by the district’s legal counsel, which determined that it did not constitute a breach of personal information.

“I have complied with all of the public records requests I

have been asked for,” Tencza said. “It was determined that it was not a breach of personal information.”

Meanwhile, Hart continues to demand an apology and public exoneration from Tencza regarding the situation. In a letter to the editor submitted to the New Leader last week, he described receiving heavy backlash from residents due to the incident.

“Let it be perfectly clear to all the residents and school dept. staff, there was no intention to release people’s partial SS information on my behalf,” Hart wrote. “The staff ID’s included 2,4,6 digits. It is impossible to think I could’ve attributed any of those numbers to persons’ SS information. It was marked ID numbers.”

Hart said he has repeatedly

asked Tencza to take responsibility for the incident and publicly release him from blame. The Superintendent has ignored each request, Hart said.

“I have personally asked Superintendent Tencza to issue a public statement to the community and her staff to alert them of her error,” Hart wrote. “She has only sent emails to her staff without all of the facts explained to them, while I received the backlash for being the sole person responsible of

releasing her egregious error.” Tencza declined to comment publicly on Hart’s demands.

Hart also said he has received extensive criticism and suspicion from residents following the social media post. Some individuals even requested an FBI investigation and a credit bureau investigation into his activities, Hart said.

“Again, this was Superintendent Tencza’s release of persons’ financial information. She is the sole person responsible, and it needs to

be made perfectly clear,” Hart wrote. “For her to let the public continue to think that this release of information was my doing is sheer arrogance.”

Residents are also questioning the process by which school leaders review information before dissemination to a member of the public.

Leicester School Committee members asked that all questions on the incident be directed to the Superintendent’s office.

FUNDING

continued from page A1

viders,” Baker added.

State officials are also heavily focused on special education assistance in advance of the school year. To better support special education programs, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has released comprehensive guidance for the 2020-21 school year. The initial fall reopening guidance asks schools and districts to prepare plans for in-person instruction, remote learning, and a hybrid school model (a combination of in-person and remote learning that would be used if conditions worsen).

A separate document should be created by school officials to highlight plans for special education programming, state leaders said.

“This document complements the initial fall reopening guidance by providing further information on supporting students with disabilities during the upcoming school year,” read a statement released by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. “It also provides necessary information in support of schools and districts, as they develop the portion of their reopening plans specifically related to special education.”

UPDATE

continued from page A1

a private party in Chatham and similar incidents where people have congregated without masks. Additional COVID-19 clusters are believed to have stemmed from travelers attending pools, beaches, and other venues to beat the heat.

“People have been out and about. It’s warm out, and people are generally in more contact with others than they were in April and May,” Baker said. State leaders have installed

BALLROOM

continued from page A1

drew local guests and also residents from as far away as Worcester.

For Patricia O’Connor, whose grandparents owned the dance hall, it is important to keep its memory alive. During its nine years of existence between world wars, the hall was one of the most popular sites in the area for dancing. O’Connor’s grandparents, Felix and Alice White, built the dance hall and eventually lived there as well.

“I used to visit there, and I’ve heard many stories about people from all over the area going there,” O’Connor said.

The dance hall plays a major role in O’Connor’s family history, and not simply because her grandparents owned it. Her parents ended up meeting at the dance hall, he a trumpet player in the Johnny Cutler Band, she an employee of the

several pop-up COVID-19 testing sites in communities with small spikes. Residents are urged to take advantage of new testing sites in Agawam, Brockton, Methuen, Randolph, Revere, Springfield, Taunton, and Worcester.

“We can’t talk enough about how important it is for everyone to play a role,” Baker said. “When we let our guard down, the virus will make gains.”

Although many local residents have become fatigued with social distancing and facial coverings in the summer heat, area officials echo

Baker’s urge for vigilance.

“The transfer station worker who tested positive for COVID-19 is a good reminder that we all need to wear our masks and practice social distancing when we venture beyond our homes,” said Spencer Select Board Chairman Ralph Hicks. “We should also steer clear of things such as barbecues and parties that involve more than very close family.”

For the latest COVID-19 statistics in Spencer, including active case counts, visit the town Web site: [www.spencer-ma.gov](#).

hall who helped with the family business.

Many decades later, O’Connor is on a mission to learn more about the hall from local residents and their families. Hardly any town records of the facility exist.

“There are people who have heard of it, but we want to learn more information and let people know about what it was. That’s a piece of history that shouldn’t die,” O’Connor said.

The dance hall closed at the start of World War II, but its memories lived on through word of mouth for several decades. However, as residents who attended the hall began to pass away or move out of the area, the historical venue slowly faded into obscurity.

Flash forward to 2020, and the majority of residents wouldn’t be able to identify where the dance hall was located. O’Connor is determined to change the narrative and bring the once beloved Mosquito

Ballroom back into the spotlight. She continues to seek historical records and also stories from residents whose family members attended the hall.

“I have heard many great stories from people,” O’Connor said. “Young people would come from Worcester by bus to the dock in East Brookfield and take a boat across Lake Lashaway, then walk up the hill.”

The dance hall also featured live swing bands on Friday and Saturday nights, as well as various dance contests.

O’Connor has sought additional records at the library and historical society, but she couldn’t find much information there. She is committed to researching newspaper archives and other sources of information.

If you or a family member can help shine a light on this historical gem, please contact O’Connor at [poc1675poc@gmail.com](#).



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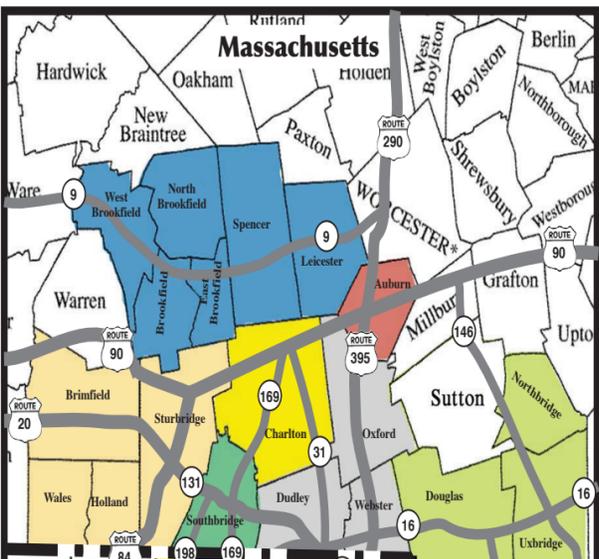
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EDITOR

EDITORIAL

The darker the night, the brighter the stars

When we look up into the night sky, many of us are overcome with awe and wonder. It really does put into perspective just how small we are, as cliché as that sounds. Looking up, we have to wonder why all of humanity can't simply realize that what we are experiencing in life can happen just as well without violence and greed taking place all over the world, but alas here we are. A download of the app 'Star Chart' led us down a rabbit hole into astrology, with the focus being on the currently visible comet, Neowise. As a point of fact, Neowise was named after NASA's Near Earth Object Wide-field Infrared Survey Explorer.

First, a comet for those that don't know exactly what it is, is described often as a 'dirty snowball'. There are billions of them in our solar system, however it's a rare occurrence when one passes by the Earth, close enough to see it. A comet is an icy, small solar system body that warms when passing the sun. When this happens, it begins to release gases. This produces a visible atmosphere and sometimes includes a tail. Neowise, became closest to the Earth on July 22, just 64 million miles away. According to NASA, once it's gone, the comet will not be visible to the Earth for another 6,800 years.

The comet was discovered by astronomers in March, when it was noticed 160 million miles from Earth. The comet is a three-mile-wide chunk of ice and dust, apparently on a 6,000-year loop around the solar system. Many astronomers are relaying that it is the most impressive looking comet since Hale-Bopp, that appeared in 1997. That comet, is on a 2,500 year loop.

It was expected that Neowise would be visible until earlier this week; however, it may linger. When looking up to try to see the comet, look for the tail that has been described as 12 moons side by side. It is most visible at 10 p.m. according to the experts and binoculars will help for certain. The comet is located northwest, below the bottom left corner of the Big Dipper.

Perhaps the best discovery is to retrieve the benefits of stargazing. Since the beginning of time, mankind has gazed up at the stars. Before science revealed what exactly was going on, yet still unknowing, the night sky offered those who looked upon it a sense of calm, and a chance to de-stress. In our current climate, stargazing could be just one more way to reduce anxiety. To note, the telescope was invented in 1608. It has been proven, that soaking up the night sky, and staring at thousands of stars can help clear the mind.

Our ancestors once thought the moon was a God. Early art proves that man was just as intrigued by outer space as we are today. As we all know, mythology was born from space with the most famous gods being Chandra, Artemis, Thoth and Apollo. Thoth has been attributed to the invention of the 365-day calendar and was known as a 'wise counselor who solved disputes.' The Hindus said that an eclipse was the result of Rahu the snake, who swallowed the orbs, causing them to go dark. A full moon was used to explain those who acted out in insanity.

Astrology is always fun if you believe in it. This pseudoscience goes back to the second millennium BCE, and was used to predict information based on the movement of what was going on in the solar system.

The most famous astronomer, Galileo Galilei (born in 1564), once said, "It vexes me when they would constrain science by the authority of the Scriptures, and yet do not consider themselves bound to answer reason and experiment."

Another one to remember, courtesy of author Richelle E. Goodrich, is "Sometimes while gazing at the night's sky, I imagine stars looking down making wishes on the brightest of us."

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A wife of noble character

To the Editor:
The book of Proverbs has much to say about women [Proverb 11: 16, 22, & 12: 4, & 14: 1, 7 18: 22, & 19: 13-14, & 31: 25] and my wife is a woman of Proverb 31 noble character who has been blessed of God with strong character, wisdom, compassion.

There are women who have godly working skills, and some women are blessed as a wife and mother and some are heavenly blessed having godly gifts. My wife is a loving mother and wife with gifts of Spiritual and physical strength, dignity and love, these gifts she possesses are the result of her reverence for God and God blesses her achievements.

In this present society, where physical appearance seems to be so important, and my wife does maintain a modestly dressed appearance; however, her real attractiveness comes entirely from her reverence for God, Jesus. My wife is an inspiration to me to be all I can be as a spiritual and physical person by helping me to receive God's gifts that God gives me to serve my wife and family and giving God, Jesus the glory, because apart from God, Jesus, I do not have the ability. My past life is a witness to that and my wife was also a witness and inspiration to encourage me, inspiring me to live by God, Jesus.

How do we give God, Jesus, the glory? With reverence [fear] obedience to God's moral law, respect for our spouse, family and neighbors, encouraging each other to respect

God's values [spiritually proper, blameless, beyond reproach, respect] standards [established rules, Jesus is the model] and principals [highest character, proper conduct] necessary for our salvation. It is God, Jesus that leads us to peace of mind, enjoyment, success in whatever we try to achieve. The achievement I speak of is spiritual achievement.

The book of Proverbs is very practical for us today; it shows and teaches us how to become wiser, helps us to make good decisions and to be able to live according to God, Jesus' desire and will for our lives now today and the eternal that is to come.

Charm is deceptive, beauty is fleeting, however, a woman who is noble, fears reverences, honors God, Jesus is to be praised for her Nobel character. [Proverb 31: 10]

I am very grateful for my wife and the best way that I can express my love and gratitude for her is to humble myself before God, Jesus and give my wife love, respect and support. We as men need to make every effort to be the husbands of Ephesians 5: 25 and give of our self for her needs as Jesus did for us His church.

Do we want to be blessed of God, live by God's values [established rules, honest, sincere, keeping promises] principles [high character, proper conduct] standards [Gods commands, moral and dietary law] Amen!

ROLAND BLAIS
BROOKFIELD

The last refuge of scoundrels

To the Editor:
"Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel," Samuel Johnson famously pronounced. Never has that adage been truer than today, when flag-waving purveyors of hate claim that they are the only true patriots and that anyone whose views differ from theirs is un-American. Yet these same pseudo-patriots extol the Confederacy – a slavery-loving band of traitors who took up arms against our government – and applaud the creeping authoritarianism that threatens to transform us into a totalitarian state.

These false patriots have no problem with the current administration's repeated violations of our Constitution. Why? Because they are motivated not by love of country but by fear: fear of change, fear of the "other," and fear of loss of status as

we evolve toward a more just society.

Their fears explain the rise of the toxic radical right, which poses a grave threat to our democracy, and manifest themselves in the rabid screeds that fill the editorial pages of this newspaper. Like most readers (I suspect), I usually skip over the puerile, self-congratulatory ramblings of your most virulent contributors. But it's worth remembering that lies repeated often enough can come to seem like truth, and that bigotry cloaked in patriotism can come to seem normal.

Therefore, I urge the New Leader to institute reasonable guidelines for your "Letters to the Editor." Limit the word count and reject outright any letters that promote hate, lies, and bigotry.

Turn To **FAUGNO** page **A11**

Trump thinks COVID is real now?

To the Editor:
It's always great to see new and returning authors and last week was no disappointment. Before I comment on the COVID-19 situation that anybody could have seen coming, I think a few responses are in order.

Last week, Mr. Herholz submitted a letter deriding "another fine Har-YaRant," so I think it is safe to say that it was directed at me. I have to say that I am impressed by Mr. Herholz's use of hyperbole and the long list of caricatures of conservatives even more exaggerated than what he has read from me or elsewhere in the media. White Nationalism, like anything, exists on a spectrum. Sure, at the extreme, we would be seeing a Klan meeting dressed in bed sheets, hooded dunce

caps, and burning crosses – but that it at an extreme that even I don't believe exists in this area or even the south for that matter. A lot has changed and the racism of 1920 is behind us. What concerns me is the racism of 2020. The dog whistles, the coded language, "the politics of us and them," the support for systematic mistreatment of "them," the refusal to recognize the unsavory parts of our history that have shaped the America of 2020.

Mr. Herholz - It is your right to stand out, wave Trump paraphernalia, and participate in turning the American flag into a divisive symbol by associating it so closely with your movement. Just as it is your right to wave

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

Life lessons

To the Editor:
I've been told, more than once, to try and find the teachable moments in everything. Friday, July 24, was no exception. The plan was for my wife and I to go down to the latest Stand Out for Trump, this time happening in Sturbridge at the junction of Routes 20 and 148. As time pressed on it became apparent she was unable to break away from her current obligation so she suggested I take the boys, both eight years old, instead. We hopped into my car and made our way to find, much like the previous Stand Outs, smiling faces, people waving, horns honking, American Flags, Trump Flags, Thin Blue Line Flags, handmade signs, etc.

When we arrived, I pulled into a parking lot that contained only two other vehicles. Some SUV and a Sturbridge Police Officer. Making sure it was OK to use this parking lot I rolled down my window and asked if it was ok to park here, to which the officer replied in the affirmative. Having seen their grandparents, I hardly had the vehicle in the parking spot before they both jumped out

and made a B-Line to go see Pa-pa and Lar-Lar. After many hugs were given the boys quickly armed themselves with flags, one proudly waving an American Flag and the other a Thin Blue Line Flag. While there were many who passed by that expressed gratitude for all those standing out, showing support for Our President and the men and women in blue, they also witnessed the ugly side of people who feel it's no issue to flip off a pair of eight year olds. Undaunted, the boys would still bellow out, "Have a great weekend!" Which is probably the best reaction one could have. If only more people could possess this level of child-like innocence, this ability to give kindness in the face of hate. I hope that those who swore at and flipped off my boys felt ashamed of their actions, but that may be asking for a little too much from them. Seeing as most of the left feel the ends justify the means, I'm sure what they felt was a sense of accomplishment and pride. Soldier on, fearless SJW, on to the next vulgar drive-by!

With another successful Stand Out
Turn To **HERHOLZ** page **A10**

How can you help lower your longevity risk?



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The investment world contains different types of risk. Your stocks or stock-based mutual funds could lose value during periods of market volatility. The price of your bonds or bond funds could also decline, if new bonds are issued at higher interest rates. But have you ever thought about longevity risk?

Insurance companies and pension funds view longevity risk as the risk they incur when their assumptions about life expectancies and mortality rates are incorrect, leading to higher payout levels. But for you, as an individual investor, longevity risk is less technical and more emotional: it's the risk of outliving your money.

To assess your own longevity risk, you'll first want to make an educated guess about your life span, based on your health and family history. Plus, you've got some statistics to consider: Women who turned 65 in April of this year can expect to live, on average, until age 86.5; for men, the corresponding figure is 84, according to the Social Security Administration.

Once you have a reasonable estimate of the number of years that lie ahead, you'll want to take steps to reduce your longevity risk. For starters, try to build your financial resources as much as possible, because the greater your level of assets, the lower the risk of outliving them. So, during your working years, keep contributing to your IRA and your 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan.

Then, as you near retirement, you will need to do some planning. Specifically, you will need to compare your essential living expenses – mortgage/rent, utilities, food, clothing, etc. – with the amount of income you'll get from guaranteed sources, such as Social Security or pensions. You do have some flexibility with this guaranteed income pool. For example, you can file for Social Security benefits as early as 62, but your monthly checks will then be reduced by about 30 percent from what you'd receive if you waited until your full retirement age, which is likely between 66 and 67.

You might also consider other investments that can provide you with a steady income stream. A financial professional can help you choose the income-producing investments that are appropriate for your needs and that fit well with the rest of your portfolio.

After you've determined that your guaranteed income will be sufficient to meet your essential living expenses, have you eliminated longevity risk? Not necessarily – because "essential" expenses don't include unexpected costs, of which there may be many, such as costly home maintenance, auto repairs and so on. And during your retirement years, you'll always need to be aware of health care costs. If you have to dip into your guaranteed income sources to pay for these types of bills, you might increase the risk of outliving your money.

To avoid this scenario, you may want to establish a separate fund, possibly containing at least a year's worth of living expenses, with the money held in cash or cash equivalents. This money won't grow much, if at all, but it will be there for you when you need it.

With careful planning, adequate guaranteed income, a sufficient emergency fund and enough other investments to handle nonessential costs, you'll be doing what you can to reduce your own longevity risk. And that may lead to a more enjoyable retirement.

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

Are my views average?

To the Editor:

Especially during these days of home confinement, I look forward to the plethora of letters published each week in this paper. Viewpoints range from religious, to local and national politics and news. There is even the occasional Andy Rooney style variety of general observations or interrogatives.

When it comes to religion, I am a Christian, was born and raised in the typical New England Congregational tradition. My experience as a deacon, Sunday School teacher and person who endeavors to live my life within the precepts of the golden rule, empowers me with an attitude that commands me to hold my friends and family close, give respect to all people until or unless their words and actions give me reason not to. I believe there is a wide variety of defining yourself Christian. My church tends to venerate interpretation of the word more than the sacraments.

Some churches actually believe that creation was completed in literally six days. For me, science tends to counter that effectively, but I would not presume to tell God how to mark a day, and have no problem believing that the accomplishments marked the "days." In like manner, historians agree that Jesus was more likely born in April than December. The four Gospels selected by the Catholic Church from the 150 submitted, are certainly not real time eye witness reports, as that according to Mark was written 60 AD and is closest to life and time of Jesus. To my knowledge, the only words actually authored by GOD were on two stone tablets, so while I would never presume other verses not inspired by GOD, they were surely committed to writing by prophets, clergy or academics and theologians, at times after events depicted. The stories told and lessons to learn are certainly valid and bear interpretation on an ongoing basis. Sadly, more people have died based upon religious interpretations, than for any other reason. From times predating the Crusades to current Jihad, faith (which I prefer over having none) that you would think a commonality that would bring us closer together, often does not.

For those who may have seen any of my prior submissions, you may believe me to be a hard left radical liberal. I would gladly respond to any such allegations, but actually am a dinosaur-an Eisenhower Republican-born and raised. I stood in front of our house in Concord, holding my flag with my siblings, as Ike returned the salute my dad gave him in his WWII uniform.

It was his era that gave us our interstate highway system. He warned us that the military industrial complex would take our last dollar and leave us starving and homeless, if we let them. In the once traditional Republican view, he thought the more of our own money we kept, the better, and the less the Federal government interceded in our lives, would be to our benefit. He lived in a time when honorable men held our highest office. FDR's Social security program has been the salvation as the multi-generational home has fallen by the wayside. Harry Truman refusing offers to join boardrooms, while driving his wife back to their Missouri home. My mom being a soccer mom, before there was such a thing. Family, ethics, morality.

That said, I may not need to clarify why I am so anti-Trump, but will anyways. I believe we are all the work in progress that builds upon the way we were raised. The known and now confirmed dis-functional Trump family, gives some insight, but should not give a free pass to anyone trusted at the level off his high office. His stint on The Apprentice was for the entertainment value of seeing how people without qualifications, background or experience would behave under various scenarios. This should never have been the format for the draining of the swamp. Rick Perry ran for the presidency advocacy elimination of the Energy Department which he was made secretary of. Betsy DeVos clearly does not believe in the public education system, but is in charge of it. Ben Carson, a wealthy and accomplished brain surgeon, was put in charge of HUD, where his wife promptly ordered a \$30,000 dining room set. Mitch McConnell's wife, whose family owns

Turn To **KIMBALL** page **A11**

All Americans should be concerned

To the Editor:

The Republican silence on what's happening in Portland, Ore. is jarring. Republicans seem to be more outraged at Liz Cheney (for her support of Dr. Anthony Fauci) than they are of Department of Homeland Security Border Patrol police in Portland, Oregon teargassing their Mayor among other protestors.

What happened to "Don't tread on me?" "States' rights?" "Freedom of speech and assembly?" What happened to concerns of federal overreach?

Now we send federal goons in fatigues without insignia to grab and abduct random people and throw them into unmarked vans because they are protesting? The Mayor of Portland and the Governor of Oregon have both said the federal agents are making things worse and asked them to leave, and the President has refused. Under what authority are they there? The Border Patrol has broad and functionally unlimited extra-constitutional powers within 100 miles of the boundary of the United States and Portland, Ore. is 62 miles from the ocean. Former Sen. Barbara Boxer has expressed regret for voting to create DHS, and has said she had never imagined a president like Trump would come along and abuse its power.

The protests over systemic racism have transformed into protesting the federal agents in the city. It seems as though the president is instigating violence on purpose to influence the news cycle as well as creating footage for his campaign ads. President Trump seems to want to run on a "law and order" campaign reminiscent of 1968.

Of course, a "law and order" campaign doesn't fit reality in any meaningful way if you consider the convicted criminality of those surrounding Trump such as Paul Manafort, Michael Flynn, Roger Stone, Paul Gates, Michael Cohen, among so many others. The President clearly has no respect for the law based on how he's used his clemency powers. He pardoned Joe Arpaio and commuted Roger Stone among many others. This president has decried our laws and tried to circumvent them any way he can. He clearly doesn't respect "rule of law," so perhaps it is "order" he is after.

The New York Times has created "The 1619 project" to create materials to learn about the impact that African slavery has had on the United States. They began this effort in 2019 to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the first African slaves being brought to the United States. The aim is to reframe American history by placing the consequences of slavery, the aftermath with Jim Crow, contemporary racial issues, and the contributions of black Americans to the center of the national narrative. The 1619 project is a collection of essays on different aspects of American life ranging from rush-hour traffic to mass incarceration. Considering how much time was spent when I was in school on topics such as Christopher Columbus discovering Hispaniola the 1619 project seems

like it would be a good addition to school curriculum.

Sen. Tom Cotton (R-Arkansas) has introduced the "Saving American History Act of 2020" to withhold federal funds from any school that integrated any 1619 project curriculum. I wonder if he consulted with the United Daughters of the Confederacy to draft the bill.

The country is not orderly. It is in a state of disorder. Donald Trump ran on a campaign of shaking things up and immediately created disorder and protests. There was more "order" under President Obama. President Trump consistently makes protests and disorder worse than if he had done nothing. It is clear that we had more "order" before President Trump, the president has created the current state of disorder, and the president makes our disorder worse. It is hopeless is large numbers of people to feel compelled to vote for Trump to "restore order."

If we can't agree that we shouldn't have Confederate memorials, then it's hopeless. Confederates were traitors who fought against the United States to preserve slavery and white supremacy. Even if you don't agree with the Black Lives Matter movement or don't think black lives matter - Confederates fought to preserve slavery, isn't that enough? Even if you think slavery was OK because it was 1860, they were traitors that seceded and fought a war against the United States. Why are we memorializing them? Contemporary race relations issues are complex; they overlap and intersect with many other issues. Confederate Statues are really simple.

Building a "bigger and better" monument next to a traitor isn't the answer. Should John Lewis Bridge be built bigger and better alongside Edmund Pettus Bridge? We can then have segregated bridges? The real question is, "why did we ever memorialize a traitor?" The next question is, "Do we want to memorialize a traitor?" If we can't agree to de-memorialize Confederates then any contemporary race issue is hopeless.

In no other country in the world did COVID-19 become politicized and partisan like it has here. Black and brown Americans are dying at significantly

Turn To **WASHINGTON** page **A17**

Don't do it, Mr. President!

To the Editor:

Fifty-five years ago, I experienced the first-and only-time in my life what it's like to completely lose every freedom I had ever known. In minutes, everything that was me was gone: no hair, no clothes, no wallet with a girlfriend's picture, no money, no cigarettes, no gum, no books, no swaggering, smirking, youthful cockiness, ...no anything. Thus it began: welcome to Marine Corps boot camp.

For the next 12 weeks, those of us from all sorts of backgrounds in Platoon 311, MCRD, San Diego, would forge strong bonds of comradeship which generally comes from having shared and overcome very stressful, difficult days full of physical and psychological challenges. Some life-long friendships are born out of such experiences.

One of my pals was a boy from the Buckeye State, Pvt. Donald Haskins who had left Ohio State University to seek a little adventure in an entirely different environment. His father, a doctor, wasn't pleased with his son's rash decision; but, at least, at that time no one had even heard of Vietnam.

Haskins was sui generis, one of a kind. Everything he attempted, he excelled at. A perfect score on the physical fitness test (20 dead-hang pull-ups; 80 sit-ups in two minutes; 60 correct push-ups; 42 squat thrusts in a minute; three mile run in 18 minutes); the top scorer on any tests on classroom lessons; an almost perfect-and almost impossible to attain-score of 249 of 250 possible points on the final rifle range test; always "squared away" in every possible way.

Despite all his superior qualities, Haskins was, unlike the rest of us, a gentleman, never foul-mouthed, quiet, unassuming, didn't smoke, and helped those who had trouble learning to do new things like break down and clean the M-14 rifle.

I got to know him better in the 4-week basic infantry course that followed boot camp when we had more time to talk and share interests. He loved sports, politics, and books, as did I, so there was much to discuss.

Twelve of us in that platoon were Reservists, so when the time came, we returned to civilian life and our

Reserve commitment. The others went on to other destinations in the Corps. In time, I received a letter from now-Lance Corporal Haskins writing from the Republic of Vietnam where he was a fire team leader in a rifle company. He sounded O.K. I answered, and a couple months later another letter arrived, this one streaked with mud, and entirely different in tone. He said things were very bad, that there was almost constant fighting, and he mentioned others from that boot camp platoon who had already been killed or wounded. His letter ended ominously when, without a hint of self-pity, he wrote that he feared the worst, and was very concerned about his/their situation.

In those days-1966-69-the New York Times used to print the names of the American youths who'd lost their lives in Vietnam that week, sometimes hundreds of them. I used to read the Old Gray Lady when it ran "All the News That's Fit to Print" (before it became a Pravda-like propaganda organ) and one morning over coffee at a shop I was stunned to see the name CPL. Donald Haskins, USMC. I had already read the names of two other members of our old platoon in San Diego, Douglas Haddix of Ohio, and David K. Suapaia of Hawaii as being K.I.A. There were probably some more, I don't know.

But, the loss of Haskins was a tremendous blow not only to his family, but to all his friends and admirers who knew him as a very special young man, indeed. I don't think he lived to see 21. You can read their profiles on-line, as you can for the other fifty or sixty-thousand young men who came home in a box covered by the flag that today millionaire men who play a boy's game refuse to stand for.

Think of everything the bright, talented, kind-hearted, generous, and incredibly brave young Haskins forfeited: a completed education, a loving wife and family, a chance to see his kids graduate from their schools, family vacations, walking his beautiful daughter down the aisle, seeing "Junior" pitch his first Little League game, a hunting trip with his buddies, reunions with his pals who survived

Turn To **MCRAE** page **A11**

I have a dream

To the Editor:

I was remembering the great Civil Rights Leader Martin Luther King, Jr. and recalling his "I Have A Dream" speech. One part that was particularly inspiring to me was the portion where he stated "I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character. I have a dream today." I think that resonates clearly especially today. I totally agree with this and want to expand on this premise.

I have a dream where a person can expect an opportunity for employment based on your character and not your race. My dream is when you apply for a position you are based on your merits and skills, not based on affirmative action laws requiring those of a certain race to be pushed ahead. That is institutional racism.

I have a dream where you can voice your freedom of speech without retaliation from those that wish to silence it based on race. A nation where you can have an open and free dialogue about social issues without the threat of loss of employment or means of support. A nation where everyone has equal voice not based on race. A nation where a statement of equality such as "All lives matter" is a denigrated by others with racial agendas to punish those that say it. A nation where local politicians have courage to enforce your right of free speech without being scared of retaliation from the mob.

I have a dream where you are denigrated as racist just by the color of your skin. Where it is predisposed that because of the color of your skin, you harbor the seeds of racism. A dream of a nation where you are judged by your actions and not by accusations from others who have political agendas to promote. You are not born a racist. Children are taught this in your homes and schools. Schools should teach that civil rights belong to all races. All races and lives matter. They should teach history based on views from all perspectives and not made judgements based on a teachers' views. Let the students use their own judgements to see the merits and failings of the history

and how it should influence their lives. Students threatened by teachers with failing grades for refusing to follow the educator's views should have a grievance process.

I have a dream where citizens of all races follow the laws agreed to by all to make a safe and free society. Free from fear of crime and subjugation. A nation where people are responsible for their actions. A nation when one citizen who feels threatened can call the police. A nation where those committing the crime deal respectfully with the police and have the right to air their case to a jury of their peers. A nation where police responding to crimes like drunken driving or forgery don't have to expect to have physical confrontations. A nation where we have police patrolling our streets to be available to assist law abiding citizens. A nation where a member of my family can go to the Auburn Mall and not be traumatized by witnessing one man stab another 12 times in the head and body.

Civil rights belong to all. All lives matter. We all have dreams. When president Trump was asked about the confrontation of the groups in Charlottesville his response was

Turn To **ROBILLARD** page **A17**

PERSON
of the
WEEK

Ed & Tina Bemis
of Spencer

For helping to beautify downtown Spencer by supplying and hanging beautiful plants off the light poles, and filling the whiskey barrels with gorgeous plants on the side of the Sugden Block. Thank you for sharing your flowers and talents.

- Submitted by Robin Fowler Rochette

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

Person of the Week is sponsored by:

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HAR-YAROK

continued from page A8

flags in exchange for a combination of honks and middle fingers it is my right to provide context and I will continue to do so. Concerning the list of things you consider the GOP to represent your best interest (guns, abortion, taxes, borders, police, global warming, investment in our most vulnerable populations, etc.) I invite you to expand on your thoughts, give your reasons, cite examples, etc.

To respond to Mr. Robillard – yes, liquid fuel such as gasoline is impressive with its ease at refilling and its energy to weight ratio. We have been using liquid byproducts of oil for over 100 years because it is cheap and easy. The problem is it is destroying our planet. There is a finite amount of oil under the ground and we are burning it at a ferocious rate. All the oil under the ground represents 100's of millions of years of carbon trapped underground that we are releasing into the atmosphere. God spent 100 million years trapping the carbon we released in 100 years. As for how electricity would work I believe you are being intentionally obtuse – have you seen a Tesla car? They have lithium-ion batteries. Companies are even making electric tractor trailers. We can re-think refilling stations, perhaps switching batteries out. The charging time is also getting very fast. A Tesla Model 3 connected to a “Supercharger 3” which is available at many filling stations can now add 1,000 miles of range every hour. You could drive cross-country and charge your car during meal stops.

Science is moving forward. If there was an easy solution it would have been solved already. Thankfully, this country is full of young people who recognize that this is a problem worth solving. Today, 1 percent of the world lives in inhospitably hot areas that cannot grow enough food to feed their population. Within 50 years that number will be 20 percent. The polar ice caps are melting and will flood low lying areas. Do you have no interest in being a good steward of earth? Do you think G-d put you here to abuse the environment and leave it a mess for after you are gone or do you feel that you should leave the earth a better place than you found it?

To respond to Mr. Lindsay – I invite

you to the free exchange of ideas. I ask you to expand with examples on the shaming, attacking, kicked out of restaurants, and whatnot. Are you referring to Sarah Huckabee Sanders? I invite you to expand on Antifa. It is important that we consider the ‘big picture’ before jumping to conclusions. What is ‘Antifa’? How well organized is it? How many people does it represent? How closely aligned are they really with the Democratic party? Keep in mind that to nearly 60 percent of the country, Donald Trump is a public enemy, a clear and present danger. Of the majority of Americans that oppose Trump, it is important not to associate all of us with the actions of a fringe few. Just because we all have the same enemy doesn't necessarily make us allies.

Finally, Mr. McRae – the letter of July 24 was really incredible. It seems that a peaceful Black Lives Matter march from eight weeks ago in his backyard is still shaking his soul to his core. As I have said before, nobody should form judgements on anybody based on what I or anybody else says about them. Form your judgements of people based on their own words.

On the COVID front in one sense there is really nothing new. The US is up to 4,193,103 infections, averaging about 70,000 new ones per day, leading the world on both counts. We have had 146,574 deaths, leading the world still. It looks like Brazil and India are poised to overtake us eventually. We remain banned from travel to Canada, anywhere in Europe, Asia, etc. The U.S. is currently in a diplomatic row with China over sending staff back to the Wuhan Consulate because the Chinese government is requiring American diplomats quarantine because the virus is out of control in the US but not spreading in China. The USA's response is “this virus is your fault!” but of course China doesn't care whose fault it is, they don't want it spreading in their country while the US is more concerned with pointing fingers.

One thing that is very curious is that Trump seems to have changed his tone, almost an about face on COVID-19. He has restarted daily COVID-19 briefings (although this time without any medical personnel). He admitted it will get worse before it gets better... Trump now seems to like masks after months of mocking

them. He previously accused blue governors of keeping kids home to make him look bad, now he wants schools to “reopen if they can” and isn't sure if Barron's school should reopen. At first blush it would appear that he is human and the disaster reached his pain-point but I think he just realized that “pretend it isn't happening” isn't working in the polls.

Trump cancelled his Jacksonville, Fla. convention in favor of a virtual one which is funny because he moved the convention to Florida after North Carolina wouldn't “guaranty” him a convention without masks or social distancing when Florida would. Trump then made fun of Democrats' virtual convention, and now the Republican convention will be virtual. I guess there was a number of bodies that would change Trump's mind and we now know it is about 140,000 dead bodies with the daily deaths accelerating.

After the COVID peak in April, conservatives said, “the cases are going down, this is a global problem.” After the cases started skyrocketing in June, they said, “who cares, look at the deaths, they're going down.” Deaths are a lagging indicator, people are sick for many weeks before they die. As was predicted, the deaths are now climbing. We just completed the third consecutive week of increasing deaths per day. What will the conservatives say now?

The COVID-19 situation is getting worse and it is blatantly obvious we have no game plan, no strategy. Positivity rates are going up which suggests the virus is growing worse than the numbers show and people just aren't getting tested. Republicans have long used intentionally long lines in blue districts to suppress the vote. Perhaps news reports of six-hour wait to get tested and 10-14 days to get results have dissuaded people from getting tested. It is almost like they're healthy! Now that we have had a chance to observe those that ‘recover’ from COVID-19 we are finding as many as a third of those who are never hospitalized have long-term illness months out. Twenty percent of survivors 18-34 have experienced symptoms for months such as fatigue, cough, fevers, memory issues, and sleep issues.

American diplomacy is really going down a deep dark hole and threatening a new Cold War. We, along with Brazil,

have pulled out of WHO (World Health Organization) as though this pandemic is their fault when the reality is we ignored them at critical junctures. We closed a Chinese consulate in Houston. China closed an American consulate in Chengdu. What is the purpose of all of this? Divert and deflect the news cycle into “blame China” to take the spotlight off problems in this country?

The situation is the United States is very bad. Burying our collective heads in the sand is not going to make it better, it is going to make it worse.

OMAR HAR-YAROK
EAST BROOKFIELD

HERHOLZ

continued from page A8

in the books, the three of us made our way back to the car where the Officer was still sitting. As we walked across the parking lot the Officer got out of his vehicle and asked if I had a few minutes to talk. Speaking directly to the boys, he told them he was impressed at how well behaved and polite they were, even though there were people who were rude and some displaying behavior that was appalling, especially to young children. I'm sure he has seen worse, but he was still disgusted that people can be so vile and have so little regard. We talked for a while and even got a picture with Officer Hemmingway and his K-9 partner, Vlasko.

So, what was the lesson for my boys? Well, it looks like I don't need to teach them that vulgarity should not be met with vulgarity, rather countered with friendliness. Nor do they need to be taught to stand up for what they believe in a respectful manner. Some people are going to disagree with your opinion(s), some will even get angry about it. The big lesson, no matter where you are, someone is always watching, so make your actions count. Be the shining example among those with darkened hearts.

If you would like to come down take part in the next Stand Out, it will be at the junctions of Route 9 and 148 in Brookfield on July 31.

MATHEW HERHOLZ
SPENCER

Welcome to our 2nd Annual Summer Scramble!

We've decided to change it up for Summer and instead of a crossword puzzle, we've created a scramble. We hope you'll enjoy this challenging puzzle! Please find the answers (business names) on the ABC's of SUMMER page in this week's issue. We will unscramble for you and announce a winner of a \$25 Gift Card to an ABC Business in the August 21st issue. Please mail to ABC's of Summer Scramble, P. O. Box 90, Southbridge, MA 01550 or take a pic and email to jsima@stonebridgepress.news by August 14. Good luck!



Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____
 Email (optional) _____
 Newspaper you saw this in, circle one: Spencer New Leader, Auburn News, Southbridge News, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Webster Times, Blackstone Valley Tribune
 We love your feedback comments: _____

ABC'S OF SUMMER SCRAMBLE

(These are not in alphabetical order)

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. NSHASEE SALNO _____ | 14. AOGAUBQ LEIAITAINHOBR _____ |
| 2. UROY CDB EORST _____ | 15. IYOTCVR SERTGOA _____ |
| 3. INHIGSG EERYNG RVNEALTTIEA _____ | 16. DGBUXREI OEHIDOPCTSR _____ |
| 4. WHIRDCKA MSRAREF _____ | 17. DTVICNEHRZ ALRE STEETA _____ |
| 5. KIAEAML ADN NJUE _____ | 18. GRYSA TRETSUG _____ |
| 6. EMRIROC EELSWJER _____ | 19. LCLIHA ETRI NDA AUTO _____ |
| 7. EBNS KALETC HKSCA _____ | 20. SODOYW TUAO YDOB _____ |
| 8. BAIETCN OTEPD _____ | 21. RNOAIRDD OEEKFE EASH _____ |
| 9. LOXAMUERU DROF _____ | 22. IFVE VLAEOS _____ |
| 10. EATACURC TPSE CLTOONR _____ | 23. ASLN TNPAI TNEREC _____ |
| 11. REPIOEN EALLVY LOI _____ | 24. ADEVS LCAEANPSPI _____ |
| 12. IASL CANRO TEXI RLEA SEAETT _____ | 25. 'FLESDEE FEFCOE PSOHEP _____ |
| 13. BE STAFTL _____ | |

LEGALS

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 10 Sumner Street Extension a/k/a 10 Sumner Street, Spencer, MA 01562

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Denise Farmosa to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Loandepot.com, LLC, and now held by PNC Bank, National Association, said mortgage dated April 26, 2013 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 50839, Page 385, said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Loandepot.com, LLC to PNC Bank, National Association by assignment dated August 14, 2019 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 60880, Page 163; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction** on August 14, 2020 at 4:00PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Legal Description The land in Spencer with buildings thereon at the westerly end of Sumner Street being shown as Lot 1 on a plan entitled "Plan of Land on Sumner Street in Spencer, Mass." owned by Ambrose R. Tower dated October 17, 1989, E.H. Perry Associates, Land Surveyors, said plan recorded in Worcester District Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 638, Plan 71, B & D as follows: BEGINNING at an iron pin at the southeast corner of the lot herein conveyed; THENCE N. 82° 02' 50" W. 287.09 feet to a point;

THENCE N. 18° 55' 05" E. 146.55 feet to a point;

THENCE N. 30° 18' 17" E. 64.64 feet to a point;

THENCE N. 30° 22' 03" E. 57.93 feet to a point,

THENCE S. 82° 36' 15" E. 44.47 feet to a point;

THENCE S. 60° 02' 11" E. 100.02 feet to a point;

THENCE S. 40° 18' 30" E. 113.51 feet to the westerly terminus of Sumner Street Extension;

THENCE S. 35° 07' 25" W. 38.69 feet along the westerly end of Sumner Street Extension to a point;

THENCE S. 54° 08' 50" E. 67.89 feet along Sumner Street Extension to an iron pin;

THENCE S. 41° 21' 10" W. 93.90 feet to the point of BEGINNING.

Also conveying all right title and interest in Sumner Street Extension as shown on said plan.

Containing 1.42 acres more or less. And being the same property conveyed to Denise Farmosa, Individually in a Deed from Kirk R. Farmosa and Denise Farmosa dated April 10, 2007 and recorded April 13, 2007 in the County Recorder's Office in Book 40985 Page 372.

Tax ID/APN#: U12/ 62

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated April 10, 2007 and recorded in the Worcester County (Worcester District) Registry of Deeds in Book 40985, Page 372.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
1080 Main Street, Suite 200
Pawtucket, RI 02860
Attorney for PNC Bank,
National Association
Present Holder of the Mortgage
401-217-8701

July 17, 2020

July 24, 2020

July 31, 2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division Docket No. 20P1751

Estate of:

Arthur Roeuche

Also Known As:

Arthur Branford Roeuche,
Brad Roeuche

Date Of Death: May 16, 2020
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

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

Gina Basile 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 parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal

procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

July 31, 2020

North Brookfield Conservation Commission Notices of Intent Procedures Required by 310 CMR 10 (Wetland Regulations) Notice of Public Hearing

In accordance with the provisions of Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 131, Section 40 of the Wetlands Protection Act, the North Brookfield Conservation Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:15 p.m. regarding a Notice of Intent submitted by Fuss & O'Neill, Inc. on behalf of the Town of North Brookfield for activities associated with the proposed bridge replacement on Cider Mill Road over Coys Brook and proposed work within wetland resource areas in the project vicinity including inland bank, land under waterbodies and waterways, bordering land subject to flooding, and riverfront area. The project site is located in the vicinity of 17 & 18 Cider Mill Road in North Brookfield, Massachusetts. Any person interested in this matter is invited to attend the hearing. For meeting details please contact the Conservation Commission at concomm01535@gmail.com.

July 31, 2020

Town of Spencer Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

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

Edwin & Christine Mullens have filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to construct a single family home located at R38-42 North Spencer Road, Spencer, MA.

Michael Tavilla has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to install walkways and replace retaining walls at 91 Clark Road, Spencer, MA. Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspectional Services, Town Hall. A public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, August 12, 2020, at which time all persons having an interest may be present and participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 7:00 p.m., public hearings begin at 7:15 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman
July 31, 2020

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

225 Main Street

Worcester, MA 01608

(508) 831-2200

Docket No. WO20P1937EA

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Therese Elizabeth Walker

Also known as

Therese E Walker

Date of Death: 07/10/2013

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Robert J Walker of West Brookfield MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner Requests that:

Robert J Walker of West Brookfield MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **un-supervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/25/2020.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: July 20, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate

July 31, 2020

LEGAL NOTICE

The annual report of the Warren Rural Improvement Association is available at the address noted below for inspection by any citizen who so requests within 180 days after publication of this notice of availability.

Warren Rural Improvement Association

c/o Linda Cunningham

P.O. Box 1315

Warren, MA 01083-1315

The principal manager is John J.

Dyjak, Pres.

Linda Cunningham, Treasurer

July 31, 2020

KIMBALL

continued from page A9

Chinua's largest shipping company, is in charge of transportation. I can't wait to see what treasury secretary has done with our money. Sadly, he is systematically placing these contestants in jobs formerly held by career public servants.

Among the impacted areas, we are seeing a justice department, that is too easily confused with his personal attorneys. It is my devout hope that the extent of this perversion, will result in sensibly removing powers that can so easily be abused, from presidential control. Enforcement should never be allowed to void convictions, subpoenas, or other acts by a duly elected congress. I am encouraged to see that the partisan appointment of judges, has not been a total rout.

I think the citizenry is in general agreement that the management of the Covid-19 crisis, has been underwhelming at best.. I will again state that 4 percent of world population having 25 percent of cases, particularly in the most respected medical community in the world, is a disgrace. You may remember the press conferences to address this, had CEOs taking bows for undertaking things that amounted to little more than working in general self interest, charts, graphs and words from health experts, summarily dismissed and no longer heard from, and statements that a rational person would find appalling, like give me the death chart, testing causes cases and we do more testing than anyone. I have yet to determine why the major quantity of the 50 million tests done daily, have any value, except on death certificates, when results are returned beyond a week later.

I have long believed that the most expensive, least efficient way, to accomplish almost anything, is letting government do it. Because I am retired, live on SS, own my house and cars and carry no debt, it is interesting to me, that largely multi-millionaires are deciding the fates of the supplemental

\$600 a week to the unemployed. I can think of no more clueless unqualified group to hold so many people's fates and fortunes in their hands. If you live in NYC or San Francisco, etc., even this assistance may barely get you through. If you live in Appalachia, it is bonus time. I had a friend who was considering moving from Massachusetts to Oklahoma, because his national standard postal wages would change his life style. Multi-millionaire Mitch is for cutting the supplement from \$600 to \$100. Is that a Kentucky standard? I knew of people in NYC who needed half the residents at work while others slept, to cover the rent.

Joe Biden, like any who have a long government resume, is going to have a record of positives and negatives. Yes, he will listen to advice and install competent bureaucrats. Considering that we are now spending my great or great-great grandkids money, I sure hope that there will be moderation in giving the store away. That said, I do want climate sensibly addressed, healthcare smartly reformed.

Healthcare, which for years, had run 5 percent of GDP is now near 20 percent and rising. Paying multi millions to insurance execs and 30 percent of healthcare to bureaucracy, red tape and paperwork, really is self defeating, but like the military industrial complex, is entrenched and immovable.

As I have said many times before, I had hoped that my boomer generation would bring an end to so many of the worlds problems and injustices. As my time here grows shorter and I see so many things inn need of address, it is clear that the chink in our morality has not kept pace with technology. As a fourteenth generation New Englander, I count my blessings at having spent most of my life here. I am proud that both of my sons enlisted in the Army and my granddaughter in the Air Force when they didn't have to. I pray that they and my fellow citizens may continue to experience the great bounty this country has to offer.

KEN KIMBALL
BROOKFIELD

MCRAE

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combat, a job--in his case, probably as a surgeon saving lives--and all the other things that make life worth the living. He, and all the rest of them, gave it all up. They may have had their reservations about the war, but, at bottom, felt the flag and all it stood for was worth it, and assumed the risks that may have come with their service.

I still think of Haskins--eternally young and full of promise--and especially now with the spectacle of over-privileged athletes who can hit a baseball, dunk a basketball, catch a football, or perform any other athletic thing resulting from unusual physical gifts, refusing to show respect for the sacrifices of Haskins and over one million other young Americans from the past who gave it all up for the flag these ingrates delight in mocking.

Today, I read of every player on the Yankees and Nationals "taking a knee" at their season's opener. I think old man Steinbrenner is rolling in his grave; he never would have agreed to this craven capitulation to politically correct madness. He would not have allowed M.L.B. to become B.L.M.

I can only hope these ballplayers live uneasily with their perfidy for the rest of their lives. What's the price for their love of country? Just the next contract. Shameful idiots, especially the white dopes who one might have thought had been raised better than to spit on the service and sacrifice of so many other, better men than themselves.

I also read that Mookie Betts just signed for \$345 million. To Mookie, I

FAUGNO

continued from page A8

After all, free speech, when it is used to deceive and divide us, isn't free. It can cost us our most cherished freedoms and destroy our way of life.

RACHEL FAUGNO
SPENCER

say this: If you won't stand for the flag of the country that enables you to live like King Solomon (at least he was wise, all you have is good hand/eye coordination), you are dead to me. I couldn't care less if you become the next .400 hitter after Teddy Ballgame,1941. On your knee, you are, in my view, not fit to carry Cpl. Haskins' 782 gear.

And, I also learn that President Trump, for whom I would go to the barricades if he asked me, is scheduled to throw out the first pitch on Aug. 15 at Yankee Stadium, as a favor to Mr. Levine, the owner.

Please, for the sake of all that is sacred, Mr. President, don't do it. I know you like to keep your word, and you promised this guy you'd be there, but...no, no, no! Your base of support is rock solid, but if you walk out there to the mound, to honor a commitment, you are, in reality, honoring those pathetic little men who chose a paycheck over their country on Opening Day. And, sadly, a chunk of the base, themselves, may feel dishonored by your action, and will walk away from you. And we can't afford to lose anyone, Sir.

To paraphrase the words of a determined Margaret Thatcher to a nervous G.H.W. Bush in 1990, "Now is not the time to go wobbly," Mr. President. The blood of a million American patriots shed around the world cries out for you to not forget them at this critical hour in our history. It's the Corporal Haskins' of this world that count, not these greedy, cringing cowards in pinstripes.

Courage, Mr. President!

JOHN MCRAE
EAST BROOKFIELD



GOOD NEWS

OBITUARIES

Earle I. Allen, Jr., 77

WEST BROOKFIELD - Earle I. Allen, Jr. 77, of West Brookfield, MA was called home to rest on July 23, 2020 at the Elaine Center in Hadley after a long illness. Earle was a loving husband, and a caring father, grandfather and great grandfather. Those who knew Earle knew he was the kind of guy

to drop anything for a friend or family member in need. He was a hard worker and had the kindest soul.

Earle is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Phyllis (Patt) Allen of West Brookfield; his nine children, Roger Allen of West Brookfield, Nancy Morris and her husband Gary of Belchertown, Gregory Allen and his wife Dawn of West Brookfield, Miranda Jacques and her husband Norman of Palmer, Debra Silva and her husband Brian of Brookfield, Tammy Allen of Belchertown, Michael Allen and his wife Jesselyn of Ware, Cassandra Henry and her husband Michael of Douglasville, GA, and Staci Allen of West Brookfield, his twenty grandchildren, Megan, Matthew, Alexis, Lauren, Allison, Evan, Brandon, Owen, Colton, Kaitlyn, Kannon, Kaicey, Ethan, Sean, Kayla, Gabriel, Parker, Aiden, McKenzie, and Izabella; one great-granddaughter Freya as well as his brothers Wayne Allen and his wife Judy and Frank Allen. He is predeceased by his grandson Zachary. He was born in Ware, son of the late Earle and Nancy (Jones) Allen.

Earle was a hardworking, loving, faithful husband. He married Phyllis in 1964 in West Brookfield while her parents Hermann and Mildred Patt were missionaries in Kenya, Africa. They started their life together in a trailer in North Brookfield while he was working as a toolmaker at Pratt & Whitney. After purchasing property in West Brookfield, Earle started building their home and then got drafted into the Army in 1966. Phyllis moved back home to the family farm - her parents had returned from Africa. Their first born son was born while Earle was serving his country in Vietnam. After coming home from Vietnam, he moved his family to Virginia to finish out his time with the Army. He was discharged in 1968. The family moved back to live with Phyllis' parents on the farm while Earle continued to work on their home and working at Pratt & Whitney. A year later, their home was finished enough to move into. After the garage

was built in 1970, Earle and Phyllis took over Hermann's cider press and started the Allen's Cider Mill, which is still in operation today. Earle's career continued as a machinist and tool and die maker. He worked at Brookfield Machine for 32 years ending his career for many years as a Foreman in 2001.

Earle was a devoted family man who loved spending time with his wife, children and grandchildren. Earle dedicated his time to his family and to helping others. He was a foster parent for 32 years, welcoming children into his home. The kids that were blessed with his love, no matter for how long or how short are better people for it. Earle gave of his time teaching kids woodworking skills through the 4-H. He loved traveling and the outdoors, spending summers camping and boating. For years he enjoyed the large family camping trips climbing Mount Washington Labor Day weekend. He enjoyed square dancing, tennis, biking, hiking, walks, reading - he enjoyed staying busy. He was a deacon at the First Congregation Church in West Brookfield for countless years, he also plowed and mowed for the church and helped with the Sharing Cupboard. He was a handyman who could fix just about anything. If Earle couldn't fix it, most likely, it couldn't be fixed. Earle's skills enabled him to build three houses. He was a giver and a teacher; he passed these skills onto his sons. Earle built a vacation home on Lake Wickaboag in 1990 and renovated it in 2013. The beautiful hickory floors attest to his talent.

Although Earle leaves us physically the legacy he leaves behind will have a profound effect which is evident in the many lives he influenced, his acts of kindness, the guidance he provided, his loyalty to his family, and his smile that could light up a room which now lights up our hearts.

The family would like to extend their gratitude for the care takers at the Elaine Center. A graveside service will be held at Worcester County Memorial Park with military honors on Friday, July 31st at 1:30. For everyone's health and safety, along with current regulations, masks must be worn along with social distancing. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the First Congregational Church of West Brookfield or the Elaine Center in Hadley.

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

Timothy M. Anderson, 55, of Spencer, formerly Shrewsbury passed away Friday, July 24, 2020 after being stricken ill at home.



Timothy was born, February 7, 1965, in Worcester, one of five children of Paul and Johanna (Holden) Anderson. Raised in Shrewsbury, Tim graduated from Shrewsbury High School and attended Worcester State College. He married Denise A. Kalagher in 1995, and together they began to raise their family in Worcester, before moving to Spencer in 2003 where they have lived ever since.

Timothy worked as a correction officer for the Massachusetts Department of Corrections at Souza-Baranowski Correctional Center in Shirley for over 22 years before retiring recently. Prior to the correctional center, Tim was an established bartender for years at various local Worcester County restaurants.

Timmy is survived by the family he loved, his wife of 25 years, Denise A. (Kalagher) Anderson; his two children, Emily G. and Cameron T. Anderson both of Spencer; his parents, Paul and Johanna (Holden) Anderson of Shrewsbury; a brother, Kevin Anderson of Holden; sisters, Colleen Johnson and her husband

Gus of Chatham, Paula Carey and her husband David of Shrewsbury, Karen Chamberlain and her husband Joseph of Millbury; his father and mother in law, Robert F. and Sharon (Mercadante) Kalagher of Worcester; sisters in law, Lori Pepper and her husband James of Worcester, Colleen Travaglio and her husband John of Shrewsbury, Sarah Fontaine and her husband Matthew of Dalton, Amy Leduc and her husband Brett of Worcester; Many nieces, nephews, aunts, uncles, cousins and friends.

Over the years, Tim was a kind, fun loving husband, and father. He enjoyed the many family vacations to Disney, Cape Cod, Maine and more. Tim was known for his classic "dad" dance moves and movies misquotes. He loved to golf as many courses as he could and was an avid Red Sox, Patriots, Celtics and Bruins fan.

Friends and relatives were invited to calling hours Wednesday, July 29th from 4 pm to 8 pm in the MERCADANTE FUNERAL HOME & CHAPEL, 370 Plantation St. His funeral was held Thursday, July 30th from the funeral home with a procession to St Anne's Church, 130 Boston Turnpike where his celebration of Christian burial mass will be held at 11:00 am. Burial will follow in St John's Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions in his name can be made to the Anderson Children's Educational Fund, care of Central One Federal Credit Union, 714 Main Street, Shrewsbury, MA 01545.

Linda C. Pelletier, 74

WEST BROOKFIELD- Linda C. (Corbett) Pelletier, 74, of West Brookfield, passed away peacefully on Thursday, July 16, 2020.



Linda was the daughter of the late Harriet Bensen of Joliet, Illinois. She leaves her loving husband of 25 years, William F. Pelletier of West Brookfield, and daughter, (Angela) Michelle Corbett of Milwaukee, WI. She was born in Prince Frederick, MD and grew up in North Salem, NY.

She worked as an aerospace and civil engineering draftsperson for over 25 years. Afterwards, until her retirement, she owned and operated Sweet Arts Bakery out of her home in West Brookfield.

Linda was a loving and devoted wife, and mother. She enjoyed the opera and had a passion for genealogy. She was a prominent member of Brookfield

Gardening Club, the West Brookfield Genealogy Society, and an avid crafter.

Besides her husband and daughter, Linda also leaves behind her sister-in-law, Helen Dauplaise and husband Ernie of Middleboro and her brother in law, Laurence Pelletier of Rocky Hill, Connecticut. She was predeceased by her brothers in law Michael Pelletier and George Pelletier, both of Springfield.

Linda was a positive light and a creative soul. She had a wonderful sense of humor and a love of animals. She will be missed by all who knew her.

Service will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Second Chance Animal Services, P.O. Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515 or at secondchanceanimals.org.

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

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Marjorie Olson Barstow, 84

NORTH BROOKFIELD- Marjorie O Barstow, passed away peacefully, July 21, 2020 at the age of 84. Marjorie was the only child of Richard and Rose Olson born in Worcester, on November 6, 1935.



Marjorie graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design in 1956. She worked and raised a family in Rumford, RI for over 25 years where she held several positions in Design and Technical Illustration with the City of Providence Planning Committee and the Providence Journal among others. All her life she was a talented artist who provided inspiration through her wonderful real-life drawings.

In 1982, she designed, built and moved to a home in North Brookfield on Lake Lashaway with her husband Peter to enjoy their later years. In 1997 she acquired a winter home in North Fort Myers, FL with Peter and enjoyed

her fun in the sun during the winter months with a very active community of friends from around the country.

She is survived by her loving children, Lee Barstow and his wife Maureen of Stratford, CT; Wendy Barstow of North Brookfield; and Tracey (Barstow) Pajala of Oxford. She was beloved by her four grandchildren; Marissa, Chelsea, Alec and Nathan. She was predeceased by her husband of 55 years, Peter Barstow.

Due to the concerns facing us at this time surrounding social gatherings, all services will be held privately for immediate family only. There will be celebration of her life when it is safe to do so. Memorial donations may be made in Marjorie's name to either the American Cancer Society www.cancer.org - donate3.cancer.org/ or The Lake Lashaway Community Association, PO Box 72, East Brookfield, MA 01535.

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

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com

Dane F. Varney, 67

NORTH BROOKFIELD - Dane F. Varney, 67, of North Brookfield, died on Tuesday, July 14, 2020 at his home, following a period of declining health.



He leaves his son, Christopher F. Varney and his companion Amanda Bouley; his grandson, Xander; his mother, Sylvia A. Varney of East Brookfield; three brothers, Richard "Dick" Varney and his wife Ellen of Spencer, Gene Varney and his companion Toni of East Brookfield, and Lex Varney of East Brookfield and two sisters, Pamela J. Le Beau and Diann S. Simonelli, both of East Brookfield, as well as her nephews, Matthew Varney, Paul and Thomas Le Beau, Torrey Simonelli and his niece, Alicia R. Varney and several cousins. He also leaves his former wife, Luann (McEvoy) Varney. He was born in Ware, son of Sylvia A. (McLaughlin) Varney and the late Donald F. Varney.

Dane worked as an automotive mechanic and auto body repair technician at Varney's Garage in East

Brookfield for several years, before retiring in 2018. Among vintage car enthusiasts, he was well known for his expert restoration of these vehicles when he worked for Mr. Jefferson of Brookfield and Mr. Frank Cook of North Brookfield. One of those cars was exhibited in the Dr. Seuss Museum in Springfield.

He absolutely loved cars and was a genuine car enthusiast. In his spare time, he'd watch or read anything about automobiles just to learn more. He was especially fond of Ford Mustangs and older European sports cars. He recently became a grandfather and loved every minute spent with his grandson Xander.

Services for Dane will be held privately, and there are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to East Quabbin Land Trust, P.O. Box 5, Hardwick, MA 01039-0005.

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



Join Us for a Celebration of Life for Elaine E. (Ruddy) Hibbard

who passed away on Friday, July 17 at her home with her family by her side. Because of the pandemic situation, there were no calling hours.

A Celebration of Life will be held on the grounds of her beloved Purple Onion at 105 North Main St., West Brookfield, MA 01585 on Saturday, August 1st from 10 am-2pm. Informal attire, please. Wear Elaine's favorite color red, or purple to honor her afflictions with epilepsy and dementia. Family and friends are all welcome to join us in celebrating Elaine's life, and to honor this beautiful woman.

~ George, Emily, & Patrick ~



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POLICE REPORTS

SPENCER POLICE LOG

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15

12:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 12:15 a.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 12:17-12:39 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:42 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 12:44 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:05 a.m.: accident (Wire Village Road), report taken; 1:05 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:11 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:17-2:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:39 a.m.: fire alarm (Sherwood Drive), services rendered; 6:07 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:26 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:29 a.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), spoken to; 6:39 a.m.: mv stop (Ash Street); 7:13 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 7:37 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 7:41 a.m.: suspicious mv (Browning Pond Circle), investigated; 7:48 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 7:49 a.m.: parking violation (Ash Street), ticket issued; 8:04 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 8:27 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 8:45 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 8:47 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), stray cat; 8:59 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Auburn PD bolo; 9:03 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:48 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:05 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:09 a.m.: medical/general (Charlton Road); 10:10 a.m.: fraud (Northwest Road), scam IRS call; 10:11 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:26 a.m.: fraud (Donnelly Road), scam call; 11:20 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 11:25 a.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), poss. theft; 11:32 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 11:36 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 11:57 a.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 11:57 a.m.: disturbance (South Street), disruptive male; 12:13 p.m.: officer wanted (Valley Street), discarded gas can; 1:02 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 1:06 p.m.: elderly matter (West Main Street), spoken to; 1:06 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (Main Street); 1:26 p.m.: suspicious persons (North Spencer Road), req. welfare check; 1:41 p.m.: DPW call (Pleasant Street), gas line break; 3:08 p.m.: LTC issued/2 (West Main Street), assisted; 3:09 p.m.: FID issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:19 p.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 4:21 p.m.: juvenile

matter (Adams Street), fight; 5:54 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (I. Capen Road), utility pole fire; 5:58 p.m.: disturbance (School Street), verbal altercation; 6:08 p.m.: officer d (West Main Street), hay bale in road; 6:08 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), re: stolen bike; 6:19 p.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:56 p.m.: accident (Thompson Pond Road), report taken; 8:15 p.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 9:14 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 9:40 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), restraining order inquiry.

THURSDAY, JULY 16

12:25-1:31 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:45 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Chestnut Street), disconnected; 5:20 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 5:24 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 5:27 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 5:35 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 5:45 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 5:54 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), system card found; 6:35 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 7:18 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 10:24 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:40 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:00 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 11:18 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 11:22 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 11:33 a.m.: restraining order service (Pleasant Street); 11:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 12:16 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); fire alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 1:52 p.m.: animal complaint (Chery Street), spoken to; 2:36 p.m.: medical/general (Crestview Drive); 2:50 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 3:53 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 3:59 p.m.: fraud (Northwest Road), unemployment scam; 4:15 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic mc operators; 4:16 p.m.: animal complaint (Mechanic Street), kitten in tree; 4:40 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street); 5:01 p.m.: mv stop (North Brookfield Road); 5:04 p.m.: suspicious mv (North Brookfield Road), investigated; 6:19 p.m.: medical/general (Salem Street); 6:38 p.m.: medical/general (Ash Street); 7:14 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Main Street), info taken; 8:29 p.m.: animal complaint (Charlton Road), stray cat; 8:52 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:13 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 9:41-9:46 p.m.:

buildings checked, secure; 10:00 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 10:11 p.m.: suspicious mv (Valley Street); 10:31 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), info taken.

FRIDAY, JULY 17

12:17-1:27 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:32 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), cat/kittens near road; 1:34-1:55 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:15 a.m.: medical/general (Charron Street); 7:40 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 7:58 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:17 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:34 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), poss. theft of trailer; 8:36 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:36 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), stray dog; 10:51 a.m.: mv stop (Greenville Street); 11:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:01 a.m.: DPW call (Bixby Road), req. water shut-off; 11:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:28 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 12:40 p.m.: medical/general (Gold Nugget Road); 12:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:14 p.m.: harassment prevention order service (Mechanic Street); 1:21 p.m.: restraining order service (Mechanic Street); 1:43 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:55 p.m.: 911 call (Kingsbury Road), hang-up; 2:14 p.m.: restraining order service (Northwest Road); 2:15 p.m.: mv stop (Grove Street); 2:22 p.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road) 2:28 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 4:42 p.m.: mv stop (Route 49); 4:48 p.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 4:59 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 5:02 p.m.: elderly matter (Maple Street), spoken to; 5:13 p.m.: juvenile mater (Lloyd Dyer Drive), info taken; 5:33 p.m.: missing person/adult (Main Street), female w/ dementia; 5:57 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), hang-up; 7:19 p.m.: suspicious persons (Shore Drive), info taken; 7:39 p.m.: mv stop (Howe Road); 7:55 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Lloyd Dyer Drive), open line; 8:09 p.m.: parking violation (Adams Street), ticket issued; 8:16 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:26-9:56 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:40 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:55-11:59 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.

SATURDAY, JULY 18

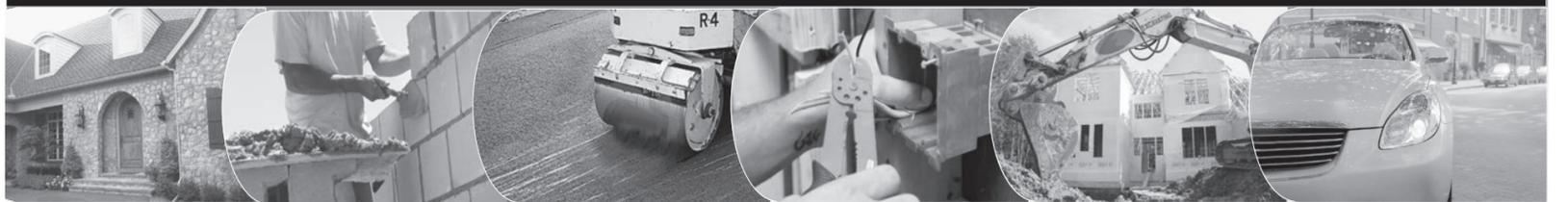
12:02 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 12:10-1:11 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:12 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:22-2:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:24 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street), lift assist;

7:41 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:31 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 8:39 a.m.: medical/general (Valley Street); 8:48 a.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), parrot in tree; 8:52 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:03 a.m.: officer wanted (Cooney Road), contractor blocking road; 10:00 a.m.: officer wanted (Charron Street), vandalism; 10:50 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 10:52 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 11:03 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 11:16 a.m.: mv stop (Smithville Road); 11:23 a.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 11:42 a.m.: medical/general (Prospect Street); 11:45 a.m.: officer wanted (Greenville Street), contractor blocking road; 11:45 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 11:53 a.m.: officer wanted (Marble Road), spoken to; 12:05 p.m.: mv stop (Valley Street); 12:54 p.m.: officer wanted (Lake Street), info taken; 1:05 p.m.: medical/general (Langevin Street); 1:15 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), family issue; 2:13 p.m.: parking violation (High Street), ticket issued; 2:13 p.m.: parking violation (High Street), ticket issued; 2:40 p.m.: building checked, secure; 2:52 p.m.: 911 call (High Street), hang-up; 3:12 p.m.: medical/general (Crestview Drive); 4:39 p.m.: suspicious persons (North Spencer Road), investigated; 5:04 p.m.: officer wanted (North Spencer Road), spoken to; 5:27 p.m.: mv stop (Route 49); 5:44 p.m.: disturbance (Church Street), fight; 6:02 p.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), mv in fire lane; 6:07 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 7:30 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo; 8:00 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:01 p.m.: RV complaint (Lake Street), scooter in roadway; 8:40 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Hastings Road), investigated; 8:56 p.m.: mv stop (Maple Street), Phillip John Baker, 37, 46 Cherry Street, Spencer, OUI liquor, negligent operation, failure to stop/yield, speeding, arrests; 9:00 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Main Street), investigated; 10:09 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Lloyd Dyer Drive), investigated; 11:04 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:34 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street).

SUNDAY, JULY 19

12:00 a.m.: 911 call (Paxton Turn To **POLICE** page **A15**)

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- Must comply with all safety procedures, standards and GMPs

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The starting pay at Superior Bakery is \$15.25/hour. To learn more and apply, please visit Indeed.com (search for Superior Bakery); or in person: 72 Main St. North Grosvenordale, CT Mon - Fri 10 AM - 4:00 PM.

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010 FOR SALE

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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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POLICE

continued from page A13

Road), accidental; 12:04 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 12:08 a.m.: building checked, secure; 12:10 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 12:12 a.m.: suspicious mv (Donnelly Cross Road), investigated; 12:12 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 12:25-12:25 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:29 a.m.: suspicious mv (Greenville Street), investigated; 12:43-12:56 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:59 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:20-2:26 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:42 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 7:21 a.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 9:27 a.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), welfare check; 9:54 a.m.: officer wanted (Paxton Road), welfare check; 10:12 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:14 a.m.: 911 call (Greenville Street), misdial; 10:17 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (Church Street), spoken to; 10:40 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:12 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 12:20 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), c/c found; 12:37 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 1:15 p.m.: suspicious persons (Paxton Road), investigated; 2:01 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 2:50 p.m.: fire alarm (Charlton Road), services rendered; 3:36 p.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), being held against will; 3:50 p.m.: building checked, secure; 3:57 p.m.: mv stop (McDonald Street); 4:27 p.m.: mv stop (Cranberry Meadow Road); 4:40 p.m.: mv stop (Greenville Street); 5:19 p.m.: mv stop (North Brookfield Road); 5:35 p.m.: officer wanted (May Street), m/f altercation; 5:43 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), baby skunk under porch; 6:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), unwanted party; 6:45 p.m.: disabled mv (Howe Road), spoken to; 6:47 p.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), welfare check; 6:51 p.m.: elderly matter (Main Street), welfare check; 7:20 p.m.: building checked, secure; 7:42 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (East Charlton Road), accidental; 8:17 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:22 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 11:25 p.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 11:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:50-11:55 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:58 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street).

MONDAY, JULY 20
 12:13-12:43 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:46 a.m.: suspicious mv (Donnelly Cross Road), investigated; 1:00 a.m.: medical/general (Browning Pond Road), lift assist; 1:03-1:54 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:56 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Oakham PD bolo; 6:12 a.m.: mv theft (Sherwood Drive), Jeep Cherokee; 8:27 a.m.: commercial alarm (Linden Street), services rendered; 8:52 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street); 9:01 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:08 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:20 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street); 9:25 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:38 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:11 a.m.: fraud (Paxton Road), account hacked; 10:43 a.m.: animal complaint (South Spencer Road), loose horses; 10:59

a.m.: building checked, secure; 11:03 a.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 11:18 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:24 a.m.: mv stop (Lyford Road); 11:34 a.m.: mv theft (Browning Pond Road), info taken; 11:36 a.m.: elderly matter (West Main Street), info taken; 11:52 a.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 12:10 p.m.: medical/general (Charron Street); 12:25 p.m.: fraud (Treadwell Terrace), unemployment fraud; 12:34 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village), lift assist; 1:35 p.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), escort/retrieve property; 1:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Smithville Road), spoken to; 2:54 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 3:17 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/5 (West Main Street), assisted; 3:56 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), brush fire/Route 84; 4:07 p.m.: RV complaint (Ledge Avenue), RVs in road; 4:14 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Taylor Drive), no contact; 4:16 p.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 4:38 p.m.: mv stop (Greenville Street); 4:48 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operator; 5:11 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), no contact; 5:41 p.m.: medical/general (Sherwood Drive); 6:02 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 6:20 p.m.: medical/general (Crestview Drive); 6:37 p.m.: building checked, secure; 6:49 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street); 7:48 p.m.: mv stop (Maple Street), Andrew S. Dufresne, 37, 60 Nugget Drive, Charlton, OUI liquor, negligent operation, speeding, arrest; 7:55 p.m.: medical/general (Dufault Road); 8:07 p.m.: mv repossessed (Cherry Street), assisted; 9:27 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 9:50 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:12-11:38 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:40 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:44-11:50 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:59 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street).

TUESDAY, JULY 21
 12:00-12:27 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:31 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 12:55 a.m.: building checked, secure; 1:03 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:21-2:05 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 6:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:21 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 8:39 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:52 a.m.: fraud (Main Street), unemployment scam; 9:58 a.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), info taken; 10:21 a.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), dog tied on porch; 10:50 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 11:07 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 11:25 a.m.: elderly matter (Clark Road), welfare check; 12:02 p.m.: restraining order service (Browning Pnd Road); 12:38 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 12:58 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street); 1:03 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:04 p.m.: medical/overdose (Charron Street); 1:22 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 2:23 p.m.: medical/general (Kingsbury Road); 2:25 p.m.: medical/general (School Street); 2:40 p.m.: medical/general (West Main Street); 2:41 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 2:47 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 2:59 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 3:36 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Grant Street), illegal burn; 4:05 p.m.: restraining order service (Woodside

Road); 4:28 p.m.: mv stop (Elm Street); 4:31 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:36 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Carlos Quinones, 56 Overlook Street, Whitinsville, possession Class A drug, arrest; 5:39 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 5:39 p.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), req. escort/pick up meds; 5:53 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:01 p.m.: disturbance (Adams Street), Robert S. Harris, 26, possession Class A drug, carrying dangerous weapon, arrest; 6:50 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), no contact; 7:59 p.m.: parking complaint (Prospect Street), parking spot blocked; 11:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:45-11:49 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:51 p.m.: mv stop (May Street).

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LEICESTER POLICE LOG

THURSDAY, JULY 16
 5:39 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:37 a.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), transported to hospital; 10:10 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), name and address redacted from polic log, op w/suspended license, criminal application issued; 10:53 a.m.: ambulance (Main Street), transported; 11:43 a.m.: disabled mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), services rendered; 12:14 p.m.: assist citizen (Charlton Road), advised civil action; 1:51 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), transported to hospital; 2:34 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), mv towed; 3:48 p.m.: suspicious activity (Main Street), spoken to; 4:02 p.m.: RV complaint (Soojians Drive), unfounded; 4:29 p.m.: investigation (Maple Lane), services rendered; 6:17 p.m.: erratic operator (Towtad Street), report taken; 7:54 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 8:54 p.m.: erratic operator (South Main Street), unfounded.

FRIDAY, JULY 17
 1:37 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 2:10 a.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), spoken to; 3:17 a.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), report taken; 7:07 a.m.: parking complaint (Main Street), gone on arrival; 10:58 a.m.: investigation (Maple Lane), services rendered; 3:21 p.m.: restraining order service (South Main Street), served; 5:12 p.m.: family problem (Clark Street), peace restored; 7:48 p.m.: lost/found (Stafford Street), services rendered; 8:10 p.m.: soliciting (Whittemore Street), spoken to; 8:42 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street); 11:07 p.m.: disturbance (Church Street), spoken to; 11:58 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning.

SATURDAY, JULY 18
 2:09 a.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), written warning; 3:29 a.m.: family problem (Utica Street), peace restored; 7:08 a.m.: accident (South Main Street), mv towed; 11:44 a.m.: restraining order service (Stafford Street), served; 11:56 a.m.: investigation (Maple Lane), services rendered; 8:31 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 9:18 p.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), protective custody; 11:07 p.m.: accieent (Paxton Street), mv towed.

SUNDAY, JULY 19
 1:14 a.m.: larceny (Main Street), report taken; 9:55 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:28 a.m.: mv stop (Mannville Street), verbal warning; 11:39 a.m.: welfare check (Baldwin Street), transported to hospital; 12:04 p.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 4:33 p.m.: welfare ch3ck (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 11:10 p.m.: stolen mv (Main Street), report taken; 11:55 p.m. investigation (Main Street), services rendered.

MONDAY, JULY 20
 12:54 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 8:35 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street), report taken; 11:26 a.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 11:44 a.m.: mv stop (Mulberry Street), verbal warning; 1:12 p.m.: restraining order service (Baldwin Street), served; 6:36 p.m.: assist citizen (Soojians Drive); 7:29 p.m.: assist other PD (Main Street), services rendered; 8:36 p.m.: assist other agency (Main Street), no action required; 9:40 p.m.: suspicious mv (Logan Street), investigated; 10:27 p.m.: harassment (Wasilla Drive), services rendered; 11:53 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), referred.

TUESDAY, JULY 21
 3:27 a.m.: suspicious mv (Mulberry Street), spoken to; 5:37 a.m.: arrest warrant service (out of town, no location specified on police log), investigated; 5:59 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 8:56 a.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 9:06 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 9:39 a.m.: welfare check (Pine Street), peace restored; 2:18 p.m.: assist other agency (South Main Street), services rendered; 5:35 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 7:21 p.m.: erratic operator (Huntoon Memorial Highway), no action required; 8:39 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), no action required; 9:22 p.m.: disturbance (Mulberry Stre), unable to locate.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 22
 2:02 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 6:20 a.m.: erratic operator (Main Street), unable to locate; 7:00 a.m.: ambulance (Marshall Street), transported; 7:34 a.m.: assist other agency (South Main Street), no action required; 8:55 a.m.: welfare check (Lake Avenue), services rendered; 9:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 11:59 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 12:31 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:04 p.m.: welfare check (Lake Avenue), services rendered; 2:03 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street), unable to serve; 4:10 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 4:42 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 4:50 p.m.: investigation (Mayflower Road), services rendered; 4:51 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to; 5:16 p.m.: invesgation (Lake Avenue), services rendered; 5:50 p.m.: animal complaint (Soojian Drive), services rendered; 6:07 p.m.: animal complaint (Soojians Drive), gone on arrival; 8:12 p.m.: family problem (Crestwood Road), arrest; 11:16 p.m.: assist citizen (no address noted on police log), spoken to.

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Laborer, Water Department:
 Town of Spencer Water Department seeks applicants to fill the position of Laborer. This position will work with Water Operators in the daily maintenance of the water supply, treatment, and distribution systems. The ideal candidate will have a High School diploma from a vocational school, have strong math and science skills, and be willing to continue their education in the water industry including obtaining professional licensing as a Water Treatment and Water Distribution Operator. Experience with operating lawn care equipment and hand power tools beneficial. The candidate will be subject to emergency call-ins for water main breaks. This entry level position fits into the succession plan for the department. Pay for this position ranges from \$19.41/hr. to \$23.16/hr. and includes a generous benefits package including clothing allowance, continuing education, and license cost reimbursement.
 Submit resume and standard Town application available at www.spencerma.gov to Town of Spencer, Town Administrator's Office, 157 Main Street, Spencer MA 01562. Subject to Union Rules and Regulation, EEO Employer.

Light Equipment Operator (LEO):
 Town of Spencer seeks applicants to fill the Light Equipment Operator position in the Highway Department. This position is responsible for the operation of light equipment, snowplows, motorized and non-motorized hand tools. The work involves repair and maintenance of highway infrastructure including but not limited to roads, sidewalks, stormwater systems and street signs, vegetation control, snow plowing and sanding, maintenance of parks, cemeteries, and grounds. This highly responsible position is subject to emergency call-ins to respond to emergencies. High School diploma or GED plus a Mass CDL Class B are required, additional license and certifications beneficial. The willingness to be trained and increase skills and licensing is required to succeed in this position. Pay for this position ranges from \$20.95/hr. to \$25.03/hr. and includes a generous benefits package including clothing allowance, continuing education, and license cost reimbursement.
 Submit resume and standard Town application available at www.spencerma.gov to Town of Spencer, Town Administrator's Office, 157 Main Street, Spencer MA 01562. Subject to Union Rules and Regulation, EEO Employer.

Mechanic / Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO):
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 Submit resume and standard Town application (available at www.spencerma.gov) to Town of Spencer, Town Administrator's Office, 157 Main Street, Spencer MA 01562. Subject to Union Rules and Regulation, EEO Employer.

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Chelsea Hagopian graduates from Widener University

CHESTER, Pa. — Widener University conferred degrees to more than 1,100 undergraduate and graduate students this year.

The university created a digital hub to celebrate the milestone accomplishments of the 2020 graduates from a safe distance. The graduates are also invited to participate in a re-scheduled commencement ceremony at The Mann Center for the Performing Arts in May 2021.

The graduates hailed from 33 states, from Pennsylvania to Hawaii, and 6 different countries, including Iceland, Saudi Arabia, and Morocco. The youngest graduate was 20 years old, while the oldest was 67. They included:

Chelsea Hagopian of West Brookfield graduated with a Master of Social Work from Widener's School of Human Service Professions.

Widener University is a private, metropolitan university that connects curricula to social issues through civic engagement. Dynamic teaching, active scholarship, personal attention, leadership development and experiential learning are key components of the Widener experience. A comprehensive doctorate-granting university, Widener comprises seven schools and colleges that offer liberal arts and sciences, professional and pre-professional curricula leading to associate, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees. Visit the university website, <http://www.widener.edu/>

Lake Wickaboag to receive algaecide treatments

WEST BROOKFIELD — The West Brookfield Board of Health

along with Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association (LWPA), have announced that on Thursday, Aug. 6, Lake Wickaboag will receive an algaecide application to treat for algae. A spot herbicide treatment for selected nuisance weeds may also occur on that day.

SOLitude Lake Management, the contractor hired by the West Brookfield Board of Health to apply the herbicide and algaecide, has requested that the use of the lake's water be restricted as follows:

- Swimming, fishing and boating one day – Aug. 6
- Livestock watering for two days- Aug. 6 & 7
- Direct Drinking for four days- Aug. 6, 7, 8 & 9
- Irrigation for six days- Aug. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 & 11

A second algaecide treatment will be conducted on Thursday, Aug. 20. The use of the lake's water will be restricted as follows:

- Swimming, fishing and boating one day – Aug. 20
- Livestock watering one day – Aug. 20
- Direct Drinking one day – Aug. 20
- Irrigation one day – Aug. 20

Members of the LWPA will notify boaters and swimmers by placing signs on streets leading to the lake and by placing red flag buoys on the lake. As part of their education program, they will also send a reminder to residents through the local cable access channel before the application begins.

If you need additional information, please feel free to contact SOLitude Lake Management, at (508) 885-0101.

Police seek help solving vehicle thefts

REGION – Local police departments are seeking community assistance after a rash of vehicle thefts this summer.

On July 20, a vehicle was stolen from Sherwood Drive in Spencer. A short distance away, a vehicle previously stolen from Browning Pond Road was recovered in Hartford, Conn. Police are concerned about a group of thieves stealing vehicles throughout the area and transporting them to Hartford.

During the final week of June, the Sturbridge Police responded to two reports of stolen vehicles, plus multiple vehicle break-ins. Over the past year, the department has investigated 12 stolen vehicles and 40 break-ins across town. Police have recovered multiple stolen vehicles from Hartford, and additional towns have been affected as well.

"We were also informed that a vehicle was stolen from South Street in Oakham during the same time period," read a statement issued by the Spencer Police Department.

If you have information on the theft in Spencer, contact Detective Inzerillo at 508-885-6333.

Meanwhile, residents throughout the region are urged to take precautions to protect their vehicles. Many thieves target unlocked vehicles.

"I cannot stress enough to please remember to always lock your vehicle and secure all your valuables," said Sturbridge Interim Police Chief Earl Dessert.

ROBILLARD

continued from page A9

"There are good and bad people on both sides". This was an entirely true and non-racist statement. He is the president of the United States. He represents ALL the people of this country. The fake news and Democrats like use their favorite term to shut down conversation. The say it is a "dog whistle." They claim that it is a secret message to another group. How can

WASHINGTON

continued from page A9

higher rates than white Americans and while that is important to know, COVID is dangerous to all Americans. Our best hope at saving lives and keeping the economy open is wearing masks. Whether schools should be open or not is complex and it overlaps and intersects with public health, personal health of teachers, childcare needs of parents, children's' education, and children's' mental

you have a discussion with another group that hurls insults and predispose your thoughts? They are trying to silence those that don't agree with them. To make dreams above a reality there is only one decision you should make in this fall's election. Vote for Trump and make America great again for all races. If Trump wins, we can all shout "Free at Last, Free at last, Hallelujah".

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

health. Masks are really simple, yet we all can't seem to get on board. If we can't all agree to wear masks then the rest of our COVID response is hopeless.

As I read more and more and understand what is in people's hearts, especially what is in the hearts of those standing on the roadside for Trump after all that has happened...It increasingly looks hopeless.

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Hofstra University congratulates Dean's List students

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — Hofstra University congratulates the students named to the Spring 2020 Dean's List for their outstanding academic achievement. Students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 during the semester to make the Dean's List.

Sarah McCarthy of Spencer
Sarah Moore of Leicester

and Physician Assistant Studies, and the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell. Hofstra University is a dynamic community of 11,000 students from around the world who are dedicated to civic engagement, academic excellence and becoming leaders in their communities and their careers.

Hofstra University is a nationally ranked and recognized private university in Hempstead, N.Y. that is the only school to ever host three consecutive presidential debates (2008, 2012 and 2016). Our campus is a leafy oasis just a quick train ride away from New York City and all its cultural, recreational and professional opportunities. We offer small classes and personal attention, with the resources, technology and facilities of a large university. Students can choose from more than 165 undergraduate program options and 175 graduate program options in the liberal arts and sciences, education, health professions and human services, the Peter S. Kalikow School of Government, Public Policy and International Affairs, the Fred DeMatteis School of Engineering and Applied Science, the Frank G. Zarb School of Business, the Lawrence Herbert School of Communication, the Maurice A. Deane School of Law, the Hofstra Northwell School of Nursing

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