

SPENCER NEW LEADER

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Friday, November 6, 2020

Continuing rise in COVID cases frustrates Leicester officials

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – Frustrated by the town's ongoing high-risk designation for COVID-19, officials continue to offer warnings that have had little effect this fall.

Last week, the state required Leicester to revert to Step I of Phase III of the Commonwealth's reopening plan. With three consecutive weeks spent in the state's "red category" for COVID-19 risk, Leicester officials and business owners are fed up with residents who refuse to comply with basic health guidelines.

The October COVID-19 spike in town is being blamed mostly on large

private gatherings, as well as refusal to wear masks and social distance in public. By ignoring health measures, residents are not only risking their own safety and that of family members, but they're also jeopardizing the ability for businesses and schools to stay open, officials said.

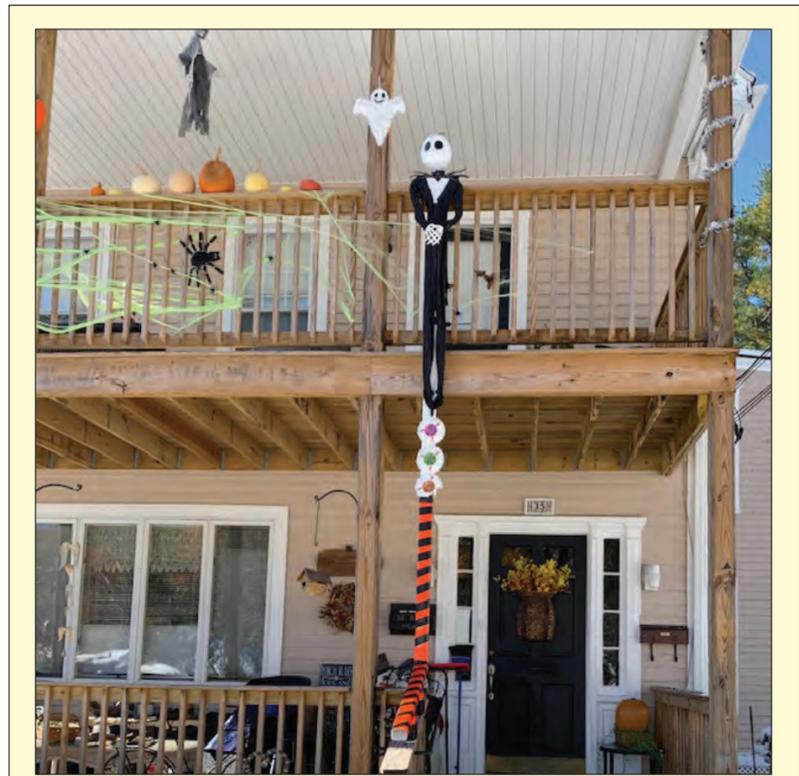
"It is important for people to continue to follow the public safety rules issued by the Commonwealth during the pandemic, including wearing masks, maintaining social distancing, and avoiding large gatherings," said Town Administrator David Genereux. "Residents over the age of 50 account for 60 percent of

Leicester's cases, but the virus can be transferred by people of any age."

The town also posted a statement to its website urging residents to follow all guidelines. Mask fatigue continues to be a major problem in all communities, but with winter fast approaching, officials said it's critically important to stay vigilant.

"We need to continue to wear a mask, social distance, and wash our hands to stop the spread and avoid further roll-backs," the town-issued statement read. "The current increase in cases can be traced to large private

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Cheryl Loader — Courtesy

CANDY COMING DOWN!

Reader Cheryl Loader's upstairs neighbor on Lincoln Street in Spencer constructed this ingenious chute to deliver candy to trick-or-treaters on Halloween night.

Solar farm moratorium added to Special Town Meeting warrant

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – The Planning Board last week endorsed a solar farm moratorium put forth by the Board of Selectmen. The item will now be placed on the Special Town Meeting warrant for Nov. 12.

If the article passes at Town Meeting (a two thirds majority vote is required), it would then be sent to the Attorney General's office for approval.

If final approval is granted, the Special Town Meeting article would amend the town's zoning bylaw by adding a new temporary moratorium on the construction of large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations.

Spencer currently has 12 approved large-scale solar installations – commonly known as solar farms – that are either completed or under construction. Another six proposals are currently in the permitting process.

Many of the solar projects in town have involved large-scale clear cutting of trees and ground vege-

tation. Several project sites are located in close proximity to residential neighborhoods, causing concerns among residents about future proposals affecting the overall landscape and image of the town.

"Pursuant to the zoning bylaw, large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installations are allowed pursuant to site plan review and special permit in the rural residential and industrial zoning districts in the town," read an informational statement released by Spencer officials ahead of Town Meeting. "That bylaw, however, has proved inadequate for protecting the town's environmental resources and mitigating other negative effects of large-scale ground-mounted solar facilities on the town."

Additionally, the unexpectedly high demand for solar installation sites could threaten the bucolic image of the town, officials said.

"The town needs time to consider and study the future implications and impact of large-scale ground-mounted solar photovoltaic installation developments upon

the town as a whole, as well as the consistency of the already completed solar facilities with the town's current and future planning goals," the informational statement read.

A temporary moratorium on solar farms would allow sufficient time for officials to assess many issues and amend the zoning bylaw to address environmental and aesthetic impacts, said Town Planner Paul Dell'Aquila.

If approved by the Attorney General's office, the solar moratorium would run until Nov. 12, 2021, or the date on which the town adopts amendments to the zoning bylaw concerning solar farms – whichever occurs earlier.

During the moratorium period, the town would undertake a planning process to study potential revisions to the zoning bylaw relative to large-scale ground-mounted operations.

The Special Town Meeting will take place on Thursday, Nov. 12, at 7 p.m. at David Prouty High School. For more information about the warrant, visit www.spencerma.gov.

Community pays tribute to Diane Nichols

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Residents and town leaders continue to celebrate the life and legacy of Senior Center Director Diane Nichols, who passed away last month.

Always smiling, Nichols, 62, brought joy to all seniors and staff members who stepped through the Senior Center's doors. In recent years, she helped build the center's attendance through a strong lineup of regular programs and fun seasonal activities. She was also a strong proponent of intergenerational and community programs.

"I had many interactions with Diane Nichols. She worked tremendously hard for

Turn To **DIANE** page **A6**



Courtesy

The North Brookfield Senior Center family shows its appreciation for Director Diane Nichols, who passed away last month.

State offers funding for infrastructure improvements

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – The pandemic has not only altered how we work and learn, but also the basics of how we get around and interact in an age of social distancing. Recognizing the need to fund several short-term infrastructure adjustments to accommodate health measures, Gov. Charlie Baker recently announced significant funding for projects.

Last week, the Governor allocated funds to help communities plan for short-term innovations and long-term recovery efforts. A new \$10 million round of the Shared Streets and Spaces Grant Program will continue to help cities and towns quickly expand improvements to sidewalks, curbs, streets, on-street park-

ing spaces, and off-street parking lots, officials said. This will improve public health, safe mobility, and renewed commerce throughout the Commonwealth.

Additionally, local recovery planning grants will soon be available to cities and towns to assist with long-term planning for their business districts. A total of \$10 million is available for this program.

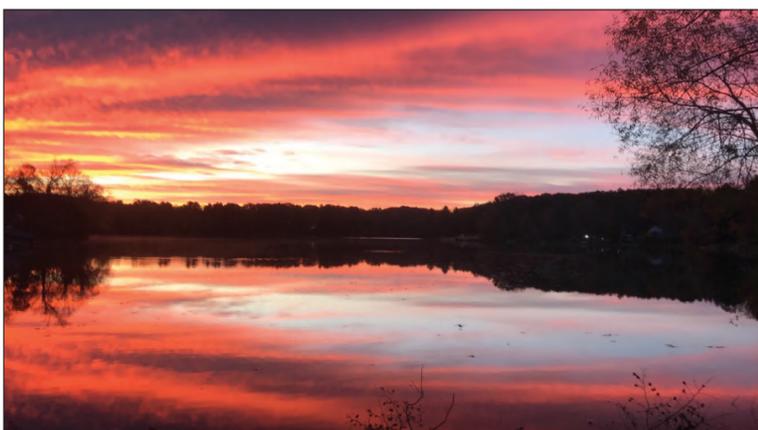
"Our current circumstances call for a plan with the size and scope to match the urgency we need to address the most pressing challenges we now face," said Secretary of Housing and Economic Development Mike Kennealy. "By targeting vital resources toward these key areas, this strategy will allow us to lay a solid foundation for our path to recovery."

The state has also announced several new efforts to support museums and other cultural facilities that have faced multiple challenges this year. These institutions will be eligible for \$10 million in Cultural Facilities Operating Grants, officials said. This funding will help organizations make safety improvements and other upgrades to allow them to continue operations.

Last month, the Governor filed a revised budget proposal that recommends over \$100 million in additional funding for economic recovery and development efforts statewide, including \$35 million for community development grants and loans.

The latest funding packages complement

Turn To **FUNDING** page **A6**



Deborah Crowley — Courtesy

STUNNING SUNRISE

Reader Deborah Crowley shared this stunning image of a recent sunrise over Lake Whittemore.

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QCC named fifth best online Associate degree program in the nation

WORCESTER — Quinsigamond Community College's online Associate degree programs were named the fifth best return on investment (ROI) in the country.

According to OnlineU, an unbiased rankings organization that compares all online colleges and universities in the country, QCC was the only community college listed in the top five, and one of only two community colleges in the country to make the top 10 in the 2020 list.

"Our programs are some of the most affordable and lucrative in the country as shown in this national ranking study. Our online programs are as robust as our in-person programs, without any additional cost differential. At QCC, our

goal is 100 percent student success for all, and part of attaining that success means making sure our students have an affordable education that leads them into a productive future," President Dr. Luis Pedraja said.

The rankings include an annual tuition comparison of each school, based on out-of-state tuition rates, unless in-state rates are offered to all students. QCC's ROI ranking of 95.9 percent is based on its out of state annual tuition. QCC's Fall 2020 out-of-state tuition is \$411 per credit, as compared to its in-state tuition rate of \$205 per credit.

College and university online programs are also ranked based on the median salary and mean debt numbers found in the U.S. Department of

Education's College Scorecard, as well as graduates' salaries and debt payments for 10 years after graduation accounting for standard salary growth, and interest on debt payments. Each school is then given an "ROI score," that reflects how the salary and debt of the programs compare to similar ones.

"It's particularly gratifying to receive this acknowledgement as we continue with remote instruction due to the pandemic. It is validation of all the work that our faculty and staff do to help our students," President Pedraja said.

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



ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

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

Baker announces COVID relief plan

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Last week, the Baker-Polito Administration announced a \$774 million plan to stabilize the economy amid a second wave of COVID-19.

The plan focuses on getting residents back to work, supporting small businesses, fostering innovation, revitalizing downtowns, and ensuring housing stability. At least \$115 million will be directed to small businesses, many of which are struggling to stay afloat.

Additionally, the Governor is aligning multiple funding sources, both existing and proposed, to help respond to the crisis.

"This plan represents a comprehensive strategy to get people back to work and to support the small businesses hit the hardest by the pandemic, putting the Commonwealth on a path to recovery," said Governor Charlie Baker. "By leveraging existing tools and programs and implementing new ones, this plan will allow us to make critical resources available to those who need it most."

The latest plan was supported by Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, Housing and Economic Development Secretary

Mike Kennealy, Labor and Workforce Secretary Rosalin Acosta, and Administration and Finance Secretary Michael Heffernan. It was also endorsed by Joe Kriesberg, the president and CEO of the Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations.

"While we continue to combat this pandemic, this plan takes an approach that addresses key needs of the businesses in downtowns and main streets, provides housing support for vulnerable families, and opens new doors for people seeking to return to work," said Polito. "While we acknowledge we still have a ways to go, this plan will help to jumpstart our innovation economy and position Massachusetts to be on a path for success."

In addition to the \$115 million for small businesses and workforce training, the plan will also direct \$323 million to existing capital programs statewide. Another \$171 million will be used to keep people safely housed during the pandemic.

The state is also supporting internet connectivity improvement plans to facilitate remote work and online career advancement. About \$9.2 million

will be used to subsidize internet service for low-income populations, and to expand hotspots in unserved and underserved communities.

Another \$3.2 million will help modernize MassHire virtual pathways, which can assess unemployment claims and provide other supports. Additionally, \$2 million will bolster manufacturing education by purchasing a standardized virtual training program.

Baker said an additional \$54 million is available to support workforce recovery efforts through existing programming, such as the Skills Capital Grants program, the Workforce Competitiveness Trust Fund, and the Workforce Training Trust Fund.

"These funds will provide critical re-employment services to our workforce, helping people make the transition from unemployment benefits to good paying jobs in some of the Commonwealth's key long-term job growth sectors," said Secretary of Labor and Workforce Development Rosalin Acosta.

In its assistance of small businesses, the state will be focusing heavily on providing relief to businesses owned by women, minorities, veterans, and members of other under-represented groups. Additional grant awards will allow small businesses to cover expenses like rent, payroll, and utilities.

For more information about the state's relief efforts, visit www.mass.gov.

Local police report successful drug take-backs

REGION – Local police departments recently held successful drug take-back events, including Spencer and Leicester.

On Oct. 24, the Leicester Police Department held its drug take-back program with help from recycling center volunteers. Approximately 61 pounds of prescription drugs were collected and transported to a designated site for destruction.

Police are always thrilled about the success of such programs, as old and unused drugs can often be accessed by teenagers or stolen.

"This effort keeps narcotics out of the hands of people who should not have them, and it also helps the environment by not putting these narcotics into septic and sewer systems," said Leicester Police Chief Ken Antanavica.

Also on Oct. 24, Spencer's drug take-back day saw nearly 100 pounds of unwanted pharmaceuticals collected. This included collections at the lobby kiosk.



GLEN STEVENS
508-885-3705

Tallman to assume role of Cornerstone Bank CEO on Jan. 1

WORCESTER — Effective Jan. 1, 2021, Cornerstone Bank President and Treasurer Todd Tallman will be appointed the Bank's CEO. Tallman steps into the role as a banking veteran with over 20 years of experience.

"Knowing Todd as well as I do, I am fully confident he will serve as an outstanding CEO," states K. Michael Robbins, who will retire as Cornerstone Bank CEO on Dec. 31, but continue to serve as the Bank's Chairman. "Todd's management, leadership and professional skills—not to mention that he's a fine, caring individual by nature—make him eminently qualified for this position."

A Certified Public Accountant, Tallman began his career as an Audit Manager at KPMG. After joining Southbridge Savings Bank in 1998 as Chief Financial Officer, he served in increasingly senior positions until his promotion to President/CEO in 2014. Subsequently, in 2016, when Southbridge Savings Bank and SpencerBANK created a merger of equals to form Cornerstone Bank with assets totaling \$1.3 billion, Tallman was named President and Treasurer.

With a passion for supporting communities and enriching the lives of others, Tallman serves on the Boards of several nonprofit organizations—including Big Brothers Big Sisters of America—and is past President of the United Way of Southbridge, Sturbridge and Charlton.

"I can't thank Mike [Robbins] and the Cornerstone Board of Directors enough for the trust and confidence they are placing in me. As the saying goes, Mike will be a very tough act to follow. I'm tremendously excited about helping further Cornerstone's legacy as a financially sound, highly trusted community bank—and I will ensure that, as a team, we are in the best position possible to make that happen."

About Cornerstone Bank
Cornerstone Bank is an independent, mutual savings bank serving the residents, businesses, and communities throughout Central Massachusetts from offices in Charlton, Holden, Leicester, Rutland, Southbridge, Spencer, Sturbridge, Warren, Webster, and Worcester, along with a Loan Center in Westborough. Deposits are insured in full by a combination of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Depositors Insurance Fund. The Bank is an Equal Opportunity Employer, Equal Housing Lender, and SBA Preferred Lender. For more information, visit online at cornerstonebank.com, on Facebook, or call 800-939-9103.



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SPENCER CONSERVATION COMMISSION VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

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Friday's Child



Hi! My name is Maxxon and I love music!

Maxxon is a sweet, inquisitive and kind boy of Caucasian and Hispanic descent. He is generally easy-going and calm. His favorite activities include riding his bike, playing with trucks, and watching television. Maxxon is fascinated with broadcasting and radio. He also enjoys interacting with adults and loves music, especially classic rock. Maxxon has a good sense of humor and will often surprise everyone with a funny joke out of nowhere.

Maxxon is currently attending a therapeutic school with extra supports. He is doing well overall in school and gets along with his peers. Maxxon is diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) but is very high functioning. He can do his own daily care and hygiene, and with a little adult support is comfortable accessing his community.

Legally freed for adoption, Maxxon is eagerly awaiting his forever home. His social worker believes that he will thrive in a nurturing family of any constellation, with or without other children in the home. Maxxon has an Open Adoption Agreement and an adoptive family must be willing to help him visit with his birth father three times a year. Maxxon also has two half-sisters in Massachusetts who he would like to remain connected to. Maxxon can be placed outside of Massachusetts but must be within driving distance of the central part of the state.

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

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



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State officials offer COVID guidance for the holidays

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Concerned over the possibility of a major COVID-19 super-spreader situation, state officials have released Thanksgiving guidance to help keep residents safe.

State leaders are particularly concerned about the elderly, who will gather

around Thanksgiving tables by the thousands. Family members of all ages are urged to heed all precautions to reduce the spread and keep vulnerable populations safe.

“Traveling and gathering with family and friends for Thanksgiving will look different this year to keep loved ones safe from COVID-19,” read a statement from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. “The DPH reminds residents and communities to be aware that gatherings and events are subject to the current state gathering size limits, as well as applicable sector-specific workplace safety standards.”

Thanksgiving weekend is traditionally one of the busiest travel holidays of the year. Officials urge all motorists to follow the Massachusetts COVID-19 travel order, which prevents individuals living in high-risk states from traveling to Massachusetts without quarantining.

Officials ask all residents to limit in-person holiday

gatherings as much as possible. Those at higher risk of contracting the virus are advised to skip large holiday events this year.

“Gatherings with more people pose more risks,” read the DPH statement. “You can also consider hosting a virtual holiday dinner with extended family or friends, especially if they are at higher risk for illness from COVID-19.”

Residents can also arrange to safely deliver food items to family members or neighbors who aren’t able to participate in traditional dinners.

Additionally, the following guidelines were released by the state for Thanksgiving gatherings that involve individuals from more than one household.

Wear a mask when not eating or drinking

Wash your hands often with soap and warm water

Stay at least six feet apart from others
Assume that all guests beyond your immediate household could be asymptomatic spreaders

Take precautions to reduce risks for older adults and those with medical conditions.

If gatherings are held indoors, improve ventilation by opening windows and doors when possible.

Also, officials caution against sharing food, drinks, or utensils during meals. Encourage your guests to bring food and drinks for themselves and for members of their own households.

“Wear a mask while preparing or serving food to others who don’t live in your household,” read the DPH statement. “Consider having one person serve all the food so that multiple people are not handling the serving utensils.”

Officials strongly urge residents to avoid any self-serve food or drink

options, such as buffets or buffet-style potlucks, salad bars, and condiment or drink stations.

For 14 days before and after holiday gatherings, minimize your public contacts and appearances. Only leave home for essential services like going to work, buying groceries, and appointments with doctors, officials said.

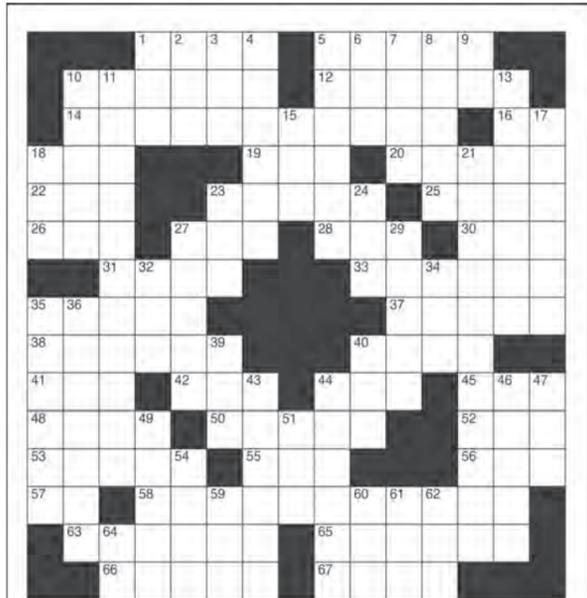
In addition to holiday meals, there are several other risks to consider this Thanksgiving. Avoid shaking hands and hugging, DPH officials said; instead, wave and verbally greet others. Also, avoid singing, dancing, and shouting, as these activities increase the chances of catching COVID-19 through the air.

Also, in the weeks preceding your Thanksgiving plans, check to ensure that COVID-19 conditions are not worsening in your community.

“The number and rate of COVID-19 cases in your community – and in the community where you plan to celebrate – are important to consider when deciding whether to host or attend a holiday celebration,” read the DPH statement.

Individuals who aren’t feeling well should avoid attending in-person celebrations. Do not host or participate in any in-person festivities if you have symptoms of COVID-19 or may have been exposed to the virus.

All residents are encouraged to get the flu vaccine this year. For additional information on how to stay safe this fall and winter, visit www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Upright post on a boat
- 5. Sentimental person
- 10. Native American tribe
- 12. Wear away
- 14. Where you're going
- 16. Doctor
- 18. Popular Chinese dialect
- 19. One point east of due south
- 20. Northern sea duck
- 22. Note
- 23. Wives (law)
- 25. Trigonometric function
- 26. A way to communicate (abbr.)
- 27. Swiss river
- 28. No (Scottish)
- 30. Commercials
- 31. Large instrument
- 33. ___ Chantilly, ___ de Menthe
- 35. Small, saclike cavities
- 37. High and thin in tone
- 38. Treat extremely well
- 40. Famed track star Usain
- 41. Secure web connection (abbr.)
- 42. Rob of energy
- 44. Paving material
- 45. Cool!
- 48. Tip of Aleutian Islands
- 50. Indicates silence
- 52. Water in the solid state
- 53. Security interests
- 55. Popular hoopster Jeremy
- 56. Shed tears
- 57. Low frequency
- 58. Harmful bacterium
- 63. Common language: lingua ___
- 65. Standards of perfection
- 66. They consist of two parts
- 67. A detailed description of design

CLUES DOWN

- 1. More (Spanish)
- 2. A subdivision of a play
- 3. Japanese title
- 4. More jittery
- 5. Fabric
- 6. Luke's mentor ___Wan
- 7. Cleaving tool
- 8. Ancient city of Egypt
- 9. 36 inches
- 10. Farewell
- 11. Second to last
- 13. Improved by critical editing
- 15. Defensive weapon (abbr.)
- 17. Fancy attire
- 18. ___ Farrow, actress
- 21. Completely opposed
- 23. Supervises flying
- 24. Pouch
- 27. True firs
- 29. Mistake
- 32. Computing platform (abbr.)
- 34. Snakelike fish
- 35. Greatly horrify
- 36. Despicable person
- 39. Tell on
- 40. Ballplayer's tool
- 43. Central Brazilian town
- 44. Court game
- 46. Land
- 47. "The Partridge Family" actress Susan
- 49. Retract a statement
- 51. Data executive
- 54. Capital of Yemen
- 59. Portable computer screen material
- 60. Electronic data processing
- 61. "Matt Houston" actor Horsley
- 62. Resinous substance
- 64. Rural delivery



Police seek stabbing suspect



Brendon Jay Unrich, of Spencer, is wanted by police for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

SPENCER – Police continue to search for a suspect accused of stabbing a man last week.

The incident occurred on Oct. 28 at 19 Bixby Rd. Police were called to the residence shortly after 1 p.m., where they encountered a victim suffering from a puncture wound to the back. The victim, Nicholas Rudolph, 26, of Lowell, was taken by ambulance to UMass Memorial Hospital in Worcester.

Initially uncooperative, the victim later identified Brendon Jay Unrich, 31, of 19 Bixby Road, as the assailant. He is wanted by police for assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

The weapon used in the incident was a martial arts "Sai Sword", police said.

Officials believe Unrich may have fled the state following the incident.



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SANDRA RICCIO HOLMES
West Brookfield, MA

I would like to nominate Sandra Riccio Holmes for her tireless efforts to get a ballot drop box in West Brookfield.

– Bob M., West Brookfield, MA

If you would like to nominate a PERSON OF THE WEEK, please email your suggestion to jsima@stonebridgepress.news. Thank you.

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\$47,900, 52 Fiskdale Rd, Gaumont, Francis, to Clark, Robert V, and Clark, Maria E.

EAST BROOKFIELD

\$594,000, 118 Oakland Dr, Smith, Jeffrey H, and Smith, Justyne, to Donahue, Thomas R, and Donahue, Teri A.

\$195,000, 409 E Main St, Elmore J Goodro RET, and Goodro, Francis C, to Burnett, Warren.

LEICESTER

\$305,400, 708 Main St #708, Rapid Transit LLC, to Roy, Russell.

\$245,000, 710 Pleasant St, Lodding, Carole R, to Wessner Holdings Corp.

\$240,000, 15 King Ct, Nicas, James S, to Barrett, Jeffrey W.

NORTH BROOKFIELD

\$390,000, 131 School St, HMF RE& Restoration LLC, to Cressman, Jonathan, and Cressman, Kristin.

\$326,000, 9 Town Farm Rd, Kershaw, Amanda, and Gorham, Patrick, to Hulsebus, Brian E, and Hulsebus, Jessica L.

\$290,000, 8 Brickyard Rd, Barnes, Sharon A, to Havens, Christina M, and Kneeland, James F.

SPENCER

\$550,900, 39 Lakeshore Dr, Tortorelli, Barbara W, and Tortorelli, Stephen, to Thibault, Steven, and Thibault, Emma.

\$340,000, 5 Jolicoeur Rd, Velazquez, Edgardo, and Valentin, Betty N, to Germain, Matthew, and Germain, Caitlyn A.

\$308,000, 12 Sampson St, Angelone, David, and Angelone, Armagan, to Mason, Pamela J.

\$266,500, 5 Hebert Rd, Prizio, Janice C, to Gardner, Daniel J.

\$265,000, 47 Grove St, StPeter, Christine, and StPeter, Donald, to Mulvey, Kelly, and Flores, Jajaira.

\$240,000, 35 Main St, Trauschke, Georgia A, to Soffen, Sandra L.

\$142,500, 10 Adams St, US Bank NA Tr, to Foster, Dawn.

\$114,450, 9 Cottage St #B, US Bank NA Tr, to Kupelnick, Allan.

WARREN

\$270,000, 74 Mechanic St, Degnan, Steve J, to Spidle, Gile, and Spidle, Heather.

\$210,000, 132 Comins Pond Rd, Holdcraft, John D, to Walters, Joshua.

\$25,000, 29 River St, Hibbard Michael G Est, and Hibbard, Victoria A, to Zahiri, Joe.

\$370,000, 312 Worcester Rd, Valerie Zottoli IRT, and Zottoli, Craig A, to Zottoli, William E, and Sullivan, Diane J.

\$355,000, 64 Worcester Rd, Crowley, David I, and Crowley, Katherine T, to Toohey, Brendan L.

\$115,000, Bullard Rd #10R, Blake, Dwight C, and Blake, Susan S, to Kristo, Orieta S, and Kristo, Jonel.

WEST BROOKFIELD

\$700,000, 92 Bowman St, Donovan RT, and Donovan, Michael G, to Dionne, Elizabeth, and Dionne, Kevin.

\$700,000, 94 Bowman St, Donovan RT, and Donovan, Michael G, to Dionne, Elizabeth, and Dionne, Kevin.

\$350,000, 4 Avalon Pl, Sparks, Clayton P, and Sparks, Maria E, to Zimmerman, Michael, and Zimmerman, Doreen.

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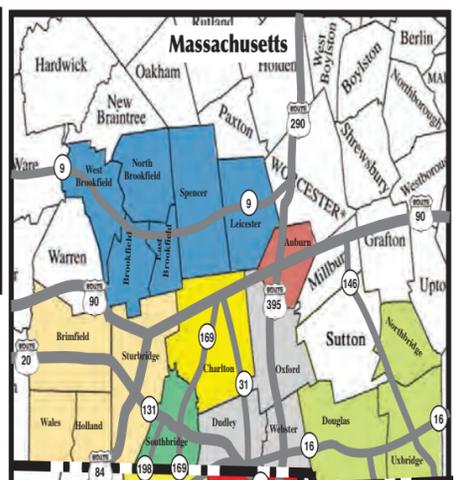
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This section reaches 47,000 households in 7 Massachusetts newspapers.

Gardening gifts that provide years of enjoyment



Courtesy — Gardener's Supply Company Bird cage planters add whimsy to outdoor or indoor décor while providing a unique place to display air plants, seasonal plants and more.

The popularity of gardening is at an all-time high and people are discovering its many benefits. Some want to grow safe and nutritious food, others are boosting the beauty of their landscape, and many are turning to garden-

ing to relieve stress. With the holidays right around the corner, it's the perfect opportunity to support new and experienced gardeners with a thoughtful garden-related gift.

Help small space gardeners expand their growing space and reduce maintenance with self-watering elevated cedar planters. Elevated gardens add garden space to a balcony, deck or patio while raising the garden bed to a comfortable and easily accessible height. The self-watering system makes gardening easy with proper, less frequent watering to ensure success.

Do the same for indoor plant enthusiasts with stylish terrariums, plant stands, and lighting features. Terrariums are still popular, creating a decorative means for providing the moisture and humidity tropical plants need. Copper and rot resistant mango wood terrariums (gardeners.com) add a new and decorative twist to this traditional growing system.

Plant stands allow your favorite indoor gardener to maximize any available space. Shelves filled with greenery help improve indoor air quality, reduce stress, and can elevate one's mood. New modern metal plant stand designs add a modern vibe to the indoor garden display.



GARDEN MOMENTS

MELINDA MYERS

When space is at a premium, give the gift of vertical gardening accessories. Birdcage planters provide a unique way to display tropical or seasonal flowers. Lower them to tabletop level to use as a centerpiece or decorative element in seasonal indoor displays.

Don't overlook the cooks in your life that may be intrigued by moving their garden indoors. Keep them stocked with fresh herbs and vegetables. Increase their growing space and needed light with a gift of energy efficient LED grow lights in an attractive stand like the Oslo customizable LED Grow Lights. For those with very limited space, consider an organic kitchen caddy planter kit. A windowsill or countertop herb garden is a great way for anyone to add garden-fresh flavor to winter meals.

Make gardening a fun and accessible experience with the help of a deep seat kneeler that when flipped over, converts. Or add storage and mobility with a Deluxe Tractor Scoot with Bucket

Basket. The handle allows you to easily take your tools and garden scoot with you to every corner of your landscape.

And don't forget the stocking stuffers. Who doesn't need extra plant tags, ties and gloves? Consider replacing the stocking with a colorful Tubtrug. These flexible lightweight tubs are perfect for harvesting garden produce, collecting weeds or transporting anything from one space to another.

The gift of gardening provides lifelong benefits. Supporting family and friends with useful tools and equipment can increase their gardening enjoyment and success. And don't forget to add a few of your favorite garden related items to your gift list. You'll eliminate the stress and guesswork for the giver and you both will appreciate a gift that provides years of function, beauty and memories.

Melinda Myers is the author of more than 20 gardening books, including *Small Space Gardening*. She hosts *The Great Courses "How to Grow Anything"* DVD series and the *Melinda's Garden Moment TV & radio program*. Myers is a columnist and contributing editor for *Birds & Blooms* magazine and was commissioned by *Gardeners Supply* for her expertise to write this article. Her Web site is www.MelindaMyers.com.

FYI Tips

Sometimes simple tips and hints are the most valuable, especially when it comes to your health and well being. Since most of us are always on the lookout for ideas that make life a little easier (especially during these stressful times), this week's column will focus on an array of tried and true FYI tips.

Remember to Drink Coffee! A cup of Joe can jog your memory, especially if you're over age 65! In a study, memory performance declined significantly between AM and PM in seniors who didn't drink coffee or drank decaf. Those who had a cup of the high octane stuff showed no such effect!

H2O FYI: Hydrogen peroxide is a thrifty alternative to pricey products. Did you know 3% hydrogen peroxide can be used

as an effective foot bath for athlete's foot? Soak feet in one pint of hydrogen peroxide mixed with one gallon of warm water for a half hour each night.

Great Grapes: Having a bad day? If your anger has you biting people's heads off, instead bite into a fresh apple handful of grapes! These fruits are rich in pectin, which can reverse the effect anger has on the body, and helps your system return to normal!

Carpal Tunnel Relief: If you have symptoms of carpal tunnel, it could be the way you use your computer mouse or pad. Relieve symptoms by using your fingers instead of your wrist to control the movement - think piano lessons! And if you are using a mask, try grasping it with the thumb and pinky - it takes the strain off the wrist.

Fat Burning Boost! Did you know you can give your body a fat burning boost by increasing your intake of oils like cod liver oil or evening primrose oil? These substances 'link' with the fat in your body and help digest the fat better.

Mighty Minis: Hate working out? The good news is, research suggests that health benefits can just as great from several mini workouts. In fact, exercising as little as ten minutes three times a day has proven to improve cardiovascular health when performed as few as three days per week.

Tea tip: The virtues of a cup of tea go way beyond taste! A study conducted by Harvard University found that those who drank one or more cups

of black tea per day had more than a 40 percent lower risk of having a heart attack compared to non-tea drinkers.

Wonders of Walking: Walking to "digest your meal" is more than an after dinner pastime. Studies show when you walk within 30 minutes after eating you can increase the amount of calories you burn by as much as 30 per cent! But be sure to avoid caffeinated beverages before you walk. They cause thirst and a loss of bodily fluids.

Ice is nice: Did you know drinking ice water can give your diet a jump start. It boosts metabolism, cushions joints, and keeps skin hydrated.

BION: Here are a couple of "believe it or not" headache remedies that are gaining attention! The next time you get a headache, don't reach



TAKE THE HINT KAREN TRAINOR

for an aspirin. Instead try drinking a couple of glasses of Gatorade to ease the pain - headache sufferers claim it really works!

Or take a tip from folks who swear dabbing a bit of Ben Gay on your forehead, temples and the back of your neck relieves a headache fast!

Win Dinner for Two at the Publick House
Your tips can win you a great dinner for two at the historic Publick House Historic Inn in Sturbridge! Simply send in a hint to be entered into a random drawing. One winner per month will win a fabulous three course dinner for two

at the renown restaurant, located on Route 131 across the town common in historic Sturbridge. Because I'm in the business of dispensing tips, not inventing them (although I can take credit for some), I'm counting on you readers out there to share your best helpful hints!

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

FUNDING

continued from page A1

the Governor's \$275 million economic recovery plan announced in June.

New funding will focus on the following efforts:

- \$50.8 million in small business grants
- \$10 million to continue funding the Shared Streets and Spaces Program
- \$10 million for local recovery planning grants to support cities and towns
- \$10 million to support cultural facilities
- \$8.3 million in small business technical assistance

"During this unprecedented public health emergency, the Baker-Polito Administration is continuing to invest significant resources to support recovery and growth initiatives for small businesses and Main Streets across Massachusetts," said Secretary of Administration and Finance Michael Heffernan. "Through close coordination with federal, state, and local partners - including our legislative colleagues - we are proud to put forth a plan that thoughtfully invests funds from multiple sources to equip employers with the tools, resources, and supports to help navigate the new COVID-19 landscape."

Added Joseph Kriesberg, the president of the Massachusetts Association of Community Development Corporations, "Small business owners have sacrificed to help keep all of us safe and healthy. This initiative is our opportunity to have their backs."

Additionally, in an effort to help keep residents in their homes during the pandemic and support small landlords with expenses, the Baker Administration recently announced \$171 million in support of the Eviction Diversion Initiative. This comprehensive strategy includes funding to help cover housing costs, rent, and mortgage payments, among

others.

For more information about ongoing recovery efforts, visit www.mass.gov.

COVID

continued from page A1

gatherings, as well as failure to take preventative measures, including social distancing and wearing masks. This type of behavior is having a negative effect on the public's health, as well as the ability for local businesses to remain open."

As of Oct. 29, a total of 213 COVID-19 cases were reported in town since the beginning of the pandemic. Leicester has seen 17 new cases in the last two weeks alone. The October spike in cases was a significant factor in the Select Board's decision to cancel trick-or-treating in town.

As of Oct. 30, Leicester schools remained in the current hybrid format.

"The town has been designated high-risk, but the schools have not seen many positive cases," said Leicester Public Schools Superintendent Marilyn Tencza. "The guidance from the Governor and the Commissioner is to keep students in school. If we were to make a change, the School Committee will make a decision using many different data points."

Leicester's parks also remain open, but town buildings are still closed to the public and can only be accessed by appointment. The main Town Hall number is 508-892-7000. All guests entering town buildings for appointments are required to wear masks.

Additionally, residents can drop off payments and documents in the locked black box located to the right of the main entrance staircase at Town Hall.

Residents experiencing flu-like symptoms are encouraged to get tested and self-quarantine until they receive the results. Free COVID-19 testing is available for all Massachusetts residents in various locations throughout the Commonwealth.

Please visit www.mass.gov for more information on testing. You can also visit the town's website, www.leicesterma.org, for the latest COVID-19 updates.

For further questions, contact the Leicester Board of Health at 508-892-7008, or Health Agent Francis Dagle at daglef@leicesterma.org.

DIANE

continued from page A1

the people of North Brookfield, and although her focus was the Senior Center, she always looked to connect with and involve the students of the North Brookfield Public Schools," said Superintendent Richard Lind. "Members of the administrative team, including myself, were always invited to various social events at the Senior

Center, and we partnered together several times on events and activities. Her loss leaves a big hole in our community and she will be missed."

Born in Hemsforth, South Yorkshire, England, Nichols moved to the U.S. with her family in 1996. She lived in Sturbridge and Brookfield, but her home away from home was the North Brookfield Senior Center.

"Throughout the years that I worked with Diane, she never for a minute stopped advocating for the seniors living in North Brookfield," said State Representative Donald Berthiaume. "Diane was a special woman whose shoes will be difficult to fill. She will be sorely missed."

Leaders of all town departments were honored to have the opportunity to work with Nichols. North Brookfield Police Department officials got to know her and the seniors well through mul-

iple community events.

"We are very sad to hear of the passing of our Senior Center Director, Diane Nichols," read a statement released by the NBPd. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family, as well as the many people fortunate enough to consider her a friend. Diane had always been a strong supporter of the police department and was always there if we needed anything. She will be greatly missed by all."

A frequent swimmer, Nichols was an amateur breaststroke competitor. She also enjoyed playing the violin and was a member of multiple choirs, in addition to her role on the Brimfield Bells. She even began playing the cello in recent years, and she could also be found on the tennis court with friends and family.

Additionally, Nichols was heavily involved with community service, worship activities, and local organizations, including volunteering with the Girl Scouts, Sunday School instruction, and membership of the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church of Southbridge.

She also enjoyed traveling to bookstores throughout New England, gardening, bird watching, and exploring new places.

Nichols is survived by her husband of 29 years, Robert, and their children and grandchildren.

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Are your pocket watches valuable?

We often come across pocket watches when handling local estates. Some can be worth as little as a dollar while a rare one could sell for millions. In this column, I'll offer a brief history on pocket watches and some information on evaluating your pocket watches.

A German locksmith named Peter Henlein is credited with inventing the pocket watch in the early 1500's, according to Britannica. The early watches were large and didn't keep very accurate time. An article in the Atlantic quotes a passage from Alexis McCrossen's book "Marking Modern Times: A History of Clocks, Watches, and Other Timekeepers in American Life." She writes that in the 1700's "people want to start carrying the time around with them; they're not content just to look at the public clocks in whatever village or town they might end up in." Improved time-keeping became a necessity. In 1843, elections in Pottsville, Pennsylvania were disputed because the towns people didn't synchronize their clocks

and the time to close the polls was disputed, according to the Smithsonian Magazine. The Atlantic reported that the "advent of the railroad, factories, and electricity, and the standardization of time zones in Europe and the United States—increased demand around the world for watches." Factories in Waltham, Mass. and elsewhere produced watches to meet the demand. The Atlantic reported that "on July 9, 1916, The New York Times puzzled over a fashion trend: Europeans were starting to wear bracelets with clocks on them." It wasn't much longer before this "fashion trend" reached the United States and wristwatches became more popular than pocket watches.

An important factor in pocket watch valuation is the material that the case is made from. The most valuable cases are typically made from gold.



ANTIQUES,
COLLECTIBLES
& ESTATES
WAYNE TUISKULA

Most gold cases produced in the United States were 14-karat or 10-karat. James Boss invented gold-filled cases, which were created from sheets of gold bonded to another metal. Gold filled cases have much less gold than solid 10-karat or 14-karat cases, but they have more gold than gold plated cases, which have only a small percentage. Cases were also made from sterling silver (0.925 percent silver) and coin silver (nine tenths of a percent). Cases marked silveroid, silverine and oversilver contain no actual silver.

After a train collision in 1891, the railroads created pocket watch standards in 1893 which required watches to have at least 17 jewels. Watches needed to be accurate within 30 seconds per week. The Santa Fe Railroad later increased the minimum to 19 jewels. Usually, the more jewels in a pocket watch, the greater

the accuracy and value. Additional factors affecting value are the age and condition of the watch.

Recent auction results show average gold-filled 17 jewel, 19 jewel and 21 jewel pocket watches selling in the \$100 range. An older key wind gold-filled Waltham watch in excellent condition brought \$850 in October. A 14-karat gold watch by the Columbus Watch Co. in its presentation box with a fob (chain) fetched \$2,000 last month.

Some pocket watches bring even greater sums at auction. A rare A. Lange & Sohne 18-karat 1903 gold German watch with an enamel dial and enamel design on the case sold for 440,000 (\$513,000 U.S.) in 2016 and a Patek Philippe Grande Complication 44 jewel 18-karat gold went for 520,000 (\$607,000 U.S.) in 2014. Another Patek Philippe sold even better in 2014: The Henry Graves Supercomplication sold for \$24 million. I'm sure the winning bidder will never be late for any appointments.

We have a pocket watch collection, along with gold estate jewelry, sterling sil-



ver, art, a Red Cross poster collection and many other antiques and collectibles from New England estates in our online auction ending November 17th. Visit www.centralmassauctions.com for a link to this online sale.

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

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EDITOR

EDITORIAL

“There are many kinds of strength”

On Nov. 22, 1963, President John F. Kennedy was en route to give a speech in Dallas, Texas. He was assassinated before reaching his destination. Already written, was a speech he was to deliver at the event.

Here we are 57 years later, reading his words that call for unity and peace. We have taken portions of out due to space, however our hope is that this decades old speech will translate into 2020.

The speech reads as follows:

“This Nation’s strength and security are not easily or cheaply obtained, nor are they quickly and simply explained. There are many kinds of strength and no one kind will suffice.

“Ignorance and misinformation can handicap the progress of a city or a company, but they can, if allowed to prevail in foreign policy, handicap this country’s security. In a world of complex and continuing problems, in a world full of frustrations and irritations, America’s leadership must be guided by the lights of learning and reason — or else those who confuse rhetoric with reality and the plausible with the possible will gain the popular ascendancy with their seemingly swift and simple solutions to every world problem.

“There will always be dissident voices heard in the land, expressing opposition without alternative, finding fault but never favor, perceiving gloom on every side and seeking influence without responsibility. Those voices are inevitable. But today other voices are heard in the land — voices preaching doctrines wholly unrelated to reality, wholly unsuited to the sixties, doctrines which apparently assume that words will suffice without weapons, that vituperation is as good as victory and that peace is a sign of weakness.

“We cannot expect that everyone, to use the phrase of a decade ago, will ‘talk sense to the American people.’ But we can hope that fewer people will listen to nonsense. And the notion that this Nation is headed for defeat through deficit, or that strength is but a matter of slogans, is nothing but just plain nonsense.

“Above all, words alone are not enough. The United States is a peaceful nation. And where our strength and determination are clear, our words need merely to convey conviction, not belligerence. If we are strong, our strength will speak for itself. If we are weak, words will be of no help.

“I have spoken of strength largely in terms of the deterrence and resistance of aggression and attack. But in today’s world, freedom can be lost without a shot being fired, by ballots as well as bullets. The success of our leadership is dependent upon respect for our mission in the world as well as our missiles — on a clearer recognition of the virtues of freedom as well as the evils of tyranny.

“Finally, it should be clear by now that a nation can be no stronger abroad than she is at home. Only an America which practices what it preaches about equal rights and social justice will be respected by those whose choice affects our future. Only an America which has fully educated its citizens is fully capable of tackling the complex problems and perceiving the hidden dangers of the world in which we live. And only an America which is growing and prospering economically can sustain the worldwide defenses of freedom, while demonstrating to all concerned the opportunities of our system and society.

“My friends and fellow citizens: I cite these facts and figures to make it clear that America today is stronger than ever before. Our adversaries have not abandoned their ambitions, our dangers have not diminished, our vigilance cannot be relaxed. But now we have the military, the scientific, and the economic strength to do whatever must be done for preservation and promotion of freedom.

“The strength will never be used in pursuit of aggressive ambitions — it will always be used in pursuit of peace. It will never be used to promote provocations — it will always be used to promote the peaceful settlement of disputes.

“We, in this country, in this generation, are — by destiny rather than by choice — the watchmen on the walls of world freedom. We ask, therefore, that we may be worthy of our power and responsibility, that we may exercise our strength with wisdom and restraint, and that we may achieve in our time and for all time the ancient vision of ‘peace on earth, good will toward men.’ That must always be our goal, and the righteousness of our cause must always underlie our strength. For as was written long ago: ‘except the Lord keep the city, the watchmen waketh but in vain.’”

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Catching flak

To the Editor:
After reflecting on the Oct. 9 Spencer New Leader article, Vandalism against political signs prompts warning from police, regarding the vandalism to that blight seen while driving on Route 31 North, I find it curious as to why the owners of the “Shrine to Biden” (previously occupied by their homage to Hillary’s failed presidential attempt... her second failed presidential attempt) are surprised.

To quote, “We have been subjected to continued harassment, with people driving by and shouting, throwing things onto our yard, and swearing. We have had this going on every single day for the last four years,” [the owners] told the New Leader.”

As seen in the picture, their Covid Counter sign sustained heavy damage, to which they claimed the sign is merely just a memorial and a reminder of the ongoing dangers. However, if you look at the bottom of the sign it reads, “BYEDON,” with DON in red. It seems that the veneer you used to try and cover up your bias was a little too thin. So much for it being a tribute to those who have been stricken with or have died from the Chi... Covid-19 virus. I almost forgot (not really) that anything deemed offensive by our liberal friend, and possible figment of an angry imagination, Omar Har-Yarok, must be censored. And now, calling a virus, that came from China, by any other name than Covid, is racist. So, put a feather in your cap and strut around like a pigeon playing chess, Mr. OH-Y. You’ve earned it.

I feel it is my duty to be the bearer of bad news, and I most humbly convey to the libs of Thompson Pond Road, you are not special in that you are the only ones to be on the receiving end of such anger regarding your choice of candidate. If they were to attend one of the Trump Stand Outs they would see this type of vitriol 100 fold coming from the very side they claim allegiance to. If I had a dollar for every middle fin-

ger and curse word directed at me for exercising my 1st Amendment right, I would have a healthy down payment for a brand new Ford F250. Not to worry, my fellow patriots, the overwhelming response is still positive as people drive by. Many of the flying fingers are repeat offenders who, in the moment, forgot the carbon footprint they are leaving by succumbing to the urge to turn around and make a second, third and even 50th pass by the Stand Out just to prove they hold the moral and intellectual high ground.

I attend these stand outs knowing full well that I will, most certainly, catch some flak from tolerant liberals as they drive by (Tolerance and/or Coexist sticker plastered on the back window). Triggering liberals is not why I attend these stand outs, it’s just a by-product. I’m there to show support for President Trump, quite possibly the best president of my lifetime (I was too young to enjoy the Reagan years). You can’t blame a gathering of patriots for the actions of passers-by who were never taught how to be a grown up, compose themselves, and act in a calm and rational manner. Just because they feel that their fragile ego was brutally assaulted by a MAGA sign, a Trump 2020 flag, or a patriotic t-shirt, does not justify their erratic and, dare I say, maniacal behavior.

If the signs on Route 31 were destroyed by people who support Trump, then shame on them. It is private property and you have committed a crime, however, I can’t help but think that it was probably just a bunch of neighborhood kids who were bored looking for something to do. Was it because of a protest or was it because of guys out for a walk one night who decided that they’d they go kill some signs? What difference at this point does it make? (I know only the savvy reader will get that reference).

MATHEW HERHOLZ
SPENCER

The Spirit of America

To the Editor:
The Spirit of America. It is printed on all newly issued Massachusetts license plates of the last 30 years or so. The origins of the phrase date back to a Dukakis-era advertising campaign involving TV ads and jingles stating that “The spirit of Massachusetts is the spirit of America.” Every time I have read that phrase lately, I have thought to myself, what is our spirit? What does this mean?

Ever since America’s beginning, Massachusetts has been leading the way. Plymouth was one of the first permanent European settlements in the new world and has the special role in American history as being a colony that was founded for the purpose of fleeing religious persecution as opposed to entrepreneurial pursuits such as Jamestown in Virginia. Plymouth represented the first colony that was founded in pursuit of “freedom”. Later on Massachusetts would host the Boston Tea Party, an act of civil disobedience over taxation without representation, and later on Massachusetts would be the site of the “shot heard around the world” and the Battle of Lexington and Concord.

The Spirit of Massachusetts... Massachusetts was at the forefront of the industrial revolution in the United States. During the 19th century we became a national and international leader with factories producing textiles, shoes, precision tools and paper. Our economy was transformed from one based primarily on agriculture to an industrial one. Massachusetts hosted some of the first large scale immigration events post revolution with Catholic immigrants from Ireland and Canada to staff the factories.

Massachusetts has been at the forefront of the knowledge economy from this nation’s founding to now being the undisputed leader in higher education not just for the nation but for the world. Harvard University is the 1st institution of higher education in the United States, founded in 1636. Harvard today is considered to be among the world’s top tier of universities if not the top university. Massachusetts Institute of Technology is widely considered the world’s top technical university. Harvard and MIT are considered to be among the planet’s 6 “super brands” — one third of the world’s very highest echelon in little Massachusetts is pretty impressive. Never mind the 5 campuses of UMass, Boston University, Northeastern University, Boston College, Tufts University and the 103 other institutions of higher education.

Massachusetts hosts more international students per capita than any other U.S. state by a substantial margin. Massachusetts confers more doctorates and master’s degrees per capita than any other U.S. state. Our resident

population is the most educated state in the US. Massachusetts is ranked #1 for our percentage of residents holding bachelor’s degrees and graduates degrees. The Greater Boston tech economy which extends out to I-495 and beyond is consistently ranked among the top 10 tech centers in the world along with San Francisco, Tel Aviv, and London. Massachusetts is leading the nation. Not coincidentally, Massachusetts has the highest GDP-per-capita among U.S. states.

As we saw during the COVID-19 crisis, Massachusetts became an early hotspot due to our high global interconnectivity and world class destination for the best minds in the world. The Biogen conference became the first “super-spreader” event on U.S. soil while President Trump knew of the dangerousness of the virus and didn’t tell the American people. The hospitals nearly became overrun, but the Spirit of Massachusetts kicked in, our doctors stepped up to the plate, and the people listened to the experts to get the virus under control. By the summer we had the best COVID stats in the country with the exception of Vermont...All while the South and Mid-West let it run out of control and offering us a contrast of what could have been.

The Spirit of Massachusetts... In the arena of politics Massachusetts has also been at the forefront. The abolitionist movement and other social progressivism was largely based here in the time of the civil war. Public libraries and public schools were developed here before they went nationwide. We were the first state to legalize same-sex marriage under an equal protection and due process clause when our Chief Justice stated, in part, “Our obligation is to define the liberty of all, not to mandate our own moral code.” We were the first state in the nation to declare healthcare as a right and not a luxury that can’t be afforded to all. While not the first state to legalize marijuana we were the first to expunge marijuana convictions.

What is the Spirit of Spencer? The Spirit of the Brookfields? Leicester? Do we proudly represent the spirit of Massachusetts, or do we collectively represent something else, something darker?

As I look at the current political picture, I see Massachusetts squarely anti-Trump. Massachusetts sees him as unmoored, unethical, mean-spirited, narcissistic, dumb, and dangerous. The Spirit of Massachusetts is Resistance. The Spirit of Massachusetts is always looking forward, always on the right side of history. That Spirit of Massachusetts is the Spirit of America.

ESTHER COHEN
WEST BROOKFIELD

Protect your family from long-term care costs

Like everyone, you want to remain physically and financially independent throughout your life. But if you lose some of this freedom, the last thing you’d want is to become a burden on your family. How can you keep this from happening?



FINANCIAL
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JEFF
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First of all, you need to be aware of the risk. Someone turning 65 today has almost a 70 percent chance

of eventually needing some type of long-term care, according to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Of course, this doesn’t necessarily mean that you face that 70 percent likelihood. In reality, you have either a zero percent chance of requiring long-term care (you’ll never need it) or a 100 percent chance (you’ll definitely need it).

Nonetheless, if you think you’ve got that zero percent chance, you’re taking a gamble — and it could be a big one, because long-term care is expensive. The median annual cost for a private room in a nursing home is over \$102,000, according to Genworth, an insurance company. Other long-term care services, such as those provided by a home health care aide, also don’t come cheaply.

Furthermore, you can’t count on Medicare paying all these costs — in fact, it would probably only cover a small portion of a nursing home stay and provide limited assistance for home health care. So, if you were financially unprepared for the expense of long-term care, the burden might fall on your loved ones. This could be a big financial challenge, in two ways.

First, if a family member had to become your caregiver, this individual might have to abandon a career, or at least substantially reduce their working hours. Not only would this result in a loss of income, but it could also lower the amounts that could be contributed to a 401(k) or similar employer-sponsored retirement plan.

Second, if your family members couldn’t leave their jobs or cut back on their hours, or they were simply unable to provide the type of long-term care you need, they might be forced to pay for a nursing home stay or home health care worker out of pocket.

To avoid these outcomes, you have a couple of options:

Self-insure — You could conceivably “self-insure” against the costs of long-term care by devoting a portion of your investment portfolio specifically to this purpose. However, if at some point you require admission to a nursing home, it may require a significant commitment of your resources.

Purchase protection — Over the past decade or so, there’s been an increase in the types of long-term care protection vehicles available. These instruments vary widely in cost and in what they cover, but by choosing a protection option, you may greatly lower the financial risk you might face. By consulting with a financial professional, you should be able to find an arrangement that’s appropriate for your situation.

Preserving your financial independence and helping protect that of your family should be a key financial goal. And you can make progress toward accomplishing this by recognizing the potential cost of long-term care and taking steps to deal with it.

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Turbulent times ahead

çTo the Editor:

At the time of writing, Biden leads Trump by 10 points nationally (52 to 42 percent), larger than any challenger on an incumbent president since FDR beat Herbert Hoover in the depths of the great Depression. By the time this [letter] is published, the election will be over.

My basic prediction is that it will be very obvious millions more Americans want Joe Biden as their president and it will be obvious that even per the modern expectations of the Electoral College Biden has won. Vegas odds put a Biden win at 66 percent and statistical election forecasts based on state polling put a Biden win at 90 percent. I contend though that these mathematical models can't possibly properly model GOP cheating: disqualified ballots, lines hours long to vote in only certain areas, slowing down the post office, terrible things happening to ballot drop boxes, Republican state legislatures overturning voters and sending GOP electors to the Electoral College anyway, Republican states refusing to certify votes so it gets thrown to the House, etc. ... I fully expect Donald Trump to remain in the White House regardless of the outcome of this election.

In the calm before the storm, I wanted to focus on some of my original ideas – me and my brilliance, but there are some letters from last week I really need to respond to. Carol Rizzo – I really enjoyed your listing of Trump's successes. Judy Rose – I agree with your assessment of the play-book (Stalin/Hitler). The problem is roughly half of America saw that and

decided they liked it. Our Trump voting neighbors will be here long after Trump is gone and that should be more concerning.

Mr. Reed, obviously you think that the United States producing and consuming as much energy from fossil fuels as possible to be a good thing and you credit Trump. Ignoring whether that is actually good or not, I'm sure you are aware that the fracking boom started in 2010 when Obama was president. U.S. Energy production had been mostly flat since 1970 but started an upward trajectory early in Obama's 2 terms. Granted, Trump didn't screw it up, which is a "win" these days. It is interesting you bring up Barry Goldwater as the poster child of American conservatism. All should read about the 1964 presidential election and the reasons Goldwater lost. Goldwater was huge "states' rights" advocate and his opposition to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 among other racist policies led to his landslide loss where only his home state and the Deep South voted for him. Goldwater is historically important because he was the lynchpin around which the Democrats and Republicans switched sides on who the racists would vote for. After 1964, the racists gravitated towards Republicans and the Democratic party became the party of "everybody else."

Mr. Robillard... That was really a great letter about energy prices, except for it being historically inaccurate and wildly missing the great context. I'm a data guy, I like tracking data, and energy prices happens to

be something I track. I have a giant spreadsheet with every tank of gas, electric bill, oil, and propane bill going back nearly 20 years.

Gas prices did in fact spike past \$4/gallon in the past, but not during Obama's years. My personal data shows a peak price of \$4.019 on July 23, 2008...when George W. Bush (R) was president, the Iraq war was raging on with no end in sight, and speculators were driving the price up. The world economy collapsed in the fall of 2008, while Bush was still president. The financial system was built on a house of cards of credit-default swaps enabled through deregulation so TARP was signed on Oct. 12, 2008 by President Bush to bail those guys out. The U.S. Auto industry was bailed out by Bush with just enough money to keep them afloat until President Obama took office.

The price of gas and other energy collapsed throughout the fall of 2008. This was because the world economy was collapsing, demand was collapsing, and the world had too much production capacity given the "Great Recession" collapse of demand. Cheap energy might sound like a good thing but low gas prices because fewer miles are being driven because unemployed people don't drive to work is actually very bad. Gas prices fell from their July 2008 peak of \$4.019 to \$1.519 on Jan. 5, 2009, still before Obama took office. This historic collapse of gas prices was not seen as a Bush accomplishment, it was seen as the bottom falling out of the economy.

The U.S. economy

was recovering in early 2009, by May gas was \$2/gallon again, and it eventually found an equilibrium around \$3/gal as unemployment fell. We should remember that of Obama's eight years, his first year he was handed an economy in freefall and his last 7 years we had job and GDP growth. His last term had more job growth than Romney promised he would achieve if elected. You can still hate on Obama, but you're going to have to pick on something else.

What about fracking you may ask? Increases in U.S. energy production? The first major increases in U.S. energy production in decades happened during the Obama years. Look it up. Yippee for Trump, he didn't find a way to screw it up. Again, I expect you to hate Obama but pick on something else.

Mr. Robillard mentions prosperity, optimism, hope, etc. as reasons to support Trump and loss of jobs as what we can expect from Biden. Do we really need to remind everybody that Trump's horrid handling of the COVID-19 disaster led to the highest unemployment since the Great Depression and the greatest drop in GDP since we started measuring it? COVID cases are again rising exponentially, we are in for a long hard winter, and we haven't even seen the halftime show of this yet.

I do have to give credit to Trump though, his handling of COVID brought gas and oil prices to \$1.75 at their null – by destroying all demand for those products. Personally, I would rather pay \$3/gallon for gas and \$3/gallon for heating oil while

employed than \$2 while unemployed and a health crisis rages.

Somewhat expectedly, COVID-19 cases this week are now at new all-time highs in the United States. We have had 561,842 new COVID-19 infections since last week, rising 16 percent in a week, with 98,270 on a single day. Hospitalizations have risen 10 percent in a week. Deaths usually lag by three weeks but they will be kicking up soon. The pandemic is accelerating.

As of now 9,127,708 Americans have been infected and 230,566 have died. Remember when we were at 9/11 levels and we were horrified by 3,000 deaths and 25,000 injuries? We crossed that line around March 25. The United States has 4 percent of the world population but roughly 20 percent of the world's COVID cases and deaths. The scope of this is current 77 times 9/11, growing, and accelerating. Don't become numb to the numbers. The scope is simply astounding.

At this point, it is time for a psychotic lockdown. Our cases are growing in Massachusetts 33 percent each week. If we continue on this trajectory, we will be equivalent to our April "peak pandemic" in terms of hospital resources by Dec. 1, overrun the hospitals in December, and literally everybody will get it by the end of February. We have every reason to believe the pandemic will accelerate as we go into winter. The lockdown of the spring brought our cases down 20 percent per week. The math of this works on the baseline – we grow or shrink from a certain baseline. It is

time to re-baseline.

Massachusetts is currently averaging 1,200 cases a day and increasing at 33 percent per week. If we could do something for six weeks which reduced it by 50 percent each week, we could then re-open and let it grow again.

The time from Thanksgiving to New Year's is economically pretty unimportant – people burn vacation time, companies shut down, etc. The time from Thanksgiving to New Year's is a peak in visiting people. We need to both stop the person-to-person indoor visits as well as re-baseline. We need a real lockdown, like was seen in Australia and New Zealand. We need to call up the National Guard to deliver food and medicine. We need to close the country between Thanksgiving and New Year's obliterating our baseline caseload and preventing family gathering which will turn into super-spreader events. We need the essential list of occupations to fit on one sheet of paper, not nine. Imagine if we hit Jan. 1, 2021 with 50 cases/day and not 20,000/day. We could let that 50/day grow for weeks and months until hopefully we have a vaccine to send the virus on the run.

But alas, in the home of the free and the land of the brave, I don't expect we'll do the right thing. We are in for a long, dark, disease, and death filled winter. It will be interesting to see how we half-ass this going forward...

OMAR HAR-YAROK
EAST BROOKFIELD

Qualified immunity needs to end

To the Editor:

I find it interesting that neither Mark Robillard nor the balance of the conservative letter writers have bothered to respond to my letter explaining the truth of the Breonna Taylor case published on Oct. 9 or my letter published on Oct. 23 regarding BLM, Marxism, and my insistence that we all understand our history even when it is less than pride worthy. In one sense it is flattering knowing that I hit a nerve in some of my ideological foes such that they feel a need to respond but in another way it is even more flattering to be allowed to have the last word on the matter. While I think I left no room for argument, I am interested in seeing people try.

As I write, early voter turnout has been incredible. We have never seen turnout this high. It is hard to predict exactly how new voters will vote, but it seems like a good guess that they are voting against the most unpopular president in my lifetime. By the time this letter is read, hopefully the Secret Service is plotting how to evict the current occupant of the White House as quickly and cleanly as possible on Jan. 21.

There are some updates on the Breonna Taylor case... As everyone should remember the cops secured a "no knock" search warrant, arrived in plainclothes,

kicked her door in in the middle of the night, and Breonna's boyfriend (Kenneth Walker) believing his home had been invaded shot one of the assailants in the leg. The home invaders then opened fire and killed Breonna. Breonna Taylor has no criminal record and no drugs or other evidence of crime was found. Kenneth Walker has no criminal record, was a legal licensed gun owner, and using the "castle doctrine" and Kentucky's "stand your ground" shot a home invader from his bed....Seemingly exactly how Republicans think a reasonable man should react... Except of course Kenneth Walker was black and the plainclothes assailant turned out to be a cop so now it's totally different.

Kenneth Walker was charged with attempted murder on a police officer and put in jail for 2 months before being released for COVID-19 humanitarian concerns. While his initial charges were dropped at the request of the KY Attorney General's office the Louisville Police have not closed the case and may charge Walker again "as more facts come out of the shooting". Walker had to file a motion for permanent criminal immunity for the case because he was with in his rights to defend himself and Breonna under Kentucky's "stand-your-ground

law." In September, six months after the incident, Kenneth Walker filed a civil suit against the Louisville Metro Police Department. He spent two months in jail for defending his home against a plainclothes home invasion while black.

One would think the City of Louisville would settle with the families for millions of dollars, do some useless re-training that the cops would mock, and then continue to beat on their black citizens and act like Rambo generally. Not so fast! The officer that Walker shot, Louisville Sgt. Jonathan Mattingly, filed a civil lawsuit against Kenneth Walker personally for "severe trauma, mental anguish, and emotional distress." The lawsuit went on to say, "Walker's conduct in shooting Mattingly is outrageous, intolerable, and offends all accepted standard of decency and morality."

Jonathan Mattingly is the guy who fired six shots into Breonna Taylor, killing her. None of the officers faced criminal charges in Breonna Taylor's death. Now Mattingly is suing the who justifiably shot him?

Kenneth Walker needs to defend this lawsuit personally out of his own funds which he may or may not have.

This is disgusting! When was the last time a cop sued a defendant personally? I imagine this cop was perfectly happy

while Kenneth Walker rotted in jail for his non-crime but once Walker got out, got the charges dismissed, was granted immunity, and is now set to receive millions of dollars this Rambo cop is angry.

I know conservatives don't like black people and do like cops, but consider this for a moment... If Walker can be sued for defending himself, make no mistake, all lawful gun owners' rights are at risk.

Mattingly makes cops, policing, and the Louisville Police Department look worse every time he opens his mouth. Just last month he sent out an email describing those protesting Breonna's killing as "thugs." He blamed George Floyd for his own killing, and said he had it coming to him because he wasn't a model citizen. Mattingly said police don't use racial profiling but do use "criminal profiling", whatever that means. Perhaps black people who remember Bothan Jean, Philando Castile, Eric Garner, Trayvon Martin, Tamir Rice, Michael Brown, Rayshard Brooks, and too many more look a little nervous when they are near a member of the SS checking papers and keeping order.

The thug in this story is Sgt. Jonathan Mattingly. The gang in this story is the Louisville Metro Police Department. Equality would mean

Sgt. Jonathan Mattingly would spend the next 2 months in jail, without bail, in the general population, charged with Breonna Taylor's murder until his case came up for review. He is a killer, he is dangerous, and right-wing militias consider him a hero and could help him skip town and avoid trial.

Equality would mean that Kenneth Walker could sue Sgt. Jonathan Mattingly personally, not just the department. Walker needs to go after Mattingly's house, his pickup truck, his camper, his kids' college funds, his pension, and needs to push for a settlement which garnishes Mattingly's wages for life. The only response to a cop who sues his own victim is to sue back, make Mattingly pay for his defense out of personal funds, and for Mattingly's assets and future earnings to be on the block.

We need cops to be held personally liable for outrageous behavior and absurd risks to life, safety, and property. We need cops to look at a plainclothes no-knock search warrant for a home with sleeping occupants and say, "I'm not going to do that." "Just following orders" was not an excuse in the Nuremberg trials and it shouldn't be in American policing. Just like every other occupation in

America, cops need to be held personally accountable for negligence and endangerment.

An obvious solution to the "negative lottery" would be to force cops to carry malpractice insurance with limits such as \$10 million. Insurance actuaries are very good at assessing risk. This will allow for payouts to those injured by police malfeasance as well as make cops think twice about doing something stupid as it could raise their insurance rates. The insurance companies might require body cams running 100 percent of the shift subject to random audit for an enormous decrease in premiums. People who know they could be watched tend to act a lot better.

I'm not worried for Kenneth Walker. He has the force of the black community and larger American left behind him. This lawsuit will be batted down. It should be eye-opening though to the warped thinking held by many of whom we trust with guns to protect us.

TERRANCE
WASHINGTON
SPENCER

Deception

To the Editor:

Unfortunately, by the time you read this warning, the election will be over and we will have elected the president.

On Oct. 30, I watched a program on the Daystar Network interviewing this doctor who was a guest. I do not want to mention his name in regards to his safety.

The doctor was sharing

a realization he had discovered that the public, us, were being deceived by the media with the encouragement of the Democrats.

The media has been informing us of the many deaths caused by the Coronavirus, which was not evident with the cases the doctor was witnessing where he practices and was confirmed by the other hospitals. What the doctor was

witnessing was that many of the patients with underlying issues were not coming to the hospital to be treated, and were dying at home because they were afraid to come to the hospital for treatment, and the media, with the support of the Democrats, were adding the deaths of the people with underlying issues to the Covid list, making it look like the virus was out of control to make president

Trump look bad and hoping that would reflect on him and he would not be re-elected.

God willing that deception, conspiracy, did not work, and God willing, President Trump has been re-elected. God bless America and God bless President Trump.

ROLAND BLAIS
BROOKFIELD

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A picture is worth a few hundred words

To the Editor:

Iconic photographs have often had a profound impact on history and how people interpret the times from which these photos emerge. Whether it's the pioneering work of Matthew Brady in the American Civil War; the Great Depression's "Migrant Mother" snapped by Dorothea Lange in 1936; Joe Rosenthal's "U.S. Marines Raising Flag atop Mt. Suribachi, Iwo Jima, 1945"; "The Weeping Frenchman" overcome with grief watching French flags depart Marseilles Harbor in 1940 as the conquering Germans are on their way; Lee Harvey Oswald being shot by Jack Ruby in Dallas, Nov. 23, 1963; The Vietnamese National Police Chief executing a Viet Cong guerrilla on the streets of Saigon in 1968; the "Girl with the Delacroix Face" at Kent State, May, 1968; the twisted remains of steel girders assuming the image of a cross rising from the smoking ruins of the World Trade Center on that horrible day, Sept. 11, 2001—all these and very many more products of someone armed with a camera at a special time and place have moved and shaped events following the mass publishing of those photos in powerful ways.

Most of the pictures are of actual events which would've happened whether someone was there to record them or not. Some are simply part of the historical record, while others—though

real—were cynically used for propaganda purposes or entirely staged to achieve the same effect.

Lately, I've become more acutely aware of the use of information—or, rather—disinformation being used by the corrupt media and leftist, power-mad politicians as a tool to advance their agenda of gaining total control over what the rest of us can see, hear, and think.

You may recall my comments regarding the staged photo of law clerks from Ruth Bader Ginsburg's office over the past 40 years standing on the steps of the U.S. Supreme Court awaiting the arrival of the hearse bringing her to the funeral. I pointed out the truly shocking revelation that in her long career as a federal jurist this idolized fighter for civil and human rights, this mouthpiece for the voiceless, this strong woman warrior for equality... had hired exactly one... I said one... black law clerk out of the approximately 150 she had employed over the course of her career. I expected some of the Ginsburg idolaters (you know, the usual suspects, the hate-has-no-home-here crowd) on these pages to take issue with my insensitive assertions, but so far none have.

Well, I now wish to bring to your attention another staged photo—op once again involving the sainted Justice Ruth. Again, I'll wait for one of the better people to dis-

abuse me of my notion that she (Ruth) was just another "Do as I say, not as I do" type of liberal hypocrite.

The Washington Post, on Oct. 26, featured a typical WaPo propaganda piece entitled "Is it too late to hope for a black woman on the Supreme Court?" by a long-time liberal hack writer, Petulia Dvorak (Now, I'll have to be reminded of her every time I listen to Antonin Dvorak's timeless "New World Symphony"—liberals ruin everything for me.) This was just prior to the confirmation of now-Justice (Praise God) Amy Coney Barrett, and it was simply a shabby attempt to influence the vote.

To spice up the article, someone brought together 100 young black girls from ages eight to 15, dressed them in black judicial robes with a white lace collar (and who are you supposed to think of?), and put on each face a black mask with "Honor Her Wish" emblazoned across it. Next, they were all grouped together on the steps of the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. where the photographer did his/her work. Nice, huh?

Uh, no...I don't think so. Surely, the person who set this entire thing up had to know the woman these girls were obliged to idealize was in no small measure responsible for there not being any talented black women in the judicial pipeline qualified to audi-

tion for the honor of a lifetime—and a job for as long as one still breathed in and out—a seat on the Supreme Court. To get along in the business of judging at the highest levels, one has to have had law clerk experience for and recommendations from a prominent sitting judge. Justice Ginsburg did nothing whatsoever to find and develop black legal talent for her office whether male or female, despite her vaunted reputation as a lion of the Progressive movement.

But, not to worry, liberals like Petula Clark... sorry, Dvorak, aren't at all bothered by little inconvenient truths like that. We (ruling class liberals) have to keep moving the ball down the field, so let's just use the black kids like we've been using their parents and grandparents to achieve our goals for the past fifty years or so.

And let's not mention that the whole story is a racist-memed farce anyway. There was an eminently qualified black woman federal court judge, Janice Rogers Brown (D.C. Court of Appeals 2005 - 2017) who was thought by many to possess the sharp legal mind and spotless record of integrity and competence on the bench to qualify her as the first black female justice on the court. But, Judge Brown was a...conservative. Guess which Party shot her down every time her name came up? Hint: the same Party of slavery, segregation, and Jim

Crow. Does that help? She's now retired and no longer available.

If black parents, or brown parents, or Asian parents, or Indian parents, or, yes, white parents would hope one day to see their daughter—or son—compete for such an honor, I submit the one person whose life and qualities they should study and attempt to emulate—regardless of her race—would be the woman just confirmed for a seat on the court despite desperate efforts by the frantic Democrats to keep her off, Justice Barrett.

I don't know, but I would expect someone of her amazing intellectual acumen and grasp of the law and its Constitutional underpinnings probably was the last person out of the law library at Notre Dame University when it closed for the night—every night of the week, including Friday, when most everyone else was downtown at the sports bar. Graduating first in your law school class doesn't just fall into one's lap, you have to work for it. Having your law school professor(s) describe you as the smartest student they ever had has to be earned. Being seen as a hard-working, highly competent, and punctiliously fair jurist derives from ability, drive, energy, and determination.

Knowing that Justice Barrett is the mother of seven including two adopted black children (who you know for almost a certainty will

turn out to be highly successful in whichever career they choose thanks to the example set by their adoptive parents), and knowing, as well, the newest judge asked the Dean of the Court, Clarence Thomas, the most powerful black man in America today, to swear her in, I would say the future black woman who will ascend to a seat on the Court will probably do so having been mentored and encouraged along the way by the likes of an Amy Coney Barrett, if not she herself, and having been noticed and championed by a President like the current occupant of the Oval Office...if not he himself.

Oh, how the liberals' heads would explode if the next iconic photo—for the ages—would be of President Donald J. Trump welcoming into the Oval Office his next nominee for the U.S. Supreme Court, the putative first black woman

Associate Justice Of the United States Supreme Court.

But, dishonest, phoney-baloney propaganda photographs won't cause it to happen. My advice? If a staged photograph comes from the liberal media, always ask yourself, cui bono, who benefits? If it's the left wing agenda, assume it's fake news.

JOHN McRAE
EAST BROOKFIELD

Post-election projections

To the Editor:

As I drafted this letter Sunday evening, the TV news featured videos of a caravan of Trump flag carrying vehicles surrounding a Biden for President bus and other vehicle. Apparently, the Trump caravan attempted dangerously to block the Bidens' way and/or force them off the road. Following this the news carried multiple reports of President Trump, not for the first time, praising his potentially criminal supporters. He even went on to encourage similar acts and instructed the FBI not to investigate the act. One of the limited number of federal agencies not under Trump's autocratic thumb, the FBI indicated they would do their work not comment.

Being of a certain age, memories filled my head of buses carrying Southern civil rights "Freedom Riders" forced off the road, burned, and the riders manhandled,

While we were in Kenya, of future presidential candidate Mwai Kibaki's vehicle being run off the road, likely by supporters of the then president, narrowly escaping death and never fully recovering,

Of White nationalist vehicular homicide in Charlottesville Virginia, and

During my civil rights related day, of experiencing a similar event.

My point this type of politically inspired confrontation has happened

here and elsewhere with potentially serious and long lasting national effects.

I therefore hope Joe Biden and Kamala Harris win by a landslide.

Their liberal/centrist agenda offers a much better way forward than Trumps "I alone can save (White) America." approach. However, I have a more important reason to hope for a landslide.

I long for a decent, caring, competent President rather than the current, without morals, uncaring, close to totally incompetent one.

Just look at Covid-19 with millions of infections, nearly a quarter of a million deaths, and current infections scratching at 100,000 a day. Then cross our border and look at Canada. With more than 10 percent of our population, it has just 3,000 daily infections. Their Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau, may not be "a stable genius" but he does seem - unlike Donald Trump - decent, caring and reasonably competent.

(P.S.: The Canadians, like most everyone else, don't want us even to visit.)

However, I have a reason at least as important as Covid-19 to hope for a landslide, even given my age, pre-existing conditions, and the Trumps' "so what" attitude.

The people are smarter than the pollsters

To the Editor:

The people are a lot smarter than the pollsters, the pundits and the politicians put together!

We the People elected a businessman beholden to no one!

We refused to reward

the catering and coddling culture of systemic victimhood promoted by democrats and we denied the snowflakes and the squad their socialist entitlements!

Please spare us your meltdowns and temper

tantrums!

Look all around; there's nothing but blue skies left behind by the red wave!

JEN GAUCHER
SPENCER

My major reason is that without a Biden - Harris landslide, we face an even more the serious threat. It concerns the strong possibility that Trump, his enablers, and his supporters, will falsely proclaim him the winner and scream "fraud and "hoax" at those, who with evidence, disagree.

President. Trump has both already said he will not concede unless he has to. I believe him. For four years, he and supporters have tried by all means to suppress and intimidate voters and others patriotically and democratically opposed to their corrupt, damaging and increasingly autocratic rule. In addition, he has fired up his followers - including armed vigilantes - for postelection resistance.

I and my family have witnessed this almost always ethnic identity and violent politics many times. It has never worked out well. Not at the time, not for (our) children or (our) grandchildren.

Meanwhile the Chinese and similar governments, watch, take advantage, and prepare for the right moment.

So be you an American liberal, moderate, or true conservative, I hope by the time you read this, we have experienced a landslide.

KEVIN KANE
SPENCER

Sunsets on the water

To the Editor:

As we approach the evening and prepare to view the spectacular sight that will inevitably spear each night in the West, it's important for each of us to reflect on the goals and deeds we planned and achieved throughout our day. Then take the time to recognize how much each of us are needed and extremely Blessed.

Observing on the water, it could be the shape, color or size of the

ripples in the waves that gives each of us a feeling of tranquility. Or it is just the fact we are celebrating and experiencing a certain calmness that we enjoy and is the essence of simplicity.

When observing, enjoying, tasting the spirit and flavor of the moment, that evening, until dusk; give yourself credit for knowing the importance of treating all people you met during the day, with total humbleness and

respect. This thought is powerful and is really a must.

The dimming and eventually closing of earth's lights on our world at the end of each day should allow each of us the time to reflect, rest, also to give thanks and praise, looking forward to another sunset that will ultimately be on display.

DONALD
GAUDETTE, SR.
SPRINGFIELD

The death of iceberg lettuce

I think we've heard enough about politics for a lifetime. I know I have, so I think it's important to talk about something totally different but almost as important ...

It was here, then gone. It was everywhere, then vanished off our plates.

I was always a big salad eater. Give me a pile of iceberg lettuce drenched in thousand island dressing and I was satisfied. Add red onion, bacon bits and boiled egg and I was delighted. I could easily make a meal of a salad. The all-important base to this delicious dish was lettuce ... real lettuce ... the only lettuce ... iceberg lettuce.

I miss it. Who took it and where did they put it? Why is it gone?

Finding a salad of iceberg lettuce these days is like searching for the Holy Grail. I know it exists but for some reason, it's now hidden away. Instead, we are left with what looks like inedible debris, discarded when weeding a garden. As if someone decided to keep the weeds and discard the produce, iceberg has disappeared. Thistle, twigs, and a little bark thrown in for texture has replaced the traditional lettuce. But weeds? That's not a salad. And what is Kale anyway? Arugula schmugula! I wasn't asked if I wanted it. One day I had a plate full of beautiful iceberg lettuce, and the next day, unattractive greens that taste worse than they look took its place. How do we reverse this trend? Who hatched



POSITIVELY
SPEAKING
GARY W.
MOORE

this dastardly plot?

While lamenting the disappearance of my beloved iceberg lettuce, someone said, "It's gone because it was nothing. Do you know iceberg lettuce has negative calories? It takes more calories to digest and burn them in our bodies than they provide!"

That's a negative? Really? You mean by eating iceberg lettuce you can lose unwanted pounds without dieting? I thought most people ate salad because they wanted to lose weight. And if iceberg has negative calories, how does that make it a desired miracle food?

For me, iceberg is a tasteless delivery system that moved dressing from my plate into my mouth. It was there to add bulk and make me full, while transferring dressing, bacon, and other delightful treats onto my tongue. But now, I'm stuck with a bitter and fibrous mixture of unidentifiable leaves that add calories and interfere with the tastes that I love. You can't pour enough dressing on this stuff to kill the bitter taste.

I can still buy iceberg in my produce department and do, but when dining out, I want iceberg.

So, tonight, I'm in Iowa City, Iowa for my

cancer immunotherapy tomorrow at the Holden Cancer Center. Arlene and I stepped out to a restaurant that was highly recommended. There wasn't much on the menu that caught my eye. I ordered a gyro sandwich. Normally it's a lamb and beef combination with onion and tomato, covered in Tzatziki sauce on pita bread. It's a simple sandwich that I think is hard to mess up ... but it happened. It came as a wrap that was stuffed full of various greens looking more like the above noted garden weeds. I had two bites and pushed it aside. It was awful. Like most unwanted vegetation, these weeds apparently are pervasive. They are spreading out of salads bowls and are becoming infested in sandwiches. What next? In our ice cream?

Someone must stop the madness before it's too late.

I've learned in life that fads and styles come and go and are usually cyclical. If so, I'm eagerly awaiting the return of real lettuce. I'm hoping for the best. My fingers are crossed. Is it coming back? Will it ever?

I can only hope ...
#SaveIcebergLettuce!

Gary W. Moore is a freelance columnist, speaker, and author of three books including the award-winning, critically acclaimed, "Playing with the Enemy." Follow Gary on Twitter @GaryWMOORE721 and at www.garywmoore.com.

Archers bring down some big bucks



Art Syms with his son Mikee and dog Sky after a pheasant hunt at the Whitinsville Fish & Game Club last weekend.



Cheryl Weed with her 11-point buck.

Courtesy

Archery deer hunters are starting to harvest some impressive bucks, as shown in this week's column with Cheryl Weed and her 11-point buck, taken in Rhode Island, as the rut kicks into high gear. Numerous big bucks have also been spotted by hunters that failed to get a good shot, and passed the deer up in hopes of seeing him again. Making a bad shot will often result in a lost deer, which is the last thing any ethical deer hunter wants. Unfortunately, not all archers are a Robin Hood, and do make bad shots even though they thought they had a good shot, that would result in a harvested deer. Unfortunately, the legislature and Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife failed the sportsmen again this year, without the passage of a crossbow bill.

It is a no brainer! Almost every state now has a crossbow bill, allowing any licensed

hunter to use the extremely accurate device for harvesting deer and wild turkey. Sportsmen try to prevent wanton waste, but often make a bad shot through no fault of their own. Allowing sportsmen to use a crossbow to harvest deer and wild turkey in an ethical way, should be the number one priority of Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife, but they fail to make the proper decisions when it comes to passing a Cross Bow bill in Massachusetts.

Every year, the Massachusetts Sportsman's Council and the Massachusetts Worcester County League of Sportsmen hold an annual banquet to recognize top legislators and Fish & Wildlife officials for their untiring efforts to pass legislative bills that are in the sportsmen's interest. Hopefully, one or two of them will be recognized for their effort in pas-



THE GREAT
OUTDOORS
.....
RALPH
TRUE

sage of a crossbow bill in Massachusetts at this spring's annual banquet. It is long overdue and is the right thing to do!

Local sporting goods stores that are barely holding on to the small Bait & Tackle shops that deal in the sale of bow hunting equipment would also benefit from the passage of a bow hunting bill in Massachusetts. The increased revenue could save them from going out of business. Sportsmen with disabilities are allowed to use a crossbow in Massachusetts, and it is time to allow any licensed hunter to use one. Come on, guys, let's get it done!

Pheasant hunting was great until this past snow-

storm made hunting conditions crazy. This past Saturday made spotting a flushed pheasant almost impossible for both man & dog. Fortunately, things improved as the bright sunshine melted the snow from the trees, making visibility and hunting a lot better. The state will be stocking birds right up to Thanksgiving and reports of some impressive birds being stocked this year, was good news for local bird hunters. This week's picture shows Art Simms of Uxbridge with his son Mike, pheasant hunting at the Whitinsville Fish and Game Club last week. Art owns a Pointing Griffon breed dog named "Sky" for hunting birds. The dog is four years old, and is doing some amazing things in the field. Solid points are always a great thing to watch in the field.

Tautog fishing remained very good in both Massachusetts & Rhode Island with some

bait shops running out of crabs, which is the top bait for catching tautog this time of year. There were still many seabass being caught in Rhode Island waters as of this past week.

Trout fishing at locally stocked waters have numerous anglers catching some nice trout, with reports of some impressive brown trout in the 18-inch class being caught at Wallum Lake in Douglas this past week. A few smallmouth bass were also reported at Wallum Lake. With the weather warming up this week, it will be a great time to get some last-minute fishing in before it really gets cold.

Ice fishing cannot be too far away, at least that is what many anglers are hoping for. The last few years of ice fishing were extremely poor, but things may get better this year. At least that is what many anglers are planning on. A day on the ice with family and friends doing some ice fishing

and gathering around a fire eating some venison, is a good way to enjoy the outdoors. Chasing some flags as they pop on ice fishing gear signaling a bite, will keep you warm, and landing that big one is a good way to get some exercise.

With the cold weather on our doorstep, it would be wise to have a talk with your young family members about staying away from ice covered rivers and ponds. Every year, some family loses a family member after falling through thin ice. It is never too early to have the discussion about the dangers of thin ice.

Practice social distancing and wear a mask whenever possible. It is going to get worse before it gets better, but we Americans have gone through hard times before, and we will survive this threat to our health and our future.

Take A Kid Fishing & Keep Them Rods Bending!

Community Connection

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November Happenings!
We will be collecting food for the Spencer Food Pantry!

The class schedule will be
M/Tu/Th 6pm • Fri 3pm and Sat 9am

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Joane-Shirley Eshun makes Goodwin Dean's List

EAST HARTFORD, Conn. — Joane-Shirley Eshun has earned a spot on the Goodwin University Dean's List for Spring 2020.

Joane-Shirley, a student from Spencer is one of 986 students to make the Dean's List, reserved for those who demonstrate great academic performance.

Dean's List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits

to qualify.

Goodwin University congratulates Joane-Shirley on making the Dean's List and demonstrating such a high standard of excellence in the classroom and beyond!

Goodwin University in East Hartford, Connecticut, is an innovative learning community that empowers hard-working students to become sought-after employees. We tailor our programs to address the needs of employers, and we shape them to fit the lives of stu-

dents. Classes are conveniently offered year-round - days, evenings, weekends, and online. Degrees may be flexibly layered across certificate, associate, bachelor's, and master's programs in a variety of in-demand fields. Better still, we surround our students with the personal support and the professional guidance they need - not just to earn degrees, but to change lives for themselves, their families, and their communities. For more information, please visit www.goodwin.edu.

LEGALS

Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Tuesday November 17, 2020** in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall and the hearing will be conducted remotely to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and will be broadcast live on Spencer Cable Access channels and at SCATV.org on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard.

Special Permit – Applicant/ Owner: John Kennedy, 50 E. Charlton Road; Location: East Charlton Road; Spencer Assessor's Map R14-53-1, R14-53-3, R14-53-5. The applicant is requesting a Special Permit under 5.3.10 (Rear lot subdivision) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw in order to create a rear lot subdivision. The property is located within the Rural Residential zoning district.

Special Permit – Applicant/ Owner: Adam German; Location: 71 East Charlton Road; Spencer Assessor's Map R14-29-2 and R-14- 29-3. The applicant is requesting a Special Permit under 5.3.10 (Rear lot subdivision) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw in order to create a rear lot subdivision. The property is located within the Rural Residential zoning district. October 30, 2020 November 6, 2020

Notice of Public Hearing Planning Board

The Spencer Planning Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Tuesday November 17, 2020** in McCourt Social Hall of Memorial Town Hall and the hearing will be conducted remotely to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and will be broadcast live on Spencer Cable Access channels and at SCATV.org on the following items starting at 7:00 p.m. or as soon thereafter as can be heard.

Special Permit - Applicant: Catalyze, LLC; Owner: ATV Realty Trust, Location: 51 Borkum Road; Spencer Assessor's Map R05-01. The applicant is a Special Permit under Section 4.3.25 (Construction Trades - outside area used for storage of equipment) of the Spencer Zoning Bylaw to use 2 acres for the storage of shipping containers filled with solar panels. The property is located within the Rural Residential zoning district.

Definitive Subdivision Plan - Applicant: Colin Derhammer; Owner: Spencer Solar II LLC c/o Melink Solar Development, Location: Charlton Road (Bacon Hill Road); Spencer Assessor's Map R08-10. The applicant is requesting a definitive subdivision approval under Article 2.3 (Definitive Subdivision Plans) of the Spencer Subdivision Regulations. The property is located within the Rural Residential zoning district. October 30, 2020 November 6, 2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. W019P2843EA Estate of:

Richard E Trudeau Date of Death: 5/13/2019 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **Matthew J Trudeau** of **Southbridge MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 11/17/2020.**

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.

Witness, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First Justice of this Court
October 13, 2020
Stephanie K. Fattman,
Register of Probate
November 6, 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. W019P3058EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Stephanie G. Natale

Date of Death: 08/16/2005

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Suzanne M. Lavalley** of **East Brookfield MA**

requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Suzanne M. Lavalley** of **East Brookfield MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/24/2020.** 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: October 22, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

November 6, 2020

A.C.78A

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS WORCESTER, SS PROBATE COURT 20P0750PM

To all persons interested in the estate of Ruth E. Miller of West Brookfield in said County, person under conservatorship.

A petition has been presented to said Court for authority to sell – private sale– certain real estate of said Ruth E. Miller for her maintenance.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at Worcester before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the twenty-fourth day of November 2020, the return day of this citation. Witness Leilah A. Keamy, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this twenty-sixth day of October 2020.

Stephanie K. Fattman

Register

November 6, 2020

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Worcester Division 225 Main Street Worcester, MA 01608 (508) 831-2200 Docket No. W020P2650PM Estate of:

Joanne Maynard CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **TD Bank N.A. of Concord, NH** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 11/24/2020.**

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.

Witness, Hon. Leilah A Keamy, First

Justice of this Court

October 26, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

November 6, 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:

The Town of Spencer, Utilities & Facilities have filed to Amend the Order of Conditions with the Spencer Conservation Commission for Dam maintenance located at Lake Whittemore, Spencer, MA.

John J. Green Jr. & Ruth A. Green have filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove an Oak Tree at 15 Washburn Terrace, Spencer, MA.

Hans & Sharon DeKlerk have filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to repair the septic system at 41 Lake Avenue, Spencer, MA. David A. Guertin has filed an RDA with the Spencer Conservation Commission to remove tree trunks and branches at 6 Lamoureux Lane, Spencer, MA. Peter Rourke has filed an NOI with the Spencer Conservation Commission to repair a septic system at 4 Wildwood Lane, Spencer, MA.

The Spencer Conservation Commission request to amend sections 2.2 and 2.3.1.1 of the local wetlands regulations, to change the number of copies of all material required for an NOI or RDA that must be submitted by an applicant.

Applications can be reviewed at the Office of Development and Inspection Services, Town Hall. A remote public hearing regarding these filings will be held by the Spencer Conservation Commission in McCourt Social Hall at Town Hall, 157 Main Street, on Wednesday, November 18, 2020, at which time all persons having an interest may call in to participate. Conservation Commission meetings open at 7:00 p.m.

Mary McLaughlin, Chairwoman

November 6, 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. W020P2590EA CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

Estate of:

Joyce R. Ferland

Date of Death: 12/20/2019

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Brenda A. Berard** of **Brookfield MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that **Brenda A. Berard** of **Brookfield MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of

said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in an **unsupervised** administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/17/2020.** 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: October 15, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman,

Register of Probate

November 6, 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. W020C0333CA CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

In the matter of:

Lila Katherine Burgin Smith

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Lila Katherine Burgin Smith of Spencer MA**

requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Lila Katherine Burgin Wirtz**

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Worcester Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/17/2020. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: October 14, 2020

Stephanie K. Fattman

Register of Probate

November 6, 2020

Town of East Brookfield Conservation Commission PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The East Brookfield Conservation Commission, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 131, §40, will hold the following Public Hearing relating to proposed work within a wetland, waterbody, or resource area and/or within the 100-foot buffer zone to a wetland, waterbody, or resource area on:

November 17, 2020 at 7:30 PM in the Memorial Town Complex

This Public Hearing is in regards to Request for Determination of Applicability submitted by: Gallant Architecture and Construction on behalf of 308 Lakeside for the following: installation of an exterior lift to provide access between the main and lower levels, located on 308 East Main Street in East Brookfield, MA, Tax Map No. PL-BK0244, Parcel No. PL-112.

Any person interested in or wishing to be heard on this request should appear at the time and place designated. Copies of the above noted submittal are available for review at the East Brookfield Town Clerk's Office.

Submitted by:

Robert Button

Chairman

EAST BROOKFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION

November 6, 2020



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November 1st–November 27th only!

Buy 1 window or door,
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40% OFF¹
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PAY NOTHING FOR 2 YEARS¹

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Minimum purchase of four. Interest accrues from the purchase date but is waived if paid in full within 24 months.



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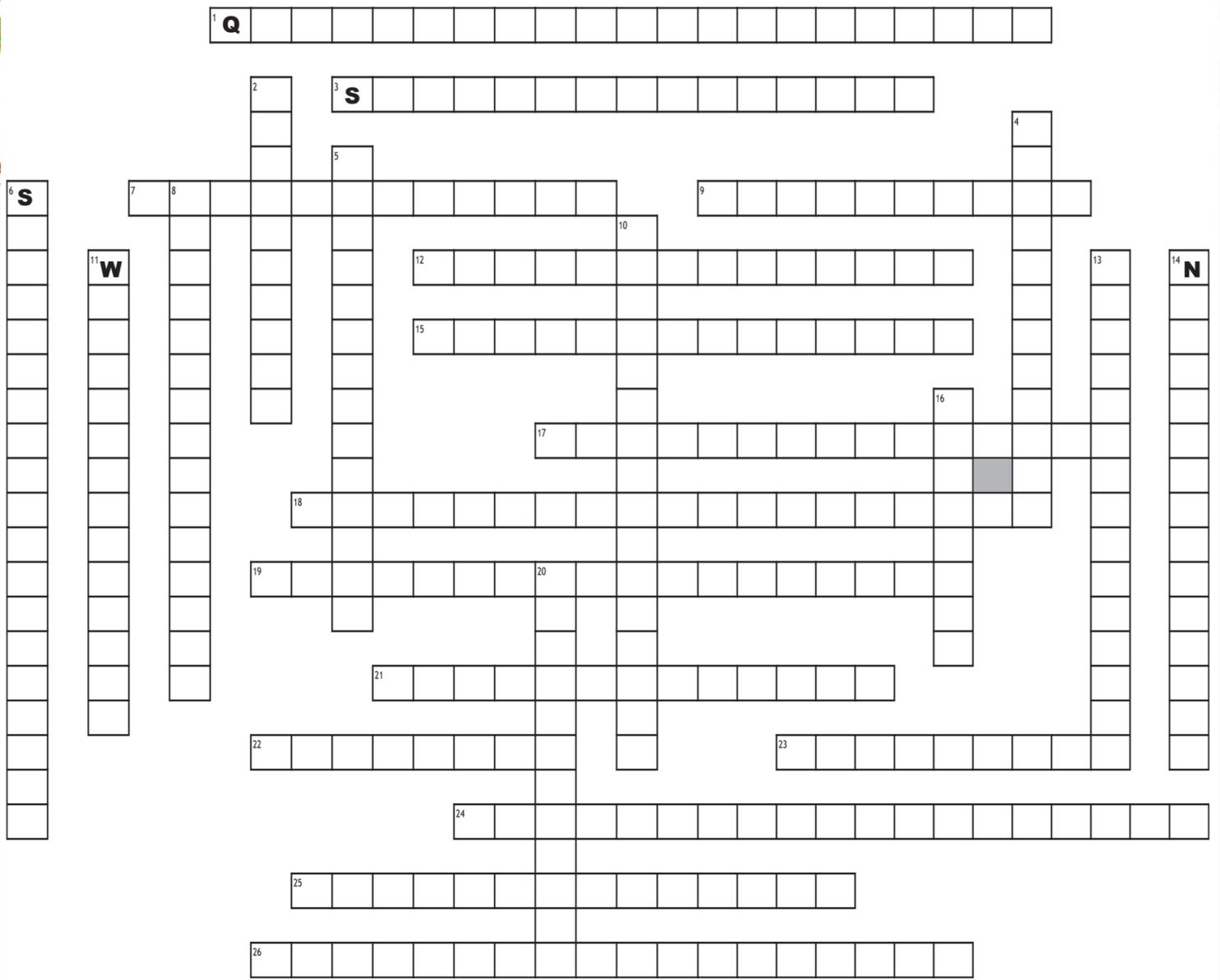


There are limited appointments available
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1-800-209-2746

For J.D. Power 2020 award information, visit jdpower.com/awards. ¹DETAILS OF OFFER: Offer expires 12/12/2020. You must set your appointment by 11/27/2020 and purchase by 12/12/2020. Not valid with other offers or prior purchases. Buy one (1) window or entry/patio door, get one (1) window or entry/patio door 40% off, and 24 months \$0 down, 0 monthly payments, 0% interest when you purchase four (4) or more windows or entry/patio doors between 11/1/2020 and 12/12/2020. 40% off windows and entry/patio doors are less than or equal to lowest cost window or entry/patio door in the order. Additional \$75 off each window or entry/patio door, no minimum purchase required, taken after initial discount(s), when you set your appointment by 11/27/2020 and purchase by 12/12/2020. Military discount applies to all active duty, veterans and retired military personnel. Military discount equals \$300 off your entire purchase and applies after all other discounts, no minimum purchase required. Subject to credit approval. Interest is billed during the promotional period, but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. Financing for GreenSky[®] consumer loan programs is provided by federally insured, federal and state chartered financial institutions without regard to age, race, color, religion, national origin, gender or familial status. Savings comparison based on purchase of a single unit at list price. Available at participating locations and offer applies throughout the service area. See your local Renewal by Andersen location for details. License number available upon request. Some Renewal by Andersen locations are independently owned and operated. "Renewal by Andersen" and all other marks where denoted are trademarks of Andersen Corporation. ©2020 Andersen Corporation. All rights reserved. ©2020 Lead Surge LLC. All rights reserved. *See limited warranty for details.

3rd Annual ABC's of Fall Crossword Puzzle 2020



- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Across</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A rewarding Career Awaits 3. Restore harmony and balance 7.small town charm 9. Call us today 508-868-4291 12. Need to get it done? Call me! 15. Advertisers trust us 17. Special discounts on new layaways 18. We can save you time and money! 19. Company owner since 2000 21. Best sales experience! 22. Yours could be Next 23. Buyer and seller representation 24. Order online 25. 24 Hr. Roadside Assistance 26. Cooper Tires Fall Tire Promotion | <p>Down</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Now taking Thanksgiving pie & bread orders 4. I'll beat my competitors' prices 5. 6 & 12 months financing available 6. All instruments fully sterilized 8. Country Toys and great gifts 10. We will be happy to assist you 11. Rental car or truck can be arranged for you 13. Always going the extra mile 14. Find our BOGO Coupon on our website 16. Reporting for Duty! 20. ...services starting at less than \$1.50 a day. |
|--|--|

3rd Annual ABC'S OF THE SEASONS OCTOBER 30, FALL EDITION

Hint... answers don't always include fall business name.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Circle which paper you found this in: *Spencer New Leader, Webster Times, Charlton Villager, Sturbridge Villager, Auburn News, Blackstone Valley Tribune, Southbridge News*

Daytime Phone: _____

Email address (optional) _____

Comments: _____

Please find the answers to this crossword puzzle on page 2. Enter for a chance to win a \$25 gift card to one of these ABC businesses by mailing in your completed crossword to **ABC Crossword Puzzle, Stonebridge Press, P. O. Box 90, 25 Elm Street, Southbridge, MA 01550** OR scan & email or take a picture and email it to jsima@stonebridgepress.news by Wednesday, November 18. Random-drawing for winner of all correct entries to be announced in the November 27th issue.

One entry per person.

Please support these ABC's businesses and tell them you saw their ad in your local paper! Good luck!

OBITUARIES

Laurie A. Warren

WEST BROOKFIELD - Laurie A. (Kostreba) Warren, of West Brookfield, died on Wednesday, October 28, 2020, at her home after a long and courageous battle with ALS.

She leaves her life-long companion, caregiver, and former husband, Alex Warren; their son, Nicholas A. Warren and his wife, Nicole A. (Blais) of Weston; three grandchildren, Jack, Olivia, and Addison; her mother, Ardis (Kenyon) Kostreba of West Brookfield, her brother, Edward P. Kostreba of Palmer, and many former work colleagues and friends. She was born in and grew up in Palmer, daughter of Ardis (Kenyon) and the late Edward Kostreba.

Laurie earned her Bachelors Degree in Teaching from Salem State College. She started her working career in early childhood education at Madbrook Academy in North Brookfield. She then became the Program Manager at The Bridge in West Brookfield for 20

years before retiring due to her illness.

Laurie had many talents and especially enjoyed cooking and baking. In their earlier years, she and Alex owned a restaurant in Beverly where diners would enjoy her delicious baked goods. She was a talented gardener, who spent relaxing times tending to the gardens around her home and volunteering to help friends with theirs. She loved working with children and older adults who faced the challenges of special needs. Her colleagues at The Bridge remember her deep devotion to those who needed her care.

A Celebration of Laurie's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Compassionate Care ALS <https://ccals.org/donate/>

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

Michael Nathan Rhault, 31



SPENCER/WARE - Michael Nathan Rhault, 31, passed away on Saturday, October 24, 2020 at Bay State Medical Center in Springfield, surrounded by his loving family.

Michael (Mikey) was born on August 2, 1989, the son of Yvette Rhault and Todd Lavallee.

Michael was a kind soul who had a big heart and so many people that loved him. His heart grew even bigger when he became a father in 2010 to Olivia Rhault. He was a loving son, and friend to his younger brother, cousins and to everyone that he loved. He was a best friend to many. Michael had a contagious smile and even more of a contagious laughter. Whenever Michael walked into a room, the room became instantly brighter! Michael enjoyed cooking, playing pool, hanging with friends, being outside, but most importantly, Michael loved spending time with his daughter. Michael will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Michael leaves behind those he loved so deeply, his daughter, Olivia Rhault and her mother, Kelsey Gagne

of Rutland, his mother, Yvette Rhault and partner Michael Gianfriddo of North Brookfield, his stepfather, Thomas Couillard of North Brookfield, his father, Todd Lavallee of Ware, his brother, Jacob Neal of North Brookfield, his grandparents, Kathleen Rhault, Karin Rhault, Sandra Lavallee and partner John Zaganiacz, William Lavallee & wife Connie O'Conner; his aunts, Michelle Rhault, Erika Rivers, Selena Lavallee and Jackie Halgas; his uncles, Philip Rhault and Joseph Lavallee; many, many cousins and extended family. Michael was predeceased by his grandfather Philip Rhault.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Olivia Rhault Memorial Fund in Memory of Michael Rhault, North Brookfield Savings Bank, 35 Summer St., North Brookfield, MA 01535 or at any branch location.

Due to the current pandemic, a Memorial Service for Michael will be held in the Spring. Varnum Funeral Home, Inc., 43 E. Main Street in West Brookfield is assisting his family with arrangements.

An online guest book is available at varnumfuneralhome.com.

Patricia A. White, 78



EAST BROOKFIELD - Patricia A. White, 78 years young, resided on Prospect St. in East Brookfield died on Wednesday, October 28, 2020 in UMass Memorial Medical Center Lake

Ave. Worcester, after a long battle with heart disease.

Pat leaves behind a beloved husband of 60 years Richard White; 3 children Sharon Whitcomb and her two sons Colby and Kyle; Kimberlee and her 2 sons David and Zackar; her son David

and his wife Amy and their two daughter Rachel and Hannah and 6 great grandchildren. Pat was the oldest of a family of six only two siblings Carol Igoe and Lorraine McMaster remaining.

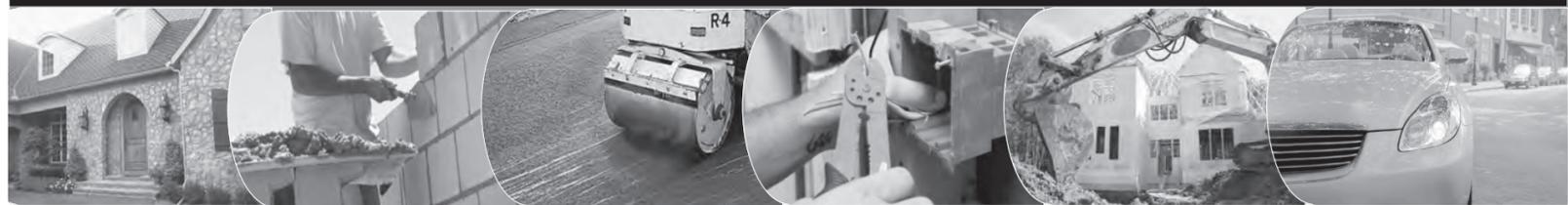
Pat loved to travel, adored the sun and the beach, and spent many years sailing with her partner Richard. Pat enjoyed making plans for future vacations and spending time with friends and family.

Friends and family were invited to attend calling hours on Sunday, November 1, 2020 from 1-3PM in Pillsbury Funeral Home 44 Gilbert St. North Brookfield.

Send all obituary notices to
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WEBSTER - 20 Kunkel Ave! SUNNY SHORES! First Time Offered! 8 Rooms, 4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Bath Colonial! Featuring an Appliance Eat-in Cabinet Packed Kitchen! Formal Dining Room! 1st Floor Family Room w/Hardwood Floor! 1st Floor Half Bath w/Laundry! Gleaming Hardwood Staircase to the 2nd Floor w/4 Bedrooms! Master w/ Master Bath & Walk-in Closet! Many Recent Updates including Roof, Central Air, Hot Water Heater, Dishwasher & Refrigerator! Back Deck Overlooks Large Fenced Yard! 7 Zone Irrigation System! Farmer's Porch! Shed! 2 Car Garage w/Openers! This Home has Everything You Need and Then Some! Expandable Basement! Desirable Neighborhood w/Webster Lake Beach & Boat Ramp Access Nearby! Convenient to Route 395! **\$369,900.00**

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

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

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



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



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



SHREWSBURY - Waterfront - Flint Pond w/Direct Boating Access to Lake Quinsigamond! The Quiet of Flint, All the Action of Quinsig! Privacy Galore on Sargents Island - 4.27 Acres - 2,000' Waterfront! Beautiful Sunrises & Sunsets! Looking for a Getaway, Principal Residence or Second Home, Winters in Florida, Summers on the Island! Tons of Potential, Do a Little or Do a Lot! 4+ Rm, 1 Bdrm, 1.5 Bath "A" Frame with the Ability to Finish the Walk-out Lower Level, add a Family Rm, Bdrm, Bathrm! Nature Abounds, Visited by Deer, Fox, Eagles & More! In Time for Summer! **\$579,900.00**



GRAFTON - 168 Brigham Hill Rd! 8 Rm Garrison Colonial set on 1.3 Acres! 4 Comfortable Bdrms & 2 Full Bthrms! Freshly Painted, Floors Recently Refinished! Spacious Kit w/Lunch Counter! SS Appliances w/Gas Cook-Top! Grand Dining Rm for Family Gatherings! 19x26 Living Rm w/Pellet Stove! Master Bdrm w/Dble Closets & Hot Tub! Bright & Airy Mudroom out to the 2 Car Garage! Furnace & Hot Water Tank 3 Years Young! Radon tested at 2.5! New Roof on Garage & Breezeway! New Well Water Tank Installed! Title V in-hand! Property Abuts Grafton Land Trust - Hiking Trails Right Out Your Back Door! Convenient to Routes 90, 9 & 20! Immediate Occupancy! **\$449,900.00**



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



WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrooms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Flr to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Flr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplc Liv Rm & Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal Heat/A/C! Recessed Lights & Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! **\$2,499,000.00**



WEBSTER LAKE - 11 Bay View Rd! One of the Lake's Premier Properties! 9,822' of Nice! .68 Acres of Park Like Grounds! 297' Waterfront! \$4 Million Spent, Nothing Spared! 17 Rms! 5 Water View Bdrms, 5.5 Bathrooms! Brazilian Cherry Hrdwd Flrs, Grand & Spiral Stairways! Elevator, Ground Flr to Master Suite! In-door Resistance Swimming Pool, Hot Tub & Bthrm w/Steam Shower off Exercise Rm! Billiard Rm! Media Rm! Center Isl Granite Kit w/Viking Gas Range, Sub-Zero Frig, Pantry & Breakfast Bar! Open Flr Plan! Din Area, Fam Rm w/Entertainment Center w/Wet Bar! Formal Din Rm, Frplc Liv Rm & Atrium! Library w/Deck! Waterfront Master Suite w/Office, Bdrm w/Triple Glass Dr to Private Deck w/Lake Views, 3 Walk-in Closets, Bathrm w/Multi-Head Shower, Whirlpool, Dble Vanity, Separate Commode/Bidet/Sink Area! 16 Z's of Updated Geothermal Heat/A/C! Recessed Lights & Fire Sprinklers Through Out! 3 Car Garage! Generator! Slate Roof! Reward Yourself! **\$2,499,000.00**



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WOODSTOCK CT - 110 JOY RD



Dining, library/Music room, Master Bedroom, 2 Full Baths! Renovated Kitchen. Upstairs, 4 Bedrooms w/Full Bath.

Quintessential Woodstock Farmhouse w/ Spectacular views of Pond, Detached Studio Building! 2.5 Acres, Prof. Landscaped, 5 Bedrooms, Fireplaced Master Bath - Fireplaced Living Room!! Finished Lower Level, 1/2 Bath, Laundry, Large room w/Pellet Stove & Direct Garage Access! Tiered deck, w/Screened porch, leads directly to your "Salt water" Inground Pool!

New Price \$399,900.

WEBSTER - 21 3RD STREET UNIT: B



ON DEPOSIT

Condominium - Living leisurely! 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath (including master suite) home. Freshly painted! Recessed lighting, gas fireplace, and sliding doors, beautiful balcony. Walkout basement built-in outdoor grilling spot. Easy access to I395.

\$224,900

THOMPSON - 452 FAYAN ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

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

\$398,500.

DANIELSON CT - 52 TAFT STREET



SORRY, SOLD!

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

\$255,500.

WEBSTER - 195-199 THOMPSON RD



3 ACRE COMMERCIAL SITE! APPROX. 550 FT ROAD FRONTAGE ON STATE HIGHWAY RTE 193 A/K/A THOMPSON ROAD. STRATEGICALLY NESTED BETWEEN TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) ON-RAMP & TWO (2) I-395 (NORTH & SOUTH) OFF-RAMPS! PROPERTY DIRECTLY ABUTS I-395! 48'X80' CONCRETE BLOCK BUILDING, 7,680 SF TOTAL! FULL LOWER LEVEL USE & DRIVE IN GARAGE DOOR! HIGH TRAFFIC - HIGH EXPOSURE! WHAT DO YOU HAVE PLANNED?!

\$600,000.

WEBSTER - 103 UPPER GORE RD

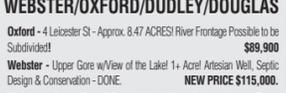


ON DEPOSIT

Estate Sale! LOCATION! SCENIC Upper Gore Rd! Amazing View of Beautiful Webster Lake! Main level has 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen, Dining Rm, Common Bathrm, Master Bedroom, & Master Bath - Fireplaced Living Room!! Finished Lower Level, 1/2 Bath, Laundry, Large room w/Pellet Stove & Direct Garage Access! Tiered deck, w/Screened porch, leads directly to your "Salt water" Inground Pool!

\$319,900.

LAND WEBSTER/OXFORD/DUDLEY/DOUGLAS



ON DEPOSIT

Oxford - 4 Leicester St - Approx. 8.47 ACRES! River Frontage Possible to be Subdivided! \$89,900
Webster - Upper Gore w/View of the Lake! 1+ Acre! Artesian Well, Septic Design & Conservation - DONE. NEW PRICE \$115,000.
Webster - Copper Road 2 Buildable Lots! Water & Sewer Access. Zoned Lake Fls! Each \$24,500.
Douglas-Mount Daniels 2.5 Acres abuts Douglas State Forest! ON DEPOSIT! \$132,900
Dudley - Marshall Terrace 12,000+/- Sq Ft Lot! Potential for a 2 Family! SORRY SOLD! \$70,000.
Dudley - Packard Dr. 2 Lots! Very Private! Off Ridge Dr. Will not last! SORRY SOLD! \$50,000

OXFORD - 4 SPICEBUSH LANE



ON DEPOSIT

One level living with added 35 x 18 finished walk-out lower level. Cathedral ceilings, skylight dining, hard-wood flooring and central air. Stainless appliances w/large double oven. Over-sized 30 x 14 deck, quiet cul-de-sac!

New Price \$314,900.

SOUTHBRIDGE - 14 SERVANT WAY



SORRY, SOLD!

Young ranch with heated 2 car garage, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms. Efficient Propane heat, central air! Open floor plan! gas fireplace! Master Suite w/bathroom, Master California Closet! assisted sale \$279,900.

OXFORD - 115 CHARLTON ROAD



SORRY, SOLD!

Beautiful home set back off road providing privacy and oversized yard. Kitchen w/granite counters & abundance of cabinets. Cathedral ceilings kitchen, dining and living room. Open floor plan! large deck with large backyard through sliders in dining room. Hardwood floors! Tile baths. Master bedroom/master bath! Finished walkout lower level w/2 car garage. Extras: above ground pool

\$369,900.

WEBSTER - 20 KINGSBURY



SORRY, SOLD!

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

\$360,000.

WEBSTER - 52 CUOWORTH ROAD



ON DEPOSIT

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

\$499,900.

On the shores of Lake Chargoggagoggmanchauggagoggchaubunagungamaugg

WEBSTER LAKE - 100 LAKESIDE AVE



SORRY, SOLD!

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

LAKE SHIRLEY - 647 RESERVOIR RD



SORRY, SOLD!

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



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SPENCER

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21

1:09-2:30 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:18 a.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 10:04 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street); 10:07 a.m.: fraud (McCormick Road), unemployment scam; 10:28 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:58 a.m.: parking violation (Main Street), ticket issued; 11:44 a.m.: fraud (Prospect Street), SS scam call; 12:03 p.m.: fire (Paxton Road), referred; 12:10 p.m.: fraud (Chickering Road), unemployment scam; 2:34 p.m.: lost/found (North Spencer Road), grill found; 3:15 p.m.: building checked, secure; 3:23 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:13 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 4:32 p.m.: animal complaint (Cherry Street), loose cat; 6:14 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), tailgating; 6:41 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 6:49 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 7:30 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), personal dispute; 7:52 p.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 7:59 p.m.: disturbance (Main Street), tenant/tenant dispute; 8:32-8:57 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops - 20).

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22

12:39 a.m.: parking violation (Lake Street), ticket issued; 12:41-1:12 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:13 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 1:19-1:32 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:40 a.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), noise complaint; 1:40-2:41 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 5:35 a.m.: fire alarm (I. Capen Road), referred; 6:30 a.m.: suspicious mv (North Spencer Road), box truck in field; 9:37 a.m.: DPW call (Temple Street), stop sign down; 9:48

a.m.: medical/overdose (Valley Street); 9:51 a.m.: fraud (West Main Street), unemployment scam; 10:22 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 10:59 a.m.: restraining order service (Briarcliff Lane); 12:29 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 1:31 p.m.: building checked, secure; 1:56 p.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 2:00 p.m.: lost/found (Park Street), lost wallet; 2:21 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), spoken to; 2:29 p.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 4:04 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:11 p.m.: fraud (McCormick Road), unemployment scam; 4:18 p.m.: parking violation (Casey Street), ticket issued; 4:33 p.m.: juvenile matter (Fourth Avenue), kids playing in road; 4:41 p.m.: medical/general (Condon Drive); 4:53 p.m.: accident (Main Street), hit/run; 5:15 p.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), noise complaint; 8:17-8:26 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:47 p.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), rep. mountain lion; 8:48 p.m.: building checked, secure; 8:56 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Main Street), investigated; 9:02 p.m.: medical/general (Bay Path Road); 9:18 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), spoken to; 9:35-9:54 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops - 20).

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24

12:08-1:56 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 4:33 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 5:43 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:59 a.m.: medical/general (Clark Street); 9:43 a.m.: fraud (North Spencer Road), Amazon acct. hacked; 10:55 a.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Avenue), poss. rabies exposure; 12:04 p.m.: building checked, secure; 1:17 p.m.: animal complaint (Greenville Street), loose

dog; 6:25 p.m.: vandalism (Lake Street), windows being smashed; 6:42 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), sibling dispute; 7:39 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 9:00 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 10:08 p.m.: suspicious mv (Smithville Road), investigated; 10:16-10:23 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; (Total daily mv stops -13).

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

12:32-1:32 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:02 a.m.: DPW call (Bixby Road), water leak; 3:29 a.m.: disturbance (Main Street), family issue; 3:41 a.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operator; 4:48 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 7:47 a.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 8:40 a.m.: fraud (Tom Casey Road), unemployment scam; 8:42 a.m.: animal complaint (South Spencer Road), barking dog; 9:47 a.m.: lost/found (Smithville Road), wallet found; 11:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Bond Street), leaves deposited in road; 12:50 p.m.: mv complaint (Meadow Road), erratic operator; 1:10 p.m.: school alarm (Lake Street), services rendered; 1:40 p.m.: medical/general (Lewalson Lane); 1:55 p.m.: fraud (Gold Nugget Road), gift card fraud; 3:02 p.m.: elderly matter (Woodside Road), welfare check; 3:48 p.m.: building checked, secure; 4:08 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), parking space dispute; 6:28 p.m.: medical/general (Langevin Street); 6:43 p.m.: disturbance (Lyford Road), gun fired; between 7:39-8:17 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 8:17 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), phone left as store; 8:30 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 8:40 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 9:12 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), unwanted party; 9:21 p.m.: medical/overdose (McCormick Road); (Total

daily mv stops - 2).

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26

12:09-2:22 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:16 a.m.: medical/general (Maple Street), lift assist; 8:37 a.m.: fraud (H.J. Perron Road), unemployment scam; 10:24 a.m.: fraud (Woodside Road), unemployment scam; 10:57 a.m.: fraud (Woodside Road), unemployment scam; 10:57 a.m.: lost/found (Donnelly Cross Road), lost wallet; 10:58 a.m.: fraud (Lyford Road), fundraising scam; 11:27 a.m.: medical/general (Donnelly Cross Road); 12:06 p.m.: fraud (Thornberry Circle), unemployment scam; 12:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Valley Street), dog on roof; 1:06 p.m.: medical/general (Lincoln Street); 1:40 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 1:53 p.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), poss. restraining order violation; 3:26 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Cherry Street), no emergency; 4:08 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 4:08 p.m.: FID issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:43 p.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), items found; 5:13 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), window smashed; 5:28 p.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 5:31 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:02 p.m.: medical/general (G.H. Wilson Road); 6:59 p.m.: officer wanted (Duggan Street), rep. theft; 7:08 p.m.: fraud (South Spencer Road), unemployment scam; 7:39 p.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 7:55 p.m.: accident (Meadow Road), report taken; 8:22 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), Harrington CT down; 8:43 p.m.: mv repossessed (Bixby Road), info taken; 9:43 p.m.: LTC issued (West Main Street), assisted; 10:00-10:05 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:26 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); (Total daily mv stops - 2).

Turn To LOGS page A18



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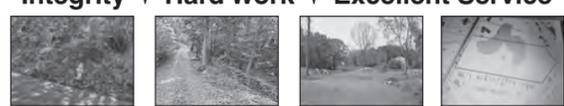
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POLICE REPORTS

LOGS

continued from page A1

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27
 12:11-1:45 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 3:40 a.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), noise complaint; 5:06 a.m.: fire alarm (Maple Street), testing; 6:44 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 7:55 a.m.: 911 call (Cranberry Lane), open line; 8:54 a.m.: medical/general (South Spencer Road); 9:25 a.m.: officer wanted (South Spencer Road), assist TT unit; 9:48 a.m.: animal complaint (Bixby Road), loose dog; 10:31 a.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), tailgating; 11:11 a.m.: restraining order service (Cherry Street); 11:36 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 11:53 a.m.: parking violation (Maple Street), ticket issued; 11:56 a.m.: fraud (South Spencer Road), unemployment scam; 12:21 p.m.: accident (Mechanic Street), report taken; 12:32 p.m.: fraud (Greenville Street), unemployment scam; 12:46 p.m.: fraud (Candlewood Drive), unemployment scam; 12:52 p.m.: restraining order service (Sullivan Street); 1:02 p.m.: accident (Mechanic Street), report taken; 1:25 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Oakham PD bolo; 1:44 p.m.: animal complaint (Langevin Street), bear in area; 1:52 p.m.: medical/general (Howe

Village); 2:18 p.m.: disturbance (Howe Village), male out of control; 3:06 p.m.: school alarm (Lake Street), services rendered; 3:17 p.m.: accident (Mechanic Street), report taken; 3:25 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 4:28 p.m.: vandalism (Smithville Road), stop sign shot up; 4:38 p.m.: identity theft (Mechanic Street), SS scam; 6:18 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), restraining order inquiry; 6:32 p.m.: juvenile matter (Condon Drive), intoxicated/belligerent male; 8:13 p.m.: suspicious mv (South Spencer Road), investigated; 8:22 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), intoxicated males; 10:31 p.m.: arrest warrant service (Bixby Road), Ivory W. Williamson III, 37, 19 Bixby Road, Spencer, fugitive from justice, arrest; 10:44 p.m.: accident (Main Street), mv vs deer; (Total daily mv stops - 9).

LEICESTER

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 22
 6:42 a.m.: suspicious person (Breezy Green Road), unfounded; 8:53 a.m.: investigation (Stafford Street), services rendered; 10:04 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 12:54 p.m.: fraud (Rawson Street), report taken; 4:25 p.m.: distur-

bance (Towtaid Street), gone on arrival; 4:30 p.m.: welfare check (Edward Street), services rendered; 8:52 p.m.: assist citizen (Lillian Avenue); 11:10 p.m.: suspicious mv (King Street Extension), unable to locate; 11:13 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23
 1:23 a.m.: assist other PD (Pine Street), services rendered; 5:21 a.m.: harassment (South Main Street), spoken to; 9:35 a.m.: investigation (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 11:42 a.m.: ambulance (Pleasant Street), transported; 12:39 p.m.: fraud (Lafayette Lane), report taken; 1:22 p.m.: investigation (Birchwood Drive), services rendered; 6:24 p.m.: suspicious mv (Washburn Street), services rendered; 7:53 p.m.: suspicious mv (Paxton Street), mv towed; 9:29 p.m.: suspicious person (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 9:50 p.m.: welfare check (Maple Street), report taken; 10:44 p.m.: erratic operator (Paxton Street), unable to locate.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 24
 1:33 a.m.: erratic operator (Church Street), name and address redacted from police log, negligent operation, leaving the scene/property damage accident, marked lanes violation, report taken; 3:48 a.m.: ambulance (Conway Drive), transported; 5:52 a.m.: assist other PD (Stafford Street), services rendered; 9:55 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 12:31 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), spoken to; 2:01 p.m.: fraud (South Main Street), report taken; 3:35 p.m.: keep the peace (McCarthy Avenue), peace restored; 5:23 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 5:33 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:39 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 5:49 p.m.: welfare check (Town Beach Road), unable to locate; 6:12 p.m.: disabled mv (McNeil Highway), assisted; 7:12 p.m.: investigation (Soojians Drive), services rendered; 8:36 p.m.: mv stop (Waite Street), verbal warning; 8:49 p.m.: suspicious mv (Marshall Street), services rendered; 11:38 p.m.: suspicious mv (Huntoon Memorial Highway), spoken to.

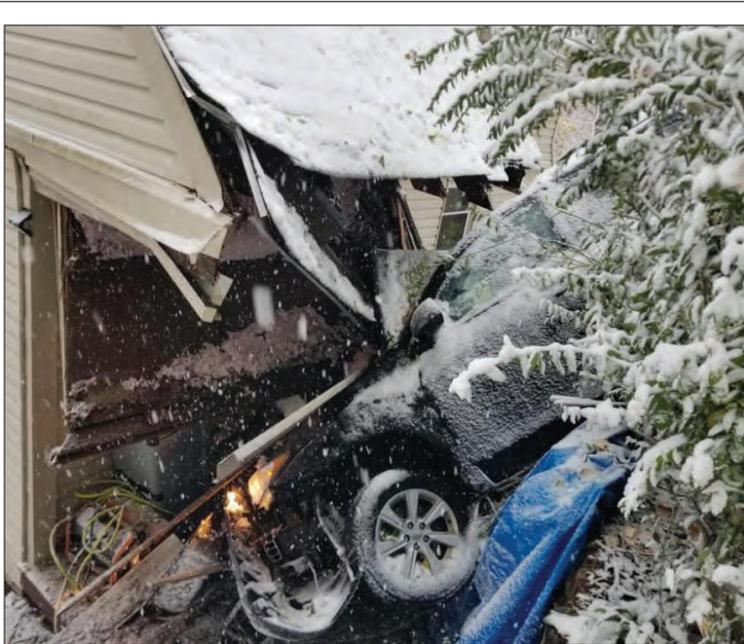
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
 1:45 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 2:28 a.m.: welfare check (Pine Ridge Drive), transported to hospital; 2:37 a.m.: ambulance (Pine Ridge Drive), transported; 4:05 a.m.: ambulance (Mayflower Circle), transported; 7:30 a.m.: erratic operator (South Main Street), gone on arrival; 7:57 a.m.: investigation (Rawson Street), services rendered; 12:01 p.m.: disturbance (Bond Street), no action required; 12:28 p.m.: assist other PD (Hyland Avenue), message delivered; 1:08 p.m.: shoplifting (Soojians Drive), name and address redacted from police log, shoplifting by asportation, criminal application issued; 3:01 p.m.: disabled mv (Paxton Street), no action required; 3:46 p.m.: keep the peace (McCarthy Avenue), peace restored; 6:08

p.m.: welfare check (South Main Street), no action required; 8:14 p.m.: welfare check (Waite Street), peace restored.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 26
 1:03 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 1:32 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), written warning; 7:53 a.m.: accident (Huntoon Memorial Highway), report taken; 9:09 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 9:21 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 10:21 a.m.: investigation (Main Street), services rendered; 11:20 a.m.: summons service (Mulberry Street), unable to serve; 1:39 p.m.: investigation (Rawson Street), services rendered; 1:59 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), verbal warning; 2:14 p.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 2:20 p.m.: assist other PD (West Street), message delivered; 4:05 p.m.: investigation (Olney Street), services rendered; 5:20 p.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), report taken; 5:30 p.m.: welfare check (Pine Street), investigated; 5:31 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 6:35 p.m.: investigation (Paxton Street), services rendered; 8:12 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 9:26 p.m.: suspicious mv (Washburn Square), spoken to; 10:34 p.m.: suspicious mv (Hemlock Street), unable to locate; 10:46 p.m.: mv stop (White Birch Street), verbal warning;

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27
 2:31 a.m.: assist citizen (Pleasant Street); 8:13 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), written warning; 8:40 a.m.: mv stop (Paxton Street), citation issued; 9:19 a.m.: investigation (Green Street), services rendered; 9:40 a.m.: investigation (Auburn Street), services rendered; 11:26 a.m.: assist other PD (Main Street), services rendered; 12:21 p.m.: investigation (King Street), services rendered; 1:08 p.m.: property found (South Main Street), services rendered; 1:40 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), unable to locate; 3:24 p.m.: fraud (Green Street), report taken; 3:38 p.m.: debris in road (Auburn Street), unable to locate; 4:22 p.m.: accident (Main Street), services rendered; 5:17 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28
 12:41 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), spoken to; 8:21 a.m.: investigation (South Main Street), services rendered; 8:23 a.m.: fraud (Marshall Street), report taken; 8:27 a.m.: fraud (Whittemore Street), report taken; 8:29 a.m.: fraud (Whittemore Street), report taken; 8:44 a.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), services rendered; 9:11 a.m.: fraud (Pleasant Street), report taken; 10:20 a.m.: fraud (Lake Avenue), report taken; 10:52 a.m.: fraud (Green Street), report taken; 11:08 a.m.: fraud (Hammond Street), report taken; 11:17 a.m.: fraud (Paxton Street), report taken; 1:25 p.m.: assist citizen (South Main Street); 1:54 p.m.: animal complaint (Stafford Street), gone on arrival; 5:15 p.m.: assist citizen (Brookside Drive), report taken.



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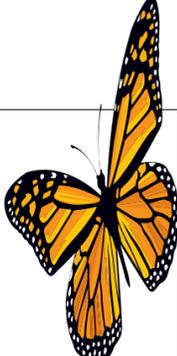
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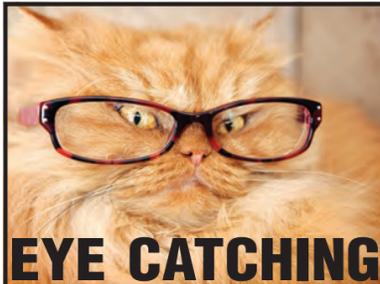
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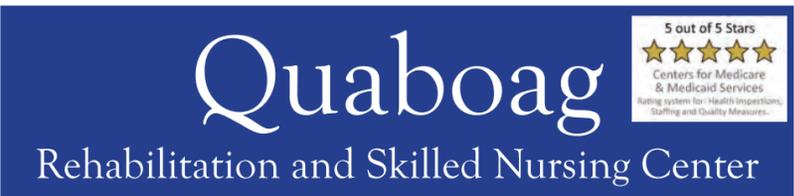
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