

SPENCER New LEADER

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SEND YOUR NEWS AND PICS TO News@StonebridgePress.news Friday, July 10, 2020



Photo Kevin Flanders
Leicester Parks and Recreation Committee members Robert Pingeton, right, and Patrick McKay show off Tarentino Memorial Park at Community Field.

Tarentino Memorial Park to be unveiled next month

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – The Parks and Recreation Committee has faced several challenges in its quest to unveil Tarentino Memorial Park, but members hope to present a long-awaited ceremony next month.

The memorial park and outdoor basketball court at Community Field honor the life and legacy of fallen Auburn Police Officer Ronald Tarentino, Jr., who lived in Leicester and previously served on the town's police force. Known for his frequent involvement in the community, Tarentino coached youth basketball in town and served as an adult league game official. He also played in Leicester's men's league at Town Hall, and he even washed the floor afterward and took part in other maintenance tasks.

Shortly after Tarentino's death in 2016, Leicester Parks and Recreation Committee member Robert Pingeton came up with the idea to honor him with a memorial park and basketball court at Community Field.

Four years later, the court has been transformed from a vision to a reality. The grand opening

is slated for Saturday, August 15.

"We want this to be a very special day. We are all looking forward to it," said Pingeton, who was a close friend with Tarentino.

Added Patrick McKay, the Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee, "The project came out great. Everyone did an excellent job, and we are very proud of the result."

Several businesses, organizations, volunteers, and town officials came together to fund, plan, and build the basketball court. Senator Michael Moore helped secure a \$50,000 grant, and the State Police boxing team contributed another \$10,000.

Construction work was completed by Vermont Recreational Surfacing and Fencing, Inc., of Monroe, New Hampshire. The Leicester Highway Department also played an instrumental role in the project, specifically Highway Superintendent Dennis Griffin.

Officials also thank the Tarentino family for their support of the project. Every detail of the memorial court has a special meaning, even the coloration of the surface (blue in

honor of police officers, and maroon to reflect the town's primary color).

"We got the family involved right away, and we wanted to make sure everything was done right," Pingeton said. "I can't be prouder of how this court came out. It exceeds my expectations."

Although the planning and construction of the court went smoothly, several challenges have emerged since the project was finished in the spring. The original grand opening ceremony was scheduled for June 13, but it was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Less than a week after the ceremony was rescheduled, the court's hoops were damaged by several guests who handled the equipment roughly. Officials decided to take the hoops down until the grand opening in August. Vermont Recreational Surfacing and Fencing will send new rims in time for the ceremony.

Looking ahead, officials are hopeful that COVID-19 conditions will remain improved enough to hold the August 15 ceremony. The program is currently scheduled to begin at 11.

Please Read **TARENTINO**, page **A2**

North Brookfield selectmen postpone July 4th festivities

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

NORTH BROOKFIELD – A controversial Independence Day event was postponed last week, but not before plenty of fireworks.

After receiving strong disapproval from the Board of Health – including a scathing letter condemning the event – selectmen decided to postpone the July 4 event to an undetermined date. The postponement

was announced at the June 30 Select Board meeting.

In a letter of their own, selectmen accused Board of Health members of being hypocritical and overly political in their opposition to the event. Selectmen also said Board of Health members went to great lengths to undermine the event.

"When the Board of Health's complaints and pleas to every level of state government failed

to stop the event, because the event is permissible under the Governor's current orders and guidelines and falls squarely within the Governor's political expression exemption, the BOH enlisted political operatives to contact the news media," the Select Board statement read. "By alerting the news media from Worcester to Boston, the Board of Health alerted thousands of people to the existence of this event and

effectively invited thousands of potential visitors to crowd into our small town, thereby creating a true public health risk and an unmanageable public safety threat."

Selectmen said the event was slated to be a small celebratory program for North Brookfield residents, drawing no more than 300 people. Selectmen initially planned to push forward with the event in spite of BOH disapproval, but ultimately

decided to postpone during their June 30 meeting.

The event would have included a parade, music, food and drinks, family activities, and a laser light show. Board of Health members argued that the event was a public safety risk that defied Governor Charlie Baker's orders on large public gatherings.

"The Board of Health is very

Please Read **4TH**, page **A13**



Schools will be reopening t
Photo Kevin Flanders

Area schools take steps toward reopening

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Families will need to add masks to their back-to-school shopping lists, as classes will be returning in an unprecedented way this fall.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) recently released its preliminary guidance for the reopening of schools.

Students and staff members can expect major changes to all aspects of education, most notably with the wearing of face coverings. Students in the second grade and above are required to wear a mask/face covering that covers the nose and mouth. Students in kindergarten and the first grade should be encouraged to wear a face covering, officials

Please Read **SCHOOLS**, page **A13**

Spencer voters approve all warrant articles

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

SPENCER – At a fast-paced, socially distanced Annual Town Meeting last week, voters approved all articles on the warrant.

Officials were thrilled with the patience and cooperation of attendees at the June 30 meeting. Several measures were taken to ensure the safety of guests at the David Prouty High School gymnasium.

All 32 warrant articles passed at the meeting, with very little discussion.

"Social distancing went extremely well. People were very cooperative and understanding," said Town Clerk Laura Torti. "It took only one hour to go through 32 articles."

Article 1 authorized \$436,100 to be spent on construction services related to code com-


pliance improvements at the Senior Center. The building needs several upgrades to provide a fully compliant fire suppression system.

Article 25 authorized \$1.8 million to upgrade the town's wastewater treatment plant.

Article 26 appropriated \$63,218 for several purposes. These include a library boiler replacement; bridge repairs on North Spencer Road; a demolition project at the Pleasant Street School; and the acquisition of radio receivers for the fire department.

With the passage of Article 28, voters approved \$50,000 for fire department extrication tools and items for the Assessor's Department.

Additional articles involved easements, capital improvement projects, school funding, and salaried positions, among others.



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Local residents named to Becker College's Dean's List

LEICESTER — Becker College is proud that the following local residents were named to the Dean's List for the School of Graduate & Professional

Studies for the spring 2020 semester. Tori Robbie, of East Brookfield is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood and Youth Education. Natasha Basta, of Leicester is pursuing a Bachelor of Arts degree in Early Childhood and Youth Education. Christopher Toomey, of Spencer is pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. The Dean's List recognizes all full-time students (24 or more credit hours earned for the academic year; 12 minimum each semester - September through May) whose term grade point average is 3.50 or higher with no grade below a B- and no incomplete (I) or withdrawal/failing (WF) grades. Founded in 1784, Becker College is an undergraduate and graduate, career-focused private college, providing a supportive and inclusive learning community that prepares graduates for their

first to last careers. Nearly 1,700 students from the United States and around the world attend Becker College, which has campuses both in Worcester and Leicester, Massachusetts. With nationally recognized programs in nursing, game design and animal studies, Becker has been consistently ranked as a "Best College" for undergraduate education by The Princeton Review.

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TARENTINO
continued from page A1

a.m., with several officials, residents, and members of Officer Tarentino's family hopefully in attendance. The event will include hot dogs and soda sold for \$1. There will also be an official dedication ceremony, and youth league basketball awards will be presented to youngsters whose leagues were abruptly shut down in March. Looking long-term, officials are thrilled that the court will forever preserve Officer Tarentino's legacy of kindness and community service. "He was very involved in coaching and helping the kids. He was extremely civic-oriented," Pingeton said. Tarentino was also a member of the Parks and Recreation Committee. In his memory, fellow members are looking forward to the finishing touches of the park. Benches and a wooden sign will likely be added prior to the ceremony.

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North Brookfield Savings Bank donation helps Youth Center Summer Program go virtual

NORTH BROOKFIELD — North Brookfield Savings Bank prides themselves on being a dependable, supportive, neighborhood bank that is always there to help. This of course applies when it comes to helping their customers to reach their financial goals and dreams, but it is equally important to NBSB that they answer the call and offer unwavering support to their local communities. When the Bank recently connected with the North Brookfield Youth Center and discovered their need to purchase Chrome Books and supplies for their interactive E.T.E.A.M. 2020 – Bee Observant Virtual Summer Program, North Brookfield Savings Bank answered the call and did not hesitate to immediately donate \$3,000 to show their support.

“North Brookfield Savings Bank is very happy to be able to support this much needed virtual Summer Program made available by the North Brookfield Youth Center,” said NBSB President and CEO Donna Boulanger. “More now than ever, the youth within our communities need to be able to stay connected and engaged through programs just like these, which is exactly why when Chair of the Youth Center Board Fran Hart, reached out to us expressing their needs to make the program successful, NBSB immediately agreed to offer our financial support. Our relationship with the North Brookfield Youth Center spans many years and we support their ongoing commitment to the youth of our community.”

The North Brookfield Youth Center E.T.E.A.M. 2020 – Bee Observant Virtual Summer Program goes through Aug. 13 and consists of a series of brain-based, movement-oriented and hands-on activities accommodating the needs of the different age groups, 1st-2nd Grade, 3rd-4th Grade and 5th-6th Grade. All activities, including hikes, will be recorded and presented with a ZOOM format to provide an opportunity for interaction with the children and adults. Additionally, the program will have a Google Classroom component which will include opportunities to interact through journaling, videos, and pictures. The NBYC Team, which includes some of the North Brookfield Public School teachers and staff from the East Quabbin Land Trust, will guide the program.

The following are just some of the activities and projects in the program with all supplies being provided free of charge. Projects will allow participants to create handmade items, grow gardens, go on hikes, take photos, make creative snacks and explore nature.

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- Pollinator Gardens and Yard Maps
- Pollinator Houses
- Scavenger Hunts
- Story Walks
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- Creative Treats
- And more

As a local and dependable bank established in 1854, North Brookfield Savings Bank's relationship and commitment

to the communities it serves runs deep. With two of the Bank's Core Values focusing on the importance of supporting the communities and sharing kindness, it is truly no surprise that North Brookfield Savings Bank once again stepped forward to ensure the communities knew that the Bank they have counted on in the past was there to help, just as they always have been.

“We are so grateful to North Brookfield Savings Bank for their support of the North Brookfield Youth Center and so many other organizations with needs in North Brookfield. They are always there for us and have once again shown their support with their donation towards the chrome books for the North Brookfield Youth Center E.T.E.A.M. 2020 – Bee Observant Virtual Summer Program. Due to the generosity of NBSB and the NBYC Board of Directors, I am excited to say that we will be able to provide chrome books to all of the participants in the program,” said Marty Toomey, Consultant to the North Brookfield Youth Center. “NBSB has been a strong advocate for our organization, and like us, believe what we do for the children in our community is vital.”

For more information about the North Brookfield Youth Center E.T.E.A.M. 2020 – Bee Observant Virtual Summer Program, please contact Angela Babineau, Executive Director of the NBYC at 508-523-8341 or email at ababineau@nbyc@gmail.com.

SPENCER NEW LEADER

ACCURACY WATCH

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

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

If you find a mistake, call (508) 909-4106 or email news@stonebridgepress. 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.



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BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

REGION – Amid national demands for police reform, Gov. Charlie Baker recently filed legislation designed to increase law enforcement training and accountability.

Among other objectives, Baker's bill would create a framework for certifying Massachusetts police officers; provide increased accountability; ensure that police departments have access to candidates' training and disciplinary records; and provide incentives for officers to pursue advanced training opportunities.

Nationwide, officials at all levels are reexamining how police are trained, hired, and evaluated. Baker's bill would help establish a comprehensive, efficient system at the state level.

“This bill will create a more modern, transparent, and accountable system for law enforcement credentialing and training,” Governor Baker said. “It will provide police departments with the tools they need to build trust and strong relationships with every community across the Commonwealth – at a time when we need it most.”

The bill – entitled An Act to Improve Police Officer Standards and Accountability, and to Improve Training – would require all police officers in Massachusetts to be certified. If passed by the legislature, the bill would also allow for decertification of officers, or suspension of certification, in the event of misconduct.

Moreover, the bill would create the Police Officer Standards and Accreditation Committee (POSA), which would be comprised of law

enforcement and civilian representatives. At least half of the committee members would be required to be persons of color.

The POSA Committee would have several responsibilities, including the certification of all law enforcement officials in the state. These include non-municipal departments serving transit agencies, colleges, and other entities. Additionally, the committee would manage a database of certified officers and ensure that training and misconduct records are available to officers' current and future employers.

Also, the committee would develop a standardized background check for officers seeking employment with a new police department. The background check would include a review of the POSA database and the National Decertification Index.

“Massachusetts is one of four states without a police certification process,” said Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito. “But the high standards of training we require for our police departments give us a strong foundation on which to build one. This bill will allow police departments to make better-informed recruitment and hiring choices while improving accountability for all the communities we serve.”

Added State Secretary of Public Safety and Security Thomas Turco, “A comprehensive POSA system will enhance accountability and apply consistent standards statewide. It will improve public safety and public trust for the men and women who serve, protect, and inspire our cities and towns.”

Local police leaders continue to familiarize themselves with the Governor's

filed legislation. With the combination of the COVID-19 crisis and imminent police reforms nationwide, the landscape of law enforcement procedures is rapidly changing.

“There is a lot to digest, especially while still dealing with COVID,” Spencer Police Chief David Darrin said of the legislation. “I will be reviewing the Governor's proposal, and we'll see what makes it through the House and Senate.”

Baker's bill would also provide incentives for officers who pursue advanced training in relevant skills and specialties beyond the levels required of all police officers. Such training would include foreign languages; advanced domestic violence response procedures; advanced de-escalation techniques; and other high-level proficiencies.

Local police leaders were pleased to see an emphasis on training in the bill. They want to ensure that officers are prepared for an array of situations they will encounter on the job.

“I support all efforts to help enhance training,” said Sturbridge Interim Police Chief Earl Dessert, who agrees with many of the objectives in the Baker bill. “It's also important to prohibit officers from being rehired in another department after getting dismissed from an agency for misconduct. If that can be prevented, that is a great thing.”

The Governor thanks all contributors who helped craft the language in the bill.

“We are grateful for the Black and Latino Caucus and public safety officials' collaboration on this bill, and we look forward to working with the Legislature to get it passed,” Baker said.

NEWS BRIEFS

North Brookfield Democratic Committee awards scholarship

NORTH BROOKFIELD — The North Brookfield Democratic Town Committee congratulates Jagger Bulger, the recipient of the second annual NB DTC scholarship in the amount of \$750.

Jagger will be attending Florida Gulf Coast University and has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to his community. We wish him, and the entire 2020 graduating class, the very best in the future. Although we are all disappointed that the third annual North Brookfield Community Barbecue and scholarship fundraiser could not be held at the end of June this year, we plan to offer our scholarship again for a graduate of the class of 2021, and we are looking forward to our 2021 Community Barbecue!

Despite the inability to meet in person over the last several months, the North Brookfield Dems have maintained a busy virtual schedule, and have been happy to welcome new members to our group over the last couple of months.

Monthly meetings have continued via zoom, and on May 17, the NB DTC hosted a virtual meeting with Congressman McGovern, which was attended by a variety of constituents from North Brookfield and the surrounding towns. Our next meeting will be taking place via zoom at 5:30 p.m. on July 12. Please contact northbrookfelddemocrats@gmail.com to receive the link for the meeting and visit nbdemocrats.org for further information about our group.

Joe Fish returning to East Brookfield Select Board

EAST BROOKFIELD – A familiar face is returning to the Board of Selectmen, as Joe Fish earned a vacant seat with a write-in vote during the June 29 election.

Former selectman Shaun Richard stepped away from the Board after a single term. He will be replaced by Fish, who previously served on the Select

Turn To **BRIEFS** page **A17**

ADVERTISEMENT: REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS Town of Spencer

Valley and Mill Streets Improvement Project

The Town of Spencer has been awarded funds from the FY 2018 Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development Block Grant Program. Professional engineering services are needed for the infrastructure improvement project on Valley and Mill Streets. The Phase I engineering services sought shall include site survey, wetland flagging at the drainage outfalls/stream crossings, site base plan development, and identification of any and all required easements, environmental permitting, preliminary design plans, final design plans and specifications, preparation of bid document and opinion of construction costs. In the event project construction funding is procured in the future, the engineer shall provide Phase II services including bidding assistance, construction administration, and resident engineering services.

A more detailed Request for Proposals (RFP) is available at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street, Springfield, MA 01104, (413) 781-6045, from 9 AM to 5 PM. The RFP will be available from July 8, 2020 to the due date specified below, at the address above or in digital format via email by request from Sue Ortiz at sortiz@pvpc.org. Parties requesting the RFP electronically are strongly encouraged to verify that their email request has been received. PVPC is not responsible for any requests that are not received. The Town of Spencer, awarding and contracting authority, reserves the right to reject any and all proposals if it is deemed in the best interests of the TOWN to do so.

**Completed proposals are to be submitted no later than
3:00 PM, Thursday, July 23, 2020 at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission,
60 Congress Street – 1st Floor, Springfield, MA 01104-3419,
Attention: Ted Harvey, Senior Planner.**

Dillon Antonopoulos of West Brookfield graduates from Eastern Connecticut State University

WILLIMANTIC, Conn. — Hundreds of students graduated from Eastern Connecticut State University this spring 2020 semester. Dillon Antonopoulos of West Brookfield graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education.

Eastern’s 130th annual Commencement Exercises occurred via YouTube on May 19 amid the COVID-19 pandemic, where the Class of 2020 was addressed by Commencement speaker Mark Boxer, former executive vice president and chief information officer of Cigna. Boxer joined Eastern President Elsa Nunez and other university officials as well as Senior Class Vice President Emily Kerfoot on the same day the University had originally planned to hold its graduation ceremony at Hartford’s XL Center.

Boxer extolled the value of higher education, recounting his own journey and telling the graduates, “The knowledge you gained here at Eastern is the fuel that will propel you to make a truly meaningful impact.”

Calling his college education “the right choice,” Boxer said, “It became the springboard for everything good in my life - personally and professionally.”

He urged the graduates to continue their quest for knowledge, noting that he had continued learning in some educational setting each year since he first graduated from college more than three decades ago.

In her charge to the graduates, President Nunez said, “Since you arrived four years ago for summer orientation, the faculty and I have been telling you that the liberal arts skills you learn at Eastern will serve you well throughout your careers and your personal lives.”

She cited critical thinking, professional communications, ethics, collaboration as competencies highly sought by U.S. employers. “Those same skills are critically needed today as we seek to get beyond COVID-19. I know each of you has the skills and the courage to find your place in this new world, where you will keep your head on your shoulders, keep your chin up, and make a unique contribution to society... Go forth now with confidence, compassion, and commitment. Come back and visit us when it is safe to do so. In the meantime, let us know if we can help you in any way. God Speed!”

Senior Class Vice President Kerfoot

gave President Nunez the class gift, a check to establish a scholarship in the name of the Class of 2020. Kerfoot told her classmates, “As you sit with your family at home, watching this commencement, tell yourself you did it. You made it. Through all the challenges you have faced, you can be proud to be an Eastern alumnus. Be proud that you will go on in life knowing that you are going to accomplish such amazing things.

“It was a challenge, and the Class of 2020 met that challenge with courage and determination. We learned we are capable of more than we might have realized. Resilience - the ability to survive and thrive during adversity - is something we all can be proud of. As the famous physicist Albert Einstein once said, ‘It’s not that I’m so smart, it’s just that I stay with problems longer.’ Let’s stick to it, Class of 2020!”

More than 40 percent of the Class of 2020 are the first in their families to earn a bachelor’s degree. Approximately 90 percent of Eastern students are from 162 of the state’s 169 towns, with more than 80 percent of graduates staying in Connecticut to launch their careers, contribute to their communities and

raise their families. The University also draws students from 34 other states and 19 countries.

This year’s event was videotaped in Eastern’s otherwise empty Concert Hall in the Fine Arts Instructional Center, with each speaker taping their remarks separately in keeping with safety guidelines. Even as a virtual event, the graduation ceremony maintained an atmosphere of grace and dignity, with the stage a replica of the one used at the XL Center and “Pomp and Circumstance” and “America the Beautiful” played during the proceedings. At the end of the formal program, graduates watched as their names scrolled on the screen, sharing the celebration safely at home with their families.

Prior to Commencement, the university sent each graduate their diploma cover, two copies of the evening’s program, and their mortarboard and tassel to make their family’s festivities more complete.

People unable to view the graduation ceremony on May 19 may still watch it by visiting www.youtube.com/EasternConnecticutStateUniversityVideo.

Local service organizations re-open

BY KEVIN FLANDERS
STAFF WRITER

LEICESTER – After an extended hiatus due to COVID-19, a pair of volunteer-run organizations are reopening to assist those in need.

Deja New celebrated Independence Day with a July 4 reopening, and the New to

You thrift shop will resume operations on July 15. Cheryl Cooney and other volunteers are thrilled to welcome the community back after an extended break.

Over the past several weeks, a dedicated team of volunteers has worked hard to sanitize both venues and prepare items. They want guests to feel safe and comfortable when they return.

“It feels good to be back. The money raised helps people in all kinds of situations,” Cooney said.

Deja New, based at 759 Main St., is a community marketplace that uses funds to support several local organizations and families. In recent years, Deja New has assisted multiple community efforts, including the purchase of a wheelchair-accessible van for Leicester Primary School student Eddy Besse; the purchase of a swing set for a family with four special-needs children; relief provided to a family whose house was destroyed by a fire; and the purchase of a service dog for



youngster Maddie Cole’s family.

Photo Kevin Flanders

Local volunteers have worked hard to continue supporting the community during challenging times.

Deja New also assists community organizations like Hearts for Heat, the Leicester Food Pantry, and the Greenville Baptist Church Food Pantry. Staffed entirely by volunteers, Deja New is the perfect example of a community providing support from within.

To learn more about how you can assist Deja New or make a donation, call 774-368-0438. You can also visit www.DejaNewLeicester.com.

Meanwhile, the New to You thrift shop has now been open for five years (also located on the 759 Main St. Saint Joseph’s-Saint Pius Church grounds). Run by about 20 regular volunteers, the shop helps support the food pantry and the church. All items are donated by the community; items include glassware, clothing, household items (no electronics), books, and several others. Items go to residents in need who receive vouchers from the food pantry.

“We’re really excited to have our regular customers come back,” said volunteer Donna McCance.

Added Aurore McGrail, “There is a great camaraderie with all of the volunteers and customers.”

New to You item dona-

tions will resume in August (by appointment only). Please call 774-368-0438 for more information.

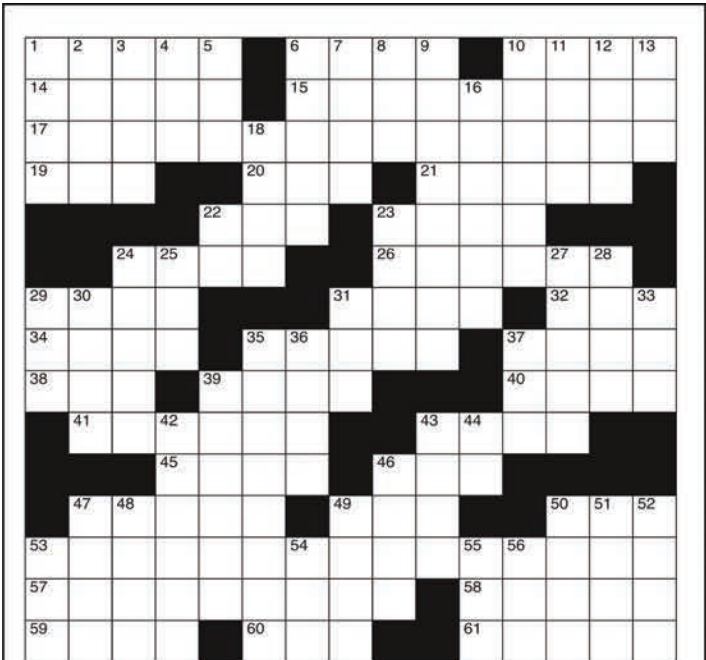
“It will be a slow, careful process to get all of the new donations in place,” Cooney said.

Of course, volunteers are the linchpin that make both community operations work. Without residents eager to donate their time to give back, the town-based service model would never succeed.

“All we ask of residents is one hour per year,” Cooney told the New Leader. “If everyone gave us one hour of their time each year, they could make a huge difference. There are plenty of jobs that always need to be done.”

Community volunteers are in especially high demand during the COVID-19 crisis. The food pantry, which was forced to operate curbside until a few weeks ago, has seen a major increase in requests. Cooney, who also runs the food pantry, is grateful to everyone who takes time to give back – and she invites new volunteers to step up.

“We are always looking for volunteers,” Cooney said. “An hour each year is all we ask.”



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Cyprinids
 - 6. Icelandic literary works
 - 10. Break in half
 - 14. Japanese mushroom
 - 15. Have offspring
 - 17. Not feeling well
 - 19. A very large body of water
 - 20. Witch
 - 21. Behemoth
 - 22. Speak negatively of
 - 23. Absence of difficulty
 - 24. Pampering places
 - 26. Drives
 - 29. Truck that delivers beer
 - 31. Makes
 - 32. A team’s best pitcher
 - 34. ___ Carvey, comedian
 - 35. Seas
 - 37. S. American plants
 - 38. Time zone
 - 39. Deviate
 - 40. No longer are
 - 41. Moving in slowly
 - 43. Patrick and Glover are two
 - 45. Living quarters
 - 46. Taxi
 - 47. Pancake made of buckwheat flour
 - 49. Swiss river
 - 50. Not happy
 - 53. Have surgery
 - 57. Formal withdrawal
 - 58. Give way to anxiety
 - 59. Greek war god
 - 60. 2K lbs.
 - 61. Word of farewell

- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. ___ ex Machina
 - 2. WWII diarist Frank
 - 3. Concluding passage
 - 4. Supplement with difficulty
 - 5. Title of respect
 - 6. Cubic measures
 - 7. Remnant
 - 8. ___ Jones
 - 9. Salts of acetic acid
 - 10. Long, upholstered seat
 - 11. Capital of Okinawa Prefecture
 - 12. A one-time aspect of Egyptian sun god Ra
 - 13. Prefix denoting “in a”
 - 16. Propels upward
 - 18. What we are talking about
 - 22. Prosecutor
 - 23. Employee stock ownership plan
 - 24. He brings kids presents
 - 25. Burmese monetary unit
 - 27. Hurries
 - 28. Injury remnant
 - 29. Tooth caregiver
 - 30. Elvis backup singer Betty Jane
 - 31. “The Partridge Family” actress Susan
 - 33. Midway between east and southeast
 - 35. Most excellent
 - 36. Heat units
 - 37. Possess legally
 - 39. Food items
 - 42. Skeletal structures
 - 43. Challenge to do something bold
 - 44. Blood type
 - 46. Sammy ___, songwriter
 - 47. Farmer (Dutch)
 - 48. Clare Booth ___, American writer
 - 49. Piers Anthony’s protagonist
 - 50. Malaysian coastal city
 - 51. Hairstyle
 - 52. NY-based department store
 - 53. Geosciences organization (abbr.)
 - 54. Brazilian city
 - 55. Niger-Congo languages
 - 56. Gesture



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PERSON of the WEEK

Terry Dorr Langevin of Spencer

Terry started a group on Facebook called, Bringing Some Comfort. This group makes blankets for children who have lost a sibling or parent to an overdose. Since April, 46 blankets have been made and distributed.

Thank you Terry for your commitment to this loving cause, and for being a helpful exemplary member of our community.

— submitted by Barbara Zollo McGrail

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HAPPY 99th BIRTHDAY!

Marguerite (Derosier) Hayes celebrated her 99th Birthday at the home of her daughter Karen. She was born on July 5, 1921, and is the daughter of the late Harold and Gertrude Derosier of New Port N. H. Marguerite was married to Frances D. Hayes. She had one brother Harold who is deceased. She has eight children— Sandra, Kevin, Karen, Debbie, and step-daughter Jamie Geringer. Deceased are Francis, Robert, and Lou Ann. She has 35 grandchildren, 49 great grandchildren, seven great-great grandchildren. My Mom loves spending time with her children and grandchildren and with all of her friends at Howe Village.

Happy birthday Mom with love from Karen, family and friends.

Second Chance reminds pet owners to consider how pets are handling change

EAST BROOKFIELD — For some pets, having the family at home all the time has been a dream come true...more play time, perhaps more treats and a lot more walks. For some other pets, too much of a good thing has been way too much and they want their house back.

We've all seen the memes, some of us may have shared more than few with all the extra time we suddenly had, but Second Chance Animal Services is reminding pet owners to think about how the changes brought on by COVID-19 have impacted their pet.

We all need downtime and pets are no different. Especially in larger households or families with young children, pets may need a break from the activity, noise and attention. Having someplace quiet to escape for a break is a good idea for pets in these homes if possible. If you find your pet wandering away from the action to take a nap, let them be for a while.

Pet owners should be on the lookout for signs of stress in

their pet like excessive licking and chewing, whining, or new destructive behavior or accidents in the house. Any new behavior can be a clue that something's amiss. If the behavior continues, pet owners should talk to their veterinarian to help address the issue.

Second Chance CEO Sheryl Blancato is also reminding pet owners to help their pet adjust as people return to work.

"Consider adjusting your schedule slowly or have a friend or family member check on them if that's an option. Pets thrive on routine so every time you have to change that routine, be patient," Blancato said.

Blancato was thrilled to see how many pets were adopted from Second Chance as stay-at-home restrictions were put in place.

"It was an ideal time for pets to be welcomed into a family," she said. "Now, as those families may be spending less time at home, we hope adopters will help their new pets adjust to

the change."

If you've been home with your pets this whole time, Second Chance Medical Director Grace Park recommends taking steps to teach your pet to be alone again, or for the first time with newly adopted pets.

"This can include leaving them home alone for a short period and gradually extending the length of time you are out. As you head out the door, you can reward calm behavior with a special treat. A peanut butter filled Kong or a food-dispensing puzzle toy is great if your pet is unable to destroy them," she said.

Park also recommends adjusting your schedule as early as possible, to get your pet used to the new waking and feeding times.

Most of all, Blancato and Park urge pet owners to remain understanding and not rush to surrender their pet if they return home to an accident or chewed-up shoe. With a little time and training, your companion can adjust to the



new schedule. Pet owners who think their pet may need extra support can reach out to their veterinarian for help.



Family Dining & Gift Guide

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The Write Stuff

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All Ages Welcome! Open topics.

Please share your creative writing and thoughts with us!

This is the final Write Stuff of the 2019-20 season.

Thank you to everyone who participated during this school year.

Please feel free to submit your creative writings over the summer months to be published in September. Thank you to Lamoureux Ford for being so generous in supporting The Write Stuff each month. If you are a contributor or just enjoy reading these pages, please thank the friendly staff at Lamoureux Ford for helping us bring this to you.

Have a safe and Happy Summer!

MEAGHAN L. 4TH GRADE, SEBRSD

School vs. Home

My opinion on learning from home than rather than learning from school is that learning from home is better. Here are my three reasons why.

My first reason is that that you can stay in your pajamas. Instead of having to get dressed to go school, I can wear my pajamas. Pajamas are just are just more comfortable!

My second reason for liking home school more is you can do your school work whenever you want. If you were at school and your teacher placed work in front of you you would have to do it right then and there.

I like the pace of home schooling better.

My last reason is that you can do your school work anywhere. You can do it on your bed, or outside, or even in the car. My favorite place to do it is on my bed.

In conclusion what I am trying to say is that at home you can be comfy and you.

NORA M. - 4TH GRADE - SEBRSD

Would You Rather Learn at Home or at School?

Learning at home is very different from learning at school. When I learn at school, I like it better. Some of the reasons that I like learning at school better are there are teachers and friends at school to help me with my school work and there are less distractions at school. I like the schedule better, and there are fun things to do after I do my school work.

First of all, my school work is easier to learn at school. Friends can help with work. Also, textbooks are at school to help me. In addition, there are a lot of teachers to help you with your work.

Second, there are a lot more distractions at home. My brother distracts me when he has to do school work at the same time. When my brother is watching TV, the TV distracts me too. Furthermore, I want to play outside instead of doing school work sometimes.

Third, I like getting up early and getting out of school earlier. This means I can have more time doing fun things, for example arts and crafts, playing outside, or baking. I can also relax more. Finally, there is more time to finish your homework.

Fourth, when you are done doing work at school, my teacher has fun things for us to do. For example, we have math games to play and auctions sometimes. Also, we can go to the school store every week.

As you can see, learning at school is better because I have teachers and friends to help me, there are less distractions at school, the schedule is better, and there are fun things to do after school work is done. I am looking forward to going back to school!

School is Cool

BY OLIVER B., 4TH GRADE, SEBRSD

I would rather learn at school. I would be able to see my friends. In the morning I would talk with them in the gym before we had to go to our classroom. I miss working with them on group assignments. At recess we had a game where we made a base on the playground and tried to protect it. Lunchtime was my favorite. We used to talk and laugh together. Now I only see some of my friends at our Zoom meetings.

At school we had field trips and fun activities, like The Fun Run and Field Day. I haven't had any of those at home. Specials were the best. Gym was my favorite. We played really fun games. My favorite was Battleship. Mr. Donahue, who retired sadly, set up mats with bowling pins on them and teams of 4 collect balls. The teams throw the balls and try to knock the bowling pins off each other's mats. At home, I go for walks outside.

I'm going to Knox Trail next year. I didn't get to spend my last year at Wire Village. I have been going to school there for 5 years. It makes me sad to think about never going back. I'm worried that I may not see all my friends from WVS at Knox Trail. All of the teachers that I've had at WVS were really nice and helped me. I will miss them and being able to say goodbye.

PEYTON L., 4TH GRADE, SEBRSD

In my opinion I would rather work from school.

It is easier for me to work at school because when I am at home there are a lot of distractions. When I am trying to do my remote work my dogs are always barking and my mom is also trying to work from home so that can be distracting as well.

I also feel that it is easier to do my school work at school because I have my teachers help. Sometimes I need help with things that my mom or my brother can't help me with. It is easier when I am at school with my teachers who can help me if I have a question.

It is also easier to work on my school work at school because it is more structured and I know what times I will be doing certain things. When I am doing my work at home I don't always do it at the same times everyday because sometimes I need my mom's help or I am busy doing other things.

For these reasons I would like to keep doing my school work at school instead of doing my school work at home.

RYAN M. - 4TH GRADE - SEBRSD

Would you rather learn at home or at school?

My favorite way to learn is at school. It is easier to focus at school. There are less things distracting me. There are no pets barking, and no siblings bugging you. You also don't have to worry about the internet or computer not connecting. Your

work is right in front of you not on the computer screen.

I miss being with my teacher and friends at school. I especially miss Oliver and Austin. I miss playing on the playground. My favorite is the swings. At home you only get to see your friends on zoom. It is easier to interact with my teacher and friends at school. At school we get to work in groups. At home I work by myself or with a parent. At school I always have a teacher to ask for help.

I feel like I learn more at school. At school there is a schedule. We have a set lunch and recess time and time for work. The teacher is better at school because it is her job. She likes being a teacher. She helps me whenever I need help. We get to do fun projects at school. We learn more at school. The teacher can teach us more at school. The lessons are longer and have more details. We learn at school and then get to practice what we learned right away.

It is important to learn from home right now because of Covid-19. We are helping to stop the virus from spreading by staying home. I like staying home because I get to see my pets. I also get to sleep later and take more breaks. However, I can not wait to go back to school.

RYCE R. - 4TH GRADE, SEBRSD

I strongly believe that working from school is a better place to learn.

My first reason is that you don't have to go online and work. My second reason is that you can see each other and your don't have to be online. My third reason is that you can have your work in front of you. There are many reasons why you should want to work from school than home.

The first reason working at school is better is because you don't have to do online classes and do work on computers because it may hurt your eyes after bit of working.

The second reason is because it is better to see people in person. Its does not work that much on a zoom class. And you could have bad internet and miss things or forget about the class.

Third reason that's good to have your work in front of you so you don't have to be online and have to work on iPad/computer of an online programs and you can also aren't distracted at school unless there is a major problem like the fire alarms behaviors and more.. I also think working from school is better because at your house you have iPads and games and anything that can distract you like pets and more. You also can have way more attention with the teachers you also get specials and more like plays, ect. And when you are at home you have to like put up a schedule of all the zooms you have to go on and I think that's that's boring :/

So this is why I think working at school is better to learn at than home!

RYCE R. - 4TH GRADE, SEBRSD

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So this is why I think working at school is better to learn at than home!

SAM S. GRADE 4 SEBRSD

Learning at home vs. Learning at school

If I had to choose between learning at home or school, I would have a hard time choosing because they both have advantages and disadvantages. Some advantages of home school are being able to sleep in, I get to spend more time with family, I get more outside time and we all stay home to stop COVID-19. However, I don't like that I can't chat with my friends face to face. I can at least chat with my friends on zoom!

Some advantages of learning at school are that I learn more, I have events, like the fun run, where you try to run as many laps as you can to earn money for new equipment like a rock wall in our gym. We have field day which is a day we have once a year and we play outside for almost the entire day! I have specials like gym and art, and having famous people come to the school to teach the kids something like a famous biker who taught us to always wear a helmet when riding anything! So, if I had to choose

between learning at home or school I would have a hard time because they both have advantages and disadvantages. But, if I had to choose between home or school it would be school because you can do all of the sleeping in and seeing family just not as much!

SKYLAH K. 4TH GRADE - SEBRSD

I would like to work in school in the fall because it is very stressful at home. I miss all of my classmates and teachers, and I cannot concentrate while I am stuck inside. I think that many other kids would like to go back because I have talked to a lot of my classmates and they seem like they are also having trouble concentrating too. The teachers are also probably missing their students very much, I know that I am missing the teachers a lot.

It is very stressful at home because when I am at home I just feel like I want to play. I also just don't feel like I am in the right mood to do school when I am at home. In addition to that, I get to sleep in. Sometimes when I sleep in I get even more tired than when I don't sleep in. Being able to wear pajamas all day is amazing, but when you wear pajamas all the time you can get into a bad habit of never wanting to get dressed! Therefore, when we do end up going back to school, having to get dressed every morning can be difficult. Just getting the motivation back up to get dressed and get back into a routine will be very hard, and some may get upset about that.

I miss my classmates and teachers very much and the only way I actually can see them is when we go on a Zoom meeting, and even that is not the same as when I see them in real life. I miss hearing their voices and actually interacting with them in person. When we are at school we learn so much more than we do when we are at home learning through a computer screen. Also when we are in school we can do better art projects and all of us can do them because some people don't have the supplies for the projects.

I have trouble concentrating at home because there are just so many other things to do than do school. For example I can play, and I can paint. There are also more things to get distracted on at home than when we are in school. Also concentrating is way easier when you are with someone to help you focus but when you are at home there is really nobody to help with that. In conclusion I am just trying to say that it is easier to concentrate when we are in school. The three paragraphs are the reasons why I want to go back to school in the fall. #1 It is stressful #2 I miss all my teachers and classmates and #3 I have trouble concentrating

Congratulations to the students for your success working from home these past few months. This proves that you can conquer any challenges you may face in life. Lamoureux Ford is very proud to support you and The Write Stuff.
Have a great summer and stay healthy!.

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Bob's pick for summer fun!

2018

Dodge Challenger R/T Coupe

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Summer Reading program in full swing at Haston Library

NORTH BROOKFIELD – Summer is in full swing, which means plenty of summer reading fun for local youngsters.

The Haston Free Public Library's summer reading program will run from July 6 through Aug. 22. Area children are invited to take part in this year's theme: Imagine Your Story, which encompasses stories related to myths, fantasy, and fairy tales.

As in past years, children will be asked to keep a log of all the books they read during the program. Even if they read only one book each week, they will be eligible to select a prize at the end of the program.

Participants can also play a game called Librainium, which includes activities in reading, writing, drawing, and other topics. Kids' Librainium creations may be kept in a portfolio, which they will receive at the start of the program. Projects will ultimately be displayed in the children's library at the end of the summer.

For library officials, it has been disappointing to be away from

kids and families these last few months. They hope the summer reading program can provide some fun and learning over the extended summer break.

"Summer is such a great time to read. You can read anything you want and keep learning the whole time," said Haston Public Library children's librarian Rosemary Mackenzie. "We're looking forward to helping children find books and watching their reading logs grow."

While access to the library remains limited due to the coronavirus, librarians will assist families in the selection of books and other library materials.

Additionally, this year's summer reading program will feature the first-ever First Lady and Blades Summer Reading Challenge. Libraries throughout the Commonwealth will work toward their own goals and will be entered into a drawing for Boston Bruins prizes. The challenge is a collaboration between the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC), the

First Lady of the Commonwealth Lauren Baker, and the Boston Bruins.

"Our Haston Library goals are to have at least 40 children read 200 books and compile 20 Librainium portfolios, which will be tracked from July 1 to Aug. 14," read a statement issued by the library. "We hope lots of kids will participate in summer reading and help us hit our goals."

As soon as certain reading goals are met, the library will be entered into a drawing for several Bruins prizes. These include a Zamboni ride during a Bruins game; high-fiving with the players; sitting on the bench during pregame warmups; and receiving signed memorabilia like jerseys and pucks.

A summer reading party with prizes will take place on Saturday, Aug. 22, at 10 a.m.

Families are asked to register their children for the program by calling 508-867-0208. You can also send an email to illnb@cwmmars.org.

Lake Wickaboag to receive herbicide treatment

WEST BROOKFIELD — West Brookfield Board of Health along with the Lake Wickaboag Preservation Association (LWPA), have announced that on Wednesday, July 15, Lake Wickaboag will receive an herbicide application to treat nuisance aquatic vegetation.

SOLitude Lake Management, the contractor hired by the West Brookfield Board of Health to apply the herbicide and algacide, has requested that the use of the lake's water be restricted as follows so as to not interfere with the treatment application and to allow the chemicals to reach maximum effectiveness:

Swimming, fishing and

boating 1 day – July 15
Livestock watering for 2 days- July 15, 16
Direct Drinking for 4 days – July 15, 16, 17, 18
Irrigation for 6 days-July 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20
Members of the LWPA will notify boaters and swimmers by placing signs on streets leading to the lake and by placing red flag buoys on the lake. As part of their education program, they will also send a reminder to residents through the local cable access channel before the application begins.

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

The Write Stuff

SINCE 2001

All Ages Welcome! Open topics.

Please share your creative writing and thoughts with us!

This is the final Write Stuff of the 2019-20 season.

Thank you to everyone who participated during this school year.

Please feel free to submit your creative writings over the summer months to be published in September. Thank you to Lamoureux Ford for being so generous in supporting The Write Stuff each month. If you are a contributor or just enjoy reading these pages, please thank the friendly staff at Lamoureux Ford for helping us bring this to you.

Have a safe and Happy Summer!

SNAKE H. 4TH GRADE, SEBRSD

I really like learning from school because I miss all my friends. My classmates were my friends and without them I don't have the social interaction with my peers that I need to really grow as a person.

I miss the routines I had during the day. I would do my work. I love my books and recess. I like school because it has rug time. I don't have rug time at my home. I love my home too. I just really miss my friends and teachers.

Recess was fun. I would play on the slide. I would play on the monkey bars. I do not like that the coronavirus took away such a good place. Coronavirus is scary and I understand why it is important that we can not be at school right now. I need to be at home to keep myself and my family safe from being sick.

I got to run around at gym. I like to run. I like to do push-ups. I like playing sports and games with my friends.

I can't wait to go see my friends and teachers at school again. I love them all very much. That is why I like to be at school.

SOPHIA L. - GRADE 3 SEBRSD

I would rather have homeschool than going to school because

We already started to do google classroom and it would be a hassle probably transferring it to our chromebooks!!!!!!

And I enjoy doing it at home too because we can see our parents or guardians more!!!!

I just don't want to do it in the summer because we can still go outside and play and hopefully it will be done by then but it doesn't like hot weather so when it is hot outside it will maybe be gone but

it likes cold weather so when fall and winter comes it will probably come back but it also will be a hassle switching every year school homeschool school homeschool!!!!!!

STELLA H. - GRADE 3 - SEBRSD

Would you rather do school work at home or at school?

I would rather do work at school because I feel like that if you do it at school, it is much easier than doing it at home.

Another reason why I'd rather do work at school is because I can see some of my friends. Third, I would rather do work at school because of how sometimes, there are hands-on learning activities. Lastly, I'd rather be at school because of how I very much like how I can do group work, and be around other students.

TRISTYN M. 4TH GRADE, SEBRSD

I really believe that learning from school is easier than learning from home. It is fun to learn at school. You get more interaction not just the computer screen. Also you get to see your friends while learning. These are some reasons learning at school is better.

It is fun to learn at school. At home you don't get to do fun spirit days with your classmates. We can do experiments at school and learn new things. Also while we are school we have specials like art, music, library, and gym that are fun. These are my reasons why it's fun to learn at school.

At school you get more interaction so it's not just a computer screen. Teachers can have more time to

explain things to you. A lot of us are bored right now so at school we would have more stuff to do. Also at school we can learn in different ways and learn more things. This is how there is more interaction at school.

While you are at school you get to see friends while learning. At school you get to do work with partners. When you are at home you work by yourself. Friends can help explain things that you don't get. It makes learning fun to do it with friends. That is why it is better to see friends while learning.

I strongly believe that learning from school is better than learning from home. You get to see friends while learning. There is more interaction at school and not just a computer screen. Also it is fun to learn at school. I think learning at school is better than learning from home. That is why I am looking forward to going back to school next year.

V.H. 4TH GRADE, SEBRSD

I don't like working at home because it is more challenging for me. I also don't like working from home because there are a lot of distractions. At home you can also get interrupted for lunch where as at school everything is planned.

This assignment is to explain why I either like or dislike doing work at home or at school. I dislike doing work at home because I am not used to doing the work I have on a device. If you're doing it on a device at home if you need any help with anything and you ask on the google classroom then everyone knows the answer to that question.

At home when you're

doing the work and you don't know your code for that website you ask the teacher and she or he just tells everyone what your code or username and password is in the google classroom if you don't know how to read your email or use all this technology! I also don't like typing to every individual in my class. I don't like how anyone that saw that can just log into my account and ruin it and all of my data could just go down the drain.

I also liked going to school to see my friends. Also, the internet isn't always that great while going to school doesn't need an internet connection because you can learn on paper. I also like seeing my teacher because I think that she is awesome!!! I love being able to sit in the cafeteria to see all the people

The reason I don't like doing work at home is because you might have things to do and your work might just interrupt whatever you were doing at home. Like if something happened or you were just trying to take a nap and your parent or guardian could make you wake up and do it. I would much rather learn at school.

ALEXIA R. GRADE 4, SEBRSD

I strongly believe going to school is better than remote learning. I love staying up late and doing school work any time I want to but, I always get distracted. At school I can focus easier. My friends and I would always go to breakfast and play at recess. I feel that in the classroom I learn easier. After two months of remote learning I feel that I prefer going to school for learning.

Normally at home I wake up at eight and

eat breakfast. Then I would do some school work, play with my dog and jump on our trampoline. Some day I don't do my school work because I get distracted playing or doing something else. I have been going on walks, baking and making paper flowers. Last week my family and I had a camp fire and made s'mores.

When I have school I wake up at seven, brush my teeth and get ready. My friends and I would ride the bus and go down to breakfast. Then I go to my classroom and learn lots of things. My favorite time of the day was going to special. After that my class would go back to the classroom and eat snack and do daily geography. Next we would go to lunch and recess. Lastly we would do math, pack up and wait for our bus to be called.

In comparing remote learning and going to school I rather go to school. I rather be with my friends than stay home. I like learning in the classroom because it keeps me focused. I hope in the fall we can go back to school. Can't wait to see my friends and teachers!

AVA R, GRADE 4 - SEBRSD

In the last two months of being home doing remote learning I would prefer working at school. In my opinion I don't get that distracted as I do at home. When I do work at school I feel way more focused. I feel remote learning is harder than working in school. I strongly believe I can work better in a group than working alone at home. I miss being able to work with my friends. My teacher knows what I'm learning, but sometimes my


parents don't understand, so it can be challenging. At home I've been learning other things like baking and arts and crafts. It is different from school. I can't wait to be back at school!

At home school is different, I can wake up whatever time I want without setting an alarm clock. Then I usually do some schoolwork on the computer. Fridays and Mondays we usually have zoom, so I wake up at nine am, and get ready. Every week my family and I go on a run, or play a game outside. My mom and Dad still have to go to work, and my mom works at night so I can't see her at night. Sometimes I get distracted and don't do all my school work because I get focused on other things.

When I have school I wake up early, and get ready. Around eight am the bus comes and picks me up, I ride the school bus with my friends. When I get to school I go downstairs and eat breakfast in the lunch room. Then I go to the gym and my teacher gathers us and bring my classmates and I to the classroom. We usually do all of our classes at a certain time, like math is at the end of the day. We only leave the classroom for special, lunch, and to go to the bathroom.

In comparing remote learning and school, I prefer school, because it keeps me more focused and we learn for most of the day. I get to spend time and play with my friends. Even though we might do more work in school it is still very fun to do, because I have friends with me.

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BRENDAN BERUBE
EDITOR

EDITORIAL

Wondering
about the
weather

We’ve noticed, as of late, that weather forecasts have been more inaccurate than usual. In trying to figure out which weather app is the most accurate, we came up empty. There were several days we should have expected rain and thunderstorms but unfortunately came up short. After a dry spell and high temperatures last week, the thought of sitting on the front porch watching a thunderstorm seemed like a dream. This week, finally welcomed more rain making lawns and gardens across the region perk up.

After some digging, we found that it’s the novel Coronavirus that has affected our weather forecasts. We could say that we’re surprised, but this virus has affected every aspect of our daily lives, so why not weather forecasts too?

Experts say that the drop in airline travel has reduced the amount of data needed to make an accurate forecast. Typically, forecasts change by the hour. Aircrafts pick up wind, humidity and temperatures during flight. Data from weather balloons and satellites is still being used, however the accuracy comes from the planes. Of course, this affects weather being tracked by the Global Forecast system as well. Data taken from the ocean is also not being gathered at the rate it was prior to the COVID-19 outbreak.

So, with forecasts being in question every day, we figured we’d hop in the time machine, something we love to do on all occasions, and learn about some tips our ancestors used.

We’ve all heard the phrase, “Red sky at night, sailor’s delight; red sky by morning, sailors take warning.” This phrase dates back to Biblical times, and happens to be quite accurate. Weather in the north typically travels from west to east, so if you see a colorful sunrise, that means there are clouds to the west, which could bring bad weather. If the clouds grab hold of the sunset as they travel to the east, there is a high chance for calm weather the following day.

By the 1700’s, modern thermometers were commonly used, with barometers stepping on to the scene in the next century. Thomas Jefferson used such tools to record the weather on a daily basis. Moving forward the telegraph allowed people to communicate the weather over long distances, which lead to weather maps. This allowed people to track patterns. Rising air pressure, meant calm weather while dipping pressures meant a storm was on the horizon.

Weather balloons were used in the 1900’s to track moisture and winds, which lead to more research into just what makes weather tick. Weather radar was found by chance during WW II, when radar was used to try to track down enemy aircraft. While doing so, rain was found. Tools advanced rapidly into the 1950’s through the 1980’s.

The Old Farmer’s Almanac shared some sayings that were used for some old fashioned forecasting. “The higher the clouds, the finer the weather,” The Almanac says. “If you spot wispy, thin clouds up where jet airplanes fly, expect a spell of pleasant weather. Keep an eye, however, on the smaller puff clouds (cumulus), especially if it’s in the morning or early afternoon. If the rounded tops of these clouds, which have flat bases, grow higher than the one cloud’s width, then there’s a chance of a thunderstorm forming.”

“Clear moon, frost soon” means that a clear night, makes the Earth’s surface cool at a faster rate, and with no cloud cover to keep the heat in, causes frost and a cold morning.

“When clouds appear like towers, the Earth is refreshed by frequent showers.” If you see large, white clouds that resemble castles, there is likely a lot going on weather wise. If white clouds grow, and turn grey, a storm is coming.

“Rainbow in the morning gives you fair warning.” Where there’s a rainbow, there’s a shower, and hopefully a pot of gold.

“Ring around the moon? Rain real soon.” A ring around the moon means that warm weather is in the near future, with some rain. According to the Almanac, “High thin clouds get lower and thicker as they pass over the moon. Ice crystals are reflected by the moon’s light, causing a halo to appear.”

VIEWPOINT

OPINION AND COMMENTARY FROM SPENCER, LEICESTER AND THE BROOKFIELDS

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The magical mask

To the Editor:
I am just passing on some thoughts I have had regarding the mask scenario we are all going through. When I was growing up, there were only two people that wore a mask; the Lone Ranger and Zorro. Some others did wear bandanas, but they were the ones that would rob stage coaches and hold up the local town bank. Then TV brought on a couple of medical programs, Ben Casey and Dr. Kildare, who both wore medical masks. The next mask concept I remember came out of the Far East showing some citizens of large cities like Hong Kong or Tokyo wearing masks due to air pollution. And here we are now, with people worldwide wearing masks to help prevent the spread of a virus and its deadly effect.

As inconvenient as it is to dawn the mask, I have gleamed some positive and interesting results from the process. The first thing that comes to mind is the ingenuity and imagination used in making masks. Aside from the typical medical mask I’ve seen, there are masks with sports team logos, or with the ferocity of a shark, wolf or even lion mouth. Other masks were made from clothing and bed coverings. Then there are those with the tranquility of flowers, pastels, and some that are just out and out pretty. The venue for masks has become unlimited in its creative display and possibly shows the character of the wearer.

The masking concept for me has also taken on an audio/visual application. In the audio spectrum, I have noted that the mask muffles one’s speaking/enunciation ability, and we become difficult to hear and understand. However, even before the mask era began, I have been told by a very close, reliable, and trust worthy source that I “hear but do not listen.” I guess, therefore, that corrective action needs to be taken on both sides of the masked communication. For the speaker; talk directly to your listener, use a little higher volume with crisper enunciation (can’t discount our Boston accent). The listener needs to pay better attention/listen to what is being said.

The video segment I find the most interesting. Because the mask covers the mouth/nose area all that is left to look at are the persons’ eyes. When speaking with another “masked” person

you literally/figuratively are seeing eye to eye with them. One of the first things that really struck me was actually seeing the color of the other person’s eyes. There are so many amazing eye colors out there that we have just not taken the time or cognizant effort to recognize. The multiple shades of blue run from a deep night blue to a sparkling blue radiance. There are brown eyes that cover the spectrum of polished chestnut, a smooth swede/leather, to an almost ebony black. And then the other rainbow of colors includes misty greens, grays, hazel, an unrelenting array of colors that we have never really taken the time to see before.

Continuing with the video portion, it has been said that the “eyes are the window to the soul.” I find this to be so true. When only looking into someone’s eyes you get a glimpse of their state of being. You can see joy, happiness, sincerity, sadness, wellbeing, complacency, anxiety; their/our emotional state is exposed. It is really gratifying and heartwarming to see a person smile with only their eyes and knowing they mean it. My overall eye contact observations have led me to believe that the vast majority of people are in a state of contentment and wellbeing in spite of the present circumstances. I also found that an others’ voice and intonation may say one thing but the eyes never lie.

Some of the other good things I have found while wearing a mask: I don’t need to shave as often because the mask hides the beard, I don’t have to go to the store because I can’t find my mask, I don’t need to go out socially because I can’t find a mask to match my ensemble, I have to go home because my mask is getting old/worn out/dirty. The benefit list is only limited by your imagination, just like the mask style/design.

In closing please consider a few concepts: the ingenuity/design of a mask speaks volumes about the wearer, talk a little louder/cleared, be a better listener, and when communicating always look the other person in the eye for a full perspective of who they are. Stay safe and healthy.

JAMES J. FOYLE
N. BROOKFIELD

Granddaddy of all monuments

To the Editor:
While President Trump bungles the pandemic in a way that no other developed nation has, our unemployment rate is still higher than at any time since the Great Depression, racial strife threatens our unity in ways unseen since the 1960’s, President Trump focused on what is really important – monuments. You know, giant pieces of stone and/or metal. What better place to explain to Americans what is really important than at the Granddaddy of all monuments – Mt. Rushmore.

Some may not know this, but Mt. Rushmore sits on stolen land. Now in a sense the entirety of the United States was stolen from the native peoples but most of the land did not have title per se because before Europeans arrived the Native Americans did not recognize land ownership in the way Europeans did. The black hills region of South Dakota, where Mt. Rushmore sits, is however a more clear-cut theft. The Lakota people did have title, known as the Treaty of Fort Laramie signed in 1868 and ratified by the U.S. Senate.

All was well with the new Indian reservation until gold was discovered in the region known as the “Black Hills Gold Rush.” The government eventually broke the terms of the treaty with an expedition into the area by George Armstrong Custer (of Custer’s last stand) and failed to prevent American settlers from moving onto tribal lands. Rising tensions led to the Great Sioux War of 1876. The U.S. Congress unilaterally modified the several times including seizing the Black Hills in 1877.

The Sioux Nation eventually took the U.S. Government to court over the broken treaty and it ended up in the Supreme Court in 1980. The court ruled that the government had illegally taken (stole) land granted in the 1868 treaty and granted the Sioux Nation an 1877 market value of \$15.5 Million with 5 percent annual interest since then. The Sioux Nation has refused to accept payment because they still want their land back.

The President, at Mt. Rushmore, on stolen land, proclaimed that “this monument will never be desecrated.” He said “there is a growing danger that threatens every blessing our ancestors fought so hard for, struggled, they bled to secure.” “Our nation is witnessing a merciless campaign to wipe out our history,

defame our heroes, erase our values, and indoctrinate our children.” He said “Angry mobs are trying to tear down statues of our founders, deface our most sacred memorials, and unleash a wave of violent crime in our cities.” «This attack on our liberty, our magnificent liberty, must be stopped, and it will be stopped very quickly.»

I couldn’t agree with the President more. Angry mobs of “MAGA” wearing white folks are trying to erase our history, attack our liberty and threaten the American way of life for anybody that isn’t in the alternate reality known as Trumpism.

Trump seems to no longer be concerned about foreigners such as immigrants and “ChGINA” ruining his version of America. He has decided that the true enemies of America are Americans – the majority that don’t vote for him. Non-white, non-Christian, white liberals, and the well-educated are apparently the true enemies of “the people”. Trump is not trying to build a better country, a more perfect union – he is dragging us backwards.

I couldn’t help but notice the press given to our local area over the on-then-off Fourth of July celebration stunt from North Brookfield. It should be obvious to all that the canceled event was really a middle finger to our governor, a middle finger to the law itself, an anti-lockdown protest, and an anti-BLM rally all rolled into one. One need not look any deeper than Selectman Dale Kiley’s own quoted public comments in the media. I also saw that there was an actual protest on July 4th. From the news, I learned that Kiley is a retired State Police Lieutenant, but in the video, he didn’t exactly look retirement age... I am a big proponent of defund, abolish, and replace the police, and as another letter writer has pointed out, the hypocrisies are huge with cops, especially when it comes to respecting and enforcing the law.

To protect and serve... Hosting a large gathering in direct violation of the Governor’s orders using town resources but calling it “political expression” in the middle of a pandemic...Justified in part by calling the pandemic which is disproportionately killing black and brown Americans (but will eventually reach all Americans) “hysteria”...and justified in part as a response to a Black Lives

Protect yourself
against financial
scammers

It’s unfortunate, but true: During this period of economic uncertainty, one of the busiest “industries” has been financial scamming. But it goes on even during normal times, too, so you’ll want to know what to look for, and how to defend yourself.



FINANCIAL
FOCUS
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BURDICK

For starters, just how widespread is financial fraud? Consider this: In 2019, more than 3.2 million fraud cases were reported to the Federal Trade Commission, with identity theft being the most common type of fraud, accounting for about one-fifth of the overall cases. And fraudulent new accounts (mortgages, student loans, car loans and credit cards) amounted

to about \$3.4 billion in 2018, according to a study by Javelin Strategy & Research.

To help yourself from being victimized, consider the following suggestions. They are certainly not an exhaustive list, but they should prove useful.

Watch out for unsecure websites. Make sure a website is secure before entering any payment or personal information. Look for sites that start with HTTPS, rather than those with just HTTP, which are not secure and can be hacked. But even a site with HTTPS can still be used by scammers, so, if you don’t recognize the name of the company or group that’s requesting your information, do some research to make sure it’s legitimate.

Review your credit reports. As mentioned above, the fraudulent opening of new accounts is a big source of financial scams. To be sure nobody has opened new accounts under your name, try to review your credit reports at least once a year. You can get them for free at AnnualCreditReport.com.

Follow up on fraud. If you’ve already been victimized by having new accounts opened in your name, contact one of the three major credit reporting agencies (Experian, Equifax or TransUnion) and place a 90-day fraud alert on your credit file. You might also want to file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission, print it out and file it with your local law enforcement agency. And it’s also a good idea to contact the fraud department of the financial companies where the thief has opened a fraudulent account in your name.

Be alert for suspicious links. “Phishers” have gotten quite good at sending out messages that look like they’re from reputable businesses. But if you examine these messages carefully, you can usually determine if there’s something off about them. For example, no legitimate business will tell you, via this type of message, that you have to “correct your account” by providing additional information. And if you do hit the link provided, and it takes you to a third-party site, you can be pretty sure it’s bogus.

Resist “act now” offers. If you get an offer, via phone or online, urging you to “act immediately” on an investment opportunity, discontinue the communication. No reputable financial advisor will ever try to force you to take such swift action, and if an investment is legitimate, it will be available tomorrow, next week and next year.

Use your shredder. You probably have the option to “go paperless” with all your banks and financial services providers, but, if you still do receive paper documents, be sure to shred them when they’re no longer needed.

You save and invest for years to help achieve your long-term goals. Don’t let any of your efforts be undone by financial fraudsters.

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



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Articles supporting our schools, and a letter trashing them

To the Editor:

During the last couple of weeks, the New Leader has featured two solid Kevin Flanders articles about our school districts.

The first laid out the serious challenges the Spencer - East Brookfield School District likely will have this Fall as a result of coronavirus caused reduced funding. Hard working officials indicated that 22 teaching positions may need elimination in a district that already has significant underfunding gaps. It also and serves large numbers of less well-off students.

The second, last week, titled, "Community Rallies in Support of Local Schools" covered a Leicester march and rally supporting more funding for public schools.

According to the article: "Fearing a decline in state awarded Chapter 70 funds this year due to coronavirus, the school community rallied in support of teachers and programs...The Chapter 70 program is the major source of state aid for public elementary and secondary schools. Several (local) school districts (including Leicester) have already made cuts (and may have to make more) in staff and programs to prepare for state budget reductions."

The article quoted a Leicester teacher: "The message was that teachers are essential, not expendable. Our slogan was 'SOS' Support Our Students. Whether students need support from educators...(or) programs such as art and athletics, we want to assure (they) have access to what they need to be well rounded and successful."

In addition to educators and students US Congress McGovern and State Representative LeBoeuf, both strong supporters of public education, attended the event.

Sadly, our school districts face an uphill battle to secure sufficient funding. At state level, the past funding formula did not meet the needs of less well off school districts. Now, significant additional educational funding (unlike other budget areas), seems to depend on increased state tax revenue. Such increases seem unlikely during the Covid economic depression.

At national level, the possibility of significant funding for public education seems even worse. For example, in his Fourth of July speech, President Trump said: "Against every law of society and nature, our children are taught in school to hate their own country and to believe

Turn To **KANE** page **A12**

Towns are governments, not people

To the Editor:

My letter last week was drafted rather hastily, and there are a few clarifications and additional details. First, the planned July 4th did not occur. I want to extend my sincerest thanks to the North Brookfield Board of Health for sounding the alarm and notifying the news media in Worcester and Boston. The BoH are the true patriots by escalating the issues - ensuring that our society stays on the rails of law and order.

First, I want to respond to some of the bonkers quotes that were reported in the media. Chairman Daley said "The virus is not a death sentence" as though that were true, and as though that made his plans in any way OK. The virus is a death sentence to approximately 1 percent. That translates to 48 North Brookfield residents, 8,306 Worcester County residents, or 69,000 Massachusetts residents. Of those that survive, as many as 20 percent need hospital services, and we are seeing California, Arizona, Florida, and Texas rapidly run out of hospital capacity. The fatality rate could climb substantially if there isn't a hospital bed for everyone that needs one. There are a significant number of people who are very ill for weeks and months, not getting better but not getting worse. This is a very serious virus!

I understand that the North Brookfield BoS collectively do not think it is a prob-

lem, and a majority of the townspeople may agree. They are wrong. Gov. Baker has overruled them anyway so their opinion is irrelevant. The BoS has unanimously called the current health crisis "COVID hysteria." They are wrong and they have been overruled.

The BoS has called the BoH "hypocritical," "political," and claims they acted unconstitutionally. The BoS has called the BoH "political operatives" who intended to sabotage the event. They were half-right, the BoH did sabotage the event although I would argue that is what they were elected to do. The BoS claims the event was permissible under state orders (it wasn't). Gov. Baker specifically called out North Brookfield at a press conference last week. The BoS's opinions on the matter were and are irrelevant and the BoH were the canaries in the coal mine and the true patriots.

Chairman Kiley called the planned July 4th event "political expression." He is wrong. A government (town) sponsored event is not a political rally or a political protest, it is a parade and a party. The government itself does not engage in political expression, citizens do. Political expression may not utilize town resources in any way. Chairman Kiley is either unaware his planned event is not political expression or he

Turn To **KASPI** page **A12**

Women on my mind

To the Editor:

If I were to go to Confession in this current climate of revolutionary upheaval, I think the discussion might go something like this:

"Forgive me, Father, for I have sinned."

O.K., tell me about it.

"It's women; I've been having very dark thoughts about them lately."

Well, have you thought about cold showers to see if that helps?

"What?! No, no, no, not those kinds of thoughts, Padre; if this was 60 years ago when I was 18, maybe we could've talked, but, no, those days are long gone."

Well, then, what is it?

And, I would then explain: It's not all, or even most, women that I

have come to despise, but, rather, a certain cohort of the "fairer sex" that thinks of themselves as social justice warriors, as front-line shock troops in the vanguard of the burgeoning Second American Revolution, and just as tough, brave, and heroic as any American man who ever fought his way to the top of Mt. Suribachi, or waded ashore at Omaha Beach, or fought door-to-door at Fallujah.

These are the "special girls"; the white, millennial, badly educated daughters of upper middle class privilege, the "twenty"- and "thirty"-some-things who, having had their brains washed clean by a decade or two of exposure to America-hating, Marxist

Turn To **MCRAE** page **A14**

The original BLM in Spencer

To the Editor:

For Spencer, the original BLM started in 1861. Many residents left their farms and lives to fight for racial change. They sacrificed their lives and health for this cause. Their fight is ingrained in the heritage and history of their descendants. There are people now who are trying to minimize their courage and efforts that brought about real change. I grew up with my proud heritage and history of my great grandfather, Levi F. Shepard of Sterling. He was mustered into the 34th Mass on Dec. 7, 1863. He fought and was wounded at the battle of New Market in Virginia fighting Confederates. He took a musket ball to the chest. Has taken prisoner and spent 6 months at the notorious Andersonville prison. He

survived with the help of a local soldier. Being close to death he was released in a prisoner exchange. He recovered in a Washington Hospital and continued fighting in the 24th Infantry until he was mustered out at the end of the war. He returned home to Sterling and had to fight off bouts of Malaria he contracted during the war.

I take umbrage to Mr. Har-Yarok's assertion when he says I don't understand the meaning of white privilege. I know that Levi, who was white too, understood the issue well. He put his life and ultimately my existence on the line to improve it. We grew up honoring his memory and his sacrifice. Maybe Har would like to further

Turn To **ROBILLARD** page **A18**



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

How is this happening?

To the Editor:

As much as I feel like an oracle at times, it would be nice if I wasn't right so much. The disasters I have been predicting are here, and are only getting worse.

When I first heard of the planned North Brookfield Independence Day celebration in the news, I laughed and thought about riding my bicycle past it just to see [it]. I figured there would be an incredible traffic jam of giant trucks and SUV's beyond what the local road network could handle so driving wouldn't be feasible. I was so disappointed that it got canceled at the last minute and the crazies from New York to Boston wouldn't be descending on North Brookfield.

As for COVID, the horse is out of the barn – America expressed its collective values and said loudly and clearly, “We won't control this, you will get it, and you'll probably survive.” We never took plague management seriously, and our fate is pretty inevitable at this point. My only hope now is that it blows up spectacularly due to irresponsibility so that hopefully, some independents not under Trump's spell see it for what it is. They clearly need to be smacked over the head with it so if the Brookfields became a new hotspot in the middle of the state that controlled COVID the best in the nation would be awesome. To then overlay COVID hotspots with a red/blue map...

I like to be entertained by my politics, and I have to say, this just keeps getting better and better. After 2008, I thought it couldn't get better, but every four years I prove past-me wrong. Who would have thought 2016 could be topped? The 100 year plague hits and Donald Trump is president...Donald Trump actually defends Confederate monuments...

Despite North Brookfield's erroneous claim that an Independence Day parade is “political expression” and not a parade it seems North Brookfield did have an actual protest on July 4. There were a lot of American flags, Trump flags, the Gadsden flag, some guy wearing a flag/constitution shirt, a woman dressed as the statue of Liberty, and some guy dressed as Uncle Sam. That cast of characters was actually having a protest. It was a pro-Trump protest, a Trump rally, and a rally to American Nationalism. As silly as I think it was, that is actually political expression.

COVID...My favorite topic lately... Anybody not living under a rock knows it is spinning out of control in America. At our peak back in April we had 34,000 new cases per day. Last week we started having 40,000 days. On Tuesday, Dr. Fauci warned Congress that if we don't turn things around we will be looking at 100,000 new cases per day. Last week we got as high as 57,497 new cases per day.

The EU and the UK have opened their borders to scores of countries, travel is still prohibited from the United States. Canadians are allowed to travel to Europe now but Americans can't go to Europe or Canada. In 2015 Donald Trump was worried about infectious disease flowing over our southern border. As it turns out Canada is the nation that needs to worry about infectious disease flowing over their southern border. Even Mexico is becoming con-

cerned about Americans visiting and is looking to fortify their own border because COVID rates in So. California, Arizona, and Texas are significantly worse than in Northern Mexico. In a sense Trump was right about disease being an issue on our southern border – however the issue is disease flowing from the US to Mexico...

As it stands today we have 2.9 million confirmed cases of COVID in the US and 129,718 confirmed deaths. It is still climbing. I predict we will see at least 1 million deaths before this is over and it won't be over until 2022. Hospitals in Houston are literally above 100 percent ICU capacity, with other hotspots nearing 100 percent fast. The governor of Texas has even prohibited local governments from imposing their own lockdowns. Miami-Dade, FL has imposed an enforceable curfew to stop people from socializing. Arizona is careening towards hospital overrun. The “American Carnage” Trump described when he took office is here!

Monuments in the United States are becoming a big issue. Monuments memorialize what we are proud of, not our entire history. Do we have a monument to the trail of tears where Trump's favorite president, Andrew Jackson, made Native Americans walk from Georgia to Oklahoma with 20 percent of them dying along the way? Do we have monuments showing frontiersmen holding scalps of Seminole Indians to turn in for their bounties? Does Germany have giant statues of Hitler so that Germans can learn about Nazi history? Does Ukraine have giant statues of Stalin to remind everybody about the famine? Of course not!

We read about history in books or perhaps in documentaries. We build statues to memorialize what we are proud of. Are we proud of traitors who fought and lost a war against the United States in a failed effort to preserve chattel slavery? Statues say more about those who erected them and maintain them than about the actual people they memorialize. They are a statement of values. Perhaps we should replace every Confederate monument in the country with a monument to an abolitionist, Union soldiers, Civil rights heroes, etc. I really think we should let black people decide what goes in the place of the thousands of Confederate Monuments which all need to go.

I watched the fireworks at Mount Rushmore on TV because I was home anyway and really wanted to see the freak show. It seems that Trump is no longer as concerned with foreign threats as he once was. He now considers Democrats, those left of center, and even independents who are uncomfortable with him as enemies of the state. For Trump, the threat is no longer immigrants, it's other Americans.

He acted like the monuments nobody else could defend with a straight face are more important than the plague spreading through America that has now reached his son's girlfriend. That speech and those non-socially distanced and unmasked fans were just beyond description. It was a perfect populist spectacle in an alternate universe.

OMAR HAR-YAROK
EAST BROOKFIELD

America, humiliated

To the Editor:

Regarding COVID-19, day after day we are setting record after record with the most number of new cases. President Trump has had a controversial set of decisions ranging from his Mt. Rushmore event to his “Salute to America” event on the National Mall. Trump's leadership on this pandemic has been a failure since day one. He has denied it. He has had crackpot theories about it. He has offered no leadership at all.

The situation with the federal response has been laughable. People look to the President for leadership, and what we've seen over the last few months is a parallel universe where the president happy-talks the nation about the virus going away and disappearing in the heat. He suggested injecting people with detergent and disinfectant. We have Dr. Birx and Dr. Fauci desperately trying to get facts and information out to the American people yet unable to break through because the President of the United States refuses to model the behavior that would ultimately filter down to everyone and send a clear signal that the pandemic is serious, and he's serious about slowing it down. If from the very beginning he put on a mask, didn't call it a hoax, and didn't make up all sorts of racist names for it we might be in a better place. If the president had shown symbolic leadership for his loyal base perhaps we wouldn't be back to exponential growth.

All the blame, however, does not rest with the president, much of it rests with Americans themselves. It wasn't Donald Trump who went to crowded bars in Arizona, Texas, Florida, and California. It wasn't Trump that dragged people to beaches, house parties, and pool parties. That is the country giving up. That is our collective failure. That is a sign that the country just got tired of doing the right thing. This is the result of a social breakdown and a humiliation for the country. We had one job as a country this year and that was to control COVID. It is a job that most European nations, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China, and others rose to the occasion on and we as a nation failed. The curves are now in exponential growth and rising as fast as they were in March. While we have not had leadership out of Trump, the American people didn't rise to the occasion either.

We have had many different and novel failures responding to this pandemic.

The President rejected the WHO tests that were working elsewhere in the world and our CDC messed up the first tests made here. We also had social failure. With the lack of presidential leadership sprung hope of a coherent and effective decentralized response. Our culture seems to disrespect expertise. What we saw is that it turned us all into armchair epidemiologists, we're trying to make decisions individually, we have no collective decision making from our leaders who seem to be stepping aside and hoping the blood doesn't splatter on them. All cultures balance moral values on a spectrum of individualism (concern only for oneself) and collectivism (concern for the community at large). Individualism works for many things but we don't all agree on what we should be angry about. On our nation's birthday we are in a humiliating moment.

The clouds are darkening around Trump's reelection. He is behind in the polls badly, behind in every swing state by a much larger margin compared to 2016, and even states like Georgia, Texas, and Arizona could be competitive for Biden. Biden is running a good campaign right now by mostly being silent, projecting stability, and letting Trump's crazy define the election. We see disaffected Republicans forming groups like “The Lincoln Project” and “Bush 43 Alumni” creating new devastating ads every few days against Trump. These are not Democrats, they are Republicans trying to take their party back, have respect for the constitution, respect rule of law, and respect limitations of executive power which are all items Trump has thumbed his nose at. They are standing up for the office of the presidency, the republic, and doing everything they can to communicate to the nation that we need to go in a new direction.

DAVID ROSENBERG
SPENCER

Please consider supporting the Spencer Rescue Squad

To the Editor:

The Spencer Rescue Squad (SRS) has been our community's most valued resource for prehospital care since 1959. With the current health crisis gripping our nation and having an impact on everyone's lives and health, the work of our emergency personnel is more important than ever.

Last week, residents received the SRS membership brochure in the mail, and I kindly ask you to review it to understand everything the SRS does for your community.

Let's face it, the cost of being transported to a hospital by trained professional paramedics and EMTs is costly. Avoid the stress of being faced with a large bill by simply becoming a SRS member. For only \$50 for an individual or \$70 for an entire family, you can rest assured that you and your loved ones will receive prompt medical attention and never see a bill for that service. Retired folks only pay \$45, whether single or a couple.

Ambulance transportation is extremely important today, and none of us know when we'll need the services of the SRS. However, when we do need to call for an ambulance, the last thing

we want to worry about is how to pay for the service. With unemployment affecting so many, loss or reduction of medical insurance may cause you to hesitate to call for an ambulance in an emergency. Is that a risk worth taking when SRS membership is an affordable cost?

If you've passed on becoming a member in the past, don't miss out the opportunity this year when your membership is more important than ever. If you're currently a member, thank you! Your membership is greatly appreciated and please remember to renew your annual membership.

I urge you to take a few minutes to read the brochure. If you didn't receive or misplaced it, or if you have questions, don't hesitate to contact us at 508-885-4476.

For 61 years, we have served the Spencer community. Your membership helps to ensure that we will continue serving you with the best ambulance care every day. Thank you or your support.

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Remember what you are grateful for

To the Editor:

During this time of uncertainty and change, I think it is best to remember why we are still grateful.

I am grateful for my family and friends for the love, support and hope they provide.

I am grateful for waking up to the

warmth of the sun and the beauty of nature.

I am grateful not to be full of the anger that consumes John McRae.

SUSAN GIORGIO
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I will continue to work for the citizens of Spencer

To the Editor:

I wish to thank the voters of Spencer for re-electing me to the Board of Selectmen. I also wish to thank the folks that were kind enough to let me display one of my signs on their property. I will continue to work hard at moving Spencer forward and improving the quality of life for all the citizens of Spencer.

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WASHINGTON

continued from page A8

Matter protest... Further justified by the results of the 2016 election... Interesting take, I do have to say...

The Police have incredible political power in Massachusetts which in my mind is beyond belief. The State Police, aside from the operational issues I have with them, is quite a racket in this state. I don't know if anybody remembers but back when Deval Patrick was Governor he tried to allow "flaggers" (construction company employees) to direct traffic at roadside construction sites instead of cops making time-and-a-half. I know this sounds radical, but it is how it is done in 49 other states. At the time I thought, "slam dunk." But nope... It blew up and turned into a political football. Although something ultimately passed, the police political arm managed to water that plan down so much that I can't remember the last time I saw a "flagger" but every road construction project in my memory used cops, making time-and-a-half. All

of our road construction projects are more expensive, and our taxes higher, because we have to pay probably 4x what we should for somebody to direct traffic around a backhoe.

For state employees, there is a wealth of public records available online. I don't really want to get into names and numbers but I really encourage the public to do so in one tab and open salary.com in another tab. Let's just say some people can retire in their 40's with a state pension that leaves them with an upper-middle class income. Let's also say there are a lot of cops with the same last name, and some of them earn more money than Dentists and Primary Care Physicians (who often graduate with upwards of \$400,000 in student loans). Ever notice how big some of the houses are that have State Police cruisers parked out front?

Now my reasons for wanting to defund and abolish the police as we know them isn't actually about money – it is about their treatment of the citizens. Please see page 12 of the June 19 edition for detailed reasons. But if it is the money that motivates you, take a look at what our police

in their current form cost.

Finally, I want to mention that Elijah McClain, a 23-year old black man, was killed by the Aurora, CO police in 2019. He was stopped for "acting sketchy" because he was listening to music and dancing while walking down the sidewalk. The guy who called the po-po did not believe anybody was in danger or Elijah was armed. Elijah had never been arrested or convicted of a crime and was not committing a crime that night. Elijah was slammed against a wall and eventually Elijah was forcibly held to the ground by the cops in a choke hold, said he couldn't breathe, vomited several times, tried to get up and was held down for 15 minutes before paramedics arrived and administered 500mg of Ketamine to sedate him. Elijah then had a heart attack and the lack of oxygen to his brain caused him to suffer brain-death and his family eventually removed him from life support and he passed away.

The coroner could not determine if his cause of death was the choke hold from the cops or the ketamine injection that the paramedics gave him (at the behest

of the cops) so no charges were filed. Nobody was held accountable for Elijah McClain's death, and the only crime he was accused of in his entire life was "resisting arrest."

Low and behold, though, three police officers have been fired over an incident involving Elijah McClain. They were fired for mocking Elijah McClain by posing for a photo reenacting the choking of Elijah next to his memorial with all of them grinning and sharing the photo with fellow officers. They weren't fired for killing Mr. McClain. They were fired for making fun of him.

Our state budget is a mess. Unemployment has cratered income tax receipts. Lockdowns have cratered sales and meals tax receipts. The pandemic response itself has cost a fortune. Our police are costing a fortune and terrorizing our citizens. It is long past time to reconsider our sacred cows and examine those budgets. When will enough be enough?

TERRANCE WASHINGTON
SPENCER

KANE

continued from page A9

that men and women who built it were not heroes but that were villains."

These are not the views of any of the half dozen or so close family members family, including wife and sisters (all graduates of Worcester State) who became teachers. The same can be said the dozens of others I know and who then and now are neighbors and friends.

Likewise, his Education Secretary, Betty DeVos, shows disdain for public schools calling them a "dead end." She chooses to ignore the fact that unlike almost any other developed country, we provide more educational support to the rich than we do for the less well off. Students.

DeVos will likely now likely succeed in transferring hundreds of millions of dollars of Covid approved education funding from public schools in low income areas to better off private schools

Add to those who abuse public education last week's News Leader letter interestingly titled "Now is the time for every good man to come to his country's aid."

To quote the distorted and deceitful letter: "Maybe three generations of indoctrination at our so-called institutions of higher learning, not to mention K-12 by a legion of guilt ridden hate-filled hypocrites who taught their charges that America and especially white Christian America is responsible for all the wrongs of the world has taken its toll," etc., etc.

I am of the first generation as are my wife, sisters and cousins and none of us were taught in the way the letter describes. Neither did my family's teachers or mine or those of children or the current teachers of my and my sister's grandchildren.

The letter sickens in many other ways.

Apparently, women — that is, half of our country's population — should not get involved (however, do not consider the title sex-

ist).

Likewise, recent immigrants, female or male, should not considered themselves included in "his country."

Other Americans not "invited" include "ingrates, Occupy Wall Street activists Democratic Socialists (in other letters this includes almost all Democrats), Black Lives Matter (however do not consider this racist), those who speak English as a second language, those who see the value of cultures other than "White America's," and "Obama" (not "President" however do not consider this or previous abuse of Michelle racist).

Overall, this letter reminds of immigrant, then Ambassador Patrick Gaspard quote here paraphrased:

A letter wandering aimlessly down the pages talking to itself, and responding to itself while the most of us try to avoid its hate filled words.

KEVIN KANE
SPENCER

KASPI

continued from page A9

was purposely trying to use town resources and position as a municipal employee to support his personal political expression which is forbidden. Chairman Kiley mentioned that the majority of the town voted for Donald Trump as though that was remotely relevant to the use of town resources.

Mr. Kiley seems to be unhappy that the BoH did not intervene to stop the BLM protests some weeks ago. It should be noted that "anti-lockdown" protests were not interfered with and only denounced. In the United States, our First Amendment enshrines political expression. In the United States we do not stop individuals from protesting, that is something authoritarian regimes do.

Dale Kiley, Jason Petraitis, and John Tripp are all citi-

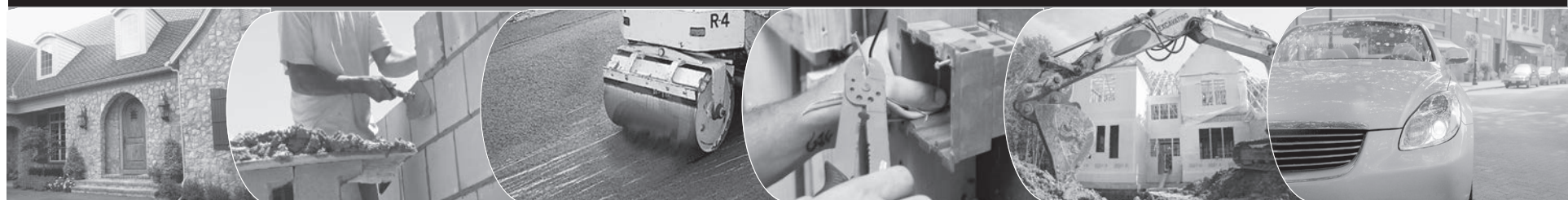
zens and as individuals they are free to stage a protest on any topic they choose, so long as it is not sponsored by the town, uses no town resources, and does not benefit in any way from their positions as municipal officials including planning it at a BoS meeting or even in the town hall. As individuals and private citizens, they can have a "Blue Lives Matter" rally, they can hold a protest to criminalize video recording police officers, they can hold a protest to repeal the 13th-15th Amendments, or they could even raise funds to install a Confederate Monument on private land in North Brookfield.

Mr. Kiley, Petraitis, and Tripp have rights of political expression as individuals. The Town of North Brookfield, however, has no such rights.

As it turns out, there was an actual protest in North

Turn To KASPI page A13

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SCHOOLS

continued from page A1

said.

“Face shields may be an option for those students with medical, behavioral, or other challenges who are unable to wear masks/face coverings,” read a statement released by the DESE.

All adults in school buildings – including educators, administrators, and general staff members – will also be required to wear masks/face coverings. Exceptions will be made for those with precluding medical conditions, disabilities, and other health or safety factors.

Also per state guidance, designated times when students can remove masks should occur throughout the day. “Mask breaks” should occur when students can be six feet apart, ideally outside or near windows.

Additionally, staff members will be required to ensure that students are kept at least three feet apart in classrooms (six feet whenever possible). Classroom configurations of desks, tables, and other furniture must be adjusted to ensure proper distancing. Also, large common spaces in the school (cafeteria, library, and auditorium) must be rearranged to increase the amount of space between students.

Elementary schools should aim to keep students in the same group throughout the day, possibly with teachers rotating throughout the building instead of students. Middle and high schools are also encouraged to minimize large student interactions in classrooms and hallways.

Moreover, each school must have a designated space for students who develop COVID-19 symptoms during

the course of the day. This space must be separate from the nurse’s office. If a child is not feeling well, parents are encouraged to not risk sending their child to school.

State officials understand that the new guidance will seem like an overwhelming change for many students and staff. They ask that all school officials be patient and understanding with students adjusting to a new normal.

“We want to start the school year with as many of our students as possible returning to in-person settings,” said Jeffrey Riley, the state’s Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education. “If the current positive public health metrics hold, we believe that when we follow critical health requirements, we can safely return to in-person school this fall with plans in place to protect all members of our educational community.”

Screening will be a vital component of a successful reopening plan. All members of the school community will be responsible for identifying and assisting students who are displaying symptoms. Parents, educators, nurses, counselors, and even bus drivers are advised to carefully monitor students and report any patterns of concerning symptoms. If a student is coughing or develops a fever or other symptoms, actions should be taken immediately to separate the student and arrange for a parental pickup, officials said.

Temperature checks are not currently recommended for schools due to the potential for false positive and false negative results.

“Part of our responsibility as educators, administrators, and parents is to do all we can to help our children in this difficult time,” Riley said. “It will take all of us working together to make this

successful.”

State officials also recognize the potential that online learning will be needed again at some point during the upcoming year. If conditions worsen this fall and early winter, schools may need to utilize a rotating schedule that combines in-person and remote learning, with students alternating weekly between the two. Moreover, students who are sick for an extended period may be asked to participate in online learning to prevent the spread of the virus.

Officials also understand that flu season will present an added challenge in identifying symptoms, assessing severity, and determining how long a student should be away from school.

Despite the many challenges that lie ahead, state leaders are committed to making every effort to get students back into the classroom.

“As we all know, there is no substitute for the attention and engagement that is only possible with in-person learning,” Riley said. “We can mitigate the risks associated with COVID-19 for in-person school programs and prevent the significant consequences of keeping students out of school and isolated.”

Even though students will be returning to the classroom this fall, athletic fields might still be empty. State leaders will release further guidance this month on whether sports, clubs, and other extracurricular activities can return.

Meanwhile, local school officials are working hard this summer to outline a number of contingencies. The DESE is requiring each district and school to craft a comprehensive plan for remote learning that would be launched if another outbreak closes school.

Schools will also need to produce a

separate plan to ensure that special education students can learn safely this fall. Depending on the individual health vulnerabilities of certain children, some parents may feel more comfortable educating their kids at home. All school districts will need to have a remote learning program in place for students who are unable to return to in-person schooling.

Additional state guidance will be released this month regarding continued remote learning for those who need it.

“Remote learning may be a necessary option in the fall for some students who are unable to return to school due to underlying medical conditions,” Riley said. “Additionally, educators and other staff who are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 will want to consult with their healthcare providers about whether a return to in-person school settings would be medically inadvisable.”

State education leaders continue to monitor the latest COVID-19 metrics. Due to the speed at which conditions can change, state officials are urging all school districts to be ready for several potential learning scenarios throughout the year.

“The fall reopening guidance comes from a place of deep care and concern, with a focus on translating the public health data and evidence into practical application for school settings,” the DESE statement read. “We also acknowledge that it will likely elicit many new questions. We intend to address the most common questions in a running series of FAQs, along with additional specific topical guidance throughout the summer.”

4TH

continued from page A1

happy that the Select Board has reconsidered their decision to hold a Fourth of July event,” read a statement released by the Board of Health. “It is the correct decision and the best possible way to ensure the people of North Brookfield stay safe and healthy, while maintaining the state’s progress of eliminating COVID-19.”

Board of Health members said they are looking forward to seeing the

celebration occur at a time when conditions are safer. Several surrounding communities also called off Independence Day events due to COVID-19 concerns.

“We want to stress, once again, that the BOH works solely in the interest of health and safety for the people of North Brookfield, and no decisions have been made for any political reason, nor have we employed any ‘operatives,’” the Board of Health statement read. “These claims by the Board of Selectmen are untrue, and make appar-

ent that Board’s contempt for the work we do, as well as the guidelines and regulations set by the Commonwealth.”

Selectmen also slammed the Board of Health for condemning the Fourth of July event, but not opposing last month’s protest against racism and police brutality. Board of Health members also did not raise concerns over unmasked guests visiting the small gravel beach on Brooks Pond, selectmen said.

“The Board of Selectmen are cognizant of the incendiary times

in which we are living, and unlike the members of the Board of Health who seem arbitrarily concerned with public health only when it fits their political ideology, we will not expose our residents to the public health and public safety risks artificially created by the BOH’s unconstitutional silencing of the free expression of their neighbors,” the Select Board statement read.

Board of Health members contend that they have been prevented from effective operations by Select Board deci-

sions.

“As to the issue of Brooks Pond, the BOH has been in communication with the Pond Association and continues to work toward a solution to any overcrowding,” read the Board of Health letter. “Enforcement of our solutions was rendered impossible by the Select Board’s vote on May 19 to prevent the NB police from enforcing our orders. In addition, we have successfully worked with the East Brookfield Board of Selectmen, Playground Committee,

and Board of Health to open the Town Beach at Lake Lashaway for our residents to use.”

No date has been announced for the rescheduled Fourth of July event, which also would have included a scaled-back Memorial Day program.

“We apologize to the many people who donated their time, effort, and funds to this event, and to everyone who was looking forward to enjoying the day,” selectmen wrote.

KASPI

continued from page A12

Brookfield on July 4, and all should note that the BoH did not intervene.

What galls me is that the people who want a Fascist police state hide behind patriotism in an apparent love for our constitution and wrap themselves in the American flag when in reality they are not patriots but nationalists.

The constitution is a document outlining the rules our government must operate under. The constitution is what keeps their religion out of our government, what protects protestors, guarantees equal protection under the law, and even what prevents town funds from going towards a political rally.

Constitutions are often changed. The United States is on our second one (the first was the Articles of Confederation, which failed after eight years). The

Declaration of Independence was signed on July 4, 1776 but we didn’t have the Articles of Confederation (1st constitution) until 1781 and we scrapped that as not working and replaced it in 1789 with the constitution you now know. For those that don’t like our constitution, stop trying to reinterpret it! Advocate changing or even scrapping it! Countries get new constitutions all the time – South Africa is on their fifth one in effect since 1997, Russia just voted on a new one that went into effect July 1!

Whether or not the people of North Brookfield should re-elect people who misunderstand basic civics, their roles as municipal officials, and have such disregard for public health is a question left up to the people of North Brookfield. For a town that elected Donald Trump once, I’m not hopeful.

TANYA KASPI
SPENCER



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OBITUARIES

Sheila Lynn Sheffer, 65

SPENCER-Sheila Lynn (Anderson) Sheffer (McHugh), a long time resident of Spencer, MA, passed June 24, 2020, at the age of 65, surrounded by her loving family and 39 year long companion, Thomas McHugh, Sr.. Sheila (She She) fought a long, valiant battle with cancer. Sheila was born in 1954 to the late John and Wilma Anderson of Berlin, NY. There

she grew up in a bubbling household with her siblings Rusty, the late Billy, Susan, Nancy, Karen, Patty and Michael. There was always work to do and mischief to make. Sheila spent much of her adult life in Spencer, MA raising her children Robert Sheffer and the late Christine (Sheffer) Karnes with her life partner, Thomas McHugh, Sr. Sheila was a waitress and bartender in many establishments (Brick Alley/ Trumbulls) in or near Spencer. Her warmth and gift of listening allowed her to make many friends along the way. Sheila enjoyed agood laugh and great party times with her friends and dear customers!

Sheila is survived by her son, Robert Sheffer and his family of Las Vegas, Nevada, granddaughters Kara Cadrin and Jennifer Karnes and their families, and Thomas McHugh Sr. and family of Spencer, MA., along with her sib-

lings, and numerous nieces, nephews, cousins, aunts, uncles, and three loving great grandchildren; Chase, Aubree and Alaina. Our beloved “SheShe,” “Gigi,” “Gram”, “Grammy” will be remembered most for her loving smile, her kindness and immense strength. She may have been small in stature, but mighty in character.

Sheila’s and Thomas’s family would like to thank Dr. Siedler, Heidi, Fritz, Donna and Rose at the Harrington Cancer Center and Overlook Hospice Services for their kind and loving care.

Services will be graveside at the Berlin Community Cemetery on June 30, 2020 at 11am. In lieu of flowers, please make donations to the Wilma Anderson Memorial Scholarship Fund % Berlin Fire Department, PO Box 269 Berlin, NY 12022 or to the Spencer Fish and Game Club 155 Mechanic St., Spencer, MA 01562.

A family and friends gathering will take place at Spencer Fish and Game as soon as it is safe to do so. Please send me, Thomas McHugh, Sr., an email at cashcartel49@gmail.com and I will personally keep those interested notified of the gathering at the Spencer Fish and Game.

God bless “SheShe” for her love and kindness that she showed to everyone who knew her and for those who touched her heart!

Thank you, Sheila, for touching my heart for 39 wonderful years. T.M.

Dorothy M. Jolicoeur, 87

SPENCER: Dorothy M. (Sugalski) Jolicoeur, 87 formerly of 45 Ash St., peaceably returned to the Lord on Thursday, June 25th. She was the loving wife of



Rene O. Jolicoeur for 65 years (who passed in November 2018) and a resident of Spencer since 1954. She leaves daughter, Darlene Foley and her husband Brian of East Harwich, sons Rene Jolicoeur and his wife Sheree of Spencer and Thomas Jolicoeur of Syracuse, NY, two brothers Joseph Sugalski and his wife Ann of Thompson, CT and Stanley Sugalski and his wife Martha from Florida, four grandchildren, a great grandson and many nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by sisters Irene, Theresa and brothers, Walter, Edward and Vincent. She was born in Webster and was the daughter of Stanley and Winifred (Kochanek) Sugalski and later graduated from Bartlett High School.

Dorothy was very artistic and channeled her talents as a portrait sketch artist and expert seamstress and demonstrated an overall proficiency with a needle and thread. She loved flowers and for many years took great pride, spending endless hours in her rock garden at the end of her driveway and

somehow always evaded passing admirers and motorists. For many years she played a significant behind the scenes role in the operation of Jolicoeur’s Dairy Farm, was a longtime hairdresser and retired from T.J. Maxx and Companies in Worcester and received countless awards as “Employee of the Month.” Dorothy was a devoted, loving wife; a marriage that was noted to be unique and special by many. She was a committed full-time stay at home mother who surrounded her children with unconditional love. She had an outgoing, fun loving personality with a distinct laugh that will stand as her hallmark. She was of strong religious faith and an active member of Mary, Queen of the Rosary Parish.

A Memorial Mass was held in Our Lady of the Rosary Church, 7 Church St., Spencer on Wednesday, July 8th. at 10 a.m. Burial will follow in Mary, Queen of the Rosary Cemetery, Spencer. There are no calling hours. J HENRI MORIN & SON FUNERAL HOME, 23 Maple Terrace, Spencer is directing arrangements. In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to either Dementia Society of America, P.O. Box 600, Doylestown, PA 18901 or Alzheimer Assoc. of MA/ NH, 309 Waverly Oaks Rd., Waltham, MA 02452.

www.morinfuneralhomes.com

Ruth A. Burt, 91

LEICESTER- Ruth A. (Allen) Burt, 91, died Sunday, June 28 at home surrounded by her loving family.



She was predeceased by her long time loving husband, Herbert H. Burt, who passed away in 2016. She leaves a son, Gregory A. Burt and his wife, Theresa of Leicester; and 3 daughters, Sheila R. Barlow and her husband, Edward of Leicester; Lorraine A. Lyon and her husband, Barry of Leicester; and Diann L. Hale and her husband, Charles of Rutland. She also leaves a sister, Hazel Swimm of Monticello, ME, 11 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Born in Bridgewater, ME, she was the daughter of the late Raymond and Edna Allen. She graduated from Bridgewater High School where she met the love of her life, Herb. The two of them moved to MA where they planted their family roots but frequently vacationed back to ME throughout the years. Ruth worked in the cafeterias of Leicester Public

Schools for 17 years prior to retirement. Being a woman of faith, she was a Sunday School teacher at the Advent Christian Church in Worcester, and an active member of Oak Hill Bible Church in Oxford, MA for many years. She was a wonderful cook/baker, an avid gardener and home-canner, making the best bread and butter pickles around. She loved spending time with her family, especially her grandchildren and great grandchildren. She will be remembered by all for her kind heart, loving spirit, and her generosity to others.

The family would like to send a special thank you to the J.H.C Hospice nurses, and the Visiting Angels of Worcester, especially for her caregivers, Sophia and Mary. Memorial Services and burial will be at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to Oak Hill Bible Church, P.O. Box 277, Oxford, MA, or to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation at UMMHC Philanthropy Office, 365 Plantation Street, Biotech 1, Worcester, MA 01605.

MORIN FUNERAL HOME, 1131 Main St., Leicester is directing arrangements for the family.

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Jean T. (Caron) Gagne, 76

BROOKFIELD- Jean T. (Caron) Gagne, 76, died June 29, 2020 at home surrounded by her husband and children after a long illness.

She leaves her husband, Edward A. Gagne; whom she spent 31 years with; a brother, Russell Caron and his wife Joan; children Michael “Scott” Letendre and his wife Laurie, Caron McNeaney and her husband James, Rebecca Day and her husband, Steve; Mary “Kelly” Biano and her husband Ernest, Edward L. Gagne & his partner Tom Mulcahy; Lynn Dyer; and Catherine Rodriguez and her husband Ricardo. She also leaves 15 grand children, 11 great grand children, and 2 great great grand children. In addition, she had a very close relationship to her sister-in-law Carol Caron Peluso and her husband Bill.

Jean was born in Amherst, the daughter of Marion and Alphonse Caron. She worked as a hairdresser and also at various long term care facilities in Worcester County as an activity assistant. Jean was a very spiritual person

who enjoyed reading tarot cards. She would often be found volunteering at the West Brookfield Senior Center and also for hospice. She had a passion for baking and during the holidays she always made sure that her grandkids had her famous gingersnap and oatmeal raisin cookies, while during the summer it was her famous potato salad. Jean and Ed spent many summers in Maine where she simply loved going for a ride along the coast and yard saleing while they drove. Her most favorite times were spending time with family.

A Graveside Service will be held at 11:00 AM Saturday, July 11, 2020 at Sacred Heart Cemetery in West Brookfield. Please practice social distancing. In lieu of flowers donations may be made in her name to the VNA Hospice Care, 120 Thomas Street, Worcester, MA. Arrangements are under the care of Pillsbury Funeral Home, 3 West Brookfield Road, Brookfield.

McRAE

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school teachers and college professors, now find themselves rising to positions of leadership in street-fighting, terrorist mobs such as Antifa, and the only slightly less-obviously communist-oriented, race-obsessed mass movement known as Black Lives Matter.

If you find the latter description offensive, go to their Web site (blacklivesmatter.com) and see for yourself what they stand for: an end of capitalism; communal raising of children and end of the nuclear family; hatred of Christianity and Judaism; end of the police; end of the Constitution; end of America, in general.

Now, these femme fatales who hate everything normal are determined to be seen as latter-day, heroic, radical female icons like those of the blood-drenched Reign of Terror in France (ca.1789)---murderous, diabolical termagants like Charlotte Corday or Madame Roland, or even Madame Defarge who was Dickens’ fictional blood-lusting, tyrannical knitter in “A Tale of Two Cities.”

One can see them in action on many YouTube videos of up-close footage of the riots and mayhem instigated by many of these products of American “higher” education: obscenity-screaming, slogan-chanting, spitting, brick-throwing, lead pipe-swinging, fire-bomb-

ing, window-smashing, venom-spewing, tantrum-throwing, flag-burning, graffiti-spraying, monument-toppling, police-assaulting, city-destroying ...scum.... the off-scurings, the dregs of what was once a reasonably sane and decent culture.

Because of their fanaticism, their passionate hatred of anyone or anything they see as slowing down the “revolution,” they are a menace that needs to be confronted. But, at times, they show themselves as complete frauds, as drama queens, as pitiable, whining frauds.

For one thing, if one would be a street fighter, one would, it seems fair to say, require at least a measure of muscular strength. In one video, which could be called comical if it were not so pathetic, we see one of these Amazons---actually, a flabby, tattooed, sweating, panting, crew-cut apple of daddy’s eye---atop a downed statue vainly bouncing a sledge hammer off the poor fellow in an attempt to heroically break it to pieces (like those Berliners did so admirably in 1989 to the Wall when it came down). This was not one of those 16- to 20-pound bad boys, but more like a six-or-eight-pound splitting maul. Nonetheless, our very own Rosa Luxembourg could barely lift it, let alone swing it with any authority. The recoil from each feeble attempt to smash the thing nearly shook the girl (there, I said it)

from her perch ten feet off the ground.

Male and female, viva la difference. I’ve long thought, in the final analysis, the whole divide, the contest, between men and women ultimately comes down to three little words: upper...body... strength. It always has, it probably always will. This chick visually bore out that contention. What? You don’t like that descriptive? Stop calling us old white men names like bigot, racist, supremacist, etc., and we’ll stop calling young, brainless, commie fanatic women “chicks” or other things we only say in the privacy of our cigar and bourbon dens.

Another world-class video capture of a would-be female Audie Murphy was shot last year in Portland, Ore.--a real Commie snakepit--when the local Antifa battalion decided to attack a group called the Proud Boys who were conducting a peaceful demonstration in some park. Now, being cowards, Antifa only attacks when they know the commie mayor and police chief won’t arrest them; when they greatly outnumber their opponents and hide behind their masks looking like Billy the Kid and the boys holding up the Butterfield Stage for its shipment of gold; and when they can swing and throw dangerous items (like case-hardened bicycle locks on chains, bricks, steel bars, etc.) all while hiding behind their anonymity.

Here comes the assault,

boys and girls throwing f-bombs with every other word thinking if they yell like soldiers or police in combat they might be as tough as them. Verbal intimidation can sometimes work, but not with these clowns.

In the front rank we see ...I’ll say it...a girl whose mask has slipped down and whose foul mouthed imprecations can be heard above those of her “comrades.” She’s kind of cute, an aficionado of female pulchritude might have to admit, but probably not well-acquainted with a yellow bar of Dial soap. She’s also brandishing something that could kill you if she could get to you. As the two lines meet in a wild melee, all of a sudden a fist powers out of the scrum and pow! right in the kisser! --back snaps the head of Portland’s Joan of Arc.

She’s lying there on the hot pavement screaming in pain and shock that such a thing could’ve happened, and the tears flow like the Niagara over the American Falls. The viewer thinks “Get up, girl! There’s no cryin’ in baseball or Bolshevism. Get back into the brawl! If you’re prepared to fracture someone’s skull over politics, be prepared to have your jaw broken in return if you lose the fight.” But, no, we last see her being dragged away from the combat zone--still crying--by a couple of her no-account buddies only too glad to find an excuse to get to a safer area. I was raised to never hit a girl (“Don’t you ever hit your sister!”), and

still think it’s a reasonable restraint placed on males having a natural strength advantage, but I have to admit, that image of this revolutionary crying her eyes out did not arouse much sympathy in me. Molly Pitcher she is not. If you fly with the hawks, you die with the hawks. I often wondered if she sipped her supper for the next few months.

Well, now that the past month’s destruction of property, injuries, and loss of life is being totaled up, now that the damage has been done, now that millions of Americans fear the country and our way of life has been destroyed for all practical purposes, history will look to identify those responsible. My nomination for who should hang for this treason goes to second- and third-generation Marxist professors who bite the hand which feeds them--America, and its system; the mainstream press (our version of Pravda and Izvestia); the utterly corrupt Democrat Party and their cowardly counterparts, the Republicans; the sell-out global corporations; the feckless headline churches; Hollywood; public school education; a politically-correct military establishment, and other miscreants.

But, as Billy Bones says--in “Treasure Island”-- when thinking about what’s in the offing for captured pirates, “... if it comes to swingin’, swing one, swing all says I!”

When it comes, though, to the actual

boots on the ground, to the real agents provocateur, the relentless agitators who have brought on much of this wreckage, look no further than our own ignorant, overly-emotional, gratuitously guilt-ridden, hate-filled white female products of our once-vaunted institutions of learning.

One can only hope that each and every one of them who ever fomented a violent mob-action, who firebombed a police car or a corner store, or who plotted and egged on sedition pays a very heavy price, indeed. I would say ten-to-twelve in a real federal prison would be about right, unless their actions resulted in death or crippling injuries to innocent victims, in which case twenty-to-life would be more equitable.

Of course, though, in this country, where wrong-doing from the left never seems to get punished, you can look forward to this crop of degenerate female criminals to be put into positions of real power over you and yours should the unthinkable happen, the defeat of the only man in American public life willing to fight these people, President Trump.

Stand up for our champion. Join us at our first Trump stand-out at the McDonald’s intersection (Route 9 and Meadow Street, Spencer) from 4 ‘til 6 p.m., Friday, July 10. Bring a flag or a sign, prepare to have some fun.

JOHN McRAE
EAST BROOKFIELD

POLICE REPORTS

Spencer Police Logs

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24
12:18-1:14 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:19 a.m.: disturbance (Temple Street), services rendered; 5:12 a.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 6:00 a.m.: mv stop (Meadow Road); 6:11 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:39 a.m.: commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 9:56 a.m.: fireworks complaint (West Main Street), spoken to; 10:26 a.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), keys found; 10:43 a.m.: medical/general (Bixby Road); 11:24 a.m.: mv lockout (Temple Street), assisted; 12:25 p.m.: medical/lockout (Main Street); 1:16-1:32 p.m.: parking violations (Church, Temple streets), tickets issued; 1:44 p.m.: restraining order service (Pearl Street); 1:55:46 p.m.: medical/general (Charlton Street); 2:06 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Temple Street), services rendered; 2:22 p.m.: suspicious persons (Clark Road), 3 f/lying in road; 2:47 p.m.: officer wanted (Spring Street), welfare check; 2:59 p.m.: citizen complaint (North Street), yard sign kicked; 3:15 p.m.: mv complaint (Crown Street), erratic operation; 3:18 p.m.: parking complaint (Highland Street), services rendered; 3:46 p.m.: 911 call (Charlton Road), accidental; 4:00 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), unemployment scam; 4:20 p.m.: mv complaint (North Spencer Road), erratic operation; 4:50 p.m.: parking complaint (West Main Street), mv blocking air machine; 5:04 p.m.: officer wanted (Clark Road), welfare check; 5:46 p.m. commercial alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 5:55 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Charlton Road), child w/phone; 6:29 p.m.: medical/general (Cranberry Meadow Road); 7:51 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (Valley Street), services rendered; 8:09-8:12 p.m.: parking violations (Pearl Street), tickets issued; between 8:12-9:04 p.m.: entire incident, including time, redacted from police log; 9:04 p.m.: animal complaint (R. Jones Road), loose dog; 9:15 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operation; 9:48-9:56 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:02 p.m.: suspicious mv (West Main Street), investigated; 10:08 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:12 p.m.: animal complaint (Sampson Street), coyote in area; 10:33 p.m.: suspicious mv (Greenville Street), mv parked in road.
THURSDAY, JUNE 25
12:13 a.m.: disturbance (South Spencer Road) m/f dispute; 1:32 a.m.: disturbance (Maple Street), m/f dispute; 5:54 a.m.: DPW call (Charlton Road), tree on wires; 5:56 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:26 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo; 7:48 a.m.: mv stop (Linden Street); 7:51 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 8:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:53 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:54 a.m.: medical/general (Kingsbury Road); 9:06 a.m.: medical/general (Jolicoeur Avenue); 9:15 a.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), loose dog; 10:36 a.m.: animal complaint (Ash Street), injured coyote; 11:55 a.m.: fire/woods/grass (Charlton Road), services rendered; 3:51 p.m.: mv stop (North Brookfield Road); 4:02 a.m.: mv stop (North Brookfield Road); 4:07 p.m.: citizen complaint (West Main Street), spoken to; 4:21 p.m.: mv stop (Northwest Road); 4:28 p.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 4:42 p.m.: mv complaint (Bixby Road), speeding; 4:59 p.m.: animal complaint (Paxton Road), poss. rabies exposure; 5:46 p.m.: officer wanted (Howe Village), lift assist; 5:54 p.m.: animal complaint (Pine Acres), bear in yard; 8:26 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operation; 8:35 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Hastings Road), info taken; 8:44 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Sunset Lane), misdial; 8:59 p.m.: building checked, secure; 9:07 p.m.: medical/general (R. Jones Road); 9:09-9:48 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:06 p.m.: suspicious persons (Main Street), info taken; 10:20-10:21 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 11:29 p.m.: accident (Woodside Road), report taken.
FRIDAY, JUNE 26
12:58-1:48 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 1:54 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 2:07-2:29 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:18 a.m.: mv stop (North Brookfield Road); 8:41 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:52 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), info taken; 9:02 a.m.: mv stop (Man Street); 9:33


a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:36 a.m.: intelligence/drugs (Main Street), info taken; 10:01 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:22 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), services rendered; 10:38 a.m.: mv stop (Ch7:49 parlton Road); 10:53 a.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 11:17 a.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), LTC change of address; 11:37 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 11:45 a.m.: restraining order service (West Main Street); 12:11 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), scam reported; 12:50 p.m.: commercial alarm (West Main Street), services rendered; 12:59 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 2:33 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 2:40 p.m.: mv lockout (North Spencer Road), assisted; 2:45 p.m.: warrant (Main Street), Paul A. Marrama, 40, 81 Acushnet Avenue, New Bedford, arrest; 3:16 p.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 3:21 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/7 (West Main Street), assisted; 3:23 p.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 4:00 p.m.: mv stop (Northwest Road); 4:27 p.m.: animal complaint (Main Steet), fox in area; 4:36 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street); 4:57 p.m.: parking violation (South Street), ticket issued; 5:15 p.m.: mv stop (Howe Road); 5:31 p.m.: officer wanted (Calley Street), escort request; 5:49 p.m.: parking violation (Adams Street), ticket issued; 7:38 p.m.: medical/general (Meadow Road); 7:49 p.m.: medical/general (Wilson Avenue); 8:22 p.m.: fire/woods/grass (North Brookfield Road), illegal burn; 8:49-8:50 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 8:56 p.m.: suspicious mv (Howe Road), investigated; 9:17 p.m.: fireworks complaint (Sunset Lane), info taken; 9:30 p.m.: suspicious mv (McCormick Road), investigated; 9:50 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:01 p.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 10:13 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:17 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Buteau Road), misdial; 10:18 p.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 10:35 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street); 10:47-11:54 p.m.: buildings checked, secure.
SATURDAY, JUNE 27
12:01-12:11 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 12:12 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 12:22 a.m.: distrubance (Laurel Lane), peace restored; 1:08 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 1:36 a.m.: 911 call 8:46 p.m. (West Main Street), spoken to; 1:53 a.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 4:57 a.m.: lost/found (Chestnut Street), ID found; 8:19 a.m.: animal complaint (Chestnut Street), neglected dog; 8:57 a.m.: parking complaint (Browning Pond Road), info taken; 9:02 a.m.: officer wanted (Sunset Lane), spoken to; 9:46 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), sidewalk blocked; 10:11 a.m.: medical/general (Main Street); 10:35 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), spoken to; 10:50 a.m.: animal complaint (Roberta Bay), sick possum; 10:53 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), small deer walking in road; 10:55 a.m.: lost/found (Clark Street), clothes found; 11:10 a.m.: fire (Ash Street), services rendered; 11:28 a.m.: medical/general (Clark Road); 11:36 a.m.: animal complaint (Main Street), baby bald eagle found; 12:11 p.m.: parking violation (Cherry Street), ticket issued; 12:25 p.m.: animal complaint (Wilson Street), feral cat; 2:32 p.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 3:11 a.m.: residential alarm (Lincoln Street), services rendered; 4:08 p.m.: medical/general (Church Street); 4:32 p.m.: medical/general (Linden Street); 4:48 p.m.: mv stop (Northwest Road); 5:18 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), tailgating; 5:41 p.m.: RV complaint (Thornberry Circle), go-cart on street; 6:47 p.m.: 911 call (Paxton Road), open line; 7:13 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Main Street), no contact; 7:33-7:39 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:47 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Grafton PD bolo; 7:58 p.m.: mv stop (Northwest Road); 8:04 p.m. mv stop (Route 49); 8:31 p.m.: disturbance (Bixby Road), Brian Hall, 28, 54 Newpark Avenue, Hartford, CT, warrant arrest; 8:46 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), fawn in road; 10:09 p.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 10:11 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:23 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), State Police bolo; 10:25 p.m.: building checked, secure.
SUNDAY, JUNE 28
12:04-3:00 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 7:47 a.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street),

services rendered; 8:07 a.m.: animal complaint (Lloyd Dyer Drive), snapping turtle; 9:46 a.m.: mv stop (Maple Street); 10:34 a.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), re: not on mv; 11:18 a.m.: medical/general (South Spencer Road); 11:33 a.m.: officer wanted (Chestnut Street), tenant issue; 11:42 a.m.: lost/found (Lake Street), keys found; 12:34 p.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 1:10 p.m.: 911 call (West Main Street), accidental; 1:42 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Sturbridge PD bolo; 1:48 p.m.: mv stop (Cranberry Meadow Road); 1:50 p.m.: officer wanted (Ash Street), threats; 2:15 p.m.: 911 call (Main Street), hang-up; 2:17 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), Southbridge PD bolo; 2:30 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operation; 2:38 p.m.: animal complaint (North Spencer Road), dead rabbit; 2:58 p.m.: officer wanted (Lincoln Street), theft reported; 3:32 p.m.: mv stop (Route 49); 3:33 p.m.: lost/found (West Main Street), lost license; 3:44 p.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 4:02 p.m.: mv stop (Chestnut Street); 4:13 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street); 4:29 p.m.: mv stop (Browning Pond Road); 5:58 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:12 p.m.: parking violation (Adams Street), ticket issued; 6:57 p.m.: animal complaint (South Spencer Road), dead fawn on trail; 7:11 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), tenant issue; 7:31 p.m.: building checked, secure; 7:39 p.m.: DPW call (Northwest Road), tree down; 7:47 p.m.: officer wanted (North Brookfield Road), tree on wire; 7:49 p.m.: elderly matter (Lincoln Street), spoken to; 8:28 p.m.: building checked, secure; 10:03 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Ash Street), spoken to; 10:13-10:22 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 10:46 p.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), disabled mv; 11:13 p.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 11:37 p.m.: building checked, secure.
MONDAY, JUNE 29
12:03-1:36 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:33 a.m.: officer wanted (Church Street), welfare check; 2:40 a.m.: medical/general (Howe Village); 6:39 a.m.: mv stop (North Spencer Road); 6:51 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 6:53 a.m.: accident (Meadow Road), report taken; 7:09 a.m.: 911 call (Howe Village), disconnected; 7:24 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street); 8:15 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 8:39 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:43 a.m.: officer wanted (Main Street), sr. living issue; 9:26 a.m.: officer wanted (Lyford Road), debris in road; 10:08 a.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), caught possum; 10:17 a.m.: commercial alarm (Water Street), services rendered; 10:45 a.m.: parking violation (Irving Street), ticket issued; 10:49 a.m.: medical/general (Cherry Street); 11:07 a.m.: animal complaint (Franklin Street), loose dog; 11:44 a.m.: medical/general (Wall Street); 12:44 p.m.: animal complaint (West Main Street), raccoon on roof; 2:06 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 2:25 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), welfare check; 2:33 p.m.: sex offender registration (West Main Street), assisted; 2:38 p.m.: medical/general (Old East Charlton Road); 2:39 p.m.: animal complaint (Delude Avenue), loose dog; 3:21 p.m.: accident (West Main Street), report taken; 4:01 p.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 4:04 p.m.: fraud (West Main Street), scam call; 4:22 p.m.: residential alarm (Charlton Road), services rendered; 4:45 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), spoken to; 5:32 p.m.: FID card issued (West Main Street), assisted; 5:33 p.m.: multiple LTC issued/3 (West Main Street), assisted; 5:37 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), LaShawn P. Porche, 32, 200 Ridge Road, Middletown, CT, op w/suspended license, negligent operation, speeding, arrest; 6:37 p.m.: school alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 7:30 p.m.: juvenile matter (Chestnut Street), scooter in road; 7:34 p.m.: suspicious mv (Valley View Drive), unable to locate; 8:33 p.m.: harassment prevention violation (Maple Street), neighbor issue; 9:37 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:47 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 10:04 p.m.: mv complaint (Main Street), erratic operation; 10:25 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (West Main Street), no contact; 11:27 p.m.: building checked, secure; 11:36 p.m.: officer wanted (West Main Street), req. welfare check; 11:39 p.m.: suspicious mv (North Spencer Road),

investigated; 11:56 p.m.: building checked, secure.
TUESDAY, JUNE 30
12:07 a.m.: mv lockout (Main Street), assisted; 12:20-1:46 a.m.: buildings checked, secure; 2:23 a.m.: medical/general (North Spencer Road); 3:39 a.m.: accident (Pleasant Street), report taken; 7:15 a.m.: DPW call (Borkum Road), tree on wires; 7:52 a.m.: medical/general (Starr Street); 8:01 a.m.: parking violation (Mechanic Street), ticket issued; 8:07 a.m.: parking violation (Cherry Street), ticket issued; 8:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 8:36 a.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 9:34 a.m.: mv stop (West Main Street); 9:58 a.m.: mv stop (North Brookfield Road); 10:08 a.m.: fire alarm (Main Street), services rendered; 10:14 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:09 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:16 a.m.: parking complaint (Mechanic Street), lane blocked; 11:20 a.m.: restraining order service (Pleasant Street); 11:36 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street); 11:40 a.m.: restraining order service (Brown Street); 12:32 p.m.: animal complaint (Pleasant Street), feral cat; 12:32 p.m.: officer wanted (Maple Street), spoken to; 12:49 p.m.: officer wanted (Bay Path Road), family issues; 1:05 p.m.: suspicious mv (Bemis Road), investigated; 2:30 p.m.: 911 call (Charlton Road), accidental; 2:35 p.m.: fraud (Wall Street), SS scam call; 7:03 p.m.: officer wanted (Bixby Road), hissing heard; 7:59 p.m.: mv stop (Charlton Road); 8:24 p.m.: officer wanted (Pleasant Street), welfare check; 8:26 p.m.: harassing phone calls (Valley Street), social media posts; 8:34 p.m.: abandoned 911 call (Paxton Road), disconnected; 9:08-9:45 p.m.: buildings checked, secure; 9:53 p.m.: suspicious persons (Bay Path Road), info taken; 9:54 p.m.: mv stop (Ash Street); 10:36 p.m.: medical/general (Mechanic Street).

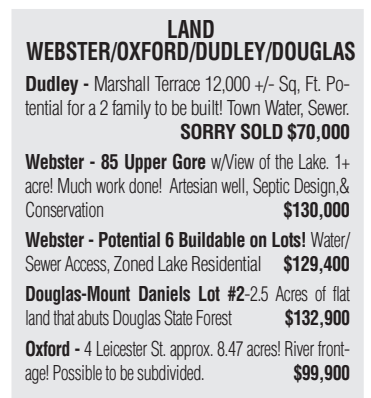
Leicester Police
Logs
THURSDAY, JUNE 25
8:33 a.m.: fraud (Hemlock Street), report taken; 9:19 a.m.: assist citizen (Winslow Avenue); 10:12 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 10:35 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 11:13 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), verbal warning; 3:32 p.m.: disturbance (Paxton Street), investigated; 4:03 p.m.: vandalism (Tanglewood Road), services rendered; 4:38 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 4:58 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), citation issued; 5:29 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 5:55 p.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), citation issued; 8:43 p.m.: family problem (Marshall Street), services rendered.
FRIDAY, JUNE 26
12:25 a.m.: disturbance (Mayflower Circle), spoken to; 8:15 a.m.: b&e/past (Woodland Road), report taken; 10:14 a.m.: fire/odor of gas (Lake Avenue), services rendered; 12:56 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), spoken to; 1:48 p.m.: welfare check (Main Street), services rendered; 2:41 p.m.: accident (Main Street), report taken; 3:39

p.m.: fraud (Charlton Street), assisted; 4:25 p.m.: investigation (South Main Street), report taken; 4:57 p.m.: mv stop (Main Srreet), verbal warning; 5:17 p.m.: mv stop (Huntoon Memorial Highway), verbal warning; 7:01 p.m.: animal complaint (Tobin Road), report taken; 7:37 p.m.: disabled mv (Main Street), assisted; 9:41 p.m.: welfare check (Pleasant Street), assisted.
SATURDAY, JUNE 27
1:36 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 1:42 a.m.: mv stop (South Main Street), citation issued; 11:03 a.m.: community policing (Main Street), services rendered; 2:07 p.m.: faud (Willow Hill Road), report taken; 4:08 p.m.: restraining order service (Rawson Street), served; 8:48 p.m.: disturbance (Folsom Street), referred; 11:34 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), Andrew Lee Dick, 43, 16 Kitteridge Road, Spencer, OUI liquor, negligent operation, marked lanes violation, arrest.
SUNDAY, JUNE 28
9:15 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), verbal warning; 5:12 p.m.: welfare check (Stafford Street), unable to locate; 8:09 p.m.: wefare check (Willow Hill Road), services rendered; 9:41 p.m.: welfare check (Monterey Drive), services rendered; 10:12 p.m.: mv stop (Main Street), spoken to.
MONDAY, JUNE 29
1:23 a.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 9:00 a.m.: mv sto (Collier Avenue), no action required; 10:46 a.m.: assist other PD (Main Street), services rendered; 11:51 a.m.: welfare check (Main Street), report taken; 4:09 p.m.: harassment (Brookside Drive), report taken; 4:27 p.m.: larceny (Huntoon Memorial lhighway), report taken; 4:52 p.m.: erratic operation (Crestwood Road), spoken to; 5:14 p.m.: mv stop (Pleasant Street), verbal warning; 6:38 p.m.: erratic operation (Stafford Street) unable to locate; 8:40 p.m.: erratic operation (Paxton Street), no action required.
TUESDAY, JUNE 30
12:03 a.m.: mv stop (Stafford Street), written warning; 1:25 a.m.: welfare check (Crestwood Road), report taken; 1:36 a.m.: accident (Stafford Street), report taken; 12:52 a.m.: mv stop (Main Street), written warning; 1:44 a.m.: harassment (Main Street), no service; 6:45 p.m.: malicious mischief (Henshaw Street), investigated; 11:17 p.m.: welfare check (Lillian Avenue), spoken to.
WEDNESDAY, JULY 1
12:18 a.m.: welfare check (Henshaw Street), spoken; 8:25 a.m.: assist other PD (South Main Street), services rendered; 9:08 a.m.: harassment (Man Street), services rendered; 9:50 a.m.: welfare check (Burncoat Lane), services rendered; 10:17 a.m.: investigation (Winslow Avenu), services rendered; 1:32 p.m.: investigation (out of town, no location cited on police log), services rendered; 3:33 p.m.: restraining order service (Main Street), no service; 4:00 p.m.: mv stop (Main Srreet), spoken to; 5:01 p.m.: investigation (Bond Street), services rendered; 11:17 p.m.: assist citizen (Main Street), report taken; 11:56 p.m.: assist other PD (Main Street, Spencer), services rendered.



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Woodstock, CT: 21 acre, privacy, highway convenience, 4 bdr. nature's paradise, turkey, deer, solitude.
480 Route 197 - \$650,000

BRIEFS

continued from page A3

Board for several years.

For the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School Committee write-in vote, Chris Woodbury edged fellow Spencer resident Kate Campanale by just a single vote. Woodbury amassed 62 write-in votes in Spencer and 4 votes in East Brookfield for a total of 66; Campanale earned 8 votes in Spencer and 57 votes in East Brookfield for a total of 65.

Woodbury, a former Spencer selectman, could not be reached for comment by press time. Campanale previously served as a state representative serving Leicester and portions of Worcester.

The town is also saying goodbye to several longtime public servants. Ruth McNeaney and Susan Gordon are both stepping away from the Board of Health. McNeaney, who chaired the Board of Health, was also a member of the Cemetery Commission.

Meanwhile, Finance Committee member Andrew Lynch is also departing town government after 24 years of service.

"The town thanks them for their many years of service. They have made countless contributions to our town," said Select Board Chairman Theodore

Boulay.

The election saw a voter turnout of 14 percent.

Local students graduate from Nichols College

DUDLEY — Nichols College graduated over 300 students this spring. Virtual celebrations were held for both undergraduate and graduate recipients on May 2, 2020 with an in person commencement ceremony promised for a date to be determined.

Amanda Witkowski of Spencer graduated with a Master of Business Administration & Master of Science in Organizational Leadership from Nichols College.

Sarah Morris of Spencer graduated with a Master of Business Administration & Master of Science in Organizational Leadership from Nichols College.

John Lane of North Brookfield graduated with a Master of Business Administration & Master of Science in Organizational Leadership from Nichols College.

Leah Tower of West Brookfield

Turn To **BRIEFS** page A18



GOT A HOUSE FOR SALE?

Look for that new home in our real estate section.

Local Samaritans honored for lifesaving efforts



Photo Courtesy

Jeffrey Burrows, left, and Kyle Sebastyanski were honored last month for their lifesaving efforts.

LEICESTER — Two local men were recently honored for their lifesaving efforts on Rochdale Pond.

On June 19, a fisherman was in distress on the water after his kayak capsized. Without hesitation, Jeffrey Burrows and Kyle Sebastyanski — who were taking part in leisure activities nearby in Rochdale Park — jumped into the pond and helped pull the fisherman to shore.

At the time of the incident, Burrows was walking his dog at the park; Sebastyanski was playing ball with his father. And in a matter of moments, they went from enjoying the hot weather to saving a man's life.

The fisherman was transported to the

hospital and made a full recovery.

On June 25, members of the Leicester Police Department and Leicester Emergency Medical Services joined Town Administrator David Genereux in honoring the town heroes. Officials invited the men's families to the ceremony, where they were presented with awards honoring their heroism.

"Both men should be very proud that they saved a life that day," read a statement released by the Leicester Police Department.

"It was our sincere pleasure to be able to present them with a lifesaving award. This type of event affects the entire community," said LPD Chief Ken Antanavica.

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BRIEFS
continued from page A17

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Corinne Delaney of West
Brookfield has earned a
Master of Social Work
degree in Social Work from
Springfield College for stud-
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Spenser Tarentino of
Leicester has earned a
Bachelor of Science degree
in Sport Management from
Springfield College for stud-
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message to the Class of 2020,
Class of 2020 members can
submit a short video high-
lighting their experiences at
the college, viewers can take
a look back at some events
that welcomed the Class of
2020 to the campus, individ-
uals can view recaps of the
virtual senior week events,
and viewers can find all the
names of the Class of 2020

Turn To **BRIEFS** page **A20**

ROBILLARD

continued from page A9

his education by downloading
a free copy of "Life In the 34th
Massachusetts Infantry." He
would then have an apprecia-
tion of the history of the people
in these towns and the sacrifices
they made to improve the lives
of all people of all races. I am not
sure what heritage he has and
if they have made similar sacri-
fices. In fact, I urge everyone
to go online to download a free
copy of this book. I think this
should be required reading in
the David Prouty High School.
Our students should learn what
sacrifices our founders did so all
people could live free. The inter-
net address for the download is:
<https://archive.org/details/life34thmassin00lincrich/page/434/mode/2up>
Another book available for
purchase online details the

death and hardship these white
men endured an Andersonville
It was basically a concentration
camp. The book is by Levi's
friend. Its name is "Death Does
Seem to Have All He Can Attend
To" by George A. Hitchcock.
Maybe this enlightenment would
change Har's views. I
doubt it.
Spencer residents should be
extremely proud of this town for
its tradition of fighting for racial
justice and freedom. Indeed,
the regiment roster in the book
shows a proud history and tra-
dition of people from all the sur-
rounding towns. Read with pride
on page 17 when 32 new recruits
from Spencer were marched into
camp with selectman Luther
Hill in command. Know why
when you pass Luther Hill Park
his name is on it. He was an
original member of BLM who
fought to bring racial justice to
all. So, Spencer, stand tall and
proud. Don't let people like Mr.

Yarok tell you anything differ-
ent. Their purpose is to pick at
old wounds, re-infect society,
and try to erase the efforts of our
fathers and brothers sacrific-
es. By tearing down others and
minimizing their accomplish-
ments they try to provide some
meaning to their otherwise sad
uneventful lives. They need to
educate themselves and realize
empathy for suffering does not
come the color of your skin but
by the character of your soul.
Finally, let's all reflect on what
the great Abraham Lincoln stated
after elected "We are not
enemies, but friends. We must
not be enemies. Though passion
may have strained, it must not
break our bonds of affection. The
mystic chords of memory will
swell when again touched, as
surely, they will be, by the better
angels of our nature."

MARK ROBILLARD
SPENCER

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graduates.

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

SPRINGFIELD — Western New England University congratulates more than 700 students named to the Spring Semester 2020 President's List.

The following students are named to the President's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.80 or higher.

Erin Butts of Brookfield is graduating with a BS in Actuarial Science.

Kayla Bolduc of Leicester is graduating with a BS in Health Sciences.

Collin Winkelmann of Spencer is pursuing a BS in Computer Science.

Shaylah Dorman of West Brookfield is pursuing a BS in Health Sciences.

Brianna Niedzialkoski of West Brookfield is pursuing a BA in Psychology.

Having just celebrated its Centennial, Western New England University is a private, independent, coeducational institution. Located on an attractive 215-acre suburban campus in Springfield, Massachusetts, Western New England serves 3,825 students, including 2,580 full-time undergraduate students. Undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs are offered through Colleges of Arts and Sciences, Business, Engineering, Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and the School of Law.



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