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Mayor Humason reflects on passage of his first budget

By AMY PORTER
Staff Writer

WESTFIELD – “Overall, I’m pleased. As difficult as it was a budget year, because of the coronavirus and the Commonwealth, I’m pleased with the process and happy that my first budget passed 10 to 3,” said Mayor Donald F. Humason Jr. after the City Council vote to pass the Fiscal Year 2021 budget June 29.

“I hope we can build upon that in the future, and as we get better numbers, make better budgets for our city,” Humason added.

Humason said that going back one month, when the School Committee budget was being finalized, there was no information from the Commonwealth about what local aid might be this year. He said there still isn’t, adding that in a normal year, cities and towns would have been given cherry sheets listing the amount of local aid from the

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MAYOR DONALD F. HUMASON, JR.



WESTFIELD CITY HALL

City Council passes final FY21 budget

By AMY PORTER
Staff Writer

WESTFIELD – The City Council voted on the Orders of Appropriation at a Special Meeting June 29 before passing the final Fiscal Year 2021 budget on a vote of 10 to 3, with Councilors Dan Allie, Dave Flaherty and Nicholas J. Morganelli Jr. voting “no.”

“Overall I’m pleased. As difficult as it was a budget year, because of the coronavirus and Commonwealth, I’m pleased with the process and happy that my first budget passed 10 to 3,” said Mayor Donald F. Humason Jr. after the meeting.

The orders of appropriation included approvals of the Enterprise Funds in the city, which are the accounts with money paid for by other sources or raised by fees charged in exchange for service. These accounts include the Water Department, Sewer, Stormwater, the Ambulance Fund, the Community Preservation Account, and PEG (Public, Education and Government) community access.

Also passed were the appropriations for Workers Compensation and Unemployment for FY21.

A \$20,000 appropriation to the OPEB (Other Post Employees Benefit) account generated a discussion.

At-large Councilor Flaherty, a

proponent of setting aside funds for the OPEB obligation, said the amount was “so ridiculously low, I don’t see why we’re even bothering,” to which Ward 1 Councilor Morganelli concurred, calling it “insufficient.” The vote was the closest of the night, ultimately passing at 7 to 6, with Councilors Brent B. Bean II, Michael Burns, Ralph J. Figy, Flaherty, Morganelli and Richard K. Sullivan Jr. voting no.

When it came time to pass the FY21 Budget as a whole, several councilors took the time to comment on the process and state their reasons for voting for or against the budget.

“I’m going to be a no as you know,” Flaherty said, adding that he did want to give credit to the Mayor due to the difficult process. “There are significant obligations not just from the past mayor, but from many mayors going back,” Flaherty said. He noted that the budget contains a 2.5 percent tax increase while a lot of people and businesses are hurting.

Flaherty said the budget does not contain adequate funding for road repair or the schools. “We have yet again kicked the can down the road, and we are passing on our obligations to our kids down the road,” he

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Big E cancellation is ‘heart breaking’ for local businesses

By HOPE E. TREMBLAY
Editor

SOUTHWICK – Moolicious Ice Cream owner Joseph Deedy said he was “disappointed” with the announcement that The Big E was canceled because of the coronavirus pandemic. However, he wasn’t surprised.

“We knew it was coming, but it was hard to hear,” Deedy said.

Big E Public Relations and Communications Manager Catherine Pappas sent the official announcement Monday afternoon.

“On behalf of the staff and trustees of Eastern States Exposition, I bring you a very difficult message to convey. For the safety of our fairgoers, staff, vendors, entertainers, exhibitors, sponsors, suppliers and the broader community, we have made the decision to cancel the 2020 Big E,” she wrote. “Please know that this decision was not made lightly. In fact, it was one of the hardest decisions we, as an organization, have had to make in modern times.”

For small businesses like Moolicious, the 17-day Big E fair was a crucial part of its yearly budget.

“In those 17 days, if you do it right and you have a niche, you can make more than in your storefront,” Deedy said.

For Deedy, he is already trying to move forward to attempt to recover from the loss.

“We have our scoop truck that will be around town and we have our Big E favorites – the Moo Nut and fritters – in our restaurant,” he said.

Deedy said the revenue loss will trickle down. Not only will businesses such as Moolicious miss out, but the businesses Moolicious contracts with, such as Mansfield Paper for the napkins Deedy used at the fair and Millie’s Pierogi where Deedy purchased his pierogi.

“It definitely trickles down – there’s a ton of money that flows through The Big E,” he said.

Deedy said he “cried for five minutes, then moved on” and is already planning how to make up some of the revenue. The Three-County Fair is the last hold-out for regional fairs, but Deedy said he expects that will be canceled.

Deedy said making up for the losses would be tough, but “we will look for other opportunities.”

Moolicious, at 258 Feeding Hills Road in Southwick, is open daily 12-9 p.m..

For John Mountain, owner of The Granville Country Store, opportunities to recuperate the loss of The Big E could be fewer and farther between, especially because he expects the Granville



Moolicious Ice Cream brings its popular Moo-Nut to The Big E each year. (THE WESTFIELD NEWS FILE PHOTO)

Harvest Fair will also be canceled.

“It’s going to be awful,” he said. “It’s a big loss for us and for the employees we hire,” Mountain said. “It’s heartbreaking.”

Mountain had begun planning and purchasing supplies for the fair.

“It takes months to get ready,” he said. “It’s a snowball effect.”

Mountain said COVID-19 has hit small businesses hard. He said he hopes his regular Big E customers will be willing to travel to Granville to purchase his famous Granville Country Store Cheese.

The Granville Country Store, at 11 Granby Road in Granville, is open daily from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Pappas noted that The Big E Fair is so much more than just a fair, it is tradition, it is celebration, it is the showcase of everything we are so proud of in New England. “This is why our hearts are heavy as we bring you this news.”

There is precedent in the Exposition’s 104-year history when the Fair was put on hold during WWI and for five years during WWII. We’ve made it through difficult times before... the Flood of 1936... the Hurricane of 1938 and, 9-11, and together we’ll get through these unprecedented times as well.

“We know our faithful fairgoers will be disappointed,” Pappas stated. “This decision was difficult and complex, but we all know in our hearts that it’s the right thing to do for the health and safety of the 1.6 million people who support us each year.”

The Big E is slated for Sept. 17-Oct. 3, 2021. All purchases for the Zach Williams concert, scheduled for Sept. 20, will be refunded in full. The Big E Box Office will be contacting ticket purchasers directly.

Demonstrators return to WSU for second week to protest inaction against campus sexual assault

By PETER CURRIER
Staff Writer

WESTFIELD — More than a dozen demonstrators returned to the Westfield State University campus Monday afternoon for the second week to protest what they have perceived as inaction by the school administration in dealing with a student who sent what they call disturbing messages to a woman over a dating app.

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Student protesters await the arrival of more students and members of the WSU administration before beginning the protest. By the end, about two dozen protesters were present. No members of the administration ever arrived. (PETER CURRIER PHOTO)

Baystate grant targets opioid crisis, addiction

By LORI SZEPELAK
Correspondent

WESTFIELD-A \$20,000 grant has set in motion a collaboration between CORE of Greater Westfield and the Genesis Spiritual Life & Conference Center to offer a series of Grief and Loss Support Groups for people who have been impacted by the opioid crisis and addiction.

“In June, CORE of Greater Westfield was granted a \$20,000 grant from Baystate Noble Hospital,” said Kathi Cotugno, coordinator, CORE of Greater Westfield, adding the grant is for opioid prevention, treatment, recovery and referral for FY 2020.

Cotugno, who collaborated on writing the grant with Elizabeth Walz, executive director at Genesis, noted the grant will

create grief support groups for families and friends “who lost loved ones to substance use disorder.”

“The grant will also provide funding for the City of Westfield’s Drug Addiction and Recovery Team (DART) program,” said Cotugno. “DART provides access to harm reduction tools, such as Narcan and safety plans for use, as well as connections to community resources, and short or long-term recovery support. We are able to provide equipment and resources for the DART team and Narcan for harm reduction.”

The Grief and Loss Support Groups begin meeting via teleconference on July 7, and are free for residents of Westfield, Southwick, Blandford, Russell, Chester, Granville, Huntington, Agawam and West Springfield.

Sister Madeleine Joy, SP, and Cindy Hadge, BS, CPS, IPS, are co-facilitators for the support groups which will meet Tuesdays for friends and family members who have lost a loved one within the last six months to addiction, and on Thursdays for friends and family members who have lost a loved one more than six months ago to addiction.

Group meetings on both nights will be conducted from 7 – 8:30.

Hadge, a lead trainer with the Western Mass Recovery Learning Community, specializes in training on intentional peer support, alternatives to suicide group facilitation, issues of substance use, unusual or extreme experiences, and trauma-informed approaches.

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Cindy Hadge will co-facilitate new Grief and Loss Support Groups starting July 7. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)



Sister Madeleine Joy, SP, will co-facilitate a series of new Grief and Loss Support Groups with Cindy Hadge. (SUBMITTED PHOTO)

Steve Winn to Take Helm as Next President and CEO of Behavioral Health Network

Winn succeeds Katherine B. Wilson who previously announced her retirement

SPRINGFIELD — Behavioral Health Network (BHN) announced that Steve Winn, Ph.D., will take helm as the organization’s next President and CEO on July 1, as the retirement of former President and CEO Katherine Wilson becomes official. The BHN Board of Directors selected Winn to succeed Wilson, who served as President and CEO since the formation of the organization in 1992. Winn said, “The opportunity to lead the dedicated staff at BHN is especially gratifying. They are remarkable in their commitment to BHN’s mission of helping individuals, families and communities improve the quality of life for those with behavioral and developmental challenges. We will continue to develop and deliver high-

quality, team-based, integrated services and supports to those we serve.” Winn joined BHN in 1995 as Vice President and Director of the Child Guidance Clinic. He was later promoted to Senior Vice President and since 2017 has served BHN as Chief Operating Officer. According to BHN Board Chair George Marion, “Steve has intimate knowledge of the organization, its people, and its programs. He has established strong partnerships and enjoys an excellent reputation with local and statewide funders, key partners and stakeholders. In short, Steve has been an important contributor to BHN’s growth and success, and the Board believes there is no better person than Steve Winn to assume the role of BHN’s CEO and continue that growth and success.” Winn has extensive experience in the behavioral health field. He received a Master’s in Developmental

Psychology and a Ph.D. in Clinical and Developmental Psychology, both from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Winn went on to complete his fellowship at Yale University’s Child Study Center. After Yale, Winn became a staff psychologist at the University of New Mexico Children’s Psychiatric Hospital, where he also taught in the Department of Psychiatry as an Assistant Professor of Psychiatry. Winn is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. About BHN: BHN has been providing behavioral health services to children and families in Western Massachusetts since 1938. The agency provides community-based services that include innovative, integrated whole-health models as well as traditional clinical and outpatient and therapeutic services, day treatment, addiction services, crisis intervention and residential supports.



STEVE WINN, PH.D.

Police Logs

Major crime and incident report
Wednesday, June 24, 2020
WESTFIELD
3:33 a.m.: assist other agency, Pochassic Street at Pinewood Lane, a caller from CSX railroad reports a person has been reported to be riding atop one of the railroad cars of a train expected to enter Westfield soon, the responding officer reports the train stopped at Pinewood Lane but a search revealed nobody riding on top of any of its cars, a search of the nearby area did not reveal anyone who fit the description of the reported person;
6:28 a.m.: found property, West Silver Street, a caller reports finding a bicycle in the bushes in front of Abner Gibbs School, the responding officer reports a bike was found in the bushes in front of Westfield Middle School and transported to the station for safe keeping;
2:29 p.m.: disturbance, Whitney Playground, Sackett Street, a caller reports persons were injured in a fight at the playground involving several persons, the responding officers report persons were seen fleeing north across the pedestrian bridge and those left in the playground declined to cooperate with police regarding the recent activities at the playground;
4:06 p.m.: assault, Pochassic Street, a caller reports a stabbing and that a firearm may be involved, the responding officer reports a resident said that a family member was “jumped” in a fight earlier and some of her assailants came to her house to continue their assault, a caller said that the suspects had fled when told that police had been summoned, one person who was transported to Baystate

Noble Hospital for evaluation said that she had been punched, kicked and struck by the handle of a screwdriver wielded by an unknown party;
4:23 p.m.: accident, Franklin Street, a caller reports a two-car crash with a possible injury, the responding officer reports one person was transported to Baystate Noble Hospital and one vehicle was towed to the police impound yard;
5:39 p.m.: fraud Frederick Street, a caller requests to speak with an officer regarding a possible fraud, the responding officer reports an incident report was filed;
8:35 p.m.: threatening to commit a crime, Orange Street, a caller reports a former boyfriend has sent her text messages threatening to kill her, the responding officer reports he was able to speak with the suspect’s mother, an incident report was filed;
8:38 p.m.: accident, Main Street at Cross Street, an officer reports he is in pursuit of a vehicle which was involved in a crash and fled, the officer reports the erratically operating vehicle fled to Mainline Drive where it lost a tire and the operator was apprehended, one person was transported from Cross Street to Baystate Noble Hospital, Main Street was closed to westbound traffic until both vehicles were towed to the police impound yard, **Christopher B. Finch**, 28, of 50 Burt Road, Westhampton, was arrested for operating a motor vehicle under the influence of liquor, failure to stop for police, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, leaving the scene of personal injury and possession of an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.

SOUTHWICK
10:08 a.m.: officer wanted, a resident spoke with an officer at the police station regarding an investigation, she states she keeps receiving debit card sin the mail she did not request;
12:04 p.m.: animal complaint, Nicholson Hill Road, a stray dog was found in a yard and reunited with its owner;
3:04 p.m.: accident, Feeding Hills Road, a two-vehicle accident was reported without injuries, one vehicle drove into the rear end of another, one vehicle was towed from the scene;
4:57 p.m.: motor vehicle complaint, Coes Hill Road, a motorist was advised regarding speeding;
10:59 p.m.: suspicious activity, Southwick Regional School, youths skateboarding in the parking lot.

Court Logs

Westfield District Court
Wednesday, June 24, 2020
Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, cases will be heard on an emergency basis. Generally, only cases involving defendants in custody will be heard, remotely, utilizing videographic and telephonic technology. No comprehensive system for reporting the results of such hearings has been established.

THIS DAY IN HISTORY

WED., JULY 1, 2020 IS THE 183RD DAY OF THE YEAR. 183 DAYS REMAIN UNTIL THE END OF THE YEAR.

ON THIS DAY

AD 69 – Tiberius Julius Alexander orders his Roman legions in Alexandria to swear allegiance to Vespasian as Emperor.
552 – Battle of Taginae: Byzantine forces under Narses defeat the Ostrogoths in Italy. During the fighting king Totila is mortally wounded.
1097 – Battle of Dorylaeum: Crusaders led by prince Bohemond of Taranto defeat a Seljuk army led by sultan Kilij Arslan I.
1431 – The Battle of La Higuera takes place in Granada, leading to a modest advance of the Kingdom of Castile during the Reconquista.
1520 – Spanish conquistadors led by Hernán Cortés fight their way out of Tenochtitlan after nightfall.[1]
1523 – Jan van Essen and Hendrik Vos become the first Lutheran martyrs, burned at the stake by Roman Catholic authorities in Brussels.
1569 – Union of Lublin: The Kingdom of Poland and the Grand Duchy of Lithuania confirm a real union; the united country is called the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth or the Republic of Both Nations.
1643 – First meeting of the Westminster Assembly, a council of theologians ("divines") and members of the Parliament of England appointed to restructure the Church of England, at Westminster Abbey in London.
1690 – Glorious Revolution: Battle of the Boyne in Ireland (as reckoned under the Julian calendar).
1766 – François-Jean de la Barre, a young French nobleman, is tortured and beheaded before his body is burnt on a pyre along with a copy of Voltaire's Dictionnaire philosophique nailed to his torso for the crime of not saluting a Roman Catholic religious procession in Abbeville, France.
1770 – Lexell's Comet is seen closer to the Earth than any other comet in recorded history, approaching to a distance of 0.0146 AU (1,360,000 mi; 2,180,000 km)
1782 – Raid on Lunenburg: American privateers attack the British settlement of Lunenburg, Nova Scotia.
1819 – Johann Georg Tralles discovers the Great Comet of 1819, (C/1819 N1). It was the first comet analyzed using polarimetry, by François Arago.
1837 – A system of civil registration of births, marriages and deaths is established in England and Wales.
1855 – Signing of the Quinault Treaty: The Quinault and the Quileute cede their land to the United States.

1858 – Joint reading of Charles Darwin and Alfred Russel Wallace's papers on evolution to the Linnean Society of London.
1862 – The Russian State Library is founded as the Library of the Moscow Public Museum.
1862 – Princess Alice of the United Kingdom, second daughter of Queen Victoria, marries Prince Louis of Hesse, the future Louis IV, Grand Duke of Hesse.
1862 – American Civil War: The Battle of Malvern Hill takes place. It is the last of the Seven Days Battles, part of George B. McClellan's Peninsula Campaign.
1863 – Keti Koti (Emancipation Day) in Suriname, marking the abolition of slavery by the Netherlands.
1863 – American Civil War: The Battle of Gettysburg begins.
1867 – The British North America Act takes effect as the Province of Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia join into confederation to create the modern nation of Canada. Sir John A. Macdonald is sworn in as the first Prime Minister of Canada. This date is commemorated annually in Canada as Canada Day, a national holiday.
1870 – The United States Department of Justice formally comes into existence.
1873 – Prince Edward Island joins into Canadian Confederation.
1874 – The Sholes and Glidden typewriter, the first commercially successful typewriter, goes on sale.
1878 – Canada joins the Universal Postal Union.
1879 – Charles Taze Russell publishes the first edition of the religious magazine The Watchtower.
1881 – The world's first international telephone call is made between St. Stephen, New Brunswick, Canada, and Calais, Maine, United States.[2]
1881 – General Order 70, the culmination of the Cardwell and Childers reforms of the British Army, comes into effect.
1885 – The United States terminates reciprocity and fishery agreement with Canada.
1885 – The Congo Free State is established by King Leopold II of Belgium.
1890 – Canada and Bermuda are linked by telegraph cable.
1898 – Spanish–American War: The Battle of San Juan Hill is fought in Santiago de Cuba.
1903 – Start of first Tour de France bicycle race.
1908 – SOS is adopted as the international distress signal.

1911 – Germany despatches the gunship SMS Panther to Morocco, sparking the Agadir Crisis.
1915 – Leutnant Kurt Wintgens of the then-named German Deutsches Heer's Fliegertruppe army air service achieves the first known aerial victory with a synchronized machine-gun armed fighter plane, the Fokker M.5K/MG Eindecker.
1916 – World War I: First day on the Somme: On the first day of the Battle of the Somme 19,000 soldiers of the British Army are killed and 40,000 wounded.
1922 – The Great Railroad Strike of 1922 begins in the United States.
1923 – The Parliament of Canada suspends all Chinese immigration.
1931 – United Airlines begins service (as Boeing Air Transport).
1931 – Wiley Post and Harold Gatty become the first people to circumnavigate the globe in a single-engined monoplane aircraft.
1932 – Australia's national broadcaster, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, was formed.
1935 – Regina, Saskatchewan police and Royal Canadian Mounted Police ambush strikers participating in the On-to-Ottawa Trek.
1942 – World War II: First Battle of El Alamein.
1942 – The Australian Federal Government becomes the sole collector of income tax in Australia as State Income Tax is abolished.
1943 – The City of Tokyo and the Prefecture of Tokyo are both replaced by the Tokyo Metropolis.
1947 – The Philippine Air Force is established.
1948 – Muhammad Ali Jinnah (Quaid-i-Azam) inaugurates Pakistan's central bank, the State Bank of Pakistan.
1949 – The merger of two princely states of India, Cochin and Travancore, into the state of Thiru-Kochi (later re-organized as Kerala) in the Indian Union ends more than 1,000 years of princely rule by the Cochin royal family.
1957 – The International Geophysical Year begins.
1958 – The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation links television broadcasting across Canada via microwave.
1958 – Flooding of Canada's Saint Lawrence Seaway begins.
1959 – Specific values for the international yard, avoirdupois pound and derived units (e.g. inch, mile and ounce) are adopted after agreement between the US, the United Kingdom and other Commonwealth countries.
1960 – Independence of Somalia.

1960 – Ghana becomes a republic and Kwame Nkrumah becomes its first President as Queen Elizabeth II ceases to be its head of state.
1962 – Independence of Rwanda and Burundi.
1963 – ZIP codes are introduced for United States mail.
1963 – The British Government admits that former diplomat Kim Philby had worked as a Soviet agent.
1966 – The first color television transmission in Canada takes place from Toronto.
1967 – Merger Treaty: The European Community is formally created out of a merger with the Common Market, the European Coal and Steel Community, and the European Atomic Energy Commission.
1968 – The United States Central Intelligence Agency's Phoenix Program is officially established.
1968 – The Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons is signed in Washington, D.C., London and Moscow by sixty-two countries.
1968 – Formal separation of the United Auto Workers from the AFL–CIO in the United States.
1972 – The first Gay pride march in England takes place.
1976 – Portugal grants autonomy to Madeira.
1978 – The Northern Territory in Australia is granted self-government.
1979 – Sony introduces the Walkman.
1980 – "O Canada" officially becomes the national anthem of Canada.
1983 – A North Korean Ilyushin Il-62M jet en route to Conakry Airport in Guinea crashes into the Fouta Djallon mountains in Guinea-Bissau, killing all 23 people on board.
1984 – The PG-13 rating is introduced by the MPAA.
1987 – The American radio station WFAN in New York City is launched as the world's first all-sports radio station.
1990 – German reunification: East Germany accepts the Deutsche Mark as its currency, thus uniting the economies of East and West Germany.
1991 – Cold War: The Warsaw Pact is officially dissolved at a meeting in Prague.
1997 – China resumes sovereignty over the city-state of Hong Kong, ending 156 years of British colonial rule. The handover ceremony is attended by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, Charles, Prince of Wales, Chinese President Jiang Zemin, and U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.
1999 – The Scottish Parliament is

officially opened by Elizabeth II on the day that legislative powers are officially transferred from the old Scottish Office in London to the new devolved Scottish Executive in Edinburgh. In Wales, the powers of the Welsh Secretary are transferred to the National Assembly.
2002 – The International Criminal Court is established to prosecute individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, and the crime of aggression.
2002 – Bashkirian Airlines Flight 2937, a Tupolev Tu-154, and DHL Flight 611, a Boeing 757, collide in mid-air over Überlingen, southern Germany, killing all 71 on board both planes.
2003 – Over 500,000 people protest against efforts to pass anti-sedition legislation in Hong Kong.
2004 – Saturn orbit insertion of **Cassini**–Huygens begins at 01:12 UTC and ends at 02:48 UTC.
2006 – The first operation of Qinghai–Tibet Railway in China.
2007 – Smoking in England is banned in all public indoor spaces.
2008 – Rioting erupts in Mongolia in response to allegations of fraud surrounding the 2008 legislative elections.
2013 – Croatia becomes the 28th member of the European Union.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS

1971 – Missy Elliott, American rapper, producer, dancer, and actress
1971 – Julianne Nicholson, American actress
1975 – Sean Colson, American basketball player and coach
1975 – Sufjan Stevens, American singer-songwriter and guitarist
1979 – Forrest Griffin, American mixed martial artist and actor
1982 – Adrian Ward, American football player
1982 – Hilarie Burton, American actress
1985 – Chris Perez, American baseball player
1986 – Charlie Blackmon, American baseball player
1989 – Kent Bazemore, American basketball player
1991 – Michael Wacha, American baseball player
1992 – Aaron Sanchez, American baseball player
1995 – Savvy Shields, Miss America 2017
2001 – Chosen Jacobs, American entertainer[

Protest

The protesters expressed disappointment with the administration, which did not send anyone to represent the school and engage with the protesters. Chief of Staff Tricia Oliver had been present the previous week, engaging with the protesters on behalf of the administration.

Protest organizer Krystle Melanson said that they now have eight demands of the administration to ensure that such incidents cannot happen and that they are dealt with properly when they do.

The eight demands are as follows: **1.** They want WSU President Ramon S. Torrecilha to step down immediately so that incoming interim President Roy H. Saigo can get to work early. **2.** They want more transparency by WSU when they are conducting investigations such as the one in question. **3.** The immediate interim suspension of the student who is alleged to have sent threatening messages to a woman over Tinder. **4.** Further policy to be put in place to prevent predators from feeling welcome at WSU. **5.** The accused student's eventual expulsion from WSU as a final punishment. **6.** To add more preven-

tion programs to educate students about sexual assault, consent, and racial discrimination. **7.** Create an independent committee to review the sexual assault stories of past and present students and to update school policies accordingly. **8.** To add a mental health professional who is not hired by the school to speak with students who are victims of such crimes.

The protests were started after Tinder messages between the student and an unidentified woman were leaked on social media. In the messages, the two appeared to have been arguing about the role of police in America.

In the screenshots, Clayton is seen saying, "cops are the reason [you're] not raped every day."

When the woman responded that his statement had made no sense, he followed up by saying, "Who's to stop someone like me from raping [you] without the cops," said the student, "You? What would you do if I were to metaphorically rape you?" he wrote.

The protesters, as well as people commenting on the social media posts pointed out that rapes are rarely, if ever,

stopped by police in progress.

Several of the protesters, some of whom had graduated from WSU already, spoke about their own stories with rape and sexual assault on campus. All of those who talked about their experiences said that little to nothing was done by WSU officials to remedy the situation. In some cases the students claimed that they were blamed by WSU officials for getting assaulted in the first place.

The protesters also decried an article written by President Torrecilha that was published in local news publications, including The Westfield News. They called the article, which was titled, "Westfield State built on foundation of inclusivity", completely tone deaf, as it ran after last week's protest, but did not address the WSU protests or the incidents from which they stemmed.

Protester Alex Lavalley read a list of incidents of racism that had occurred between September, 2017 and November 2018 as reported by the WSU Bias Incident Response Team (BIRT). He pointed out that the list of incidents inexplicably stops after Nov. 2018, even though

BIRT is required to publicly report all such incidents.

During the protest, Melanson sent an email to Oliver inquiring about the administration's absence from the protest. Shortly after, Oliver sent a response to Melanson, which Melanson read aloud.

"Thank you for your email, and thank you for the opportunity to listen to your view-

points at last week's protest. Westfield State University does not have any further information beyond what I provided last week to share at this time. University leadership will not be at today's event," said Oliver's email.

On June 22, when Oliver was present, she repeatedly cited the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) as the reason she

could not give much information about the ongoing investigation into Clayton's messages.

Melanson claims that Section 99.36 of FERPA allows for the administration to provide more information than they have so far.

The protesters all said they would return to the campus green again next Monday to continue their protest.

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Budget

Continued from Page 1

state by July 1. He said the House hasn't even done its budget yet, a process usually done in April.

"There has been the same information blackout for nearly a month. We really had to craft this budget by factoring in wild guesses; we just assume there's going to be cuts from the Commonwealth," the Mayor said, adding that it's easier to cut at the start than in the middle of a budget year. If they assumed the aid would be the same as last year, and then got word of cuts in September, they would be in trouble, he said.

"I feel like I did what I had to do, as a former legislator and having served on Ways & Means, in anticipation of not receiving that revenue. If the cuts don't actually materialize, if the state sends a full boat, good for Westfield. Because of that, I would like to think we're in a better place than other cities and towns that level funded, and are in for a big surprise, a rude awakening," Humason said,

When asked if, as a former senator, he had experienced anything like this year's process, Humason said the only thing he could relate it to was after the 2007-2008 recession, when the Commonwealth cut the budget pretty substantially. The difference, he said, was

they had more time to plan at that time.

Humason said this year was more like after 9-11, when the entire country was impacted

"This was not a good budget. This is not what I wanted to do in my first year. My goals as a candidate were money for roads and potholes, safe streets, and economic development. That's what I wanted to do," Humason said. Instead, he ended up doing sort of a survival budget.

"We got through it because the department heads were professional about it. They met two or three times with me and the auditor and were able to make the cuts that we had to make. I chalk it up to the professionals that work for the city. I'm very proud of the work that they put in, and pleased that they were able to come up with the cuts that minimized the impact on people as much as possible. It was still difficult on the school

side, although there were far fewer layoffs than originally planned," Humason said.

Humason said that they ended up with a budget that despite some of the councilors saying didn't address future concerns, continues to provide essential city services, doesn't cut city workers and minimizes the impact of a substantial cut. Humason said the budget doesn't impact citizens, who won't know that there were cuts.

"We moved things around; they won't feel the pain. That's what we're supposed to do at the city level, provide services the best we can with the resources we have. If we're given more revenue at the state or federal level, I'll put money in where the cuts were made, including the tax increase," Humason said, stressing that if there is more revenue to come, "We'll use it to make sure the burden on the residents is even smaller."

City Council

Continued from Page 1

said, adding that the councilors would see motions from him regarding next year's budget at the July 2 City Council meeting.

"I'm going to be a no vote, first because it raises taxes and lays off workers," said Allie. He said he appreciated all of the effort that went into the budget, but called it a "train wreck," and said he was a no vote at the FY20 budget with contracts the city couldn't afford.

"Revenue from new growth barely covers the increases in our obligations," Allie said, adding that the city needs a written plan to fund OPEB with regular contributions.

"I am a yes vote on this budget, not without reservations," said Figy, chairman of the Finance Subcommittee. He said when he and the mayor started working on the budget in December, neither thought it would be this drastic. He agreed that the \$20,000 for OPEB is a "pittance," but said it was only there because Flaherty has insisted on regular contributions to the fund.

"The 2.5 percent tax increase I hope will be reduced in November when more revenues come in, on the school side and the city side. This budget was probably the hardest thing to do because nobody knew what the revenues were," Figy added.

At-large Councilor Kristen Mello said she agreed with everything that had been said, including the hard work on the budget by the department heads and the mayor. "A lot of this was set before we got here. I don't see how this is anything more than seeing the city can operate," Mello said.

Ward 3 Councilor Bridget Matthews-Kane also spoke about her first budget process. "The challenges have been amplified by COVID-19, which forced the city to cut back. This is not the year we would have imagined," she said, adding that she would be voting for the budget, although it was not the way she would prioritize spending.

"I am pleased that the City Council was able to move \$1.5 million in free cash to the schools. Children are our most precious resources. I was really heartened to see so many people, especially young people standing up during the public portion. As someone who wants more transparency and participation, this was heartening," Matthews-Kane added. She said for the residents that wrote to cut the police department budget, it would have been a symbolic cut. She said if the city were to reimagine the local Police Department, it should be based on its own

numbers and programs.

"I will be voting for the budget," said At-large Councilor James R. Adams. He said "obviously," the numbers were not where they needed to be. He said he wasn't willing to fund OPEB if it meant losing teachers in the School Department.

Adams also spoke about comparing Westfield to other cities, in response to a comment by Flaherty that Westfield shouldn't be comparing itself to others. "I will look at other cities to see what they're doing to fund OPEB, because that's what the state is doing. I think we all are trying to do the best for the city," he said.

Adams also talked about the city contracts. He said the contracts are the result of practices started years ago. "We haven't made any changes along the way. I think we need to start making changes now," he said, adding that he agreed the roads in Westfield are in "tough shape," but, "I'm not willing to cut teachers and schools. I think we've done a pretty good job."

"I just want to reiterate that a 2.5% (tax) increase is not set in stone; many opportunities that could change, that could be lowered. Hopefully, it will be," said At-large Councilor Cindy C. Harris.

Morganelli said he thought the committee and the mayor

did a good job, but underfunded schools and roads. He also said in his opinion the top heavy salaries in the city are "out of control," and he looked forward to spearheading a finance summit this fall or winter. "I'm hoping to tap these things to get us in better shape for the future," Morganelli said, before the 10 to 3 vote was taken,

After the meeting, Council President Brent B. Bean, II called the budget process this year "one of the hardest years to date. I give a lot of credit to the School Committee and the City Council for their work on this year's budget," he said, adding that they heard from a lot of the members during the process, "and most of the time the answer was 'no.'"

"The Commonwealth needs to start understanding that all cities and towns are struggling and the way they fund us isn't working. We need to start making it easier for businesses in Massachusetts, in both the private and public sectors. That includes the permitting process and the cost of bricks and mortar. The cost to pave a road, build a new school or maintain our water and sewer infrastructure is criminal," Bean said, adding, "Maybe our Governor and his finance team need to sit on one of our school committee and city council seats for him to realize."

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LOSS FROM ADDICTION?

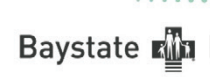
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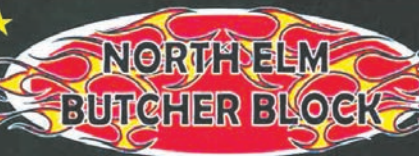
For more information, please contact
Genesis Spiritual Life & Conference Center at (413) 562-3627, ask for Annette.

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COMMENT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Task force on racism and violence

To the Editor,

As members of the Southern Hilltown Domestic Violence Task Force we want to say how saddened and unnerved we are by the recent and tragic deaths of Black Americans across the country. We do not accept racism, or the abuse of power in any realm. We believe that every person is valuable, has the right to be safe, and should be treated with dignity and respect – in and outside the home.

These are difficult times, and we want to reassure the community that the Task Force and all our partners are working hard to serve the community. If you are in danger we encourage you to reach out to your community resources. Hilltown police have done incredible work to support survivors of domestic violence, are critical members of the Task Force, and can always be reached by calling 911. Hilltown Safety at Home provides free advocates for anyone experiencing violence from an intimate partner or family member and can be reached at 413-693-9977 or 413-667-2203 x341. Advocates can help you review your options, make a safety plan, get a protective order, or simply discuss the challenges of living with someone who misuses their power to harm you.

As always, we would like to thank the hilltown community for your on-going support of our mission, and for your efforts to acknowledge and challenge the abuse of power wherever you find it.

Sincerely,

Lindsey Maxwell
Diane Meehan
Pastor Carol Smith
Pastor Stephen Philbrick
Mimi Cabin Ross
John Bergeron
Monica Moran
Phil Barry
Niciole Daviau
Deana LeBlanc
Martha Clark
Nancy Blume
Patti McManamy
Declan Nolan
Mary Kociela
Nancy Webb
Dan Kennedy

Southern Hilltown Domestic Violence Task Force

Open letter calls for nursing home reforms

By CHRIS LISINSKI
State House News Service

BOSTON - A new state task force convened to address health care disparities amid the pandemic should pursue new safety requirements in nursing homes to respond to thousands of deaths and prevent future crises, a think tank urged Sunday.

The Boston-based Pioneer Institute warned in an open letter that the outbreak's deadliness in Massachusetts surpasses the national average, with about 63 percent of the state's deaths occurring in the facilities compared to less than 40 percent across the country.

"COVID has wiped out 10 percent of Massachusetts' nursing home population. Going forward, the state needs to take affirmative steps to control infection and prepare nursing homes for the duration of the pandemic and beyond," said Pioneer Senior Healthcare Fellow Barbara Anthony, who co-authored the letter with Mary Connaughton, Pioneer's director of government transparency, and research assistant Andrew Mikula.

Gov. Charlie Baker signed legislation this month requiring the state Department of Public Health to collect and report more detailed information about COVID-19's impact on long-term care, and the bill also creates a task force to report on how lawmakers can address gaps in care that impact vulnerable or underserved populations.

Pioneer outlined steps for the task force to help protect nursing homes. Those include appointing an individual to coordinate the state's public health emergency response in nursing homes, requiring facilities to maintain a baseline stock of personal protective equipment, and mandating that each home appoint an infection preventionist.

Pioneer also called for more dedicated state oversight of facilities, arguing that concerns about their preparedness "pre-date this pandemic." More than one-third of homes did not comply with COVID-prevention methods as of May 21, authors said.

"The lack of testing and the serious lack of appropriate PPE due to supply chain factors, as well as shortages of staff with appropriate infection control training, created infectious conditions that spiraled out of control," authors wrote in their letter. "While residents and staff at most homes have now been tested once, there is no publicly available plan for how to ensure sufficient testing and adequate PPE going forward."



House-Senate feud threatens health care agenda

By CHRIS LISINSKI
State House News Service

BOSTON - With veto-proof supermajorities in both the House and Senate, Massachusetts Democrats are almost guaranteed success in crafting new laws when they have agreement within their ranks, particularly when they are responding to pressing circumstances such as a global pandemic.

But intraparty sniping on the committee in charge of health care bills has devolved into an all-out brawl over legislative procedures and negotiation faith, imperiling the fate of hundreds of bills in the process while raising questions about whether Democrats can put aside differences to advance major priorities in July.

Only five weeks remain until the July 31 deadline after which lawmakers will not be able to take recorded roll call votes. After they could not get an agreement across the finish line during the last two-year session, legislators risk ending this time around without another batch of failure on several major health care bills.

The tension stems from a dispute between leaders of the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing that has been simmering for months. Senate Chair Cindy Friedman and House Acting Chair Dan Cullinane brought the fractures into full public view over the past week as a key deadline approached and then passed.

Over that span, Friedman publicly questioned whether the House wants to accomplish health care reform this session and how it defines its role as a legislative body, while Cullinane accused Friedman of violating legislative rules and circumventing the traditional committee process to pursue Senate goals.

In an unusual step, the Senate on Thursday rejected a House-approved order extending the review deadline on 341 bills before Health Care Financing until Dec. 31, five months after the end of formal lawmaking sessions.

That automatically placed a negative recommendation on every one of the bills, and the Senate then plucked out 26 of those bills and sent them to the Ways and Means Committee, keeping them alive in the short term.

At Thursday's session, Friedman called the extension at this stage in the session "nonsense."

"Otherwise, they would have just sat there in Health Care Financing until Dec. 31, which means we couldn't do anything with them if they came out of committee," she told the News Service on Friday. "We don't even know if we're going past July. We have no idea. So it just didn't make any sense to us to do that."

Noting the planned July 31 end of formal sessions, Friedman said in the Senate: "Our formals will end soon. We're in the middle of a pandemic. Our health care system has been turned upside down. And our residents are depending on us to lead and to do everything we can to provide accessible and quality care. We can't wait. They can't wait. And so, it's time to move the bills along."

Cullinane, who said the long extension would not have precluded action by the Legislature, has complained alongside other House leaders that the Senate's approach "obstructed" the committee process.

When he sought the extension last week, he wrote to the House Clerk to explain the scope of the request and to outline his concerns that the Senate showed "disregard" for the committee's

role.

Cullinane said Friedman declined requests to open a poll on other bills unless she got a guarantee that Senate priorities would be sent to the Senate for a vote.

"Quite frankly, what the Senate chair prevented from happening was she prevented the membership that's supposed to vet and vote on these pieces of legislation -- she held hostage those members from vetting and voting," Cullinane said in a Friday interview. "She did that to sidestep the committee process to do what she did on the floor this week, which is picking out the bills she wanted to go forward at the expense of the joint rules and the committee process."

Friedman confirmed that she would not agree to a poll of Health Care Financing members last week on a range of legislation because Cullinane "wouldn't agree once we opened the poll where the bills would go."

She said she had an agreement in place with Cullinane's predecessor, former Rep. Jennifer Benson, that "Senate bills would come back to the Senate and House bills will go back to the House."

Benson resigned in January to become president of the Alliance for Business Leadership, and Cullinane, who had been the committee's vice chair, stepped up as acting chair.

Asked about Friedman's description of the agreement, Cullinane said the House's committee staff did not change after Benson's departure and that, "according to them, that is flatly untrue."

"Giving the same ultimatum five times is not the same as sending five proposals to the House. They've engaged in this ultimatum of 'we want all of the Senate bills and that's the way it's going to be, or it's no poll,'" Cullinane said. "Last week, we saw the totality of the legislation die by the vote of the Senate, and they own that 100 percent."

Their dispute reveals a tension central to much of the Legislature's committee process: because the House is larger, it is able to exercise stronger control of every joint committee with more seats on each panel than the Senate.

As a result, bills under review in joint committees cannot head to a branch for a full vote if its House members do not sign off -- meaning if the Senate wants to pass a measure, it either needs to have House lawmakers agree to advance the bill to the Senate, where senators can move bills to the floor after redrafts by the Senate Ways and Means Committee, or run the entire process through Ways and Means.

Major pieces of health care legislation in Massachusetts face an uncertain future

amid the infighting, two years after private negotiations collapsed at the end of session.

Both branches agreed last year on a proposal aimed at increasing access to health care for vulnerable children, but Senate-approved bills aimed at achieving parity between physical and mental health care and at reining in prescription drug prices remain untouched in the House.

The Senate's most recent sweeping bill approved Thursday -- one that went through Ways and Means -- aims to keep insurance companies covering telemedicine, allows nurse practitioners, nurse anesthetists and psychiatric nurse mental health specialists to practice independently, and calls for a default out-of-network rate to protect patients from surprise bills.

Pointing to those provisions, Friedman argued that the legislative process should not outweigh legislative results, particularly given the current public health crisis.

"There's lots of time people do things and I'm not all that thrilled with the way they do them, but if the subject matter is important, I've got to get over that," Friedman said. "That's how I look at it, but I can't tell you how the House is looking at it."

It remains unclear what exactly the House's approach will be in response. In a statement, a spokesperson for House Speaker Robert DeLeo said the COVID-19 pandemic has shown "the real benefits of telemedicine yet also unanswered questions."

"The House intends to pursue a limited healthcare bill that takes into account the fact that the healthcare marketplace is still in the midst of unprecedented, destabilizing uncertainty," DeLeo's office said. "The House believes the Commonwealth should show a commitment to some form of telemedicine prior to asking our incredible hospitals to invest further, particularly as they are focused on caring for COVID patients."

Both Friedman and Cullinane said they were ready and willing to work with the other side, even as both continued their ongoing criticism.

"We had hoped to have a willing partner on the Senate side to engage in the full legislation before the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, and we didn't," Cullinane said.

"We will talk to anybody at any time, anybody who's really willing to engage in solving these problems," Friedman said, nearly echoing Cullinane. "We're ready. But we need an eager and willing partner, and that's what we're looking for."



The Westfield News

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Mike Dobbs
MANAGING EDITOR

Flora Masciadrelli
DIRECTOR OF SALES/
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Hope E. Tremblay
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SPORTS EDITOR

Marie Brazee
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FRAN SMITH
GENERAL MANAGER

Lorie Perry
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62 School Street, Westfield , MA 01085

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SPORTS



Westfield Starfires begin to stretch out for the 2020 Futures Collegiate Baseball Season Monday at Bullens Field. (Photo by Marc St.Onge)



Ramon Jimenez (Boston College), of Chicopee, taps out a practice bunt during the Westfield Starfires first official team practice Monday at Bullens Field. (Photo by Marc St.Onge)

Starfires team practices officially lift off

By CHRIS PUTZ
Sports Editor

WESTFIELD – It was a sight to behold. For the first time this spring, baseballs left the yard with some regularity during batting practice — the first official Westfield Starfires team practice — Monday at Bullens Field.

Team officials welcomed the ball players to the field, laid out social distancing guidelines, and emphasized the opportunity given to players of the Futures Collegiate Baseball League, while leagues at all levels struggle to get going all across the country.

New Starfires Director of Player Personnel Hunter Golden delivered some inspirational words to the ball players just moments before they took the field.

“We’re the only act in town,” Golden said as players stood in front of the backstop and the dugout fences, a few feet apart from each other. “All eyes are on us.”

Earlier in the spring as coronavirus cases began to spike, college campuses began to close, sports was halted and student-athletes were sent home.

“We’ve been looking forward to this since our season (abruptly) ended in college,” said Westfield Starfires pitcher Jimmy Hagan, whose collegiate baseball debut for Division I school Quinnipiac University as a freshman was cut short due to the COVID-19 outbreak. Hagan is a 2019 graduate of Westfield High.

The Quinnipiac baseball team had just

wrapped up a two-game set in Georgia and was heading to Tallahassee, Florida on a bus when they received word that the season had been cancelled. They were re-routed to Orlando, Florida, and were flown home by plane the next day.

Over the last several weeks, Hagan said he has done his best to stay in shape, having adopted a strength and conditioning program shaped largely by his collegiate baseball coaching staff.

“We’ve tried to stay ready as much as we can for this moment and now we have it,” Hagan said. “We’ve been looking forward to this since our season (abruptly) ended in college.”

High school and college sports teams were not the only ones affected by the coronavirus. The New England Collegiate Baseball League, which is home to the region’s Holyoke-based Valley Blue Sox, and the Cape Cod Baseball League followed suit, shutting down amid health concerns.

“Being able to play this year is a bonus because a lot of people can’t (play),” Hagan said. “We’re lucky to be out here.”

Another local hurler, righty Carter Cousins, also of Westfield, who is bound for Georgetown University this fall, bubbled with enthusiasm while donning the Starfires jersey for the first time Monday.

“Any opportunity to play baseball is awesome,” Cousins said, “but to be in Westfield, be in our home and play baseball, this is going to



Mike Demartino (Southern Connecticut State), of New Haven, Conn., zeroes in on the ball during Starfires batting practice Monday evening. (Photo by Marc St.Onge)

2020

SCHEDULE

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3 NBB	4
5	6	7 NBB	8 WOR 6:30pm	9	10 ROX 6:30pm	11 ROX
12 NAV 3:00pm 5:30pm	13	14 WOR 6:30pm	15 WOR	16 NBB	17 NSK 6:30pm	18 NAV 6:30pm
19 ROX 3:00pm 5:30pm	20	21 NBB 6:30pm	22 WOR 6:30pm	23 WOR	24 WOR	25 NSK
26 NBB 3:00pm 5:30pm	27	28 NAV	29 ROX	30	31 NBB 6:30pm	

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 NBB
2	3	4 NAV	5	6 ROX 6:30pm	7 WOR	8 NAV
9 WOR	10	11 WOR 6:30pm	12 WOR	13 NBB	14 NBB 6:30pm	15 WOR 6:30pm
16 NAV	17	18 NBB	19 NSK 6:30pm	20	21	22
23	24	25				

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be special for us.”

The Starfires are scheduled to open the season July 3 at the Nashua Silver Knights. The two teams will meet again July 7 in Nashua, N.H., before the Starfires return to the Whip City for their home opener July 8 against the Worcester Bravehearts. First pitch at Bullens Field is set for 6:30 p.m.

Although state and local guidelines have not still not been established for games, Starfires team officials continue to reassure the public that Bullens Field will be a safe, family-friendly environment for all.

Players also appear to be on board with the changes likely to come as a result of social distancing measures.

“It will be different with some of the rules like only having starters in the dugout, and if we’re sitting in the stands or on the bench or separated down the bullpen it may take a little getting used to,” Hagan said, “but it’s baseball. Once you’re out there you kind of almost forget about it all. We’re just lucky to play.”

Anyone interested in purchasing tickets for Starfires home games is urged to visit the team website — westfieldstarfires.com. Tickets are affordably priced at \$10 apiece for general admission. Parking is free.

“I played at Bullens almost my whole life and the best thing about Bullens is all the people who come out — the fans, the friends, the family,” said Cousins. “I one hundred percent expect the same thing this year. Billy Bullens Field; it’s Westfield, a baseball town. How could you not want to come watch the Starfires?”

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COMICS

SPEED BUMP Dave Coverly



AGNES Tony Cochran



ARCHIE Fernando Ruiz and Craig Boldman



RUBES Leigh Rubin



Violence baguettes violence.

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Playing the percentages

South dealer. Neither side vulnerable.

NORTH
♠ A 10 9 5 2
♥ K 9
♦ 6
♣ 10 8 7 3 2

WEST
♠ K 3
♥ 6 5 2
♦ K 10 8 7 3
♣ Q 9 4

EAST
♠ Q J 8 6
♥ 7 4 3
♦ 9 4 2
♣ J 6 5

SOUTH
♠ 7 4
♥ A Q J 10 8
♦ A Q J 5
♣ A K

The bidding:
South 2♥ West 2♠ North 2♥ East 3♥
3♥ Pass 2♠ Pass 4♥ Pass 6♥

Opening lead — five of hearts.

In many hands, declarer is faced with a choice of several possible lines of play. In such cases, he should select the approach that offers the greatest chance of success, even if that chance is not a very good one.

Take this case where West found the most effective lead against six hearts, a trump. Without this lead, South could have gotten home safely by cashing the ace of diamonds and leading the queen through West.

However, the opening trump lead completely altered the situation. Now the ruffing finesse in diamonds would

do declarer no good: After West covered the queen with the king and dummy ruffed with its last trump, South would still be left with a diamond loser as well as a spade loser.

Declarer therefore considered his remaining options. One possibility was to win the opening trick in dummy and lead a diamond to the queen. If the finesse succeeded, he could next cash the ace of diamonds and ruff a diamond in dummy, hoping that the king would fall on either the second or third round.

The only viable alternative to this was to try to establish dummy's clubs by cashing the A-K, playing the ace of diamonds, ruffing a diamond and ruffing a club. If the opposing clubs broke 3-3, South would later discard a spade and a diamond on dummy's good clubs to make the slam, losing only a diamond to the king.

Confronted with these two options, declarer had to rely on percentages. He knew that a 3-3 club division would occur only 36 times in 100 — certainly not the best of odds. But he also knew that his chance of winning a diamond finesse and then dropping the king doubton or tripleton with eight diamonds missing was even worse — roughly, a bit more than 10%.

So South elected to play for the 3-3 club break, and, with a welcome assist from Lady Luck, the slam came rolling home.

Tomorrow: Little strokes fell great oaks.
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CROSSWORDS

ACROSS

1 Even
5 Mahal
8 Cain's brother
12 Farm unit
13 World Cup cheer
14 Money
15 Research sites
17 Slightly
18 Makeup mogul
19 Tennessee team
21 Spanish ayes
24 Retrieve
25 Bulb measure
28 Data
30 First lady?
33 Mature
34 Prank
35 Command to Fido
36 "— Kapital"
37 Flightless birds
38 Elevator name

39 As well
41 Russian ruler
43 Disqualify (oneself)
46 Appointments
50 Eventful periods
51 Driving exam hurdle
54 Pugilist's weapon
55 Tax-collecting org.
56 Lighten
57 Beholds
58 "Blue Bloods" extra
59 Let fall

DOWN

1 London gallery
2 Frosts
3 Formerly, once
4 Abhor
5 Ode title
6 Priestly garment
7 Bit of banter
8 Quartz variety
9 Software trial
10 Flair
11 Classic
16 Floral ring

20 Borodin's "Prince —"
22 Thailand, once
23 Suggestions
25 Bankroll
26 Turkish title
27 Legal precedent
29 Own (up)
31 Half of XIV
32 UFO pilots
34 Corp. leaders
38 Gave a speech
40 Expels
42 Do sums
43 Umps
44 Pennsylvania port
45 Actor Bana
47 Eye drop
48 Old U.S. gas brand
49 Dance move
52 Spanish gold
53 Cleo's slayer

Solution time: 23 mins.

Yesterdays answer 7-1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12					13			14		
15				16				17		
18							19	20		
			21		22	23		24		
25	26	27			28		29		30	31
33				34					35	
36				37				38		
		39	40			41		42		
43	44				45		46		47	48
50					51	52	53			
54					55			56		
57					58			59		

CRYPTOQUIP

FXHW L BWLVH NB FZLJJNWO

SNOXSPE LZTYWC NSB JZHE,

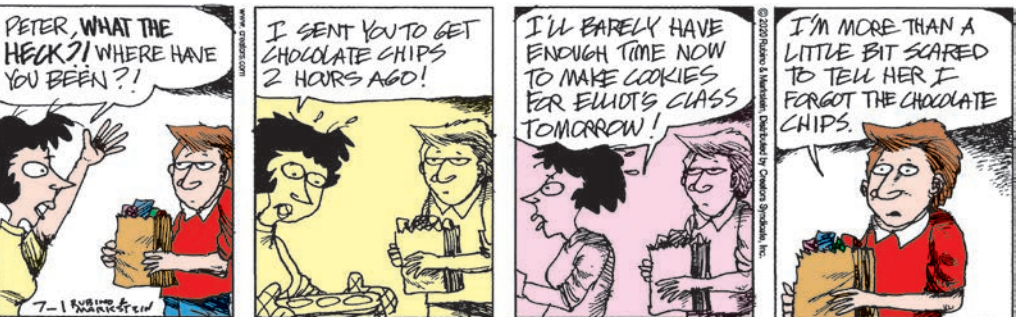
FTYPC ETY GLPP NS L

GTWBSZNGSNTW FTZVHZ?

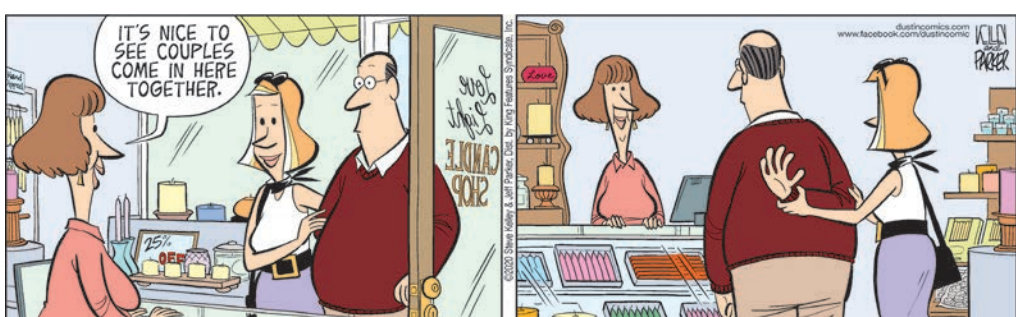
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF AN ARAB LEADER LOVES COCOA-FLAVORED DAIRY DRINKS, I THINK HE MAY BE A CHOCOLATE MILK SHEIK.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: E equals Y

DADDY'S HOME Tony Rubino and Gary Markstein



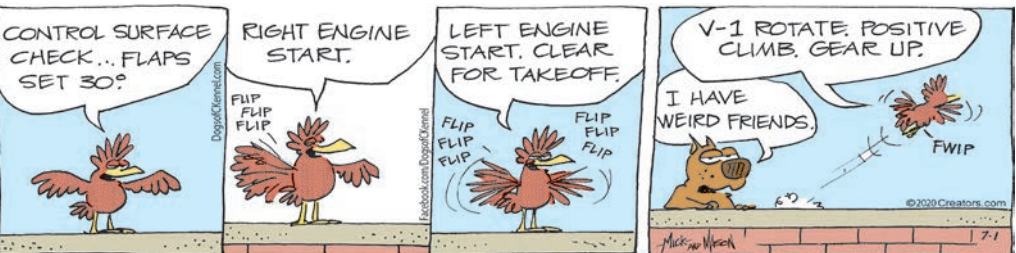
DUSTIN By Steve Kelley and Jeff Parker



SCARY GARY Mark Buford



DOGS of C-KENNEL Mick and Mason Mastroianni



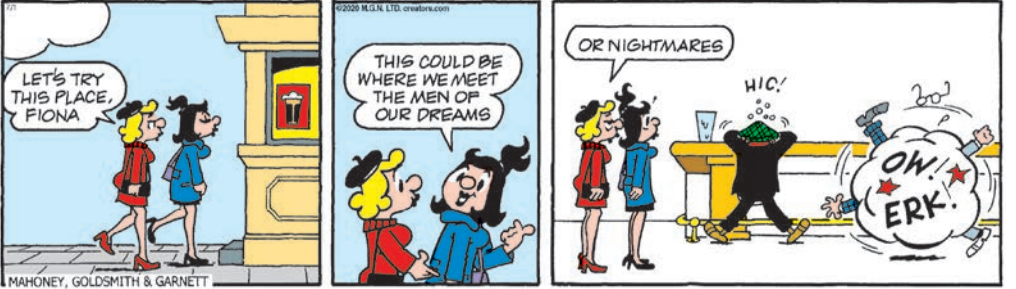
B.C. Mastroianni and Hart



ONE BIG HAPPY Rick Detorie



ANDY CAPP Mahoney, Goldsmith and Garnett



ZACK HILL John Deering and John Newcombe



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

YOUR HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, July 1, 2020:

Highly sensitive and giving, it is essential that you move out into the world to be fully successful. Once there, you are most often adored. That which you love generates a good income. If single, you can become depressed and must overcome this to let a partner know your personal feelings. If attached, marital bliss is assured as long as you can still feel emancipated. CAPRICORN is very protective of you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Enthusiasm for new challenges at work is generated today. You will become more competitive and something of a leader. Imaginative and spiritual people create an atmosphere of mystery and intrigue. Tonight: Good or bad acquaintances might not be as they seem.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Today finds others insecure about their jobs and talents. Bolster a friend with encouraging comments and tell a few jokes. This creates a connection. Others might not be what they seem to be. Avoid those who drift or prove unreliable. Tonight: Relax.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Team spirit is a must at work. You reach your goals today by fitting in with the crowd. Those in positions of authority are uncertain. Work hard and be patient until they feel more settled before announcing your own goals. Tonight: Get organized.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You sense a change of heart coming on in love. You realize how much you have grown this year. There is a new sophistication present. Quality is appreciated more. It is time to finalize plans and put them into action. Tonight: Honesty is a must.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ A relative can guide your career path. Accept family members as they are and resist the temptation to try to change them. Focus on making your residence as comfortable as possible. Select drapes to fend off the coming hot summer sun. Tonight: Welcome innovation.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You feel the need to accomplish more. This ambition leads you to pursue your work with an intensity. Do not let job-related stress build. Being a good listener will be a tremendous advantage today. Tonight: A friend makes a helpful recommendation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Today you will have an extra awareness of what you need to assure comfort and security in your life. Resist the temptation to judge others by their income. Genuine wealth wears many faces. You concentrate well and develop a new clarity of understanding. Tonight: Relax.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You will have tremendous energy and motivation, but could be quick to annoyance and anger. Focus on constructive thoughts and actions, and the world will be at your feet. Tonight: If you've always wanted to write, this is the time to give it a try.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You are more introspective than usual today. You will cherish your privacy. Dream activity accelerates. Try keeping a journal as an aid in understanding your personal motivations. Solitary meditations and rituals will be very effective. Tonight: You could become aware of a past life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan 19)
★★★★★ Today brings teamwork and cooperation to assure success. Charming and talented associates create an opportunity for you to fulfill a cherished wish. Friends who have been out of touch forever suddenly contact you. You are happy. Tonight: A good roaring catch-up.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Career matters are of prime concern. They lead you above the call of duty. You will be highly visible in your work. Expect a competitive situation. A little humor and perspective are a must. Otherwise, the intensity of your feelings could overwhelm. Tonight: Up late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Discussions and written messages produce good work today. Travel will be more rewarding than expected, now that you finally can travel. You can plan for the limited future to proceed confidently with journeys of all kinds. Tonight: Life is magical.

BORN TODAY
Actress Leslie Caron (1931), director Sydney Pollack (1934), comedian Dan Aykroyd (1952)

Dear Annie

By ANNIE LANE



Choosing Words Wisely

Dear Annie: I was reading "Don't Call Me 'Dear'" and wanted to give you my two cents' worth. I am a woman, 72 years old. If someone calls you "dear," "sweetie," "sweetheart" or something like this, you should take it as a compliment. This applies whether the person doing the calling is a woman or a man, and it doesn't matter if the person is a friend, relative or stranger; it would be a very nice comment. Life is too short to get upset with "little" things in the world. Just deal with it! -- Gloria in Texas

Dear Gloria: Thank you for your perspective, which is shared by many readers. But still others, such as the nurse who wrote the next letter, feel that those greetings by strangers are inappropriate.

Dear Annie: I agree with "Don't Call Me 'Dear.'" I worked in a nursing home for 20 years, and one of the things that the state inspectors would get you on is calling a resident "dear," "honey," "sweetie" or something similar because it is disrespectful. The only way it was OK was if the resident wanted to be called that, and it was clearly documented in their care plan.

I hate it when someone waiting on me at a store or restaurant calls me "dear" or any of the above-mentioned names. To me, it is disrespectful, even if that is not the intent. And in most cases, I'm sure it is not. But it is still wrong. -- Don't Call Anyone Dear

Dear Don't Call Anyone Dear: You make a good point, and I thank you for expressing it. This is one issue where all readers will have to make their own decisions.

I do believe that the more we live with love in our hearts and don't sweat the small stuff, the happier we will be.

Dear Annie: My husband passed away unexpectedly last year. During our 13-year marriage, unbeknownst to me, he had showered his adult children with gifts of all kinds, including vacations.

However, he was very frugal when it came to our wants and needs. I had no idea of the extent of the expenses until finding out in probate that his adult children got everything left to them: a cash amount over a million dollars, an undisclosed property, an undisclosed house and numerous other undisclosed gifts.

Well, there is a law regarding fiduciary duties, in that a spouse, by law, must inform the other spouse of these gifts and also get, in writing, that the other spouse knows and agrees to the gifts, whether it be money or items. In case of a divorce, the spouse, not having given the other spouse notice, nor obtaining, in writing, an agreement, will be responsible for restitution to the unknowing spouse. -- Upset About the Way Things Happened

Dear Upset: I am very sorry that you had to deal with this all of these surprises after the unexpected death of your husband. Shock and grief compound each other, and I'd be cautious of them clouding your judgment, particularly in your relationship with your husband's children. Your husband deceived you, and sadly, he is not here to work through this with you. However, there are resources to help you come out of this a stronger person without resentment. A therapist or counselor can give you some emotional and mental support, and legal counsel can give you financial guidance. It might not be easy, but, slowly, that upset will diminish.

HINTS FROM HELOISE



Shrimp Dijon

Dear Heloise: When my son came home for a visit, I made your Shrimp Dijon and he loved it! I have misplaced the recipe, but I want to make it again when he comes home from overseas. He's served his country, now I want to serve him a dish he really likes. Would you repeat the recipe for me?

-- Hillary in Mississippi
Hillary, you'll need:
1 1/2 pounds peeled, deveined shrimp
1/4 cup butter or margarine
1 medium onion, thinly sliced
1/4 cup flour
1 1/2 cups milk
2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
1 6-ounce package cream cheese, softened
Melt butter or margarine in frying pan, add shrimp and onions and saute for 3 minutes; DO NOT brown. Sprinkle flour into mixture, while thinning the mixture with milk a little at a time to avoid lumping. Add mustard, nutmeg, salt and pepper and cook for 3-5 minutes. Stir in cream cheese until blended, warm through but DO NOT boil. Serve over rice.

If you like this recipe and want more tasty meals to try, order my pamphlet "Heloise's Main Dishes and More." To receive a copy, visit www.Heloise.com, or send \$3, along with a long, self-addressed stamped (70 cents) envelope to: Heloise/Main Dishes, P.O. Box 795001, San Antonio, TX 78279-5001.

Go ahead and enjoy your favorite dishes. As Erma Bombeck once said: "Seize the moment.

Remember all those women on the Titanic who waved off the desert cart." -- *Heloise*

LEFTOVER BREADS
Dear Heloise: When I have leftover hot dog buns, bread or stale dinner rolls, I tear them into pieces and put them in a food processor or blender. Then I pulse to make breadcrumbs for meatballs, meatloaf or casseroles. I package them up in 1 cup measures and put them in the freezer. -- J.T., Dayton, Ohio

CAST-IRON SKILLET
Dear Heloise: I try not to use soap when cleaning cast-iron skillets, so I found that an easy way to clean a cast-iron skillet that has stuck-on food is to scrape out what you can, then add some water to cover the bottom. Return to the stove and heat up. As the water boils, it will lift most of the baked-on food with a little help from a plastic or wooden spatula. Let the pan cool before emptying, rinsing and wiping out residue. -- *Stephanie H., Rockingham, Vir.*

BUTTERMILK
Dear Heloise: I love buttermilk but worry that it might be high in cholesterol. Is it? My husband and I are trying to reduce the amount of cholesterol in our diets for health reasons. -- *Suzanna in Maryland*

Suzanna, buttermilk does not contain butter. The name originally was derived from being a byproduct of traditional butter making. The good news is that buttermilk contains a type of milk "fat" that can lessen the uptake of LDL (bad cholesterol), so go ahead and enjoy. -- Heloise

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UNIVERSAL
Sudoku Puzzle

			8	9				1
	2			6		3		5
		6	3	5				7
		1			9		5	
3				2				9
	9		1			6		
4				1	6	5		
9		8		4			1	
2				8	3			

Complete the grid so every row, column and 3 x 3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9 inclusively.

Previous puzzle solution

1	9	5	8	3	7	6	2	4
8	6	7	9	2	4	3	5	1
4	3	2	1	5	6	9	8	7
2	4	6	7	1	8	5	3	9
7	8	9	5	6	3	1	4	2
5	1	3	2	4	9	7	6	8
9	7	4	3	8	5	2	1	6
3	2	8	6	9	1	4	7	5
6	5	1	4	7	2	8	9	3

7/1

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

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6/30

LEGAL NOTICES

July 1, 2020

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

HAMPDEN, ss.

SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT HAMPDEN DIVISION

Civil Action Number 20-0181

SHAWN RUTOLA, Plaintiff v. Steven Pulaski and Brenda Pulaski, Robin Solek, William Storzuk and Margaret J. Storzuk, Brian Beger and Nora Beger

CITATION FOR PUBLICATION

The above entitled action is now pending in this Court. This complaint concerns a certain parcel of land in Southwick, Hampden County, and said Commonwealth being known as and numbered 25 Eagle Street, Southwick, MA. This action contains a claim that the Plaintiff and his predecessors in title have been in the actual, peaceable, exclusive, open, notorious, visible, hostile, continuous and uninterrupted adverse possession of the whole property described in said Complaint. Plaintiff seeks an order that he is seized in fee simple of the property in Southwick, MA located at 25 Eagle Street, Hampden County, MA, being shown as exhibit 1 of the Complaint filed in this case.

The original pleading is on file with the Court and may be examined by interested parties. If you intend to make any defense, you are hereby required to file with the Hampden Superior Court an answer to the complaint on or before twenty days after the publication of this Citation, and a copy thereof must be served upon the plaintiff's attorney, Dennis P. Powers, Powers Law Group, LLC, whose address is 1391 Main Street, Suite 806, Springfield, MA 01103 on or before said day.

If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded and in the complaint. Unless otherwise provided by Rule 13A, your answer must state as a counterclaim any claim which you may have against the plaintiffs which arise out of the transaction or occurrence that is the subject matter of the plaintiff's claim or you will thereafter be barred from making such claim in any other action.

It is ORDERED that notice be given by publishing a copy of this notice one time in the Westfield News, a newspaper of general circulation in Southwick, MA. Said order to be completed by 8/5/2020.

SO ORDERED

David Hodge, Justice
Date: June 11, 2020

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