



GONE FISHIN'
Plenty of local waterways to cast your line for reel fun
Inside Weekender »



JEWELL HILL FARM
Trustees acquire open space in North Central
Local » 3A



HOCKEY EAST
League says it's forging ahead with schedule
Sports » 9A

SHOWER/T-STORM
High: 89
Low: 66
» PAGE 2A

Sentinel & Enterprise

Thursday, July 30, 2020 \$2.00 FACEBOOK.COM/SENTINELANDENTERPRISE TWITTER.COM/SENTANDENT **sentinelandenterprise.com**

SHIRLEY



PITCHING IN FOR FUN



Above: Ty Winthrop, 12, of Groton, pitches high and tight to his brother Brad, 11, who ducks away, as they take batting practice with Wiffle balls at Rodger Herbert Field in Shirley recently.

Left: Jim Winthrop, 11, of Groton, fields some balls during batting practice with his brothers.

Right: Brad Winthrop fouls off a pitch.

JULIA MALAKIE
PHOTOS / LOWELL
SUN



LEOMINSTER

Schools unveil reopen options

Board to vote tonight on which to pursue

By Cliff Clark
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LEOMINSTER » The School Department Wednesday released its three preliminary plans to reopens school in the fall, offering guidance for a full reopening for all students, a hybrid model that combines in-school and remote learning and completely remote learning.

During a meeting of the School Committee today at 6 p.m., a decision will be made on which model to use.

“In creating a remote learning plan, hybrid plan and a full reopening, our district team put forth family and staff surveys, held multiple virtual community forums, participated in webinars and organized working teams to better inform decision making,”

SCHOOLS » 8A

29 new deaths reported

By Aaron Curtis
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BOSTON » State health officials reported 356 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 29 confirmed deaths from the virus on Wednesday, bringing the death toll statewide to 8,360.

The 356 confirmed cases announced Wednesday by the state Department of Public Health is the highest total reported in July and brings the statewide total to 109,096.

For the first time in approximately a month, the seven-day weighted average of the state's positive test rate reached 2%, according to Wednesday's data released by the DPH.

Despite the increase, Wednesday's figure remains significantly lower than its peak of 16.6% on May 1.

There are 390 people currently hospitalized with the virus, including 62 who are in intensive care and 23 who are intubated.

VIRUS » 8A

SENATE WANTS STUDY PANEL

Will a new state seal get stamp of approval?

By Chris Lisinski
State House News Service

Massachusetts senators unanimously agreed Tuesday that a panel should suggest a new state seal to replace the 122-year-old version that Native Americans largely view as symbolizing white supremacist violence.

The Senate voted 39-0 to approve a Sen. Jason Lewis resolve forming a special commission tasked with designing a new seal and state motto and with studying ways that the existing version, which depicts a Native man standing beneath a disembodied arm and sword, “may be unwitting white supremacist violence.”

SEAL » 8A



The Massachusetts state flag flies in front of Boston City Hall in 2016. Senators want a panel to study changing the image on the flag to be more racially sensitive.

MASSACHUSETTS

House votes to extend session

Lawmakers made the rare move Wednesday and now look to the Senate. **PAGE 2A**

NATION

Fed agents begin to pull back in Portland

President Trump has ordered some on standby in light of protests. **PAGE 5A**

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Today's Question

Should Massachusetts change its state seal?

YES OR NO

VOTE AT SENTINELANDENTERPRISE.COM

Yesterday's question results (43 votes)

Should President Trump attend Rep. John Lewis' funeral?

