

OBITUARIES

Laurel Dunbar Coutts

Laurel Dunbar Coutts, who loved Lewiston, and considered it her hometown, died Aug. 4, 2022, in San Francisco, after an extended illness. She was 69.

A high-energy go-getter who loved numbers, Laurel outlived her original prognosis by a full three years, surprising her doctors at many junctures.

She was born Laurel Dunbar on Oct. 9, 1952, in Washington, D.C. Her parents, Milly Ann and Jack Douglass Dunbar, had moved

from Ohio to D.C. when her father took a position at the Pentagon as an inventor.

Her early childhood was spent in rural Saratoga County in Ballston Lake. They also lived in Pennsylvania and Illinois. When Laurel was 11, the Dunbars relocated to Lewiston, where they put down lasting roots and shared their enthusiasm for music with the community.

A 1970 graduate of Lewiston-Porter High School, Laurel start-

ed college at SUNY Stony Brook. After two years, she transferred to her alma mater, Goddard College in Plainfield, Vermont. Laurel later earned an MBA with an emphasis on finance from SUNY Buffalo, also known as the University at Buffalo.

Laurel married Alfred McRobert Coutts Jr. of Lewiston in 1976. They moved to Tennessee, Louisiana and Texas for her career as a financial controller with the Occidental Chemical Division of

Occidental Petroleum Corp. After 26 years with Oxy, in 2000, Laurel and her two children moved to San Francisco for the climate and its other famed attributes.

Preceding Laurel in death were her husband, Al; her daughter, Jessica Leigh; both parents; her sister, Heather Dunbar of Van Etten – near Ithaca; and her brothers: John Douglass Dunbar and Hal Davis Dunbar.

Survivors include her son, Alfred McRobert Coutts of Oak-

land; her sisters: Holly Dunbar Clare Beaudet of Newfield, and Leslie Garriott of Monrovia, California; her mother-in-law, Mary Coutts; and family in Lewiston.

In lieu of flowers, those who wish to make a donation in Laurel's memory are asked to give to the Greensprings Natural Cemetery Preserve, 293 Irish Hill Road, Newfield, NY, 14867.

Niagara County Sheriff's Office K9 Reggie to get body armor

Niagara County Sheriff's Office K9 Reggie will receive a bullet and stab protective vest thanks to a charitable donation from non-profit organization Vested Interest in K9s Inc. K9 Reggie's vest is sponsored by Christine Rath of Youngstown, and will be embroidered with the sentiment "Born to Love – Trained to Serve – Loyal Always." Delivery is expected

within eight to 10 weeks.

Vested Interest in K9s, established in 2009, is a 501(c)(3) charity whose mission is to provide bullet and stab protective vests and other assistance to dogs of law enforcement and related agencies throughout the U.S. This potentially lifesaving body armor for four-legged K9 officers is U.S. made, custom-fitted and

NIJ-certified. Since its inception, Vested Interest in K9s has provided over 4,714 vests to K9s in all 50 states at a value of \$6.9 million, made possible by both private and corporate donations.

The program is open to U.S. dogs that are at least 20 months old and actively employed and certified with law enforcement or related agencies. K9s with

expired vests are also eligible to participate. There are an estimated 30,000 law enforcement K9s throughout the U.S.

Vested Interest in K9s accepts tax-deductible contributions in any amount, while a single donation of \$960 will sponsor one vest. Each vest has a value of \$1,744 to \$2,283, weighs an average of 4 to 5 pounds, and comes with a five-

year warranty.

For more information, or to learn about volunteer opportunities, call 508-824-6978. Vested Interest in K9s provides information, lists events, and accepts donations at www.vik9s.org, or one may mail a contribution to P.O. Box 9, East Taunton, MA 02718.

LEWISTON POLICE BLOTTER

The following activity occurred Monday, Aug. 1, to Saturday, Aug. 6, as reported by the Lewiston Police Department. LPD reported 230 response calls during this period. For more information on arrests and other activity, visit the Lewiston Police Department's mobile app or its page on Facebook

Monday, Aug. 1

- **900 block of Lake Road, domestic disturbance at a business** – Patrols on location; no further information.
- **1600 block of Wayside Drive, noise complaint** – Caller reported a large, loud party. Responding patrols reported a group of eight people had just arrived at the location from a Darien Lake concert, subjects waiting for a ride home. Patrol advised of the noise complaint; subjects will keep the noise down.
- **2100 block of Adams Circle, criminal investigation** – Patrol on location for a 911 complaint. No further information.
- **1000 block of Ridge Road, vehicle/traffic stop** – Call officer initiated. Driver cited for speed in zone. Uniform traffic ticket issued for Lewiston Town Court.

Tuesday, Aug. 2

- **1900 block of Main Street, Niagara Falls, warrant service** – Patrols on location. Report taken.
- **5900 block of Kline Road, forgery** – Caller reported stolen checks that had been cashed; patrols on scene. Report taken.
- **5200 block of Lewiston Road, 911 hang-up** – Patrols reported an open 911 call received from a child. Officers said a child was left in a vehicle alone while his mother was in a doctor's office. Officers responded; female taken into custody and vehicle towed from scene.
- **University Drive, Niagara University campus** – check welfare – Campus Safety call to 911 reported a dark gray SUV in the parking lot; driver under the influence. Patrols on scene; driver taken into custody for driving while intoxicated.
- **900 block of Oxbow Lane, larceny** – Officer initiated call. Patrols on scene; report taken.
- **500 block of Greenfield Road, domestic disturbance** – Patrols on scene for a 911 call. Report taken.
- **4700 block of Westwood Drive, forgery** – Caller reported a fraud incident through a Venmo transaction. Patrols responded.
- **900 block of Upper Mountain Road, vehicle/traffic stop** –

Call officer initiated. Registered owner cited for speed in zone. Uniform traffic ticket issued for Lewiston Town Court.

Wednesday, Aug. 3

- **600 block of Cayuga Drive, animal complaint** – female caller reported encountering two large raccoons in garbage cans in the garage. Caller said animals are hissing at her and would not let her inside. Patrol responded; raccoons captured and released into a safe area.
- **Lewiston Road/Niagara Scenic Parkway, MVA-injuries** – Caller to 911 reported a motorcyclist down in the roadway; subject awake, possible road rash injury. Patrol responded; male transported to hospital. Report taken.
- **N. Seventh/Oneida streets, MVA-injuries** – Caller to 911 reported a 12-year-old juvenile on a bike had pulled out in front of a vehicle and made contact with the bumper. Patrol responded; subject declined EMS assistance; no further information given.

Thursday, Aug. 4

- **2900 block of Saunders Settlement Road, animal complaint** – Caller reported an injured raccoon in the roadway, unwilling to move. Animal rehab secured raccoon; patrol cleared.
- **800 block of Hackney Lane** – damage to property – Caller report-

ed a door dash driver took out the mailbox. Patrol on scene for report.

- **700 block of Center Street, MVA-property damage** – Caller reported a two-vehicle accident, no injuries. Patrols responded.
- **Creek/Ridge roads, MVA-property damage** – Caller reported a two-vehicle accident, no injuries. Patrol on scene.
- **800 block of Oriole Lane, suspicious activity** – Caller reported an unknown male at the door; subject rang the doorbell. Patrols checked area with negative results.
- **Locations at N. Fifth/Mohawk streets; N. Ninth/Mohawk streets; Creek Road/Raymond Drive; and N. Ninth/Center streets, vehicle/traffic stops** – Calls officer initiated. Violations per stop were first two drivers cited for failure to stop at a stop sign; driver, aggravated unlicensed operation; and driver, failure to stop at a stop sign. Appearance and uniform traffic tickets issued for Lewiston Town Court. Report taken.

Friday, Aug. 5

- **1800 block of Saunders Settlement Road, motor vehicle theft** – Caller to 911 reported the theft of a 2004 white Yukon Denali; vehicle was locked. Patrol on scene, report taken.

report taken.

- **1000 block of Upper Mountain Road, harassment** – Patrols responded to a 911 call. No further information.
- **1300 block of Saunders Settlement Road, burglary** – Caller reported a garage door was damaged overnight; unknown party attempted to gain entry. Patrols responded; all property accounted for inside. Report taken.
- **East Lane/Mohawk Street, assist** – Caller reported ongoing issues with juveniles banging on doors in the area. Patrols responded.
- **100 block of S. Water Street, accident hit-run** – Patrols on location for a 911 call; no further information.
- **Lewiston Road/Mountain View Drive, vehicle/traffic stop** – Call officer initiated. Driver cited for speed in zone. Uniform traffic tickets issued for Lewiston Town Court.

Saturday, Aug. 6

- **4800 block of W. Eddy Drive, ATL/BOLO** – Patrols on scene in response to a 911 request from the Niagara Falls Police Department.
- **Miller/Saunders Settlement**

roads, check welfare – Caller to 911 reported observing a gray Ford F150 at a stop sign and a male asleep behind the wheel. Patrol checked area; vehicle gone on its arrival.

- **5300 block of Chew Road, MVA-property damage** – Caller to 911 reported a two-vehicle accident; patrols on scene.
- **Pletcher Road/Riverwalk Drive South, MVA-injuries** – Caller to 911 reported a one-car accident; driver struck a tree with vehicle and has a bloody nose. Patrols on scene with EMS; report taken.
- **700 block of Oneida Street, noise complaint** – 911 caller reported loud noise in area; caller said the noise was similar to a movie being played in a backyard. Responding patrol said the noise was coming from a Center Street bar/restaurant. Business shut down for the evening soon after.
- **Locations at Niagara Scenic Parkway/Pletcher Road and on the 5300 block of Townline Road, vehicle/traffic stops** – Calls officer initiated. Both drivers cited for speed in zone violations. Uniform traffic tickets issued for Lewiston Town Court.

HELP WANTED

Busy editorial department covering Erie and Niagara counties has an opening for an outside freelance writer. Position entails government reporting at town, village and/or school board meetings, other reporting assignments in our coverage areas and the preparation of news copy for our respective news products and website. Candidate must be dependable; have strong writing skills; and the ability to work and meet deadlines in a fast-paced environment.

Submit a cover letter, resume, and writing samples to nfpassist@wnypapers.com

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Aug 12 - Bruce Wojick (Acoustic)

Aug 19 - Emerald Isle (Celtic Music)

Aug 26 - Ladies First Jazz
(Ten piece all-female orchestra)

NOTE: rain location (if needed) will be the Red Brick gym, 240 Lockport St.

The Concert Series is by generous contributions made in memory of former Mayor Neil C. Riordan by many friends and businesses who knew how much the concert series meant to Neil.

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