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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

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MONSON

Residents urged to contact state reps about crumbling concrete foundations

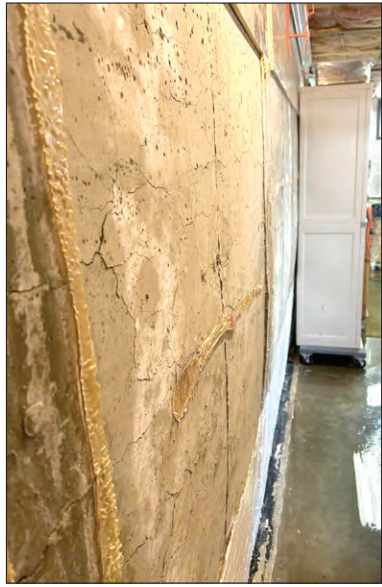
By Marcelo Gusmão
 Staff Writer
 mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – An epidemic of damaged foundations in homes all over the area is resulting in lost revenue for the town, but sufficient support for a state bill could be a Hail Mary for local homeowners dealing with the issue.

During a recent Select Board meeting, Monson homeowner Michelle Loglisci asked residents to contact their state delegation to push a bill that would aid homeowners dealing with crumbling foundations.

“It’s been over six years that we’ve been fighting for help for homeowners with crumbling foundations in the state of Massachusetts,” Loglisci said. “Last Friday, I helped to organize and attend a tour of homes in Winchendon and Westminster. That means we’ve got crumbling foundations all the way from here on the Connecticut border, all the way to the New Hampshire border, and yet I’m still being (told) more people need to come forward.”

Loglisci said that there is a bill under consideration with the Joint Committee on Envi-



Courtesy photo

Local foundations are compromised by concrete used in homes that contained the mineral pyrrhotite, which degraded the foundations.

ronment and Natural Resources, titled Bill s495, An Act Relative to Crumbling Concrete Foundations. Loglisci asked the public to contact State Sen. Becca Roush and State Rep. Daniel Cahill, the chairs from their respective

CONCRETE | page 6

MONSON

BOH invites residents to decide on settlement funds

By Harrison Giza
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The Monson Board of Health has asked all town residents to share their input regarding recent Opioid Settlement Funds from the state of Massachusetts.

Those who have organized the event hope to bring together locals and town representatives with the intention of deciding how to move forward spending Monson Settlement Funds.

“What we are expecting to do is listen,” said Kathy Nothe, an active board member. “There is no formal presentation, there are no speeches, and this is not a Q&A session. We will kick it off describing our understanding of the Opioid Settlement Funds and

the amounts that have been sent to Monson thus far. We want to solicit input from our community.”

Nothe, now retired after a 35-year tenure at Bank of America, continues her passion for event planning and Board of Health fundraising. In the face of post-work life, she gives her all with every communal moment offered towards her.

“We do not want to go into this with any preconceived ideas,” Nothe said. “We are the collector of information, and we are going to synthesize that information, turn it into a recommendation for the Select Board, and then that will place us hopefully on a warrant for the Town Meeting. Whoever goes to the Town Meeting

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MONSON

Planning Board members have decades of experience

By Marcelo Gusmão
 Staff Writer
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MONSON – Planning Board member Craig Sweitzer is celebrating his 40th year as a member of the board.

“We have probably one of the most experienced planning boards that I’ve come across,” Sweitzer said.

Though Sweitzer is celebrating four decades on the board, he said that he’s not even the member who’s been on it the longest.

“I sit on the board with four other members and an alternate,” Sweitzer said. “Our town is kind of unique, as the folks that are on this board, all of them have been

on for a phenomenal amount of time. Paul Hatch was on it before I was, and the other members all have extensive experience, probably a minimum of 20 years’ experience each.”

Through his service on the board, Sweitzer has been asked to go before planning boards in other towns. Though he said that a lot of them are impressive, he always enjoys coming home to his board because the members work so efficiently together.

“These people have lived in town for so long, they seem to know the background on a whole lot of issues. It makes it a joy to sit on the board with the people we have,” Sweitzer said.

The Planning Board deals with zoning and issues with land use. It holds public hearings for changes to the town’s zoning

SWEITZER | page 6



Turley Photo by Ryan Drago

Katie Faucher of Country Bank was the winner of the Golden Flipper Pinball Challenge and received \$100. Faucher is standing alongside Chris Murphy of ColorBlindGuy.

Flipping out

Local business members enjoy winter event in Three Rivers

THREE RIVERS – Ware Business and Civic Association explored its membership “beyond” Ware, holding its winter activity at the Western Mass Pinball Club.

Members competed for the highest score on over 60 pinball machines; and a special “Golden Flipper” contest with a \$100 cash prize provided by ColorBlindGuy. Country Bank sponsored the event and I.A.M.BID provided the recep-



Turley Photo by Paula Ouimette

Jamie Joslyn, from Turley Publications, enjoys her time on the pinball machine as Keith Turley looks on.

PINBALL | page 6



The Ware Business and Civic Association members enjoyed pizza, salads, desserts and over 60 varieties of pinball.

TRANSPORTATION

PVTA increasing service to Palmer, Ware

By Nick Boonstra
 Staff Writer
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PALMER – Service along the Palmer and Ware Shuttles is seeing increased frequency, with the goal of a bus every half hour, Paul Burns, director of Transit Operations for the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, told the Palmer Town Council on Monday, Jan. 8.

These increases are part of a larger push by the PVTA to increase service across the system after state budget cuts in 2017 led to reductions that have persisted up to the past year.

The PVTA is working to restore service that was cut under these reductions, expand weekend service across the region and increase frequency on all routes to once every 30 minutes, Burns told the Town Council. He added that Palmer and Ware are likely to be the first communities in the PVTA system to see their routes increased to this frequency.

Currently, the Palmer Circulator is running at a frequency of about once every 45 minutes, Burns said, adding that three drivers are being trained that will help to further increase frequency on this and other routes.

“At one point, you’d be making a shopping trip, and you might have to wait three to four hours to get your return trip,” Burns said. “Now you can get a return trip in as little as 45 minutes or an hour and a half.”

He also said he expected these increases in frequency would lead to an increase in ridership, which has been down to about 700 per month from roughly 2,000 per month before the 2017 budget cuts.

In addition to increased frequency of service, there are also now increased connections to the rest of the PVTA system, Burns said.

The B7 and B17 routes now connect at the Wilbraham Big Y, Burns told Council members. Additionally, the Ware Shuttle, which has stops in Palmer at the Big Y and the public library, connects riders to Springfield, and service is up from two to six trips per day.

Burns said he hopes to see

PVTA | page 4

STATE

Voices of Resilience exhibit shines light on opioid crisis

By Nick Boonstra
 Staff Writer
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BOSTON – State officials and community members gathered in the State House on Tuesday to debut a photography exhibit focused on amplifying the lived experiences of those who have been affected by the ongoing statewide and nationwide opioid crisis.

The exhibit, entitled “Voices of Resilience,” remained on display on the fourth floor of the capitol building through Jan. 12, where it was visible to legislators and visitors alike, and included Ware as one of the Massachusetts communities on which the project focused.

The exhibit marked the culmination of work done through the National Institutes of Health HEALing Communities Study, part of the larger NIH HEAL Initiative, commissioned in 2019. According



Turley Photos by Nick Boonstra

From left are Department of Public Health Commissioner Robert Goldstein, state Rep. Smitty Pignatelli, Dr. Jeffrey Samet, Randy Gratton and Alyssa Curran.

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MAGGIE

In 2016, Jessica LaVallie went through Petfinder to rescue a puppy. The process was simple; she rescued Maggie, whose name was Bonnie at the time, when she was an eight-week-old Dixie dog from Georgia, and the rescue organization spayed and transported her. After Jessica picked Maggie up, she noticed that she had an abscess protruding out of the scar where she was spayed. She brought her to a doctor as soon as she was back home, and they said that the abscess should go down and to keep an eye on it. It did not go down, and Maggie ended up needing surgery to remove the abscess. When Jessica picked her up after her surgery, the vet tech told her, "It was an absolute mess in there. The doctor cleaned everything up and it looks great now."

Since the surgery, Maggie hasn't had any side effects, though she does have dietary issues.

In 2017, Jessica registered Maggie as an emotional support animal. She loves walks, going for rides in the car, going to dog parks, pulling the stuffing out of her toys, and especially hiking.

Jessica and Maggie volunteered at Palmer Healthcare before COVID, and the outpour of love the residents had towards Maggie was immensely touching.

"You always see the sign, 'who rescued who,'" Jessica said. "It's 100% correct; she rescued me."

We feature your pets here and on our Facebook page. Is your fur friend a dog, cat, chicken, lizard, horse, bird, mouse...you get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to mharrison@turley.com.

Country Bank announces promotions of key team members

WESTERN MA— Country Bank announces recent promotions of several key team members who have demonstrated exceptional dedication and expertise in their respective roles. These promotions reflect the bank's commitment to recognizing and developing talent within the organization.

Shane Elder has been promoted to First Vice President, Business Banking Team Lead. With over 11 years of experience in commercial lending and eight years in commercial lending management, Elder has proven himself as a valuable asset to the Business Banking Department. In addition to his role as Team Leader, he also oversees the Cash Management Sales Department.

Brett LoCicero has been promoted to First Vice President, Facilities and Security. With seven years of service to the bank, LoCicero expertise in managing facilities and security operations. He holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Nichols College and is pursuing his PMP certification.

Justin Calheno has been pro-

motored to Vice President, Retail Lending Business Development Officer. With an impressive 20 years of lending experience, including the last seven years with Country Bank, Calheno brings a wealth of knowledge to his role. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management from Westfield State University and is currently attending the American Banker Association, Stonier Graduate School of Banking.

Antonio Palano has been promoted to Vice President, Retail Lending. Palano's 15-year tenure at Country Bank showcases his commitment and dedication to the organization. Having progressed through various roles, he currently manages the Retail Lending Servicing and Operations Departments. He holds an Associate's Degree in Business Administration from Springfield Technical Community College and is a 2023 graduate from the New England School of Financial Studies.

Cuc Nguyen has been promoted to Retail Banking Officer of the Paxton Banking Center. With over 16 years of banking experience,

Nguyen brings a wealth of knowledge to her new role. Her previous experience at Commerce Bank, Berkshire Bank, and DCU has equipped her with a deep understanding of frontline management and customer satisfaction. Nguyen holds a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and Finance from Southern New Hampshire University.

"We are excited to announce the promotions of Shane, Brett, Tony, Justin, and Cuc," said Miriam Siegel, First Senior Vice President, Chief Culture and Development Officer of Country Bank. "We are thrilled to be able to recognize their hard work, dedication and contribution to the Bank's success. We are proud to support the commitment of all of our team members to their ongoing professional and personal growth leading them down all of the many career paths in community banking today."

Country Bank congratulates these individuals on their well-deserved promotions and looks forward to their continued success in their new roles.

Christmas came early for the Haley Family



Raymond Vincent Haley

October 21, 2023

Parents: Shawn & Kathleen Haley, Southampton
Big Brother Ingo Ryan

Grandparents: Robbin Breyare, Palmer; Shawn Haley, Tennessee; Elke Ryan, Russell; Charles Ryan, Springfield, Christopher Breyare, Palmer
Great Grandparents: Mary Masse, Palmer; Gale & Dan Breyare, Palmer

BBB warns about scammers posing as friends

If a friend asks for a favor, you do it, no questions asked. Right? Time to rethink that policy.

In this new con, a scammer poses as a friend asking for a simple favor. The email is so convincing that Better Business Bureau staff almost fell for it.

How this scam works

You get an email that appears to be from a friend or family member. The message looks harmless and casual – like something a friend might really write.

For example, one version reads: "Hi, how are things going with you? Are you busy? I need a quick favor." The message even ends with "Sent from my iPhone."

Concerned about your friend, you reply and ask for more details. The "friend" quickly responds that

they are trying to buy a gift card for their niece's birthday.

However, they are traveling and having trouble purchasing the card online. "Could you get it from any local grocery store around you?" reads the email. "I'll pay you back as soon as I am back."

The request sounds reasonable. But if you do buy the gift card, your "friend" will ask you to share the card's PIN and/or send a photo of the back of the card.

Unfortunately, by doing this you are essentially handing money to the scammer. It's nearly impossible to get the money back because gift cards do not have the same protections as credit or debit cards.

How to avoid similar scams

Reach out to your friend di-

rectly – If you get an unusual request, call or text your friend to confirm their story. No matter how harmless the story sounds, always double-check before sending someone money.

Use gift cards wisely – Never do business with anyone who insists on payment with gift cards. Remember, providing the numbers from the back of a gift card is just like sending cash.

For more information

For more information about this scam and others, visit BBB.org.

If you've spotted a scam (whether or not you've lost money), report it to BBB.org/Scam-Tracker. Your report can help others avoid falling victim to scams.

Baystate Wing Auxiliary selling lotto calendars

PALMER — The Baystate Wing Hospital Auxiliary is currently selling their 2024 Lotto Calendars through Jan. 31. The one-month calendar, which costs \$5 each or 3 for \$10. Drawings will begin on Feb. 1.

The calendars will be on sale and can be purchased at the Baystate Wing Hospital gift shop. Funds raised by the annual Lotto Calendars support the Auxiliary's scholarship program and their philanthropic efforts that benefit Baystate Wing Hospital.

For more information about the Lotto Calendar visit the Baystate Wing Hospital Gift Shop Monday through Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Friday 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. or call 413-370-8169.



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3 pm - 6 pm

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All vaccinations are no cost to you, walk-ins and families welcome!

Supported by Healthy Quaboag and The Rural Vaccine Equity Initiative

Please use QR Code or the link to pre-register:
<https://tinyurl.com/ycky5da>
Please direct any questions to Arianna Palano at
apalano@townofware.com, 413-478-2526.



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or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com



SOUP COOK OFF

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2023
1:00 pm til 3:00 pm



LIGHT UP PALMER would like to ask for your support of Tailgate Tavern's Soup Cook Off

Spend a few hours together at the tavern, have a chance to win door prizes, and vote for your favorite soup... Prizes are awarded for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners. Stop by the Tavern now and ask the Tailgate bartender for the sign-up sheet to enter a soup. Come, enjoy the fun!
Soup, Prizes and Monetary Donations are accepted.

Proceeds from the Soup Off will go toward additions and maintenance of Light Up Palmer's community programs; including the Purple Heart banner, American flag and flower display on Main Street, Depot Village, as well as the Xmas holiday decorations and event. LUP thanks the Tailgate Tavern, their employees, and patrons for their continued support of our efforts to honor resident Veterans who have received the Purple Heart medal.
If you, or someone you know is a recipient and does not currently have a banner recognition, please see the Town of Palmer's Veterans agent (Tina Brohman) to have their name added.

With Sincere Thanks to the Tailgate Tavern
Palmer Business Partnership Inc.
LIGHT UP PALMER COMMITTEE
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The Journal Register
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

DEADLINE

The Journal Register has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at mharrison@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

Representative Smola supports bill to criminalize revenge porn

Educate minor offenders through diversion

BOSTON – State Representative Todd Smola is backing efforts to crack down on “revenge porn” by supporting legislation that imposes strong penalties for sharing sexually explicit images or videos without the consent of the individual being photographed or recorded.

House Bill 4241, “An Act to prevent abuse and exploitation,” would also allow for the commitment of minor offenders to the Department of Youth Services while establishing an alternative comprehensive educational diversion program to help adolescents understand the legal and non-legal consequences of possessing or disseminating explicit visual material. The bill was engrossed by the House of Representatives on a vote of 151-0 on Jan. 10.

Representative Smola stated, “This legislation sends a clear message that the violation of consent will not be tolerated. I am dedicated to protecting individuals from the circulation of harmful material and fostering a safer digital landscape for all.”

According to Representative Smola, the educational diversion program will be developed and implemented by the Attorney General in consultation with the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Department of Youth Services, and the Massachusetts District Attorneys Association, and will be reviewed annually and updated as needed.

The House bill also encourages school districts to implement media literacy skills instruction at all grade levels, and to incorporate aspects of the educational diversion program as a learning tool for students.

Massachusetts is one of only two states without a law banning revenge porn, the other being South Carolina. House Bill 4241 would change that by imposing a punishment of up to 2 ½ years in a House of Correction, a \$10,000 fine, or both a fine and imprisonment for individuals found guilty of disseminating explicit visual materials of another person without their consent.

House Bill 4241 also increases the existing fine for criminal harassment from \$1,000 to \$5,000 and amends the definition of abuse to include coercive control. Under the bill, coercive control is defined as an act or pattern of behavior committed with the intent to substantially restrict an individual’s safety or autonomy through threat, intimidation, harassment, isolation, control, coercion, or compelled compliance.

Representative Smola supported a similar bill filed by former Governor Charlie Baker during the 2021-2022 legislative session, which was engrossed by the House of Representatives on May 26, 2022. Despite unanimous support in the House, the Senate took no action on the bill until the final day of session on Jan. 3, 2023, engrossing an amended version of the bill that could not be reconciled with the House bill before time ran out.

During floor debate, Representative Smola supported an amendment to the bill that addresses non-consensual “deepfake pornography” involving the use of digitization, which is defined as “creat(ing) or alter(ing) visual material, including, but not limited to, through the use of computer-generated images, in a manner that would falsely appear to a reasonable person to be an authentic representation of the person depicted.” The amendment stipulates that the dissemination of deepfake pornography will be punishable by up to 2 ½ years in a House of Correction, a \$10,000 fine, or both.

House Bill 4241, as amended, now moves to the Senate for its consideration.

For additional information, please contact Representative Smola at Todd.Smola@mahouse.gov or 617-722-2100.

Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at journalregister@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

Appointments made to Conservation Commission and Board of Appeals

By **Marcelo Gusmão**
Staff Writer
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MONSON – At its meeting last week, the Select Board heard updates on upcoming events from the Board of Health and made appointments to the Conservation Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals.

Conservation Commission

Nathan Deetz was appointed to the Conservation Commission.

Deetz spoke about his history with the Boy Scouts, playing the clarinet and being part of the National Honors Society. He said working on a farm with his brother was one of the first ways he developed an interest in conservation and agriculture. Deetz has been working with monarch butterflies in the hopes of changing their endangered status since

2016, when his grandmother introduced him to the practice.

“I’ve actually built up two monarch habitat gardens. One of them was actually my Eagle Scout project,” Deetz said. “Through those gardens and over the years, I’ve been able to save over 2,000 monarchs and bring up their population numbers, at least in a little bit.”

Deetz said, “Any little effort goes a long way.”

“Your application was one of the most thorough and interesting that I have read in my two years on this board,” Select Board Chair Pat Oney told Deetz.

The board unanimously voted to appoint Deetz to the position.

Zoning Board of Appeals

Peter Wiggins was voted to a position as an associate member on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Wiggins moved to town after living

in Springfield for 10 years. He’s a military veteran who served two terms in Afghanistan as well as a term in Bosnia and has a bachelor’s degree from American International College and a master’s degree from Westfield State University, both in Criminal Justice.

“I moved to Monson in 2018 from Springfield. I just appreciate this town, my wife, and I drive around all the time. Usually on Sundays, we’ll drive around the town and visit various places, stores and farms and just absorb Monson because it’s a very pretty place to live.”

Wiggins currently works at Westover Air Force Base, where he interviews prospective recruits.

“I feel it’s my responsibility to be a part of the community,” Wiggins said. “I wanted to immerse myself in things that make the cogs turn, see what happens and just be a part of the town.”

Oney told Wiggins that the ZBOA

is one of the more important cogs in the town and thanked him for his military service. Select Board member Peter Warren also thanked Wiggins for volunteering.

“We need more people in town to volunteer,” Warren said. “I feel lucky that I’ve been able to get some people to step up. That’s awesome and I appreciate it just as a citizen.”

Wiggins was appointed to the Zoning Board of Appeals unanimously.

The Select Board also rescinded a previous vote to correct a clerical error.

David Sanborn was previously appointed to a position with a termination date of June 30, 2025, but the position would actually terminate on June 30, 2028.

The vote was rescinded, and then Sanborn was reappointed to the position with the correct termination date.

Hancock Associates announces semi-retirement

DANVERS — Hancock Associates, a leading provider of land surveying, civil engineering and wetland science services, has announced the semi-retirement of Don Frydryk PE, PLS. Frydryk joined Hancock Associates as a Regional Office Manager when the firm acquired Sherman & Frydryk, LLC, a land surveying and civil engineering firm located in Palmer. Frydryk will continue in a smaller, part-time role as Business Development Coordinator and focus on business development for Hancock’s western Massachusetts offices and mentoring staff.



Don Frydryk

“Don has always been a leader in the Central and West areas and his client list is exemplary. Don will continue to connect with his clients as he begins to step back from managing the office and wind down project management to focus more on business development and staff mentorship. It’s great that he will continue to be on the Hancock team as he enjoys his semi-retirement,” said Hancock Associates President, Wayne Jalbert, PLS.

BOH | from page 1

will be presented with this information, and they will decide to approve it or not, based off those recommendations.”

The Board of Health hopes to touch all points where people might have an opinion on the issue. It wants as many Monson residents as possible to join in on the conversation.

“I am retired but I am busier now than when I ever worked a day in my life,” Nothe said. “This is important to us to spread the word and we are really hoping for a nice turnout.”

The listening session is scheduled for this Sunday, Jan. 21, at 2 p.m. in St. Patrick’s Hall, located at 22 Green St. in Monson. If all goes accord to plan, the board might put together a second session at the beginning of February if enough interest is exhibited.

Winter lectures at wildlife sanctuary

WALES— Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary, 20 Peck Road, will be holding several free lectures through winter.

On Saturday Jan. 20 from 1-2 p.m. there will be a lecture called Introduction To Foraging with Rachel Goclawski. Goclawski, forager and certified educator, State-Certified in Mushrooming, is a Programmer for the Museum of Natural History, Sudbury Valley Trustees, New England Botanic Garden and other organizations. She is a contributing writer for The Cook’s Cook: Now Forager magazine and has been featured in The Boston Globe, WBZ, Edible Worcester and Baystate Parent magazines, other news, and documentaries and print.

On Saturday Feb. 24 from 1-2 p.m. there will be a lecture called Geological History of Wales and Vicinity with Professor Richard Little.

Little will present a program on the geological deep history of Wales and vicinity. Included will be a story of the birth and death of the Pangea Supercontinent including continental collisions and great rift faults that create the Connecticut River Valley region, plus dinosaur footprints, glaciers and Lake Hitchcock. He will bring examples of the rare Jurassic armored mud balls, unique to Franklin County.

On Saturday, March 23 from 1-2 p.m. there will be a lecture on Spring Butterflies with Dave Smal.

Small grew up living at the US Army Corps of Engineer’s Tully Dam in West Royalston, Ma. Which was managed by his father. Dave is president of the 260 member Athol Bird and Nature Club and currently the Director of the Millers River Environmental Center. Dave shares his passion for Birds, Butterflies, Dragonflies, Herps, and most recently moths through workshops, lectures, and field trips around New England.

MAC presents an 18th century Tea Party

MONSON— Take a step back in time to the 18th century on Jan. 20 and 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. Teacher and artist Laura Asson is hosting a tea party where visitors can enjoy their choice of tea and cookies typical of the time period while wandering through the House of Art, 200 Main St., to enjoy displays of period clothing and accessories created based on the era. All of the period clothing in this event are handcrafted by Asson. Demonstration and discussion will be ongoing throughout this interactive event.

Asson is a high school history teacher and enjoys creating artwork and historical clothing in her free time. Her research has led to comprehensive demonstrations on historical art techniques from the 18th century and she is currently developing programs on 19th century art for future events. Asson is also constantly working to recreate clothing from different historical eras in the 18th and 19th centuries as a way to explore and teach fashion history.

Monson Arts Council is excited to have the involvement of Pathfinder Technical High School students including culinary students baking cookies using 18th century recipes, cosmetology students practicing period hairstyles and museum studies students working with our own Monson Museum of Art volunteers in preparation and set up.

Women’s club February meeting

WILBRAHAM —The St. Cecilia Women’s Club February meeting takes place on Tuesday, Feb.

13 at 6 p.m. Join the club for a fun filled night of games, prized and delicious treats. Kim Lawler will provide her excellent party skills to make this a memorable Fat Tuesday. Attendees are asked to bring a nutritious snack to this meeting for adults and children in need.

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Glenda's

Saturday, January 20th ~ 7pm-11pm
A.S.B.

Wednesday Nights ~ 7pm-10pm
Mix Tape Music Bingo/Prizes!

Pool Players Wanted!
Glenda will sponsor a team to play in the Palmer Pool League - Call for details!

Friday Nights
8pm-11pm
Karaoke

Upcoming Events
Saturday, February 24th
8pm-11:30pm
Tony Soul Project
EVERY SUNDAY
DARTS
LUCK OF THE DRAW
5:30pm • All Welcome

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Viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Can someone work while collecting Social Security Disability?

Dear Rusty

If a person is collecting Social Security disability benefits, can they, at any point, work at all? If they can, what is the maximum they can earn and still keep the disability benefit? I am asking because my husband is still young, but his injuries will not allow him to go back to the job he had prior to his injuries and surgeries. He does not just want to sit at home doing nothing.

Signed: Concerned Wife

Dear Concerned:

Actually, the Social Security Administration encourages those collecting Social Security Disability Insurance benefits to attempt to go back to work and they provide considerable leeway for them to do so. The monthly earnings limit for those collecting SSDI benefits in 2024 is \$1,550 and as long as your husband earns less than the limit while working, his SSDI benefits will not be in jeopardy. Your husband should contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly to protect his disability status and discuss returning to work while collecting SSDI benefits.

The Ticket to Work program assists those now receiving SSDI benefits who wish to test their ability to return to work without putting their SSDI benefits at risk. The program provides considerable assistance, including new career training opportunities and connection to potential employers and it is voluntary and costs nothing. Here is a link to Social Security's information on the Ticket to Work program: <https://choosework.ssa.gov/>

It's not mandatory for your husband to enroll in the Ticket to Work program but, in addition to other available assistance, he can request a Trial Work Period, which would allow for nine months, over a rolling five year period, during which he can earn any amount even over the normal monthly limit mentioned above without risking his SSDI benefits.

Within the Trial Work Period, only those months he earns over the normal monthly SSDI limit would count as a Trial Work Month. So, for example, your husband could work part time regularly earning under the normal monthly limit and if, in some months (up to nine), he earned more it wouldn't affect his SSDI benefits.

So, your younger disabled husband can, indeed, work while on Social Security disability, for as long as he wishes while earning under the monthly SSDI limit, the SSDI earnings limit changes yearly. He may also wish to enroll in Social Security's Ticket to Work program for assistance with developing a new career. Plus, he can take advantage of using trial work months in the event his work earnings will, at times, exceed the monthly SSDI limit.

If your husband earns over the SSDI limit for more than the nine trial work months and his benefits are consequently stopped, he can within the five-year Trial Work Period have his benefits reinstated (without again going through the full application process) if his disability, once more, renders him unable to work full time.

For starters, I suggest your husband contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly at 1.833-889-0108 to discuss returning to work part time. Social Security will guide him through the entire process.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Journal Register, please email journalregister@turley.com.

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Dreaming of roses, blueberries bushes and more? Get those orders in!

For me at least, a much needed break from the garden has given way to the return of other hobbies this winter.

Quilting for one. I've enjoyed working on a Christmas tree quilt and have plans to start a pumpkin quilt.

I guess when I can't garden, I take horticulture any way I can get it – even in cloth! Quilting is fun in that you can exercise your love of color or by playing with different combinations.

I like to see what looks good together and stand back and admire. It seems very similar to the admiration of a thoughtfully planned out flower garden. Well, you didn't start reading to learn about my sewing fancy, so let's get to some garden talk.

Do you dream of expanding your mini orchard or berry patch? Maybe you have a particular rose you are interested in.

If you desire to shop by mail, place your orders early (yes, now) for home delivery in April and early May.

I will start my dreaming with the Nourse Farms catalog (www.nourse-farms.com or 413-665-2658). Located not far away in South Deerfield, this company specializes in producing high quality berry plants (and asparagus roots plus).

It would be great to extend my blueberry picking season over a month or more, just like my parents did with their patch. I will plan to order early, mid at late season varieties to accomplish this.

Last year, Nourse switched from selling bareroot blueberry plants to selling them in one liter pots. According to the listing, plants are cut back to just over a foot. They will increase in top growth the first year.

They have found that selling potted plants eases transplant shock and reduces the chance of the roots drying out in shipment. Sounds great to me!

Take care to amend the soil to the proper pH and site the plants accordingly and you could enjoy blueberries for decades. My parents' bushes are still bearing some 70 years later.

Maybe you are in the market for apple trees this year. For well-rooted,

hardy Maine grown plants, shop the Fedco Trees Catalog (www.fedcoseeds.com). Fedco Trees offers a great selection of heirloom apple trees, scionwood and rootstocks for home grafting, pears, plums and grapes among other types of nursery stock and ornaments.

For heirloom apple enthusiasts or those interested in planting a cider orchard, this is an amazing resource. The final order deadline for trees is March 1.

The catalog changes a bit every year, so be sure to check back or reach out to them if you are looking for a specific variety and you don't see it listed in print.

It's been a few years since I've found a reputable mail-order nursery for heirloom roses. Recently, I stumbled upon High Country Roses (www.highcountryroses.com), and I'm impressed with the variety of roses they carry, many of which I am familiar with from working at Old Sturbridge Village: Rosa gallica officinalis and versicolor, Harison's Yellow, Rosa eglanteria and more.

If heirlooms aren't your thing, check out the number of ARS (American Rose Selections) winners for proven success. All of the roses they sell are grown on their own roots by vegetative propagation and are not grafted.

Some arguments in favor of own root roses include better hardiness, increased blooms, vigor and longevity. With over 600 varieties to choose from there is something for new and seasoned rose enthusiasts alike, and a lot of useful information for growers on their website.

Yes, it is the middle of winter and all should be quiet on the gardening front, but it is also a great time to get your orders in to your favorite mail order catalogs. Shop early for the best selection!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

Mass Senate advance three bills

BOSTON— During a productive day on Beacon Hill last Thursday, the Massachusetts Senate passed three significant bills aimed at improving public safety and enhancing consumer protections. The legislation addresses diverse issues, including bolstering consumer protections for wheelchair users, promoting better interactions between individuals with autism and law enforcement, and the legalization of fentanyl test strips.

The first bill unanimously approved was S.2541, an act expanding wheelchair warranty protections for consumers with disabilities. The legislation mandates warranties for all wheelchairs sold or leased in Massachusetts, extends the minimum warranty period from one year to two, sets standards for wheelchair repairs and replacements, eliminates prior authorization for repairs under \$1,000, and ensures timely service to minimize disruptions for wheelchair users.

Sen. Jake Oliveira underscored how the bill will not only protect wheelchair users but also hold providers accountable. "Imagine being without your vehicle for that long if you rely on it. If a person who relies on a wheelchair or scooter breaks down, they can no longer do the day-to-day things they need to. Something as simple as going to work in the morning or going to the grocery store. This guarantees that providers are

contacting wheelchair users who need their wheelchair repaired or replaced within a few days and providing them with a comparable device so they can do everything they need to do to live an independent life."

The second bill passed by the Senate is known as the "Blue Envelope" bill, or S.2204, an act facilitating better interactions between police officers and persons with autism spectrum disorder, which aims to improve communication between individuals with autism and law enforcement officers during traffic stops. The voluntary program involves individuals carrying blue envelopes containing essential documents, providing law enforcement with guidance on interacting with someone with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

The final bill approved by the Senate was S.2543, an act relative to fentanyl test strips is an effort to prevent overdoses and save lives. If enacted into law, the bill would legalize the sale, possession, and distribution of fentanyl test strips in Massachusetts, providing a valuable tool for drug users to identify the presence of fentanyl in substances.

The legislation includes a Good Samaritan provision to address concerns about criminal or civil liability. All three bills will now be sent to the House of Representatives for consideration.

in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer



Courtesy photo by Jane Higgins

Bluebirds

I received an email from a West Brookfield resident, who included two photos of bluebirds at her feeder.

She took the photos on New Year's Day and had six or seven of them. She said last year she had bluebirds visit regularly in late winter arriving on Valentine's Day.

She said in the email, "We built a mealworm feeder (thanks to Mark Blazis instructions) and the outcome was a pair nesting in one of our nesting boxes and bringing their pair of fledglings to the feeder."

Bluebirds are migratory, but some stay around all winter just like some of the Canada geese and robins do. Bluebirds, along with other small birds, will use nesting boxes for shelter during storms or at night. The boxes provide a dry place and protection from the wind and cold.

The bluebird is about 6 1/2 inches long. The male has a brilliant blue head, back, wings and tail with a brick red throat and breast. The female is has a rich, buffy throat and breast. She has a grayish blue head and back with light blue wings and tail and a white eye ring.

Bluebirds may come to feeders for peanut butter mixes, berries, meal worms and raisins. The female lays three to six pale blue eggs in a nest in a tree cavity, abandoned woodpecker hole or birdhouse. The nest consists of grasses, plant stems, pine needles and is lined with hair, feathers and fine grasses.

They inhabit farmlands, open woodlands and rural yards.

Brimfield birds

A Brimfield resident said in an email, "Yesterday (Jan. 6) there were about a dozen robins in the yard feasting on the crab apples and they were joined by a few cedar wax-wings."

He said, "Today we awoke to about 8 inches of snow and all of the trees were covered with snow that was stuck to the branches. The crab apple trees were full of robins. One tree near the front of the house had over a dozen robins in the tree eating apples along with a wax-wing or two."

The robins and wax wings also finished off the last of the fruit from the mountain ash and gleaned a bush with red berries. He said there were about three dozen robins and a half dozen cedar wax-wings in his yard as well as the "regulars" and two white-throated sparrows.

Grackles

I received an email from a woman, who had grackles at her feeder on Jan. 12. She also reported seeing some robins and a flock of about 30 to 40 juncos. She said she usually doesn't see grackles until spring.

Christmas bird count

Results for some Christmas Bird Counts that took place in our area are now available by visiting the website at <http://www.warenatureclub.org/announcements.html>. Many new records were set, and many old ones broken, with high numbers of species and individuals recorded. An open, ice/snow-free landscape, unfrozen waterways, and an abundant wild food crop were combined factors that encouraged many species to linger longer than usual.

Feeder activity

Birds at my feeder before the Jan. 7 storm consisted mainly of a few juncos, a white-throated sparrow or two and a few chickadees and downy woodpeckers. That all changed on Sunday, Jan. 7. I saw my cardinal pair, bluejays, lots of chickadees and tufted titmice. I also had mourning doves, white-breasted nuthatches, a downy woodpecker and a few goldfinches.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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weekend service on these routes added in March.

A new influx of state funds has enabled these service increases, funds that Burns hopes will continue to be provided for some time.

"Our understanding is that this should go on for a few years," he said, though he also admitted that there was no guarantee and that funding was ultimately in the hands of the state legislature.

Beyond just helping to expand service, MassDOT grants were used to improve three bus stops and add improved signals at crosswalks, Burns said. The specific stop locations improved were the Post Office on Church Street, Divine Mercy Parish on Main Street and the Rocky's Plaza on North Main Street.

Burns discussed with the Town Council the possibility of further improvements being made, such as a potential bus shelter being added in front of the Public Library.

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Please send opinions to:
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The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The *Journal Register* welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to journalregister@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news
As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Journal Register.

Railroad enthusiasm celebrated in 'Rare Mileage'

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

PALMER – The Amherst Railway Society does not meet in Amherst but in Palmer. For that matter, neither does it meet in a railway station.

The clubhouse started out as a church in the Quabbin, but was moved before the reservoir flooding.

No matter what the venue looks like from the outside, or the location of the meetings at 1130 South Main St., it is all about the lore and history of trains. It is fitting that it should be in Palmer, as Palmer is referred to as the "Town of Seven Railroads."

What was the railroad station still exists, but like stations in many towns, has been repurposed. Its current existence is as the Steaming Tender Restaurant. The building is wonderfully restored, and the railroad theme is pervasive, but alas, it is not a clubhouse.

No matter, the South Main building serves the purpose as the club members are putting more and more model trains inside. Still, there is more than enough room for presentations and that was the purpose of the meeting held on Jan. 10.

Dave Brown, President of the Massachusetts Bay Railroad Enthusiasts was there to give a talk with the title, "A Legacy of Rare Mileage: Riding the Rails with the Railroad Enthusiasts."

The Amherst Railway Society and the Mass Bay Railroad Enthusiasts might be called sister organizations as they share the same passion. MBREE affords ARS members the same rate on excursions as MBREE members and Brown was warmly welcomed by ARS attendees.

So, what is this "Legacy of Rare Mileage?" As Brown noted, the MBREE has been running excursions for 90 years. They ran the first one on Aug. 26, 1934. A train was chartered for a ride on Hoosac Tunnel & Wilmington Railroad in a train pulled by a steam engine.

Except in the tunnel, where an electric engine would pull the train because of the exhaust.

Your correspondent admits to being a bit surprised by the date of 1934. Railroads, in the first half of the 20th Century, were a vital part of national transportation. One thinks of Arlo Guthrie's City of New Orleans in 1972 as lamenting the decline, but here were people in Massachusetts during the depression taking a trip for the adventure.

They haven't stopped even as the environment has changed with diesel mainly replacing steam and many lines not as they were back in the day.

It was obvious that Brown was way too young, as in non-existent, to have been on the 1934 excursion, but he showed many slides from back then up through the years to the present.

There was much history in the excursions, as in 1937 with riders sitting down in gondola cars open to the elements. Said trip was in October in Suncook Valley New Hampshire when it could get chilly.

Brown showed another picture of an open car and a soaking rain. You've got to be tough to be a railfan.

Those of us not overly young would see pictures and comments that evoked memories of childhood.

There was a train known as the Budd Liner or Budd Rail Diesel Car remembered from the 1950s. They were silver, and to someone used to seeing large diesel locomotives, wonderfully modern looking and sleek for the day.



Turley Photos by Richard Murphy
Model Train Village at the Amherst Railway Society Clubhouse



Passengers ride up to the White Mountains on the T.

Budds were self-propelled railcars.

Inquiring of Brown, he responded, "When you were a little boy, those cars were quite modern!"

There are so many pictures and stories that go with them. The lowering of the balls are red globes that, depending on position, signal that the crossing has been switched and it safe to proceed. Get it wrong, and disaster could ensue.

Brown spoke well and with no little wit about a subject that means a lot to him. He had copies of The CALL-BOY which is the official publication of the MBREE and it is a treasure trove of information for railfans, as is the organizations website: www.massbayrre.org. There you can find out about future excursions.

The evening's host, the Amherst Railway Society is also an active association with an engaging website, <https://amherstrail.org/>. The society will hold its annual Railroad Hobby Show on Saturday and Sunday, Jan. 27 and 28.

The Railroad Hobby Show is the largest railroad-themed trade show in America and is held every year at the Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds in West Springfield.

Organizations such as the Massachusetts Bay Railroad Enthusiasts and the Amherst Rail Society attest to the American romance with railroading. If you think you share that, the ARS meets every month except February on the second Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. at 1130 South Main St.



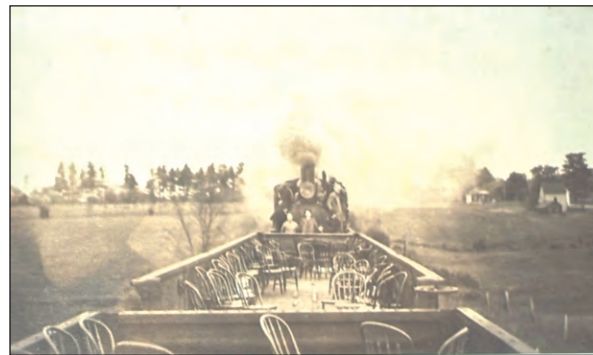
Dave Brown, Massachusetts Bay Railroad Enthusiasts.



This photo shows a Boston & Maine Budd Liner RDC.



Au revoir to steam – this photo shows the last RRE excursion with B&M steam power in 1956.



Open gondolas and chairs are shown behind Suncook Valley 2-6-0 No. 1.



Hoosac Tunnel and Wilmington No. 5 is shown being turned around on the turntable.



The lowering of the ball signal at Whitefield.



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Members of the Ware Business and Civic Association had a gathering at the Western Mass Pinball Club in Three Rivers.

Flipping out



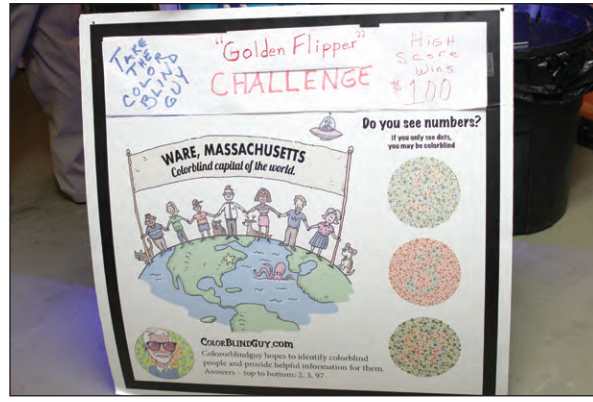
Ware Business and Civic Association President Dan Flynn speaks at the association's winter activity held at the Western Mass Pinball Club.



Ware Business and Civic Association member and ColorBlindGuy Chris Murphy explains the rules of the Golden Flipper pinball challenge.

Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette and Ryan Drago

PINBALL | from page 1
tion area.
For more information about the WBCA, visit warebca.com or follow them on Facebook.



For fun competition, ColorBlindGuy introduced the Golden Flipper Challenge where the player who scores the most points on one of the vintage pinball machines wins.



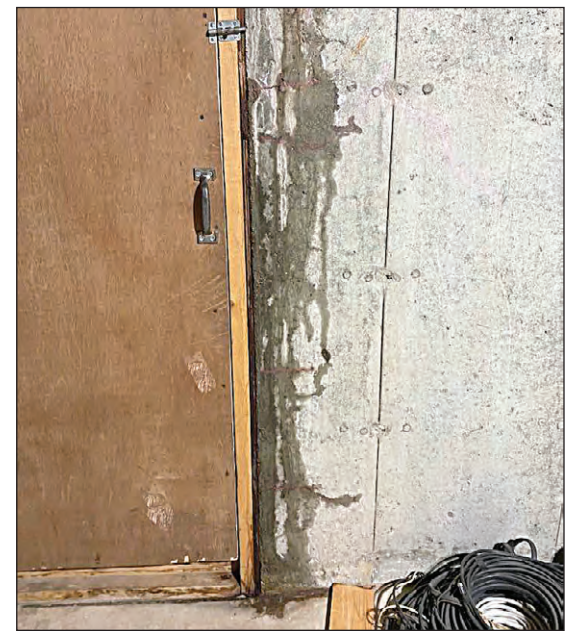
Western Mass Pinball Club is located at 4 Springfield St., Three Rivers.



Ryan Drago uses his bowling skills to play this vintage game.



Country Bank for sponsoring the event at the Western Mass Pinball Club and I.A.M. BID hosted the reception area.



Ground water making its way in through the cracks in the foundation.

CONCRETE | from page 1

branches of government for the committee.

Loglisci discovered a mineral that was damaging her foundation over six years ago. She estimates that the town will be greatly affected by this, noting that 350-400 homes could have similar problems with their foundation.



When Loglisci looked for an equity note from a bank to fix the foundation herself, the bank told her she was ineligible because with the damage to her house's foundation, she only had insufficient equity from her land.

"Of course, it's not covered by insurance or anything," Loglisci said. "Our only hope is to get the same type of program Connecticut has."

Select Board member Peter Warren clarified that callers don't need to have minerals in their own foundation to contact their state delegation. They could, however, call out of concern for their neighbors.

"The calls that people make, you don't necessarily have to have an issue with your foundation," Warren said. "They just need to hear some noise."

"These homeowners don't have much time left before their homes could actually collapse," Loglisci said. "That's how bad the damage is."

"We just need people to support it," Loglisci continued. "Even if you have a neighbor, or a family member, or you're just a concerned citizen and feel like this shouldn't be happening to anybody with no recourse whatsoever, then your support would be appreciated."

Loglisci said that when the bill moved forward during a previous session, it was late enough that by the time the Senate's Ways and Means Committee received it, it was budget season and it had to set it aside. Loglisci said that once budget season starts again, nothing will be able to happen with the bill, and homeowners will be left waiting again.

"We don't want it to be extended, we don't want it to be sent to study, we want it voted out favorably," Loglisci said. "That has to happen before Feb. 6; otherwise, we go into another session with nothing."

If you'd like to express your support for Bill s495, call Roush at 617-722-1555, or Cahill at 617-722-2020, and ask them to move the bill forward.

"We have nowhere to turn," Loglisci said. "It's time that our legislators did something."

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► Why Join Us?

Referrals are just the beginning! As a member, you'll enjoy the spotlight on your business within our close-knit community. Think of us as your business's ultimate cheerleaders, making sure your unique offerings shine bright.

► A Legacy of Achievement

Since 2011, our organization has been making waves. We're not just about meetings - we're about momentum. From securing endorsements for local businesses to orchestrating events that turn visitors into regulars, we've been shaping our towns' destiny, one success story at a time.

► Events that Sparkle

Who says business can't be fun? Picture this: quarterly membership nights that blend networking with laughter. We're all about community, after all - and a little friendly competition in the bowling alley or at the axe throwing yard never hurt anyone.

► Network that Expands

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► An Investment in Success

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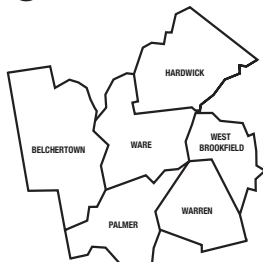
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SWITZER | from page 1

bylaws and votes on whether to recommend the change at the Annual Town Meeting. It grants special permits for things like driveways or cannabis retailers in accordance with state bylaws allowing for building on lots without conventional frontage.

"Municipal zoning planning, in other words," Switzer said. "We take it upon ourselves, or at the recommendation of others, to see what we can do to make Monson function a little better as far as safety, traffic flow, commercial and industrial land uses and things like that."

The Planning Board is also responsible for approving any new streets and housing subdivisions, including approving the creation of new building lots along the road frontage and approving divisions of land to make sure they meet current laws.

"The zoning bylaws are constantly changing," Switzer said. "There are not too many town meetings where there isn't a bylaw change. As far as zoning goes, I haven't noticed any drastic changes in Monson; we're a stable town in that we've never gone through a massive growth spurt, either commercially or residentially, whereas some other towns - like, for example, Belchertown - had a huge residential growth spurt years ago."

"Monson has a pretty stable land use and development pattern. I haven't noticed any huge bumps or faults in our growth," Switzer said.

Switzer added that, in his experience, most engineers and business owners that come before the board have been reasonable, and he's been happy to work with them.

"I enjoy dealing with our board and with most of the people that come before our board," Switzer said. "Quite often, the Planning Board will see developers that really try to push and bend rules, but we don't see too much of that. The people that we deal with, the engineers we talk to, the proponents and the townspeople that come before us, are usually a real joy to work with."

The Planning Board meets every third Tuesday of the month at Town Hall and can be contacted by phone by calling 413-267-4111.

SPORTS

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BASKETBALL

Ware evens up season series with Monson

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE—Sweet revenge. When the Ware boys' varsity basketball team traveled to Michael J. Kane Gymnasium last month, they suffered a 54-45 loss to Monson. When the two Bi-County West League rivals battled each other again at Paul Orszulak Gymnasium last Friday night, the Indians celebrated a 69-62 victory over the Mustangs in front of a large home crowd. "It's always nice to win a home game, especially against one of our biggest rivals," said Ware sophomore forward Brady Guimond, who scored 12 of his 17 points during the second half. "Monson is a very good basketball team, and this is a very big win for us."

Ware had a 1-4 overall record following an 11-point home loss against Palmer on December 18. The Indians, who won their next four games, had a 5-4 record following the second meeting of the regular season against the Mustangs. It was the first time that the Indians have been over the .500 mark since they defeated Mount Everett, 57-41, in the season opener.

"We started the season with a 1-4 record, but we're a much different team right now," said Ware head coach Gene Rich. "We averaged 51 points per game in our first five games. Since then, we've been averaging 66 points per game. We've also been playing well defensively. We found our identity and we figured out what works best for us as a group. A couple of our younger players are also playing key roles."

Guimond, who's a first-year starter for the varsity basketball team, was one of the Indians three double figure scorers in the home victory versus the Mustangs (6-4). Senior guard Jack McKeever scored 12 of his team-leading 20 points in the first half. He made four shots from beyond the three-point line. Sophomore center Jack Gaudreau chipped in with 11 points.

The Mustangs, who won two of the three meetings against the Indians a year ago, were led by eighth grade guard Trey Dillahunt with a game-high 22 points.

"Trey plays basketball all year round," said Monson head coach Zac Dreher. "He has a lot more experience than most of the older players. He keeps us in every game."

Senior guard Colin Beaupre and sophomore Austin Meacham scored 12 points for the visiting team. Beaupre was the leading scorer in the first meeting of the season against Ware with 17 points.

The score was tied 4-4 a little more than three minutes into the first quarter before the Indians built a double digit lead with the help of a 17-7 run.

"We've fallen behind in every game that we've lost so far this season," Dreher said. "We just need to find a way to play better at the start."

Jack McKeever began the run by knocking down back-to-back 3-pointers from the left side.

The Indians made a total of nine 3-pointers in the contest.

After a pair of Gaudreau inside hoops, a lay-up by senior forward Gavin Kanozek (3 points) extended the Indians lead to 17-9 with 1:22 left in the first quarter.

Then a Guimond runner in the lane and a baseline jumper by Jack McKeever gave the home team a ten point lead entering the second quarter.

The duo of Colin Beaupre and Dillahunt combined to score all the Mustangs points in the first quarter.

The Indians were leading by 16 points (27-11) less than a minute into the second stanza following back-to-back 3-pointers from junior guard Owen McKeever (5 points) and Jack McKeever.

The Mustangs came storming

BASKETBALL

Monson bests rival Palmer



Trey Dillahunt extends on the layup.



Sebastian Nava tries to come down with the rebound.



Shane Szado goes after the opening tipoff.



Austin Meacham makes his way up the court.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

PALMER – Last Tuesday evening, Monson traveled to neighboring Palmer and defeated the Panthers 47-37. Austin Meacham had the big game for the Mustangs with 22 points to lead all scorers. Trey Dillahunt added 10 points. Palmer had trouble on offense, with Taydem Haley managing 10 points and no one else in double-digits. Both teams remain above .500 as Monson is 6-4 while Palmer stands at 5-3 on the regular season.



Taydem Haley rushes the hoop.



Colin Beaupre eyes the hoop before shooting.



Stephen Fredette takes a free throw.



Dylan Doherty makes a run up the court.



Angel Torres gets a shot on the hoop.



Gavin Smola gets the short jumper.

BASKETBALL

Palmer breaks up Lee's undefeated streak

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—The first meeting of the regular season between the Lenox and Palmer girls' varsity basketball teams was very similar to a Western Mass. tournament or a state tournament game.

The Lady Panthers, who played their home opener, scored the final five points of the Franklin North contest, and celebrated an exciting 38-33 victory over the previously undefeated Millionaires, last Monday night (Jan. 8).

"We're two very similar teams and we match-up well against each other," said Palmer co-head coach Amanda Theriault. "We haven't played a game in more than a week and we made some careless mistakes in tonight's game. We did make some good adjustments at the end of the game."

While it was a very entertaining basketball game for the fans to watch, it was a very stressful game for the Palmer coaching staff.

"It must've been a very exciting game if you were sitting in the bleachers on the other side of the court," said Palmer co-head coach Denise Levasseur. "When you're coaching in these types of games, it always takes a lot out of you. I feel like I played in the game. Our defense was the biggest difference in tonight's game. This is our biggest win so far this season."

The Lady Panthers (3-2, 2-0) split their first four road games of this season. They defeated Southwick (53-38) and Hopkins Academy (56-19), which were sandwiched around losses to Sutton and Somers (Conn).

"We don't mind playing road games because we get focused on the bus ride and then we watch the j.v. team play," said Palmer senior co-captain Vanessa Baer, who netted a season 14 points in the win at Hopkins Academy. "But we enjoy playing at home a lot better. Most of our classmates come to our home games, and we really appreciate their support a lot."

Baer scored eight of her nine points in the home opener during the fourth quarter.

The Lady Panthers other senior co-captain is Jordan Bigda, who's Baer's cousin. She scored four points in the home opener.

Sophomore Charlotte Theriault, who joined the varsity basketball team as an eighth grader, led the way offensively for Palmer against Lenox (6-1, 3-1) with a game-high 18 points. She scored nine points in each half.

Theriault, who scored a team-leading 114 points in the Lady Panthers first five games of the regular season, is now less than 300 points away from joining her older sister, Maddy, as a member of the elite 1,000 point club.

Baer was a sophomore member of the varsity basketball team when Maddy Theriault scored her 1000th career point. She's really hoping to watch Charlotte reach the milestone before the end of this season.

"It's been a lot of fun playing on the same basketball team with Charlotte. We also play on the same AAU basketball team together," Baer said. "I'm really hoping that she can score her 1,000 career point before the end of this season."

The outcome of last Monday's home game wasn't decided until the final two minutes of regulation. With the score tied 33-33 the Lady Panthers retook the lead following a Bigda lay-up with 1:37 remaining in the fourth quarter. Then Theriault, who scored at least ten points in the first five games of the season, hit a jumper, which pushed the lead to four points.

Newcomer scores 18 in Monson defeat

MONSON – In her first big game of her varsity career, Madigan Graves-Harrison led Monson with 18 points in a 64-43 loss at South Hadley last week. The loss dropped Monson to 3-6 on the season. Olivia Chrzan scored 11 points for the matchup.



Olivia Chrzan goes after the loose ball.



Aniah Myrie pivots before passing.



Emily Provost fights for a rebound.



Sedona Arbour takes a free throw.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Early lead paces Pioneers to win



Megan Clark makes a pass on the run.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Greenly Lagimoniere makes her way down the court.



Addison Doktor lunges for a shot.

PALMER – Last Friday evening, Pathfinder girls basketball jumped out to a 9-2 lead, then more than doubled that while holding Westfield Tech to just four points in the first half. The Pioneers would go on to get the win 34-24 and improve to 4-3 on the season. Greenly Lagimoniere would lead Pathfinder with 11 points.



Taylor Allen passes inside the arc.



Desiree Croteau makes a run inside the paint.

Turleysports

Athlete of the Week

Austin Meacham
Monson High School



Meacham had a big game for Monson boys basketball against rival Palmer as he led all scorers with 22 points.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER – A new team leads in round two of the Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League.

As of Jan. 2, The Champs R Here take over the #1 seed with a record of 14-6. The Champs also lead the league with a team high single of 439 and team high triple of 1253.

Second place is Acres at 13-7 with a team high single of 436 and team high triple of 1206. Third place is Team BK at 13-7 with a team high single of 425 and team high triple of 1182. Compression is in fourth place at 11.5-8.5 with a team high single of 419 and team high triple 1174.

In fifth place is Life is Good at 11-9 with a team high single of 410 and team high triple of 1176. Last in Line is in sixth place at 8.5-11.5 with a team high single of 407 and team high triple of 1133. Blue B's sit in last place with a record of 8-12, a team high single of 411 and a team high triple of 1152.

The Champs R Here bowled against Last in Line on the league night of Jan. 9. In game one, The Champs and Last in Line tied at 392 and each received half a point.

Taylor Colkos and Steve Manolakis of The Champs bowled well over their averages in game one. Colkos started off with a 102 and Manolakis bowled a 106. Vinny Navarro of Last in Line started off with a 105.

In game two, The Champs R Here came out victorious by a score of 402 to Last in Line's 394. Manolakis bettered his first game score by bowling a 117.

John Colkos bowled his league average, 103. Navarro bowled 104 in game two.

In game three, The Champs won the last game of the evening, 421-386. Three of the four bowlers on Champs R Here went over 100 with Dino Tessicini at 111, Taylor Colkos at 110 and John Colkos at 107.

Thursday Night Mixed League
The winners of round one, Team Six bowled against Team Five.

In game one, Team Six won by a score of 397-396. In game two, Team Six won again by a score of 419-410. Dan Mahoney of Team Six bowled a 106. In game three, Team Five won the last game 406-393. Team Five won total pinfall by a final score of 1212-1209.

Team Two bowled against Team One. In game one, Team Two was the winner by a score of 415-382. Donna Danek, the president of the Thursday Night Mixed League had a good game bowling a 103. Following Danek, Dan Fennyery had a 111 game to start off the evening.

In game two, Team One was victorious over Team Two 396-383. In game three, Team One won the last game of the evening 400-365. Kris Rickson finished the night with a 109. Team One took total pinfall by a final score of 1178-1163.

Team Four bowled against Team Three. In game one, Team Three was the winner scoring 402 to Team Four's 392. Jesse Danek of Team Three started off strong with a 117. In game two, Team Four fought back and won 387-367. In game three, Team Four won the last game 397-390. Jesse Danek, who had an off game in the 2nd round by finishing the night with a 115.

Team Four won total pinfall by a final score of 1176-1159.

MONSON | from page 7

back with the help of a 12-3 run late in the first half.

"Every good basketball team is capable of making a run and we knew that Monson was probably going to make a comeback against us," Rich said. "They did punch us in the gut a few times and I'm proud of the way my guys responded."

A Dillahunt 3-pointer closed the gap to 34-24 with 3:30 remaining in the second quarter.

Monson headed into the locker room only trailing by two points (37-35), as Meacham ended the opening half by burying a 3-pointer from the right corner.

After Guimond scored the first four points of the second half, Monson took the lead for the first time.

Dillahunt scored the go-ahead basket on a jumper which gave the Mustangs a 42-41 lead with 4:30 left in the third quarter.

Twenty seconds later, Guimond hit a 3-pointer from the right corner and a lay-up by senior guard John Mumper (8 points), which gave Ware a 46-42 lead.

With the help of two baskets by Colin Beaupre, the Mustangs entered the final eight minutes of the contest trailing, 51-48.

Two minutes into the fourth quarter, the home team built a 58-51 lead on a lay-up by Jack McKeever.

The Mustangs managed to stay within striking distance.

With 1:45 remaining in regulation, Dillahunt knocked down a 3-pointer cutting the Mustangs deficit to one point (61-60). They also trailed 63-62 after a Meacham put-back hoop with 1:07 left.

The Indians scored the final six points of the game. Guimond scored five of those points, including a 3-pointer from the left corner, which finally sealed the deal for the home team.

DEATH NOTICES

Edward Pascale, 87
Died Jan. 10, 2024
Services Jan. 19, 2024
Wilbraham Funeral Home

The Journal Register
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

O B I T U A R I E S

Edward Pascale, 87

PALMER — Edward Pascale 87, passed away peacefully Jan. 10 surrounded by his family at the Quaboag Rehabilitation Center. Born Oct. 23, 1936 to the late Roger and Ruby (Guilow) Pascale in Northfield NH, he spent most of his childhood in Monson, and later moved to Palmer where he raised his 4 children. Edward enjoyed his family trade as a stone mason and loved to drive by many of his various jobs in the area telling funny stories about his brothers and nephews whom he worked with throughout the years. He was a proud Veteran of the 188th Airborne Infantry Regiment Paratroopers in 1955 with 73 confirmed jumps. He was an avid history buff with an incredible memory which he kept right up till the end. He loved to talk for hours about the WWII. Edward enjoyed the simple things

in life, a delicious dinner, a great cup of coffee with a coffee roll, the Daily Newspaper and the Journal Register that he read religiously. He went by many names: Fast Eddie, Steady Eddy, Eddie spaghetti with the meatball eyes and Daddy. He had an amazing will to live right up to the end. Edward was predeceased by his son and daughter-in-law Edward and Martina Pascale, sister Millie (Lak) Merino, sister-in-law Patricia Pascale, brothers Reynold and Roxy Pascale. He is survived by his loving partner of 35+ years Linda Chagnon; his children Michael (Betsy) Pascale, Carol Ann (Thomas) Smart, Lisa (Kevin) Jekot, and their mother Kathleen Pascale; his Grandchildren Justin and Megan Pascale,



Nicholas Smart and Jennifer McAninch; Great grandchildren Mila, Gabriel, Madison, Mason and Jackson; his sister-in-law Sherry Pascale; two brothers Ernest Pascale and Roger (Judy Stearns) Pascale, as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews. On Friday, Jan. 19, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. a grave side service with full military honors will be held at Hillcrest Cemetery in Monson followed by a celebration of life at St Joseph's Club in Thorndike, Mass. at 4 p.m. Arrangements were entrusted to Wilbraham Funeral Home. In lieu of flowers, donations in Edwards memory may be made to the Springfield Rescue Mission 10 Mill St., Springfield, Mass.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

E-mail items to journalregister@turley.com or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

The Journal Register encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers for updated event times. Have an event to promote? Email the information (in sentence form and as a Word doc or plain email text - no PDFs or flyers, please - to pressreleases@turley.com.

ONGOING

BINGO IS BACK at Amvets Post 74, 2150 Main St., Three Rivers, on Mondays. The kitchen opens at 4:30 p.m. Early Bird starts at 6:25 p.m. Call the Post at 413-283-4518 for further information.

LINE DANCING CLASS: 3-5 p.m. and/or 6:30-8:30 p.m., every Thursday at the Monson Polish Club, 7 Bliss St, Monson. Rose's line dancing classes include absolute beginners and beginners, and participants get to dance to all types of music. \$10 per class. Please wear comfortable footwear, no sandals.

GAME NIGHT: 6-7:45 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at Top Floor Learning (third floor of the Palmer Library at 1455 N. Main St.). Free and open to the public. Play available board and card

games or bring your own. Must be 16 or older unless accompanied by an adult. No Registration Required - just show up! Questions? Call 283-2329, or 283-3691, or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

NOTCH VISITOR CENTER OPEN FOR WINTER SEASON: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday-Monday. The center is located on Rt 116, at the center of the Holyoke Range State Park. DCR Interpretive staff will be available for visitors. Coming in January, programs will also be offered to highlight the Range's special nature in winter, see the park web site for details.

QI GONG: 6 p.m., every Tuesday night at Memorial Hall with Randy Emerson. Free, no registration. Presented by Monson Parks & Rec and the Monson Free Library,

INTERESTS

CRAFTERNOONS: Drop in 2-4 p.m. daily at the Holland Public Library, 23 Sturbridge Road to learn or practice different crafts. There are new crafts every Wednesday. For more information, call 413-245-3607.

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM: Located at 35 Ely Rd., Monson, nature trails are open daily until dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the parking lot. The Phillips Sculpture Garden is open year-round (handouts in box on one of the signposts). For more information call 413-267-4137, email khm@keep-homesteadmuseum.org or visit keephomesteadmuseum.org.

QUABOAG VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD: Members meet at 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the Amvets post at 2150 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no-pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. Dues are \$55 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow them on Facebook for more.

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Police/Fire

Fire Logs

Bondsville

For the period Jan. 2 through Jan. 8, Bondsville fire responded to 4 calls.

Tuesday, Jan. 2

4:27 p.m., the department responded mutual aid to Park Street in Palmer for smoke in the residence. The call was cancelled enroute and the department returned to service at 4:32 p.m.

Wednesday, Jan. 3

9:53 a.m., the department responded to Thorndike Street for medical assistance. The department returned to service at 10:05 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 4

1:05 p.m., the department responded mutual aid to Pathfinder Regional HS in Three Rivers for an alarm activation. The department returned to service at 1:13 p.m.

Sunday, Jan. 7

7:36 a.m., the department responded to Forest Street for the report of tree branches on power lines and arcing. The department returned to service at 8:24 a.m.

Palmer

Palmer Fire Department also responded to six Medical Assist calls for the week.

Jan. 9

10:48 a.m. Detector activation, Shearer Street Extension, Back in service at 11:21 a.m.

1:33 p.m. Dispatched and cancelled, Mass Pike, Back in service at 2:15 p.m.

Jan. 10

1:28 a.m. CO detector activation, Lauren Drive, Back in service at 2:31 a.m.

5:07 a.m. Motor vehicle accident (with fluid spill), Church Street, Thorndike, Back in service at 5:39 a.m.

5:40 a.m. Structure fire, Lakeside Drive (Monson mutual aid), Back in service at 6:50 a.m.

Jan. 13

11:34 a.m. Tree on powerlines, Lawrence Street, Back in service at 12:09 p.m.

1:48 p.m. Motor vehicle accident (with fluid spill), Main Street, Back in service at 2:24 p.m.

Jan. 14

9:33 a.m. Station coverage, Boston Road (Wilbraham mutual aid), Back in service at 10:45 a.m.

5:36 p.m. Detector activation, Meadowbrook Lane, Back in service at 5:57 p.m.

Three Rivers

The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to four calls for the week of Jan. 7-13

Monday, Jan. 8

The Department responded to a motor vehicle/pedestrian accident on Pine Street.

Thursday, Jan. 11

The Department provided a medical assist to EMS crew on Ruggles Street.

Saturday, Jan. 13

The Department responded to a motor vehicle accident on Main Street in Thorndike.

That same day, the Department provided a medical assist to EMS crew on Pine View.

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Virtual support groups offered

WESTERN MA— During a cancer journey patients and their families often benefit from the support of others. Virtual support groups will be held in 2024 by Camille St. Onge, LICSW, and oncology social worker.

For many years, people had to travel to a predetermined location in order to attend addiction support group meetings. As a result of restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic and because of the increasing availability of digital services, these

groups now meet online.

"Offering support groups virtually brings people together regardless of their location," said St. Onge. "Sharing concerns with a support group can be a beneficial way for people facing cancer to get the help they need to cope with the physical and emotional concerns that arise during and after a cancer diagnosis. While support and self-help groups can vary greatly, groups share one thing in common, they are a place where people can share personal

stories, express emotions, and be heard in an atmosphere of acceptance, understanding, and encouragement."

The support groups are designed to help patients, their families, and caregivers cope with the challenges of a cancer diagnosis. Virtual Support Group offered include: General Cancer Support Group, 1st Wednesday of each month, from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.; Partners in Caregiving, 2nd Wednesday of each month, from 5 - 6:30 p.m.; Expressive Writing

through Cancer, 3rd Wednesday of each month, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Breast Cancer Support Group, 4th Wednesday of each month, from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

All meetings are currently held virtually and made possible by funds raised by the Walk of Champions. For more information contact Camille St. Onge, LICSW, Oncology Social Worker by calling 413-239-7239 or by email at cstomagin@gmail.com.

PALMER | from page 7

After Lenox missed two foul shots, Baer made her first free throw attempt with 14.1 seconds left on the scoreboard clock. Theriault pulled down the rebound on the second foul shot and the Lady Panthers kept possession of the ball until the buzzer sounded.

With 7:20 remaining in the first quarter, which was a defensive battle, Lenox junior Jocelyn Fairchild (team-high 15 points) buried a 3-pointer from the right corner. The visitors were then held scoreless until the start of

the second quarter.

The Lady Panthers broke the ice three minutes later following a foul-line jumper by Theriault.

She also converted an old fashion three-point play giving Palmer the lead for the first time at 5-3 with 2:19 left in the opening quarter.

Another Fairchild 3-pointer 25 seconds into the second stanza gave Lenox the lead back (6-5) for a moment.

Palmer then built a 16-6 lead with the help of a an 11-0 run. Freshman Addyson Petra-

shewicz began the run with a put-back hoop following a missed 3-pointer. It was her only points of the contest. That was followed by a Bigda lay-up and a 3-pointer from junior Jayda Pardo (3 points), who banked home a shot from the right side.

Theriault scored the final four points of the run.

The Lady Panthers held a 16-10 halftime lead.

Following a pair of 3-pointers from sophomore Chloe Parsenios (9 points) and two foul shots by Fairchild, the Millionaires re-

took the lead at 20-18 with a little more than two minutes left in the third quarter.

A Theriault jumper and lay-up gave the Lady Panthers a slim one point lead (22-21) entering the final eight minutes of the contest.

It remained a close game until the Lady Panthers scored the final five points.

Palmer is scheduled to make the trip to the Berkshires for the rematch on February 1.

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Public notices

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Laurie A. Bessette to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., dated September 26, 2019 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22874, Page 307, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as mortgagee, as nominee for Quicken Loans Inc., its successors and assigns to Rocket Mortgage, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans, LLC f/k/a Quicken Loans Inc., recorded on October 3, 2023, in Book No. 25179, at Page 8 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 4:00 PM on February 14, 2024, on the mortgaged premises located at 1026 Chestnut Street, Palmer, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, TO WIT:

A certain parcel of land on the southeasterly side of Chestnut Street, Palmer, Hampden County, Massachusetts bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pin at the intersection of the southeasterly side of said Chestnut Street and the southwesterly side of Arch Street;

thence S 69° 12' 00" W along said Chestnut Street, 178.86 feet to an iron pin at land now or formerly of J. S. Holden;

thence S 19° 02' 00" E along last named land, 69.03 feet to a point at Parcel 50-A as shown on plan at Book of Plans 284, Page 69;

thence N 69° 12' 00" E along last named land, 120.99 feet to a point;

thence S 20° 48' 00" E along last named land, 6.82 feet to an iron pin at Lot 30B as shown on plan at Book of Plans 272, Page 93;

thence N 67° 05' 45" E along last named land, 60.04 feet to an iron pin in the southwesterly line of Arch Street;

thence N 20° 48' 00" W along said Arch Street to the iron pin at the point of beginning.

Meaning and intending to describe and convey as a single parcel, Lot 30A on said plan at Book of Plans 272, Page 93 and Parcel 50 on said plan at Book of Plans 284, Page 69. Said Lot 30A being a portion of premises described in deed recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 7493, Page 335 and said Parcel 50 being the same premises described in deed at Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book 8381, Page 14. For mortgagor's(s)' title see deed recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22874, Page 304.

These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O.

Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.

ROCKET MORTGAGE, LLC
F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS, LLC
F/K/A QUICKEN LOANS INC.

Present holder of said mortgage
By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.

150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
24512
01/11, 01/18, 01/25/2024

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LAND COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
DOCKET NO. 21 SM 000769
ORDER OF NOTICE TO:

Gerard H. Briggs and to all persons entitled to the benefit of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act, 50 U.S.C. C. 50 §3901 (et seq):

Deutsche Bank National Trust Company, as Trustee of Ameriquet Mortgage Securities, Inc. Asset Backed Pass Through Certificates, Series 2005-R6 under the Pooling and Servicing Agreement dated as of July 1, 2005

claiming to have an interest in a Mortgage covering real property in Brimfield, numbered 51 Brookfield Road, given by Gerard H. Briggs to Ameriquet Mortgage Company, dated May 13, 2005, and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 15035, Page 238, and now held by the Plaintiff by assignment, has/have filed with this court a complaint for determination of Defendant's/Defendants' Servicemembers status.

If you now are, or recently have been, in the active military service of the United States of America, then you may be entitled to the benefits of the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act. If you object to a foreclosure of the above-mentioned property on that basis, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and answer in this court at Three Pemberton Square, Boston, MA 02108 on or before 02/26/2024 or you may lose the opportunity to challenge the foreclosure on the ground of noncompliance with the Act.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER Chief Justice of this Court on 1/10/2024.

Attest:
Deborah J. Patterson, Recorder
01/18/2024

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 4 Stewart Avenue, Monson, MA 01057

By virtue of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Norma M. Germain to Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation, A Subsidiary of IndyMac Bank, F.S.B., and now held by Longbridge Financial, LLC, said mortgage dated January 18, 2007 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16462, Page 218, said mortgage was assigned from Financial Freedom Senior Funding Corporation to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Financial Freedom Acquisition LLC by assignment dated September 29, 2009 and recorded with

said Registry of Deeds in Book 18009, Page 593; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. as nominee for Financial Freedom Acquisition LLC to Reverse Mortgage Funding LLC by assignment dated April 3, 2019 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 22632, Page 35; said mortgage was assigned from Reverse Mortgage Funding LLC to Longbridge Financial, LLC by assignment dated August 18, 2023 and recorded with said Registry of Deeds in Book 25145, Page 44; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on March 7, 2024 at 02:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

4 STEWART AVENUE, MONSON, MASSACHUSETTS

Certain real estate situate in Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts on the Northerly side of Stewart Avenue, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point in the Northerly line of Stewart Avenue at the Southeast corner of land of one Davey and running thence NORTHERLY along said Davey land 5 rods to a corner; thence turning and running EASTERLY and in a line parallel with the North line of Stewart Avenue 275 feet more or less to Wayne Road; thence turning and running SOUTHERLY along the Westerly line of Wayne Road 5 rods to Stewart Avenue; thence turning and running WESTERLY along the Northerly line of Stewart Avenue 275 feet more or less to the first mentioned point. The Southerly portion of the within described tract does not include any of the land over which a right of way was established by one Hynes as referred to in Book 1408, Page 298.

For Grantor's title see Deed recorded in Book 2779, Page 497.

The mortgagor(s) expressly reserve my/our rights of Homestead and do not wish to terminate my/our Homestead by granting the within conveyance notwithstanding my/our waiver of such Homestead in Paragraph 24 of the within mortgage.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated November 16, 1960 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 2779, Page 497.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC
23 Messenger Street
2nd Floor
Plainville, MA 02762

Attorney for
Longbridge Financial, LLC
Present Holder of the
Mortgage
(401) 217-8701
01/18, 01/25, 02/01/2024

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Classifieds

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HELP WANTED

The Town of Huntington is seeking an **INTERIM TOWN CLERK.** This is a salaried position for approximately 18 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing admin@huntingtonma.us. Applications are due by January 26, 2024. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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Public notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758

Docket No. HD24P0027EA
Estate of:
Roy Clifton Graves, Jr.
Also known as:
Clifton R Graves
Date of Death: 11/28/2023
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Laurie E. Clarke of Monson, MA and Matthew J. Graves of Ware, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Laurie E. Clarke of Monson, MA and Matthew J. Graves of Ware, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/02/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this

proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: January 05, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
01/18/2024

Monson Housing Authority
DHW Heater Replacement
Project #191065
Section 00 11 13
ADVERTISEMENT TO BID

MGL c.149 Over \$150K
The MONSON HOUSING AUTHORITY, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from Contractors for the DHW Heater Replacement at State Aided Development:
Colonial Village (667-2) 31 State Street,

Monson, MA 01057
Colonial Village (667-1)
31 State Street,
Monson, MA 01057
in accordance with the documents prepared by BOWMAN ENGINEERING, INC.

The Project consists of but not limited to:
Replacing a total of 23 electric DHW Heaters and performing a supporting electrical upgrade.
The work is estimated to cost \$208,000.00.

All Bidding Requests for Information (RFIs) shall be submitted online by 01/24/2024 at 3:00PM EST for filed sub-bids and by 02/07/2024 at 3:00PM EST for general bids.

Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J & to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive.

THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. All Bids shall be submitted online at bid-docs.com and received no later than the date and time specified.

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the following category of work, Plumbing, and must submit a current DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and signed DCAMM Prime/General Contractor Update Statement.

General Bids will be received until **14 February 2024 at 3:00PM EST** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

Filed Sub-bids for the trades listed below will be received until **31 January 2024 at 3:00PM EST** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

Filed sub-bidders must be DCAMM certified for the trades listed below and bidders must include a current DCAMM Sub-Bidder Certificate of Eligibility and a signed DCAMM Sub-Bidder's Update Statement.

TRADES
Electrical Work/EST
General bids and sub-bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (including all alternates) and made payable to the **MONSON HOUSING AUTHORITY**. Note: A bid deposit is not required for Projects advertised under \$50,000.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available for review at bid-docs.com (may be viewed and downloaded electronically at no cost).

General bidders must agree to contract with minority and women business enterprises as certified by the Supplier Diversity Office (SDO), formerly known as SOMWBA. The combined participation benchmark reserved for such enterprises shall not be less than 13% of the final contract price including accepted alternates. **Request for waivers must be sent to EOHL (david.mcclave@mass.gov) 5 calendar days prior to the General Bid date. NO WAIVERS WILL BE GRANTED AFTER THE GENERAL BIDS ARE OPENED.**

PRE-BID CONFERENCE / SITE VISIT:
Scheduled
Date and Time: 01/17/2024 at 10:00AM EST
Address: 31 State Street, Monson, MA 01057

Instructions: Meet in Community Room
The hard copy Contract Documents may be seen at:
Nashoba Blue Inc.
433 Main Street
Hudson, MA 01749

978-568-1167
Monson Housing Authority
31 State Street
Suite 50
Monson, MA 01057
01/11, 01/18/2024

TOWN OF PALMER, MASSACHUSETTS ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed Bids for the construction of the "Town of Palmer, Palmer WPCF Boiler Replacement" will be received at the Town Hall, 4417 Main Street, Palmer MA 01069 until 3:00 p.m. local time on Monday, March 11, 2024, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. Sealed

Bids must have an outer envelope marked as "Town of Palmer, Palmer WPCF Boiler Replacement."

Sealed Bids from Filed Subcontractors, addressed as referenced above, will be received at the Town Hall, 4417 Main Street, Palmer MA 01069 until 3:00 p.m. local time on Monday, March 4, 2024, at which time the Bids received will be publicly opened and read. Sub-Bids with the required Bid deposit will be received for the following items of work:

Subtrades
ELECTRICAL WORK
The work consists of the replacement of the boilers and hot water pumps. The work also includes associated HVAC, structural, and electrical work. Bids shall be on a lump sum price basis, with additive alternate bid items as indicated in the Bid Form.

All Bids for this project are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 149, Section 44A - 44J inclusive as amended.

In accordance with Section 44D of Chapter 149 of the General Laws of Massachusetts as amended, the prospective General Bidders and Filed Sub-Bidders must submit with their Bid, a certificate of eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM), showing that the Bidder has been approved to bid on projects of the size and nature as advertised herein. Prospective General Bidders and Filed Sub-Bidders must also submit an updated statement summarizing their record for the period between the latest DCAMM certificate and the date of the Bid submittal. The DCAMM certificate of eligibility to be submitted by the General Bidder shall be for the category of work defined as "HVAC". The DCAMM certificate of eligibility to be submitted by the Filed Sub-Bidders shall be for the category of work for which they are submitting a Bid.

Bidding Documents may be obtained electronically from the Tighe & Bond website at: http://www.tighe-bond.com/Projects_Out_to_Bid.php

Prospective bidders must complete a one-time registration process on the web site in order to receive log-in credentials. Bidders must log in to the web site to download bidding documents for the project. Bidders will be added to the "planholders" or prospective bidders list upon downloading the bidding documents for the project.

A bid deposit shall be furnished in accordance with the Instructions to Bidders.

The time period for holding Bids is 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after opening of Bids. Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the Commissioner of Department of Workforce Development under the provision of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Section 26 to 27D, as amended, apply to this project. It is the responsibility of the Contractor, before Bid opening, to request if necessary, any additional information on Minimum Wage Rates for those trades people who may be employed for the proposed Work under this Contract.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the WPCF at 1 Norbell Street, Palmer, MA on February 6, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. local time. Attendance at the pre-Bid conference is optional.

TOWN OF PALMER, MASSACHUSETTS
Consulting Engineer:
Tighe & Bond, Inc.
53 Southampton Road
Westfield, MA 01085
413-562-1600
1/18, 1/25/2024

Job Connection

HELPING YOU FIND HELP

TOWN OF WARREN - JOB POSTING

POLICE OFFICER Full/Part Time Openings

The Warren Police Department is accepting applications for the position of full time and part time Police Officer. Applicants are preferred to be academy trained and must be willing to work weekends, nights, and holidays.

Responsibilities include responding to emergency and non-emergency calls for Police, Fire and Ambulance services. It is preferred that applicants currently possess valid certification as a Police Officer. Candidates must have strong interpersonal, verbal, and written communication skills. Preferences include an associate degree or higher in criminal justice, serve in the US military, or experience as a Police Officer.

The Patrolmen's contract provides an education incentive and a candidate with prior experience may also be considered to start at a higher step rate of pay.

Resumes and cover letters must be returned no later than Friday, January 26th, 2024, to the attention of Lt. James Early, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or early@warren-ma.gov.

The Town of Warren is an EOE

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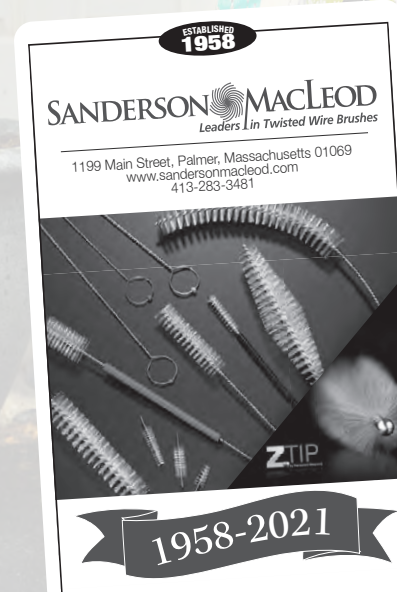
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FEBRUARY 7, 2024

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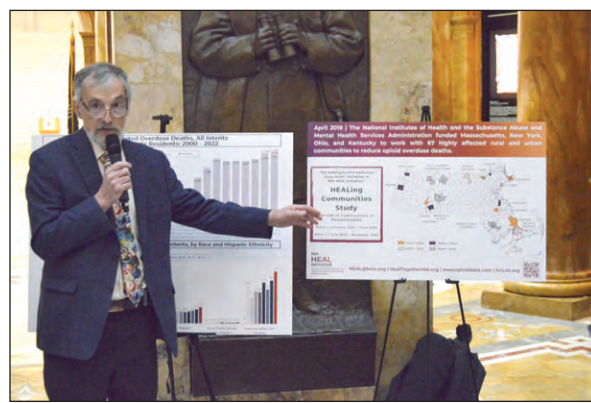


Ware resident Randy Gratton spoke at the State House during the "Voices of Resilience" exhibition.

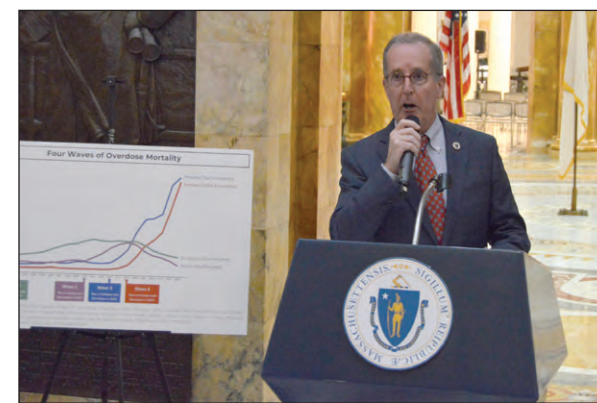
Community Coordinator Alyssa Curran spoke about the photovoice project held in Massachusetts' communities.



Turley Photos by Nick Boonstra



Dr. Jeffrey Samet shared opioid overdose statistics.



State Representative Smitty Pignatelli spoke in support of a bill that would require all first responders in Massachusetts to carry Narcan.



Department of Public Health Commissioner Robert Goldstein speaks at "Voices of Resilience."

These photos were taken from the community of Ware during the photovoice project.



VOICES | from page 1

to the HEALing Communities website, Massachusetts ranked among the top 10 states with the highest rates of opioid overdose deaths in a 2017 National Institute on Drug Abuse report.

Researchers with the study went into communities in four states to connect individuals with helpful resources and with each other, and to learn from participants what additional resources were still needed locally to aid those seeking recovery.

Alyssa Curran, a clinician with the Hampshire County Sheriff's Office and the study's Community Coordinator for Ware and Belchertown, explained that the images used for the exhibit were chosen and presented through a method known as photovoice, in which study participants share reflections about meaningful photographs. Some of these reflections were printed anonymously on the displayed photographs, adding context and poignancy to them.

One evidence-based practice encouraged at the event was that of carrying Narcan, also known by its generic name naloxone. Narcan is a life-saving medication that can reverse an opioid overdose and can be purchased at many pharmacies without a prescription.

Representative William "Smitty" Pignatelli, of the 3rd Berkshire District, emphasized the importance of carrying Narcan in remarks he gave at the event.

He related the tragic story of a young man who passed away as a result of an opioid overdose while his family and a police officer were present as they waited for an ambulance to arrive with Narcan.

Because of this and similar stories, Pignatelli said that he was supporting a bill that would require all first responders in Massachusetts to carry Narcan. The bill, H. 2008,

most recently had a joint hearing in October, according to the Massachusetts General Court's website.

"You never know who's going to show up at your front door," Pignatelli said, emphasizing that this was especially true in rural communities, and demonstrating that EMTs should not be expected to be the only ones with Narcan available.

Department of Public Health Commissioner Robert Goldstein also spoke at the event, sharing the startling news that the 2,359 overdose deaths recorded in 2022 were a record for the Commonwealth.

In addition to further stressing the importance of carrying Narcan, Goldstein laid out the evolution of the opioid crisis in Massachusetts, starting with prescription drugs around 2005, and escalating with the influx of fentanyl, a synthetic opiate, over the last decade.

"The drug supply is poisoned," he said, referring to the fact that illicit street drugs are now frequently contaminated with substances like fentanyl and xylazine, an animal tranquilizer, unbeknownst to the user.

Dr. Jeffrey Samet, Boston Medical Center physician and Principal Investigator for the HEALing Communities Study in Massachusetts, said that the Commonwealth had taken on a leadership role in addressing the national opioid crisis, but that there was still a long way to go.

"The essence of the HEALing Communities Study was to see if we can engage community members to come together in coalition within their communities," Samet said. Specifically, Samet highlighted how the study empowered participants to make decisions about the most helpful ways to allocate resources within their own communities.

Randy Gratton, a fourth generation Ware resident, shared how the



Photos in the "Voices of Resilience" exhibit shared messages from the photographer

HEALing Communities Study helped him in his own recovery, expressing his gratitude to the Study for "giving the little town of Ware the big help it needed."

Gratton said that community members in recovery had been having similar ideas about what was needed, but that they "didn't know how to put them together." As a result of individuals coming together, Gratton said, the Recovery Center of HOPE was opened on Main Street in Ware, and a van was also commissioned that would be able to connect community members without access to transportation to recovery resources.

Gratton closed by sharing the personal story of how one of his mentors in recovery encourages him every year on the anniversary of his sobriety with the words, "Good start." In the same way, he said that the efforts undertaken as a result of the HEALing Communities Study were good, but that they were just a start.

"I would encourage you all to continue to work, and more than anything to continue to care," he said.

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