

**COMMUNITY** Pet of the week: meet Pudge Page 2



SPORTS **Pioneers continue** to impress



**BUSINESS** New in town **Riverbend Laundry** 

Page 12

SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

# The Journal Register

Page 7

A **TURLEY** PUBLICATION **▮** www.turley.com

### SELECT BOARD

### Resident files open meeting law complaint

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON - A resident has filed a complaint against the Select Board for violating the Open Meeting Last. The matter was brought up at last week's Select Board meeting.

Open Meeting Law Complaint The final item on the agenda was for the board to review, consider, and vote on a complaint against the board.

The complaint came from Roxanne Gunther, a resident who alleged that the board was violating Open Meeting Laws. The complaint alleged that, in its Dec. 10 meeting, the board did not list every license eligible for annual renewal on the agenda, and that this is a possible

The four-page list is on file with the Town Clerk. Select Board Member Pat Oney read from a draft sent to the board from Town Counsel Ryan Clemens and Kate Federov.

"Adding this list to the agenda was impractical, and so the board kept the list on file at the Town Clerk's office, consistent with the DOG's guidance," Oney read. "A reasonable member of the public could not only read New Business Item #6 and understand that the board would discuss Annual License Renewals, that reasonable member of the public could also understand that the full list was available at the Town Clerk's office."

"The notice therefore provided ifficiently specific and practical list of topics that was reasonably anticipated to be discussed at the board's meeting," Oney read.

Counsel concluded that the board did not violate Open Meeting Law, and the board respectfully requested that the matter be resolved without further action.

Committee Appointment

The Jan. 14 meeting began with the appointment of Rebecca Morse to the Tax Assistance Committee.

"Right now there are four members of the of the Tax Assistance Committee, and under the statute there are five members that can be on it," said Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz. "There is one opening, and the other positions are resident-filled and Rebecca is a resident of the town, and she also does work in the Collector's Office."

After thanking Morse for volunteering, the board voted unanimously to appoint her to the posi-

Regional Animal Shelter

Wolowicz also provided an update about the Regional Animal Shelter.

"In December, I received an update from the Director of Health who oversees the operation, and she was providing some providing some updates on current projects that they're working on," Wolowicz

The shelter has completed testing for asbestos and lead, which

SELECT BOARD | page 3







Held at AMVETS Post 74 in Three Rivers

> By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

PALMER - An appreciation dinner for veterans was held at the AMVETS Post 74 in Three Rivers this past weekend.

The dinner was organized and put together by We the People Cornhole offers friendly competition

Over 150 guests preregistered and over 175 meals were made. The dinner featured steak



**PALMER** 

### **Tax** increase for FY 2025

Town Manager shares how to understand your Tax Bill

> By Marcelo Gusmão Editor mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER - When residents were surprised to see their taxes increase this year, the Town Manager reached out to share how the town sets its tax rate.

Valuations in town have continued to significantly increase, which Town Manager Brad Brothers said is a common theme throughout the Commonwealth. Brothers reported that the aver-

\$183,814 in fiscal year 2020, when the average tax bill was \$3,901, to \$296,062 in fiscal year 2025 with an average tax bill of \$4,879. This often causes confusion,

age home value in town went from

as the increased value leads to a lower tax rate but not a lower bill, as many may assume," Brothers said.

'Our municipal budget, which includes the schools, general government, insurance, etc., relies on the town levy, the amount raised from property taxes, to fund our annual budget in addition to state aid and local receipts," Brothers explained. "If the town were to lower the levy amount raised by dropping the rate, we would have to have significant staffing reductions.

To help residents better understand the many moving parts to property tax assessments, Proposition 2.5 and general municipal finance, the town has posted multiple links for information on its website under the Assessors page,

TAXES | page 2

### **COMMUNITY**

### St. Stan's offering indoor concerts

By Marcelo Gusmão **Editor** mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER - The St. Stanislaus Polish Lyceum held a Holiday Hangover celebration with live music this past weekend.

"We know the post holiday season can leave you feeling like you've got the blues," read the online announcement, "so come out and have a fun night with

Residents and music-lovers gathered at the St. Stan's on Friday, Jan. 17, for a live performance by Brookfield Rhythm, a local cover band that performed various classic rock hits throughout the evening.

"We've been having shows here since the parks closed," said

Sara Labier, a club member and bar manager at St. Stanislaus.

Throughout the fall, St. Stan's would have as many as two concerts a month, dropping to one per month through the winter. Labier said the park expects to hold one more concert in April before park season opens up in May.

"We're looking for stuff that can become a staple around here. not just to drive business for us, but for the local businesses," said Club President Josh Hoy. "When people come into town, they have to stop at a gas station, or grab something to eat if they haven't eaten here or we're not serving food."

During park season, the

ST. STANS | page 3

### **EDUCATION**

### **PHS** students awarded Adams Scholarship

By Marcelo Gusmão Editor mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER - The Jan. 15 School Committee meeting saw the presentation of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship to 19 students, as well as a heartfelt thank you to the district from the parent of a recent graduate.

"I am so excited to be presenting 19 students the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship," said High

PHS | page 3



Some of the John and Abigail Adams Scholarship winners that were recognized earlier this month.

## NOW OPEN!

### HANNA'S ON MAIN

Restaurant • Bar • Catering

91 Main Street Ware, MA 01082

Open Wednesday - Saturday Lunch and Dinner Sunday Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

413-277-0009



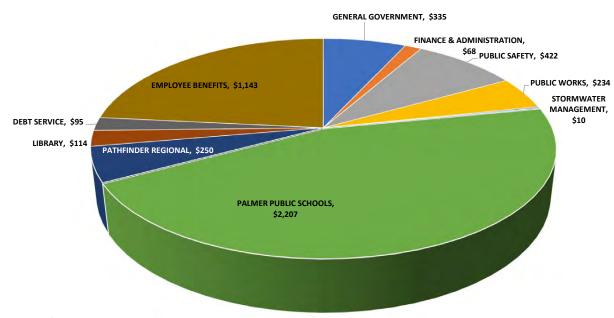


### **PUDGE**

This is Pudge, who lives with his family on Fairfield Drive in Palmer. Pudge is a one-year-old Mini-Dachshund with lots of love and energy. We feature your pets here. 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 journalregister@turley.com.

### WHERE DO YOUR TAX DOLLARS GO?

Tax Rate = \$16.48 per \$1,000 of AV Assessed Value of Average Home = \$296,062 Average Residential Tax Bill = \$4,879



### **TAXES** I from page 1

in addition to the town's Facebook account.

The abatement process is available to anyone who wishes to have their home assessment reviewed. Abatement applications for the Fiscal Year are accepted until the due date of the first actual tax payment for the fiscal year, which is Feb. 2 for FY25.

"Assessors are required by the state general laws to assess all real and personal property at its fair cash value, the price a willing buyer and a willing seller would settle upon in an open market transaction, as of Jan. 1 each year," Brothers said. "The general rule of thumb should be to file an abatement application

if you feel your home would sell below its assessed value."

To see the information, you can visit TownOfPalmer.com/Assessor and click on the "Understanding Your Bill" link.

If you have any further questions, you can contact the Town Manager's office at 413-283-2645.

### Meeting to discuss East/West Rail at **Steaming Tender**

PALMER - A meeting will be held this month to discuss the future of the rail stop in the state's East/West Rail Project.

The meeting will be held at Steaming Tender Restaurant on Monday, Jan. 27, from 6 to 8 p.m. The public is invited to participate in the discussion while enjoying food and a cash bar provided by the restaurant.

### **DEADLINE**

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

### Free Girl Scout event in Palmer

PALMER—Palmer and Ware area girls are invited to a free Girl Scout event Embrace Possibility on Wednesday, Jan. 29, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Girls and their guardians will sample Girl Scout badge projects, and take home their first Girl Scout patch. Girl Scout troops will be selling Girl Scout Cookies and answering any questions. Adults will discuss volunteering to form a new Girl Scout troop. Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts seeks volunteers to form a new leadership team (3-4 volunteers) so that the troop responsibilities are fun and can be shared. No previous Girl Scout experience is necessary. The event will take place at Second Congregational Church

1080 Pleasant St., Palmer This event is for girls entering grades K and 1, who are not currently Girl Scouts. RSVP by Jan. 25 https://go.gscwm.org/EmbracePalmer. For information contact Angiee at Arodriguez@gscwm.org or call 413-584-2602 x4028.

### St. Paul's present illusions and humor

PALMER— St. Paul's of Palmer is proud to present Illusions and Humor, a highly praised magic show by Jeff Kempton. This captivating performance will feature sleight-of-hand tricks, original magic, and comedy in an intimate setting. Join on Saturday, Jan. 25, at 2 p.m. for an unforgettable experience. Popcorn, drinks, and snacks will be provided by St. Paul's. Admission is children are free and adults are a suggested donation

Kempton says "I fell in love with magic at a young age. At 34, I decided to pursue that passion and become a professional magician. I bring my personality into every show, filled with laughs, surprises, and memories that will last a lifetime. Throughout my career, I've had the privilege of performing for many, including Grammy award-winning bassist David Ellefson of Megadeth, ex-Guns N' Roses guitarist Ron 'Bumblefoot' Thal, and many others. In 2021, I completed 365 days of magic. You can find my performances on YouTube or Facebook under Jeff Kempton Magic."

Rev. Steven Sousa, minister of St. Paul's Church,

adds, "Magic Time, is the perfect family-friendly event to brighten our spirits during the winter months. Come escape the harshness of the season and enjoy the warmth and iov of magic.

For more information, please call 413-283-8185 or visit www.StPaulsPal-

### Celebrate Valentine's Day and National Heart Month by **Donating Blood**

PALMER —The community is invited to celebrate Valentine's Day and National Heart Month by giving the gift of life by donating blood at the Baystate Health blood drive held on Wednesday, Feb. 12, at Baystate Wing Hospital from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Additionally, blood drives will be held every other month on Wednesday throughout the year in 2025, on April 16, June 11, August 13, October 15, and December 17.

"There continues to be an urgent need for blood! When you donate blood to Baystate Health, your precious gift remains in our local communities," said Nicole VanZandt, MLT III, Supervisor, BRL Blood Donor Services. "Please help us to ensure a safe and adequate blood supply is available by donating blood with the Baystate Health Blood Donor Program.

'There is no substitute for human blood," said VanZandt. "Blood donations take approximately one hour to complete, including the interview, donation, and refreshments. To donate blood, you must be at least 17 years old; weigh at least 110 pounds, have a photo ID; be in good health (no colds, or sore throat); and have not donated blood within the past eight weeks.'

Blood drives will be held at Baystate Wing Hospital, 40 Wright Street, Palmer, in Snow Conference Room C. In appreciation, all eligible donors will receive a \$10 gift card. For more information or to book an appointment to donate blood, please call the Blood Donor Center at 413-794-4600. Please be sure to note the Baystate Health hospital location where you would like to make your donation when you make your appointment.

### Artists needed for Women's History Month

REGION—All submissions must be submitted by Feb. 7. Wistariahurst Museum is seeking artist submissions for the Third Annual Women's History Month juried art showcase for the month of March.

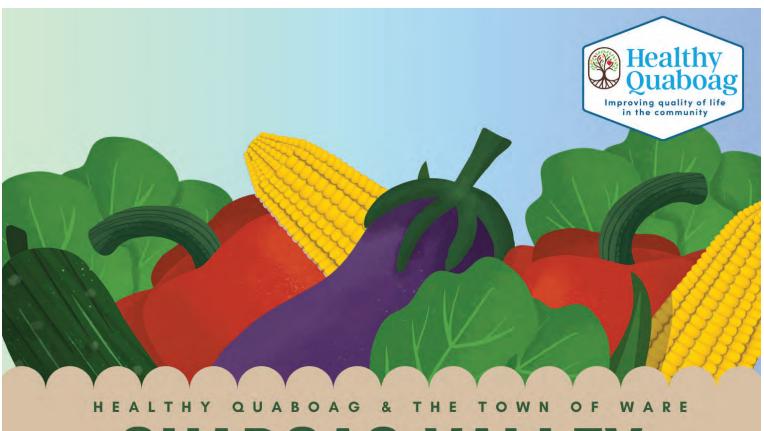
This year, the theme is Love, in all forms. Love, in all forms, aims for artists to consider how love impacts lives. Love can be painful, a process, joyful, romantic, platonic, a feeling, an object, a memory; love, in all its forms, is beautiful.

Any medium for submission is encouraged. Submissions are open to anyone who identifies as a woman and non-binary artists of any age.

Submissions should include 3 to 4 quality images with information (title, date, medium, and size), an artist statement (approximately 300 words about your art and its relationship to the theme), and an artist bio (approximately 150 words about you as an artist) in one PDF.

Wistariahurst is an artist-friendly space that encourages creativity and supports the growth of this region's artists. All questions are welcome and encouraged.

Five artists will be selected and awarded a \$100 stipend. Submissions are due Feb. 7, please send them to info@wistariahurst.org.



# QUABOAG VALLEY

VISION

"THE QUABOAG VALLEY FOOD POLICY COUNCIL WILL MAKE NUTRITIOUS LOCAL FOOD EASILY ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS"

> JOIN OUR GENERAL BODY MEETINGS! **EVERY 3RD WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH FROM 12-1PM E2E SPACE ON MAIN ST, WARE, MA** JOIN US BY ZOOM:

Serving the towns of: Barre, Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Holland, Ludlow,

Monson, North Brookfield, New Braintree, Palmer, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren, West Brookfield & Wilbraham



For more information, email Sawyer, at sblake@townofware.com

### **Relay for Life looking** for participants

BELCHERTOWN—Quaboag Valley Relay for Life is looking for more teams to join our Relay on May 31 on the Belchertown Common from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m.

Everyone has been affected by cancer so now is the time to form a few friends and family so you can fundraise and spread awareness of this dreaded disease. You do not have to have a large team or lots of

money collected. A few new teams getting in some donations is a big

help to the American Cancer Society. After we are done doing all our fundraising, the

Relay is a way to unwind and celebrate our accomplish-The teams can be in honor or in memory of a loved one or friend. Any questions please feel free to email

ctellie@juno.com A Kick-Off event will be held on Feb. 23 at Hope Church on Main Street in Belchertown from 1 to 3 p.m. This is an informative and fun event. Come and learn what Relay is all.about.



Clean Out Solutions Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts

Shed, Pool & Arthur "Skip" Gervais Hot Tub Removals (774)397-6500

*Are you having difficulty communicating* with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

### **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.



PHONE 413.283.8393 Fax: 413.283.7107 Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

**EMAIL** 

Advertising Sales Dan Flynn dflynn@turley.com

Staff Writer Marcello Gusmao mgusmao@turley.com

Subscriptions www.turley.com

\$35 per year pre-paid (\$40 out of state) Newsstand: \$1.00 per copy

WEB www.journalregister.turley.com

The Journal Register

### 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 \$275, 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.



Brookfield Rhythm is a classic rock cover band who came out to St. Stan's to perform this weekend.

### ST. STANS I from page 1

club holds car shows every Friday, with accompanying free live music. Labier said that, except for noted fundraisers, the club requires no cover charge for its

"The club pays for it, there is no cover fee ever when we have live music, except for the upcoming spaghetti dinner fundraiser," Labier said. "We always try to keep community events and things to do in town going. We like to do events for the community, people come out and have a good time."

Upcoming concerts at St. Stan's Lyceum include Rusty Buckets on Friday, Feb. 28, from 6:30-9:30 p.m., and Kitchen Jam on Friday, March 21, from 6-9 p.m.

The club will hold its Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser on Saturday, Feb. 15 from 5 to 10 p.m., with live music performed by Steven George. The proceeds of this fundraiser go towards the Richard Frydryk Memorial Scholarship Fund.

On Saturday, March 8, the club will hold a chili competition from 2 to 4 p.m.

For more information about St. Stanislaus Polish Lyceum, call them at 413-283-4596.

### Winter workshops at **Hitchcock Academy**

BRIMFIELD—Winter days can be cold and long, but they also offer an opportunity to dig into a creative project, or to learn a new craft. Hitchcock is offering three such opportunities in its ongoing series of hands-on workshops led by expert craftspeople. Beginners are welcome.

On Jan. 30, join The Art Lab and Gallery for a "delightful" workshop in creating an 10" illuminated sea glass heart wreath to warm your door or your wall. The instructor will assist you in navigating the steps from beginning to end and everything you need with be provided, including two string lights that run on batteries and an assortment of tumbled colored glass, mostly red and pink. Participants are also free to bring their own

On Feb. 18, Let's Cake Decorate brings its next installment in its popular series: a Woodland Cake. Sue Gaulin leads this fun workshop for adults (adult/ child pairs age 8+ can also work together on one cake under one registration at no extra cost). Participants will learn to level, torte, and fill a cake with buttercream, pipe chocolate buttercream bark on the side of the 'tree stump', use premade edible moss to decorate, and then use fondant to create mushrooms, frogs, and gnomes as adornments. No decorating experience necessary, step-by-step instructions are

provided, as are all supplies. Students will use Sue's decorating tools and an apron during class. A 6" vanilla cake, buttercream, fondant, cake board and carry home box will be provided.

On Feb. 19, join master stained glass artist Chris Lyons for a Mosaics workshop in which participants will each make their own tile.

Mosaics are one of the oldest art forms and can be made from just about any type of material including pebbles, seashells, gems, ivory, glass and ceramic tile. The workshop will include a quick look at the history of Mosaics and a walk through the construction process and then each participants will create a simple Mosaic coaster project using glass & ceramic

Lyons also regularly offers Stained Glass Suncatcher workshops at Hitchcock. Anyone interested is encouraged to follow Hitchcock for upcoming dates.

For more information or to register for any of the winter workshops mentioned, visit www.hitchcockacademy.org.

Hitchcock Academy is a community center located at 2 Brookfield Road in Brimfield serving the community with educational, recreational, and cultural programming. More information can be found at www.hitchcockacademy.org.

### **Psychic medium night in Sturbridge**

STURBRIDGE-Join the Chamber of Central Mass South and guests at The Barn at Wight Farm in Sturbridge for an inspiring night with Gary McKinstry, the Psychic Medium Entertainer,

Internationally known Psychic Medium Entertainer, McKinstry, will share his gift to connect with the spirit world and bring intuitive messages to guests of the Chamber's Medium Night. McKinstry's work as a psychic medium for over 30 years not only includes clients in the USA, but also Brazil, France, Australia, Germany and Canada. Whether one on one or in a large arena, McKinstry is dedicated to helping people in all walks of life and death and will deliver messages with style.

In this gallery reading, Gary ran-

Tickets are \$60 for CMS Chamber members and their employees, or \$65 for non-Members. Cash bar.

For Medium Night tickets and in-

on Feb. 27, from 7 to 9 p.m.

domly selects individuals from the audience to deliver messages, guided by spirits. Messages may be from the afterlife or pertain to the present. While not everyone gets a reading, all are encouraged to listen as the messages hold collective meaning. A psychic gallery reading elevates the group's consciousness, offering deep and transformative experiences, providing hope and inspiration.

formation give the Chamber a call at 508-347-2761 or email info@cmschamber.org.

### **PHS** I from page 1

School Principal Susan North. "We are extremely proud of each and every one of them.

Based on their academic achievement on the MCAS exams, students qualify to receive a four-year scholarship on their acceptance to a participating public institution of higher education throughout the state. Participating colleges include the four undergraduate campuses of the University of Massachusetts, nine universities, and 15 community colleges, which is outlined in a letter received by the scholarship

"Besides the letter, the students will be getting a certificate," North said, "and then they are also receiving an academic achievement pin."

North said that the pins can be worn over the student's gown at graduation, adding, "they can wear that with pride."

North called out each of the students by name, and she and Senior Advisor Melissa Petrashewicz passed out the certificates and pins to each of the students present.

### Heartfelt thank you

The meeting began with Committee Chair Bonny Rathbone reading a letter from Kelly Simpkiss where she expressed "sincere gratitude" to the district for everything it has done through the years for her son, Hunter.

"From his first days at preschool to his very last day at Palmer High School, which was Dec. 11, he was cared for and loved by countless staff members," Rathbone read. "He was treated with respect by all students and greeted with high fives and fist bumps by many.'

The letter described the "amazing" farewell that Simpkiss received, "including many students, staff members, administration, and even police officers gathering in the halls and cheering for Hunter as he finished his last day at Palmer High. Hunter loved it, and so did I."

Simpkiss said that this shows how much the district values all students.

"He will miss his friends, teachers, and being a part of the unified sports teams," Rathbone read, "but he's already settling into his new schedule and he is happy about not having to get up super early every day."

Hunter and Kelly Simpkiss were in the audience for the meeting, and were invited to say a few words. Simpkiss explained that her son spent 18 years in the school system, starting at age three and graduating at age 22.

"It's hard, sometimes, when your children can't communicate the way others can and tell you about their day," Simpkiss said, "but I knew he was always safe here."

Though Simpkiss has come to work in the district as a nurse, this was not the case for much of her son's education. She described a time when she worked an hour away from the school.

"I always was able to trust that he was well taken care of and he was always very very happy," Simpkiss said. "The staff is incredible. All his years growing up, from the bus drivers that picked him up to the paraprofessionals and the teachers and the students, who took him under their wing a lot of times and really got to know him, his favorite music, and his favorite things

"The respect comes from the top," Simpkiss said. "With having unified sports, we really show kids that all of our kids are important and everybody knows that."

The committee thanked Simpkiss for sharing, and congratulated Hunter on his

graduation.

### **SELECT BOARD** I from page 1

came back positive for lead. Wolowicz said that the shelter is working with the plumbing department at Pathfinder Technical Vocational School about removing it.

The other update related to concerns about the condition of the shelter, which led to an inspection by the state Department of Agriculture and Resources. Wolowicz read MDAR's findings.

"There was no evidence of negligent or subpar animal care practices found during the unannounced inspection conducted on the noted date," Wolowicz read. "The animals held temporarily displayed no sign or symptom of distress, illness, or injury. They had adequate food and water and were contained within safe and sanitary enclosures.

The report also found no detectable excessive odors, and deemed the air quality within the shelter as acceptable for this type of facility. The full report is available to the public.

### McNeely Tree Service **Insured** • References

- Hazardous Tree Removal
- Stump Grinding
- Bobcat Work
- Lot Clearing Storm work
- Furnace Wood
- Firewood \$275/cord
- 101 ft Aerial Lift Rental POR
- Credit Cards, Cash & Venmo Accepted

H: 508-867-6119 • C: 978-888-1693

### CAMPUS

### Fall 2024 Dean's List at Roger **Williams University**

BRISTOL, RI — Grace Braskie, of Palmer has been named to the fall 2024 dean's list at Roger Williams University, in Bristol, R.I. Full-time students who complete 12 or more credits per semester and earn a grade point average of 3.4 or higher are placed on the dean's list that semester.

### Fall 2024 Dean's List at Dean College

FRANKLIN- Dean College is pleased to announce that Elizabeth Perreault of Palmer has earned a place on the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester. Students named to the dean's list have demonstrated a serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College.

### **Curry College fall** 2024 Dean's List

MILTON — Curry College congratulates Isabella Leneau of Brimfield who was named to the fall 2024 dean's list.

### ECSU fall 2024 **Dean's List**

WILLIMANTIC, CTEastern Connecticut State University recently released its dean's list for the fall 2024 semester, in which more than 1,300 students were recognized for maintaining high GPAs.

Among them is Hannah Johnson of Holland, a sophomore who majors in Physical Education.



### **WNEU Fall Semester President's List**

SPRINGFIELD-Western New England University takes immense pride in recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of over 640 students who have been named to the President's List for the Fall 2024 semester. Students are named to the President's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.80 or higher.

The following local students were named to the President's List:

Brimfield Braylon Casinghino, Cole Crosby, Jack Leland, Kaylin Tietz, Tess

Chevalier BondsvilleStephen Ventura Holland

**Emily Moran** Palmer Alexandra Riley, Colton Santarelli,

Ethan Griswold, Mason Ahlman, Melissa Pereira, Priscilla Thornhill, **Taylor Mersfelder** 

Monson Domenick Romeo, Matthew Provost, Matthew Sweet, Natalie Bruneau

Thorndike Noah Melnick Wales Makenna Matczak

### **WNEU Fall Semester Dean's List**

SPRINGFIELD —Western New England University takes immense pride in recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of over 750 students who have been named to the Dean's List for the Fall 2024 semester. Students are named to the Dean's List for achieving a semester grade point average of 3.30 or higher. The following local students were named to the Dean's List: **Brimfield** 

**Roger Leland** Monson

Haley Bronson, Lauren Harris, Sarah Moore, Zackery Wysk Palmer

Austin Degnan, Hannah Bissonnette, Kevin Hess, Madison Cole, Taylor Browne, William Partelo Wales

**Evan Thomas** 



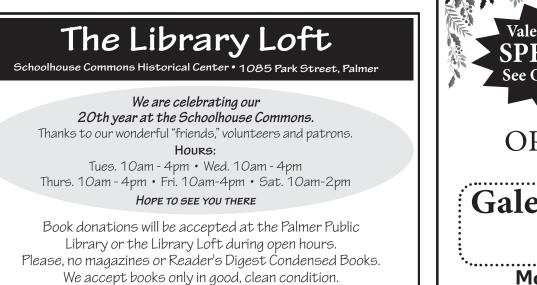
### FREE JOB SEEKER SERVICES



- Career readiness and job search counseling Training information and potential funding
- opportunities Job search and computer workshops provided virtually and on-site
- Resume development guidance and critique
- Job development and matching for qualified individuals
- **Resource Center with fully equipped** computerized workstations, Internet access, career information, up-to-date job listings, and assistive technology for individuals living with disabilities.
- Most services available in English or Spanish

Call us at 413-532-4900 to schedule a career center seminar!

masshireholyoke.org



For more information call 283-3330 ext. 100

### Valentine's Day See Our Website



**COUNTRY CLUB** 

### hardwickcrossing.com 262 Lower Road, Gilbertville

774-757-8907

Pro Shop 774-261-2634

OPEN 7 DAYS FOR LUNCH, DINNER & GOLF **Specials Posted on Facebook & Instagram** 

Galentine's Day Charcuterie and Wine Tasting Sunday, February 9th 3:00 p.m. Tickets required.

\*POP UP MAKE YOUR OWN FLOWER BOUOUET SHOP\* Monday Trivia Night 6:30 p.m. · Wednesday, Music Bingo 6:30 p.m.

**Function** Space Available

KENO

Sip & Paint Feb. 11 & Feb. 25

Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays

Starting at 6:30 p.m. Visit Our Website For More Details

**Prime Rib** 

**BOOK YOUR EVENT** 

### Viewpoints



### When to claim **Social Security** and taxation of benefits

**Dear Rusty:** 

I am 65 and currently working full-time. Can I apply for and start receiving my Social Security benefit? I'd expect to have to pay income tax on it if/when I do.

**Signed: Curious Worker** 

### **Dear Curious Worker:**

If you are working full time, you should likely delay claiming Social Security at this time. At age 65, you haven't yet reached your SS Full Retirement Age, so you will be subject to Social Security's "annual earnings test" which limits how much you can earn from work while collecting early benefits. The earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 and if you earn more than the annual limit, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

If you earn significantly over the limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible to collect SS benefits. FYI, the annual earnings limit goes away when you reach your full retirement age, which for you is 66 years and 10 months, or March 2026.

As you obviously already know, a portion of your Social Security may be subject to income tax after you start collecting. The threshold for taxation of SS benefits depends on your IRS filing status – if you file your taxes as a single and your combined income from all sources (including half of the SS benefit you received during the tax year) exceeds \$25,000 then 50% of your received SS benefits are taxable.

But if you file taxes as "married/jointly" and your combined income is over \$32,000, then up to 85% of your received SS benefits are taxable. Thus, whenever you claim SS, you may wish to consider having income tax withheld from your SS benefit. This is optional, and you can do this by submitting IRS Form W-4V to your local Social Security office, or you could choose to increase your income tax withholding at work or, alternatively, pay estimated income taxes quarterly.

So, whether you can claim Social Security now depends entirely on how much you will earn from working full time prior to your FRA. If you exceed the annual earnings limit before your FRA, SS will take away some of your benefits or, if you greatly exceed the earnings limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible to get benefits until you either reach your FRA or earn less. But note, if you decide to claim early and any SS benefits are withheld because you exceeded the earnings limit, you will get credit for that in the form of a slightly increased benefit after you reach your full retirement age.

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 ssadvisor@amacfoundation. org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

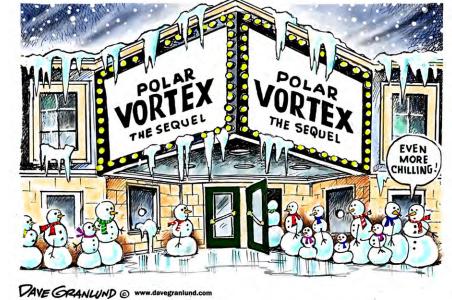
### Outbreak of viruses and "bugs" spreading through schools, offices and homes

Symptoms to watch out for and tips for prevention of norovirus and flu

SPRINGFIELD - It's a stomach bug known for moving fast and furiously, and this year norovirus is putting a damper on people's spirits just as they were hoping to get a fresh start on the new year. It's also keeping medical providers busy at American Family Care in Massachusetts.

"There are a lot of different illnesses hitting people especially hard this month," said Dr. Andrew Koslow, associate medical director of AFC. "And holiday gatherings, unfortunately, mean increased exposure to

Norovirus is a highly contagious gastrointestinal illness known to show up during winter months. This year, the Centers for Disease Control reports the number of out-



### Catching up on questions for the Garden Lady

This column will be used to play catch-up. I received a couple of questions a few weeks back on Christmas plants and then another looking forward to the new gardening season.

Read on as I do my best to answer them!

Connie is the keeper of her mother's

poinsettia and become tree-like! "We read your article about poinsettias in Country Journal. I have been caring for my mother's poinsettia she purchased three Christmases ago. She is hoping you

can help us as I never cut it back because I didn't know to do that. Now it is a small tree. There is bark on it. I had one red bract last Christmas but no yellow center. I did try to put it in a dark room but as you can see, it is too big now to do that. Any sug-

Many years ago when I joined my brother on a trip to St. Thomas, I became fully aware of the poinsettia and its true, tree-like form. It looks like you are well on your way to replicating that in your house!

First, congratulations, from the picture you provided you are clearly growing a healthy specimen. The leaves are a beautiful shade of green. I would recommend that, if you want to make it more manageable in size, you do try to cut it back.

It looks as if there is a lower "tier" of leaves. If you can cut it back to those stems, I think that is a good place to start. Do that in April when it will be in active At that time, I would also transplant it

into a container one size bigger. So, if it's in a six inch pot now, try one that is seven or eight inches, but not any bigger.

Fertilize with an all purpose houseplant fertilizer once a month. New growth should appear by the end of May.

After the danger of frost has passed, move the plant outdoors. Continue to water but increase fertilization to every two weeks. Pinch plants in late June or early July to promote bushy growth. Bring the plant indoors as temperatures fall in Sep-

The poinsettia is photoperiodic, and long nights of uninterrupted darkness encourage it to bloom. Bracts will turn red and the small yellow flowers in the center will form. Most people get on a 5 p.m.-8 a.m. schedule beginning on Oct. 1 and continue it for eight-10 weeks until color shows on the bracts.

Placing the plant in a closet or basement with no light interruption will work fine. It is a commitment, that's for sure. Night temperatures should be no higher than 70 degrees or flowering may be delayed.

Good luck; I bet you will be success-

Beverly has me stumped!! She wrote in with this question: "After my Christmas cactus has bloomed, I get very tiny buds

(like pimples) all over the plant. However, they quickly fall off so no more blooms. Can you explain what to do about this?"

This is a tricky one, Beverly! I am wondering if this is a newer breed of Christmas Cactus that is expected to bloom over a longer period of time than the old-fashioned types. U s u a 1 -

> buds fall if there a change somehow. Overwatering, underwatering? Perhaps a change in lowherecation by the plant is now near a heater when it wasn't before. Or maybe a

change in fertilization practices? That's about all I can come up with. I do hope that once blooming is over your plant remains healthy and provides many flowers for years to come!

This came to the Garden Lady from Gary: "I enjoy reading your articles.

Is there value or harm mixing old coffee grounds into your flower or vegetable gardens? Thanks!'

Thank you for your compliments on the column! My dad used to sprinkle coffee grounds around our blueberry bushes when I was a kid. It was his theory that the acidic

grounds would be good for blueberry bushes which by nature are acid-loving. Well, it turns out that most of the acid from the coffee grounds is leached into the water when the coffee is brewed, leaving a near neutral product that aligns with pH of most common vegetables and flowers!

Coffee grounds are high in nitrogen and have lesser, but still respectable amounts of the other two major nutrients, phosphorus and potassium, as well as many of the micronutrients. The nitrogen is "tied up," however, and not readily available to plants.

It must be composted first to make it available. So, I would recommend you either add it to a compost pile or mix it in with other mulches you may be using on

It can be combined with wood chips, grass clippings or chopped leaves to make a great and fertile mulch, that, as it breaks down, will add organic matter to the soil and be a nutritious food for your plants and the earthworms. In fact, folks who vermicompost (keep a worm bin) notice just how much the worms love coffee grounds mixed in with other food waste.

You've encouraged me to get a bit more serious about putting our household coffee grounds to good use!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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.

breaks has jumped significantly. This virus causes inflammation of the stomach and intestines leading to vomiting, diarrhea and stomach cramps.

To make matters worse, influenza is also spreading through New England, along with other respiratory illnesses causing fever, cough, sore throat and other flu-like symp-

AFC healthcare providers advise people to seek treatment if they experience symptoms and follow preventative steps:

- Wash hands
- Wash and cook food thoroughly
- Disinfect contaminated surfaces
- Wash laundry in hot water Stay home for 48 hours after
- symptoms stop
- Stay hydrated

"Often people don't realize how contagious they might be, even for a period of time after symptoms end," said Dr. Koslow. "That's one reason why these illnesses are

spreading so fast. It's also why it's so important to stay home when you're sick.'

The medical providers at AFC Springfield, AFC North Springfield and AFC West Springfield offer convenient, walk-in care seven days a week for patients of all ages, including flu vaccines and testing, diagnostic rapid tests and antigen tests for COVID-19, urgent care, physicals, stitches for cuts and lacerations and on-site x-rays.

Founded in 1982, AFC pioneered the concept of convenient and effective urgent care services, delivered through a nationwide network of nearly 400 walk-in clinics. Today, AFC is the nation's largest provider of urgent care, generating more than \$1 billion in system-wide sales annually, with 3,500 highly trained healthcare professionals treating over 4 million patients each year.

AFC continues to be a leader in accessible healthcare, providing treatments for flu,

NOROVIRUS | page 12



### What is "whole person care" really?

"We treat the whole person."

It's as if hospitals and medical practices all went to the same marketing seminar and came out with a buzzy new slogan. Are they really providing "whole-person care," or is it simply an advertising strategy?

First, let's talk about what whole-person care is. It's not a new concept, for one thing. It has at its core "integrative medicine," a philosophy of healing

that has spanned civilizations and centuries, from Mesopotamia to ancient Greece and Rome, to traditional Chinese medicine. It's a patient-centered approach that uses a combination of conventional and complementary therapies to improve health and wellness. Conversely, what people consider "Western med-

icine" is allopathic care, which uses conventional, evidence-based methods like drugs, surgery and other interventions to diagnose and treat diseases. In its most traditional forms, allopathic care treats patients as a bundle of symptoms in need of fixing, rather than a person in need of healing.

Today, many hospitals and health-care providers have moved away from purely allopathic medicine. A recent survey by the American Hospital Association found that 42 percent of hospitals integrate some form of complementary treatments into patients' care

Whole-person care (let's call it WPC for now) considers not only a person's physical conditions, but also their mental, emotional, social and spiritual needs. To that I would add their financial needs as well. A person receiving cancer treatment may need financial assistance to sustain a healthier diet. A person who has lost their job may not seek the care they need.

### **WPC** involves:

- Integrating medicine with social services
- Collaborating with social services
- professionals and community partners Sharing data between specialists

• Respecting patients' treatment choices So, clearly, it also has to involve a whole lot of professionals - not just medical practitioners (doctors, nurses, therapists, pharmacists), but also social workers, psychologists, clerics or spiritual advisers, nutritionists, dietitians, meditation and mindfulness coaches, possi-

bly acupuncturists, and patient advocates, who are often

the link between the hospital and the home. I would add to that employers and insurance companies, which are footing the bill but also may benefit from the proactive WPC approach. When there's a full picture of a person's physical and psychological health and socioeconomic factors, risk factors can be identified earlier and conditions managed more effectively and efficiently, resulting in lower medical costs and im-

proved productivity. Theoretically, WPC would deliver services to people where they are, at prices they can afford, which should mean healthier individuals and communities.

So that's the big picture. The real question is: Does whole-person care exist in the real world, and how do

A study published in 2021 found that, yes, WPC is out there, but it comes in a variety of forms. For example, the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) has what it calls "Whole Health." This approach starts with asking patients what matters to them in their life - their meaning and purpose - and then capturing 10 areas of behavior, lifestyle and social support to create a "personal health plan.'

The study concluded that a more standard definition of whole-person care is needed.

I think you have to intentionally look for whole-person care rather than wait for it to find you. A good starting place is a private patient advocate, who takes time to understand all the facets of good health and can then communicate effectively with practitioners.

What are the characteristics of whole-person care? Here's what to look for:

- · Multidisciplinary teams of health-care professionals including doctors, nurses, social workers, therapists, and potentially community outreach workers
- Assessment of social factors that may affect health, such as housing, food security and transporta-
- · On-site or readily accessible mental health services within your primary care practice
- Care coordination across different providers
- · A patient-centered approach in which your needs and desires are prioritized Medicare Advantage plans often include aspects of

WPC. You might also find it at community health centers, larger health-care systems and public health de-For now, it appears to me that what many hospitals

are calling "whole-person care" doesn't include all of the other facets that would truly define it, the social, emotional, psychological, environmental and financial

If you're not getting what you think you need to fully heal from a procedure or improve a chronic condition, it's up to you to advocate for yourself or find someone to help you.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate, is the founder of Northshore Patient Advocates LLC (NShore). She is also founder and CEO of Nurse Advocate Entrepreneur, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. Teri offers a free phone consultation to newspaper readers as well as to nurses interested in becoming advocates. Reach her at Teri@ NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com.



**EDITORIAL** 



**STAFF WRITER** Marcelo Gusmao mgusmao@turley.com



**ADVERTISING** SALES Dan Flynn



**SPORTS EDITOR** Greg Scibelli sports@turley.com

The Journal Register (USPS 418-940) Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mas 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069

@ Journal Register

www.journalregister.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY

**KEITH TURLEY** 

**DEANNA SLOAT** 

Publications, Inc

www.turley.com Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be . returned except upon specific request

### **Letters to** the editor policy

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to: **The Journal Register** Letter to the Editor 24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069, or by e-mail to: journalregister@turley.com

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 on the ballot or discussing campaigr issues should be sent to The Journa 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 ters will be printed. No letters writter 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 endorse ment 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 at torney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election as well as a question-and-answe 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 preciation Dinner for veterans



The crew of We the People Cornhole made over 150 meals for veterans during an appreciation dinner at AMVETS Post 74. The entire crew all together in the AMVETS kitchen.



The crew was busy prepping the steak tip dinners for all the veterans and guests at the appreciation dinner.

### A basket raffle took place at the dinner, with dozens of prizes generously donated.



Karyann oversaw checking people in as We the People Cornhole served over 175 meals.





The appreciation dinner had a successful turnout as guests honored their veterans

and active military members at AMVETS Post 74 in Three Rivers.



The banquet hall at AMVETS Post 74 was full as many veterans enjoyed a free meal and guests came to enjoy the meal and honor them for their service.

### **MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 6**

### **APPRECIATION** I from page 1

tips, roasted potatoes, green beans, salad and a dinner roll. For dessert there were cupcakes and apple crisp.

This was the first dinner being hosted by We the People Cornhole and it had a sensational turnout. What started off as a plan to buy drinks for veterans began to blossom into the idea of offering a delicious meal.

We the People are planning to offer a quarterly event, including a BBQ in the spring.

We the People Cornhole run cornhole every Wednesday at the AMVETS and every other Friday. The non-profit receives a lot of donations from that activity and its nothing but friendly competition taking place in honor of our veterans.

In addition to the steak tip dinner, the event also featured a 50/50 raffle and a basket raffle. Amanda Meli of Amanda Meli music attended the dinner and provided the music for the occasion.

Many of the prizes that were part of the basket rafwere generously donated by local businesses. sup porters and the sponsors of the event.

Braden Peyman and Chris Santaniello are the co-presidents of We the People Cornhole and are proud to offer this dinner for the veterans and active military members. Santaniello was happy to see a great turnout for this dinner and it expressed a lot of "overwhelming love and support."

Peyman said, "seeing all these people together is unimaginable" and he hopes to see more people at the next dinner.

Cassie Peyman of We the People Cornhole was grateful to see a great turnout for the first dinner they ever hosted. In their eyes, the amount of support from the community has been nothing but positive.

"It's nice to see the veterans arrive and being hon-

ored," she said. Sponsors for the event include Timothy and Cynthia Dugas, owners of the Clam Box and Howard's Drive In; Canna Retreat Dispensary; B'Leaf Wellness

Centre; A Eagle Gutters; and Amanda Meli Music. Veteran Ron LaBarre of Palmer attended the appreciation dinner and expressed his gratitude for the dinner and for the veteran support bags that were put together by J Stolar Insurance Agency, Inc and various businesses and donors. LaBarre grabbed two support bags for his two friends who are also veterans.

LaBarre is also a member of the AMVETS Post

and said he "appreciates this event very much." Members of We the People Cornhole worked hard to put the meals together and made about 200 meals. The Peymans along with Santaniello mentioned they served over 175 meals in an hour.

TAILGATE TIME!

USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS ITALIAN MARINATED

CHICKEN BREAST.....

**BEEF BLADE STEAKS .....?** 

USDA INSP. STORE MADE BBQ SWEET MARINATED

Braden Peyman went up to the stage in the dining hall for an announcement and began by expressing We the People Cornhole's gratitude for all the support they got in making this dinner a success.

Peyman also thanked the AMVETS for giving them the space to host the appreciation dinner. His speech then expressed the gratitude the community has for all the veterans who have served and continue to serve our country.

Peyman's speech would end by asking all the veterans in attendance to stand proudly as the whole venue gave them a round of applause. After dinner, the winners of the 50/50 raffle and basket raffles were announced.

**Amanda Meli of Amanda** Meli Music was in charge of providing patriotic music during the steak tip dinner that veterans got to enjoy this past week-



Chris Santaniello (left) and Braden and Cassie Peyman arranged the Veterans Appreciation Dinner this weekend.



Volunteers (from left) Karvann Peyman, Jenisa Breeland, and Kimber Peyman helped to run this weekend's appreciation dinner.

31/40 COUNT 2 LB BAG......

🖪 90 Meat Outlet 🎯

**HOURS:** Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

90 Avocado St.

Springfield

413-737-1288

www.90meat.com



YOUR BUDGET! USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN **PORTERHOUSE or** usda insp. Fresh Bone-in USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS **PORK LOIN RIB END** TENDERLOIN FREE STATEMENT T'BONE STEAKS... USDA INSP. FROZEN ST LOUIS PORK RIBS......\$259 USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN WINGS 10 LB BAG...... USDA INSP. FRESH STORE MADE BONELESS USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN USDA INSP. FROZEN
CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK ...... STUFFED PORK LOIN CHOPS or ROAST W/ BREAD STUFFING **BEEF CHUCK** USDA INSP. FROZEN SLICED IN OUR DELI **ROAST or STEAKS** FRENCH TOAST STICKS 2 LB BAG ITALIAN ROAST BEEF..... USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN
RAW SHRIMP EASY PEEL SLICED IN OUR DELI USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY MUENSTER CHEESE......

**DIET LEAN** 

**GROUND BEEF** 

SALE DATES: 1/23/25-1/29/25

Fax: 413-267-3496 Email: richardgreenins@gmail.com www.richardgreeninsurance.com

RICHARD R. GREEN – Insurance Agency, Inc.-

The diners listened to the acknowledgments from We the People Cornhole for the

sponsors that made the evening possible.

• AUTO • HOME • BUSINESS • LIFE

• Great Locations • Registry Service Quotes Gladly Given
 We Make Housecalls

**Please Visit Our Website For an Auto, Homeowners, or Life Insurance Quotes** 

**Two Locations:** 



128 Main St. Monson, MA 267-3495

Turkey photos by Marcelo Gusmão

32 Somers Rd. Hampden, MA 566-0028



### Appreciation Dinner for veterans



Friends dined together to support the troops, (from left) Paul Santaniello, Ian McLean, Ryan Gamache, and John Weinle.



Keith Karrmann, Jr. sat with Keith Karrmann, Sr. to enjoy the dinner at the AmVets Post in Three Rivers



Sitting in front of the American flag, (from left) Linda and Ron Paul and Dave Coty.



Chris Santaniello won a sweatshirt in the raffle provided by We the People Cornhole.





Veterans were asked to stand during the ceremony's acknowledgments.



Councillor Mark Caci (left) and volunteer Jenisa Breeland checked out the table with the raffle prizes.



Bill Midwood spoke for a few minutes about the importance of honoring veterans.

# Turkey photos by Marcelo Gusmão

\$75 gift card

with

Vaccination!

(12 years old or

older)

Turkey photos by Marcelo Gusmão We the People Cornhole coordinated the appreciation dinner and raffle for the community's veterans.

# COVID-19 Wednesday February 5, 2025 11 am - 3 pm Located: Holland Community Center 40 Brimfield Rd, Holland, MA 01521

Pfizer & Moderna available.

Bring your ID, insurance card, and vaccination card (if you do not have an insurance card, you can still get the vaccine).

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/mr3zxfm3

Please direct any questions to Nisha Humayun at

nhumayun@townofware.com,(413) 207-7698



BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage polices, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for The Journal Register, please email journalregister@ turley.com.

A **TURLEY** PUBLICATION

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

### BASKETBALL



Cali Zielinski rushes down the court.



Olivia Chrzan takes a shot under pressure.

### Despite late run, Mustangs fall to Comp



Lylia Ellis looks for an open teammate.



Turley photos by David Henry Olivia Chrzan shoots over the defense.

MONSON - Last Wednesday night, Chicopee Comprehensive girls basketball defeated host Monson 65-46. Monson had a tough time getting the offense going while Comp was consistent throughout the entire game. Monson charged back with a 25-point run in the fourth quarter, but the deficit was much too great to overcome. Comp was led by Taryn Carriveau with 23 points. Sheyenne Santiago had 10 points. Comp is 7-3 this season. Monson was led by Olivia Chrzan, who led all scorers with 28 points. Cali Zielinski had nine points, all on treys, for the Mustangs. Monson is 3-6 this season.

### Pioneers suffer road loss at Ludlow

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW— Because his basketball team has had the tendency to get off to a slow starts this season, Ludlow boys' varsity coach C.W. Zimmer held a shootaround prior to last Friday night's game against Pathfinder Tech.

The strategy didn't end up working out very well as Ludlow trailed by as many as six points in the first quarter.

However, the Lions outscored the Pioneers, 49-18, during the final three quarters of the Tri-County crossover game leading to a 58-30 victory before a large crowd at Mullins Gymna-

"We held a shootaround for the first time this season hoping that we would get off to a faster start in the first quarter," Zimmer said. "Once again, we fell behind early in the game, but we were able to make a comeback this time. We made a few 3-pointers and played very well defensively."

Overall, the Lions made a total of eleven 3-pointers in their second home victory of the regular season.

Ludlow junior co-captain Jackson Mateus made a total of six 3-pointers leading to his game-high 23 points. Junior Cameron Lyman added three 3-pointers in the second quarter for his nine points.

"We knew that Ludlow had a couple of very good shooters, but our game plan was to stop their fastbreak offense," said first-year Pathfinder head coach Ethan Ortyl. "They did hit some 3-pointers, and we tried to adjust our

A year ago, the Pioneers (1-8) celebrated a 70-48 home win against the Lions.

Zimmer certainly didn't want to see a repeat performance in this year's meeting between the two squads, especially since it was



**Brody Wetnicka makes his way** down the court.



Grayson Griswold tries to maneuver around his opponent.

Ludlow's fourth annual Youth Basketball Appreciation Night.

A large group of youth basketball players cheered on the Lions players from the bleachers behind the home bench.

"The youth basketball players were very energetic, and they really helped us win tonight's game," Zimmer said. "I hope they



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

had a great time watching up play. We're hoping they would like to become a part of our basketball program in a few years when they get to high school. There are 180 kids playing basketball in the youth program this year, which is the most that we've ever had. We're very excited and we want to see that program keep grow-

The 18-point victory evened Ludlow's overall record at 5-5. Because they're not currently ranked in the top 32 in the MIAA power rankings, the Lions will need to win at least five more games this season to qualify for the Division 3 state tournament.

Mateus is the only remaining

PIONEERS | page 8

### PALMER BOYS



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli





Matt Santos contemplates his next move after receiving a pass.

### Panthers suffer loss at home to Granby

PALMER - Last Tuesday evening, Granby boys basketball jumped out to a lead and was able to hold onto it as they defeated Palmer 52-33 for its ninth win of the season. Granby is now qualified for the Division 5 state tournament. Gavier Fernandez had a big game with 16 points while

Cody White turned in 10 for the Rams, who are now 9-2. Palmer was led by Stephen Fredette, who scored 11 points for the Panthers. Palmer is 5-4 so far this season.

> **Stephen Fredette** receives a pass from outside the arc.



Gavin Smola sends a pass away.



Jordan Jones goes for the long three-point attempt.



**PATHFINDER** 



**Taylor Allen is pressured near the** 

### **Pioneers** continue to impress with 8-1 record

PALMER - Last week, Pathfinder girls basketball scored two more wins and are now 8-1 on the season. Last Monday night, the Pioneers defeated Sci-Tech 49-38. Greenly Lagimoniere had 14 points to lead the team. She was followed by Taylor Allen with 13 points, and Megan Clark with 11 points. The Pioneers would then defeat Westfield Tech 50-17 last Thursday. Coming up, the Pioneers will face Smith Academy Jan. 23 at 6 p.m.



Ciara Green sends a pass toward



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli Addison Doktor tries to keep the ball from going out of bounds.



Megan Clark takes the long jump

### Falcons hockey suffers tough loss to Auburn

Sports Correspondent

WEST SPRINGFIELD— When the MIAA released the state power rankings for the first time last Friday morning, the Auburn hockey team, which co-ops with Tantasqua Regional were the 10th ranked team in Division

The following day, the Rockets showed why they were one of the top ranked teams in Division 2 after dispatching the Falcons of Minnechaug Regional, 8-1, in a non-conference match held at the Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield.

"This is a fun group of guys to be around, and they always work very hard," said Auburn head coach Glen Bombard, who's planning to retire from coaching at the end of this season. "We were able to score a bunch of goals in today's game, but this wasn't our best performance of the season. These guys can play a lot better hockey."

Bombard, who has been a part of the Auburn hockey program for the past 35 years, took over as the varsity hockey coach in 2002. He also played high school hockey at Auburn, along with his two brothers.

The road victory improved the Rockets overall season record to 7-2. It was the second time that they scored at least eight goals in a game this season. They posted an 8-2 home win against Westborough two days before Christ-

During the past two seasons, the Falcons, who are ranked 35th in the Division 2 power rankings, celebrated one goal victories against the Rockets.

"Auburn is the best hockey team we've faced so far this season," said Minnechaug head coach Kyle Bousquet. "They do have a several talented players and have a little more depth than

Auburn's two losses so far this season were against Wachusett Regional, who's ranked 21st in Division 1, and Whitman-Hanson, who's the 12th ranked team

By Ryan Drago

Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

**Bogey Doubles** 

EAST BROOKFIELD – It's

The second round of the

a new year for the Bogey Doubles

league on Monday nights and a

league was won by the team of

Dave Rando and Duncan Mac-

Dougall. The team put up a to-

tal of 46 winning points to take

the second round of the season.

Close behind Rando & MacDou-

gall in second place was the team

of Lonny Murphy & Trever Ken-

2025, the team of Aaron Halbe-

del & Aaron Fontaine are in first

place with 14 wins. The team of

Jack Talamini & Bill Gravel are

in second place with 12 wins.

Erik Pellett & Jim Nester are in

third place with 10 wins.

After the first two matches of

new round has begun.

neson with 42 points.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Nathan Dono advances toward the Minnechaug goal.

in Division 2.

A year ago, the Rockets advanced to the elite eight of the Division 2 state tournament where they lost to top-seeded Tewksbury, 7-2.

Bombard is a fan of the state tournament format which began several years ago.

"I think the state tournament is one of the best things that the MIAA ever did. Instead of playing the same team three or four times like we did in the old playoff format, you'll most likely be playing a team for the first time in the state tournament," he said. We're hoping to win back-toback Quinn Division titles and compete for a state title this year.

The Auburn hockey team, who won two state titles back in the 1970's, co-ops with Millbury High School, Shepherd Hill Regional, and Tantasqua Regional.

The Tantasqua players listed on the Rockets varsity roster are junior Nathan Dono, sophomore Daniel Miedona, senior Austin Dono, junior Jack Tully, junior Max Sealey, freshman Trevor Resener, and junior Ethan LaPlante.

The Tantasqua Athletic Director is Marcus Backlin, who graduated from Auburn and is a

Jan. 13, Pellett & Nester bowled

against Steve Renaud Sr. & Tina

Ward. In game one, Pellett &

were the winners by a score of

277-251. Renaud Sr. had a 119 to

Nester won the last game 278-

253. Nester's final game was

128 to get the victory in the third

game. The final score was 794-

769 in favor of Pellett & Nester.

against Rando & MacDougall.

The first game was won by Ran-

do & MacDougall 289-263. Ran-

do began the match with a 117 to

Brayton won 255-240 to make

the match close going into game

three. Rando & MacDougall won

the final game 286-253. Mac-

Dougall scored 114 for a series

of 320 and Rando finished with

In game two, Mondor &

go with MacDougall's 111.

Mondor & Brayton bowled

In game three, Pellett &

go with Ward's 115.

former member of the Rockets hockey team.

'We do have an outstanding relationship with Tantasqua," Bombard said. "Marcus played hockey for me several years ago. Their principal and superintendent have also been very supportive of our hockey program over the years. It gives their students an opportunity to play hockey."

LaPlante, who was the starting goalie against the Falcons, only had to make eight saves before being replaced by freshman goalie Colin Gaston with 7:24 left in the third period.

"Ethan is just a great kid and is one of our captains this year," Bombard said. "We've built an outstanding relationship since the first day he joined the hockey team three years ago. It's a lot of fun being around a kid like him."

When LaPlante came out of the game, Auburn was holding a comfortable 7-0 advantage.

The Rockets, who outshot the Falcons, 37-12, held a slim 2-0 lead after the first period. They broke the game wide open by scoring five goals in the second period and added another in the third. They also had another goal disallowed during that peri-

During the second match on 111 for a 312. Final score was 104) to earn four points for his

Clauson & Santora bowled

815-771 in favor of the winners

won 281-270. Talamini & Gravel

won the second game 287-249.

Bill Gravel bowled a 118 after

but Clauson & Santora won by

a score 251-248. Gravel finished

with 100 and a series of 333. Tal-

amini & Gravel won total pinfall

against Murphy & Kenneson.

Trever Kenneson won the game

for his team, 273-240, by scor-

ing 125 in game one. The team of

Travis Sandman & Luke Marvin

won the second game 262-256.

The team won the last game 265-

246 but it wasn't enough to take

total pinfall. Travis Sandman

finished with 118 and Kenneson

had a series of 341 (125, 112, and

by a final score of 816-770.

The third game was close,

Sandman & Marvin bowled

od because it was kicked into the

The Dono brothers are members of the Rockets first line, along with senior Ethan McDermott, who scored a second period goal.

"It has been a lot of fun being a member of this hockey team during the past couple of years," said Nathan Dono, who contributed offensively against Minnechaug with two goals and an assist. "All of the players on the hockey team get along with each other very well. The coaching staff was very welcoming when I was a freshman. It has also been a great experience playing on the same line with my older brother."

Miedona, who's a first-year varsity hockey player, is a member of the second line. He scored the Rockets fifth goal.

Tully is a defenseman and Sealey, who's a forward, assisted on the Rockets first goal of the second period.

It was a memorable game for Auburn freshman Colson Caron, who scored his first career varsity goal with five minutes remaining in the opening period. He also scored the Rockets final goal of the second period.

Auburn's other two goal scorers were sophomore's Logan Rada and Mason Barbale.

One of the few highlights of the game for the Falcons (2-6) took place with 5:34 left in regulation. That's when freshman Joey Comes scored his first career varsity goal on power-play. Junior Dom Fiorentino was credited with the assist.

"At the beginning of the season, Joey was a bubble player for us as a defenseman," Bousquet said. "He has been a forward in the past. We used him at that position during the third period and he scored a goal in his first shift. It was a very good thing to see."

Despite having a below .500 record, the Falcons are still hoping to qualify for both the Western Mass. Class B tournament and the Division 2 state tourna-

team. The final score was Mur-

man & Marvin 775-767.

phy & Kenneson defeating Sand-

against Gauthier & Clough on

Jan. 13. In game one, Gauthier

& Clough edged out Halbedel &

Fontaine by just one point, 278-

277. Aaron Fontaine began the

match with 138 in a losing effort

as Gauthier & Clough held on to

the lead with scores of 111 and

Halbedel claimed the lead by

winning 271-236. Fontaine

scored 123 and Aaron Halbedel

Fontaine won the last game 274-

242 to get a total of six points.

Fontaine scored 135 in game

three for a series of 396. The fi-

nal score was 822-756 in favor of

Halbedel & Fontaine.

scored 115.

In game two, Fontaine &

In game three, Halbedel &

Halbedel & Fontaine bowled

# Turleysports Athlete of the Week

Palmer High School

Fredette had a great effort in Palmer's matchup with Granby. He led the team with 11 points scored.

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@turlev.com.



**VOULTON**Insurance Agency

HOME - AUTO - BUSINESS - LIFE

Our Family Cares About Your **Family** 

### **CONGRATULATIONS** ATHLETE!

**Very Competitive Rates • Experienced Professional Staff** 99% Claim Satisfaction Rate • On-site Registry Processing

143 West Street Ware, MA 01082

45 North Main Street Belchertown, MA 01007

www.moultoninsurance.com

413-967-3327

ARBELLA



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Jordan Mbi tries get around a Ludlow guard.

### **PIONEERS** I from page 7

player from the 2022-23 varsity squad, which lost at Norwood in a Division 2 preliminary round game.

"We need to win five of our remaining ten games to qualify for the state tournament," said Mateus, who reached double digits in scoring for the ninth time this season. "We're a pretty good basketball team this year and I think we can do that."

Mateus is one of the nine juniors listed on the Lions varsity basketball roster. They also have three sophomores and no seniors.

Ludlow junior Filipe Fernandes scored seven points off the bench and sophomore co-captain Ethan Love chipped in with six points. The trio of junior Tyler Tatro, sophomore Jadiel Rodriguez, and sophomore Kobe McKay finished the game with three points, while junior Spencer Huntley added two points.

Ortyl is a history teacher at Pathfinder Teach and he's also been a chemistry teacher on the basketball court so far this winter. He has tried several different starting combinations trying to see which one works the best.

"On the bus ride over here, I was thinking about how many different starting line-ups that we've had this season," Ortyl said. "We've tried a lot of different matchups trying to see which one works the best for us."

The Lions raced out to an early 4-0 lead as Tatro made a pair of free throws and Love followed with a lay-up.

The Pioneers then reeled off the next ten points.

Sophomore Brody Wetnicka (4 points), who made his first start in a varsity game, made a lay-up with seven minutes left in the first quarter which were his first varsity points. Junior co-captain Aiden Girard (8 points) buried back-to-back 3-pointers before making a put-back hoop giving his team a 10-4 lead with 3:25 left in the

opening quarter. Pathfinder Tech's other co-captain is senior Matt Vanasse, who didn't score any points. He's also the only senior listed on the Pioneers varsity



Cassian Kowalik looks for the layup.

The visitors from Palmer only scored four more points during the rest of the first half. The Lions, who were trailing,

12-9, at the end of the opening quar-

ter, retook the lead at 15-12 with 6:42 left after Mateus knocked down two 3-pointers from the left side. At the end of the first half, Lyman made his three 3-pointers and Fernan-

dez added two free throws, which sent the home team into the locker room holding a 28-14 lead. Pathfinder Tech's only points of

the second quarter was a lay-up from freshman Jordan Mbi (2 points). Ludlow added seven points to its

lead in the third quarter, as they outscored Pathfinder Tech, 14-7.

Pathfinder Tech freshman Cassian Kowalik came off the bench and scored his team-leading 10 points, after half-

The Lions, who entered the final eight minutes holding a 42-21 advantage, made four more 3-pointers and they continued to pull away.

Thompson Speedway to feature 10 events

Candlepin League News

Nester were victorious 265-239. against Talamini & Gravel. In

In game two, Renaud & Ward game one, Talamini & Gravel

of round two.

starting with a 115.

THOMPSON, Conn. - Af- Modifieds and Mini Stocks plus ter weeks of careful planning, the American-Canadian Tour (ACT) and Pro All Star Series (PASS) have finalized and released the 2025 schedule for Thompson Speedway. Beginning in late March through Columbus Day weekend in October, rolling thunder returns to the 'Quiet Corner of Connecticut' for ten individual dates in 2025 including the annual Icebreaker and Sunoco World Series weekends along with a return to monthly Wednesday night rac-

Everything begins on Saturday, March 29 with the first of two days celebrating the 51st Icebreaker weekend to kick off the 2025 New England racing season! Saturday is headlined by the return of the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series for the first of two spectacular showings on the Thompson highbanks in 2025 plus the PASS Super Late Models, Evolve Bank Pro Truck Challenge and R&R Race Parts NH Open Street Stock Series! Saturday's showcase also kicks off the 2025 track championship season for the Sunoco the introduction of Thompson Speedway's newest division, the Thunderstock Crown Vic Divi-

Sunday, March 30 is headlined by the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Icebreaker 150 plus the second Sunoco Modified event of Icebreaker weekend along with the Thompson Late Models, Street Stocks and SK Light Modifieds for a spectacular closer to the season's rip-roaring start!

The Monaco Modifieds return to headline the first Wednesday night action on May 14, complete with all six Thompson track championship divisions before the fan-favorite Dash for Cash Series returns for the first of three Wednesday Night programs on June 18, complete with the Evolve Bank Pro Truck Challenge and six Thompson divisions. The Dash for Cash 50 lap sprints will also return with the NEMA Lite special on July 9, the Wednesday, September 17 showdown and the Friday of Sunoco World Series weekend.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour is back for their traditional midweek showdown on August 6 headlined alongside the New England Supermodified Series and six Thompson Speedway divisions for a thrilling midweek special that cannot be missed!

The 63rd Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing begins on Friday, October 10 headlined by the Dash for Cash \$5,000 to win sprint plus the R&R Open Street Stocks and Senior Tour Auto Racers (STAR) alongside track championship finales for the Late Models and Mini Stocks. The Thunderstock Crown Vics will also run on both Friday and Saturday of World Series weekend.

Saturday afternoon is headlined by the incredible 75th annual Race of Champions 150 held for the first time at Thompson Speedway with a \$12,500 prize headed for the winner of the iconic Al Gerber Memorial trophy! Saturday also features the championship finale for the New England Supermodified Series, along with the Evolve Bank Pro Truck Challenge and Harry Kourafas Memorial 22 for the New England Pro-4 Modifieds. The Sunoco Modifieds will compete in their first of two days during the Sunoco World Series and the SK Light Modifieds will crown their 2025 track cham-

Sunday, October 12 will feature the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Sunoco World Series 150 with the Sunoco Modifieds and Street Stocks crowning their track champions with the NEMA Lites rounding out the season-closing program.

"We've built up a schedule we think works for everyone," said PASS President Tom Mayberry. "There's a little bit of everything for each event that we believe works for both fans and racers

"Both Tom and I have had quite a few conversations with competitors and 2025 looks promising," said ACT managing partner Cris Michaud. "The return of the Dash for Cash races and expanding the Crown Vic races are something we're looking forward to seeing grow at Thompson next

### **DEATH NOTICES**

Jane Anne (Yakum) Auby Died Jan. 18, 2025 Services Jan. 22, 2025 Beers & Story Funeral Home

**Edward W. Kumpulanian** Died Jan. 19, 2025 Services Jan. 27, 2025 Beers & Story Funeral Home Kathleen M. O'Dell Died Jan. 3, 2025 No services

Diane St. Amand Services Jan. 24, 2025 Kapinos-Mazur Funeral Home

### Jane Anne (Yakum) Auby

It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Jane Anne (Yakum) Auby at the age of 81, who departed this life on Jan. 18, 2025, in Palmer, Massachusetts. Born on Oct. 6, 1943, in Putnam, Connecticut, Jane was the beloved daughter of the late Peter and Sophia (Kuzniar) Yakum.

Throughout her life, Jane was a remarkable woman of grace, kindness and compassion, known for her entrepreneurial spirit and artistic flair. She brought beauty and charm through her antique shop in Springfield where she lovingly sold jewelry pieces. She also enjoyed moving the business to the internet with eBay. Alongside her husband, Thomas G. "Tom" Auby, she also operated the popular establishment Hungry Hound.

Jane was a dedicated and active communicant of St. Thomas Church in Palmer, where her nurturing presence and unwavering faith were felt by all who knew her. Jane was an avid poker player and loved spending time with

her poker family. She enjoyed feeding and watching the birds in her yard. She also loved her cat "John ".

She was predeceased by her parents, and her cherished son, Thomas "TJ" Auby, and leaves behind her loving husband, Thomas G. "Tom" Auby of Palmer. Jane is also survived by her devoted daughters; Kathy Piscitelli (Lance) of Florida, and Karen Scheurer (James) of W. Brookfield and Lianne Aze-



vedo (Gary Pieffer) of Ludlow. She also leaves 17 precious grandchildren, 1 step grandson and 34 great grandchildren. loved family above all.

To honor Jane's life, calling hours will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 22 from 4

to 7 p.m. at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass will be held on Thursday at 11 a.m. at St. Thomas Church. Please meet directly at the church. Her burial will be private and at the convenience of the family.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in her memory to ( Pre-born, www.preborn.com).

### Edward W. Kumpulanian, 86,

BELCHERTOWN—Edward W. Kumpulanian, 86, passed away Jan. 19, 2025. Edward was born on April 15, 1938 in Fitchburg, MA to the late John and Hilda (Legere) Kumpulanian. He was raised in Palmer and graduated from Palmer High School. Edward worked at Diamond International as a Production Supervisor from 1956-1986 and served on the Board of Directors. He went on to work as a facilities manager and purchasing agent at Ludlow Savings be-

fore retiring in 1991 Edward also dedicated his time as an umpire for Palmer Little League baseball and coached the Palmer Cowboys football team.

After relocating to Belchertown in 2004 from Three Rivers, Edward served on the Board of Directors and as President at Pine Valley Plantation Co-op and was active at the Belchertown Senior Center for many

Besides his parents, Edward was preceded in death by his beloved wife Jewel (Jalbert) Kumpulanian in 2013, and their son Derek Kumpulanian in 2015. He will be dearly missed by his children, Scott Kumpulanian and wife Charlene, Kevin Kumpulanian and wife Pam, Laurie DeMaio and husband David, and daughter-in-law Kerry

Kumpulanian. He also leaves his eight grandchildren, Justin and wife Laura, Amber and husband Kyle, Sarah, James, Matthew, Jesse and wife Elizabeth, Michael and wife Kate, and Danielle, and eight great-grandchildren, Edward, Lukka, Andrew, Adam, Everly, John, Llewyn and Matilda.

Visitation will be held on Monday, Jan. 27, 2025 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. with a service to begin at 11:30am at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. Burial will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the D'Amour Cancer Center, 3350 Main St., Springfield, MA 01199.

### *Kathleen Marie O'Dell* ~ 9/13/1966- 01/03/2025

Kathleen M. O'Dell, 58, of Palmer, passed away peacefully on Friday, Jan. 3, 2025. Born September 13, 1966 in Springfield, MA to the late William Webb and Frances Lunden. Kathy is survived by her son Matthew (Kate) O'Dell, as well as grandchildren, Miles and Lilly. Kathy also leaves behind her sisters Patricia LaMountain and Diane Abare from Bondsville, and Holly Riopel from Thorn-

dike. She will also be missed by her lifelong best friend Sonda Lou Roberts.

Kathy was a graduate of Pathfinder Regional High School, and went on to receive her Bachelors degree from Bay Path University, Kathy owned and operated a home daycare for many years, as well as

teaching a spin cycle class for Asylum in Palmer.

There are no pending services. In lieu of flowers contributions can be made to Dakin Humane Society, 171 Union Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

### *Diane St. Amand* ~ 1942-2025

Longtime Ludlow resident Diane St. Amand, who for over three decades owned and operated Diane and Company, one of the most beloved hair salons in the Palmer area, passed away on Tuesday, surrounded by her loving family. She was 82 years old. Born in New Bedford, Massachusetts, on Sept. 18, 1942, Diane was the daughter of the late Pete and Anita Tetrault. She was preceded in death by her husband, J. Roger St. Amand, with whom she shared 38 years of marriage, on Jan. 19, 2023.

Diane was an only child, and while she often expressed a wish for siblings, being an only child helped shape her into a social, outgoing person who genuinely enjoyed the company of others. She loved chatting with friends and family over coffee, traveling the world, and being an active member of both the Palmer and Ludlow Senior Centers.

Elegantly stylish, Diane took after her mother and grandmother. She was known for her impeccable sense of fashion, always accessorizing with shoes and jewelry that perfectly complemented her outfits. A lifelong stylist, Diane's hair and makeup were always flawless, and she never missed an opportunity to make herself and others look their best.

Diane's passion for beauty and selfcare led her to the hair industry, where she began her career as a stylist in 1977. In 1985, she opened Diane and Company on Bridge Street in Three Rivers, later moving the business in 1995

to a new space on North Main Street in Palmer. The salon became a gathering place for clients and friends, where they could try new hairstyles, prepare for special events, and enjoy friendly conversation over coffee and doughnuts. Her family often hung out there after work and school, creating a welcoming and homey atmosphere that was beloved by all.

Diane was a devoted mother to her children: Mark Bisnette (Sue), Lorraine Diane Dziedzic (John) of Three Rivers, MA, James Bisnette (Linda) of Wilbraham, MA, and stepmother to Michelle St. Amand Gunschel of Mattapoisett, MA. She cherished her role as a mother, often saying, "It was easy, even during challenging moments," and that she "loved every minute of it."

She is also remembered fondly by her grandchildren: Jason Bisnette (Stacey) of Lenox, MI, Erin Dziedzic (David)

of Athens, NY, Robin Dziedzic (Bridget) of Bellingham, MA, Stephanie Bisnette of Wilbraham, MA, and Javmison, Keegan, and Lillian Gunschel of Mattapoisett, MA. Diane adored her grandchildren, and each one has special

memories of sleepovers, shopping trips, and the loving time she spent with them.

She also treasured her time with her great-grandchildren: Kaitlyn, Cameron, and Noelle.

Visiting hours will be held on Friday, Jan. 24, 2025, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the Kapinos-Mazur Funeral Home, 64 Sewall St., Ludlow, MA. A Liturgy of Christian Burial will take place on Saturday, Jan. 25, 2025, at 10 a.m. at St. Elizabeth's Parish, Hubbard St., Ludlow, MA. Please meet directly at the church. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Diane's memory to Dakin Humane Society, 171 Union Street, Springfield, MA 01105, or to Shriners Hospitals for Children, 516 Carew St., Springfield, MA 01104. For more information please go to www.kapinosmazurfh.com.

### Police/Fire

### **POLICE LOGS**

### **Palmer Police Department**

The Palmer Police Department reported 354 incidents on its logs from Jan. 7 through Jan

### Jan. 7

At 9:34 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on State Street.

At 12:34 p.m. police gave summons to Jason C. Lachance, 47, of 3003 Spring St., Bondsville, for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, operating a motor vehicle with a revoked registration and uninsured motor vehicle.

### Jan. 8

At 2:22 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Sykes Street.

### Jan. 9

At 6:41 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on the corner of Sykes

Street and Bourne Street.

At 8:29 a.m. police arrested Luis Jose Rodriguez, 23, of 410 Walnut St., Springfield, on two

At 9:18 a.m. police responded to a hit and run accident on Palmer Road.

### Jan. 10

At 11:34 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Thorndike Street.

At 9:04 p.m. police arrested Damien Micheal Gouvin, 30, of 1476 N. Main St., Palmer on a war-

At 10:52 p.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on Ware Street.

Jan. 11

At 2:23 p.m. police responded to a hit and run accident on Charles

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

### **LOCAL KETONE PROMOTER**

**Call For Information** 413-813-2391

Leave Message Check Out Facebook at **Denise Dubowski** Save Up To 25% OFF

**Retail Prices** 

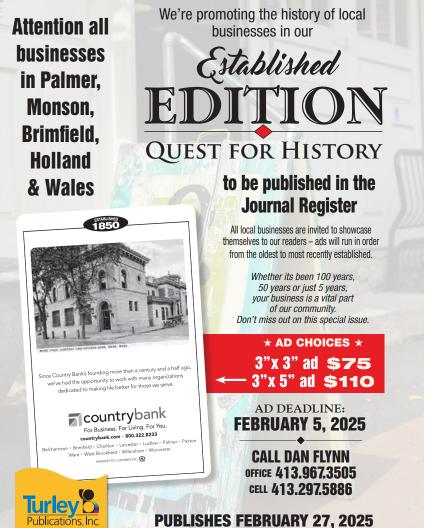
Jan. 12 At 2:04 p.m. police arrested Tyler Colby White, 31, of 16 Holbrook St., Palmer, for operating a motor vehicle with a revoked registration, uninsured motor vehicle, no inspection sticker, possession of a class B drug (crack pipe with residue) and possession of a class B drug. Richard M. Hicks, 31, of 269 Hovey Road, Monson, for possession of a class B drug (cocaine) and possession of a class B drug (crack pipe with

At 8:31 p.m. police arrested Austin Bickel, 18, of 155 Beacon Dr., Palmer, for vandalizing prop-

At 9:53 p.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on the Mass Turnpike west bound.

### Jan. 13

At 4:35 p.m. police responded to a hit and run accident on Thorndike Street.





vemetery Memorials + Markers **Granite Benches** Religious Statuary + Outdoor Display

**RAY HALUCH INC. -**1014 Center St ∥ Ludlow, MA ∥ 583-6508 гБ



### **TUTORING AVAILABLE**

Meet Your Professional And Educational Goals

### Low cost tutoring & scholarships are available!

We're a private, non-profit organization at the Palmer Public Library, here to help you meet your educational and professional goals.

1455 N. Main St 3rd Floor **Palmer MA** 01069

We're on Facebook!



### **TUTORS** NEEDE

For English Language Learners, **HiSet Tutors:** English, Writing & Math

### Computer Security Class

- Basic Computer Use —
- Resumé Building & Updating
- English Language Learning
- GED/HiSET Preparation • Reading, Writing, Math
- Citizenship Exam
- SAT, TOEFL, etc. Test Prep





A **TURLEY** PUBLICATION **■** www.turley.com

**COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE** 

Call us at 413.283.8393

**SERVICES** 

### FOR SALE

MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. EX-**TRAORDINARY** performance. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today 413-296-

### **FIREWOOD**

### **FIREWOOD** Fresh cut & split \$200.00

All hardwood. Tree length available \*Also have seasoned softwood for

outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes guaranteed!! New England Forest Products (413)477-0083 MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Cen-

tral Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

SEASONED CORDWOOD All hardwood. Cut & split to your length \$300 a cord. No delivery charge on two cord orders.

Call or text **413-668-7858** 

### WANTED **WANTED TO BUY**

**ANTIQUES AND** OLD STUFF WANTED.

**BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches. Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

### **JUNK REMOVAL**

### A Call We Haul **FAST REMOVAL** Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.

We load it & take it. 413-531-1936

### SERVICES



### 2\*\*\*\*\*A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\*\*

Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, vard debris. Barns & sheds demolished Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-

DRYWALL AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls (413)563-0487

### **ELECTRICIAN**

### **NEED AN**

**ELECTRICIAN?** Look no further! PJ's Electrical offers fast and reliable electrical services for your home or business.

Call now for a FREE estimate! (413) 366-1703

413-967-8364

Call For An Appointment

BELCHERTOWN - The these events by visiting https://

228 West St., Ware, MA 01082

Les and Terry Campbell Quab-

bin Visitor Center, 100 Win-

sor Dam Road, announces the

schedule for winter hybrid pre-

for 2 p.m. In person seating is

programs will only be held vir-

tually. Please register for any of

limited to 45 people.

All programs are scheduled

In case of bad weather, the

sentations.

### **SERVICES**

### HOME **IMPROVEMENT**

HANDYMAN RESIDENTIAL RE-PAIRS. Powerwashing, home repairs interior/exterior painting, ceiling/wall repairs and chimney repairs. Fully linsed/insured. Lic. #105950CSL. Call 413-566-5596/413-433-5073.

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. RE-MODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

### **INSTRUCTION**

### FADER'S FITNESS

"We can always work something out." Offering tailored exercise and nutrition services for adults, specializing in active and static exercise. Fully certified in personal training and nutrition and insured in the state of MA. Call 914-708-7849 or send inquiries to faderci@gmail.com

### **LANDSCAPING**

### A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING 8 **BOBCAT SERVICE**

**Excavator Services** Overgrown property? Extreme Brush Cutting! Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal Lawn/Arborvite Installed Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand Storm Clean-up Small Demolition/ Junk Removal

Insured Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

IRS Certified Tax Preparers

Independently owned and operated. Over 25 years experience.

1622 B North Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069

www.FastTax-MA.com

Free E-File & Direct Deposit

DCR lists upcoming winter hybrid presentations

collected at each of the three

boat launch areas during the

vide updates regarding par-

ticipation, catch, harvest and

species specific trends. These

data will be compared to other

statewide and waterbody specif-

ic creel data collected by Mass-

Wildlife and Department of

The presentation will pro-

2024 fishing season.

### **SERVICES**

### **STOP WET**

**BASEMENTS** ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

**MASONRY** 

All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatch-

way doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rate ng Free estimates Lic #14790 Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

### **PAINTING**

**DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING** Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references prompt service call (508)867-2550

JENKINS ROOFING specializing in residential roofs & repairs, chimney repairs. Hampden, MA - 413-566-5596/413-433-5073.Lic.

**ROOFING** 

### **RUBBISH REMOVAL**

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH** REMOVAL Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed Family owned/operated since 1950 (413)537-5090

### **SERVICES**

TREE WORK

### AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees, Free estimates. Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind

takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call **413-283-6374.** DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal,

stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-

H & H TREE SERVICE All phases of tree care. Call Dave413-668-6560 day/night.

### **STUMP GRINDING**

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

### **AUTO**



### **HELP WANTED**

ASSOCIATE DENTIST. Baystate Dental Practice, LLC. Belchertown MA. Diagnose, prevent & treat teeth & tissue problems. DMD or DDS. Apply: https://www.dentalcarealliance.net/dental-jobs-search/

Small church in West Brookfield seeking a PART-TIME SECRE-TARY. Approximately 5 hours/week. Candidate must have organizational and computer skills, social media experience, good communication and people skills a must. Starting paying \$16-18/hr. based on experience. Send resume to: fccwbworship@gmail.

### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR Middlefield, MA. Part-time. 960 hrs/yr

\$36-40,000 range. Email resume+ cover letter toAdministrative Assistant: middlefield.assistant @gmail.com

The Mystery of

**Prescott Quilt of Names** 

Sunday, Feb. 2 from 2-3 p.m.

into the intriguing story behind

a remarkable artifact that has

woven together generations-a

quilt embroidered with fifty sig-

natures from 1895, hailing from

Prescott, Massachusetts. Who

Step back in time and delve

### **SERVICES**

### **SERVICES**

### K & J TREE CARE 70+ years of onsite industry experience

- All Phases of Tree Work Done
- Proper Pruning • Stump Grinding
- Climbing, Bucket Work or Crane • Fully Insured
- Free Estimates & Consultations

~ Father & Son Owned & Operated ~

Ken (508)344-8482 Joshua (413) 668-4233

### HELP WANTED

### TOWN OF BLANDFORD

**HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT** The Town of Blandford is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Highway Superintendent. Salary range starting at \$75,000-\$80.000+ negotia ble based on experience/skills. Please visit our website TownOfBlandford.
com or email Administrator@ TownofBlandford.com for more information.

**WILBRAHAM UNITED CHURCH** is hiring a sexton three evenings, 7-10 hours per week, \$16 per hour. Additional compensation for hours needed for weddings and funerals. Please send resume to admin@wilbrahamunitedchurch.org

More information found at www.wilbrahamunitedchurch. org/about-us-2/

### **REAL ESTATE**

### **FOR RENT**



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 es tate which is in violation of the law All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis

GREEN STREET, PALMER Newrenovated 1 bedroom apt. porch, off-street parking, coin-op laundry, \$1,500/ mo includes heat. No Pets. Call Tom 413-896-1555

created this piece of history, and

why? How did it make its way

to the Hitchcock Chair Museum

in Riverton, Connecticut, and

who played a crucial role in re-

turning it to the Swift River Val-

er Karen Traub as she embarks

on a fascinating journey to un-

DCR | page 12

Join historical interpret-

ley Historical Society?

**REAL ESTATE** 

### **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

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 advertising in this newspaper are available on an equa 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

Subscribe Today!



**NEWSPAPERS** 413.283.8393 www.turley.com 24 Water Street **Palmer, MA 01069** 

### **TAX SERVICES**



Call Your Local Turley Publications Sales Representative For Information And Rates On Advertising Your Tax Service Here CALL 413-283-8393 TO PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

www.mass.gov/locations/quab-

**Understanding Fish Species** 

at Quabbin Reservoir

Sunday, Jan. 26 from 2-3 p.m.

mon technique used by fisheries

professionals to better under-

stand waterbody specific catch

and harvest trends. Creel data

Creel surveys are a com-

bin-reservoir/events.

### Public notices

### **PUBLIC NOTICE** RIGHT OF WAY MAINTENANCE

As required by Massachusetts General Law Chapter 132B, National Grid (New England Power and/or Massachusetts Electric Company) hereby gives notice that it intends to selectively apply herbicides along specific transmission line rights-of-way in 2025.

The selective use of herbicides to manage vegetation along rights-of-way is done within the context of an Integrated Vegetation Management (IVM) program consisting of mechanical, chemical, natural, and cultural components. In right-of-way vegetation management the pest or target is vegetation (primarily tall growing) that will cause outages and safety issues. National Grid's IVM program encourages natural controls by promoting low growing plant communities that resist invasion by target vegetation. The selective use of herbicides and mechanical controls are the direct techniques used to control target vegetation and help

establish and maintain natural controls. National Grid may utilize any of the herbicides noted the MA Sensitive Materials list. Rodeo, and possibly one of the following herbicides, Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline, will be applied directly to the surface of stumps immediately after target vegetation is cut (Cut Stump Treatment). Garlon 4 or Garlon 4 Ultra will be applied selectively to the stems of target vegetation using hand-held equipment (Basal Treatment and Dormant stem treatment). Krenite S or Rodeo, mixed with Escort XP, and one of the following herbicides, Arsenal or Arsenal Powerline, or Milestone will be applied selectively to the foliage of target vegetation using hand-held equipment (Foliar Treatment). Cambistat as a tree growth regulator. Applications shall not commence more than ten days before nor conclude more than ten days after the following treatment periods. The herbicide mixes and additional information about rights of way management in Massachusetts can be found here: https://www.mass.gov/rights-of-way-vegetationmanagement

Municipalities that have rights-of-way scheduled for herbicide treatments in 2025: Monson, Palmer

### **Treatment Periods**

February 1, 2025 - May 30, 2025 Basal

Dormant Stem

May 30, 2025 - Oct 15, 2025 Foliar **CST** Basal

Cut Stubble Oct 15, 2025 - Dec 31, 202CST CST Basal

Dormant Stem \*The exact treatment dates are dependent upon weather conditions and field crew progress.

Further information may be requested by contacting (during business hours, Mon-Fri from 8:00 am-4:00 pm): Mariclaire Rigby, National Grid, 939 Southbridge Street, Worcester, MA 01610. Telephone: (781) 290-8310 or email: mariclaire.rigby@nationalgrid.com

01/23/2025

### **Support the local businesses that support** your local newspaper.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

Journal Register

### Job Connection

### HELPING YOU FIND HELP

### **FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER**

The **Warren Police Department** is accepting applications for the position of full 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 Thursday, January 30th, 2025, to the attention of Lt. Kyle Whitcomb, WPD PO Box 606, Warren, MA 01083 or Whitcomb@warren-ma.gov.

The Town of Warren is an EOE.

from Quabbin Reservoir were Conservation and Recreation.

The Town of Wales, MA seeks a qualified professional to fill the full time (40 hours per week) position of **DPW Director**. Appointed by and serving under the direction of the Board of Selectmen, the Director performs complex supervisory, administrative and professional work in planning, organizing, directing and supervising various public works functions. including but not limited to the maintenance of highways, municipal and rural roads (25.46 local road miles), rights of way, parks, recreation facilities and playgrounds, municipal

and fleet maintenance. There is no public utility (sewer and water) infrastructure in the Town of Wales. Administrative leadership responsibility includes budget development and forecasting, resource allocation, policy development and implementation, managing service objectives, and staffing. The Director is responsible for maintaining and improving upon the efficiency and effectiveness of all areas under his/her direction and control. Minimum education and experience requirements include a high school diploma or equivalent; five (5) years of experience in construction, road maintenance, pavement management and winter weather operations; experience in a municipal leadership role in public works/public safety preferred; or any equivalent combination of education, training, certification, licensure and experience. Eligible candidates shall possess a valid Class B Commercial Driver's License with air brakes endorsement or the ability to obtain within one (1) calendar year of appointment and a valid Hoisting License Class 2B or the ability to obtain within one (1) calendar year of appointment. Complete job description available at www.townofwales.net. Successful candidate will be subject to an extensive background investigation. Interested candidates should forward a cover letter, resume and three (3) professional references to: Ms. Pamela Leduc, Executive Secretary, Town of Wales, P.O. Box 834, Wales, MA 01081 or via email to select@townofwales.net. Resumes will be accepted until position is filled; however, priority consideration given to resumes received by 12PM on Monday, February 3, 2025.

and school grounds, municipal buildings and dams, cemeteries,

The Town of Wales is an AA/EOE.

Title No.: 24904; said mort-

Bank of America, N.A.

to Green Tree Servicing

LLC by assignment dated

June 6, 2013 and filed with

Hampden County Registry

District of the Land Court as

Document No.: 198599 and

noted on Certificate of Title

No.: 24904; said mortgage

was assigned from Ditech

Financial LLC f/k/a Green

Tree Servicing LLC to DLJ

Mortgage Capital, Inc. by

assignment dated February

8, 2019 and filed with

Hampden County Registry

District of the Land Court

as Document No.: 217304

and noted on Certificate of

Title No.: 24904; said mort-

gage was assigned from

DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc.

to U.S. Bank Trust National

Association, not in its indi-

vidual capacity but solely

as owner trustee for RCF 2

Acquisition Trust by assign-

ment dated August 20, 2024

and filed with Hampden

County Registry District of

the Land Court as Document

No.: 237525 and noted

on Certificate of Title No.:

24904: for breach of the con-

ditions in said mortgage and

for the purpose of foreclos-

ing the same will be sold at

Public Auction on February

13, 2025 at 01:00 PM Local

Time upon the premises, all

and singular the premises

described in said mortgage,

situate in Palmer, in the

County Hampden and said

Commonwealth, bounded

one hundred forty-one and

and described as follows:

52/100 (141.52) feet;

(201.48) feet;

A certain parcel or land

Northerly by Laurel Road

Easterly by land now

or formerly of Estates

Development Corporation

two hundred one and 48/100

Southeasterly by

other land now or Estates

Development Corporation

sixty-nine and 58/100 (69.58)

now or formerly of Estates

Development Corporation

39 on plan hereinafter men-

are determined by the court

to be located as shown upon

subdivision plan numbered

30086-D, the same being

compiled from a plan drawn

by Durkee, White, Towne

and Chapdelaine, Surveyors,

dated May 15, 1964, and

additional data on file in the

Land Registration Office, all

as modified and approved

by the Court, a copy of a

portion of which is filed

with Certificate of Title No.

use the ways as laid out on

the aforementioned plan in

common with others lawfully

entitled thereto for all pur-

poses for which public streets

land situated in said Palmer

bounded and described as

line forming the junction of

Laurel Road and Juniper

Drive fifteen and 00/100

shown on plan hereinaf-

ter mentioned one hundred

seventy-five and 70/100

Southerly by land now

Westerly by Lot 39 as

Said land Is shown as Lot

All of said boundaries are

Easterly by Lot 95 as

Also another parcel of

Northerly by the curved

are commonly used.

Together with the right to

two hundred (200) feet.

tioned.

11942.

follows:

(15.) feet;

(175.70) feet;

Westerly again by land

Said land is shown as lot

All of said boundaries

### Public notices

### **PALMER** CONSERVATION **COMMISSION PUBLIC HEARING** NOTICE

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 131, Section 40, and the Town of Palmer Wetlands Bylaws, the Palmer Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 7:00 PM at the Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069 on the application of Vince Einck, 43 Fuller Road, Palmer, MA, 01069.

The applicant has submitted a Request for Determination of Applicability for activities associated with controlling vegetation within the 100foot buffer zone of a bordering vegetated wetland and 200-foot riverfront area.

The project is located at 43 Fuller Road, Palmer. MA 01069. Assessor's Map

Any interested persons wishing to be heard on the application should appear at the time and place designated. A copy of the application and plan may be inspected at the Palmer Town Hall in the Conservation Commission Office, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or contact the office at 413-283-

Donald Blais, Jr., Chair, Palmer Conservation Commission 01/23/2025

### NOTICE OF **MORTGAGEE'S** SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by John M. Arooth a/k/a John M. Arooth, Sr. to Monson Savings Bank, said mortgage being dated April 25, 2019, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22658, Page 118, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 A.M. on Friday, February 14, 2025, upon the premises described in said mortgage, namely 95 Upper Palmer Road. Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

A certain tract of land lying on the Easterly side of the highway leading from Monson to Palmer known as Margaret Street, in the Town of Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts, and bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a pipe set in the intersection of stone walls at the Northwest corner of land now or formerly of John S. Arooth et ux. and tract to be conveyed and at the Southwest corner of land now or formerly of one Rindge; thence running

Along Margaret Street, and a stone retaining wall South 18° 35' 20" West 150.03 feet to a drill hole in a rock; thence running

Along land of said John S. Arooth et ux., South 74° 26' 40" East 152.65 feet to a pipe; thence running

Along land of said John S. Arooth et ux., passing through the center of a large rock, North 18° 35' 20" East 150.03 feet to an iron pipe set in the stone wall at land now or formerly of said Rindge; thence running

Along land now or formerly of said Rindge and a stone wall, North 74° 26' 40" West 152.65 feet to the point of beginning.

Containing about 22,800 square feet.

Being the same property conveyed to John M. Arooth and Deborah Lynne Arooth, Husband and Wife, as tenants by the entirety, and not as tenants in common by Deed from John M. Arooth, Married recorded 01/07/1976 in Deed Book 4220 Page 358, in the Registry of Deeds Plan for Hampden County,

Said premises will be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax title, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, rights of parties in possession, and existing encum-

MA.

brances of record created prior to the mortgage, if any there be, whether or not reference to such restrictions. easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the Deed.

No representations. express or implied, are made with respect to any matter concerning the premises which will be sold "as is".

The successful high bidder will be responsible for paying the Massachusetts State Documentary Tax Stamps, all closing costs and all recording fees.

TERMS OF SALE:

The highest bidder in the sale shall be required to deposit cash, bank treasurer's check or certified check in the amount of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$10,000.00) at the time and the place of the sale of the premises to qualify as a bidder (the present holder of the mortgage is exempt from this requirement) to be held

by the Mortgagee. The successful bidder will also be required to deposit an additional sum equal to ten percent (10%) of the amount bid less the \$10,000.00 deposit (but no less than \$10,000) with the Mortgagee's auctioneer, Aaron Posnik & Co., Inc., 31 Capital Drive, West Springfield, Massachusetts 01089 or the Mortgagees attorney as may be directed within five (5) days of the date of the sale to be held by the Mortgagee, and the

balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified or bank treasurer's check at the closing which shall occur within thirty (30) days after the date of foreclosure sale, time being of the essence, unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The successful bidder at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Terms of Sale containing the above terms at the auction sale.

In the event that the suc-

cessful bidder at the public

auction shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Mortgagee's Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the public auction, the Mortgagee reserves the right, at its election, to sell the property to the second highest bidder at the public auction provided that Mortgagee, in its discretion, may require (1) said second highest bidder to deposit the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice to the second highest bidder of the default of the previous highest bidder, (2) the second highest bidder to execute a Memorandum of Sale, and (3) the closing to occur within twenty (20) days of said written notice, time being of the essence unless the Mortgagee agrees otherwise. The Mortgagee reserves the right to sell any parcel or any portion thereof separately, or in any order that Mortgagee may choose and/ or to postpone this sale to a later time or date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time

and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and

place of the sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error

in this publication. MONSON SAVINGS BANK, Present Holder of said

Mortgage David A. Lavenburg, Its Attorney BACON WILSON,

P.C. 33 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 413-781-0560 01/16, 01/23, 01/30/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts County of Hampden **The Superior Court** CIVIL DOCKET #2479CV0733 RE: Citizens Bank, N.A. vs Jesse A. Davis and **Adrienne Davis** ORDER OF NOTICE BY PUBLICATION

TO: Jesse A. Davis and Adrienne Davis individuals with a last known address of 6 Hampden Court, Monson, MA 01057 in the County of Hampden; all in said Commonwealth

AND TO ALLPERSONS ENTITLED TO THE BENEFIT OF THE SERVICE MEMBERS' CIVIL RELIEF ACT OF 1940 AS AMENDED 2003 as

Citizens Bank, N.A., a National Association, with a mailing address of 10561 Telegraph Road, Glen Allen,

claiming to be the holder of mortgage encumbering the real property known as 6 Hampden Court, Monson, MA 01057

given by Jesse A. Davis and Adrienne Davis to Citizens Bank, N.A. dated December 20, 2021

recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book 24347, Page 329, has filed with said court a Complaint for authority to foreclose said mortgage in the manner following: by entry on and possession of the premises therein described and by exercise of the power of sale contained in said mortgage.

If you are entitled to the benefits of the Service Members' Civil Relief Act of 1940 as amended, and you object to such foreclosure you or your attorney should file a written appearance and answer in said court at Springfield in said County on or before 2/20/25 or you may be forever barred from claiming that such foreclosure is invalid under said Act.

Witness, Michael D. Ricciuti, Esquire, Chief Justice of the Superior Court, at Springfield, Massachusetts, this 9th day of January, 2025.

Laura S. Gentile, Clerk of the Courts By: Stephanie Roscoe, Assistant Clerk

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25C0018CA

In the matter of: Soleia Leanne Gay-Schroeder CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by Soleia Leanne Gay-Schroeder of Holland, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name

Soleia Jolene Gay IMPORTANT NOTICE Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden **Probate and Family Court** before 10:00 a.m. on the

return day of 02/12/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 15, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani Register of Probate 01/23/2025

### NOTICE OF **MORTGAGEE'S** SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 65 Laurel Road, Palmer, MA 01069

By virtue and in exe-

cution of the Power of or formerly of Tempo Development Corp., fifteen Sale contained in a cerand 10/100 (15.10) feet; and tain mortgage given by Scott K Logsdon and Lynn A Logsdon to Mortgage shown on Plan No, 30086-D, Electronic Registration Sheet 2, filed with Ctf. No. 11942, one hundred seven-Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Countrywide ty-eight and 08/100 (178.08) Home Loans, Inc., and now held by U.S. Bank Trust 94 on plan hereinafter men-National Association, not in its individual capacity but tioned. solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust, determined by the court to be said mortgage dated April located as shown upon sub-12, 2005 and filed in the division plan No, 30086-G, Hampden County Registry drawn by Albert E. Nichols District of the Land Court as & Assoc., Inc. Surveyors, Document No.: 162133 and dated April 1969, and addinoted on Certificate of Title tional data on file in the No.: 24904, as affected by Land Registration office, all a Loan Modification dated as modified and approved February 18, 2015 and filed by the Court, a copy of a as Document No.: 203346 and noted on Certificate of Title No.: 24904; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. 51437 for title reference. to Bank of America, N.A.

successor by merger to BAC

Home Loans Servicing LP

f/k/a Countrywide Home

Loans Servicing LP by

assignment dated August

3, 2011 and filed with

Hampden County Registry

District of the Land Court

portion of which is filed with Certificate of Title No. See Certificate of Title No. 17016, Document No.

Also, that certain parcel of land situate in Palmer, in the County of Hampden and said Commonwealth, bounded and described as follows: Northwesterly by Laurel

Road, twenty (20) feet; Northeasterly by Lot 39, Plan No. 30086-D sheet 2

as Document No.: 188896 Cert. No. 11942, two hunand noted on Certificate of dred (200) feet; Northwesterly by said Lot gage was assigned from 39, sixty-nine and 58/100 (69.58);Northeasterly by Lot 121,

as shown on said hereinafter plan, two hundred thirty-five and 86/100 (235.86) feet; Southerly by Lot 124, as shown on said hereinafter

feet; and Southwesterly by Lot 123, as shown on said hereinafter mentioned plan, one hundred eighty-four and

mentioned plan, eighty (80)

81/100 (184.81) feet and continuing along Lot 40 shown on plan No. 30086-D sheet 2 Cert. No. 11942, two hundred (200) feet.

Said land is shown as Lot 122 on said hereinafter mentioned plan.

All of said boundaries are determined by the court to be located as shown upon subdivision plan numbered 30086-N drawn by Kenneth C. Sherman, Surveyor, dated February 14, 1983, as modified and approved by the court, filed in the Land Registration office, a copy of a portion of which is filed with certificate or Title No.

So much of said Lots 4 and 2 as is included within the area marked 'Worcester County Electric Company' Easement' fifty (50) feet wide, approximately shown on said plan, is subject to easements as set forth in two grants made by Timothy F. Sweetman et ux to the Worcester County Electric Company, one dated July 25, 1952, duly recorded in Book 2191, Page 197, and the other dated September 4, 1952, duly recorded in Book 2198, Page 167.

A portion of said Lots 4, 5 and 6 as shown on said plan is subject to an easement of undetermined width as set forth in a grant made by Benjamin B. Green et al to American Telephone and Telegraph Company of Massachusetts, dated May 22, 1928, and duly recorded in Book 1411, Page 79, the center line of which is located as shown on said plan.

See Certificate or Title No. 21160, Document No. 68778 for title reference.

Being the same property as conveyed to Scott K. Logsdon and Lynn A. Logsdon by deed from Daniel J. Podgurski, JR aka Daniel J. Podgurski and Debra A. Podgurski aka Debra Ann Podgurski by deed date 10/18/1990 and recorded with instrument number 094259 in Hampden County Records.

Current Certificate of Title is 24904.

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 October 18, 1990 and registered with the Hampden County Registry District of the Land Court as Document No.: 94259 and noted on Certificate of Title

No.: 24904. 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.

FIVE THOUSAND (\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date

Other terms to be announced at the sale. Brock & Scott, PLLC 23 Messenger Street

2nd Floor Plainville, MA 02762 Attorney for U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust Present Holder of the Mortgage (401) 217-8701 01/16, 01/23, 01/30/2025

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS LAND COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT COMPLAINT TO

[seal] No. 01 TL 124832 To any former stockholders, officers, creditors, and any other persons claim-

FORECLOSE TAX LIEN

ing any interest in Omega Processing, Co., Inc., a dissolved Massachusetts corporation formerly located in Ludlow, Hampden County, and said Commonwealth; Robert W. MacWilliams, as he was President, Treasurer, and Secretary of said Omega Processing, Co., Inc., deceased, formerly of Sturbridge, Worcester County, and said Commonwealth; and as he was both an officer and a director of said Omega Processing, Co., Inc.; Charles A. MacWilliams, now or formerly of Carbondale in the State of Illinois; Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Department Environmental Protection); Commonwealth of Massachusetts (Attorney General); United States of America (Attorney General); United States of America (U.S. Attorney for the District of Massachusetts);

and assigns: A Complaint has been filed by the Plaintiff Town of Monson. The Complaint asks the Court to enter a judgment ending any ownership rights or interests in the land described below. The Complaint is about a parcel of land located in the Town of Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts, described in the Complaint as follows:

or their heirs, devisees, legal

representatives, successors

ASSESSED TO OMEGA PROCESSING CO., INC. - 38 Bliss Street, Monson, MA\* Parcel #0116-096. Certain Real Estate in a deed from Donald Lapoint to Omega Processing Co., Inc. dated March 16, 1983 and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds B5417, P347 and supposed to contain 2.5 acres.

\* In Fiscal Year 1994, due to the Town of Monson's implementation of the statewide Enhanced 911 (E-911) system, the Town changed the address of the subject property from 38 Bliss Street to 21 Bliss Street.

To respond to the Complaint, you or your attorney must take these steps by the Deadline to Answer, which is March 10,

2025. First, prepare a written Answer. You may write your own Answer or use the form or the online guided interview program on the Court website. Second, file your Answer with the Land Court Recorder's Office, or in the Assistant Recorder's Office at the Registry of Deeds where the land is located, or using the Court's online eFiling system. Third, serve a copy of your Answer to the

Plaintiff by mail or e-mail. If you do not answer the Complaint by the above Deadline to Answer, this Court will find you in default. You may lose the chance to answer or dispute the facts listed in the Complaint or pay the taxes owed. You may lose all ownership rights or interest in the land described above. If a judgment of foreclosure is entered, you will lose ownership of your property. If the property is worth more than the amount owed to cover the tax debt and foreclosure costs, you may be entitled to receive any remaining funds (excess equity) from the Plaintiff.

It is ordered that this citation be published right away, once in Journal Register a newspaper published in Monson.

Witness, GORDON H. PIPER, Esquire, Chief Justice of said Court, this thirteenth day of January in the year two thousand and twenty-five. Attest with Seal of said

Court. Deborah J. Patterson

Recorder Plaintiff's Attorney: Amy J. Megliola, Esq., Siddall & Siddall, P.C., 1350 Main Street, Suite 210, Springfield, MA 01103 Tel: (413) 732-3600 1350 Main Street, Suite 210, Springfield, MA 01103 Tel: (413) 732-3600 01/23/2025

### NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Commercial Mortgage (the "Mortgage") given by NEW ENGLAND RECREATION & HEALTH, LLC (the "Mortgagor") to Paul J.

Les (the "Mortgagee") dated December 6, 2018, recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22481, Page 81, for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the premises described in said Mortgage all and singular will be sold at Public Auction at Eleven O'clock, A.M. on the 20th day of February, 2025, at the mortgaged premises located at 0 Chamber Road, f/k/a 8 Chamber Road, Palmer, Hampden County, Massachusetts, to wit:

The land situated in Palmer, Hampden County, Massachusetts, being known and designated as:

The land in Palmer, Hampden County. Massachusetts, located on the Northeasterly side of Chamber Road and being known as Parcel GH on a plan of land entitled, "Plan of Land in Three Rivers, Palmer, MA Prepared for Paul J. Les (Owner)" dated February 18, 2015, by Sherman & Frydryk, LLC, Land Surveying and Engineering, 3 Converse Street, Suite 203, Palmer, MA 01069, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 372, Page 41.

Together with any and all rights held by the Grantor to the road and associated land. Intending to convey all of the land conveyed to the Grantor via deed of William J. Hastings as Trustee of the William J. Hastings Revocable Living Trust as recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 17177, Page 277.

Subject to the drainage easement benefiting Parcel GH all as shown on the above referenced Plan.

Being the premises conveyed to said Mortgagor by deed from Paul J. Les dated December 4, 2018 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22481, Page 78.

Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of the following specific items, to the extent the same are in force and applicable:

Subject to: Liens for real estate taxes, and liens for any unpaid municipal assessments, water and sewer charges, if any; rights, restrictions, reservations and easements as cited in deeds recorded in Book 3767, Page 185, and Book 8749, Page 294, if in force and effect and applicable; and to all easements and rights of way of record, including but not limited to the following: easement to New England Power Co. Recorded at Book 2531, Page 478; assent agreement at Book 14287, Page 370; Owner's Maintenance Association Agreement at Book 17177, Page 249.

The property is being sold 'as is", "where is", and "with all faults" as of the date of closing, subject to and with the benefit of the following, if any there be, insofar as in force and applicable and having priority over the Mortgage: any and all rights of way, restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, public assessments, unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal liens, assessments, oil and hazardous materials and environmental liens, other liens or claims in the nature of liens, rights of parties in possession, attachments and encumbrances, boundary line disputes, overlaps, encroachments and any matters which would be disclosed by an accurate survey and inspection of the premises. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other

TERMS OF SALE: The following "terms of sale" shall apply to the sale. To qualify as a bidder an initial deposit shall be paid at the time and place of the foreclosure sale as specified above in the amount set forth herein ("Initial Deposit"). The Initial Deposit due from the high bidder shall be FIFTEEN THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$15,000.00) DOLLARS. Within five (5) business days after the sale an additional deposit shall be paid by the successful bidder sufficient to bring the aggregate deposit up to an

state and/or municipal regu-

lations.

amount equal to ten (10%) per cent of the auction price (the "Additional Deposit"). The deposit shall be paid by the successful bidder to Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin, P.C. ("Escrow Agent") as earnest money, by certified or bank cashier's check, unless otherwise announced at the sale. The entire deposit shall be retained by Escrow Agent for liquidated damages in the event the successful bidder fails to perform and as a result does not consummate the sale. The successful bidder will be required to pay the balance of the purchase price plus a Five (5%) percent Buyer's Premium commission payment to the auctioneer in addition to the bid price, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.

In the event that the suc-

cessful bidder at the public auction shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Mortgagee's Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the public auction, the Mortgagee reserves all of its rights against such successful bidder including, without limitation any deficiency resulting from a resale, whether to the second highest bidder, Mortgagee, or otherwise, together with costs of resale and any costs of maintaining or owning the Property. Mortgagee may, at its election, retain the Initial Deposit and the Additional Deposit as liquidated damages; or, purchase the property for the amount bid by the successful bidder; or sell the property to the second highest bidder at the public auction, provided that Mortgagee in its discretion may require, (i) said second highest bidder to deposit with the Escrow Agent the amount of the required deposits as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice to the second highest bidder of the default of the previous highest bidder, (ii) the second highest bidder to execute a Memorandum of Sale and (iii) the closing to occur within twenty (20) days of said written notice time being of the essence.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone this sale to a later time or date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The description for the premises contained in said Mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

The successful bidder shall pay all recording fees and documentary stamps in connection with the transfer of the premises, any costs of obtaining smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and smoke and carbon monoxide detector certificates and the transfer or issuance of any licenses, all real estate taxes, tax titles, and municipal charges due as of the date of sale and those due thereafter through the date of Closing, as well as all of its costs in connection with the transaction, including but not limited to title examinations and title premiums. No adjustments whatsoever will be made, whether for taxes, municipal charges, utilities or otherwise.

Other terms to be announced at the time and place of sale.

A foreclosure deed will be delivered to the purchaser for recording on full receipt of the purchase price. The successful bidder will be required to sign at the auction sale a Memorandum of Sale containing the terms of

Present holder of said mortgage, PAUL J. LES

By his attorneys: Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin, 01/23, 01/30, 02/06/2024

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.

### Business

### **Country Bank announces** promotions

PALMER— Mary McGovern, President and CEO of Country Bank, is delighted to announce Melissa Mann's promotion to Vice President of Customer Experience and Michael Dias to Product Marketing and Business Insights Officer.

Mann offers a unique blend of skills, including completing New England School for Financial Studies through Massachusetts Bankers in 2019. She is currently working on completing her Project Management Certification through the Project Management Institute which shows her ongoing commitment to professional development and has prepared her well for this role. She will continue to lead and manage the Bank's Sales and Customer Experience programs and strategies, showcasing her dedication and leadership.

Dias has been promoted to Product Marketing & Business Insights Officer. Michael has been a driving force in integrating data analytics into the Bank's marketing strategies. With an MBA in Data Analytics from Western New England University and his recent cer-

tification as a Certified Financial Marketing Professional from the American Bankers Association, Dias's strategic mindset and forward-thinking approach have been key in integrating data analytics into the Bank's marketing strat-

"We are excited to announce the well-deserved promotions of Melissa and Michael," said Miriam Siegel, chief culture and development officer at Country Bank. "Their hard work, dedication, and contributions have been instrumental to the Bank's success. We take great pride in supporting our team members' commitment to continuous professional and personal growth, empowering them to explore the many rewarding career paths in community banking.

These promotions are a testament to the dedication, innovation, and leadership that drive Country Bank forward. They underscore the significant impact that Melissa and Michael have had on their teams, colleagues, and the Bank, demonstrating their ability to inspire

### **NOROVIRUS** I from page 4

allergies, and everyday injuries, along with a comprehensive range of lab tests, x-rays, and occupational medicine services. Ranked #47 on the Entrepreneur Franchise 500, AFC is one

of the most admired brands in urgent care and franchising. For more information, visit AmericanFamilyCare.



### Professional - Reliable - Fully Insured

Tree Trimming and Removal Emergency Tree Work • Stump Grinding Crane Service • Firewood Delivery

> All Major Credit Cards Accepted 100% Financing Available

162 Sturbridge Road, Brimfield, MA 01010 508-641-5249 • office@robinsontreeservice.net www.robinsontreeservice.net









### Riverbend Laundry: a business dedicated to cleanliness and convenience

Correspondent

THREE RIVERS — A new business has opened its doors this past September in town: Riverbend Laundry.

Riverbend Laundry is a laundromat dedicated to providing a "much-needed service to our community while contributing to the revitalization of Main Street," according to owner Justin Dias.

Riverbend Landry's owner Justin Dias and his team have experience "operating apartments" which has "given us insight into the importance of providing quality amenities like laundry facilities." Along with this experience, his team and him did "extensive research on the laundromat industry," visited other successful local laundromats, and consulted with experts.

These necessary steps gave Dias and his team the knowledge and experience to open their own successful laundromat.

Dias believes that this laundromat was needed and necessary for the Three Rivers community, saying, "As local residents and property owners, we saw a real need for a clean, reliable laundromat in our community.'

This led him and his team to purchase a space, convert said space into a laundromat, and open Riverbend, to give the community its much needed laundromat.

With a goal to make "the laundromat as convenient and user-friendly as possible," Dias and his team implemented automation whenever possible, to create the most easily accessible environment possible. This goal manifested itself in a few features

that make Riverbend very easy to navigate.

A special aspect of Riverbend Laundry that you won't find anywhere else, is their laundry card system which, according to Dias, provides "seamless payments, eliminating the hassle of quarters." Customers can load money onto the card via cash, credit, debit, Apple Pay, or EBT.

Another cool feature unique to Riverbend is their Laundrycat app. This app is used to make the hassle of laundry a whole lot easier by allowing patrons to "pay for and start your laundry with just a tap of your phone."

Every wash is also sanitized using the Sanowash system which ensures "clothes are always fresh and clean." This gives each customer the guarantee of perfectly clean and sanitized clothing, a majorly important quality of a laundromat, displaying Riverbends commitment to its customers.

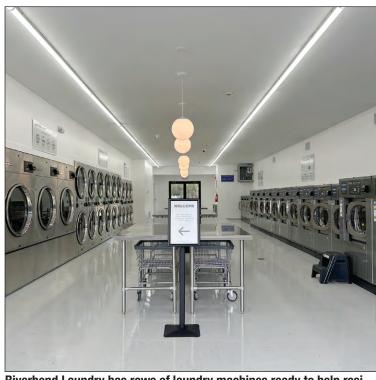
The community response to the business has been nothing but positive, many highlighting the clean and simple environment of Riverbend. One customer said that her "laundry is clean, sanitized and has that nice, fresh and clean laundry smell and I owe it all to Riverbend.'

Dias remarked that the community response "validated our belief in the need for a laundromat in this area" and they are "thrilled to provide a space that serves our neighbors while helping bring business back to the heart of Three Rivers."

The laundromat is located on 2024 Main Street in Three Rivers, Palmer and is open to the public from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. every single



Riverbend Laundry has opened a location at 2024 Main Street in Palmer.



Riverbend Laundry has rows of laundry machines ready to help residents wash their clothes.

### **DCR** I from page 10

ravel the quilt's past.

### **History of Rutland Prison Camp** Sunday, Feb. 16 from 2-3 p.m.

Fresh air, three home-cooked meals a day, comfortable sleeping quarters and a private hospital - sounds like a delightful retreat for a prison? Indeed, it was!

This presentation will tell the story of this surprisingly successful social experiment nestled within the Ware River Watershed.

### Microscopic world of the Quabbin Reservoir

Sunday, Feb. 23 from 2-3 p.m. What's in the water? Learn about

the microorganisms that live in the water, and how they can impact water quality.

sentation will cover phytoplankton and zooplankton found in the Quabbin Reservoir with a live microscope demo.

### Quabbin Reservoir and **Watershed Protection** Sunday, March 2 from 2-3 p.m.

Engineering, forestry, wildlife and aquatic biology, carpentry, mowing and snowplowing...how do all of these things combine to protect the water supply of over three million people in Massachusetts? How does they benefit the region around the reservoir?

This presentation from the Visitor Center staff explores how the many different goals of DCR staff all support one goal, Quabbin watershed protection.

### Boy Scout can and bottle drive

BELCHERTOWN- Belchertown Boy Scout Troop 507 is holding a can and bottle drive on Saturday, Jan. 25, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Pride Gas Station at the intersection of Rt. 21 and Rt 202,165 State St. Gather up all of those unwanted returnable bottles and cans from holiday gatherings and help support the Scouts in Belchertown. Returnable water bottles are also welcomed. The money raised goes toward Scouting right here in Belchertown. Bring them to the Pride station where the Scouts will be collecting them to raise money to help make their scouting experience more meaningful by helping to defray the cost of summer camp and other outdoor camping activities.





(413) 967-4545

Proudly serving Ware and its surrounding communities

**DOGS \* CATS \* RABBITS \* FERRETS AND NOW REPTILES!** 



