





SPORTS Mustangs take win over Pioneers

SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

The Journal Register

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PALMER

Steaming Tender discussed as potential site for passenger rail stop

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER - On Monday, a presentation was hosted at Steaming Tender Restaurant to discuss the location of the train stop for the East/ West passenger rail.

The presentation was held by Blake and Scarlet Lamothe and John McElduff, who discussed the benefits to using the restaurant as a train stop. An animated slideshow of photos, data, and potential designs was projected for the attendees to see, and as the presenters spoke, cargo trains passed behind them on the existing rails.

Blake Lamothe, owner of Steaming Tender, expressed his opinion that the Department of Transportation is "operating out of their jurisdiction on this line.'

"It's called compass rail for a reason; north, south, east, west," said Scarlet Lamothe. "However, MassDOT is ignoring the compass. They are ignoring the central corridor rail line that connects Brattleboro, VT, out to New London, CT."

At the previous meeting with the public, representatives from DOT expressed that Steaming Tender could not accommodate the high-level platforms required by current project designs. However, Lamothe proposed accommodations for a low-level platform that would more easily fit into the current site.

"We could have low-level platforms with a handicapped lift, those are the requirements on this line as it exists," Blake Lamothe said. "Or we could do a gauntlet track, which



Turley Publications photos by Marcelo Gusmão

Blake Lamothe advocated for Steaming Tender as the site for the train station for the upcoming East/West Passenger Rail stop.

has been done on many railroads, which supersedes the freight. Those are tracks that lay in a little bit, so that when the freight passes, it keeps it so the freight doesn't hit the abutment."

Lamothe was dismissive of concerns over the South Main Street bridge as an obstacle to construction, which he called a "false narrative."

"It can be done at our location," Lamothe said.

Blake's daughter, Scarlet, mentioned during her presentation that there's ample space for five They were not receiving any additracks beneath the bridge, and that the FRA had previously approved

The big concern of the community has been the distance from downtown. Scarlet Lamothe showed pictures of the stop installed in Windsor Locks, CT, which she compared to a bus stop.

"You can hop on and off," Lamothe said. "Engineering wise, it looks great on paper. Economic wise, not a smart move, and Connecticut is paying the price for it.

tional revenue from the train stop."

Lamothe emphasized that a small stop outside of town will not bring revenue to the town the way a train stop in a downtown location would. Attendees brought up the Department of Public Works site as one of the other proposed sites for the stop, and Lamothe mentioned a proposal to create a recreational facility there, in addition to using the historic site for the train stop.

RAIL | page 7



School Committee votes to partner with MASC for superintendent search

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – At last week's meeting, the School Committee discussed the search for a new superintendent, and reported on subcommittee meetings.

On Jan. 22, the committee held a discussion regarding the the search for a permanent superinten-

"We need to make sure that we're getting good applicants in," said Committee Chair Alison Morgan. "We want to make sure that the whole process is done fairly and equitably.

Committee Member Karen Nothe-Valley had mentioned the use of the Massachusetts Association of School Committees to aid with the search, which will cost the district upwards of \$12,000. Morgan said that the committee had some ability to shift things around within the school budget to fund the search.

"We obviously don't have a specific line item for something like this, this is an unexpected cost, so we'd have to be pulling that money from one of the open sources,"

Morgan said.

Interim Superintendent Roland Joyal said that, with an unexpected cost like this, the committee didn't have much of a choice. Morgan opened the discussion up to the rest of the committee.

'What we discussed last meeting was thorough enough for me to understand that using MASC will be the best move forward," said Committee Member Peter Wiggins.

Nothe-Valley agreed that, though she was confident the committee would do its due diligence to find the best fit for the district, that MASC has a pipeline that could ensure that the committee find a longterm match.

'Ultimately, we're the deciders," Nothe-Valley said. "We have the benefit of their expertise and their experience, and the creative tools that we would be able to have access to."

Murphy said an added benefit would be the ability to create focus groups stakeholders, making use of surveys that the MASC already has in place rather than trying to create them in time to make an appoint-

SCHOOL | page 5

COMMUNITY

Swin Night family fun. High School opens pool to

families and children with regular Swim Night

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER - Last Friday, the High School opened its pool to students from Old Mill Pond for one of its regular Swim Nights.

"The Swim Night is for students at Old Mill Pond and their families," said Kristine Camacho. "We try to offer them three or four times a year so students can come for free and swim for a couple of hours with their immediate fami-

Swim Nights are offered through the Parent Teacher Organization, and run from 6-8 p.m. Camacho said the school has been

opening the pool up for Swim Nights for a number of years.

"We started up again after COVID for the last two years, and I know they were doing it prior," Camacho said.

The school works with staff from the school district to hire lifeguards, all of whom are high school students with the proper certifica-

"I know they offered a lifeguard course to students this year, so we were able to get new lifeguards through that process," Camacho said. "One student that was there had previously gotten her lifeguard certification, and all the lifeguards

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Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão

DISTRICT NEWS FROM PATHFINDER'S SUPERINTENDENT:

Remembering Dr. Gerald L. Paist

By Eric Duda Guest Column

REGION - It is with sadness that I share the news of the passing of our longtime superintendent, Dr. Gerald L. Paist, who passed away Friday evening.

Dr. Paist served as superintendent of Pathfinder Tech from shortly after the school opened in 1973 until 2021, when I had the honor of taking over the role. Throughout his



tenure, countless changes unfolded locally, regionally, and nationally, and Dr. Paist's leadership was pivotal in navigating these challenges and ensuring our school remained a strong and thriving institution.

I was fortunate to have had Dr. Paist as my superintendent when I was a student here in the late '90s, and he even handed me my diploma at graduation. Over the years, I developed a close relationship with him, and I appreciated all he did for students, our school, and our com-

In 2006, Dr. Paist hired me as

DR. PAIST | page 5

COMMUNITY

Tailgate Tavern to hold annual Soup Cook-Off fundraiser this weekend

Isabelle, Dylan, and Tucker took off their goggles as they emerged from the pool.

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER - This weekend, Tailgate Tavern will be holding its annual Soup Cook-Off fundraiser, with the money raised going to Light Up Palmer.

"As of right now, providing everybody shows up, we've got 30 soups," announced Shelley Casey. "We charge people \$5 to sample them, and give each person three cards to vote on their top three soups. There are prizes

for first, second, and third place." The fundraiser also involves

a raffle of baskets put together by Casey and donated by local businesses. There will also be a door

"It's a fun day," Casey said. "It's always very crowded, we really could use a whole 'nother wing to the building, but people enjoy it."

While the event originally raised money for cancer research, Casey has since decided to keep the funds local by donating to Light Up Palmer.

"Light Up Palmer is wonderful," Casey said. "We started working with them when they were doing the Purple Heart Banners. My dad is a veteran, so that was a cool thing to get involved with. They're a great group of people and they work really

Chris Smith of Light Up Palmer said that the event is put on entirely by the tavern, and the organization is very grateful for the fundraiser, which will support

SOUP page 5

MONSON

Planning **Board** approves site plan for expanded fire station

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON - At last week's Planning Board meeting, the town voted to approve the site plan for improvements to the Fire Station, with conditions requiring approval through the Conservation Commission and a Special Permit for the Water Supply Protection District.

The Jan. 21 meeting began with a public hearing for site plan approval for improvements to the Fire Station. Planning Board Member Craig Sweitzer read the legal notice as published.

"The applicant proposes to enlarge the existing building and perform necessary site work to optimize the area by improving traffic flow which will ensure staff and pedestrian safety," Sweitzer read. "The property is in the central commercial district at 200 Main Street, and owned by the town. A copy of the applicant is on file in the office of the Town Clerk, Planning Board office, and is available for viewing during normal office hours."

Brian Phillips of Langan Engineering presented the project on behalf of the Fire Department.

"What we're showing on this plan are two proposed additions on

PLANNING | page 5



JACK O'MALLEY

This is Jack O'Malley a wonderful rescue from Palmer. 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.

Be safe on the ice this winter

REGION - How thick is safe ice? Ice on moving waters in rivers, streams and brooks is generally not safe.

The thickness of ice on ponds depends on factors such as water currents, depth and natural objects like stumps or rocks. Daily changes in temperature can cause ice to expand and contract, which affects

Because of these factors, no one can declare the ice to be safe. The only safe ice is at a skating rink. A message from fire and life safety educators of Wilbraham and Hampden.

Tax bills due Feb. 3

PALMER-The Palmer Town Collector would like to remind all taxpayers of the following:

Fiscal Year 2025 3rd quarter real estate and personal property tax bills are due and payable by February

The Tax Collector's office is accepting credit and debit card payments for property taxes either on the town website at www.townofpalmer.com or at the tax office. There is a sliding scale fee for each bill paid which is passed on to the taxpayer. The fee structure can be viewed on the town website.

If you are making on-line payments through your bank (EFT's), please set it up to have the check mailed directly to our office, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Do not use the Woburn lockbox address for this type of payment as no bill is included for processing.

Please call the Collector's office at (413) 283-2601 with any questions pertaining to tax payments. Office hours: Monday 8:30 a.m.-7 p.m., Tuesday - Thurs. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., Friday – closed.

M-Pact annual Meeting to be held Feb. 10

PALMER/MONSON — The public is invited to attend the annual meeting of Municipal Public Access Cable Television on Monday, Feb. 10 at 5 p.m.

All residents of Monson and Palmer are eligible to be members of the M-Pact Corporation. Membership is for one year, renewable annually.

Members elect the Board of M-Pact and only members are eligible for nomination to the Board of Directors. Two Directors, both from Palmer will be elected for three-year terms.

Please join us and add your ideas and energy to make our local Public Access Cable Station even more involved in the communities of Monson and Palmer.

For more information, please call 413-283-7373.

Donate blood at **Baystate Wing** Hospital

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

Additionally, blood drives will be held every other month on Wednesday throughout the year in 2025, on April 16, June 11, Aug. 13, Oct. 15, and Dec. 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.

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 handson workshops led by expert craftspeople. Beginners are

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 objects to add.

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, stepby-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 tile.

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.

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.



Flu shot available!

Wednesday February 5, 2025 11 am - 3 pm

journalregister.turley.com

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

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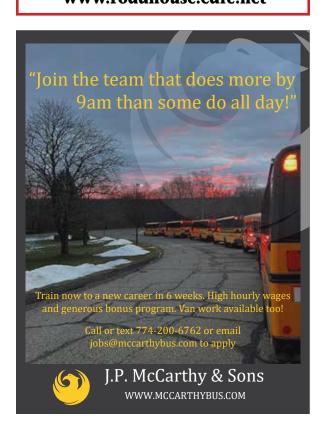




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The Journal Register

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of

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.

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.

Scantic River Artisans Exhibit 2025

HAMPDEN—Join us for a celebration of creativity and inspiration.

Scantic River Artisans will be holding a Big Art Show and Sale from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8 and 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 9. There will be a reception held on Sunday, Feb. 9 from noon to 2 p.m.

The event will be held at the Hampden Senior Center at 104 Allen Street.

Experience an enchanting showcase of breathtaking artworks created by talented local artists. From stunning paintings to captivating sculptures, there is something for every art lover to admire.

The event is being sponsored by Affordable Waste Solutions and Blick Art Materials.

Please email info@scanticriverartisans.com for more information or check out the website at www. scanticriverartisans.com.

Veterans eat lunch free at Ware Senior Center

WARE - Now through May 31, 2025, veterans of the U.S. armed services can enjoy a homemade lunch for free at the Ware Senior Center, 1 Robbins

This meals are provided by the generosity of former Ware Selectboard member John Morrin, the Ware Veteran Fund and the Ware Veterans Carnival.

For veterans to take advantage of this offer they must call the Ware Senior Center 413-967-9645 by noon the business day before they wish to come for lunch and place their name on the list. Meals are served daily, Monday through Friday from 11:30

Menus and more information are available on the Council on Aging page of townofware.com or by stopping by the Ware Senior Center, I Robbins

Road, Monday through Friday from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

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.



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QHMA invites public to Bingo Night fundraiser Mar. 21

PALMER - The Quaboag Hills than originally planned." Chamber of Commerce, the non-profit organization that promotes business and development within surrounding communities of Hampden, Hampshire, and Worcester counties, has announced its Handbag & Hand Tool Bingo Night fundraiser.

The event will take place on Friday, March 21 at AMVETS Post 74 in Three Rivers. The Chamber will produce 10 exciting bingo rounds, each with a grand prize featuring one of seven designer handbags or one of three premium tools up for grabs.

"The Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce is thrilled to provide a fun filled and inclusive night out for all, while highlighting local businesses who sponsor the grand prizes," said James Przypek, Chief Executive Officer for the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce. "The Chamber was poised to launch its first bingo event in 2020 until COVID related gathering restrictions caused the Chamber to postpone its plans, which has given us a chance to regroup and put together an even bigger and better event

Tickets can be purchased on QHMA. com. The registration fee is \$40 per person and includes 10 bingo cards, bingo dauber, delicious snack platters, bonus raffle ticket and a cash bar.

Proceeds from the bingo event will benefit the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce and its on-going mission to assist its more than two-hundred member businesses succeed and grow with programs and initiatives throughout the year.

About the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce

Established in 1978 and headquartered in Palmer, the Quaboag Hills Chamber of Commerce's purpose is to advance economic growth, interests and tourism for our members through policies, programs and development in the Quaboag Hills region, including the 15 towns of Belchertown, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, Hardwick, Holland, Monson, New Braintree, North Brookfield, Palmer, Spencer, Wales, Ware, Warren and West Brookfield.

Over a Year in the Shelter, Beba is Still Waiting for Her Second Chance

EAST BROOKFIELD - Second Chance Animal Services is calling on the community to help find a forever home for Beba, a 3-year-old American Staffordshire Terrier mix who has been waiting for more than a year.

Beba came to Second Chance after her family faced financial and housing challenges that made it impossible for them to continue caring for her, despite their love for her. Despite her long wait, the staff and volunteers at Second Chance have never given up on her, and they're hopeful that the right family is out there, ready to give Beba the second chance she deserves.

Beba is a playful and adventurous dog who loves exploring the outdoors, going for walks, and riding in the car. She's happiest when she's with people and thrives on human companionship.

While she previously lived with other pets, Beba would do best as the only pet in her new home, where she can soak up all the attention. Her ideal family is one that's active, patient, and ready to embrace her energetic personality.

Although shelter life has been challenging, Beba has shown her resilience and spirit. Volunteers say she's fantastic on leash and highly responsive to commands. She loves durable toys and enjoys structured activities that keep her mind engaged.

To help her adjust to life outside



Over a year of waiting hasn't dimmed Beba's hope for a forever home.

the shelter, Second Chance offers training support and resources to her future

BEBA I page 6

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This group will be held in zoom, is

educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

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Palmer Senior Center

Center, 1029 Central St., has many activities for seniors Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information or to reserve a meal please call 413-283-2670.

Special events February:

Monday, Feb. 3-10:30 Therapy dog Wednesday, Feb. 5-1 p.m. Wii Bowling Thursday, Feb. 6-10 a.m. Tai Chi Friday, Feb. 7-10 a.m. Writing group

* new activity all welcome, 12:30 p.m. Movie "The Fall Guy" Monday, Feb. 10-12:30 p.m.- Let's learn watercolor

painting together Tuesday, Feb. 11-Noon- Lunch Bunch- Russo's Lakeside

and seafood restaurant Wednesday, Feb. 12-1 p.m. Cards with Marlene Thursday, Feb. 13-1 p.m. Sunshine village craft Friday, Feb. 14-1-3 p.m. Brown bag pick-up Monday, Feb. 17-Closed for President's Day Wednesday, Feb. 18-1 p.m. Wii Bowling

Thursday, Feb. 20-10 a.m. Tai Chi, 11 a.m.- 1p.m. Memory Café sing a long Friday, Feb. 21-12:30 p.m. movie "Touch" Monday, Feb. 24-10:30 a.m. Marathon Bingo Wednesday, Feb. 26-

12:30 p.m. Velvet coloring Thursday, Feb. 27-1 p.m. Sunshine Village paint

MENU

Breakfast is served every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:15 a.m. and is \$3. Lunch is served every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon and a suggested donation is \$2. Please call before 10 a.m. the day before to reserve a meal at 413-283-2670.

PALMER— The Palmer Senior Individuals must sign up for breakfast, otherwise a meal will not be ordered for them.

> Monday, Feb. 3- Pierogis, sauteed cabbage, parslied carrots, 12 grain bread and cookies

Tuesday, Feb. 4- Ham and Cheese

Wednesday, Feb. 5- Mediterranean turkey, marinated cucumber salad, couscous, oatnut bread and warmed applesauce.

Thursday, Feb. 6-Waffle and sau-

Friday, Feb. 7- Potato pollock filet, coleslaw, steamed corn, WW bread and Jello with topping

Monday, Feb. 10- Turkey with Dijon sauce, steamed spinach, roasted red potatoes, WW bread and mixed fruit Tuesday, Feb. 11- Ham and cheese

croissant Wednesday, Feb. 12- Shrimp scampi, tossed salad with Italian dress-

ing, spaghetti noodles, garlic bread and Thursday, Feb. 13- Egg, sausage

and cheese croissant

Friday, Feb. 14- Chicken cordon bleu, parslied carrots, garlic mashed potatoes, wheat dinner roll and chocolate dessert.

Monday, Feb. 17- Closed for President's Day

Tuesday, Feb. 18- Chef's choice Wednesday, Feb. 19- Turkey with gravy, steamed peas, mashed potatoes, cranberry snack loaf, birthday cake

Thursday, Feb. 20- Chef's choice Friday, Feb. 21- Hot dog with bun, potato salad, baked beans and Monday, Feb. 24- Ham and swiss,

minestrone soup, pickled beets, club roll and chilled applesauce Tuesday, Feb. 25- Egg, sausage

and cheese croissant Wednesday, Feb. 26- Turkey Chili, green beans, baked potato, cornbread muffin and cookie

Thursday, Feb. 27-Egg, bacon, and cheese croissant

Friday, Feb. 28- Chicken parmesan, tossed salad with Italian, penne with sauce, garlic toast and Jello with

DCR offers February vacation program on tracks and scat

BELCHERTOWN - The Depart- indoor activity. ment of Conservation and Recreation "Tracks and Scat" on Monday, Feb. 17 from 10-11 a.m.

Although we may not see them often, our native wildlife is all around us. Come learn to recognize some signs of wildlife through a fun and informative

Meet at the Les and Terry Campwill host a February Vacation Program bell Quabbin Visitor Center in Belchertown. Great for all ages, children must be accompanied by an adult.

For more information, call 413-323 - 7221. To register visit https://app. smartsheet.com/b/form/250b6dcbeefc-4f30a4da5b0f86abc4f3.



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Viewpoints |



Reader seeks clarification of **Medicare IRMAA** and MAGI

Dear Rusty:

I am confused by an article in my local newspaper which said that Modified Adjusted Gross Income, on which my Medicare Part B premium is based, is my Adjusted Gross Income, plus any non-taxable interest, plus 50% of the social security I received.

The part that is confusing is the 50% part. When I look at my tax return my Adjusted Gross Income includes the taxable portion of my Social Security benefit which, in my case, is 85% of my total benefits. Why must 50% of benefits be added to my AGI if it is already included in my total AGI?

Signed: Confused

Dear Confused:

The article you refer to was misleading for stating that the Modified Adjusted Gross Income used to determine your Medicare premiums includes your normal Adjusted Gross Income from your income tax return, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. What the article should have said was that the MAGI, which determines your Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount to your Medicare premiums consists of your normal AGI from your tax return, which includes the taxable portion of your Social Security benefits, plus any non-taxable interest you may

For additional clarity, the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount is a supplemental amount added to the standard Medicare premium for those with higher incomes. The thresholds at which the IRMAA supplements apply depend on your IRS filing status, and your MAGI determines the amount of supplement which will be added to the standard Medicare

Single filers with MAGI over \$103,000 or married filers with MAGI over \$206,000 will see an IRMAA supplement added to their Medicare premium. Those whose MAGI is under the first IRMAA threshold pay the standard Medicare premium, but those whose MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold above will pay more.

How much more depends on how much their MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold by. The IRMAA supplement (the additional premium amount) could be anywhere from \$69,90 to \$419,30 per month for Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient services) or an additional \$12.90 to \$81.00 per month to the Medicare Part D (prescription drug plan) premium - again dependent on how much over the initial MAGI threshold the person is for their IRS filing status. You can see the MAGI levels and corresponding IRMAA supplements by visiting this Medicare website at www.cms.gov/ newsroom/fact-sheets/2024-medicare-parts-bpremiums-and-deductibles.

IRMAA and MAGI can be confusing. If people have questions about their Medicare premiums, help is available by emailing SSadvisor@amacfoundation.org or calling 1-888-750-2622.

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.

Calendar of Events



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



Creating a "wow" factor at home

work trying to come up with new and exciting garden ideas for the entrance areas of Old Sturbridge Village.

It's a job I've done for decades now, and maybe I take for granted how cool it is to work for a place that many people visit each year. I want to give visitors something to rave about with my color combinations and plant selections!

Read on, straight from the archives, to bring some of this "wow factor" attitude home to your own land-

scape. How often have you visited an outdoor museum, a m u s e m e n t park or resort and felt inspired the gardens container plantings used

to adorn the property? Chances are you may have even used an especially delightful display as a backdrop for a family photo or two.

Tourist attractions such as these put "their best foot forward" each season of the year to awe their customers with spectacular combinations of unique plants, so that no matter when the visit is planned, the guest leaves with the feeling something special was done in their

We can treat our home gardens in a similar fashion. Why not? Certainly we deserve to have exceptional plantings, for our own enjoyment and for the compliments they will elicit from our friends.

So instead of utilizing border plantings that provide only glimpses of color in the spring, summer and fall, devote entire beds to the showiest plants available for the time of year and change them with the seasons.

These types of gardens don't have to be very large, but they do have to be situated for optimal effect. Think "location, location, location!"

If you have a long driveway, consider placing a "welcome garden" just as you turn down the path. Since it will

Week in

History Feb. 2

Nelson Mandela (left),

pictured with then-wife,

Winnie Madikizela-Man-

dela, was released from

This Week in History

back through history at

prison on Feb. 2, 1990.

REGION - A look

the momentous anniversaries this

author Edgar Allan Poe published The

Raven in the New York Mirror, which

went on to become one of the best-

known poems in American literature.

Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated.

provocateur Guy Fawkes, one of the

Gunpowder Plot conspirators who

sought to blow up Parliament and as-

sassinate King James I for his repres-

sion of Roman Catholics, was execut-

ing to Earth from an orbital mission,

On Feb. 1, in 2003, while return-

ed in London.

On Jan. 29, in 1845, American

On Jan. 30, in 1948, Indian leader

On Jan. 31, in 1606, British

This past week I've been hard at be viewed from a distance, and from a single vantage point, make the bed more wide than narrow, and raise the height of the soil in the back of the bed a bit for a multidimensional appearance.

colors, and strong foliage forms- these will capture the eye en route.

Which door do you or guests normally use to enter and exit the house? Plant a small garden nearby, one that can be admired up close, each time you pass by it.

foliage shapes

and color schemes.

Don't be afraid to use delicate or small flowers, or those that are mottled or two-tone. Likewise, variegated and cut-leaf foliage can make for interesting inspection if properly paired with surrounding plants.

Similar beds or container plantings can be planned for patio or pool-side, or for other areas within the landscape that might be suitable for entertaining. Simply tailor the gardens to the timeframe in which these locations are used most often, and choose your plants accordingly.

Next week we will get into the "nitty-gritty" of each of the three seasons: spring, summer and fall, and how to capture the essence of each in your plantings. You too can have museum quality dens within your home landscape

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.

the U.S. space shuttle Columbia broke

up at an altitude of about 40 miles over

Texas, killing all seven crew members

President F.W. de Klerk lifted the 30-

year ban on the African National Con-

gress, resulting in the release of Nel-

son Mandela from prison and marking

the beginning of the end of apartheid.

Amendment to the Constitution of the

United States was ratified, guarantee-

ing the right to vote regardless of race.

Shays's Rebellion, an uprising in

western Massachusetts in opposition

to high taxes and stringent econom-

ic conditions, was defeated by the

Springfield militia.

On Feb. 3, in 1870, the Fifteenth

Finally, on Feb. 4, in 1787,

On Feb. 2, in 1990, South African

Utilize large, bold flowers, bright

Here, the intricacies of color and form can be fully appreciated, whereas in the garden out front they would be lost. Experiment with a variety of flower and



Bald eagle

received an email from a Hampden resident on Dec. tree for a while, then swooped over my house to the eagle in my yard."

a thrill to see an eagle.

The bald eagle is a large 31 inch long dark bird with a white head and white tail. Immature eagles have dark feathers with white mottling on the wings and tail and variable amounts of white on the belly. They keep their immature plumage for four years.

Eagles congregate at feeding areas in late winter and early spring. They inhabit coasts, lakes and large rivers. The eagle has a repeated piercing scream given between a pair and a rapid series of chirps given at the nest. Eagle populations are recovering rom series declines due to the use of DDT, which caused thinning of their egg shells.

A North Brookfield resident had half a dozen blue-

The same Hampden resident with the bluebirds said in Dec. 5 email a great blue heron "has been visiting my fish pond early mornings and late afternoons for the past couple of weeks. It has consumed over 20 goldfish in the three foot deep pond."

A reader some time ago had a bird with a lot of yellow. She identified it as a pine warbler. She said she never had a pine warbler come to her nugget feeder before and she has lived there for 40 years. She also included a photo of a mocking bird sipping sap from a maple tree after the yellow multiple holes in the bark.

Rescue of iced in loons

The Loon Preservation Committee reported, "On Dec. 14, [they] responded to a report from Weare Reservoir (aka Horace Lake) in Weare, New Hampshire. As the reservoir froze, a juvenile loon became trapped in a small (15 foot diameter) hole of open water. Fortunately, the opening was not far from shore and LPC Senior Biologist, John Cooley, was able to make his way out across the newly-formed ice to capture it. LPC staff then evaluated the loon, taking blood and x-rays. No problems were detected, and the loon was released onto the ocean that afternoon." The loon received two bands per leg in a unique color combination that will enable us to identify it if it returns to a New Hampshire

The LPC also reported, "That same night [Dec.

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

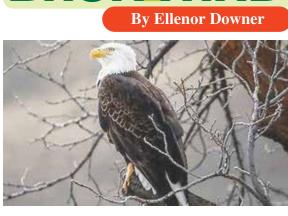
NEWS & FEATURES

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

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

A **TURLEY** PUBLICATION





6. She reported a bald eagle perched in tree in her ▲ backyard. She said, "The adult bald eagle sat in the north. This was the first time I had a sighting of a bald

I saw an adult bald eagle perched in a tree by a field along Route 67 in New Braintree on Jan. 17. It is always

Eagles eat mostly fish and birds. They also will eat carrion and some mammals like rabbits. The female lays one to three bluish white eggs in a massive platform nest of sticks and vegetation lined with moss and grasses. These nests are placed on cliff ledge or in the fork of a tree.

Bluebirds

birds at his feeder on Jan. 9. Another Hampden resident reported the bluebirds were back in a Jan. 17 email. He said, "He puts out a container of warm water every morning and puts a scoop of critter food on the ground every morning.' Great blue heron

Pine warbler

lake in the future.

14], we received a call from volunteers on Franklin Pierce Lake. There, too, a juvenile loon was icing-in and with cold temperatures predicted overnight, its situation was not likely to improve. On Dec. 15, LPC staff headed to the lake. The loon was much further from shore than the loon on Weare Reservoir had been, but the ice was solid and we were able to capture the loon. The loon was given a physical examination on site and no obvious problems were detected. Because it was late in the day and we wanted to make sure the loon had plenty of daylight to explore and get acquainted with its new surroundings, we opted to have the loon stay overnight with wildlife rehabilitator Maria Colby of Wings Wildlife Rehabilitation Center. We banded it and released it onto the ocean at Odiorne Point the following morning."

Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.



EDITORIAL



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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 numbe 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 endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call the

editor at 413-283-8393.

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

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

DR. PAIST I from page 1

a teacher, and 18 years later, I still reflect on his guidance and support throughout my journey. He also played a key role in my development as a leader.

As I advanced through roles as Vocational Director, Cooperative Education Director, and later as Assistant Superintendent and Principal, Dr. Paist mentored me and helped me grow as a leader. He encouraged me to pursue graduate studies and leadership training opportunities, always offering his wisdom and guidance along the way.

As an administrator for more than a decade, including as his Assistant Superintendent, I had the privilege of working side-byside with him for many years before his retirement. Together, we navigated many town meetings and worked through political and economic challenges, always ensuring the school's budget was approved and our students received the resources they needed. The lessons I learned from Dr. Paist in leadership, school finance, and relationship-building continue to guide my work today.

For many of you on staff, I'm sure you have your own memories and stories of Dr. Paist. Although he slowed down in his final years, he remained a steadfast and dedicated leader for decades, overseeing Pathfinder Tech through significant growth.

When he began his tenure, our district included just four towns; by the end of his career, it had grown to nine. Under his leadership, Pathfinder Tech underwent a building expansion in the late 1980s that we now know as the Math Wing and West Wing, which enabled enrollment to double in the late 1980s. Prior to these expansions, many of our technical programs were housed in rented spaces across multiple towns.

Dr. Paist was also deeply involved in many local, state, and national organizations, and I was fortunate to observe his leadership



Dr. Gerald L. Paist

beyond the walls of our school. Through him, I learned invaluable lessons about the political process, school funding, and the importance of relationships with local

Dr. Paist had a unique sense of humor that those who knew him well truly appreciated. He had a quiet, dry wit that could catch you off guard, often followed by a thoughtful pause before delivering a response. He would say things that, at first, might seem simple or even puzzling, but if you understood his style, they would always make you smile.

A few of his signature sayings that I'll always remember include, "I have this to say about that" and "Tis a puzzlement." Of course, each of these would be followed by wisdom and guidance. His humor was one of the many qualities that made him so memorable.

I also remember him telling me many stories about his past, his love for music, the shows and performances he had seen, and many other experiences from his life. Some of these stories were shared when we went out for breakfast or lunch together at our local restaurants, moments I always cher-

I also remember him reflecting on challenging times and telling me stories about events from his past.

One story that stood out to me was when he shared where he was when he heard that JFK was assassinated. He told me he was getting off the Massachusetts Turnpike at the Palmer exit and remembered sitting at the tollbooth when the toll collector asked him, "Is the president still alive?"

The toll collector had assumed he was listening to his car radio - long before cell phones and other methods of communication. He said he started crying as he spoke to the toll collector. He told me that he had never felt the same way again after that day, until Sept. 11. On 9/11, he said he felt that same profound sense of loss and shock, and he cried again.

He also shared many other significant memories from his personal experiences throughout history. There are so many things I reflect on from what I heard him share that had a profound effect on

Dr. Paist's nearly 50-year career as a superintendent is impossible to fully summarize. What I can say is this: he devoted his entire life to Pathfinder Tech and made it his mission to serve this school community. He didn't view his role as just a job; it was a calling, and we were incredibly fortunate to have him for so many

I have lost a friend, a mentor, and a guiding light in my career, and we, as a school district, have lost someone whose legacy will continue to shape us for years to

In his final years, Dr. Paist lived in an assisted living facility in Pennsylvania, near his only living relative, Susan Hubbell-Whyte. My thoughts and prayers are with her during this difficult time, and I would like to express my gratitude to her for being by his side in his

Please join me in keeping Dr. Paist's memory alive as we honor the incredible impact he had on Pathfinder Tech and on all of us.

PLANNING I from page 1

the north and south side of the building, with some associated parking improvements, driveway, sidewalks, utility infrastructure as well," Phillips said. "We are adjacent to Chicopee Brook and there are a few things on this plan I want to note; we did have the limits of the riverfront area and those associated riverfront areas, the 100 foot and the 200-foot riverfront

Phillips said the project is in the process of securing the necessary permits with the Conservation Commission.

"Currently there is a drive which traverses around the existing station, that will be mostly maintained," Phillips said. "There are some parking spaces in the front currently existing and some paved areas in the rear. We will be consolidating and simplifying the vehicular and pedestrian movement throughout the site."

Phillips described this consolidation, including installing a new concrete sidewalk around the building's main entrance. as well as associated parking including two spaces for accessibility, and additional parking in the rear.

"This proposed addition upfront is mostly office-type spaces," Phillips said.

The site plans provided to the board included a selection of diagrams depicting turning movements for fire trucks and larger vehicles, to confirm that the large vehicles that service the department will be able to comfortably turn under the proposed design.

Phillips also noted that the project doesn ot propose any additional encroachments toward the brook.

'We're holding approximately the existing limit of development and not encroaching any further into the brook," Phillips said. "We are, as a part of our conservation application, proposing some enhancements to the riverfront area."

The proposal also included a plan for grading and drainage to outline how the site will handle stormwater.

"Everything flows either overland directly to the brook, or is captured in a pipe culvert," Phillips said, "which then discharges directly into the brook."

Phillips compared this to the existing conditions, which he said has "no stormwater quality infrastructure."

"The stormwater is just sheet-flowing, untreated, to the brook," Phillips said. "We are proposing significant improvements, from a stormwater quality perspective."

Phillips said that the proposal maintains the site grades, without many cuts or fills proposed. He said that the site accommodates for the new buildings, and will be more or less within the same elevations as it currently has.

The project will also require a Special Permit for a Water Supply Protection District, which will be discussed at the next Planning Board meeting.

The board voted unanimously to approve the site plan, contingent on the Special Permit and Conservation Commission approval.

SOUP I from page 1

the various community events and decorations the group puts on every year.

"This weekend, we have another sponsor, and it's Tailgate," said Smith. "They're helping us out again so we can keep going with our Purple Heart program, our holiday community celebrations, and refurbish the decorations. None of that would be possible without people like Tailgate helping us out, along with our other dedicated sponsors."

Smith said the group has a lot of work ahead of it this year, as the harsh winter damaged many of the electronic decorations. Light Up Palmer is currently refurbishing and replacing the Purple Heart banners that have been damaged by the

"I believe 2021 was the first year that we did the Purple Heart banners, and we now have 65 individuals that we recognize in that program," Smith said. "The Purple Heart recognition on Main Street adds to the definition of Palmer as a PH town."

Smith said that Light Up Palmer has received criticism for the way it recognizes the Purple Heart veterans, but that the method was decided so as not to overlap with American Legion's brick program.

"It's not that we're trying to place recognition only on Purple Heart veterans," Smith said. "It adds to our downtown, it makes us kind of unique to honor both Purple Heart and all veterans, and we don't have to do the same thing every other town does.'

The group will start dressing up Main Street for Memorial Day, with banners and flags and flowers to spruce up the downtown area. Smith said that repairs to the decorations will begin sometime in the summer.

Though Light Up Palmer are the primary beneficiaries, Smith emphasized that the whole town is invited to join in on the fun.

"The boss brings in a generator," Casey said. "We tripped the breakers when we had 15 entries; now that we have double, we have to run a gen-

Casey added that Mike Wadas will, once again, be in charge of calling out raffle numbers, "because he has the loudest vocals."

The annual soup and chili competition will be held this Saturday, Feb. 1, at Tailgate Tavern at 1012 Central Street. Spoons fly at 1 p.m.

SCHOOL I from page 1

ment before the next academic year.

The committee voted unanimously to approve the motion to contact MASC for the superintendent search.

Subcommittee reports

Nothe-Valley said that the subcommittee had two agenda items when it last met on Jan. 16.

"One was just the fiscal year '26 budget updates," said Nothe-Valley. "Everybody has been pretty well-informed through Tri-Board and the prior subcommittee meetings, so we kind of just talked over the next steps that the administration is taking, and so forth."

Nothe-Valley said the other item was a general discussion about using MASC monies for the superintendent search. Murphy then went over the policy subcommittee's agenda, starting with the school's policy on crowdfunding.

"We are looking to look at our current policy for crowdfunding," Murphy said. "We're looking to actually revamp that a bit, creating a form for crowdfunding to open for a policy for the school, so we will prep that for our next policy subcommittee meeting and then move it on to first read."

Morgan asked if the policy would delineate the use of crowdfunding for expensive purchases from teachers soliciting donations of smaller classroom supplies, and Murphy said there would be, and the subcommittee is discussing best practices. "As long as there's a way that it's clear," Morgan said, "I

don't want the staff to be nervous about asking for donations without filling out the form or whatever." Murphy said that the subcommittee also revisited the therapy dog policy and is awaiting finalization from the attorney before it

proceeds at the next meeting. "Then, the graduation requirement for MCAS," Murphy said. "We have created Monson High School graduation requirements, so that will go to first read for next meeting."

Morgan then reported on the curriculum subcommittee that met earlier that day, and explained that there have been some delays due to differing expectations from teachers at different grade

levels. "Some of the high school teachers may teach the same class multiple times a day, so there's less for them to plan," Morgan said, "as opposed to other teachers who might teach four to five different classes throught the day. Obviously, it's going to take those staff much much longer to come up with the curriculum mapping for that course."

Morgan said the curriculum maps will be posted publicly, and that the subcommittee discussed releasing the grades separately when they're completed, rather than waiting for the entire

Morgan talked about curriculum software, including a survey sent out by Director of Curriculum and Instruction Katherine Watts to determine what software is being utilized and what should be phased out.

"Also, she's going to look at the user reports to see if we have any overlap in any of the programs," Morgan added. "Maybe some aren't being used as much but others are, and if they have similar capabilities, maybe we can look at phasing out one but getting more staff on the board for another.'

Lastly, Morgan reported on frameworks for the implementation process of comprehensive health and physical education.

Right now, the subcommittee is looking at the 9th through 12th standards," Morgan said. "Literally line by line, (Watts and the health teachers have) delineated what they're already teaching in regards to those frameworks, what they think we should be implementing going forward, and what grades we think we should be implementing.'

Morgan said there were several items that the committee had more questions about, and that Watts will take their questions back to the health teachers for clarification. Once the 9-12 grades' frameworks are ready to present to the full committee for discussion, the subcommittee will move on to the next few grades.

The School Committee will have its next meeting on Feb. 4.



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CAMPUS

NOTES

URI names area students to Fall 2024 Dean's List

KINGSTON – The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that several area students have been named to its Fall 2024 Dean's List.

Among them are:
Leanna Craven of Monson
Mary Godek of Wales
Morgan Kowal of Monson
Caitlin Lebel of Three Rivers
Lizzy Maxfield of Brimfield
Evan Murray of Palmer
Aniah Myrie of Monson
Makena Pentoney of Holland
Vanessa Ricci of Brimfield
Miranda Sandoval of Palmer

To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades, which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.30 quality point average.

SNHU Announces Fall 2024 Dean's List

MANCHESTER – It is with great pleasure that Southern New Hampshire University congratulates the following students on being named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List.

The fall terms run from September to Decem-

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to 3.699 for the reporting term are named to the Dean's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

Matthew Brotherton of Three Rivers Sydnie DeVries of Monson Emma Keith of Brimfield Diomar Vanessa Canas Medina Noel Melnick of Thorndike Joice Ortiz of Monson Josslyn Seals of Bondsville Brenna Severin of Monson Rielle Wynn of Palmer

Local students earn Dean's List recognition at Norwich University

NORTHFIELD – The following students from your readership area have been recognized on the Dean's List at Norwich University for the Fall 2024 semester:

Scott Kustra, Monson Madison Bonneau, Monson William Burke, Palmer

Full-time undergraduate students, who earned a semester grade point average of at least 3.40 are awarded Dean's List honors.

Stonehill College dean's list

EASTON— Stonehill College proudly recognizes the students named to the fall 2024 dean's list. To qualify for this recognition, students must achieve a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better. They must also have successfully completed all courses for which they were registered during the term.

Allison Moloney of Brimfield and Jordan Big-

East Stroudsburg University's fall 2024 dean's list

EAST STROUDSBURG, PA — A total of 1,771 students have been named to the dean's list at East Stroudsburg University for the fall 2024 semester of the 2024-2025 academic year, as announced by Margaret Ball D.M.A., the university's provost and vice president for academic affairs. Robert Burke, a Business Management major from Palmer, was among those named to the dean's list.

Dean's list fall 2024 Nichols College

DUDLEY, MA— **Julia Fearing** of Brimfield, has achieved dean's list honors for the fall 2024 semester at Nichols College.

President's list honors at Nichols College for fall

DUDLEY—Nichols College is proud to recognize the academic accomplishments of students on the fall 2024 president's list.

The following local students have achieved president's list honors:

Michael Bachand of Three Rivers, Lydia Julian of Holland Michael Peloza of Brimfield Karissa Wood of Three Rivers

AIC dean's list fall 2024

SPRINGFIELD— American International College in Springfield is proud to announce that 473 students have earned a place on the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester. These full-time students have attained GPAs ranging from 3.3 to 4.0. AIC applauds the dedication and achievements of these enterprising students

Jason Angelica of Monson, majoring in Nurs-

Ryan Nodell of Monson, majoring in Exercise

Byron Peabody of Bondsville, majoring in Ex-

Mariah Thomas of Palmer, majoring in Nurs-

Tanner Wenzel of Palmer, majoring in Nursing Morgan Wesson of Monson, majoring in Ac-

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THE DIAGNOSIS

Hosted by the Alzheimer's Association New England Chapters: CT, MA/NH, ME, RI, VT

Designed for individuals living with early-stage dementia and their care partners.

https://www.alz.org/manh/events/ living-well-after-the-diagnosis





PRESENTATIONS

9:30 - 10:30 AM
Opening Remarks & Keynote, Living Well: Panel of Individuals Living with Dementia; Presented by Meghan Lemay, MS, and Panelists
This session will highlight what it is like to live with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia.
Panelists will discuss coping with the diagnosis and combating the stigma associated with the disease. They will also talk about the importance of disease education, social engagement, and having a voice in your own care.

10:30 - 10:45 AM: Break

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM: Living Well with Cognitive Challenges: Tips and Strategies Presented by Julie Brody Magid, PysD
Establishing a more simplified routine and schedule can be helpful and affect one's wellbeing. This session will review cognitive strategies to help manage common difficulties encountered in daily life with the goal of improving feelings of well-being and self-reliance. Specifically it will focus on how to develop a person-centered roadmap to optimize meaning, structure and appropriate levels of stimulation.

Holyoke Community College scholarship season opened Jan. 21

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Community College Foundation began accepting scholarship applications for the 2025-2026 academic year on Tuesday, Jan. 21.

The application deadline is Friday, March 14, 2025.

Last year, the HCC Foundation awarded 388 scholarships worth about \$350,000 to 323 incoming, current, and transferring HCC students. Some students received multiple scholarship awards. The average scholarship award is typically around \$900.

"Awarding scholarships to deserving students has been a cornerstone of the work of the HCC Foundation since its founding," said Amanda Sbriscia, Vice President of Institutional Advancement and executive director of the HCC Foundation. "Scholarships established by donors celebrate academic achievement, community service, and civic engagement, and, most importantly, these funds ensure hundreds of students have the resources they need to complete their college degrees."

Students must be currently enrolled at HCC or have been accepted for the upcoming academic year to be eligible for scholarships.

"While the recent launch of MassEducate, the state's free-community-college-for-all program, has made HCC accessible to more individuals, that only means we have a greater responsibility to ensure students make it to the finish line," Sbriscia said. "Tuition and fees represent only a portion of the cost of being a college student today, and, oftentimes, a donor scholarship can truly change a student's life."

Applicants need only to fill out a single online form to be automatically matched with the scholarships they are most qualified to receive. There are scholarships for new students, current students and students transferring to other institutions, scholarships based on financial need, scholarships for students in specific majors, scholarships for residents of certain communities, and scholarships that recognize academic achievement.

To view scholarship opportunities and begin the application process, please go to: HCC.EDU/scholarships.

Last January, HCC opened a dedicated Scholarship Resource Center to help current and incoming students navigate the process of

applying for scholarships and filling out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. The office, located on the first floor of the Donahue Building (Room 158) is open Monday through Friday. 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The HCC Foundation is a 501(c)(3) that works to advance the college's mission, vision, and values. Founded in 1968 as the Friends of Holyoke Community College, in response to a devastating fire that forced the college to rebuild on a new campus, the Foundation now manages assets of more than \$20 million, the largest community college foundation endowment in Massachusetts

Questions should be directed to the HCC Foundation office at 413-552-2182, or by email to scholarships@HCC.EDU.

The Commonwealth's oldest community college, Holyoke Community College opened its doors in 1946 as the first two-year college in Massachusetts. In the decades since, the college has paved the way for generations of learners from western Massachusetts and beyond, a beacon of hope and opportunity for people seeking better lives. Please visit us at HCC.EDU.

MGH and Matthew Perry Foundation announce fellowship in addiction medicine

The Matthew Perry
Foundation Fellowship will
honor Matthew Perry's
vision of increasing
education on the disease
and combating stigma.

BOSTON — The Matthew Perry Foundation and Massachusetts General Hospital, a founding member of the Mass General Brigham healthcare system, today announced the establishment of the Matthew Perry Foundation Fellowship in Addiction Medicine for the 2025/2026 academic year.

The fellow will join a highly competitive Addiction Medicine fellowship program, which is one of only 105 available in the United States and trains physicians who have completed an accredited residency program to become specialists and leaders in Addiction Medicine. The fellowship focuses on developing clinical expertise, leadership skills, and training on effective systems of care.

The goal is for graduating fellows to be trained to provide much-needed access to high quality treatment and provide guidance and mentorship in the communities where they ultimately practice.

Sarah "SK" Kler, MD, the inaugural fellow, was selected from a pool of more than 60 applicants and will receive comprehensive training in the delivery of high-quality addiction care to a diverse population of patients.

"The Matthew Perry Foundation is honored to be in collaboration with Massachusetts General Hospital's Addiction Medicine Fellowship program. Matthew believed deeply in eliminating the stigma surrounding the disease of addiction and, with that in mind, we are proud to lend our name to this important work," said Doug Chapin, the Foundation's Chairman of the Board and Lisa Kasteler Calio, its Executive Director.

Nearly 50 million Americans struggle with substance use disorders and hundreds of thousands of Americans die from alcohol and drug use each year despite evidence that addiction is a chronic, treatable health condition.

"Continuing to silo addiction care outside the rest of medical care and marginalize addiction as a social problem outside of the domain of physicians will only exacerbate stigma and inequities and increase the deadly impact of this epidemic," said Sarah Wakeman, MD, Senior Medical Director for Substance Use Disorder at Mass General Brigham and program director of the MGH fellowship. "It is vitally important for the medical community to address substance use disorder using effective, holistic, wraparound services across medical settings. The training provided through the MGH fellowship will allow the next generation of physicians to provide and continually improve this care."

The Matthew Perry Foundation was established to honor Matthew Perry's unwavering commitment to helping those struggling with the disease of addiction. Drawing inspiration from Mr. Perry's life, words, and personal experiences, the Foundation works to raise awareness and foster understanding about the nature of addiction and eliminate stigma and the barriers that prevent people from seeking and receiving care.

Dr. Kler's training will commence on June 30, 2025. She received her medical training at The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University and currently serves as the Chief Medical Resident in Internal Medicine at MGH.

Dr. Kler worked with Boston Healthcare for the Homeless during her residency and, prior to medical school, she was a case manager in White River Junction, Vermont, providing case management to older adults who were homeless, insecurely housed, or living in subsidized housing. A compassionate and skilled clinician, Dr. Kler is known for her steadfast advocacy for her patients.

With the support of the Matthew Perry Foundation, coupled with continued funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration, Mass General will welcome three candidates into the 2025/26 program. Over the course of a year, the fellows rotate throughout various departments across MGH, as well as Mass General Brigham's regional partnerships, allowing them to gain the necessary skills needed to become expert clinicians and leaders in the field of Addiction Medicine.

While curriculum is tailored to each individual fellow's interests, core clinical rotations for all fellows include the full range of innovative clinical programs developed at Mass General Brigham, such as the inpatient Addiction Consult Team, the Bridge Clinic, the HOPE clinic for pregnant patients and families, the alcohol-related liver disease clinic, and working in integrated addiction teams in primary care.

"Mass General will work in close collaboration with the Matthew Perry Foundation to raise awareness, reduce stigma, and, most importantly, offer hope to those of every age, background and experience who are struggling with substance use disorder," said Dr. Wakeman.

Mass General Brigham is an integrated academic health care system, uniting great minds to solve the hardest problems in medicine for our communities and the world. Mass General Brigham connects a full continuum of care across a system of academic medical centers, community and specialty hospitals, a health insurance plan, physician networks, community health centers, home care, and long-term care services.

Mass General Brigham is a nonprofit organization committed to patient care, research, teaching, and service to the community. In addition, Mass General Brigham is one of the nation's leading biomedical research organizations with several Harvard Medical School teaching hospitals. For more information, please visit MassGeneralBrigham.org

The Matthew Perry Foundation is the realization of Matthew's enduring commitment to helping others struggling with the disease of addiction. The Foundation is guided by his words and experiences and inspired by his passion for making a difference in as many lives as possible.

With an emphasis on maximizing access to recovery in underserved communities, prioritizing youth prevention and early intervention programs, and providing nonjudgmental support, the Foundation is committed to building a community where every individual has the opportunity to thrive. Please join us at MathewPerryFoundation.org.

BEBA I from page 3

adopters.

For those who can't adopt Beba, sharing her story is just as important. A simple post on social media or a conversation with a friend could help her find her perfect match. Beba's journey is a reminder that every pet deserves a loving home, and it only takes one person to change her life forever.

Second Chance is encouraging the community to support pets like Beba by making a donation. As a no-kill shelter, Second Chance never gives up on shelter pets, providing food, medical care, and love to every animal in their care for as long as it takes to find them a home. Donations ensure that pets like Beba have the resources they need to thrive while they wait for their

second chance at a happy, healthy future.

Beba's story is one of hope, resilience, and the power of community. Second Chance believes in every pet's potential to find a loving home, and with the help of adopters, advocates, and donors, Beba's forever family could be just around the corner.

To learn more about Beba, visit SecondChanceAnimals.org/Adoptable-Dogs or meet her in person at the Second Chance Adoption Center, located at 111 Young Road, East Brookfield.

Adoption hours are Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday evenings from 5-7 p.m., and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donations to support pets

in need can be made online at SecondChanceAnimals.org/donate or checks can be mailed to Second Chance, PO Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

Second Chance Animal Services is a nonprofit animal welfare organization founded in 1999. Second Chance began as an animal shelter and grew to help more pets in need

Today Second Chance operates Community Veterinary Hospitals in North Brookfield, Southbridge, Springfield, and Worcester providing access to the highest-quality veterinary care for all. Subsidized rates are provided to underserved communities to ensure access to care for all pets in need.



Part of the proposal for the Steaming Tender train station would be to reopen the sealed accessway on **Bridge Street.**



Scarlet Lamothe talked about the need to put the train stop close to downtown in order to bolster economic growth.

Turley Publications photos by Marcelo Gusmão



John McElduff, an investor in town with a background in civil engineering, talked about what happened in his hometown.



The presenters for Monday's discussion displayed a map of the town, (from left) John McElduff, Scarlet Lamothe, and Blake Lamothe.



Posters around the room showcased what a stop at the historic location of **Steaming Tender might** look like.

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The restaurant was full of attendees eating complimentary food while they listened to the presentation.

RAIL I from page 1

"It's not about leaving Palmer, it's about bringing people into Palmer and creating economic growth for us," Lamothe said.

Blake Lamothe said that the previous initiatives had factored in these concerns when dealing with the Federal Rail Association. During McElduff's presentation, he talked about the ways that are being pursued to convince DOT to reconsider, including political action, legal action, and local engagement.

"This would be a possible non-binding vote on where we should put the station," McElduff said. "Should we put it here, in the central business district, or out on the edge of town?"

By a show of hands, McElduff confirmed that the majority of the attendees preferred the station being placed down-

"We have a letter that's been sent to the new administration's Secretary of

Transportation Sean Duffy, and we're looking forward to an appointment in Washington," Lamothe said.

In addition to these methods, McElduff said there will also be collaborations with state legislators and the governor's office.

We can't settle for the short end of the stick here, and they're not making it any better for Palmer," Blake Lamothe said. "North/South is as important as East/West. Let's get back to common sense here; let's build a robust town again with hotels, trade schools, shops and restaurants, and create commerce

"Let Palmer take advantage of the railroads as it once did before," Lamothe

If you'd like to get involved with the Citizens for a Palmer Rail Stop group, you can check out their Facebook page.





PALMER FOR TOMORROW

Gathering

PUBLIC LIBRARY

WHAT IS IT?

Palmer has received funding in a settlement between Massachusetts and pharmaceutical companies, placing them at blame for the current opioid crisis.

Now we must decide how to best use the money to support our community, and we want to hear from YOU!

COME JOIN US TO DISCUSS THE NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS AS WE TALK ABOUT:

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- How to Support Those With Substance Use
- Preventative Measures
- After Care



- People with lived experience
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WHEN & WHERE The Second Wednesday of Every Month

3:00pm-4:30pm at The Palmer Public Library

For any questions reach out to: (413)283-2606 or ngauthier@townofpalmer.com

*You will always be able to stay completely anonymous at Palmer for Tomorrow, we will never ask or share your name or your story.

Ware Library hosts puzzle swap on Feb. 1

WARE – As we make our way through the cold winter months, you may be thinking of indoor activities; and puzzles are a great way to stay entertained.

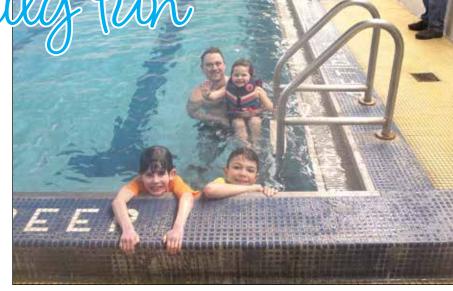
If you are looking at your stack of puzzles thinking "I could use some new puzzles," you are in luck. The Ware Library, 37 Main St., is hosting a Puzzle Swap in the Reading Room on Saturday, Feb. 1 from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Simply bring a puzzle you've already conquered and swap it out for a new-to-you puzzle. The Puzzle Swap is free to the public and there is no registration required; just drop in.

The library also has puzzles and games you can check out with a library card at any time. Follow the library on Facebook for updates, call 413-967-5491, or email warelibrary1881@gmail.com with any



Dominic, age 8, and Luke, age 7, climbed out of the pool on Friday's Swim Night.



Waving from the pool, (back row) David Kenny and Ava, age 4, and (front row) Domi-

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SWIM I from page 1

are certified."

Teachers are on-site to welcome families and make sure everyone signs in, but Camacho said that the collaborative effort is between the PTO and the central office, and the school's main priority is getting information out to the families.

"We hope it provides families with a fun night out for themselves and their children," Camacho said. "We hope the kids have a good night out with their friends and enjoy utlizing the pool, because it's not open a lot for swim opportunitiess, so we hope families can come in and utilize this resource that we have in

The next Swim Night at the high school will be on Feb. 28. For more information, you can call the school's offices at 413-283-6511, or visit their website at Palmer-Schools.org.



Kayla and Grace, both aged 5, wore swim floaties to play and swim in the pool at the



Regular swim nights at Palmer High School provide the public with an opportunity to enjoy the school's pool facilities.



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The Scantic River Artisans Art Exhibit and Sale

Join us for a celebration of creativity and inspiration. Experience an enchanting showcase of breathtaking artworks created by talented local artists. From stunning paintings to captivating sculptures, there is something for every art lover to admire.

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Bring this invitation with you for a chance to win an award-winning painting! Simply fill out the section below and drop it off during our show hours at our Welcome Table for your chance to be the lucky winner.

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(The winner will be selected on February 10, 2025, and notified for pick-up. By providing your email, you agree to receive show updates. We respect your privacy and do not share your information.)

Bring to: 104 Allen Street (Hampden Senior Center), Hampden, MA on February 8 or 9, 2025, during show hours.

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

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

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



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A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS **BASKETBALL** Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com Cayden Bousquet heads into the paint. **Mustangs score big** Jake Beaupre looks to pass. win over Pioneers By Tim Peterson Three years ago, Monson lost a halftime.

Correspondent PALMER— In their only meeting of the regular season against Pathfinder Tech, the Monson boys' basketball team played

Sports

fensively, especially in the first half. Holding a 40-12 halftime lead, the Mustangs put it into cruise control during the second half leading to a 58-38 road victory over the Pioneers, last Friday night.

very well both offensively and de-

"We normally don't get to use the press defense very often in our league games, but we felt like we would be able to use it in tonight's game," said Monson head coach Zach Dreher. "We were able to create some turnovers in the first half, which helped us build a large lead. We also had the chance to play our reserve players in the second half. It was a good opportunity for those guys to get some experience

playing in a varsity game."

home game to Pathfinder Tech, 43-39, at the end of the regular season.

The Mustangs defeated the Pioneers, 84-57, last year, which was also played at Michael J. Kane Gymnasium.

Seven of the ten players listed on this year's Mustangs varsity roster scored at least two points in last Friday night's non-league game.

Leading the way offensively for the Mustangs was freshman Trey Dillahunt, who scored 16 of his game-high 20 points before

Dillahunt, who has been a member of the varsity basketball team since he was in the seventh grade, entered the road game with 956 career points. The plan is for him to score his 1,000th career points at home against Hampshire Regional on Wednesday night.

"Trey only needs 24 more points to reach 1,000," Dreher said. "We'll be playing another road game against Baystate Academy on Tuesday night, but we're hoping MUSTANGS | page 10

ICE HOCKEY



Ethan Mooney tries to steal the puck away.

Hurricanes suffer rare blowout loss



Goalie Jason Kim corrals the puck.



Stephen Rich tries to settle the bouncing puck.

WESTFIELD - Last Thursday evening, Amherst hockey, which co-ops with Pathfinder Regional, had a tough shutout loss 10-0 against Westfield. The Bombers, which play in a higher division and are having an excellent year, took the Hurricanes out of the matchup from the very beginning, taking a 5-0 lead very early,

Silas Villegas recovers a loose puck.

and never stopping the pressure. The previous day, the Hurricanes got an overtime goal from Ethan Mooney for a 4-3 win over Mc-Cann Tech. Mooney scored a hat trick in the win while Joshua Feldman had the other goal. Amherst is 6-4-1 and next faces Southwick on Feb. 1 at 6 p.m. at Amelia Park Arena in Westfield.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Sawyer Ferro tries to break up a Westfield player's progress.

Chrzan shines in loss for Mustangs Lylia Ellis changes sides of the court. Olivia Chrzan gets full extension as she approaches the hoop. Cali Zielinski hustles down the court. MONSON – Last Wednesday game, and all registered points night, Monson High School girls for the Tigers, led by Olivia Athas basketball suffered another loss,

this one coming against league

rival South Hadley 57-34. The

Mustangs fell to 3-7 on the regu-

lar season. Olivia Chrzan, who is

continuing to score points for the

Mustangs, scored 31 of Monson's

34 points in the game. South Had-

ley continued to see a balanced

scoring attack. In this matchup,

12 different players got into the

Grace Berry takes a long shot. Turley photos by David Henry

with 10 points. The Tigers are now 11-1 on the season and have scored a spot in the state tournament and are likely for the Western Mass. Tournament. Despite the below .500 record, Monson is currently ranked No. 14 in the Division 5 power rankings, and would make the state tournament if it stays that way.

BASKETBALL

Panthers fall on the road at **B-Town**

BELCHERTOWN - Last Thursday night, Palmer High School girls basketball's struggled continued in an independent matchup with Belchertown.

Belchertown was able to put up 61 points in a big effort as they took down the Panthers 61-29. Addyson Petrashewicz had 11 points to lead the Panthers while Anabelle Ladue turned in nine points.

The Panthers are just 1-9 this

BASKETBALL

Warriors suffer loss against Agawam

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

FISKDALE—Playing a game inside a fieldhouse for the first time this season really didn't bother the members of the Agawam girls' basketball team very much, especially in the first half.

The Brownies, who held a 15-point halftime lead in last Tuesday night's game at the Tantasqua Fieldhouse, coasted to a 41-22 nonleague victory over the Lady War-

WARRIORS | page 10



Dustyn Cook flies for a shot.



Mason Rollet attempts to shoot.



Nikolas Matthieu takes the shot.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Cassian Kowalik holds the ball back before



Kyle Beaudry readies a jump shot.

MUSTANGS I from page 9

that he does it at home the following night against Hampshire. I've talked to Trey about it, I think it's going to be a little more special for him if it does take place in a home game. He's a very special basketball player."

Dillahunt, who scored a game-high 24 points in last season's meeting against the Pioneers, didn't make any 3-pointers

in this year's contest. Beaupre, who scored 10 of his 16 points before halftime with the help of four 3-pointers. Beaupre scored a career-high 30 points in an 85-69 win at Southwick three days earlier.

The junior duo of Austin Meacham and Shane Szado chipped in with eight points apiece.

The other three Mustangs scorers were sophomore Kyle Beaudry (3 points), sophomore Brennan Peterson (2 points), and senior Tyler Labonte (1 point).

the tip-off.

Matthew Vanasse and Shane Szado go for

While the Mustangs, who are members of the Bi-County West Division, had a 7-4 overall record following the road win, the Pathfinder Tech had a 1-9 record.

The Pioneers played very well during the final 16 minutes of the contest, as they outscored the Mustangs, 26-18.

Pathfinder Tech junior Aiden Girard scored eight of his 11 points during the first half, while sophomore Cayden Bousquet He was aided by junior Jake netted all 11 of his points in the in the first quarter. second half.

Junior Dustyn Cook added eight points for the home team, while freshman Cassian Kowalik scored five points, and freshman Jordan Mbi made a 3-pointer with less than a minute remaining in the game for his only points.

Kowalik, along with sophomore Ian Sauri-Nieves, and freshman Grayson Griswold, are from Monson.

finder head coach Ethan Ortyl. "They were very excited to play against their hometown high school tonight."

The score was tied 2-2 before the Mustangs pulled away with the help of a 24-2 run.

Dillahunt and Beaupre combined to score 15 of those points.

Meacham contributed five points with a 3-pointrer and a

put-back hoop. The Mustangs were leading 26-4 after Szado made a pair of free throws with 56.9 seconds left

The Pioneers closed out the opening quarter with Girard sinking a 3-pointer from the top of the

key and a lay-up from Cook. The Mustangs outscored

the Pioneers, 14-3, in the second Trailing by 28 points at the

start of the second half, the Pioneers played very well in the second half.

'Monson is one of the best 'We do have a couple of teams that we've this season. We players from Monson," said Path- did make some adjustments at

halftime, and we executed a lot better during the second half," Ortyl said. "These guys always play hard no matter what the score in the game might be."

Kowalik and Bousquet began the second half with back-toback lay-ups.

A couple of minutes later, Girard hit a 3-pointer from the left corner, which closed the gap to 42-19.

The Mustangs finished the third quarter with a 13-4 run, and they entered the final quarter holding a comfortable 55-23 lead.

Dillahunt came out of the game with three minutes left in the third quarter and Labonte was the only Monson starter who played during the fourth quarter.

Bousquet scored nine of the Pioneers 15 fourth quarter points.

The only points scored by Monson during the final eight minutes of the contest was a Beaudry 3-pointer from the left corner.

Turleysports Athlete of the Week



Jake Beaupre Monson

In a win over Pathfinder last Friday night, Beaupre finished the game with 16 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@turley.



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ARBELLA

Candlepin League News By Ryan Drago 1052-1042.

Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

Tuesday Night Commercial Elks League

PALMER - The Commercial Elks League at Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes are several weeks away from completing round two.

As of Jan. 14, the Daft Kings are in first place with 19.5 wins and 8.5 losses. Team BK is in second place with 15.5 wins and 12.5 losses, just four points behind the first place Daft Kings.

Last in Line is in third place with a record of 15-13, followed by Compression with a record o14-14, The Mailmen at 12-16 and the first session winner Gutter Mouths at 8-20.

Last in Line bowled against Team BK to secure second place in the final weeks of round two. In game one, Team BK defeated Last in Line by a score of 359-349. Paul Nothe of BK broke the century mark with a 102.

In game two, Team BK were victorious again with a score of 356-335. Nothe bested his first game by one, 103 and his teammate Mark Fitzpatrick joined him with a 100 of his own.

In game three, Last in Line salvaged a victory over Team BK, 358-337. Vinny Navarro of Last in Line finished the match with a 106. Team BK won three points and total pinfall by a final score of

The Daft Kings bowled against Gut-

ter Mouths on the league night of Jan. 21. In game one, Gutter Mouths defeated Daft Kings by a score of 360-351. In game two, Gutter Mouths were victorious again with a score of 400 over Daft Kings' 342. Stephen Manolakis of Gutter Mouths had a good game with a 114 to increase the lead for his team going into the final game.

In game three, The Daft Kings got the win over Gutter Mouths, 403-355. Ken Trudel of daft Kings finished with 111 and his teammate Dave Cobleigh finished with 106.

Gutter Mouths still won total pinfall with a final score of 1115-1096.

Compression bowled against the Mailmen on Jan. 21. In game one, The Mailmen defeated Compression by a score of 382-369. David Bowman of Compression began the match with a 114. Bryan Surprise of Mailmen had a 114 of his own.

In game two, Mailmen were the winners again with a score of 370 to Compression's 322. Surprise bested his first game with a 137 to get the consecutive win for his team.

In game three, The Mailmen won 384-358 for a three-game sweep over Compression. Surprise finished with a 101 and a series of 352.

The Mailmen won total pinfall by a final score of 1136-1049.



Sophia Ezzo tries to grab a rebound.



Tessa Sheldon attempts a layup.



Maggie Johnson holds the ball in the paint.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli Mady Vejack sends a pass away.

WARRIORS I from page 9

"We've never played a game here before and it's a very interesting place," said Agawam senior co-captain Mia Canavan. "There isn't any fieldhouses in Western Mass., but the size of the court is about the same as our home gym."

It was the first ever meeting on the hardwood between the two squads

While the road victory improved Agawam's overall season record to 11-2, Tantasqua's record fell to 3-7, as they lost their seventh consecutive game.

"We were looking to end our losing streak in tonight's game," said Tantasqua head coach Andy Haley. "We just had too many turnovers. We only have one senior, so this is a rebuilding season for us. We just need to keep improving in every game."

Tantasqua, who's a Division

3 team, has several other Western Mass. opponents listed on their regular season schedule. They lost to Minnechaug Regional at home earlier in the season. They'll be playing at Longmeadow on February 5 before hosting Holyoke in the regular season finale a week later.

The Lady Warriors are the only Central Mass. opponent listed on the Brownies schedule.

"It's nice playing a team that we normally don't play against," said Agawam head coach Tim Murphy. Tantasqua has been a very good basketball team during the past couple of

During the first half, Agawam, who's a Division 2 team, was shooting at the basket that has a large curtain hanging from the ceiling behind it. The background behind the basket at the other end of the court is wide

"We did have a very good shoot-

really helped us a lot," Canavan said. "It was a little more difficult in the second half when we were shooting the ball at the end of the court where there wasn't any background." Canavan, who's planning to play

college basketball next year, scored nine of her game-high 13 points in the first half. She made five field goals and three foul shots. Canavan was helped offensively

by junior Isabella Laprise, who finished the game with 11 points. Isabella's twin sister, Sophia, checked in with seven points and senior co-captain Katelyn Cleavall added five

Another Agawam senior is Marlee Montagna, who suffered a season ending ACL injury a couple of weeks ago. She kept the scorebook and cheered on her teammates during the

"Marlee is one of our best players and it's been difficult not having ing background in the first half, which her on the court with us," Canavan said. "It's been an adjustment, but she's still supporting us at every game. We just need to find different people to fill her role. This is a very special team, and we get along with each other very well."

The Lady Warriors leading scorer was sophomore Tessa Sheldon, who scored eight of her 10 points during the first quarter. No other Tantasqua player scored more than four points.

The Brownies raced out to an early 6-0 lead as Isabella Laprise made a wide open lay-up which was followed by a pair of Canavan's inside hoops.

"We made some shots at the beginning of the game, which helped us build a lead," Murphy said. "Even when we were struggling offensively in the second half, it didn't affect us very much because we had a large lead."

After making a driving lay-up, Sheldon knocked down two 3-pointers from both the left and right corners giving the Lady Warriors an 8-7 lead with 4:15 left in the first quarter.

The home fans didn't have very

much else to cheer about during the rest of the game. The Brownies closed out the opening quarter with a 7-0 run and

they entered the second stanza holding a 14-8 lead. An inside basket by senior Maggie Johnson (4 points) did slice the deficit to 14-10 a minute into the sec-

ond quarter, but the Lady Warriors wouldn't get any closer than that. Isabella Laprise hit a 3-pointer from the left side and a lay-up. Then Canavan made another inside hoop before Sophia Laprise buried a 3-pointer from the left corner, which

gave the Brownies a 24-10 lead with

three minutes remaining in the first Agawam's largest lead of the first half was 28-11 before a Sheldon inside hoop sent her team into the locker room trailing, 28-13 at halftime.

The Brownies held a 36-13 lead after scoring the first eight points of the third quarter.

Canavan scored half of those

points. The other four points were scored by senior Emma LaCaresse (3 points) and Isabella Laprise. The Lady Warriors did put-to-

gether a 9-0 run at the end of the third quarter and the start of the fourth A Johnson put-back basket and

a 3-pointer from freshman Violet Spooner (3 points) made the score 36-18 entering the final eight minutes.

Freshman Liv Kearns also made another 3-pointer for the home team at the beginning of the fourth quarter before junior Abbie Wotton made a foul shot with 3:55 left in the game.

Agawam, who was leading 36-22, scored the final five points of the contest. Cleavall and sophomore Maya Gingereruha each made a field goal, while LaCaresse added a free

T-Birds fall in shootout against Bruins

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (18-17-2-2) got a combined eight points from their top line but ultimately fell in a shootout by a 4-3 score to the Providence Bruins (23-13-3-1) last Saturday night before a seventh sellout crowd this season at the MassMutual Center.

T-Birds captain Matthew Peca got the capacity crowd energized just 3:48 into the first period, taking a slip pass from Matt Luff in the high slot and wiring a shot over Brandon Bussi's blocker to give Springfield the 1-0 advantage.

Springfield carried over their strong special teams night on Friday by dispatching the Bruins' lone power play of the first period, but the Providence attack kept pressing the issue. Georgii Merkulov evened the slate at 13:35 with a onetouch finish from just outside the blue paint, beating Vadim Zherenko upstairs to tie the

Neither team generated much offense in the closing minutes of the period, and the tie game carried into period two, with Providence outshooting Springfield 10-6 in the opening 20 minutes.

The Bruins vaulted to their first lead just 1:59 into the second period when Frederic Brunet found a home with a point shot off a faceoff play, making it 2-1. The T-Birds had a golden chance to get back in the game as they went to a 4-on-3 power play shortly after the Brunet tally, but Bussi and the Providence penalty killers held

Later in the frame, with Providence on a power play, Ian Mitchell rocketed a one-timer past Zherenko, and the visitors' lead grew to 3-1 at 11:04 of the frame.

Tommy Baldwin Racing

The bulk of the races will

announced Wednesday that Jack

Baldwin will pilot the histor-

ic 7NY in over 20 Tour-Type Modified events during the 2025

come on the SMART Modified

Tour - as Baldwin will com-

pete in the full 14-race calendar

driving the 7NY. Jack has two

SMART Modified Tour starts to

his credit, scoring 5th and 8th

the Tour-Type Modified events

at New Smyrna Speedway's

World Series of Asphalt Stock

Car Racing from February 10-

14, along with end of the season

events at Riverhead Raceway

(Islip 300) and Wall Stadium

Speedway (Turkey Derby).

Additional events may be an-

Modified champion at New

Jack is the reigning 602

nounced at a later date.

Jack will also compete in

place finishes in 2024.

In desperate need of a spark, Peca and the top line provided one at 15:32 when the captain entered the zone and lifted a shot over the net. Fortunately enough, the puck careened right to the side of the goal, where MacKenzie MacEachern jabbed it through Bussi to bring Springfield back to within a goal, 3-2. With the good fortune, the veteran winger picked up his fifth goal in his last nine games.

On the very next shift, MacEachern and Peca were at it again, with the captain spotting MacEachern behind the net, and the winger blindly throwing a perfect pass in front of the goal to Luff, who mashed it home before Bussi could position himself and, thanks to two goals in just 18 seconds, the game was tied, 3-3, heading into the third.

Springfield kept pressing in the final period, but Bussi and the top defensive squad in the AHL kept the home side from gaining the advantage. Zherenko was also up to the challenge, stopping five shots in the third, including a dangerous close-in chance for Fabian Lysell in the dying minutes.

3-on-3 overtime proved to be a showcase of the two netminders' skills, as Bussi and Zherenko traded spectacular saves during the frenetic five-minute frame. Each team had four chances to ice the game, but thanks to the goalies, a shootout would be needed.

Merkulov ultimately made the difference, beating Zherenko in the opening round of the skills competition, while Bussi turned away Tanner Dickinson, forced Luff to hit a post, and then stonewalled Dalibor Dvorsky to earn the extra point for Providence.

Smyrna and has multiple 602

Modified wins. In 2025, he will

chase his first career Tour-Type

the last few years but we're ex-

cited to have him a full season in

the Tour-Type Modifieds to con-

tinue to gain experience and re-

fine his skills behind the wheel,"

team owner Tommy Baldwin

Jr. said. "He will be running

against stout competition in ev-

get the chance to race on the

SMART Modified Tour full-

time," Jack said. "Watching the

series the last few years, you can

tell the racing is tight and the

competition is unlike anything

else when it comes to Modi-

fied racing in the south. Driving

the 7NY and working with our

family team all year will be spe-

cial. Excited to kick it off with

Speedweeks at New Smyrna."

"I'm definitely excited to

ery race he runs."

"Jack has run select events

Police/Fire

Police Logs

Palmer

The Palmer Police Department reported 360 incidents on its logs from Jan. 14 through Jan

Jan. 14

At 4:48 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on N. Main

Jan. 15

At 12:44 p.m. police responded to an accident with a pedestrian on Breckenridge

At 3:13 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Main

At 4:24 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

Jan. 16

At 12:35 p.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on the corner of Center Street and High Street.

At 1:56 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Third

At 4:32 p.m. police re-

ceived sex offender registra-

At 9:28 p.m. police gave summons to Johnathan R. Gainey, 55, 1023 Central St., Palmer, for uninsured motor vehicle, operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration and no inspection sticker. Jan. 17

At 12:16 a.m. police re-

sponded to an accident with property damage on Thorndike

At 4:48 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on I90. At 9:19 a.m. police re-

sponded to an accident with property damage on Sykes

At 7:49 p.m. police received sex offender registra-

At 8:44 p.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on Flynt Street. Jan. 18

At 12:56 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on N. Main

At 11:08 p.m. police arrested Muhammet Can Cukor, 25, 15 Brookfield St., Ludlow, for OUI liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and one way violation.

Jan. 19

At 6:30 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on S. Main Street.

At 10:05 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Mass Turnpike.

Jan. 20

At 11:19 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Ware Road.

At 1:46 p.m. police responded to a hit and run accident on Thorndike Street.

At 3:40 p.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on the corner of Sykes Street and Main Street.

At 3:45 p.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on Springfield

At 5:01 p.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on Wilbraham

This intimate and enlightening evening with Gary is limited to 100 attendees, so get tickets now.

Psychic medium

STURBRIDGE—Join the Chamber of Central

Internationally known Psychic Medium En-

Mass South and guests at The Barn at Wight Farm

in Sturbridge for an inspiring night with Gary McK-

instry, the Psychic Medium Entertainer, on Feb. 27,

tertainer, McKinstry, will share his gift to connect

with the spirit world and bring intuitive messages

to guests of the Chamber's Medium Night. McK-

instry'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

individuals from the audience to deliver messages,

guided by spirits. Messages may be from the after-

life or pertain to the present. While not everyone

gets a reading, all are encouraged to listen as the

messages hold collective meaning. A psychic gal-

lery reading elevates the group's consciousness,

offering deep and transformative experiences, pro-

and their employees, or \$65 for non-Members.

Tickets are \$60 for CMS Chamber members

viding hope and inspiration.

In this gallery reading, Gary randomly selects

and death and will deliver messages with style.

night Feb. 27

from 7 to 9 p.m.

For Medium Night tickets and information give the Chamber a call at 508-347-2761 or email info@ cmschamber.org.

DCR lists upcoming winter hybrid presentations

BELCHERTOWN - The Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center, 100 Winsor Dam Road, announces the schedule for winter hybrid presenta-

All programs are scheduled for 2 p.m. In person seating is limited to 45 people.

In case of bad weather, the programs will only be held virtually. Please register for any of these events by visiting https://www.mass.gov/locations/ quabbin-reservoir/events.

The Mystery of Prescott Quilt of Names

Sunday, Feb. 2 from 2-3 p.m. Step back in time and delve into the intriguing

story behind a remarkable artifact that has woven together generations-a quilt embroidered with fifty signatures from 1895, hailing from Prescott, Massachusetts. Who 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 returning it to the Swift River Valley Historical Society?

Join historical interpreter Karen Traub as she embarks on a fascinating journey to unravel 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,

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.

This presentation 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

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

Quaboag hosts annual craft and small business fair

WARREN - Quaboag Regional Middle High School, 284 Old West Brookfield Road, is bringing back its annual Craft & Small Business Fair on Saturday, Feb. 8 from 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

With Valentine's Day fast approaching, this fair is a perfect opportunity to shop local and get some gifts for your loved ones. This annual fair is hosted by Quaboag's Student Council.

The fair has free admission and features over 80 local crafters and small business vendors that will be set up all across the halls of Quaboag. There will also be concessions available.

The fair will also feature raffle tables with numerous prizes available. Proceeds from the raffle will go towards the Student Council's MASC Leadership conference in Hyannis.

MONSON

Fire Logs

The Monson Fire Department responded to eight fire calls and 27 emergency medical calls for the week of Jan. 20-

On Monday, Jan. 20 at 12:12 a.m., the department responded to Bethany Road for a furnace malfunction, and returned to service at 12:36 a.m.

On Tuesday, Jan. 21 at 7:50 a.m., the department responded to High Street for a public assist, and returned to service at 8:29 a.m.

On Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 7:19 a.m., the department responded to Peck Brothers Road for alarms sounding, and returned to service at 8:04 a.m.

On Wednesday, Jan. 22 at 3:54 p.m., the department responded to Munn Road for a motor vehicle accident, and returned to service at 4:50 p.m.

On Thursday, Jan. 23 at 11:05 a.m., the department responded to Robbins Road for a gas leak, and returned to ser- to service at 11:29 p.m.

vice at 11:34 p.m. On Friday, Jan. 24 at 8:19

a.m., the department responded to Pinnacle Road for a public assist, and returned to service at 8:44 p.m.

On Saturday, Jan. 25 at 5:33 p.m., the department responded to Boston Road West for alarms sounding, and returned to service at 6:29 p.m.

On Sunday, Jan. 26 at 10:48 p.m., the department responded to Pinnacle Road West for a water leak, and returned

Giant robot animals at the Springfield Museums thru May 4

SPRINGFIELD— Springfield Museums is excited to announce the upcoming arrival of The Robot Zoo at the On view Jan. 18 through May 4, this special exhibition features three enormous robot animals that illustrate fascinating real-life animal characteristics, revealing the magic of nature as a master engineer.

"Natural science and technology are the perfect combination to bring in new kinds of learning and delight visitors of all ages," says Science Museum Director Jenny Powers. "The Robot Zoo will be as fun and popular as it is educational."

The larger-than-life-size animated robots include a chameleon, a platypus, and a house fly with a 3-foot wingspread. Machinery in the robots simulates counterparts. In these robot animals, muscles become pistons, ronments, and size of the actual creatures to their mechanical counterparts, The Robot Zoo provides fantastic new insights into how animals work. Hands-on sensory activities

include "Swat the Fly," a test of visitor reaction time (onetwelfth as fast as a house fly's), and "Sticky Feet," where visitors using special hand pads can try to stick like flies to a sloped surface. Triggering the "Tongue Gun" demonstrates how a real chameleon shoots out its long, sticky-tipped tongue to reel in a meal.

At the exhibit opening celebration on Saturday, Jan. 18,

the body parts of their real-life visitors can practice beginner coding skills, learn about animal adaptations with museum eduintestines become filtering pipes cators, create animal masks, and Springfield Science Museum. and brains become computers. see demonstrations by a FIRST By comparing anatomy, envi- Lego League team. Opening day activities are presented free with museum admission. "We are excited to welcome

families and school groups to The Robot Zoo," says Director of Educator Larissa Murray. "The comparisons made between biology and engineering provide many engaging learning opportunities.

The exhibit is based on the book "The Robot Zoo" which was conceived, edited, and designed by Marshall Editions of London, England; and toured by Evergreen Exhibitions. Mass-Mutual is the season supporter of the Springfield Museums.

Worcester's point streak ends in loss at Maine

Jack Baldwin to take part in

modified tour this season

PORTLAND, Me. - Worcester's eight-game points streak, second-longest in team history, ended here Friday night via a 4-2 loss to the Maine Mariners. The Railers fell behind very early, eventually trailed by 3-0, and were never able to summon the energy to come

all the way back. "I thought they were flat," coach Nick Tuzzolino said. "I thought they were emotionless in the first period. It was not my favorite game with that group.'

The defeat was part of a bad standings night for Worcester. Two teams trailing them in the battle for the fourth playoff spot both won. Maine closed to within five points of Worcester and has three games in hand. Reading, suddenly very hot, also won.

The Royals are 5-0-1 in their last six games. They are just one point behind Worcester. Both teams have played 40 games.

Griffin Luce and Jordan Kaplan had the Worcester goals. Luce's

was his fifth of the season, extending a career high. Jacob Hudson, Tristan Thompson, Owen Pederson and Nick Jermain scored for Maine. Hudson made it 1-0 a mere 67 seconds

into the game as the Railers got off to a tentative start. Once again a Railers game was stagnated by goal reviews. There were two. Both went against Worcester. One was an overturn of a floating shot by Kaplan that went over goalie Maine goalie Ryan Bischel's glove with Griffin Loughran in front in the first period.

Right after that, Thompson scored a power play goal that looked like Michael Bullion was interfered with. That goal held up. It was a game of hard feelings. There were 23 penalties called good for a combined total of 84 minutes, a season high.

Luce's goal came at 6:07 of the third period. It cut the Maine lead to 3-1 and was scored only 21 seconds after Pederson's goal. Kaplan scored on a pretty wraparound at 14:40 for the game's final

Bischel got the win as he stopped 27. Bullion made 28 saves

Recent Railers games have been overrun with goal reviews and it really takes away from the flow and momentum. Worcester's last eight games have averaged 2 hours, 37 minutes. That is well above standards from past seasons.

Dakin Humane Society recognizes long-time employees

SPRINGFIELD— Dakin Humane Society recently honored several current employees who had reached work anniversaries ranging from 10 to 20 years at a team ceremony held at the Springfield nonprofit. The 13 employees were given gift bags that contained, among other items, a personalized zip-up hoodie with the Dakin logo as well as their first names followed by the title "Dakin Legend."

"We're so grateful to have so many long-term team members at Dakin," said Kayla Begnoche, human resources manager. "Shelter work takes more than skill; it takes heart. Every day, our team brings compassion and dedication, whether they're working directly with pets and their people, keep-

programs and services running, handling essential administrative t

asks behind the scenes, or collaborating with partner organizations. They have an unwavering dedication to this work, and we're incredibly fortunate to have staff who bring their whole hearts to it every single day.'

More than 20% of Dakin's staff have worked for the nonprofit organization for at least 10 years, while 44% were hired five or more years ago. According to Dakin's Executive Director Meg Talbert, "We are delighted to recognize this incredible group of long-term employees in a special way and look forward to making it an annual tradition to celebrate our newest Dakin Legends. Dakin is a special place and each and every one of our team members, new to the field or legends, give of themselves daily to advance our mission and uphold our core values: integrity, compassion, and innovation."



Those team members honored recently are: 20 Years:

Alanna Regan - Adoption Center Manager 15 Years:

Betsy Bernard - Animal Resource Counselor Eliza Fischer - Animal Resource Counselor Dr. Sherri Therrien - Spay & Neuter Veterinarian 13 Years:

Rachel Murphy - Animal Caregiver 12 Years: Brenda Forsell - Spay & Neuter Clinic Adminis-

trator 11 Years:

Abigayle Bogdan - Veterinary Technician Meghan Delaney - Veterinary Technician Mary Jane McGuire - Veterinary Services Man-

ager Megan Tolpa - Foster Coordinator

10 Years: Lee Chambers - Media Relations & Development

Specialist Debbie Massarelli - Finance Coordinator Kayla Thibodeau - Veterinary Technician

DEATH NOTICES

Manuel "Manny" R. DaSilva Jr.

Died Jan. 20, 2025 Services Jan. 31, 2025 Beers & Story Funeral Home

Patrick J. Haley Died Jan. 25, 2025 Service Feb. 3, 2025 11 a.m. St. Thomas the Apostle 1076 Thorndike St.,

Palmer, MA Beers & Story Funeral Home Judith M. Kelley

Died Jan. 21, 2025 Services are private Lombard Funeral Home

Dr. Gerald LaVerne Paist Died Jan. 24, 2025

Services are private Neill Funeral Home

Manuel "Manny" R. DaSilva Jr.

With immeasurable sadness, wife, Cher, announces the passing of her beloved husband, Manuel "Manny" R. DaSilva Jr, into eternal life on Jan. 20, 2025. Born on May 11, 1953, in Chicopee, MA, Manny grew up in Ludlow and moved to Palmer in 1996. Manny was the beloved son of the late Manuel and Arminda "Mimi" (Mendes) DaSilva. He is survived by his devoted wife, Cher (Fearn), with whom he shared 50 wonderful years of marriage. He is also survived by a brother Joseph DaSilva (Barbara), and was an uncle to one niece and two nephews. He also leaves behind his dear aunt, Beaty Jorge, several cousins, many close friends, and sister-in-law, Debbie DaSilva. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his brother, John DaSilva. After graduating from Ludlow High School, Class of 1971, he attended automotive school, receiving his certificate in automotive repair. For 43 years, Manny dedicated himself to his career at Country Club

Landscape, working alongside Bob Sousa. His passion for the outdoors did not end with his professional life. Manny was an esteemed Western Massachusetts Fly Fisherman Tying Instructor, sharing his skills and love of the sport for over three decades. Known far and wide as the man who "never met a stranger," Manny's warmth and generosity won him countless



lifelong friendships. Many thanks to all the doctors and caregivers that supported Manny and his wife through the last few years. A Mass honoring Manny's life will be held at St. Thomas Church at 11 a.m. following a visitation at Beers

& Story Palmer Funeral Home from 9-10:30 a.m. on Jan. 31, 2025. Burial will take place in the spring. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that donations be made to Western MA Fisherman, c/o John Lawor, 7 Fox Hill Dr, Wilbraham, MA 01095, or to St. Thomas the Apostle, 1076 Thorndike St., Palmer, MA 01069.

Judith M. Kelley ~ 1940-2025

Judith M. (Tourville) Kelley, 84, of Palmer, passed away peacefully after a short illness on Tuesday, Jan. 21, 2025 with her loving daughters by her side.

Judy's outgoing spirit and infectious laughter filled every room she entered. She had a unique ability to bring joy to those around her, always offering a kind word and her beautiful smile. As a devoted grandmother to her 10 grandchildren, she cherished every moment she spent with them, creating lasting memories filled with love and laughter. Her love extended further to her 12 great-grandchildren, and she eagerly anticipated the arrival of her 13th great-grandchild.

Judy leaves her daughter, Donna M. Suter, (Gary), son George J. Mack, (Stacey), and daughter Debbie Kortekamp, (Bryan). She also leaves her siblings, Jeanne Nothe, (Charles), Richard Tourville, (Betty), Michael Tourville, (Donna)

and Joanne Hunt. Judy was predeceased by her parents, Richard C. and Virginia M. (Kellough) Tourville and her sister Janice

Judy will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved her. Her loving presence and un-



wavering support will forever be cherished. May her memory be a blessing. Love you more.

Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with arrangements. Services will be private. In lieu of flowers please consider a

memorial donation in memory of Judith to the American Heart Association or Second Chance Animal Shelter. For online condolences please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com

Names sought of craftswomen who made 1991 town quilt

WARREN - The Warren Town Ouilt has come out of its resting place and is now hanging in

PROMOTER

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Denise Dubowski

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a brand new case on a wall at the Shepard Municipal Building.

A celebration of its being hung

in this beautifully crafted case will be **LOCAL KETONE** scheduled in a few weeks.

A plaque planned to list all the craftswomen worked who on the quilt to

verify your intent.

celebrate the Town's 250th Anniversary in 1991. If you, or someone you know (or knew), worked on the Warren Town Quilt in 1991, please contact Historical Commission Chair, Sylvia G. Buck sgbuck37@verizon.net and include a telephone number at which you can be reached. Use "Warren Town Quilt" in the subject line to



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The Library Loft

Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

We are celebrating our 20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons. Thanks to our wonderful "friends," volunteers and patrons.

Hours: Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am-4pm • Sat. 10am-2pm

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours.

Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. We accept books only in good, clean condition.



Dr. Gerald LaVerne Paist

Dr. Gerald LaVerne Paist ("Gerry") passed away peacefully at Harrisburg Hospital on January 24, 2025. He was a resident of Country Meadows Mechanicsburg since April 2024.

Born in Williamsport, PA, Gerry was the son of Thomas Holland Paist, Jr. and Ethel Ann (Hubbell) Paist. He grew up in Willow Grove, PA and attended the Upper Moreland School District, where he graduated Valedictorian of the class of 1957.

Gerry was very active in Scouting and attained the rank of Eagle Scout. During his senior year, Gerry was selected to tour Europe with the World Friendship Organization. While there, he visited 18 European countries and received the Queen's Scout Badge, the highest award in English Scouting.

Following high school graduation, Gerry earned a B.S. in Mathematics Lafayette College and Masters and Doctoral Degrees In Educational Administration from Harvard University.

After

Gerry will be remembered

from teaching

Mathematics at Stoneham and Framingham School Districts, Gerry served as Assistant Dean of Westfield University in

Massachusetts. He then became the Superintendent/Director of Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, where he served for 47 years. Currently he is the longest running School Superintendent in the United

lovingly by his sister, Susan Hubbell Whyte (Howard) of Carlisle, niece, Kimberly Eshbach Barger (Chad) of Mechanicsburg and grand nephews, Alec



Barger and Chase Barger. Burial will be private at West Laurel Hill Cemetery in Bala Cynwyd, PA.

The family would like to thank Country Meadows Mechanicsburg and UPMC Harrisburg for the excellent care given to

Gerry. Also, the family would like to express their gratitude to Greg Salois, Eric Duda, Jim Jyz, Dan Whaley, Scott Moynihan, Mark Moynihan and Tim Moriarty for their ongoing support and friendship.

Memorial donations can be sent to: Pathfinder Vocational Technical High School, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family.

Fathers Grief Support Group Starting Jan. 30

WILBRAHAM – Rick's Place is pleased to announce the launch of a free, peer-based Fathers Grief Support Group designed specifically for fathers grieving the loss of a partner or child.

This unique group recognizes the distinct challenges fathers face in their grief journey and aims to create a safe, understanding community to help navigate a difficult

The group will meet weekly for six consecutive weeks at our Wilbraham location, beginning Jan. 30. Facilitated by Rob Zucker, a highly

skilled grief counselor and author of "The Journey Through Grief and Loss: Helping Yourself and Your Child When Grief Is Shared," the evening sessions will provide fathers with tools and strategies to cope with their loss while connecting them with others who share similar experiences.

We know that grief can feel isolating, and fathers often face unique pressures in coping after a death," says Rick's Place Executive Director, Therese Ross. "This group offers a space where they can connect and find support with peers

who truly understand."

Rick's Place is committed to fostering grief-informed communities and providing accessible resources for those navigating loss. This new support group is an important step in expanding these efforts to ensure that no one grieves

For more information or to register for the Fathers Grief Support Group, please contact Rick's Place at info@RicksPlaceMA.org or call Program Director Betsy Flores, at

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 ex-

health Welness

posure to these illnesses." Norovirus is a highly conta-

gious gastrointestinal illness known to show up during winter months. This year, the Centers for Disease Control reports the number of outbreaks has jumped significantly. This virus causes inflammation of the stomach and intestines leading to vomiting, diarrhea and stomach cramps.

To make matters worse, influ enza 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 thor-

· Disinfect contaminated sur-

- 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

AFC continues to be a leader in accessible healthcare, providing treatments for flu, 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 AmericanFamily-Care.com.

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HELP WANTED

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR Council on Aging for the Town of Oakham is seeking an experienced

Activities Coordinator. Miscellaneous duties to include supporting current programs and developing new programs to increase attendance and participation of the growing aging population in the Oakham Se nior Center. Up to 12 hours per week (flexible) \$20.00/hr. depending upon experience. Resume should be sent to Admin@Oakham-Ma.gov. or mailed to Board of Selectmen, Town of Oakham, 2 Coldbrook Road, Oakham, MA 01068.

COA COORDINATOR for Town of Westhampton. Description available online at www.westhamptonma. gov. Applications accepted until posi-

HAMPDEN POLICE DEPART-MENT is now accepting applications for a FULL-TIME police officer. Review of applications begins immediately. Visit www.hampdenpolice. com for more information. EOE

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is available upon request. Applicants a minimum of two to three years' ex-

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest to: Tammy Martin, Town Administrator, 40 West Street, Suite 697, Barre MA 01005 or townadmin@townofbarre.com.

A.A. / E.O.E.

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.

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

REAL ESTATE



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

GREEN STREET, PALMER Newrenovated 1 begroom apt. porch off-street parking, coin-op laundry, \$1,500/ mo includes heat. No Pets.

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF BARRE

Cemetery Clerk The Town of Barre is seeking qualified applicants for the part-time position of Cemetery Clerk. This position is approximately 10 hours per week and the minimum hourly rate is \$15.00/hour and the maximum hourly rate is \$18.02/hour. A full job description must have HS Diploma or GED, with perience in office setting, or equivalent combination of education and experi-

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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.

Public notices

NOTICE OF

MORTGAGEE'S

SALE OF REAL ESTATE

tion of the Power of Sale

contained in a certain mort-

gage given by John M.

Arooth a/k/a John M. Arooth,

Sr. to Monson Savings Bank,

said mortgage being dated

April 25, 2019, and record-

ed 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, name-

ly 95 Upper Palmer Road,

Monson, Hampden County,

Massachusetts, all and singu-

lar the premises described in

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

in the intersection of stone

walls at the Northwest cor-

ner of land now or former-

ly of John S. Arooth et ux.

and tract to be conveyed and

at the Southwest corner of

land now or formerly of one

and a stone retaining wall

South 18° 35' 20" West

150.03 feet to a drill hole in a

S. Arooth et ux., South 74°

26' 40" East 152.65 feet to a

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

Along land of said John

Along land of said John

Along Margaret Street,

Rindge; thence running

rock; thence running

pipe; thence running

Beginning at a pipe set

follows:

A certain tract of land

said mortgage, to wit:

By virtue and in execu-

In the event that the successful 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

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

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 encumbrances 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 bid-

der 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) place of the sale.

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

Town of Monson **Planning Board** LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with Chapter 40A, M.G.L. §11, the Monson Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, February 18th, 2025, at 7:05 P.M. in the Select Board Meeting room, Town Office Building, 110 Main Street, to review a petition for a Special Permit for an Estate Lot as provided by §6.5 of the Monson Zoning Bylaws for Clark Zelazo. The property is zoned Rural Residential and is located on Paradise Lake Road identified on Assessors Map 74 Parcel 23A as shown on a plan prepared by Heritage Land Surveying & Engineering, Inc dated 01/20/2025. A copy of the application is on file with the Planning Board and available for viewing during regular office hours. Craig Sweitzer, Chairman

01/30, 02/06/2025

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.

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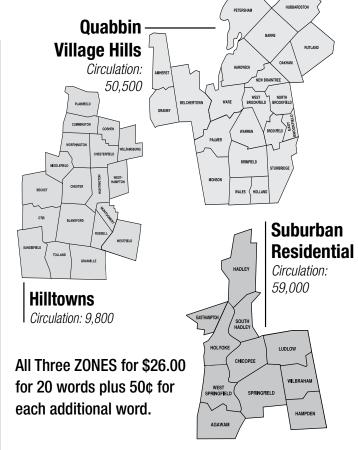
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Public notices

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 state and/or municipal regu-

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

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 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.

above in the amount set forth

TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE. In the event that the successful 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

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.

to the second highest bidder

of the default of the previ-

ous highest bidder, (ii) the

second highest bidder to exe-

cute a Memorandum of Sale

and (iii) the closing to occur

within twenty (20) days

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, 02/06/2025

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. HD25P0089EA Estate of: Elsie M DeBarge Date of Death: 07/30/2022 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL

ADJUDICATION To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Deborah A Skinner** of Hampden, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Deborah A Skinner of **Hampden**, **MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised adminis-

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the **Petition from the Petitioner** or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/27/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which vou must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE **MASSACHUSETTS** UNIFORM PROBATE

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

WITNESS. Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 16, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate

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. HD25P0092EA Estate of: Lawrence F DeBarge **Date of Death: 11/29/2024** CITATION ON PETITION

ADJUDICATION To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Deborah A Skinner** of Hampden, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

FOR FORMAL

The Petitioner requests that: Deborah A Skinner of Hampden, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised adminis-

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the **Petition from the Petitioner** or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/13/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which vou must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a

and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS. Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 16, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 01/30/2025

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 Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Scott K Logsdon and Lynn A Logsdon to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as Mortgagee, as nominee for Countrywide Home Loans, Inc., and now held by U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust, said mortgage dated April 12, 2005 and filed in the Hampden County Registry District of the Land Court as Document No.: 162133 and noted on Certificate of Title No.: 24904, as affected by a Loan Modification dated February 18, 2015 and filed as Document No.: 203346 and noted on Certificate of Title No.: 24904; said mortgage was assigned from Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. 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 as Document No.: 188896 and noted on Certificate of Title No.: 24904; said mortgage was assigned from 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 mortgage was assigned from DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCF 2 Acquisition Trust by assignment 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 conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on February 13, 2025 at 01:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all

described in said mortgage, A certain parcel or land situate in Palmer, in the County Hampden and said Commonwealth, bounded and described as follows:

and singular the premises

Northerly by Laurel Road one hundred forty-one and 52/100 (141.52) feet;

Easterly by land now or formerly of Estates Development Corporation two hundred one and 48/100 (201.48) feet;

Southeasterly by other land now or Estates Development Corporation sixty-nine and 58/100 (69.58) timely written appearance feet; and

Westerly again by land now or formerly of Estates Development Corporation two hundred (200) feet.

Said land is shown as lot 39 on plan hereinafter mentioned.

All of said boundaries 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. 11942. Together with the right to

use the ways as laid out on the aforementioned plan in common with others lawfully entitled thereto for all purposes for which public streets are commonly used.

Also another parcel of land situated in said Palmer bounded and described as follows: Northerly by the curved

line forming the junction of Laurel Road and Juniper Drive fifteen and 00/100 (15.) feet; Easterly by Lot 95 as

shown on plan hereinafter mentioned one hundred seventy-five and 70/100 (175.70) feet;

Southerly by land now or formerly of Tempo Development Corp., fifteen and 10/100 (15.10) feet; and

Westerly by Lot 39 as shown on Plan No, 30086-D, Sheet 2, filed with Ctf. No. 11942, one hundred seventy-eight and 08/100 (178.08)

Said land ls shown as Lot 94 on plan hereinafter men-

All of said boundaries are determined by the court to be located as shown upon subdivision plan No, 30086-G, drawn by Albert E. Nichols & Assoc., Inc. Surveyors, dated April 1969, 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. 14656.

See Certificate of Title No. 17016, Document No. 51437 for title reference.

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 Cert. No. 11942, two hun*dred* (200) *feet*;

Northwesterly by said Lot 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 mentioned plan, eighty (80) feet: and Southwesterly by Lot 123, as shown on said hereinafter

mentioned plan, one hundred eighty-four and 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. 21144.

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 of sale

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

Town of Monson Planning Board

LEGAL NOTICE In accordance with Chapter 40A, M.G.L. §11, the Monson Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing Tuesday, February 18th, 2025, at 7:00 P.M. in the public meeting room, Town Office Building, 110 Main Street, on the application of the Monson Fire Department for Special Permit for the expansion of the existing Fire Station as provided by §4.2 and §7.3 of the Monson Zoning Bylaws. The Applicant proposes to enlarge the existing building and perform necessary sitework to optimize the area by improving traffic flow which will ensure staff and pedestrian safety. The property is zoned Central Commercial and is within the Water Supply Protection district, located at 200 Main Street, Monson, MA, Map 115 Parcel 047, and owned by the Town of Monson. A copy of the application is on file in the Office of the Town Clerk, Planning Board Office and is available for viewing during regular office hours.

Craig Sweitzer, Chairman 01/30, 02/06/2025

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 N. Mason, Ruth E. Mason to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender, dated April 27, 2005 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 14990, Page 58, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for America's Wholesale Lender, its successors and assigns to The Bank of New York Mellon fka The Bank of New York as Trustee for the certificate holders of the CWABS, Inc., Asset-Backed Certificates. Series 2005-5, recorded on March 21, 2022, in Book No. 24458, at Page 388 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 10:00 AM on February 24, 2025, on the mortgaged premises located at 238 Brookfield Road, Brimfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises

described in said mortgage, TO WIT: That certain Parcel of land, with the buildings thereon, situated on the South side of the Brimfield & Brookfield Road, in Brimfield, County of Hampden and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at an iron

pin in the ground on the Southerly side of the highway leading from Brimfield to Brookfield and commonly known as the Brookfield Road and at the Northeast Corner of land now formerly of John Ratagan and a brook and thence commencing Southerly along said brook and land formerly of said John Ratagan to an iron pin in the ground at the corner of land of said Ratagan and other land now or formerly of George C. Vreeland, et ux, a distance of two hundred fifty (250') feet, more or less; thence turning and running Easterly along other land now or formerly of said Vreeland and more or less parallel line with said Brookfield road to an iron pin in the ground at other land now or formerly of said Vreeland, a distance of three hundred fifty (350') feet, more or less: thence turning and running Northerly along other land now or formerly of said Vreeland and more or less parallel with the afore described brook to an

iron pin in the ground in the Southerly side of the highway leading from Brimfield to Brookfield, commonly known as the Brookfield Road, a distance of two hundred fifty (250') feet, more or less; thence turning and running Westerly along the Southerly side of said Brookfield Road to an iron pin in the ground at the point of BEGINNING, a distance of three hun-

(approx. 2.1 acres) For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 4034, Page 251. These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

dred fifty (350') feet, more

or less, containing 87,500

square feet, more or less.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall

control in the event of an error in this publication.

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

THE BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON FKA THE BANK OF **NEW YORK**

AS TRUSTEE FOR THE CERTIFICATEHOLDERS OF CWABS, INC., ASSET BACKED CERTIFICATES, SERIES 2005-5 Present holder of said

HARMON LAW OFFICES, 150 California St. Newton, MA 02458 (617)558-0500 26266

01/30, 02/06, 02/13/2025

Commonwealth of

By its Attorneys,

Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25P0073EA Estate of: Janeanne Maxwell Also known as: J'Nanne Maxwell Date of Death: 12/18/2024

ADJUDICATION To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Carol Feser of Frederick, MD requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested

CITATION ON PETITION

FOR FORMAL

in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Carol Feser of Frederick, MD be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised adminis-

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right

to obtain a copy of the **Petition from the Petitioner** or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 02/19/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further

notice to you. UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE **MASSACHUSETTS** UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: January 22, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate

PUBLIC NOTICES **ARE NOW ONLINE**

Email all notices to notices@turley.com

Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

BBB SCAM ALERT:

Watch out for phony personalized products on social media

By Paula Fleming CMSO & Chief Spokesperson pfleming@boston.bbb.org

A personalized item might seem perfect; however, last-minute shoppers should look out for misleading ads on Instagram, Facebook, and TikTok promoting customized gifts.

BBB Scam Tracker has gotten numerous reports from people whose purchases were far different from what they thought - if they arrived.

How the scam works

While scrolling through social media, an ad comes up for the cutest personalized product. It could be a clothing item with a loved one's name on it, a keychain with a favorite pet's face, or a paint-by-numbers kit made from a provided photograph. Whatever the case, you click the link to the company's website. Everything looks legitimate, so you purchase with great anticipation.

However, when the order arrives (if it arrives at all), it's not the expected or imagined quality. The personalization might contain errors, or the product may differ completely from the website's description.

The contact for customer service doesn't respond, or if you speak with someone via phone or email, they assure you they will fix the issue-but never do. Ultimately, you are left with an undesirable product or no way to get your money back.

In a recent BBB Scam Tracker report, one consumer reported, "I saw an ad on Facebook advertising GOING OUT OF BUSINESS SALE for Big Lots. I placed an order on biglotsonsaling.com on my bank debit card and a separate order on my credit card. Then learned it's a scam. Big Lots knows about it. My roommate looked it up. I wish I had more more info but that's all

Another shopper reported this experience buying a custom hoodie online: «After 5 days, I hadn>t received a shipping notification and got curious. Returning to the site, I used their tracking option, but there was no result. I called the phone number on the site, which connected to a garage door company.»

How to avoid social media ad scams

Research the company before making a purchase. Before entering any personal information into a website, research the company thoroughly. Examine the website. Poor quality images, images found on other websites, and spelling and grammatical errors are all red flags. A real business should have valid contact information (i.e., a working phone number and customer service email address). If the business has a physical address, research it on Google or Apple Maps. Look to see if they have a profile on BBB.

Be skeptical of too-good-tobe-true ads. Ads promising extreme discounts, free products, or "limited-time offers" may be bait to lure you into a scam.

Inspect the ad and website. Look for red flags. Poor grammar, blurry images, or generic product descriptions can indicate a scam. You should also verify the URL. Scammers often create fake websites with slightly misspelled domain names. Also, check for HTTPS. Ensure the website URL starts with «https://» for secure transactions.

Look up reviews on other websites. Read as many reviews as possible from websites besides the company selling the product. Keep a close eye out for customer complaints. Search the business name in a trusted search engine along with the word «scam» to see if others have reported the business as a fake.

Beware of "sponsored" ads. Just because an ad is labeled «sponsored» doesn>t mean it>s legitimate. Social media platforms don>t always verify the authenticity of advertisers.

Pay with a credit card. Ideally, use a credit card instead of a debit card since it's easier to dispute fraudulent charges with a credit card, and there is a better chance of getting a refund.

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.

Public notices

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF

SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain Mortgage given by Bridget K. Sloan and Joseph C. Sloan to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for The Federal Savings Bank, its successors and assigns, dated November 16, 2018 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds at Book 22449, Page 172, subsequently assigned to U.S. Bank National Association by Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for The Federal Savings Bank, its successors and assigns by assignment recorded in said Hampden County Registry of Deeds at Book 23042, Page 332 for breach of the conditions of said Mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 PM on February 20, 2025 at 92 Wales Road. Brimfield, MA, all and singular the premises described

in said Mortgage, to wit: The land with buildings thereon in BRIMFIELD, Hampden County, Massachusetts, being further bounded and described as follows: The land being shown as Lot 4 on the westerly side of Wales Road, Brimfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts, on sheet 1 of 2 on a plan entitled "PLAN OF LAND, BRIMFIELD, MA, PREPARED FOR: JEFFREY L. PAULIN", dated March 26, 2004, drawn by Fancy Land Surveying, 3 Hastings Road, Spencer, MA and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book of Plans 333, Page 53 and Book of Plans 333, Page 54. Said Lot 4 containing 1.532 acres (66,750 +/- square feet) according to said plan. For title reference see Deed Book 22449, Page 128. The premises are to be sold subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, encroachments, building and zoning laws, liens, unpaid taxes, tax titles, water bills, municipal liens and assessments, rights of tenants and parties in possession, and attorney's fees and costs.

TERMS OF SALE: deposit of TEN THOUSAND DOLLARS AND 00 CENTS (\$10,000.00) in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or money order will be required to be delivered at or before the time the bid is offered. The successful bidder will be required to execute a Foreclosure Sale Agreement immediately after the close of the bidding. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid within thirty (30) days from the sale date in the form of a certified check, bank treasurer's check or other check satisfactory to Mortgagee's attorney. The Mortgagee reserves the right to bid at the sale, to reject any and all bids, to continue the sale and to amend the terms of the sale by written or oral announcement made before or during the foreclosure sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to

a return of the deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagor, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication. TIME WILL BE OF THE ESSENCE.

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

U.S. BANK NATIONAL ASSOCIATION Present Holder of said Mortgage, By Its Attorneys, ORLANS LAW GROUP **PLLC** PO Box 540540 Waltham, MA 02454 Phone: (781) 790-7800 22-003513 01/30, 02/06, 02/13/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court** Hampden Probate and **Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD25P0069GD In the interests of Carter Joseph Stanikmas of Palmer, MA Minor

NOTICE AND ORDER: **Petition for Appointment** of Guardian of a Minor NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time: A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 01/15/2025 by Ashley M Stanikmas of Palmer, MA will be held 02/12/2025 08:30 AM. Located: Hampden Probate & Family Court, 50 State Street 4th Floor, Springfield MA 01103.

2. Response to Petition: You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court: and

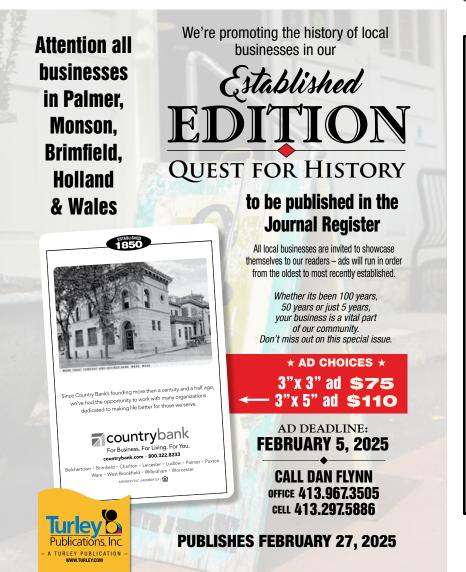
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the

hearing.
3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your

case is going to be heard. 5. Presence of the Minor at **Hearing**: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests. Date: January 22, 2025

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 01/30/2025



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 school grounds, municipal buildings and dams, cemeteries, 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.

The Town of Wales is an AA/EOE.

When is a good time for **Roth conversion?**

In life, you often get second chances — and the same is true with investing. To illustrate: You might not have been able to contribute to a Roth IRA during your working years due to your income level, but you may get that opportunity as you near retirement, or even when you are retired — through a Roth

Why is a Roth IRA desirable for some people? Here are the key benefits:

• Tax-free withdrawals – You put in after-tax dollars to a Roth IRA, so you can withdraw your contributions at any time, free of taxes and penalties. And if you've had your account for at least five years and you're at least 591/2, you can also withdraw your earnings free of taxes.

• No RMDs – With a traditional IRA, you'll have to start taking withdrawals — called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — when you turn 73, or 75 if you were born in 1960 or later. But there's no RMD requirement with a Roth IRA you can essentially leave the money intact as long as you like.

• Tax-free legacy for your heirs – When your heirs inherit your Roth IRA, they can withdraw the contributions without paying taxes or penalties, and if the account has been open at least five years, they can also withdraw earnings tax free.

But even if you were aware of these advantages, you might not have been able to invest in a Roth IRA for much of your life. For one thing, you might have earned too much money — a Roth IRA, unlike a traditional IRA, has income limits. Also, a Roth IRA has only been around since 1998, so, in the previous years, you were limited to a traditional IRA.

As you approach retirement, though, you might start thinking of just how much you'd like to benefit from a Roth IRA. And you can do so by converting your traditional IRA to a Roth. While this sounds simple, there's a major caveat: taxes. You'll be taxed on the amount in pre-tax dollars you contributed to a traditional IRA and then converted to a Roth IRA. (If you have both pre- and after-tax dollars in your traditional IRA, the taxable amount is based on the percentage of pre-tax dollars.)

If you have large amounts in a traditional IRA, the tax bill on conversion can be significant. The key to potentially lowering this tax bill is timing. Generally speaking, the lower your income in a given year, the more favorable it is for you to convert to a Roth IRA. So, for example, if you have already retired, but have not started collecting RMDs, your income may

Timing also comes into play with the financial markets. When the market is going through a decline, and the value of your traditional IRA drops, you could convert the same number of shares of the underlying investments and receive a lower tax bill or convert more shares of these investments for what would have been the same tax bill.

Finally, you could lower your tax bill in any given year by stretching out your Roth IRA conversions over several years, rather than doing it all at once.

You'll want to consult with your tax advisor before embarking on this conversion — but if it's appropriate for your situation, you could find that owning a Roth IRA can benefit you and your family for years to come.

Edward Jones MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC



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Sheriff's Office Participates in 60th Presidential Inaugural







rs Goouth

-Your Local Favorite Restaurants





See our website for our Banquet & Catering Menu

lacucinahampden.com

Mon.-Thurs. 3-9pm, Fri. & Sat. 11:30am-10pm & Sun. 11:30am-9pm

LOUNGE OPEN & PIZZA 7 DAYS

BAR OPEN LATE!

LUDLOW-Sheriff Nick Cocchi and the Hampden County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) were proud to have a team of 10 officers, led by Law Enforcement Division Chief Frank Ott, participate in the historic 60th Presidential Inauguration in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 20. The HCSO team was part of a massive security effort that included about 4,000 law enforcement officers from across the nation working to ensure a safe and secure environment for the event.

"We were honored to have our officers represent Hampden County at this momentous event," said Sheriff Nick Cocchi. "I couldn't be more proud of Chief Ott and his team for their hard work and professionalism in such frigid conditions. Their dedication to keeping the public safe during this important day was truly re-

The team arrived in Washington on Saturday, Jan. 18, and participated in a briefing and training session on Sunday before being sworn in and deputized under the U.S. Marshal Service. On Inauguration Day, the HCSO officers were assigned to the area outside Capital One Arena, where they supported the Presidential Inaugural

Task Force for 17 hours, starting at 4 a.m. The weather was particularly challenging as the team worked in freezing temperatures, but the HCSO officers maintained their focus on ensuring public safety and order. When the Inauguration moved indoors, the team's efforts shifted to crowd control along H Street, between 4th and 12th streets and managing the flow of

people heading to Capital One Arena. Chief Ott, who served as commander of one of seven Task Force elements under the leadership of Pequea Township (Pennsylvania) Police Chief John Michener, and other element leaders were commended for their teams' adaptability in quickly adjusting to changing circumstances and large, unfamiliar geographical areas. Minor disturbances were quickly addressed, and the teams received praise from both their commanders and officials from the Metropolitan Police for their effec-

tiveness in managing the situation. "This event was a prime example of the professionalism and teamwork that makes our department so strong," said Chief Ott. "Despite the difficult conditions, our team performed flawlessly, and it was truly a privilege to be part of such a critical security operation."

In addition to Chief Ott, the Hampden County Sheriff's Office officers who participated were Capt. Jeff Anger, Lt. Nichole Sady, Lt. Marcus Edmonds, Deputy Leonel Marques, Cpl. Rey Santa, Cpl. Jorge Delgado, Lt. Mario Cardinale, Capt. Chris Seriol, and Capt. Stephen Rose. They were joined by Tolland Police Chief Scott Bergeron and Sgt. Robert Spiegler, as well as Granville Police Chief Rick Rindels, Sgt. Brian Moore, Lt. Patrick Winslow, and Officers John Stone and Cindi Muszynski.

This year's Inauguration, which coincided with Martin Luther King Jr. Day for only the third time in history, marked a special moment for the nation, and the HCSO team was proud to play a role in ensuring





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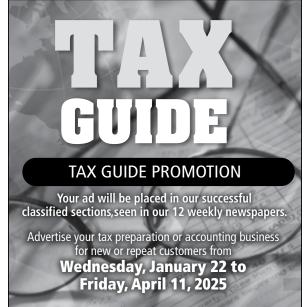
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