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Granby Eagle Scout earns award

Honoring those who have passed at cemetery

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer

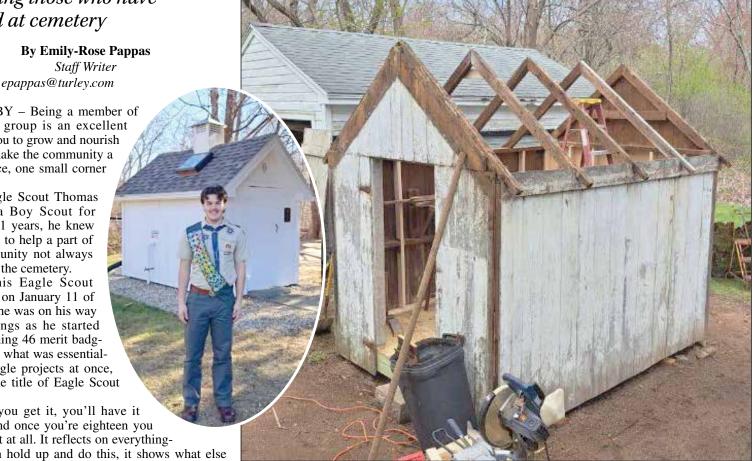
GRANBY - Being a member of a club or group is an excellent way for you to grow and nourish skills to make the community a better place, one small corner at a time.

For Eagle Scout Thomas DeWitt, a Boy Scout for the past 11 years, he knew he wanted to help a part of the community not always looked at: the cemetery.

After his Eagle Scout ceremony on January 11 of this year, he was on his way to big things as he started early, earning 46 merit badges and did what was essentially two Eagle projects at once, earning the title of Eagle Scout at 16.

"Once you get it, you'll have it forever, and once you're eighteen you can't get it at all. It reflects on everythingif you can hold up and do this, it shows what else you can accomplish," said Thomas.

Please see **SCOUT**, page 4



INSET: Thomas DeWitt proudly standing with the newly rebuilt shed and displaying his merit badges. ABOVE: The shed getting a new roof installed, the old one discarded to give the structure new life.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Some of the beautifully decorated wrapped books to choose from.

Libraries provide fun way to read new books

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer epappas@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN/GRANBY -One of the most fun ways to read a book is to have a little mystery included with it.

The Clapp Memorial Library and the Granby Free Public Library have selections of wrapped book under the "Blind Date with a Book" shelves.

Each wrapped book is a mystery, save for the vague description on the front of the wrapping that will tell you things like its genre, and a one-sentence idea of the book's plot.

Please see **LIBRARY**, page 3

Committee seeks to 're-brand' town

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer epappas@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN - Branding Belchertown, a new committee, came together to create a new mission in order to update the town seal, create a new town logo, and "develop brand guidelines for how the town can use this new visual identity", said Kate Nadeau, a member of the committee.

The main mission of Branding Belchertown is composed of four tion by "streaming how municipal

main ideas: to honor our legacy, support economic growth, foster community pride, and enhance communication.

We can honor our legacy "by respecting the history and values that make Belchertown unique", and support economic growth by "attracting businesses, visitors, and residents by showcasing our town's strengths."

We can foster community pride by "creating a sense of unity and belonging among all residents", and we can enhance communicadepartments and the town present themselves to the public."

"The Committee will do this by leading a community-informed process for updating the town seal, creating a new town logo, and developing brand guidelines for how the Town can use this new visual identity," Nadeau explained.

The town seal itself will be in that the seal will become digitalized, as the original town seal is a piece of artwork around six

Please see **RE-BRAND**, page 5

Town faces tough budget decisions

By Melina Bourdeau Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN - In a joint meeting of the Selectboard, Finance Committee and School Committee to discuss the town's daunting budget challenges, officials grappled maintaining essential services and supporting the local school district amid a persistent funding shortfall.

The meeting laid bare the difficult tradeoffs facing the community, with school and town leaders outlining a financial picture that threatens to undermine the quality of education and other vital public

This year, Belchertown Public Schools Superintendent Brian Cameron said there will be positions cut again this fiscal year.

"We're going to lose 20-something positions this year," he said.

In the last five years, he's cut \$4.7 million from the level service budget, which included reducing 30 positions.

"We simply cannot afford to lose more teachers, programs or resources," said Peter Weller, a Belchertown resident and parent. "Our students deserve better."

Pathfinder Regional Technical Vocational School Superintendent Eric Duda spoke to the officials. The school which serves nine towns including Belchertown, has seen an enrollment increase of 34% over the past four years, the minimum required increase in Belchertown's assessment is just over \$26,000 for the upcoming fiscal year, according to Duda.

"We're doing everything possible to make an entire budget work, and specifically for Belchertown, to keep that minimum number," Duda said.

Please see **BUDGET**, page 3

New member inducted into the Granby Lions Club

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer

epappas@turley.com

GRANBY - Being able to spend your time supporting and helping your community can be one of the most rewarding things, as it pulls you in to making your home a better place.

Dakota Richards had the dream of making his home town a better place, and in November of 2024 was inducted into the Lions Club so that he could truly take part in that dream.

He works also as a Real Estate Broker in Granby and surrounding towns for ERA Laplante Real Estate, and is a member of the South Hadley/Granby Chamber of Commerce, as well as serving as an elected official in town.

"Strong community involvement has always been very important to me," said Richards. "Granby seems to always be the forgotten town, I'm always promoting events and information, along with trying to

get others involved in current community events."

The ceremony in November was made up of the members of the Granby Lions Club, and they came to support and welcome Richards into the position.

"We are ordinary people doing amazing things. Lions Club International has over 1.4 million men and women serving together worldwide," said Richards. "Being a Lion is about leading by example, building relationships and improving the world and local community."

James Pietras was his sponsor for joining the Club, and part of the induction ceremony. James was Richard's elementary school principal, so being able to have him as a part of the ceremony and by his side was special, indeed.

"Mr. Pietras was one of my mentors growing up throughout elementary school, a d having him be my sponsor into the Lions Club and being able to giving back to the community together is what



Dakota Richards (center) with sponsor James Pietras (right) and King Lion Dave Cote, welcoming Dakota during the ceremony.

was special," said Richards.

The Lions Club and its motto, "Ordinary people doing amazing things", is revealed in all of the

many community service projects the Club works on every year in

Please see **LIONS**, page 9



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■ COMMUNITY

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 communities.

In 2006, Dr. Paist hired me as 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

As an administrator for more than a decade, including as his Assistant Superintendent, I had the privilege of working side-by-side 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,

fun way to practice your read-

ing skills? Want to snuggle a dog

while reading to him? Sign up for

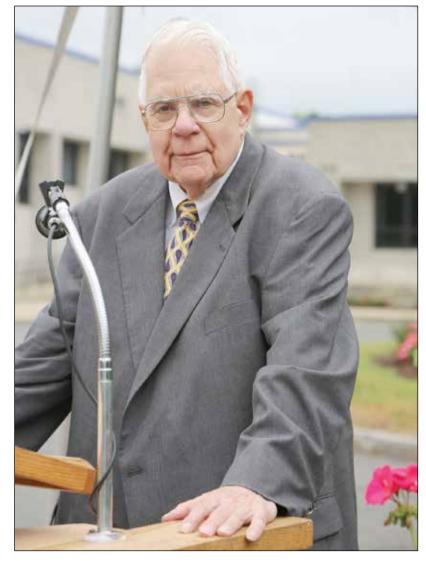
a time slot to read to Gwen the

Greyhound. She is a perfect lis-

tener as you work on your reading

skills or as you practice reading

out loud. Bring a book from home



he remained a steadfast and dedicated leader for decades, overseeing Pathfinder Tech through significant

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 beyond the walls of our school. Through him, I learned invaluable lessons about the political process,

GRANBY— Looking for a or pick one at the library before 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thurs.

Upcoming dates are: Thursdays

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Granby Library hours: T,W,F

your time slot. Gwen loves every

between 3:30 to 5 p.m. Feb. 20,

March 6 and 20, April 3 and 17

reserve your 20-minute slot.

school funding, and the importance of relationships with local leaders.

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

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 per-

10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m.. and Sat.10:30

a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Telephone 413-

Visit granbylibrary.com and

Granby Library Children's Room

467-3320

Page on Facebook.

formances 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 cherished.

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 me.

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 years.

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 come.

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 final years.

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.

BCTV Schedule

Thursday, Feb. 13

- 8 a.m.- Conservation Comm.-Feb. 10
- 10 a.m.- Branding Belchertown Project Comm.-
- noon- Community preservation comm.- Feb. 2
- 5 p.m.- Conservation Comm.-
- 7 p.m.- Branding Belchertown
- Project Comm.-Feb. 4 8 p.m.- Community preservation comm.- Feb. 2

Friday, Feb. 14

- 8 a.m.- Clapp- Dwight Village
- 9:30 a.m.- McPherson Trails
- 7 p.m.- Clapp- Dwight Village

• 9 p.m.- McPherson Trails

- Saturday, Feb. 15 • 8 a.m.- Polar plunge
- 4:30 p.m.- Polar plunge

Sunday, Feb. 16

- 4:30 p.m.- St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
- 6 p.m.- Christ Community
- Church • 7 p.m.- Hope United
- Methodist Church
- 8:30 p.m.- BVJ- How to run for office

Monday, Feb. 17

- 8 a.m.- Clapp- 9 people you should know
- 10 a.m.- Clapp- Starry Night • 10:30 a.m.- Lost Towns of the
- Quabbin • 5 p.m.- Clapp- 9 people you should know
- 7 p.m.- Clapp- Starry Night
- 7:30 p.m.- Lost Towns of the

Tuesday, Feb. 18

- · 8 a.m.- Memories of Belchertown-Pauling Johnson
- 5 p.m.- Memories of Belchertown-Pauling Johnson
- 6 p.m.- School committeechannel 192
- · Community Preservation committee-channel 191

Wednesday, Feb. 19

8 a.m.- Morning glory bread

• 5 p.m.- Morning glory bread

Relay for Life looking for participants

BELCHERTOWN-Relay for Life Kick Off event from 1-3 p.m. on Feb.23 at Hope Church on Main Street in Belchertown. This is a fun and educational gathering. Information will be given out regarding our Relay for Life event.

Quaboag Valley Relay for Life is on May 31 on the Belchertown Common from 10 a.m. - 10 p.m. Everyone has been effected with 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 some in 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 accomplishments.

If you are thinking about starting a team or joining a team, this gathering can help you. For additional info please email ctellie@juno.com.

Annual wine tasting event at

Clapp Library BELCHERTOWN-Have an open calendar for Saturday, March 1? The Friends of Clapp Memorial Library invite you to come by the

Library on March 1, from 7 to 9 p.m., when they will be hosting their annual free wine tasting NOTICE

This is a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and see

your library. Light refreshments

and nonalcoholic beverages will be available. You must be 21



Read to a dog at the Granby Library

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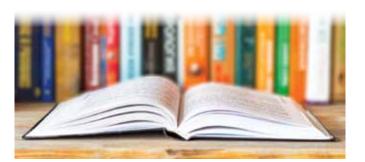
insertion, nor will be liable for





Book donations needed

BELCHERTOWN—The Friends of Clapp Memorial are now accepting donations for their upcoming spring book sale. They are looking for donations of books in good condition, DVDs, CDs, and records. They are not accepting encyclopedias, or VRC tapes (they can be donated to Goodwill). Donations may be left downstairs at the library during regular library hours.



■ COMMUNITY

Palmer location selected as site for East/West Compass Rail train stop

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff writer mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – The Department of Transportation has announced its selection for the train stop for the East/West Passenger Rail, selecting the south side of Palmer Yard on South Main Street.

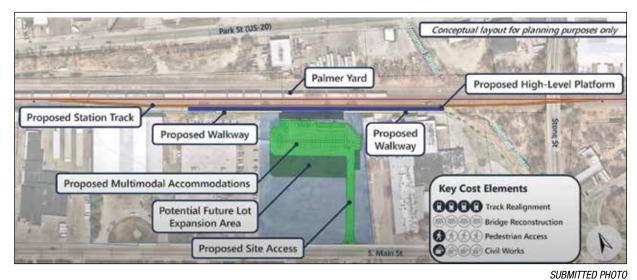
This site was determined to offer the amount of property needed for a platform to accommodate ADA needs and passenger train length, and is expected to have fewer permit requirements, making it the most affordable of the nine alternative sites that were considered. The location is estimated to be about half a mile from downtown, and was chosen after months of review, including feedback from stakeholders and community engagement

"We're thrilled to have reached another milestone for West-East Rail and our efforts to expand rail service across the state with the selection of a preferred site for Palmer Station. This is going to be a major boost for Western Mass and for our state's economy," said Governor Maura Healey. "We're grateful for all of the input we received from community members that helped us choose the best site for the station."

"Expanding rail capacity and connectivity in Massachusetts is essential if we want to remain economically competitive," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "We applaud the efforts that have culminated in the selection of a Palmer Station location and look forward to seeing this component of West-East Rail advance to completion."

"We are pleased to see that there is forward movement on a station in Palmer. I thank everyone on the steering committee and community members who gave feedback about this process," said Town Manager Brad Brothers. "We look forward to working with MassDOT on this next phase."

The next step is for the project



A draft diagram of how the proposed train station will fit into the selected site on South Main Street

team to create a conceptual design and coordinate with railway owner CSX, the site property owner, and the proposed service operator, Amtrak, on the feasibility of the construction.

"We are very pleased to see ongoing progress in the advancement of the Compass Rail program, which will give residents the passenger rail connectivity they need and deserve," said Transportation Secretary Monica Tibbits-Nutt. "Throughout the planning and design phase for Palmer Station, we have been committed to working with the community to make a site selection that reflects their needs in the decades ahead. We appreciate all the feedback and look forward to continuing this dialogue."

Compass Rail is made up of existing and proposed East/West and North/South services that intersect in Springfield at Union Station. The goal of this expansive vision for the commonwealth is to integrate existing DOT-supported services into a unified system that increases the public's access to comprehensive transportation.

"The South of Palmer Yard location has great potential as a future stop within the Compass Rail network, and the local stakeholders' feedback has been invaluable in helping us reach an informed decision," said Rail and Transit



TURLEY PHOTO BY MARCELO GUSMÃO

Palmer Yard, on South Main Street, has been selected as the site for the proposed train stop for the East/West Passenger Rai

Administrator Meredith Slesinger. "The site's strategic location within Palmer and its cost-effective geography are significant benefits for the community both short- and long-term."

This rail stop will be able to connect to several services supported and managed by DOT, including the following Amtrakoperated routes: the Vermonter that services Washington, D.C. and St. Albans, VT with stops in Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton, and Greenfield; the Valley Flyer between Greenfield and New Haven, CT, with stops in Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton, and Greenfield; the Hartford Line and Northeast Regional between Springfield and New Haven, CT or Washington, D.C.; and the seasonal, pilot service, the Berkshire Flyer, which runs between Pittsfield and New York City.

In addition to these routes, the

East/West Rail represents proposed new Compass Rail services that will improve connections between the eastern and western parts of the state, including an Inland Route to operate between Boston and New Haven, CT through Springfield and a Boston and Albany Corridor through Pittsfield.

"After years of advocacy by the residents of Palmer, they are one step closer to realizing their goal of a Palmer train station," said Congressman Richard Neal. "This announcement follows a fair and thorough review by MassDOT, one that has been transparent throughout the decision-making process. Located just half a mile from the downtown area, this site will play a critical role in unlocking economic growth in the Town of Palmer and surrounding communities, while providing the space needed to accommodate the demand for increased passenger rail."

"We are fortunate to have two leaders in Governor Healey and Lieutenant Governor Driscoll who have been steadfast in their support of improving and expanding passenger rail service throughout the Commonwealth," Neal said. "With Massachusetts receiving more than \$9 billion in federal funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, we have made substantial progress in advancing key rail projects, enhancing connectivity, and modernizing our transportation network. Today marks yet another significant milestone in making West-East Rail a reality.'

"We are excited to see West-East Rail mark this milestone and move forward with the conceptual design of the project. We look forward to being a partner in helping to create more transportation options for residents here in Palmer and western Massachusetts," shared Kimberly Robinson, Executive Director of the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

For more information on the development of Compass Rail, you can visit their website at Mass.gov/Compass-Rail.

BUDGET from page 1

Jill Messier, the town accountant, outlined the town's revenue sources and mandatory expenses.

While the governor's proposed budget includes a net increase of \$258,000 for Belchertown, that funding will be split 70/30 between the school district and other town departments. With fixed costs like health insurance and pensions continuing to rise, officials acknowledged that tough decisions lie ahead.

"The bottom line is, we have x amount of dollars, and the town needs to function with essential services, and certain services that we must provide, and the school

must function with essential services," said Finance Committee Chair Laurie Shea said.

The prospect of a Proposition 2 1/2 override, which would allow the town to raise taxes beyond the state's annual 2.5% cap, was discussed, but quickly dismissed as a short-term solution that would not address the underlying revenue challenges.

"If the two and a half override solves the problem, then I'd be interested in hearing more about it, but it would not solve the problem," said Select Board member Lesa Lessard Pearson. "We would be right back where we are now, 12 months from now."

Instead, officials emphasized

the need to explore long-term strategies to boost revenue, such as attracting new businesses and lobbying state legislators for changes to the school funding formula. However, they acknowledged that these efforts would take time to bear fruit.

"There's no golden ticket that's going to help us this year," said Town Manager Steve Williams.

Selectboard Chair Ed Boscher said the budget process isn't finished yet and the meeting created good discussion.

"We're all part of the same community. We all live here," said Boscher. "It's not easy, but that's what you elected us to do."



SUBMITTED PHOTO

What book would you choose to spend some time reading?

LIBRARY from page 1

From romance to mystery, and fantasy to historical fiction, there are many genres to choose from, and you can check them out at the front desks of the library.

The Granby Free Public Library is also hosting a Love Your Library Raffle, and there is a raffle basket of goodies to win. You can purchase tickets at the library during open hours, with one ticket for \$2, or 3 tickets for \$5.

Choose to treat yourself this Valentine's Day with a wrapped book, and a fun raffle for a chance to earn some tasty treats.



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Amherst's Fifth Annual Fire & Ice Festival + Luminaria

Business Improvement District (BID) in collaboration with Amherst Recreation is excited to announce the Fifth Annual Fire & Ice Festival + Luminaria, scheduled for Saturday, Feb. 22, 2025, from 3 to 6 p.m. on the Amherst Common. This event marks the culmination of Amherst's week-long WinterFest and has become a highlight of the winter season, attracting over 2,000 attendees each vear.

"The Fire & Ice Festival + Luminaria is a cherished tradition that brings our community of local families and residents, students,

AMHERST—The Amherst and seniors together to celebrate the beauty and excitement of the winter season," said Sarah Barr of Amherst College which presents the event. "We invite everyone to join us for an afternoon filled with art, performances, and delicious treats, all while supporting our local busi-

> Attendees can look forward to a variety of engaging activities,

> Hot Cocoa, S'mores, & Fire Pits: Warm up with complimentary hot cocoa and roast s'mores over open fire pits.

Ice Sculptures: Marvel at ten

intricate ice sculptures displayed throughout the Amherst Common.

Winter Tie-Dye Crafting: Participate in creative winter-themed tie-dye projects with Amherst Recreation.

Fire Arts Performance: Enjoy a captivating fire juggling performance by Matica Arts.

Metal Sculptures Demonstration: Witness live metal sculpting by local artist and Hampshire College alum Kamil

Wood Carving Demonstration: Observe Amherst resident Cody Stosz of Kodiak Carving showcase his wood carving skills.

Special Menu Items: Savor delicious food and cocktail specials from the Inn on Boltwood.

Additionally, the Amherst Fire Department will be present with their fire truck, offering fire safety information and an opportunity to meet Spark the Fire Pup.

"This festival not only celebrates the winter season but also highlights the vibrant community spirit of Amherst," said John Page, Executive Director of the Amherst BID. "We encourage everyone to explore downtown Amherst's unique shops and restaurants before

and after the event."

The Fire & Ice Festival + Luminaria is organized by Amherst Recreation and the Amherst **Business Improvement District** made possible by the generosity of many local businesses and community partners including presenting sponsor Amherst College, and supported by Summerlin Floors, Encharter Insurance, Amherst Innovative Living, and more! For more information and updates, please visit amherstdowntown.com and follow us on social media @ amherstdowntown.



Thomas DeWitt with shovels at a gravestone, getting ready to level the line of graves.



Moving the old shed to its new location, complete with new wood paneling.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

A newly filled hole after the levelling was completed.

SCOUT from page 1

His Eagle Project was based in the West Cemetery in Granby, and the old section had several gravestones that were crooked or broken, in need of being pulled out of the ground and levelled and reset.

"At his Eagle Scout ceremony, someone talked about how most people do things for the living, but not everyone does things for the past," said Jennifer DeWitt, Thomas' mother.

Whenever I go there, I know that some of my family's buried there, and I saw the stones were toppled and I didn't like seeing that. I also know a lot of people water the flowers they put there, so I thought it would be a good idea to put up a shed with a water tank in it.'

Some of the graves are over 100 years old, and some more than 200 years old with dates as old as 1810 written on the stones in the small corner of the cemetery.

"I learned a lot during the project, because each stone was a little different," said Thomas. "It meant a lot to me, and it made me feel good, and I liked that other people liked it. I got a lot of community support

Thomas did a lot of research, including the right kinds of chemicals needed to clean the algae and moss off of the stones, finding D-2 worked the best.

"Originally it was ten, and I ended up doing thirty," said Thomas. "I also took an old shed that was already standing and we rebuilt the whole thing and moved it to a new spot and put in a well with a 275-gallon water tank in the shed."

"We also put in gutters on the shed to collect rainwater and installed a pump that pulls water from the well into the tank.' Some of the stones were even

moved and they found where they went and put them back where they were originally, making sure they were levelled and secure in the

Many people worked hard to assist Thomas in his projects, and Amherst Farmers Supply gave discounts for the supplies for the pump and plumbing. He also learned, through the gen-

erosity of members of the town and neighboring communities who came to help, about carpentry, plumbing, roofing, and painting.

"A lot of town residents who walk in the cemetery saw it and they congratulated me," said Thomas.

The community came together to support Thomas' Eagle Projects at the cemetery, including Shedworks in Belchertown who moved the shed, Class Grass in Granby who donated most of the stone fur under the shed, paint from Scherwin Williams, gutters from Clark and Son in Belchertown, and roofing from R.K. Miles.

Granby Country Grain, Home Depot, Keith Preston Home Improvement, Gould Carpentry, and folks in town and other scout leaders including Brian Patrick who is a plumber, donated their time or resources to show Thomas how to do complete the projects.

"I would say I'm most proud of how much work he put in, but also the response of the community," said



Gravestones on a table getting cleaned and carefully treated.



A green leveler lifting up the gravestone so that the ground can be filled in.

Rollin DeWitt, Thomas' father.

"The fact that he did all the research, and a lot of community resources came to help build it. He had a lot of community members who came to teach Thomas how to use the equipment for the project," said Jennifer DeWitt.

Through fundraising with car washes and raffles and donations of money, Thomas was able to raise \$4,000 to put towards the \$7,500 project, where most of it was donat-

The cemetery now stands proudly, and in a much better state, all thanks to a young man who worked hard to maintain the dignity of those who have passed.



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COMMUNITY

QHMA invites public to Bingo Night fundraiser

PALMER - The Quaboag Hills 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

"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 than originally planned."

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 Ouaboag 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.



DCR lists upcoming hybrid presentations

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

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.

History of Rutland Prison Camp

Sunday, Feb. 16 from 2-3 p.m.

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

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

Microscopic world of the Quabbin Reservoir

Sunday, Feb. 23 from 2-3 p.m.

What's in the water? Learn about the microorganisms that live in the water, and how they can impact water quality.

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 reservoir?

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

RE-BRAND from page 1

feet tall. Over the years, the seal in its original black and white, was colorized and made into image files and reproduced hundreds of times.

"Modern times require a town seal file that is an SVG - scalable vector graphic," said Nadeau. "This type of file allows for the seal to be used over a variety of platforms in all different sizes and maintains the image quality.'

"Town seals are maintained by the state, and the town will be required to vote on the updated seal at the town meeting this May, before the updated version can be filed with the state."

The Branding Belchertown Committee will also be developing a new town logo, which is different from a town seal, because the logo is used for unifying town departments and entities together as one, whereas a seal is for official business.

"This also works hand in hand with the third requirement which is for branding guidelines for the town. These guidelines would outline town colors, fonts..." said Nadeau.

The project was launched in November of 2024, during a time when the town's economic development and community identity was changing.

After the COVID-19 pandemic, challenges were brought on that had significantly impacted the town's small businesses as decreased sales and customer service, and a move to shopping online, it revealed a greater need for a stronger local binding.

"In November, the Town hired a project manager to support this initiative. The effort was led by Maude Haak-Frendscho, Creative Economy Coordinator for Belchertown, a consulting position that took control. Prior to that this is something that the Communications Committee recognized needed to happen," said Nadeau.

In short, the overarching goal of this new committee and rebranding Belchertown resides in the mission to bring in more business to Belchertown, as well as increasing tourism and civic

The community has an opportunity to participate in this process, and can get involved in many different ways

The Committee will be selecting the design firm this week at their meeting on Tuesday, February 11, and you can find the finalist chosen on the town website under Branding Belchertown.

"Once the contract is signed with the design firm more information on what community involvement will look like will be released - via the town's website, committee webspace, the Town's Facebook page, as well as press releases," said Nadeau.

The committee has bi-weekly open meetings that members of the community can come to ask questions and learn more about the process, and the agendas and Zoom links for these meetings are on the Town of Belchertown Agenda Center, or watch the recordings on BCTV's YouTube Channel, and on the Town's Facebook page.

There is one vacancy on the committee, and interested parties can email Steve Williams at swilliams@belchertown.org for more information.

The committee is looking for the support of the community, and by sharing what they are doing with your neighbors can really help in getting the process moving, and allowing for feedback, as the committee looks to create new branding for our town.

"For me personally... I am most excited about the future potential of this project," said Nadeau. "This project's ability to help shape the future of Belchertown is critical."

"And as a town employee, member of this committee and the Communication Committee, as well as a communication and marketing professional I can say the same - what excites me to the most if the future Belchertown this project could bring.

The Branding Committee is not here to change the story of our town, but instead, trying to tell it in a way that will uplift the town, bring in a sense of civic pride, and see Belchertown as a good place to start a new business, raise a family, or visit.

"We have so much to offer and this project is one step in telling the world what that is," said Nadeau.

This project will not take away anything from the town or school budgets, and was funded by ARPA money that was specifically designated to support the town's economic development and marketing strategy, and the funds were required to be allocated for spending by the end of 2024.

Much of the formulation of this project was created from outlines in the Local Rapid Recovery Plan and the Community Plan, found on the town

You can find more information about the committee and its goals on their website, https://www.belchertown.org/578/Branding-Belchertown-Committee.

William

raveis.com

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NEWS & FEATURES As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general

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

For more information on news or community features for The Sentinel, please email sentinel@turley.com

A **TURLEY** PUBLICATION



OPINION



Roses or carnations,



speak. It is probably because I am frugal and roses cost an arm and a leg this time of year.

Get me a carnation and I am happy. They don't bend at the neck or pick you with thorns. They even smell nice, to me the fragrance is that of cloves.

So this will be a combo column. First, it will give our rose lovers out there the best chance of keeping their admirer's big investment healthy for the longest possible time. Then, I will do the same for the humble carnation.

Perhaps you will be the lucky recipient of roses on Friday. I have a couple tricks up my sleeve to help you increase their vase-life. First, remove the roses from their box and give each one a fresh cut on a forty-five degree

If you can do this under water, all the better to prevent what I call "bent head" or "limp neck" syndrome- an air bubble clogging the

You should also remove any foliage that will be underwater - it will rot and make the water stinky and full of bacteria. Leaves on the top third of the stem can remain as long as they look pretty; unbeknownst to me, these will continue to photosynthesize, making food to help the rose color up to its full potential.

We all have had a few "bent heads" or "limp necks" in our day - a shame, considering how expensive roses are, especially when purchased on a holiday. If you catch this situation early there is a way to remedy it: recut the stem of the rose or roses in question and soak them horizontally, under water for a half-hour or so.

This technique is contrary to what one might think is good for a many-petaled flower. I would argue that water trapped within the petals would breed fungi and shorten vase-life, but I guess if the rose is doomed to the fate of a bent head, it's worth a shot. Regular folks have tried it in the bathtub and have been successful.

How about those carnations? They aren't as fussy as their more expensive counterparts, but here are a few helpful hints. Recut their stems to just above a node (the bump where leaves come from) and place in floral preservative.

If you don't have floral preservative, you can make your own. Here is a recipe that, just like the professional blends, contain the three necessary components for fresh flower health and longevity: carbohydrates, a biocide and pH adjuster.

1t sugar

1t bleach

2t lemon or lime juice (strained) 1 quart water

Alternate version:

1-12 ounce can decaf lemon/lime soda

3 cans water

1T bleach Mix and stir to flatten

Each of these preservatives should be stored in the refrigerator with contents labeled.

Sometimes, carnations come very tightly budded. If you want them to open quickly, without waiting days, you can up the sugar content in the preservative to force bloom.

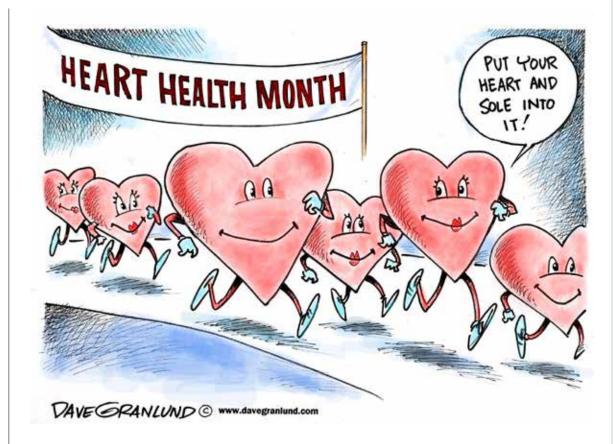
Do expect that you won't get to enjoy them as long in the vase if you do this, though, since their energy will be spent.

Cut flowers are sensitive to ethylene gas, and carnations are especially sensitive. Rotting foliage, ripening fruit, cigarette smoke and exhaust all release ethylene gas, which acts like a hormone that triggers maturation and death. For that reason we avoid storing flowers in the household fridge.

I had my own firsthand experience. I had arrangements to make at work, but had jury duty the day they were needed. I made them a day early and cleared out one of the coolers. Wouldn't you know it that someone put an apple inside without my knowing. Sure enough everything was ruined.

Whether you are a rose lover or a carnation lover, or enjoy any flower in between, I hope that you either treat yourself, or are treated by someone else, either on St. Valentine's Day or sometime soon!

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.





Why was Social Security money moved to the **General Treasury?**

Why were the Social Security funds moved from the Social Security account to the General Fund with the government?

Is it not then called a tax making it an entitlement? That then gives the government control of our retirement. Most of us feel that someone should be in charge and use the Social Security fund with investments that grow our savings.

I invested my 401,000 and savings and the original amount made me money during the Trump years and I'm now trying to catch up. I make this statement because I draw more from my investments than I receive from Social Security.

Signed: Questioning Senior Citizen

Dear Questioning Senior:

I'm afraid I must inform you that no Social Security funds have ever been moved from the Social Security account to the government's General Fund; this is a pervasive myth which we have refuted many times over the years. For information, here is one of many articles I have published on this topic, which I hope you find interesting: https://socialsecurityreport.org/ ask-rusty-about-repaying-social-security-money-taken-by-politicians/.

Someone actually is charged with monitoring our ocial Security funds, a board of Social Security Trustees consisting of the Secretaries of Treasury, Labor, and Health and Human Services, as well

as the Commissioner of Social Security plus two Public Trustees. Each year the Social Security Trustees do a complete analysis of the Social Security program, especially its financial status and outlook for the future. If you have interest in the Trustee's latest annual report, here is a link to the 2024 analysis: https://socialsecurityreport.org/ wp-content/uploads/2024/05/tr24summary.pdf.

What you will find in the Trustees' report is that Social Security will run out of reserved funds in about 2033, necessitating an across the board cut of about 21% for everyone, unless Congress acts soon to reform the program and restore it to fiscal solvency. The Trustees have warned Congress about this problem for many years, but Congress has yet to find the bipartisan cooperation needed to fix the problem.

Association of Mature American Citizens has steadfastly offered proposals to Congress, which would restore Social Security to solvency and will continue to do so with the new 119th Congress, which convened on Jan. 3, 2025.

Please know that we appreciate your feedback and commend you for the wise use of your 401k investments, something that many of our members find necessary to supplement their Social Security. Remember, Social Security was never intended to provide all your retirement income, so earlier saving to supplement your retirement financial needs was a very wise move on your part.

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/ $social\mbox{-}security\mbox{-}advisory\ or\ email\ us\ at\ ssadvisor @$ amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

My daughter saw a pair of hooded mergansers on the Ware River on two different occasions.

She said, "They were riding those rapids to the bridge and looked like they were having a blast. Then they



Male and female hooded merganser

just hung out under the bridge."

The hooded merganser is the smallest of the mergansers at 18 inches long. It has a short thin bill and crested head. The male has a black head, white fan shaped patch within the crest, which is only visible when the crest is raised. The flanks are brown and the back black. It also has black vertical lines on its white breast. The female is plan brown with a darker back and red brown crest. The immature female looks like the adult female and the immature male similar to the female, but they some white in the crest.

Hooded mergansers dive underwater and eat small fish, frogs, crustaceans, mollusks and aquatic insects. Courtship begins in mid winter. Females do head bobbing and pumping. Most male displays involve crest raising. The male makes a frog like note and the female makes a hoarse "gak."

The female lays six to eight white eggs in a nest of grasses and down placed in a tree cavity or nest box. Mergansers summer on wooded rivers and lakes and winters on similar locations as well as along the coast.

Ludlow birds

On Saturday, Jan. 25 a Ludlow resident emailed about the birds in her backyard. She said, "The usual visitors are purple finches, white-throated sparrows, juncos, titmice, nuthatches, bluejays, mourning doves, cardinals and red bellied woodpeckers. Yesterday Jan. 24, we had a cowbird at the feeder. We haven't had any visit us in the five years we've fed the birds in winter. Just wondering it others in the area have seen a cowbird this early.'

Bluebirds and northern flicker

I received an email on Sunday, Jan 26 from a North Brookfield resident, She said, "I live in North Brookfield, down on Lake Lashaway. I had five blue birds and a northern flicker on my feeders this morning along with the usual birds. Early Spring?"

Brimfield birds

I received an email from a Brimfield resident on Jan. 21. He said, "Today in the yard all the usual birds were about however the junco flock has increased to about 65 birds. Other not so commonly seen birds were a Carolina wren, and a white-throated and a tree sparrows."

In another email he wrote, "Yes the blue jays sure do like the peanuts. The titmice also get their share. And once in awhile a red-bellied woodpecker with show up and take a peanut. When I walk around the yard there are a couple of places under a tree or shrub where the ground is littered with empty peanut shells."

Birds in my yard

I continue to have the usual birds at my feeders and suet feeder such as black capped chickadees, titmice, white breasted nuthatches, downy woodpeckers, mourning doves and blue jays. Now that it is February, I expect to see male red-winged blackbirds.

I received a state of the art bird feeder equipped with a camera for my birthday. I have not set it up yet. I will take it down once bears come out of hibernation because I would not want it destroyed.

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

Turley Publications Letters to the **Editor Policy**

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Sentinel, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to sentinel@turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at 5 p.m.

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.



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GRANBY

Town of Granby Clerk reminders

GRANBY— Census information: receive it no later than March 31. A note of thanks to all the residents who responded to the 2025 Annual Town Census.

Second notices will be mailed out to those who have not responded starting in February. If you have not mailed in your census please do so, and if you did not receive a census form, please call the town clerk's office.

A reminder to all registered voters, General Laws of Massachusetts mandate that failure to respond to this mailing shall result in the removal from the Active voting list and may result in removal from the voter registration rolls.

Please take the time to answer this important mail, your cooperation is appreciated.

Dog Licenses: Don't Forget to License Your Dog (Bylaws of the Town of Granby CH XIV).

The cost is \$6 for spayed, neutered, Senior dogs (over 10 years), and puppies, all others are \$15. To avoid a \$25 late charge fee dogs should be licensed by May 1st.

To license your dog by mail please include a copy of the rabies vaccination or call the clerks office for verification, a self-addressed envelope with Two Stamps, a check made payable to the Town of Granby, and mail to Town Clerk, 215 B West State Street Granby, MA

To Note: For those residents who licensed their dogs through the Annual Town Census this mailing is still being processed, if you have not received your tag, you should

Nomination Papers Available

Any person interested in seeking elected office in Granby must take out nomination papers from the Town Clerk no later than March 27 to be placed on the May 19 ballot.

Candidates must collect signatures of 40 or more registered voters and return the nomination papers to the Town Clerk's office by Monday, March 31, 2025.

Office Vacancies for Town Election, May 19, 2025

- Select Board: One for Three
- Years Board of Assessors: One for
- Three Years
- Board of Healt: One for Three Years
- Town Clerk: One for Three Years
- Planning Board: One for Five Years School Committee: One for
- Three Years School Committee-Unexpired
- Term: One for Two Years School Committee-Unexpired
- Term: One for One Year Commissioner of Burial
- Grounds: One for Three Years Library Trustees: Three for Three

Town Hall public hours are Monday-Thurs, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and

Fridays 9 a.m. to noon. The Town Clerks office is located at 215 B West State St, If you have any questions please call Kathy Kelly-Regan at 467-7178.

Friends pf GFPL put together library scholarship program

GRANBY - The Friends of the Granby Schools. Granby Free Public Library is hosting a special scholarship program for high school students that are making their way towards higher education.

The awards are given to students who have demonstrated academic achievement and community service through volunteer work at the library, and eligible students are required to be high school seniors graduating this spring and wither reside in Granby or attend the

The minimum GPA required for consideration is a 2.5, and the student's community service record must also be included, with a minimun of 45 logged library volunteer hours completed during per each junior and senior year.

Students must submit their scholarship application and essay, whuch can be found on the library's website, www.granbylibrary.com, and must be submitted by the deadline of May 1, 2025.

Lions Club 'Groundhog Fuel Assistance Fund' 2025

GRANBY-Once again this winter heating season, the Granby Lions Club has established an Emergency Fuel Assistance Fund for Granby residents. This fund, titled the "Groundhog Fund," will enable residents of Granby to obtain needed assistance for fuel to help them through the next six weeks of winter.

The Lions Club Groundhog Fund will begin helping residents on Feb. 2 and will continue until March 16.

Residents who would like to apply for needed assistance are asked to complete an application and these applications are available in the Senior Center/Council of Aging Office at 10 West State St. in Granby from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Granby Lions Club appreciates the continuing support that the community of Granby gives to their projects and activities.

GPL announces 'Library Lover's Month;

GRANBY— February is Library Lover's Month

The Friends of the Granby Public Library are holding a Library Lover's Basket raffle that includes library merchandise such as a library mug, tee shirt, canvas tote bag and of course some chocolate. Raffle tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.

Check out our selection of crocheted Valentine's Day Gnomes. This is a great calorie-free Valentine gift for just \$5. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Granby Library and library programming.



Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 81 calls from Jan. 31 through Feb. 6. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all the infor-

Sunday, Feb. 2

9:49 a.m. - While on patrol, an officer observed a motor vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 58MPH in 40MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped and it was discovered that the operator did not have a driver's

license. The operator was issued a criminal citation for speeding and operating a motor vehicle without a license.

Monday, Feb. 3

3:03 p.m. - Several callers reported a 2-car head on accident. Granby Police, Granby Fire and South Hadley Fire D2 responded. Both operators were transported to the hospital.

Thursday, Feb. 6

10:57 a.m. – A single car minor accident was reported. There were

February vacation fun across local communities

The Belchertown Family Center compiled a list of fun activities for you to do with you family and friends over February Vacation Week at surrounding organiza-

The following contains their list of fun activities, and their Facebook post about them contains links for you to find more information about their locations, pricing, and more.

All Week:

- · Children's Museum at Holyoke: Open Tuesday-Friday 9am-4pm, Saturday 10am-4pm
- Eric Carle Museum: Open Wednesday-Friday 10am-4pm, Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 12pm-5pm
- Nutshell Playhouse Presents: SpyJinks! (ages 3-10) Thursday, February 20th 11:00-11:45am Springfield Museums: Open
- Tuesday-Saturday 10am-5pm, Sunday 11am-5pm. Critter Crossing School
- Vacation Exhibits (included with regular admission) Mill District General Store and Local Art Gallery Wonderful Winterfest Activities -

Monday, February 17

February 16-22.

Kids Candle Workshop (ages 4+), Vanished Valley Brewing Company (12:00pm)

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Think Spring!

Tuesday, February 18th

- Winter Book Buddy Story Time, Palmer Public Library (10:30am)
- Toddler Dance Party, South Hadley Public Library (10:30am)
- No-Sew Sock Bunnies (ages 5+), Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (1:30pm)
- Rock Paper Scissors Tournament, South Hadley Public Library (3:00pm)
- Nintendo Switch Night for YAs (middle and highschoolers), Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (6:00pm)
- Club Ukelele Strummertime Uke Players, Palmer Public Library (6:30pm)

Wednesday, February 19 Drop in Craft, Palmer Public

- Library (all day)
- Vacation Week Movie & Craft: "Puffin Rock and the New Friends" (all ages), Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (10:00am)
- Story Time (ages 0-5), South Hadley Public Library (10:30am)
- Brick Build "Glasses" Activity, Granby Public Library (11am)
- Lego Build Challenge, Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (12:00-5:00pm)
- Food Explorers: Pizza Stuffed Naan (ages 10+), Palmer Public Library (1:00pm)

Please see **VACATION**, page 11

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or email adventuretours@att.net or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com





Chloe LaRoche is pressured near the three-point arc.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI **Aubrey Klingensmith meets a pass** near the corner.

Girls basketball doubles up on Quabbin

Wednesday night, in the second matchup of a boys-girls doubleheader, Belchertown girls basketball defeated Quabbin 61-30. Playing on its Senior Night, Belchertown got 20 points from Aubrey Klingensmith while

BELCHERTOWN - Last Morghan Litz sunk 19 points and Chloe LaRoche added 17 points. Quabbin's Mia Ducos scored 13 points and Abby Rogowski added seven points in the defeat. Quabbin is 5-11 while Belchertown is 10-8 and has secured its spot in the state



Logan Moses brings in a rebound. Aubrey McCain looks for a team-



mate to inbound the ball to.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI **Brach Applegate angles for a** shot on goal.



Hurricanes edge out Pacers for win

HOLYOKE - Last Wednesday evening, Amherst ice hockey, which co-ops with Pathfinder, defeated the Chicopee five-team co-op 3-2 at Fitzpatrick Rink. Nate Desbien, Alex Marlin, and Pathfinder's Ethan Mooney all scored the goals for the Hurricanes. Chicopee got goals from

Nate Robitaille and Tyler Denison. Spencer McDonald made 21 saves in goal. Amherst 9-4-1 and is headed for tournament, while Chicopee is 3-8-2.

www.sports.turley.com



Pathfinder's Ethan Mooney looks for a path to the Chicopee goal.



Noah Latulippe works the puck away from the wall.

Panthers defeat Orioles in boys basketball action

Wednesday night, Quabbin Regional basketball faced off with Belchertown on the road. The Panthers, which con-

BELCHERTOWN - Last tinue to have a strong season, came away with a 59-52 win, while the Orioles fell to 8-8 on the season. The two teams began holding meetings

against one another last year, which took place in Belchertown. Both took place at Quabbin. The boys teams have also met in the state tournament a couple of years ago, which



Kyle Dunigan is under pressure and looks to pass.



Brice Letendre looks to enter the paint.



teams now look toward the final week

of the season and tournament.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

shot near

throw line.

the free



Nicholas Ibekilo grabs a rebound and goes for a put-back.



SPORTS

'Ice-O-Topes' score win over Bruins

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Ice-O-Topes, née Thunderbirds, (22-17-2-3) rode a four-goal flourish in the final period to a 5-2 victory on Saturday night over the Providence Bruins (25-15-4-1) before a sellout crowd of 6,793 inside the MassMutual Center. Springfield has still never lost as the Ice-O-Topes, improving to a perfect 5-0 record as their alter ego, while the team also extended its point streak to seven straight games.

It became evident in the early stages that goals would be scarce on this night, as Bruins All-Star netminder Michael DiPietro and Springfield stalwart Colten Ellis showed no signs of blinking in the opening 20 minutes. Matt Luff had two of the better chances for Springfield, but the iron rang on the veteran winger on one attempt, while DiPietro flashed terrific lateral agility to stonewall the Ice-O-Topes forward on another offering.

Not to be outdone, Ellis was timely in his own right, making his brightest save of the frame when he denied a breakaway backhand attempt from Max Jones.

The first three power plays of the night proved unsuccessful, but on their second attempt in the closing minutes of the middle period, the Bruins finally solved Ellis as Jones hit Riley Tufte on a slap feed in the right circle, where the big centerman lifted a shot under the crossbar to make it 1-0 Providence at 18:14 of period two.

In desperate need of a response, the 'Topes got just that in the final seconds of the stanza, as MacKenzie MacEachern and Dalibor Dvorsky combined to work the puck to the edge of the blue paint on a 3-on-2 rush, with Nikita Alexandrov cashing in with just eight seconds separating the teams from the dressing room.

Alexandrov was far from finished, and at 4:01 of the third, with Leo Loof holding the puck at the left point, Alexandrov dashed to the blue paint, where he deflected Loof's pass in behind DiPietro to hand Springfield the 2-1 lead.

Just 1:41 later, the lead got a boost as Otto Stenberg filled the center lane, receiving a pass from Luff and firing it through DiPietro to make it a 3-1 game at 5:42. The tally snapped Stenberg's eight-game goal drought and also doubled as his first goal on home ice.

The Bruins would not go down easily, and Vinni Lettieri stepped in front from behind the goal line to lift a backhander home before Ellis could get across, shrinking the Topes' lead to 3-2 at 7:45.

Unlike the night before, the T-Birds would not let the Bruins get even this time around, killing off a Providence power play before adding onto their lead once again at 17:48 when Alexandrov fielded a pass out of his feed at the bottom of the right circle before slipping it into the blue paint. Before DiPietro could smother it, Matthew Peca arrived to jam it across the line for his team-leading 17th of the season, giving Springfield a 4-2 advantage.

Dvorsky joined Alexandrov with three-point nights when he threw a puck from center ice into an empty net with 1:29 to polish off a four-goal final period and earn Springfield three of a possible four points on the weekend.

Railers drop finale to Atlanta **Gladiators**

WORCESTER The Worcester Railers HC (20-20-2-4 46pts) lost to the Atlanta Gladiators (20-22-4-2, 46pts), on Saturday night by the final score of 4-2 in front of a crowd of 7,094 at the DCU Center. The Railers are back on the ice next at the Credit Union of Texas Event Center taking on the Allen Americans on Friday, February 14th at 8:10 p.m. EST.

It was Atlanta who scored first tonight as Cody Sylvester (2-0-2) put the Gladiators up 1-0 19:26 into the first period. Just 31 seconds later Andrew Jarvis extended the Atlanta lead to 2-0 heading into the second period. Worcester got their first on the night off the stick of Matias Rajaniemi (1-0-1) 2:34 into the third period. Atlanta scored back-to-back empty-net goals in the third period from Cody Sylvester and Ryan Cranford (1-0-1). The Railers then made it 4-2 with a goal from Matt Ustaski (1-0-1) 18:41 into the third to finish off the night's scoring.

It took nearly the entire first period for either team to score until Atlanta took the 1-0 lead. It was Cody Sylvester (17th) who put the Gladiators up 1-0. With just three seconds remaining in the first period Andrew Jarvis (4th) extended the Atlanta lead to 2-0 with a low slap shot to beat Bullion down low. Shots favored Worcester 12-10 in the first peri-

Despite power play chances for both sides neither team was able to net one in the second period. The Railers went to the power play twice in the period, first at the 10:02 mark into the second followed by another chance at the 13:38 mark. Atlanta got their power play opportunity 16:17 into second frame, but the Worcester penalty kill held strong keeping Atlanta from jumping out to a three-goal lead. Shots favored Worcester 14-7 in the second.

Worcester made it a 2-1 game early in the third following a goal from Matias Rajaniemi (3rd) 2:34 into the third period. The Railers went to the empty net in an effort to tie the game late, but Atlanta scored twice on the empty net, the first was Cody Sylvester (18th) followed by Ryan Cranford (9th). The Railers then got one back scored by Matt Ustaski (3rd) leading to a 4-2 final. Shots favored Worcester 15-5 in the third and 41-22 in the game.

Hall of Fame unveils schedule for 2025 enshrinement

SPRINGFIELD - The Naismith Dwight Howard, Doc Rivers, Billy Basketball Hall of Fame has unveiled its Enshrinement Weekend schedule for the Class of 2025. The celebratory weekend will culminate with the Enshrinement Ceremony on Saturday, Sept. 6, in Springfield—the Birthplace of Basketball. Finalists, as well as select award winners, will be announced on Friday, Feb. 14, during NBA All-Star Weekend in San Francisco, and the Class of 2025 will be revealed on Saturday, April 5, at the Final Four in San Antonio.

Enshrinement Weekend will begin at Mohegan Sun on Friday, Sept. 5, with the Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala. The Class of 2025 and returning Hall of Famers will then travel to Springfield, Mass., where they will participate in the weekend's traditional events taking place at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and Springfield's Symphony Hall.

First-time candidates for the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2025 include Carmelo Anthony, Sue Bird, Maya Moore, Donovan, Sylvia Fowles, Chamique Holdsclaw, Mark Few, Lisa Bluder, Marc Gasol, and Micky Arison.

A limited number of VIP Packages for the 2025 Enshrinement Ceremony will go on sale on Friday, Feb. 14, at 6 p.m. at hoophall.com on the Hall of Fame's Enshrinement Ticket page or by calling the Basketball Hall of Fame at (413) 231-5513.

Individual tickets for the events will go on sale tentatively on Saturday, April 5, at 12 noon.

Details of the current schedule of events for Enshrinement 2025 are as follows:

Friday, September 5, at Mohegan Sun (Uncasville, Conn.) Enshrinement 2025 Autograph

An opportunity to meet the Class of 2025 at their first public Enshrinement Weekend event. A ticket to this event will give fans the opportunity to receive one autograph per class member.

Enshrinement 2025 Press Conference

The official media availability for the Hall of Fame Class of 2025. This availability is only open to credentialed members of the media, along with VIP Package ticket holders, and will be held at Mohegan Sun. The media credential application will open on Monday, July 21, at hoophall.com/media.

Enshrinement Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala

The Class of 2025, along with the Hall's prestigious annual award winners, will be celebrated at this televised Enshrinement event at Mohegan Sun. During the event, the Class of 2025 will receive their Hall of Fame rings, courtesy of Baron Championship Rings, and their official Hall of Fame jackets, provided by Reveal Suits. The program will additionally highlight the presentation of the Hall's annual John Bunn Lifetime Achievement Award and the Curt Gowdy Media Awards.

Saturday, Sept. 6, in Springfield,

Enshrinement Ceremony VIP Reception at Springfield Marriott

Toast the incoming Hall of Fame Class of 2025 at the official VIP Reception prior to the sport's ultimate recognition. The party is limited to select ticket holders for the Enshrinement Ceremony. Shuttle service between the host location and Symphony Hall will be provided if needed. This exclusive party will set the stage for a memorable night on the Red Carpet and at the Ceremony.

Enshrinement Ceremony Red Carpet Show at Symphony Hall

The Class of 2025, legendary Hall of Famers, and some of basketball's biggest icons take center stage on the red carpet in a live TV broadcast outside Symphony Hall.

Enshrinement Ceremony at Symphony Hall

One of the most elite nights on the basketball calendar each year, the Hall of Fame Class of 2025 will be formally enshrined into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in a nationally televised ceremony.

LIONS from page 1

order to give back to the commu-

Last year, the Club assisted the Granby Historical Association by setting up a "little replica village' for Dinofest, as well as painting the

They also offer Eye Screenings for kids through Lion Steve Markow, a former eye doctor who owned a practice in Granby and

for the community.

The Club also holds a Firewood

"I think the lions club is one of Granby's hidden gems, being in a position to fundraise, donate, spread awareness and promote local organizations, it allows us to give back that much more to the Granby com-

"I really love the comradery

among the members. We are like family, during the monthly meetings we have dinner together and it's a good way to get to know one another and get caught up on what's

Richards helps manage the social media pages for the Club, and works hard to ensure that the people who come to the Club are able to access what they need, and enjoys all the ways to help and give back

Community Service Projects, and meet twice a month on the first and third Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at the Granby Legion Post 266.

"If you are interested in getting involved, the Granby Lions Club

inside of the museum.

hosts a Meet the Candidate Night

Fundraiser, and this year, their most recent community project is the 2025 Groundhog Fuel Assistance Fun for Granby Residents.

munity," said Richards.

going on in town."

to the community.

The Lions work together on

is a great place to start! When caring people join together, roll up their sleeves and take action to make their community better, it's a beautiful thing. It makes a lasting impact and changes more lives, said Richards.

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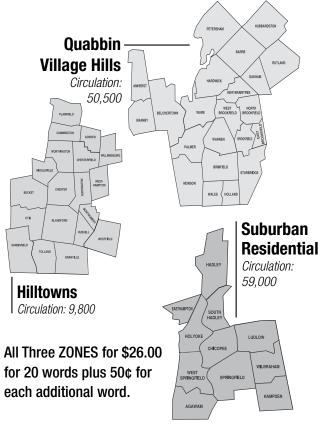
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ICOLLEGE NEWS

Fairfield Univ. congratulates Fall 2024 Dean's List

FAIRFIELD, CT—The following Fairfield University student(s) received Dean's List Honors for the Fall 2024 semes-

Natalie Nowakowski of Belchertown In order to be placed on the Dean's List, students must have completed a minimum of 12 credit hours in a semester, have no outstanding or incomplete grades for that semester, and have attained a semester grade point average of 3.50 or better.

Elms College announces Dean's List for Fall 2024

CHICOPEE—The College of Our Lady of the Elms has named the following students to the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester. Congratulations to all the students who are named to the list:

BELCHERTOWN

Meredith Dulak, Kelly Hislop, ngelys Martinez, Andrew Pope, Julia Hubbard, Sophia Mancuso, Olivia Lafayette, Erica Piwcio, Hailey Lamica, Karleigh Richter

GRANBY Simon Abbott, Dylan Holubowich, Briana Sosa, Noel Summerlin

AMHERST Arnold Ekajulo

* * *

Univ. of Hartford Fall 2024 Dean's and President's Lists

WEST HARTFORD, CT-The University of Hartford is pleased to announce that 2,291 students have been

named to the Dean's List and President's List for the fall 2024 semester.

The Dean's List recognizes students achieving superior academic standing. The requirement, with some exceptions, is a grade point average of at least 3.0 and no grade below C.

The President's List recognizes a select group of students reaching the highest level of academic standing. To be placed on the President's List, students must maintain a GPA of at least a 3.75 and receive grades of C or better.

Please join us in congratulating:

Ava Lachance of Belchertown - Dean's List and President's List

Anna Long of Amherst - Dean's List and President's List Evan Redo of Belchertown - Dean's List

and President's List Brandon Stewart of Amherst - Dean's

List and President's List Zach Stowe-Alekman of Belchertown -

Dean's List and President's List Samantha Grabherr of Granby - Dean's

Sam Keser of Granby - Dean's List Jillian Scott of Belchertown - Dean's List Kristen Trembley of Granby - Dean's

* * *

Clark University's Fall 2024 **Deans List**

WORCESTER, MA-Clark University announced students named to the Fall 2024

Jasper T. Scott, of Amherst was named to second honors.

Karyna B. Rondeau, of Belchertown, was named to second honors.

Courtnegail L. Rose, of Amherst was named to first honors.

Students must have a GPA of 3.8 or above for first honors or a GPA between 3.50 and 3.79 for second honors.

1 Million meals donated to food banks

SPRINGFIELD— Big Y's annual Sack Hunger campaign provides funds for the four food banks within their two-state marketing area. In turn, these food banks support local soup kitchens, food pantries, senior food programs, daycare centers and many others of the 2,100-member agencies that they help every day. Their goal is to maximize access to nutritious food and other resources that support food security for those at risk of hunger.

Throughout this past holiday season, customers and employees generously supported Sack Hunger at Big Y supermarkets or Table & Vine Fine Wines and Liquors. Every \$5 donation brought 10 meals to those in need of support. Additionally, Big Y added even more ways to boost their efforts with specific proceeds from Produce, Floral and Meat departments, along with a portion of every one of Big Y's family of private label brands.

Big Y's Sack Hunger campaign started in

2010 where 740 meals were donated. With this year's 1 million meals, the program continues to expand its efforts to support those in need. Big Y's Sack Hunger donation is part of their ongoing support throughout the year including almost daily donations of meat, fresh produce and bakery along with grocery, frozen food and dairy items. The four regional food banks are The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, Worcester County Food Bank, The Greater Boston Food Bank and Connecticut Foodshare.

"Each year, our customers and employees come together to support families across Massachusetts and Connecticut impacted by food insecurity during the holiday season. We are thankful for the opportunity to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those in need, and we appreciate everyone involved in spreading hope throughout our communities," according to Michael P. D'Amour, president and CEO.

VACATION from page 7

- Kids Art Class Skateboard Painting (ages 8+), Hardwick Winery (2:00pm)
- Lego and Board Games (ages 4-12), South Hadley Public Library (3:00pm)
- Xbox1 Teens (ages 11 HS), South Hadley Public Library (3:30pm)
- Pokemon Club, Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (3:30pm)

Thursday, February 20

- New Tech Toy Petting Zoo, Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (all day)
- Grow, Play & Learn Playgroup (ages 0-2), Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (9:45am)
- Story Time and Play (ages 0-5), Jones Library, Amherst (10:30am)
- Visit with a Fairytale Character (Snow Queen), Wilbraham Public Library (10:30am)
- Grow, Play & Learn Playgroup (ages 2-5), Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (10:45am)
- Art Workshop for Kids (grades 3-5), South Hadley Public Library (1:00pm)
- Make-It-Mini Create Lab (ages 2-10),

Jones Library, Amherst (3:00pm)

- Lego Club (ages 12 and under), South Hadley Gaylord Memorial Library (3:00pm)
- Third Thursday Sewing Club for tweens & teens (ages 9+), Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (5:00pm)
- Teen Copper Bookmark Workshop (grades 6-12), Wilbraham Public Library (5:00pm)
- Wildlife on Wheels, Palmer Public Library (5:00pm)
- Tween Anime Club (ages 10-14), Palmer Public Library (6:00pm)

Friday, February 21

Buildwave (Kindergarten - grade 6), South Hadley Public Library (10:00am)

- Sing With Your Baby (ages 0-5), North Amherst LIbrary, (10:30am)
- Storytime with Local Author Dorka Fernandez, South Hadley Gaylord Memorial Library (10:30am)
- Upcycled Book Hedgehogs (upper elementary +), Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (12:00pm
- Friday Online Club (ages 8-15), Hubbard Memorial Library, Ludlow (5:00pm)

■ PUBLIC NOTICES

Belchertown **Conservation Commission** LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the authority of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, its Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) and the Belchertown Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Chapter 139), the Belchertown Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 7:00 PM in the Lawrence Memorial Town Hall Auditorium, located at 2 Jabish Street in Belchertown, MA 01007 to review a Request for Determination of Applicability permit application submitted by Jerry Sajdera for the proposed removal of 3 hazardous trees at 70 South Street (Map 276-87) in Belchertown. Work is proposed to occur within the 100-foot Buffer Zone and locally-protected 50-foot No Disturb Zone to wetland resource areas. Anyone interested in this matter should appear at the time and place designated. 02/13/2025

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of February 14, 2025 the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers

Vehicle: 2009 Nissan Altima Vin: 1N4AL24EX9C107717 Color: Blue LKO: Bobbie Sanborn

Address: 606 North Washington Street

Belchertown, MA 01007 Relentless Towing

Belchertown, MA 413-530-3804 01/30, 02/06, 02/13/2025

Belchertown **Conservation Commission** LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the authority of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, its Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) and the Belchertown Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Chapter 139), the Belchertown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 24 at 7:00 PM in the Lawrence Memorial Town Hall Auditorium, located at 2 Jabish Street in Belchertown, MA 01007. The Commission will review a Notice of Intent permit application submitted by Boghunter Ecological Services, LLC c/o Henry Clement of Innovative Building and

Design for the proposed work to re-construct a single family home at 23 Metacomet Street (Assessor's Map 103-40) in Belchertown. Work is proposed to occur within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bank. Anyone interested in this matter should appear at the time and place designated. 02/13/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampshire Probate and** Family Court 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500 Docket No. HS25P0059EA

Estate of: Robert D. Overholtzer Also known as: **Robert Overholtzer** Date of Death: 10/11/2024 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 Nathaniel S. Overholtzer of Austin, TX requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Nathaniel S. Overholtzer of Austin, TX be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/19/2025. 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 Represen-tative 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. Diana S. **Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 07, 2025 Mark S Ames,

Register of Probate 02/13/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court** 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500 Docket No. HS25P0059EA Estate of: Robert D. Overholtzer Also known as: **Robert Overholtzer** Date of Death: 10/11/2024 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 Nathaniel S. Overholtzer of Austin, TX requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief

as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Nathaniel S. Overholtzer of Austin, TX be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration. IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 03/19/2025. 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 Represen-tative 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. Diana S.

Velez Harris, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 07, 2025

Mark S Ames,

Register of Probate 02/13/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court** 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500 Docket No. HS25P0053EA Estate of: Blanchette E. Parmenter Also known as: **Blanchette Parmenter**,

Blanchette Eaton Parmenter Date of Death: 07/31/2024 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 Sandra J. Henry of Savannah, GA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the

The Petitioner requests that: Sandra J. Henry of Savannah, GA 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 03/12/2025. 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 Represen-tative 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. Diana S. Velez Harris, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 03, 2025 Mark S Ames,

Register of Probate 02/20/2025



The Sentinel **OBITUARY POLICY**

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES **ARE NOW ONLINE**

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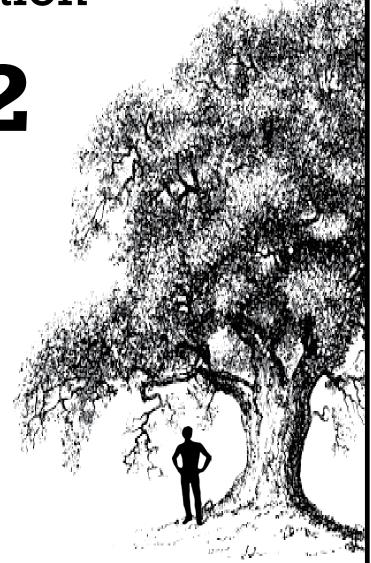
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