

Belchertown, Granby & Amherst SENTINEL

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THURSDAY,
JUNE 8, 2023



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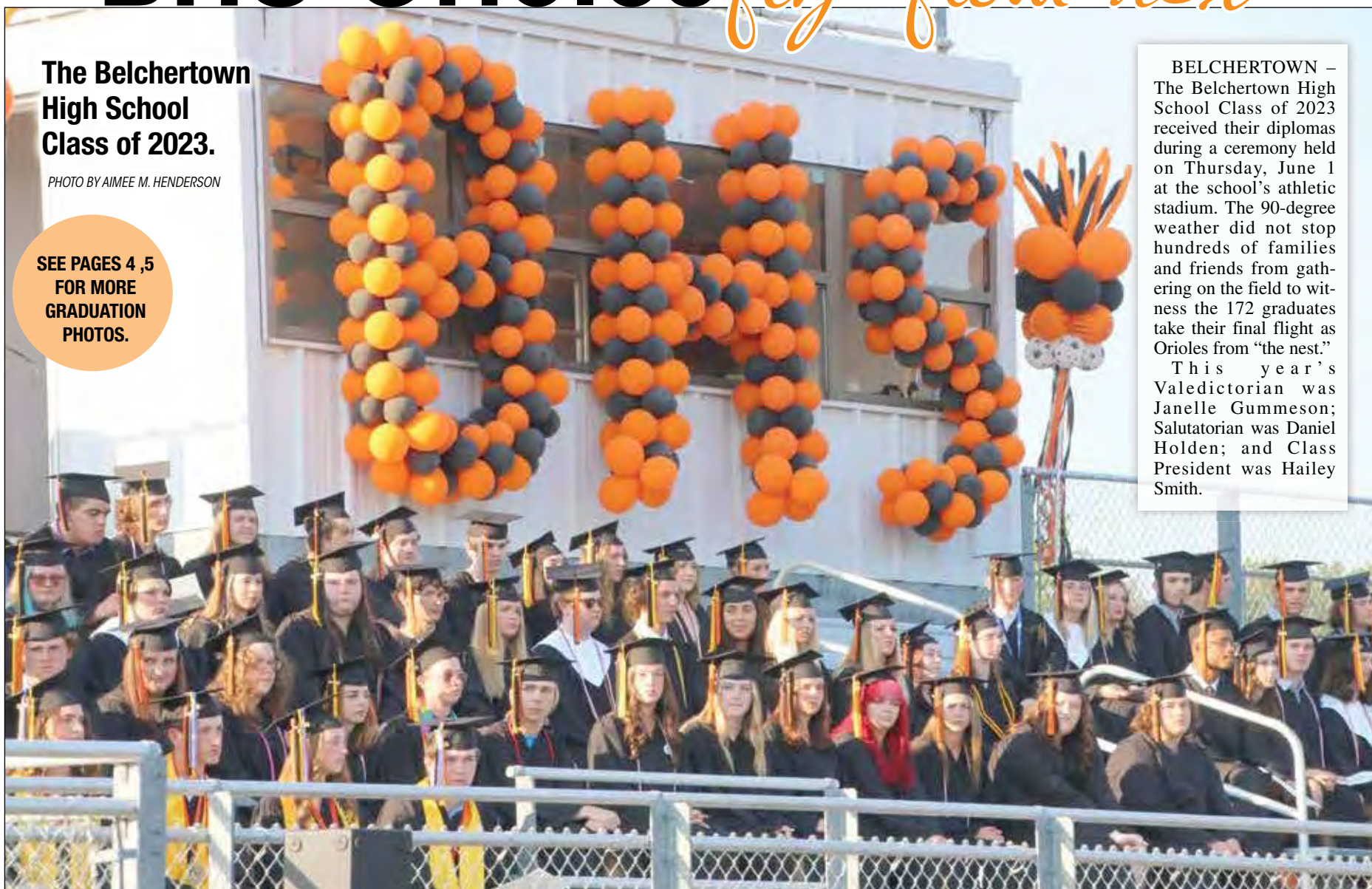
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BHS Orioles *fly from nest*

The Belchertown High School Class of 2023.

PHOTO BY AIMEE M. HENDERSON

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FOR MORE
GRADUATION
PHOTOS.



BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown High School Class of 2023 received their diplomas during a ceremony held on Thursday, June 1 at the school’s athletic stadium. The 90-degree weather did not stop hundreds of families and friends from gathering on the field to witness the 172 graduates take their final flight as Orioles from “the nest.” This year’s Valedictorian was Janelle Gummesson; Salutatorian was Daniel Holden; and Class President was Hailey Smith.

Orioles soar from Belchertown High

Class of 2023 graduates in 152nd commencement

BY CHRISTAL WHELAN
cwhelan@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN - Family and friends, teachers, staff, and community members all gathered last Thursday evening for the graduation ceremony of the Class of 2023, and the 152nd commencement ceremony of Belchertown High School.

The 172 members of the graduating class processed from the campus gymnasium to the sta-

dium field where the soon-to-be minted graduates took their places on the bleachers of the track.

Facing them on the lawn below were hundreds of well-wishers seated in folding chairs or mats on a searingly bright day.

The Commencement Band performed “Pomp and Circumstance – Opus 39,” followed by the Pledge of Allegiance led by Principal Christine Vigneux. They then performed the “Star Spangled Banner.”

In Vigneux’s following address to the the class of 2023, the principal reflected on the an idea she had introduced at the onset of

Please see **GRADUATION**, page 15



TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY CHRISTAL WHELAN
Proud mother Anca Luca Holden and her son Daniel Holden, the class salutatorian, hug after the commencement ceremony.

School Committee adjusts, discusses JBMS

BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – The School Committee reorganized at its first meeting following the annual town election.

Heidi Gutekenst was reelected not only to the committee, but also as chair. Ruby Bansal was elected as vice chair.

Members also determined which subcommittees they would be on. Amy Wilson-LaMothe and Lamikco Magee are on the healthy and safer schools subcommittee and the curriculum and instruction subcommittee. Natalie Santana and Wilson-LaMothe are on the personnel and policy subcom-

mittee. Gutekenst and Bansal are on the property and transportation subcommittee. Magee is also serving as a representative for Belchertown with the Collaborative for Education.

Following its reorganization, the School Committee discussed the progress of the Jabish Brook Middle School building project. The district was invited into the possibility of a new school.

Superintendent Brian Cameron spoke of an architectural firm and a project manager.

“We are in the process of submitting some documentation... We are in the middle of revising

Please see **JBMS**, page 8



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TREE**





Retired state Sen. Stephen Brewer spoke about the importance of leaving a lasting legacy.



Gene Theroux, president of the Friends of Quabbin, Inc. (right) prepares to cut the ribbon with the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Regional Director of the Quabbin/Ware Region, Dan Clark.



Friends of Quabbin, Inc. treasurer Paul Godfrey opens the dedication ceremony.



State Sen. Anne Gobi and state Rep. Susannah Whipps prepare to present a citation to be displayed in the Visitor Center



Retired state Sen. Stanley Rosenberg shared memories of the Campbells.

In memory of Les and Terry

Quabbin Visitor Center dedicated to the Campbells

BY PAULA OUIMETTE
pouimette@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – As a family of Canada geese made their way across a meadow near the shores of the Quabbin Reservoir, a gathering of people sat down to reflect on the lives of Les and Terry Campbell.

This past Sunday, two years of work to rename the Department of Conservation and Recreation's Quabbin Visitor Center the Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center was celebrated, with featured speakers, a tour of the Center, and a ribbon cutting at the new sign in front of the building.

A nature photographer who focused his lens on birds primarily, Les spent decades capturing the changing landscape of the Quabbin Reservoir and its surrounding watershed.

Terry, his wife, was his constant support and the heart and soul of the Quabbin Visitor Center which she kept active and staffed after its creation, connecting the community to the Reservoir and its history.

Longtime friend of the Campbells and Treasurer of the Friends of Quabbin, Inc. (an organization the Campbells founded),



(TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY PAULA OUIMETTE) David Campbell holds a photo of his father, Les, standing in the spillway channel in 1945.

Paul Godfrey, welcomed those in attendance and said the decision to rename the Visitor Center in their honor was a “no-brainer.”

“Shortly after Les died on Sept. 24, 2020, I was working on an article, a final tribute, that appeared in

the [Friends of Quabbin, Inc.] newsletter,” Godfrey said. “When I finished, I got an email from Anne Ely.”

In her email, Ely told Godfrey that the various photography clubs that Les was involved with wanted to create a memorial to him, but they couldn't decide what would be best.

They considered a plaque on a tree, or a memorial bench, but none of these options seemed fitting for the couple that became known by many as “Mr. and Mrs. Quabbin.”

When Godfrey suggested renaming the Visitor Center in both Les and Terry's honor, Ely quickly agreed.

“It's like the first part of the name was in invisible ink,” Godfrey said of the Visitor Center.

Annie Tiberio was also key in having the Visitor Center renamed, Godfrey said.

“I felt it was my duty to memorialize him,” Tiberio said of Les, whom she first met when she had finished her orientation working at Mass Audubon's Laughing Brook Wildlife Sanctuary in Hampden.

The person training her during orientation told her it would all be “completely

Please see **CAMPBELLS**, page 10

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Valedictorian Janelle Gummesson gives her address.



School committee members and staff lead the procession of graduates.



Tyler McDonald receives his diploma.



The scoreboard at the BHS athletic field is set for the Class of 2023.



Bridget Hegarty is all smiles after receiving her diploma.



School Committee Chair Heidi Gutekenst presents Stephanie and Paul Fraleigh with their son Zach's diploma.



Friends gather for a photo after graduating.



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Graduates sing the class alma mater.

PHOTOS BY AIMEE M. HENDERSON



Jack Dragon receives his diploma.



James Loudon displays his diploma after just receiving it.



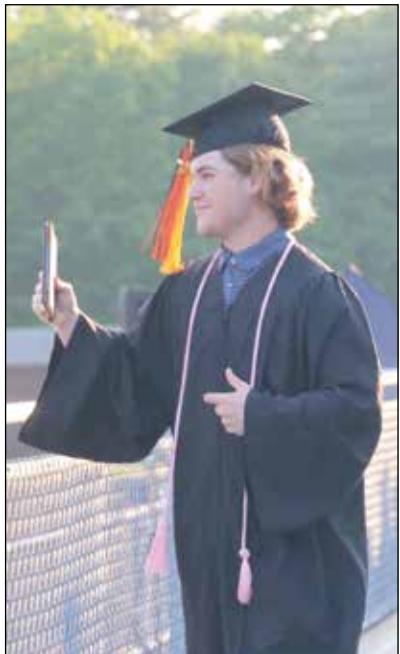
Francis Henderson receives his diploma.



Class President Hailey Smith addresses her fellow classmates.




Salutatorian Daniel Holden gives his address.




Jack DiNapoli proudly displays his diploma to family and friends.



Brandon and Trevor Adamson are ready to start the procession into the stadium.



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OPINION



A dogwood worthy of admiration

The Chinese dogwood in my backyard is in bloom and boy, is it pretty!

Although the holly is trying to take over height-wise, the dogwood is holding its own and beckoning for all to admire. Creamy white bracts (mistakenly called flowers) seem to hover over its glossy green leaves in a way few other trees are capable.

It is as if the branches unfold before you, saying “here, look at me!”

Unlike other favorites in the landscape, the Chinese dogwood doesn’t fade into the background once it has finished flowering; this plant has something to offer in every season.

Cornus kousa blooms just about a month later than our native flowering dogwood, Cornus florida. Unlike C. florida, Chinese dogwood sets its bracts after it has fully leafed out, and at a time when there is a bit of a lull in the flowering tree and shrub department.

Bracts can vary in size from one to three inches long depending on cultivar, and can be narrow or quite broad. Some can be more of a pure white than a creamy white—these can tend to turn pink with age.

The plants true flowers are barely noticeable, only about a half-inch wide, set in the center of the four bracts. Flowers last for several weeks, much longer than those of the flowering dogwood.

As the flowers fade into the background, the fruit set provides another season of interest. It is faceted, much like a raspberry, and can be red, orange-red or even pink toned.

About an inch in diameter and hanging from two-inch stems, it is quite showy in its own right when plentiful. Fruit can last up to two months.

Foliage, as mentioned, is glossy green during the growing season. Some pink-bracted cultivars have red veins or petioles, adding to the overall interest of the plant.

Fall foliage color is sketchy, sometimes it can be radiant, offering up shades of red, orange and purple; other times it is dull. Brilliance or blarney all depend on the cultivar chosen and the weather.

Inquire at purchase about the particular attributes of the cultivar you’ve lugged to the check-out: Is it known for its fall color, long bloom-time, vase-shape, etc.? Or better yet, do a quick search on your phone before the work out, just to be sure you get what will do your landscape the most justice!

Once leaves have fallen, the bark of the Chinese dogwood becomes quite interesting when viewed close-up, especially on older trees. Where the bark has begun to exfoliate, gray, copper and sometimes olive tones appear on the trunk and older branches.

I must pay closer attention to this during the off season.

Plant Cornus kousa in moist, acidic, well-drained soil with lots of organic matter. With that said, the plant can adapt to most soils providing they are not overly waterlogged or droughty.

Plants grown in full sun usually flower the heaviest, but part shade, like the conditions in my yard, puts on fine growth as well.

If the Chinese dogwood appeals to you and you’d also like to learn more about other members of the genus Cornus, consult “Dogwoods” by Paul Cappiello and Don Shadow (Timber Press \$39.95). This book is a great reference, especially informative regarding the numerous cultivars in the nursery trade today.

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

Last day of school quiz...(match the faces)

- a. Teacher
- b. Principal
- c. Janitor
- d. Student
- e. Mom
- f. Bus driver



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By Lee Hamilton

Do we really need to go through this?

There was finally some movement in Washington on raising the debt ceiling and a bill was passed by both chambers of Congress just days from a U.S. default – it would have been the first in the country’s history.

If you’re like me, you can’t help but view this brinkmanship – with U.S. financial credibility and the economy on the line – with a mix of impatience and resignation.

Why impatience? Because its members seemed happy to waste valuable time they could be devoting to more productive work. In essence, this is a political game that’s become a gridlock-inducing diversion.

And resignation? Because in the heated partisan atmosphere that’s permeated Washington for the last few decades, a fight over raising the debt ceiling seems to have become part and parcel of the Congressional calendar. Waste of time that it is, you can pretty much set your clock by it.

And while the bill that cleared Congress last week means the debt ceiling won’t be an issue again until early 2025, this drama could resume and an unprecedented default is still possible that year.

Let’s take a step back for a moment and consider what’s at stake if the U.S. has no choice but to start defaulting on some of its bills. It might, for instance, keep paying interest on debts, keeping the markets calmer, if not exactly tranquil. But that would probably mean not paying federal workers and contractors, Social Security recipients or veterans’ health care benefits, which would be politically wrenching.

On the other hand, if the government misses even a single debt payment, it would ruin global confidence in U.S. debt, with consequences for our economy that would last for years.

You might ask how any of this could

even be possible. There’s a lot of misperception about why the debt needs to keep being raised, but it’s pretty simple: Most years, we spend more than we take in. This has been a truly bipartisan endeavor. Of the presidencies over the last five decades, the debt grew most in percentage terms under Ronald Reagan, George W. Bush, and Barack Obama – though in dollar terms, it grew almost as much during Donald Trump’s single term as it did during Obama’s two terms.

There’s no question that some of those increases came because of spending – most recently on the pandemic and keeping the economy afloat because of it. But it’s worth noting that the primary reason Reagan, Bush and Trump figure as major debt contributors is because they pushed through huge tax cuts during their time in office.

Though the Reagan cuts were partially reversed under Bill Clinton, producing actual budget surpluses, the Bush and Trump cuts have made it virtually impossible for revenues to keep up with spending.

So in upcoming weeks, as Republicans and Democrats in Congress, along with the Biden White House, issue talking points aimed at making the other side look bad, remember that taking steps to avoid building up the U.S. debt requires looking at the full picture: tax and fiscal policy as well as spending. And as the rhetoric grows more heated, remember this, too: This doesn’t have to happen.

Congress could just decide to get rid of a ceiling on the debt and choose instead to spend its time addressing the actual challenges the country faces, including budget deficits, rather than engaging in debt theater. There are too many players who relish wielding the debt-ceiling cudgel for such a move to be likely.

But it would be good for the country if it happened.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

because I made more, but everything I put into the program vanishes. I haven’t reached my full retirement age yet and I still have income, but if I sign up now at 63 my benefits will be withheld due to my income. Then at full retirement age (presuming I elected to claim earlier) a re-calculation will take place and my monthly amount would be adjusted. Well, what happens if I decide to wait until 70 but pass away before I claim? Are my contributions repaid in a lump sum or will I or someone else still lose everything? Signed: *Uncertain About My Future*

Dear Uncertain: You are correct that if you pass away before collecting your earned Social

Security benefits you won’t personally get anything. Social Security has, since inception, been a “pay as you go” program where those currently working and contributing to Social Security pay benefits for those currently receiving Social Security. That means that if you die before collecting, the monies you contributed will have already been used to pay other recipients, but the contributions you made may still entitle your dependents to benefits on your record. For those who are in their early 60s, average longevity is mid-80s, meaning your spouse would likely collect benefits on your record for more than two decades, any minor children could collect

Please see **SOCIAL**, page 7

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What if I delay but die before claiming Social Security?

Dear Rusty: Hypothetically, if I plan to sign up for Social Security at 70 and pass away before that, I will get nothing. My spouse would still get a boost in the amount she receives

COMMUNITY

Selectboard determines liaisons

New roles determined based on TM change

BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – With the upcoming transition from a town administrator form of government to a town manager form of government, the Selectboard reevaluated its liaison roles.

For some boards and committees, moving forward they will report directly to the town manager or appointed official, others will communicate via the chair of the committee to the Selectboard chair and some traditional liaisons will still be in place.

The ADA committee will be operational, meaning they will report to the town administrator/soon to be town manager Steve Williams. The following departments and commissions are under the operational category: the Animal Control Department, the Belchertown School Department, the Belchertown Building and Grounds Committee, the Board of Health, the Board of Registrars and Election, Civil Defense Committee, the Department of Public Works, Fire Rescue Department, the Housing Authority, the Recreation Department, the Pathfinder School District, the Pioneer Valley Transit Authority, the Professional Engineering Account, Tax Title, Town Clerk, Town Common, Town Moderator, the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, the Treasurer/Collector, Veteran Graves Officer, Veterans Service Officer and the Willard Stebbins Trust Fund for Lakeville Cemetery.

From now on, Williams will make appointments to the boards, committees and commissions delegated as operational. Following appointments by Williams, a let-

ter will be sent out to the appointee alerting them and requesting they come to the Town Hall to be sworn in, as is common practice.

The Agricultural Commission, Community Preservation Committee, the Energy and Sustainability Committee, the Fair Committee, the Lakes Committee, the McPhearson Garden Committee and the Personnel Board will have Peg Louraine as a liaison. The Animal Control Advisory Board, Belchertown Community Television, Cable Services Committee, the Economic Development Industrial Corporation, the Veterans Services Advisory Board will have Ron Aponte as a liaison.

The Age and Dementia Friendly implementation group, the Senior Center and Council on Aging, the Communications Committee, Belchertown Overcoming Adversity Together will have Lesa Lessard Pearson as a liaison. Jen Turner will act as the liaison to the Belchertown State School Buildings and Grounds Cultural Council, the Belchertown Family Center Committee, the Belchertown Historical Commission, the Historical Bylaw Commission, the Memorial Committee and the Beach and Recreation Committee.

The School Committee, the Board of Assessors, Finance Committee and the law account will be a chair-to-chair liaison.

The members discussed each board, commission or committee and appointed them accordingly.

Aponte said he would remain as liaison to BCTV, stating that this upcoming year would be a big one for the local cable access group.

“Obviously we are working with the Charter/Spectrum contract, and this will also be a big year because from what I understand, Peg is not going to share Lew (Louraine) with BCTV anymore,” he said.

Peg Louraine said her husband, manager of BCTV, would remain in the position until he was replaced but that would be for no longer than a year.

During its discussion about the Belchertown Buildings and Grounds Committee, members Peg Louraine and Jen Turner spoke about the potential conflict of interest.

Peg Louraine asked if the Massachusetts Ethics Commission was contacted regarding the committee, because she believed the conflict of interest laws state Selectboard members cannot serve as voting or non-voting committee member that is under the supervision of or appointed by the Selectboard.

Turner disagreed, stating the committee was more of an operational committee.

“We were planning on working directly with the town administrator on what is happening with the buildings and the usage of the buildings,” Turner said. “I don’t know if that is in direct conflict.”

Aponte said he had experienced the issue in the past serving as an ex-officio member of the Library Board of Trustees.

When determining where the Conservation Commission would land, Aponte stated that he would like clarification as far as the organization chart for the commission and the Planning Board.

“Do the Conservation Commissioner and the Town Planner report to their commissions or committees?” he said. “Maybe we should stick a pin in this and discuss these organizational responsibilities later.”

The Conservation Commission and the Planning Board were tabled until a later point.

The board also opted to table the Zoning Board of Appeals for the same reason.

Residents needed to fill several town board vacancies

The Belchertown Select Board is looking for citizens interested in sharing their expertise by serving on a Town Board/Committee.

The town is trying to fill the following vacancies:

Council on Aging: Members coordinate programs and services for the elderly population and oversee the Belchertown Senior Center.

Trustee for the Calvin Bridgman Library Fund: This is a three-year elected volunteer position with random hours as needs arise. This position will be elected at the 2024 Annual Town Meeting. This individual will work with two other trustees to oversee disbursements of funds to libraries within the Town of Belchertown. Interested parties should submit a letter to the Office of the Select Board, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007.

Trail Stewardship Council: Interested individuals should be knowledgeable about local land use and related issues. Additional information specific to this council can be found at newenglandtrail.org.

Animal Control Advisory Board: This board has the authority to conduct hearings as allowed in the town’s by-laws and pose reasonable conditions as deemed appropriate. The ideal applicants may be a dog breeder, a dog trainer, a veterinarian, non-pet owner from the community, a medical professional

Please see **VACANCIES**, page 8

Kids invited to experience nature, agriculture

BELCHERTOWN — Two field trip opportunities for youth interested in agriculture, the environment, climate change and conservation are coming up this weekend.

On June 10, join town conservation officials for the Wildlife Garden and Spring Nature Walk at the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary in Wales from 10 a.m. to noon.

The following day, from 10 to 11 a.m., the UMass Agricultural Learning Center at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst will welcome youth interested in learning about sustainable agriculture.

Both events are free, but registration by June 9 is required. Learn more and sign up for the Norcross trip at forms.office.com/r/i7bbr1RLrX and the Agricultural Learning Center event at forms.office.com/r/rARE-bimNcB.

These events are sponsored by the Belchertown 4-H Town Council and the Town of Belchertown and funded in part by a grant from the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program. For more information on either of these events, email sfortune@belchertown.org or BtownYC3@gmail.com.

SOCIAL from page 6

until they are adults and any permanently disabled child you may have would get benefits from your record for the rest of their life as well.

The Social Security payroll taxes you contributed were not put into a private account in your name. And, on average, it is to the beneficiary’s advantage the program doesn’t work that way because that personal account would be depleted fairly quickly after you claim rather than getting benefits for the rest of your life, you’d only get benefits plus interest from your personal account, which would run dry pretty fast. For Your Information, we have researched this very carefully and found that, on average, all payroll taxes contributed to Social Security by an individual will be recovered within about five years of starting benefits. The actual length of time to recoup one’s contributions varies somewhat depending on lifetime earnings and contributions made, but lower earning beneficiaries will recover everything contributed through payroll taxes within about three years, while it could take as much as five years for higher earners to get back everything they’ve paid into the program. And for clarity, since self-employed individuals pay both the employee and employer portion of the payroll tax, it does take longer for those, who own their own business to recoup what they’ve contributed. Nevertheless, on average, most

who claim benefits will get considerably more from the program than they paid in Social Security payroll taxes.


As to your specific question, if you die before collecting, the contributions you made weren’t deposited in a personal account for you and won’t be paid out in a lump sum. Rather, the payroll taxes you paid while working were used to pay benefits to beneficiaries receiving at the time and those working and contributing after you die will fund the benefits paid to your spouse or disabled adult child until they die or to your minor children until they are adults. The Social Security benefits you earned aren’t just for you your eligible dependents will also benefit from your record.

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 156 calls for the week of May 26 through June 1. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Friday, May 26

10:03 a.m. – While on patrol, an officer performed a random registration query and discovered that the vehicle's registration was revoked for insurance. The vehicle was stopped and operator was issued a criminal citation for operating a motor vehicle with a revoked registration and no insurance.

5:14 p.m. – Several residents reported that six dirt bikes were operating on Green Meadow Lane and Deerbrook Circle. Officers responded to the area but the riders sped off into the woods upon seeing the cruiser. They were seen shortly after operating in the fields behind McDuffie School. Officers were able to speak to all involved parties at a residence on Bachelor Street. All six dirt bike operators were issued civil citations for operating a recreational vehicle on a public way and trespassing with a recreational vehicle.

Sunday, May 28

10:49 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 54MPH in 35MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped and the operator was issued a civil citation for speeding.

11:20 p.m. – A motorist reported that an ATV was operating on Chicopee Street and was passing cars.

11:21 p.m. – A motorist reported that the operator of the ATV struck a tree. Granby Police and Fire responded. The ATV operator was transported to Baystate Medical Center with significant non-life-threatening injuries. Officers completed an accident report and the operator was issued a civil citation for operating a recreational vehicle on a public way.

Tuesday, May 30

11 a.m. – A motorist reported that a vehicle struck a utility pole. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries. Responding offices completed an accident report and National Grid was notified.

Wednesday, May 31

7:51 p.m. – A resident reported that their grill was on fire. Granby Police and Fire responded. The fire was extinguished by first responders.

Thursday, June 1

6:34 p.m. – A resident came to the station to report someone fraudulently filed an unemployment claim in their name. An officer completed an incident report.

COMMUNITY

Heart of Mary presents free variety show

GRANBY — The Berkshire Hills Music Academy Dance Team and other selected vocalists and musicians will be performing in a variety show at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church, 256 State Street at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, June 16.

The doors will open at 6 p.m. Admission is free and all are welcome.

The show will begin with a 45-minute presentation by the Academy's SHINE group. The student members of this group, under the leadership of Dance and Movement Supervisor Mary Ann Holmes

and dance instructor Liz O'Brien gain self confidence as they develop their passion and talent for movement.

The goal of defeating the stigma of limitation is attained as the students connect with audiences with choreographed skills in ballet, modern, hip hop, and Broadway jazz. The second segment of the show will feature vocalists and instrumentalists to close out an evening of "magical" proportions.

This event is funded through grants by the Granby and the Massachusetts Cultural Councils.

Town's Democrats to elect delegates

On Saturday, June 17, Belchertown Democrats will hold a virtual caucus to elect delegates and alternates to attend the 2023 Massachusetts Democratic Convention, where they will help set the party's agenda for the year ahead.

According to a news release, Registered and pre-registered Democrats in Belchertown may vote and be elected as delegates or alternates during the caucus. Young people (ages 16 to 35), people with disabilities, people of color, and members of the LGBTQ+ community

not elected as delegates or alternates are encouraged to apply to be add-on delegates at the caucus or by visiting massdems.org/massdems-convention.

The convention will be held in person at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell on September 23.

Those interested in attending can sign up on the Belchertown Democratic Town Committee's website at belchertowndemocrats.org or via email at belchertowndemocrats@gmail.com.

VACANCIES from page 7

specializing in emergency medicine, animal enthusiast or caregiver, pet owner and/or interested residents.

Cultural Council: The council promotes an appreciation of the arts and culture by participating in the development and administration of funds for local cultural activities, awarding grants each year to support cultural activities in town, using the funding the Town receives from the

Massachusetts Cultural Council. In addition, the council sponsors two flagship events, Food Truck Fridays and Winter Light Night. The Belchertown Cultural Council generally meets on the first Tuesday evening of the month via zoom. They are especially interested in recruiting a member who is experienced with website design and social media platforms.

Veterans' Services Advisory Board: The Board works closely with the Town's

Veterans' Agent on issues pertaining to veterans to include but not limited to Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies, war memorials, veterans graves or any other related areas of concern.

Belchertown Family Center Committee: The committee is seeking passionate, service-minded individuals to fill an active voting member position. This committee is charged with oversight of the Belchertown Family Center and its support programming for families, and is actively working to create a breadth of resources for the community.

Scholarship Committee: Someone is needed to fill a home schooling representative seat on the Scholarship Committee. Anyone interested is asked to submit a letter of interest.

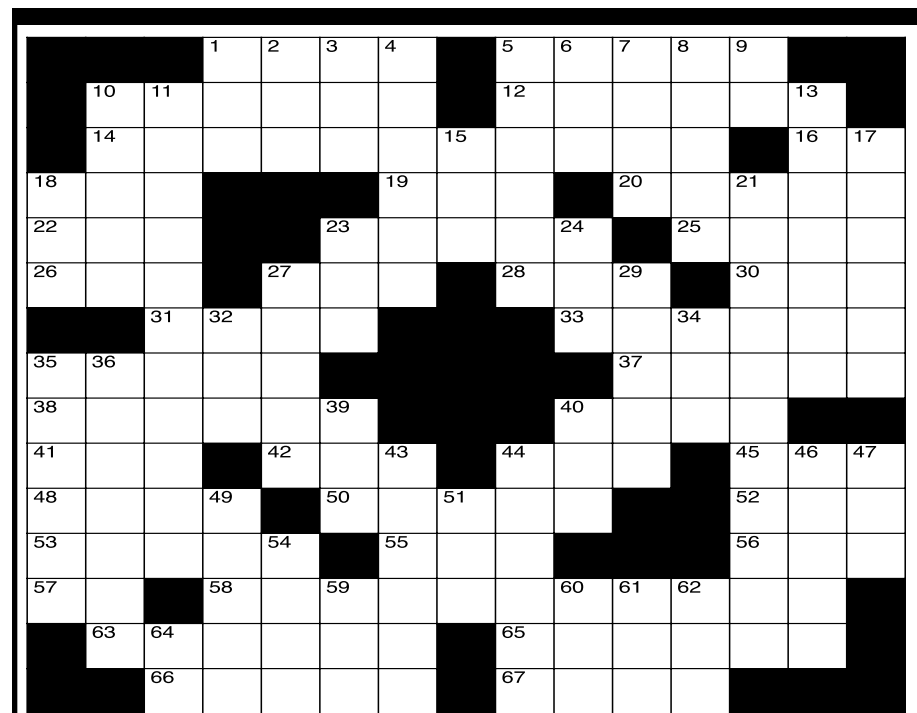
Communications Committee: A full-member seat is available for someone who wants to help develop a communications plan to improve information flow from the town to the public. Experience with marketing, communications, and/or social media is highly preferred.

Trail Stewardship Council: Interested individuals should be knowledgeable about local land use and related issues. Additional information specific to this council can be found at newenglandtrail.org.

Historic District By-Law Commission: A full member Real Estate seat. The Commission has regulatory control over new construction, reconstruction, alterations, movements and demolition of all exterior architectural features of buildings and structures within the Historic District which are visible from any public street, public way or public park.

Residents who have the time to serve on one of these boards and are interested in getting involved in the town's activities are encouraged to submit a letter of interest to: Select Board, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007 or by email to selectmen@belchertown.org.

The deadline to apply is noon on June 30.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Flat tableland with steep edges
- 5. Where there's __, there's fire
- 10. Talked incessantly
- 12. Skill
- 14. Without shame
- 16. Where teens spend their days (abbr.)
- 18. Boxing's GOAT
- 19. Used to anoint
- 20. Cluster cups
- 22. Footballer Newton
- 23. They make up a forest
- 25. Split pulses
- 26. Self
- 27. Post-office box
- 28. Test for high schoolers
- 30. Large, flightless bird
- 31. Expectorated
- 33. Falsehood
- 35. Prickly, scrambling shrub
- 37. French river

- 38. Told on
- 40. Hillside
- 41. Peyton's little brother
- 42. Soviet Socialist Republic
- 44. Cathedral city in Cambridgeshire
- 45. Witness
- 48. Brews
- 50. Yellowish-brown
- 52. Arctic explorers, abbr.
- 53. Mexican agave
- 55. A type of "cast"
- 56. Encourage
- 57. Atomic #52
- 58. Relating to position north of south of equator
- 63. Gadget whose name you forget
- 65. Another recording
- 66. Small blisters
- 67. Dark brown or black

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Licensed for Wall Street

- 2. "___ and flow"
- 3. A very large body of water
- 4. Accumulate on the surface of
- 5. Central cores of the stem
- 6. Angry
- 7. Ceramic jar
- 8. Scraped a car
- 9. ___ route
- 10. Soviet labor camp system
- 11. Strong hostilities
- 13. Vitamin of the B complex
- 15. Go quickly
- 17. Toast
- 18. A team's best pitcher
- 21. A Philly culinary specialty
- 23. Small child
- 24. Unhappy
- 27. Trims away
- 29. Characterized by crying eyes
- 32. Soft touch

- 34. American spy organization
- 35. A person's chest
- 36. Came from behind to win
- 39. Fall back
- 40. Nellie __, journalist
- 43. Great places to kayak
- 44. Suffer patiently
- 46. Majestic bird
- 47. Electroencephalograph
- 49. Organic compound used as an anti-septic
- 51. Objects connected to the web (abbr.)
- 54. Ship as cargo
- 59. The bill in a restaurant
- 60. Upper-class young woman (abbr.)
- 61. Judge in OJ Simpson trial
- 62. One's grandmother
- 64. Siberian river

JBMS from page 1

the education plan, which entails everything from class sizes to sample scheduling to school security to lunch rotations," he said.

The current proposal is to make Jabish Brook Middle School a "true" middle school, meaning grades six, seven and eight.

"That means from here that pre-k and kindergarten would go over to Swift River and third grade would go to Chestnut Hill," he said. "We would then close Cold Springs School, which is our most costly building to maintain."

Swift River would house grades pre-k to second grade, Chestnut Hill would house grades three to five, Jabish Brook would house six to eight and the high school would be home to grades nine through 12.

"There's been great feedback from educators on what they want their classrooms to look like," he said. "However, there are guidelines. For example, in middle school you don't get a separate auditorium, or you might get a half-auditorium. If we wanted a full one, we would have to pay for it."

Middle schools also do not have a full court in the gym unless that's going to be paid for by the town.

Gutkenst asked if the current gym at the middle school was a full court, and Cameron said yes because it was formerly the high school until the current high school was constructed.

He added that the Recreation Department has been working with the architectural firm to contribute what their needs would be to maintain the facilities

when in use.

Cameron said he wanted everyone to realize there are options that will be considered.

"They could renovate the current Jabish Brooke, they may do an addition or a whole new construction," he said. "Although we want a new construction, they may say, 'Oh well, too bad, we're only going to add a new wing.'"

The district previously bought two lots near Jabish in anticipation of the potential construction.

There will be a joint meeting with the Selectboard, School Committee and Finance Committee on June 27 to view all the proposals assembled by the project manager. It will be up to the Massachusetts School Building Authority to make the final decision.

Cameron said the board will state what the district qualified for.

Bansal asked if the district had to explore each option available.

"We have to submit plans for a new school, an addition or a renovation," she said.

Cameron said she was correct, and the decision would be based on the feasibility study.

"We have to think of it for the next 50 years," Cameron said. "And I want to give Dr. Shawn Fortin because all the classrooms we go into have a projector in the ceiling. He said we want to have more flexibility."

He said the anticipated timeline with the project would be opening doors in the fall of 2027.

GRANBY

Minerals rock the house at Granby Free Public Library

BY MATTY ANDERSON
Staff Writer
manderson@turley.com

GRANBY- Amethysts, fossils and fluorescent gems illuminated the eyes of children, who may go on to become the greatest generation of geologists, meteorologists or even archeologists.

On Saturday afternoon, the Connecticut Valley Mineral Club visited Granby Free Public library, bringing with them a dazzling array of rocks, minerals, gems and fossils. Representing them was Jack Marcy, the former president and Barbara Meyer, the current president of the club.

Excitement filled the room when Meyer busted out her flashlight equipped with blacklight technology. She showed the kids that certain minerals are fluorescent and explained, "That means they glow under black light."

The word fluorescent is actually named after fluorite, a mineral that absorbs the stimulation from blacklight and releases it creating a beautiful glow. Fluorite, or calcium fluoride, usually fluoresces blue, however it's not uncommon for the mineral to produce various colors including yellow, red, white and green.

This phenomenon was like magic to the children until they were enlightened by the Mineral Club, thankfully understanding the concept made it even cooler for them. Everyone who attended was lucky because they were learning from the best, Marcy and



(TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, PHOTOS BY MATTY ANDERSON)
Jack Marcy and Barbara Meyer showing off fossils from their collection.

Meyer hold a treasure trove of knowledge that they enjoy sharing with others, especially kids.

Lilliannah H, a very inspired attendee, said "My birthstone is an amethyst and my birth flower is a violet which makes me happy because the color purple really suits me." Her father, Keith H, added, "I think this was a really

nice event. Lilliannah loves this stuff; it was great to see her so excited. This experience was really cool."

Marcy said "I joined the club way back in 1988, I was the president for three consecutive years. These days I'm serving as the chairperson of the education com-



Lilliannah H, in her element, living her best most purple life.

mittee at the Mineral Club. The job entails going to events like this one; I visit schools, libraries and other groups."

He added, "my favorite gem of all would have to be Herkimer Diamonds. They're named for their place of origin, Herkimer, New York. I like them because they are double-terminated, which

makes for a really cool look, they're usually clear but you sometimes find one with a smoky quartz color."

Janice McArdle, the Youth Services Librarian, said, "Jack has been visiting us here for several years. People are always interested in what he has to share. He's inspired many kids and sent them off with a great start to their collections."

The CVMC participates in numerous cool activities like digs, going on trips and more. Meyer explained "sometimes we even do trunk shows, which is like tailgating for rock and mineral lovers. This coming weekend some of us are going to a Pig and Dig at Crystal Grove Mine. Two of our members actually own mines. I just bought a huge piece of fluorite from one of them in Maine."

She added, "We make sure we're always respectful by only sharing certain information with our members. We abide by special ethics rules; we don't go off premises when we are guests at a site. You'd be surprised how much damage can happen when rules aren't followed and boundaries aren't respected."

The takeaway is that the life of a rock and mineral lover is much more eventful and exciting than you would think. Having an early introduction to this lifestyle may open many educational and fun doors for these young scholars.



Top row: Noah LaChance, Otis Ouyang, Kerry Zhang, Aidan Messier, Jacob LaChance, Nathan Fernandes, Ryan Mavlouganes, Gavin Messier, Gabe Shumway, Bryson Vann, Lauren Cooper and Bri Gladu. Bottom row: Anna Belardoni, Matt Colwell, Allen Gao, Cooper Marnioudakis, Peter Elias, Zach Mavlouganes, Abby Olden, Ryan Priestly and Edan Chaverri



ABOVE: The MacDuffie seniors shown here are: Ryan Priestly (Belchertown), Logan Nacewicz (Indian Orchard), Zachary Mavlouganes (Belchertown), Gabe Shumway (Granby), Clara LaChance (Belchertown), Sydney Bagwell (Amherst) and Anna Belardoni (Italy).

- CORRECTION -

The wrong caption inadvertently appeared below a photo of the MacDuffie School's Ultimate Frisbee team following a season-ending 15-1 home win over Deerfield. We regret the error. Here is that team photo with

the correct caption as well as a photo of the MacDuffie seniors.

Accuracy is our No. 1 priority. If you spot an error, please email Editor Christal Whelan at cwhelan@turley.com.

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CAMPBELLS from page 3

incomplete,” without meeting Les. “He served as a role model to me,” she said. Tiberio said that Terry was always right beside Les and it “quickly became obvious,” that her name needed to be included with her husband’s. “Without Les and Terry, the Visitor Center would not have been born,” she said. Godfrey said it took quite a few tries and support from the legislature to make the Visitor Center reality 39 years ago. “Quabbin is different from almost all of the others,” Godfrey said the of the Reservoir, which contains 412 billion gallons of water over 39 square miles, with 181 miles of shoreline. “It has some of the best drinking water in the country; maybe the world.” After the Visitor Center was completed, Les, Terry, and numerous volunteers kept it staffed in order to preserve and share the history of the Reservoir, and the four towns disincorporated for its creation. Terry eventually was hired by DCR to run the Visitor Center,

which she did until her retirement. She created a tradition that still continues today, the Tuesday Tea’s with former residents of the Lost Towns. These weekly meetings allowed the residents to band together and share their memories. The group continues to meet, just not as frequently as the number of former residents has dwindled, Godfrey said. “Thirty-nine years later what they created is still in existence,” he said. State Sen. Anne Gobi spoke in her last appearance in that role before stepping in as the new Director of Rural Affairs in the Executive Office of Economic Development on June 5. Gobi said she was hoping this dedication would take place while she was still in office, and it did. Joining her were state representatives Susannah Whipps, Todd Smola and Aaron Saunders. Whipps shared that when she was a restaurant owner, the only art that hung on the walls was from Les. “These photographs are historic documents of the flora and fauna of the area,” she said. Retired state senators Stephen



Annie Tiberio spoke about the process to rename the Quabbin Visitor Center in memory of Les and Terry Campbell.

Brewer and Stanley Rosenberg each shared their memories of the Campbells. Brewer said he has five of Les’ photographs displayed in his “man cave,” and he stressed the importance of leaving a legacy just as the Campbells have. “We know that time marches on. Those that follow need to carry this on,” he said. Rosenberg said he first met the

Campbells back in the 1970s and that “it was an honor and privilege” to know them. “Les and Terry spend their whole lives seeing things that needed to be done, and organized people to get it done,” he said. Peg Louraine of the Select Board talked about how the walls at the former Hawley’s Family Restaurant were covered with Les’ photos. She spoke about his generosity and how he supported so many things around town, including the theater and music programs. “He loved Belchertown,” she said. Les’ son, David Campbell, was the last to speak prior to the ribbon cutting for the sign outside of the Visitor Center. Campbell said his father was a tremendous speaker, and how he could mesmerize an auditorium full of people with his words, but that he didn’t share his father’s love of public speaking. “I knew I couldn’t give a great speech, so I slid into his shoes,” Campbell said, pointing to his father’s shoes on his feet. Campbell also wore his father’s trusty Timex watch.

He shared a photo of his father at 19-years-old, standing in the spillway wearing a tie, which he was known to wear on almost all occasions. Campbell said his father had a lot of pipedreams, and he was sure that there were many people who believed the Visitor Center was one of them. Campbell said he was happy that Terry was included in the renaming of the Visitor Center. “I don’t think he could have pulled this off without her,” he said.

About the Quabbin Visitor Center
The Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center, 485 Ware Road, Belchertown, is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. It is open year-round and features exhibits, brochures, books and videos about Quabbin management and history. For more information, call 413-323-7221 or email QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass.gov.

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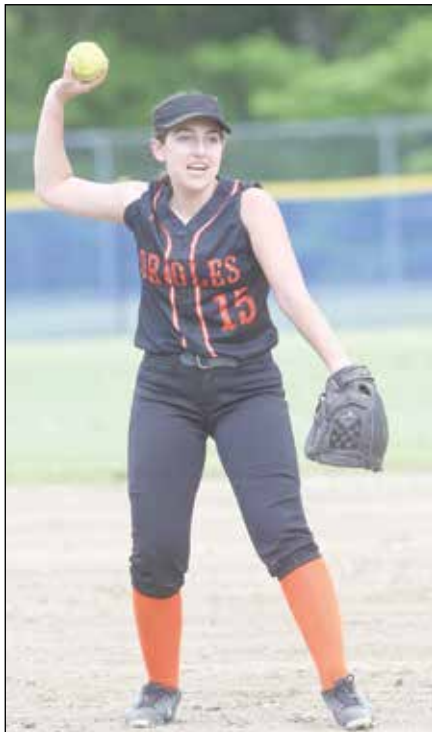
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Abigail Almedia fires over to first.

Orioles edged in WMass quarter finals

BELCHERTOWN – Last Monday afternoon, Belchertown softball was defeated 4-3 in the Western Mass. Class B Quarterfinals against Wahconah Regional High School. The Orioles would go on to lose to Pittsfield in a nonplayoff game and now was scheduled to face Norwell in the opening round of the Division 3 State Tournament.



Isabella Cauley reaches out to field the grounder.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Laura Cote pitches for the Orioles.



Brandon Clark makes the out at first.

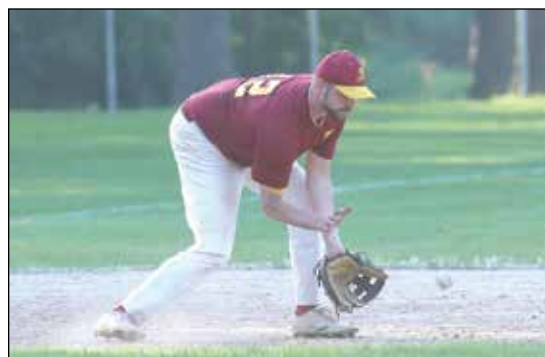


Jason Byers pitches for the Tigers.



Shane Denault makes a long throw.

Tri-County Baseball back in action



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
St. Joe's Brandon Magni fields a grounder.

CHICOPEE – Last week, Tri-County Baseball was back in action with a number of games on the slate, though only four actually played due to rainouts. The Tri-County has gone through some turnover and some teams not making their way back to the league in recent years. This year, there are only six teams in the league, with Easthampton Savings Bank, a prominent member of the league for many years, not on the schedule this year. Regulars featuring players from all over the region including PeoplesBank, the Chicopee Falls Tigers, St. Joseph's, and DiFranco Realty are back this year. The Tri-County League, which features adult baseball, runs through the end of July.

Belchertown girls defeated in finals

BY TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM—The South Hadley girls soccer team defeated Belchertown High School in the Western Mass. Class B championship match at Holyoke High School last November.

A little more than six months later, the Lady Tigers lacrosse team captured the Western Mass title for the first time in school history against the same opponent.

Eight different players scored at least one goal as the second-seeded Lady Tigers coasted to a 13-5 victory over the fourth-seeded Lady Orioles in the Western Mass. Class B final, which was held at Agawam High School, last Wednesday afternoon.

“When I played for the South Hadley lacrosse team, we only qualified for the postseason tournament one time,” said first-year head coach Danielle Miele who graduated from South Hadley High School in 2015. “Winning the Western Mass. title in my first season as the head coach is just an amazing accomplishment. We played very well as a team in today’s match.”

When Miele, who was a three-sport athlete in high school, was a sophomore the Lady Tigers lacrosse team defeated Lee High School in the Western Mass. Division 1 quarterfinals. They then lost to powerhouse Longmeadow in the semifinals.

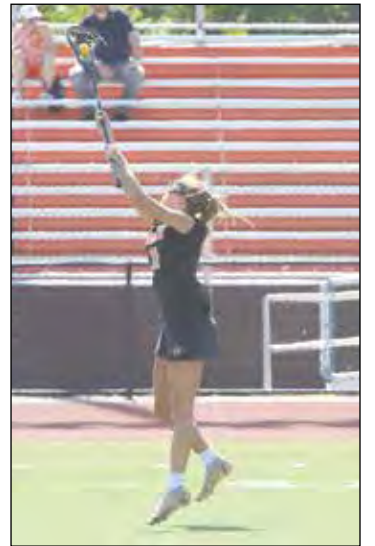
South Hadley (13 -5) advanced into the 2023 Western Mass. championship match after squeaking out an 11-8 home win against third-seeded Amherst in the semifinals.

The only senior listed on the South Hadley roster is Audissey Hill, who’s one of the captains.

The three junior captains are Madelyn McArdle, Emily Piligian, and Evelyn Gingras, who’s the starting goalie.

Belchertown (7-10) was also looking to capture the Western Mass. title for the first time under first-year head coach Jarrod Lemke.

The Lady Orioles advanced into the championship match after upsetting top-seeded Northampton, 18-15, in the semi-



PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
Madysen LePage makes a jumping catch.



Veronica Dymkowski eyes the goal as she moves up the field.

finals. “Nobody even expected us to even be playing in the Western Mass. finals this year,” Lemke said. “We only won four games a year ago. We also lost a bunch of players to graduation. We upset the top-seeded team to get here. It gave us a lot more confidence coming into this game.”

The Lady Orioles seniors are Grace Filippelli, Luran Cooper, Michelle Zaluga, Sam Pacunas, and Adrien Wise.

Please see **FINALS**, page 12



Goalie Emma Almeida attempts to block a shot.

SPORTS

Kimball wins inaugural Winchester Open 100

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Saturday night’s inaugural Winchester Open 100 might have been a new experience for fans and racers alike, but it ended with a familiar face in victory lane.

Monadnock Speedway graduate Matthew Kimball put his home-track expertise to work, besting a 24-car field to win the first-ever JDV Open Modified feature at the Winchester, N.H. bullring.

Kimball held off Carl Medeiros Jr. and Ryan Doucette to score one of the biggest wins of his Modified career thus far.

Inclement weather delayed the start of Saturday’s main event, but did nothing to dampen the enthusiasm of Kimball, who raced Mini Stocks at “Mad Dog” before making a career shift to Tour-type Modifieds. The Bennington, N.H. racer started from the pole, yielding to Monadnock veteran Todd Patnode on lap eight of the 100-circuit feature. Chris Pasteryak settled into third with Kirk Alexander fourth when a turn-three spin brought out the night’s first caution.

Patnode immediately ducked down pit road, handing the lead back to Kimball. Alexander and Sam Rameau charged into third on the restart, while Pasteryak’s hopes for a solid finish turned bleak when contact left the Connecticut racer sideways in turn two with 60 laps to go.

Rameau, who started 22nd, pounced on Kimball two restarts later to take the lead. Rameau set a fast pace, but Kimball was able to keep up, turning up the heat as slower traffic came into play. Early contender Alexander went for a backstretch spin with 17 laps left, though, eliminating the lapped-traffic wildcard and pitting Rameau against Kimball for the restart.

On the green flag, Rameau cleared Kimball for the lead, but Kimball loomed large in his mirror, tracing the curbs and



Matthew Kimball took the win last Saturday at Monadnock Speedway

SUBMITTED PHOTO

keeping Rameau from building an advantage. With 11 laps left, Kimball dove inside on the backstretch, getting alongside Rameau in the turns and taking the lead back. Ryan Doucette threw his car to Rameau’s inside to steal second, upsetting Rameau and letting Kimball escape. Another bobble from Rameau slowed the field, with Medeiros charging from the high line to take second as the top five shuffled.

Kimball was hardly home free, as another spin with six laps left forced a late-race restart. But the youngster got the jump on Medeiros coming to the green, and as Doucette made a bid for second, Kimball was able to get away once again, coasting home to one of his biggest Modified wins

yet and pocketing \$5,000 for the evening.

Medeiros held on for a strong second-place finish, with Doucette third at the line. Richard Savary drove back from a late pit stop to finish fourth, while Pasteryak salvaged a fifth-place finish.

Leading into the Winchester Open 100, Tom Harwood won his second straight New England Dwarf Car Series feature only a week after capturing the checkers at Lee USA Speedway. Adrian Smith won the Young Guns feature, while Robert Hagar topped the NHSTRA Late Models feature and Chris Davis came away with a win in the Pure Stocks main event.

JDV Productions’ next scheduled event is the second annual Clash at Claremont on Saturday, July 29, featuring the NASCAR

Whelen Modified Tour in their fourth-ever appearance at Claremont Motorsports Park in New Hampshire’s Upper Valley. Further information on this special event will be released in the coming weeks.

For more information on JDV Productions, visit JDVProductions.com and follow on social media for the latest updates throughout the season, including updates from the track on race day with feature winner posts.

Results: Winchester Open Modified 100; Monadnock Speedway; June 3

1. (43) Matthew Kimball
2. (50) Carl Medeiros, Jr.
3. (55) Ryan Doucette
4. (99) Richard Savary
5. (5CT) Chris Pasteryak
6. (02) Geoff Rollins
7. (1) Nathan Wenzel
8. (76) Kirk Alexander
9. (11X) Tyler Leary
10. (24) Todd Patnode
11. (04) Joey Jarvis
12. (17) Donnie Lashua
13. (95) Cory Plummer
14. (23) Bradley Zahensky
15. (13) Cameron Sontag
16. (06) Sam Rameau
17. (27) Derek Robbie
18. (02MA) Paul LaPlante
19. (99X) Kimberly Rivet
20. (7) Kurt Vigeant
21. (47) Jacob Perry
22. (51) Adam LaPoint
23. (24X) Cornelius Flynn
24. (30CT) Gary Byington

LACROSSE



ALUMNI GAME

Friday, June 16th

Festivities begin at 6:00 pm

The Game will be at 6:30 pm

Belchertown High School

Everyone Welcome!

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Jennifer.Keefe15@gmail.com to Register

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FINALS from page 11

South Hadley built a 3-0 lead seven minutes into the opening half following goals from sophomores Margaret Watkins, and Ava Asselin, along with McArdle.

“Everyone made a key contribution in today’s game, which really helped us a lot,” said Asselin, who recorded a hat-trick in the Western Mass. finals. “We became very close during the course of the regular season. It has been a lot of fun playing for this team.”

Asselin scored her first goal of the match on a behind the back shot.

“I normally don’t score very many goals with a behind the back shot,” she said. “It felt really good after I scored that goal.”

The Lady Orioles got on the scoreboard for the first time with 17:34 remaining in the first half following an unassisted goal from Wise.

Another goal by sophomore Paige Wagner closed the gap to 4-2.

Belchertown didn’t get any closer than that the rest of the way.

South Hadley pulled away by scoring the next six goals, which gave them a 10-2 half-time advantage.

Those goals were scored by junior Rachel Yabra, sophomore Jordyn Balint, junior Mia Beaulieu, junior Eliana Britton, Piligian, and Asselin.

“We played very well in today’s game, especially during the first half,” said Gingras, who was credited with nine saves. “It feels amazing to win the Western Mass. title. I couldn’t even imagine doing this last



Samantha Pacunas emerges from behind the goal.

year. The new coaches have really helped us a lot.”

Less than two minutes into the second half, Asselin scored her third goal of the match, which gave South Hadley an 11-2 lead.

With a little more than eleven minutes remaining in regulation, Watkins netted her second goal of the game pushing the Lady Tigers advantage to 13-2.

The Lady Orioles scored the final three goals of the contest. Two of those goals were scored by junior Madysen LePage. Wise scored the other goal.

Both teams also qualified for the Division 4 state tournament.



Adrien Wise runs across and shoots on goal.

SPORTS

Registration open for 2023 Bay State Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 41st annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2023 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from June 3 to July 29 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and New England Sports Center in Marlborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Eight high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete against each other in July. Check each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, archery, judo, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in archery, swimming, and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in girls lacrosse, rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

The 2023 Summer Games will feature Game On in Fitchburg as the host venue for 8 sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July. “We are excited to expand the roster of sports being held at Game On this year,” said Kevin Cummings, Executive Director of the Bay State Games. “This state-of-the-art facility allows us to enhance the athlete and spectator experience and provide a true Olympic-style multi-sport atmosphere for our participants.”

An additional feature in 2023 is that in over a dozen sports, athletes who win a gold, silver, or bronze medal at the 2023 Bay State Games will qualify to participate in the 2024 State Games of America in San Diego, California. The State Games of America feature more than 8,000 athletes from over 30 different state games programs nationwide. To see the list of qualifying sports, please visit www.stategamesofamerica.com. In addition to sports programming, Bay State Games offer college scholarships, a sportsmanship initiative, college internship opportunities, and a High School Ambassador program. For more information on all sports in the 2023 Summer Games, links to online registration, and information on other programs, go to www.baystategames.org. For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

Opening weekend for Blue Sox

HOLYOKE - The Valley Blue Sox return to MacKenzie Stadium next week, with their first home game on Thursday, June 8 at 6:35 p.m. The team will then have three more home games June 9, 10, and 11. There will be a special promotion for all fans who attend all 4 home games this coming weekend.



The team announced that any fans who attend all four games June 8-11 will receive their choice of either four flex tickets to any of the remaining home games this season, or early access to a new Blue Sox T-shirt before they go on sale. Fans will receive a punch card on Opening Night that will be filled in with different colored stickers at each game until all four are collected after the weekend.

On Opening Night the team will be facing the Bristol Blues and giving away magnet schedules. The following night, Friday June 9 at 6:35 p.m. vs. the Ocean State Wolves, the team will be hosting Isenberg Night, and giving away T-shirts sponsored by Isenberg School of Management. The first 100 UMass students to show their UCard upon entry will receive a voucher for one free meal and drink. Saturday June 10 at 6:35 p.m. vs. the North Shore Navigators, Boston Beer Co. will be sponsoring a Dogfish Tasting night, and fans will be able to enter a Red Sox/Sam Adams bench raffle. Finally on Sunday June 11 at 3 p.m. vs. the Martha's Vineyard Sharks, the City of Holyoke will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary with the team.

Fans are encouraged to come show their support for the start of the new season, and the Blue Sox look forward to seeing fans back at MacKenzie Stadium next Thursday.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching “turleysports.” We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

Blue Sox in need of host families

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox is still searching for a few host families for the 2023 season.

To be a host family, all you need is a private room for the player to stay in, food options, and access to a kitchen.

In return, 2023 volunteer host families will receive:

- Free general admission to all Valley Blue Sox home and away games
- Food vouchers for every home game
- Transportation and ticket free to the

- Boston Red Sox game on June 12
- Free clinics for any household member ages 6-13
- Special Host Family recognition event
- 40% discount on all merchandise
- Season-long access to our live-game radio
- Access to our fan bus to an away game to be determined

If you are interested in being a host family, please contact matt@valleybluesox.com for more information.

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■ BUSINESS

A Healing Touch

Relax, refresh and rejuvenate

BY CHRISTAL WHELAN
Editor
cwhelan@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – A stone’s throw away from the Belchertown Common, tucked away in a barn long since repurposed into comfortable massage treatment rooms, lies A Healing Touch owned and operated by a husband and wife team, Pauline and Christopher Reynolds.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of A Healing Touch, which has grown and diversified over the years. The practice now (since 2019) includes three additional massage therapists who share a common holistic approach to health. Rather than single therapies, they integrated therapeutic massage that combines various techniques: trigger-point therapy, mio-fascial and Swedish – nything that will contribute to the well-being of the client might be included. Massage is customized.

The Reynolds, who trained together at the Central Massachusetts School of Massage and Therapy, formerly in Spencer. Since 2019 three other licensed massage therapists have joined the practice. They all provide the integrated style. Rather than a fixed protocol customize



Pauline and Christopher Reynolds with their 4-year-old son Edan.

For six years the couple competed triathlons. Many of their clients were athletes and their focus on sports massage. But now many clients are professionals with an payload of stress

It is possible to receive cupping, a massage echnique using silicone cups that works by suction and separate the layers fascia and get the b;ppd f;pwomg

They prefer the use of “Pure Pro” a line of massage products

Located at 26 North Main St. in Belchertown. For more information, please visit their website ahealingtouchonline.com or by phone 413-323-9952.



Converting an old barn into a healing center.

(TURLEY PUBLICATIONS
PHOTOS BY
CHRISTAL WHELAN)



A relaxing treatment room at A Healing Touch.

Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

Turley Publications is looking for a “hands on” energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for two weekly publications. This position will include managing and coaching a small news staff that will provide the community with a great local newspaper.

The editor will need to cover local government and events while representing the newspaper at public venues.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism.

This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

Please send resume and writing examples to:

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to
ekennedy@turley.com

Learn about local ‘shrooms



Naturalist John Root comes to GPL

GRANBY — Naturalist John Root comes to the library at 11 a.m. on Saturday, June 24, to present “Mushrooms of the Northeast.”

Learn about the lives of fungi and identifying characteristics of both edible and poisonous species of the region’s common mushrooms.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Granby Cultural Council, a

local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

The Granby Free Library is located at 297 E. State Street. For more information, call 467-3320 or go to granbylibrary.com.



JOB OPENING

STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

If you’re a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to



Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to
ekennedy@turley.com



GRADUATION from page 1

their senior year: What does it take to be a "Hall of Famer" at Belchertown High School? Their year of graduation - the number 23 - reminded her of Michael Jordan who was number 23 on the Chicago Bulls and exemplified the four qualities of a Hall of Famer: working hard, telling and listening to stories, doing the right thing, and meeting the moment.

Jordan had once said, quoted Vigneux, "If you push me towards something that you think is a weakness, then I will turn that perceived weakness into a strength."

The same theme was echoed and taken further in the speech given by Salutatorian Daniel Holden. Holden expressed what he believed was a common sentiment of his peers - the first two years of their high school, impacted as it was by the COVID-19 pandemic, not allowed them to receive the full high school experience they had wanted.

But what ultimately grew from that unwelcome experience was a sense of resilience. "There will always be something with the potential to change your life forever in an instant," said Holden. "Are you prepared to face change? He added, "I encourage you to embrace change with wide-open arms and maintain a sense of hope."

Quoting the eighteenth century English playwright, George Coleman, Valedictorian Janelle Gummesson, said, "Praise the bridge that carried you over." She spoke highly of all the bridges that had brought her to this moment in her cap and gown on these bleachers in Belchertown.

Having lost her mother at age one, Gummesson's father raised his seven children alone. He was the bridge of her early life, but then came her teachers who spanned the years and connected all the students present to knowledge, guidance, and their futures.

Gummesson also addressed the impact of the pandemic and said, "Our bonds were strengthened, not weakened, by the challenges posed by the pandemic." She looked towards the future at potentially new bridges, perhaps endless bridges. But she urged her listeners to always remember to look back at those previous bridges crossed with a sense of gratitude.

Class President Hailey Smith cautioned that in trying to grow up and strive for independence and freedom, always rushing to the next challenge, it's easy to miss the "little moments" that often determine a person's real course in life. "Maybe life isn't about celebrating major mile-



Class of 2023 in procession.

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY CHRISTAL WHELAN



Friends gather for a photo after graduating.

PHOTO BY AIMEE M. HENDERSON

stones, but rather cherishing the fleeting moments that lead up to them."

The class song, "The Nights" by Avicii was a fitting tribute for this send-off of the newly fledged orioles as its theme is living a life to be remembered.

The Belchertown Public School District Superintendent Brian Cameron certified that all

members of the class had met all requirements set forth by the commonwealth and the BPSD. The diplomas were awarded.

The tassels were flipped from right to left and caps thrown high into the air with euphoric shouts.

No rite of passage is complete without its challenges, and the class of 2023 had risen to meet them all.



Family member of 2023 graduate John DiNapoli holds up photos of the graduating senior as a baby and in the present.

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY CHRISTAL WHELAN

OPPORTUNITY

newspaper correspondent

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SATURDAY
SUNDAY

June 9 - 11, 2023



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- Granby Police
- Pancake Breakfast7:30-10AM
- Fishing Derby..... 8AM
- Oxen Pulls 8AM
- Fanelli Rides and Concessions Open... 12PM
- Bwana Jim (Wildlife Shows)
- James Germana Band2-4:30PM
- Crowdaddy Mushroom Band..... 5-7:30PM
- East Coast Cowboys8-11PM
- Pyrotechnico Fireworks9:30PM

***RAIN DATE - JUNE 17TH 9:30PM**

SUNDAY 10AM-5PM

- Garden Tractor Pulls 10AM
- Antique Tractor Pulls 10AM
- Granby Wrestling 5K Fun Run/1K Mile
- Kids Run & Walk Fundrasier 10AM
- Fanelli Rides and Concessions Open... 12PM
- Berkshire Hills Music Academy 12-2PM
- Under Dark Skies.....2:30-4:30PM

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OBITUARIES

DEATH NOTICES

Beaudoin, Eva
Died March 27, 2023
Funeral June 16, 2023

Phelps, Gary Raymond
Died May 21, 2023
No services

Sullivan, Caitlin C.
Died May 30, 2023
Services June 5, 2023

Dubuque, Robert L.
Died May 18, 2023
Services June 10, 2023

Eva Beaudoin, 93

BELCHERTOWN – Eva Beaudoin of Dunedin, Florida and formerly Belchertown, passed away on March 27, 2023 at the age of 93 after a brief illness.

Eva was born in Lac Megantic, Canada on November 12, 1929. In 1951, Eva married Claude Beaudoin and began their 66 years of marriage together. Their family consisted of seven children, 15 grandchildren, and 16 great-grandchildren.

Eva was pre-deceased by her husband, Claude, in 2017. She leaves behind her children Ginette (Richard) Cole, Lisa (Jim) Crescimano, Diane (Phil) Huyser, Claude (Julia) Beaudoin, Lynn (George) Cook, Claire (Kevin) Roberts and Joan Barrett as well as her many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She also leaves her husband's remaining siblings and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sister, Geneva Inman, whom she was ecstatic to meet late in her lifetime.

Eva, better known as Memere, was the matriarch of the family. She enjoyed spending time with her loved ones and often hosted large gatherings. She was very proud of the life she had created, and always opened her home and her heart to anyone who needed it.



Eva was a proud and passionate philanthropist, recognizing the importance of helping others and giving back to the community. She especially enjoyed working with the Elks Club to raise money for children to attend summer camp.

An avid world traveler, Eva showered her grandchildren with postcards and trinkets from the numerous continents she visited. She loved sharing stories of her travels and of her life before and after moving to the US.

Eva will be remembered and cherished for the love and happiness she brought to everyone she knew. She is the definition of strength. Her early life was not easy, but nevertheless, she persisted. Her legacy will live on through the love she fiercely provided to everyone she held dear.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend a funeral Mass at 10:30 on Friday, June 16 at the Newman Center, 472 N. Pleasant St., Amherst, followed by a celebration of life to be held at noon at the American Legion, 1 Prospect St., Hatfield.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Harry Anna Trust, which provides children's therapy services and youth camp programs at www.floridaelks.org/florida-elks-trust-fund.

Robert L. Dubuque, 75



GRANBY – Robert L. “Bob” Dubuque, 75, passed away May 18, 2023, with his family by his side.

He was born on February 4, 1948 in Burlington, Vermont to the late Robert Dubuque and Irene (Seymour) Gay. After graduating from Belchertown High School in 1967, Bob served his country in the US Army during the Vietnam war era.

Following his time in the service, Bob was employed with Autron as a machine operator for 25 years, and later with Marcus Printing for 9 years, before retiring at the age of 62. Bob was an avid fisherman and enjoyed both small lake fishing and deep-sea fishing.

Most of all, he loved spending time with his family, especially his grandchildren whom he loved dearly.

Besides his parents, Bob was preceded



in death by his siblings, Skip and Gary Gay, and Randall Gowing. He will be truly missed by his wife of 48 years,

Margaret “Peggy” (Lucia) Dubuque; son, Christopher Dubuque and his wife, Jodi; sisters, Vicki O’Brien and husband, Michael, and Michelle Knapp and husband, David; brother, Chris Daley and wife, Pearl; grandchildren, Tyler and Kyle Dubuque, and Hailey and Ethan O’Malley; great-grandchildren, Jeremiah and Jayda; as well as many extended family and friends.

A service will be held on June 10 at 11 a.m. at the Hope United Methodist Church in Belchertown. Burial will be held at the family’s discretion. Please visit www.beersandstory.com to extend online condolences.

Gary Raymond Phelps, 80

GRANBY – Gary Raymond Phelps, 80, passed away at his home on May 21, 2022.

Born in Manchester, Connecticut on April 2, 1943, he was the son of Elroy Phelps and Mary (McCaughey) Phelps.

Gary grew up in Manchester and attended Sewanee, the University of the South, in Tennessee, where he was a forestry major. Gary moved to Granby after marrying the love of his life, Cynthia Gallup Phelps, a Granby native.

Gary’s second love was public service, contributing as a volunteer firefighter, an EMT, a member of the Lions Club for many years, Granby Tree Warden,

and most recently with the Granby Preservation Society in his passion project of restoring Kellogg Hall.

Gary will be missed by his sons, George Phelps of Chatham, New York, and Jared Phelps of Granby along with his dear granddaughter, Fiona Rose Phelps, and his nephews and niece, Matthew, Tim and Beth Phelps.

Beers & Story Funeral Homes, South Hadley, has been entrusted with Gary’s arrangements.

Donations can be made in Gary’s name to the Granby Preservation Society and/or the American Cancer Society.

Caitlin C. Sullivan, 35

BELCHERTOWN – Caitlin C. “Cat” Sullivan, 35, passed away suddenly on May 30, 2023, with her family by her side.

She was born on June 6, 1987 in Holyoke, the daughter of Donna (Anyon) Kustra and the late Francis X. Sullivan Jr.

Cat graduated from Belchertown High School in 2006 and previously worked as a driver for Hulmes Transportation Services.

Cat was a very talented photographer and had a great appreciation for art. She also enjoyed watching and quoting movies, family “game nights,” going on car rides, and spending time with her family and pets, whom she loved dearly.

Cat was preceded in death by her father, Francis X. Sullivan Jr., in 2003; maternal grandparents, Barbara and Bill Anyon; and paternal grandparents, Francis X. Sr. and Kathleen Sullivan.

She will be greatly missed by

her fiancé, Jeff Conchieri; mother, Donna (Anyon) Kustra and husband, Tom; sister, Erin Marchese and husband, Aldo; sister,

Gabrielle Dejoinville and husband, Stephen; brother, Brendan Sullivan; as well as numerous aunts and uncles, several nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends.

The family wishes to thank MICU Nurses Lizzy, Haley, and Cari, at Baystate Medical Center, for the compassionate care that was provided to Cat.

A period of visitation was held at the Beers & Story Belchertown Funeral Home on Monday, June 5, 2023 from 10:00am-12:00pm with closing prayers shared at 12:00pm. Burial will be held at the family’s discretion. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to your local Animal Rescue Shelter in memory of Cat’s love for animals. Please visit www.beersandstory.com to extend online condolences.



Explore barren habitat with DCR July 15

BELCHERTOWN – The Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center is offering another free program.

On Saturday, July 15 from 9-11 a.m., explore barrens habitat restoration on Barre Heathland, meeting at the intersection of Route 62 and Barre Road in Hubbardston on a 1-mile moderate hike. How can forest management and prescribed fire programs support rare plant

and animal habitats?

All ages are welcome. Email QuabbinVisitor.Center@mass.gov with questions or to be added to the mailing list

Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Dogs are not allowed.

Space is limited.

To register for this event, visit www.mass.gov/locations/quabbin-reservoir/events?_page=1.

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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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413)586-8500
Docket No. HS23C0075CA**
**In the matter of:
Maria Amelia Alves
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Maria Amelia Alves of Belchertown, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Mary Amelia Alves

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampshire Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/05/2023.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Linda S Fidnick**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 05, 2023
Michael J. Carey
Register of Probate

06/08/2023

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of **June 9, 2023** the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

2005 Jeep Grand Cherokee
VIN: 1J8HR582X5C654871
Color: Silver
LKO: Wandyvelis Rivera
1A Hampshire Heights
Northampton, MA 01060
Relentless Towing
Belchertown, MA
413-530-3804
05/25, 06/01, 06/08/2023

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

S N O W ’ S S E L F STORAGE LLC, will sell the contents of the following sheds online at www.aar-bids.com.

Larry Foote – M29
The online sale will end on **Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 10 a.m.**

Snow’s Self Storage reserves the right to refuse any and all bids, or to cancel the auction at any time for any reason.
06/08, 06/15/2023

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 \$120, 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.

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- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 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

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TAG SALE

DANA WOODS ANNUAL tag sale: Belchertown: George Hannum Rd off Rt 9 (turn at Stop & Shop) Children's clothes, toys, furniture, housewares, tools and more! **Saturday, June 10th, 9:00am-3:00pm**

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The position works under the direct supervision of the Principal Assessor. Please go to www.townofpalmer.com for full job description. Send resume and cover letter to kwenzel@townofpalmer.com or to 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Salary commensurate with experience between \$22.26 - \$25.77 per hour. This position requires a high school education; and one (1) to three (3) years of experience in a real estate or office setting; Experience in appraisal and assessment practices desired; or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Associates Degree preferred. Experience with Vision, Munis and GIS is desirable. *The Town of Palmer is an EOE/AA employer.*

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or call: 413-283-8393

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HILLTOWNS - MONDAY AT NOON

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
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29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
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