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THURSDAY,
JUNE 22, 2023

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Volume 108 • Number 15

www.sentinelturley.com



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Where are the fireworks?

BY MATTY ANDERSON
Staff Writer
manderson@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – Unfortunately, fireworks will not light the skies of Belchertown this Independence Day, but never fear, your local fireworks guide is here.

Neighboring towns are having fireworks shows that residents of Belchertown are welcome to attend and should know about. Amherst will be hosting a huge fireworks show at UMass Amherst's McGuirk Stadium on July 1 at 5p.m.

The event is free, although food, beverages and novelty items will be available for purchase. UMass welcomes you to listen to music, grab a bite to eat and enjoy the show. The venue is only about 20 minutes from Belchertown Commons.

Another great option is taking a trip to Grenville Park in Ware, which is only 17 minutes from Belchertown Commons. The Ware Lions Club is hosting an Independence Day celebration on

Please see **FIREWORKS**, page 5

Twirlers capture titles



Team members at the Bay State Summer Games with their gold medals.



The Belchertown Twirlers at the Northeast Regional Championships with their team awards.

Winners at state and regional competitions

BELCHERTOWN — The Belchertown Twirlers recently competed at the Massachusetts State Championships and Northeast Regional Championships and came away winners.

The Twirlers are the Massachusetts State and Northeast Regional Primary Halftime Team Champions and the Northeast Regional Youth Halftime Team Champions. The local twirling team also won the Beginner

Youth Small Twirl Team division at both the Massachusetts State Championships and Northeast Regional Championships.

Please see **TWIRLERS**, page 5

47 receive diplomas at MacDuffie School's 133rd commencement

BELCHERTOWN — The MacDuffie School held its 133rd Commencement Exercises in Abbey Chapel at Mount Holyoke College on Saturday, June 10.

The 47 members of the Class of 2023 stood for their traditional photo on the steps, processed through the Chapel and received their diplomas, as friends and family watched with pride.

Passion, honesty, and gratitude were the embedded themes of the Senior Speakers: Sara Avery of

Please see **MACDUFFIE**, page 5

Class of 2023 Seven Year Seniors (back, from left): Reece Tramazzo of South Hadley, Gabe Shumway of Granby and Zachary Mavlouganes of Belchertown; and (front, from left): Alexa Wiesel of Granby), Jae Mason of South Hadley, Sophie Griffin of South Hadley) and Vivian O'Connor of Granby.



Local drummer wins 1st place at the NE Music Festival

BOSTON – Brandon Germain of Belchertown was among the Falcetti School of Music students who earned an award at the recently 61st annual New England Music Festival.

Germain won first place in the New England Drum Championship.

According to a news release, the festival is a long-standing tradition in New England, dating back to 1961, and “provides a platform for musicians to showcase their skills, learn from their peers, and participate in a variety of performances.” This year’s event featured both individual and ensemble performances across a range of musical genres including classical, popular, jazz, and folk.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Brandon Germain with his award from the 61st annual New England Music Festival.

Please see **WINNER**, page 5



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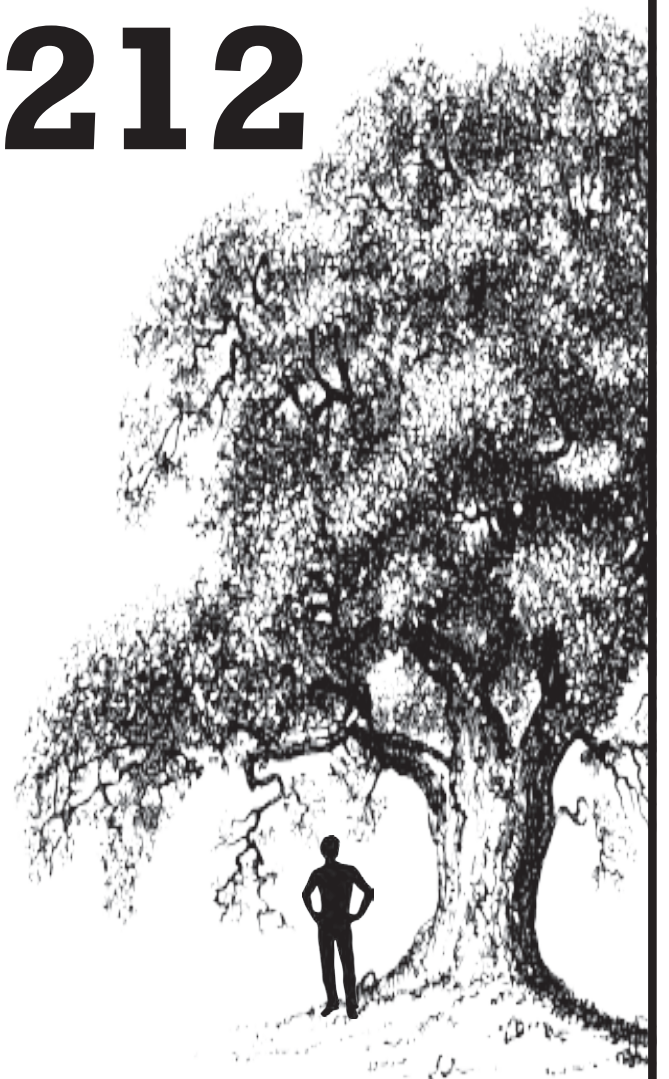
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COMMUNITY



Shown here from left are PDG Bill White, Melvin Jones Committee Chair Jack Hulmes, Melvin Jones Fellow recipient Mike Pease, and his wife Becky.



Past District Governor Bill White (left) officially "pins" incoming President Michael Pease, whose support crew includes 1st Vice President Morgan Kimball, 2nd Vice President Josh Dufresne and 3rd Vice President Steve Cmurchowski.

Lions Club Installation Dinner held at Villa Rose

BELCHERTOWN — It was Mike Pease night at the Lions Club Installation Dinner held at the Villa Rose Restaurant in Ludlow recently as he was not only inducted as the new Belchertown Lions Club president, but was also awarded the

prestigious Melvin Jones Fellow Award – the highest form of recognition that embodies humanitarian ideas consistent with the nature and purpose of Lionism. On a local level, Pease has taken on the chairmanship of the

annual Lions Club Memorial Golf Tournament for the past several years and has consistently volunteered to serve at many fundraising functions throughout the years, a news release states. He has arranged the donation of propane

gas through his affiliation with Suburban Propane of Belchertown for the Belchertown Fair Food Wagon, Aaron's Race Events and the local Relay For Life fundraising events at which the Lions Club runs a food concession and donates

all proceeds to these charitable causes. "Mike, we are very fortunate to have you on board and we hope this award conveys our appreciation for all that you do for the club," the club said in its release.

Offices closed for holiday

BELCHERTOWN — Town offices will be closed on July 3 and July 4 for the Independence Day holiday. Offices will reopen at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, July 5.

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We remember you today as we do everyday with love, tears, laughter and precious memories. The middle child who loved camping, sports, family vacations and hanging with his wide range of friends. We often think of what your life would be today, nineteen years after you "escaped" your "hidden wounds" from the War in Iraq. A war of choice and a death not counted among its casualties. A life left with so many chapters unwritten. A young man forever 23. Our veterans deserve better, Jeffrey deserved better. It is left to us to see that it happens.

"Let not another veteran suffer from hidden wounds, Be left abandoned on the ravaged battlefield of their broken mind, bleeding soul and shattered spirit"
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If you have any questions, contact Elaine Roberts 413-561-5608. Serious inquiries only.

OPEN HOUSE
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 1pm-3pm

EDUCATION



Students gather around their raised garden in which they grew lettuce.

Town and school team up on agriculture project

BELCHERTOWN — A group of Swift River Elementary School students in grades one to three participated in a special agriculture project.

Under the guidance of Laura Bishop, a substitute teacher and instructor/creator of Outdoor Learners, a program through the town's Recreation Department, the students planted lettuce in the school's raised garden and harvested the crop recently.

"They took care of watering it throughout the spring and last week we were able to harvest it and feed it to the Swift River students as part of their lunch," Bishop said.

The program will continue to run through the summer and parents who want their kids to participate can sign them up through the Recreation page on the town's website.



Swift River Elementary with the lettuce they grew and harvested.

Summer Reading programs are back at Clapp library



BELCHERTOWN — Whether you are a child, teen or adult, the library has a Summer Reading Challenge for everyone.

Track your reading for the chance to win incredible prizes. Participants of all three Reading Challenges can log their reading through clapplibrary.beanstack.org or through the Beanstack app for the chance to win.

Anyone who used Beanstack in the past already has an account. Choose the "sign in" option, and then select whatever program you'd like to register for. Visit the library at 19 South Main Street or call 413-323-0417 with any questions.

For more, go to clapplibrary.org.

Annual scholarship winners announced

BELCHERTOWN — The Belchertown Scholarship Fund recently announces the recipients of its 2023-'24 scholarships.

These scholarships are awarded to deserving Belchertown individuals who wish to pursue post-secondary education. The recipients are selected from a pool of applicants from Belchertown High School, Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School and homeschooled students.

According to a news release, "The Belchertown Scholarship Committee would like to express our sincere gratitude to all current and former supporters of the scholarship fund. Your contributions truly make a difference in our community, and we are grateful for your ongoing support."

This year, the Belchertown Scholarship Fund awarded a total of three \$1,500 scholarships to students who demonstrated academic excellence, community involvement, and financial need, the release states.

The recipients of the 2023-2024 scholarships are:

Morgan Austin, who graduated from Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School and plans to attend Westfield State University.

Amber Drummond, who graduated from Belchertown High School and plans to attend Saint Joseph's University.

Marie Willems, who graduated from Belchertown High School and plans to attend Smith College.



Logan West, trombone; Bridget Donoh, flute; Olivia Brach, flute; William Harrington, alto sax; Zachary Wall, trumpet; Sophia Brown, flute; Katalina Pazos, alto sax; Tucker St. Denis, clarinet.

TOP MUSICIANS

BELCHERTOWN — The final Musicians of the Month for the 2022-2023 school year at Chestnut Hill Community School were selected prior to summer break.



Hannah Cavanaugh, clarinet; Mckenzie Wilson, Clarinet; Ireleigh Phelps, clarinet; Maya Garipey, clarinet; Adiana Stackhouse, trumpet; Quinn Rathburn, trumpet; Evan Gallagher, alto sax; Orelia Manduley, alto sax; Lucas Benedetti, percussion; Walker Gardenfield, percussion; Kayden Nunez, percussion; Xavier Martin, percussion.

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The MacDuffie School Class of 2023 gathered before receiving their diplomas on June 10.

MACDUFFIE from page 1
Belchertown and Nathan Stevenson of Springfield.

Head of School Steve Griffin challenged the graduates to choose to lead, to continue to serve, and to make change. He referred to the Japanese concept of *Kaisen*, seeking big results from tiny, continuous

changes to daily habits. The Class of 2023 chose long-serving teacher Joan O'Brien to be their Faculty Speaker. O'Brien retires this year after 28 years at MacDuffie. She encouraged the graduates to take a course outside their discipline in college, to be brave, to hang onto their sense of humor, and to continue to shine their light.

Once the prizes were awarded

and the diplomas given, everyone joined in for the singing of the alma mater, "The Magnolia Song." The graduates processed out of the chapel to "Summer Suns Are Glowing." Refreshments and photo opportunities were plentiful on the Brigham Hall lawn.

FIREWORKS from page 1

June 28 from 5-9 p.m. There will be games for the kids, food trucks, a DJ and live music by Never Say Never, and of course, fireworks.

Monson is having a show at Quarry Hill School at 5 p.m. There will be live entertainment, alcoholic beverages, food trucks and a magic show. The venue is about 25 minutes from Belchertown Commons and there is a 5 dollar parking donation required if you plan to drive. The rain date is set for the following evening.

About a half hour away, Northampton will be a throwing a "Family Fourth Celebration," which will be taking place on the green at Look Park. Festivities begin at 5 p.m. and will include carnival games, a bounce castle, slides, face painting

and food trucks. Fireworks will be set off at dusk.

Chicopee will be having their fireworks celebration on June 24 at 9:00 p.m. at Szot Park, located on Front Street. The show is about a half hour from Belchertown Commons and the rain date for the celebration is set for the following day.

Thirty minutes from Belchertown Commons, the annual "Spirit Of Springfield" will take place on Tuesday, July 4 from 6-10 p.m. at Riverfront Park. Festivities will include face painting, food vendors, balloon artists, and a performance from Union Jack, a '60s British tribute band. Most importantly, fireworks will be set off at 9:30 p.m.

Treehouse Brewing Company will be hosting a fireworks celebration with music from Mind Left Body on

June 1, at 6 p.m. in South Deerfield. The address is about 35 minutes from Belchertown Commons, so for adults who don't mind a cab fee or have a trustworthy DD, this celebration could be perfect for you!

Holyoke Community College will be having a firework display at 9:15 p.m. on June 30, located at 303 Homestead Avenue. The rain date is set for July 7 and the venue is approximately 35 minutes from Belchertown Commons with tolls depending on which route you take.

Other towns have announced plans to celebrate the holiday, but dates are yet to be announced. Although Belchertown may go without fireworks this year, residents have plenty of options to choose from this Independence Day.

TWIRLERS from page 1

Members of the winning teams are Alexandria Giuffre, Everly LaVallee, Quinn LaVallee, Emelia Maldanis, Evelyn Maldanis, Harper Oberly, Delaney Ochs, Vivienne Steele and Mya Weise.

Delaney Ochs, Emelia Maldanis and Abigail Olden qualified to compete at the National Baton Twirling Championships at the University of Notre Dame this summer. Delaney Ochs won the Advanced Juvenile Miss Majorette of Massachusetts and the Northeast Regional Championship Title and Emelia Maldanis is the Advanced Pre-Teen Northeast Regional Runner-up and also placed third in Advanced Pre-Teen Regional Solo.

Abigail Olden placed sixth in the Advanced Senior Massachusetts State Solo to qualify for Nationals. Meera Berryhill placed third in Beginner

Junior Massachusetts State Solo division. Quinn LaVallee is the Beginner Juvenile Massachusetts State Solo Winner and Harper Oberly is the Novice Juvenile Massachusetts State Solo Winner.

Everly LaVallee is the Novice Tiny Tot Massachusetts and Northeast Regional Pageant Winner. Evelyn Maldanis won third in the Beginner Juvenile Massachusetts State Solo. Alexandria Giuffre and Mya Weise placed top 10 in the Novice Pre-Teen Massachusetts State Solo.

The Belchertown Twirlers also competed at the Bay State Summer Games. The team came home with gold medals in the Cadet and Junior Twirl Team divisions. Members of the winning teams are Alexandria Giuffre, Everly LaVallee, Quinn LaVallee, Emelia Maldanis, Evelyn Maldanis, Harper Oberly, Delaney Ochs and Mya Weise. Gold Medal individual winners are

Alexandria Giuffre, Quinn LaVallee, Emelia Maldanis, Evelyn Maldanis, Harper Oberly, Delaney Ochs and Abigail Olden.

The Belchertown Twirlers are a program through the Belchertown Recreation Department. Parents of kids interested in participating can learn more and register at the Belchertown Recreation Department page on the town's website.

WINNER from page 1

Falcetti School of Music, based in Springfield, provides individual and group music lessons as well as community programming for the public through libraries, independent and assisted living facilities, recreation departments and senior citizen centers.

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OPINION



Comments on
CONGRESS

By Lee Hamilton

This is how divided government should work

Before the memory of the recent debt ceiling negotiations disappears and we confront the next new drama in Washington, let's pause a moment to acknowledge what just happened.

You can debate from here to eternity whether the American people were winners or losers in the deal (I'd say winners because the government didn't default; losers because we had to go through the whole charade in the first place) but what's not debatable is one key point: Congress and the White House provided a lesson in how negotiations and bipartisanship are supposed to work.

We live in an era when this can seem impossible, as hard-line conservatives in the GOP and a few determined progressives in the Democratic party try to push policy to the extremes and appear to reject the idea of even talking to the other side. But Washington has a way of imposing the discipline of hard numbers – in this case, a House controlled by Republicans with a bare majority; a Senate with a very small Democratic margin; and a presidency in Democrats' hands.

For either side to make progress, they have to negotiate with the other.

What's easy to forget is that this has been the norm for more than a half century. Of the 28 Congresses since 1969, 19 have been divided (if you include the 107th, which began and ended under unified Republican control, but for most of its two-year length was divided because of a senator's party switch).

Anyone who's spent time in the nation's capital during this long era of mostly divided government knows that with power so distributed, there is no single path to success in trying to make the Congress work. As long as they're playing by the rules, the chief way to judge success is by the results. And on that front, the debt ceiling debate was a success – even if the harder-core members of the GOP caucus in the House are now trying to punish Speaker Kevin McCarthy for the deal he struck.

You may know the broad outline of the agreement: It buys the government two more years before the next debt ceiling clash; imposes a freeze on some federal spending; broadens work requirements for food stamps; and makes other changes designed to appeal to either Republicans or Democrats. As The New York Times' Katie Edmondson wrote after it passed, "The compromise was structured with the aim of enticing votes from both parties. It allowed Republicans...to say that they succeeded in reducing some federal spending – even as funding for the military and veterans' programs would continue to grow – while allowing Democrats to say they spared most domestic programs from the severe cuts."

This allowed both McCarthy and President Joe Biden – and their parties – to claim victory. In a set of negotiations like this, that's actually what you're aiming for: the ability for everyone to walk away saying, "This is what I've done for you." It's a classic illustration of how democracy works, especially when political leaders are content to share credit. In an analysis after the bill passed, longtime Times Washington correspondent Peter Baker noted, "The president's approach to the negotiations – and especially their aftermath – reflects a half-century of bargaining in Washington. When someone has been around the track as long as Mr. Biden has, resisting the temptation to spike the ball and claim victory can be critical to actually securing the victory in the first place."

The recent floor rebellion by some disgruntled members of McCarthy's caucus is a reminder that none of this is easy. But the overwhelming majority by which the debt ceiling compromise passed in both houses is also a reminder that, when the chips are down, many members can remember a key fact about life on Capitol Hill: You have to be flexible and work with what you can patch together when you're trying to lead the country.

That's what our system offers – the chance for political leaders to do their jobs and make democracy work.

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.

CORRECTION

A letter to the editor in last week's edition submitted by resident Jane LaBorde contained an error: To amend the U.S. Constitution, the amendment would need to be ratified by 38 states. The number of states mentioned in the letter was incorrect.

Accuracy is our No. 1 priority. If you spot an error email cwhelan@turley.com.



SOCIAL SECURITY Matters
By Russell Gloor

Will work earnings affect my Social Security at age 80?

Dear Rusty: I am 80 years old, and I receive monthly Social Security benefits, but I'm thinking about returning to work. At this age, am I limited in how much income I generate without affecting my benefit? If so, how much can I earn without affecting it? *Signed: Spry Octogenarian.*

Dear Spry Octogenarian: Since you have already reached your Full Retirement Age for Social Security's purposes, you can earn as much income from working as you like without your monthly Social Security payment being affected. Social Security's earnings test applies only to those who collect benefits before reaching their full retirement age, which is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on year of birth.

However, although the earnings test will not apply to you, it's important to know that Social Security benefits are subject to income tax if the annual combined income from all sources, also known as your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income" exceeds certain thresholds. The income tax filing status is an influencing factor - if filing as a single and the MAGI is more than \$25,000 or filing as "married/jointly" and the MAGI is more than \$32,000, then 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of the overall taxable income. And if your MAGI

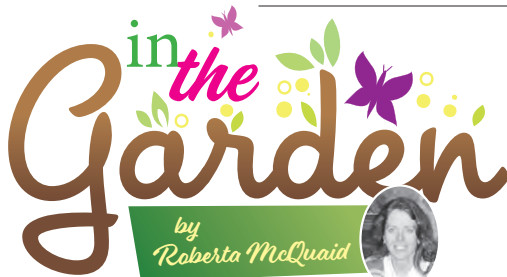
as a single filer is more than \$34,000 or, as a married filer more than \$44,000, then up to 85% of the SS benefits you receive during the tax year becomes part of your overall taxable income at your standard IRS income tax rate. Thus, returning to work may result in Social Security benefits unexpectedly becoming taxable income.

For complete clarity, the "MAGI" is regular Adjusted Gross Income on income tax return, plus 50% of the Social Security benefits a person received during the tax year, plus any other non-taxable income (except Roth IRA withdrawals) they may have had.

So, while earnings from working at age 80 and beyond will not affect the monthly Social Security benefit payment, you may - depending on the total income or "MAGI" - find that your Social Security benefits will become taxable if the combined income from all sources exceeds the above thresholds. And if your benefits will become taxable, you may wish to consider having income taxes withheld from your monthly Social Security payments, which you can do by submitting IRS form W-4V to your local Social Security field office.

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Lots o' lettuce

The weather has been nothing less than unpredictable these last few weeks.

While there has been next to no rain at my locale, friends and family have talked about deluges and even quarter-sized hail blanketing their deck space. Temperatures for June seem bizarre, too.

If cold night temperatures weren't enough, a day of mercury bursting into the 80's will shock even well-watered plants.

Before heat-lovers can adjust, it's back into the 50's and low 60's. Strange indeed.

While it's too soon to say whether this year will be a bust or boom, I can say that my lettuce is doing wonderfully!

I started my lettuce indoors the first week of April, at the same time I sowed broccoli and kale seed. I saved little "plug" trays from a prior plant purchase and filled the tray with moist seed starting mix.

Lettuce seed needs light to germinate, so I pushed two or three seeds per cell into the soil to make contact but not so far as to have them get covered up. To keep the soil surface moist, I slid the whole tray into a clear plastic bag.

I left it in my laundry room in front of a

Please see **GARDEN**, page 12

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.

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The Sentinel is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.



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COMMUNITY

Friends of Clapp Memorial Library elect new leadership

BELCHERTOWN — The Friends of Clapp Memorial Library recently announced the election of Jim Knittel as Interim President effective immediately.

According to a news release, after nearly 10 years serving as President, Paul Geoffroy has decided to step down and hand the gavel over to someone else.

“The Friends thank Paul for his dedicated service over these years and wish him the best,” the release states. Geoffroy will continue to help with the semiannual book sales held by The Friends.

Knittel has been with The Friends for eight years and has served as an at-large member for five. He will serve as interim president until the full members meeting in October when nominations will be accepted for a new president and at-large member.

The Friends support the mission of the library and make a variety of programs

and resources available to the people of Belchertown and beyond. They do this by raising funds and participating in community events. The group is responsible for the fall and spring book sales, live music and summer reading programs, the convenient book drop and more.

All proceeds from the semiannual book sales directly support the Clapp Memorial Library.

The Friends welcomes everyone and needs new volunteers to help with efforts to support the library. Openings on its boards and committees are listed at friendsofclaplibrary.org.

Meetings are 6:30 p.m. the third Thursday of each month in the children’s activity room on the lower level of the library.

For more, go to friendsofclaplibrary.org or call the library at 413-323-0417.

Former parish priest to face larceny charge

BELCHERTOWN - A former parish priest at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Granby has been charged in connection with the theft of more than \$100,000 in parish funds over a period of three years.

According to a press release from the office of Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan, Tomasz J. Gorny, 43, currently of Amherst, is scheduled for arraignment on a charge of larceny over \$1,200 in the Eastern Hampshire District Court Friday. Northwestern Assistant District Attorney Matthew Russo is prosecuting the case on behalf of the Commonwealth.

Gorny is alleged to have used parish

funds to purchase numerous items for his own personal use, including power tools, a riding mower, food, wine, car accessories, video games and clothing. He allegedly charged these expenses to credit cards that the Springfield Diocese ultimately had to pay. Hundreds of items were recovered by Granby police investigators from a storage unit in Easthampton in April. Granby detectives had launched an investigation after they were notified by the Diocese of Springfield, which had been conducting an internal audit into suspicious use of church funds.

The arraignment is scheduled for Friday morning in the Belchertown courthouse.

Public invited to upcoming BOAT events

BOAT – Belchertown Overcoming Adversity Together continues to grow and expand involvement in the community and has several upcoming events scheduled.

BOAT is a community-based organization tasked with providing education and resources surrounding substance use disorder, as well as prevention, stigma reduction and awareness. Be on the lookout for us at these upcoming events:

National Night Out at Chestnut Hill

Community School on Aug. 1

International Overdose Awareness Day Vigil on Belchertown Common 6-8 p.m. Aug. 31.

Sober in the Park in Hryniewicz Park on Park Avenue in Three Rivers, noon-4 p.m. Sept. 9.

Belchertown Farmers’ Market on Belchertown Common, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. every Sunday.

To learn more, go to the BOAT page on the town’s website at belchertown.org.

Food policy council looks to form leadership team

BY PAULA OUIMETTE
pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Members of the Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council continued discussion about the organizational structure of the Council.

Council Coordinator Caitlin Geaghan said since its formation, Council members have talked about its vision and mission, decision making styles, organizational structure and the needs of the 12 communities it serves.

Members of the Council do not need to be experts, Geaghan said, they just need to have an interest in the food needs of the community.

“Anyone can take part in our food policy council,” she said.

Geaghan went on to explain at the June 12 meeting, that each food policy council is different and can focus on different needs, depending on the community.

After discussing the organizational structure, members of the Council agreed that Geaghan and Project Coordinator for Community Health Emily Coderre would handle the day-to-day business of the Council, such as scheduling meeting dates and times.

A leadership team will be formed to narrow down topics before they reach the general Council membership.

“These narrowed down topics are presented to the whole food policy council for discussion,” Geaghan said.

The leadership team would be comprised of a representation of the 50 active members of the Council covering different communities and demographics, such as farmers, those who’ve experienced food insecurity, low-income, business owners, local government, geographic and ethnic diversity.

The general membership will then come to an agreement on the topic that everyone can live it.

Geaghan said this means that not everyone will love the decision, but no one will be fully opposed to it either.

All in attendance at the meeting agreed that this was an effective plan to conduct the Council’s business.

Council members also discussed current food needs in the community, with

one being homelessness and access to hot, cooked meals.

Food pantries have been an invaluable resource to provide food for people, but preparing meals poses an extra challenge to those without anywhere to cook or store them.

Hosting community dinners was suggested, such as the ones many of the local churches hosted prior to the pandemic.

Members also discussed organizations that collect expiring food from grocery stores in order to distribute it to those in need.

While there are no organizations like this that directly serve the Quaboag Valley region, there is Rachel’s Table in Springfield, a program of the Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts, as well as another based in Boston.

Members discussed the possibility of reaching out to either of these groups, to learn how food can be collected and distributed not only to address hunger, but also to cut back on food waste.

Coderre said the Council is also looking to conduct a community food assessment to determine where gaps in resources are, and who is affected by these gaps. This assessment could take a couple of months to compile.

The Council will be hosting hybrid training opportunity about Food Policy and Advocacy 101 on Wednesday, June 28 from 4-5 p.m. at E2E, 79 Main St., with Zoom access available.

About QVFCP

The Quaboag Valley Food Policy Council is funded through a grant received by the Town of Ware in partnership with Quaboag Valley Community Development Corporation, covering the towns of Ware, Belchertown, Palmer, Monson, Wales, Holland, Brimfield, Warren, Brookfield, West Brookfield, North Brookfield and East Brookfield.

The Council is open to all, and everyone is welcome to join in the discussion.

For more information, people may email Geaghan at cgeaghan@townofware.com or Coderre at ecoderre@townofware.com.


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CAMPUS NOTES

Holyoke Community College

The following local students were named to the Dean's List at Holyoke Community College for the spring 2023 semester:

Isabella Coleman Baird, Kai Francisco Caban, Elisha Rae Cox, Alison Ruth Cunningham, Thomas Dulac, Lexie B. Ephraim, Ikraam Mohammed Fazal, Daniele Weidlich Freitas, Luke Joseph Grybko, Elizabeth Christine Hanlon, Lily Hana Kaufman Harris, Xinyan Jiang, Benjamin Keil, Anna Lucia Kreuzer-Land, Madison Ashley Larner, Walter John Peter Lloyd, Bryana Alissah Papke, Gia Nguyen Pham, Cody James Rooney, Andrew Joel Smith, Nguyen Hai Trieu Vu, Katherine Wang and Joshua A. Werhane, all of Amherst.

John William Barrington, Alex Joseph Brunelle, Luke Garcia Caney, Meghan Muriel Carey, Jacob Daniel Chaisson, Elizabeth Pearl Charron, Tara Ellen Cleary, Dylan Fredryk Coffey-Moore, Heather Conti, Amber Duda, Matt Fournier, Darius James Fuentes, Hailey Marie Garrow, Josephine Rae Jacobsen, Morgan Brier Kite, Daniel Zachary Mahaney, McKenna Katherine Martin, Karl McAvoy, Caleigh McCormack, Olga Minina, Kassidy Renee Morrisette, Evan Paul Redo, Kevin J. Reidy, Madelaine Nicole Rondeau and Sarala Thapa, all of Belchertown.

Maxwell Alan Anischik, Alexis Haziel Ariza, Markus Theodore Baran, Eva Gagnon Bartosz, Irene Bouchard, Breann Magee Hackett, Jack Riley Hartling, Sienna

Cole Hill, Arash Karamshahi, Miranda L. Longo, Tegan Michael Maclure, Jan Ashley Gumpal Masse, Paige Lynn Maziarz, Karlie Bridget Moriarty, Ean Edward Moriarty, Pegah Motazedi, Nathen Joseph Obremski, Declan James Otto, Carlos Luis Robles Jr., Diana Swanigan and Rosalynn A. Vollbrecht, all of Granby.

A student is placed on the Dean's List if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher.

Norwich University

Ruthie Davis of Montague was named to the Dean's List at Norwich University for the 2023 spring semester. To qualify, a student must be a full-time undergraduate and earn a semester grade-point average of at least 3.40.

Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

The following local students were named to the Dean's Honor List at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute for the spring 2023 term: Katherine Cornell of Amherst, who is studying Mechanical Engineering; Grace Garman of Amherst, who is studying Biomedical Engineering; Daniel Milani of Amherst, who is studying Philosophy; Sarah Sedlacek of Belchertown, who is studying Biology; and Talia Wiesel of Granby, who is studying Business and Management.

To qualify, undergraduate students must complete 12 or more credit hours with a 3.5 grade-point average or better for that term.

Muhlenberg College

The following local students were named to the Dean's List at Muhlenberg College for the 2023 spring semester: Jonathan Toth of Granby and Nora Klotz of Pelham.

To qualify, students must earn a GPA of 3.50 or higher.

Western New England University

Two local students were honored during Western New England University's 12th annual College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences Awards Ceremony on May 3 in Rivers Memorial Hall.

The students, honored based on their academic achievement in the major or their overall class standing, are Natalie Nganga of Belchertown, who received the Phi Delta Chi Brother of the Year Award, and Rianna LaFleche of Belchertown, who received the Occupational Therapy Emerging Leader Award.

Baldwin Wallace

Hunter Duseau of Belchertown, a graduate of Belchertown High School, graduated summa cum laude from Baldwin Wallace University with a Bachelor of Music: Instrumental Performance.

Please see **CAMPUS NOTES**, page 12



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Andrew Fijal makes a run for the next base.



Tyler McDonalds cleanly fields the grounder.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Summer soccer season opens up



PALMER – The Granby and Palmer girls summer soccer teams kicked off their summer season last Tuesday evening at Laviolette Field. The two teams, which have had moderate success during the past few years in high school action, battled to a 1-1 tie. Palmer girls have a team after not fielding one last summer.

Brenna Moreno sends a kick forward.



Meredith Bartosz punts the ball away.



Lydia Kicza sends the goal kick away.



Emily Tremblay tries to send the ball by her opponent.



Kelly Lynne Kennedy fights for possession. PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Post 239 edged by Wilbraham



Ryan Schneider makes a throw to first.

WILBRAHAM – The American Legion baseball season is underway and town from all over the region are playing high school level baseball for the summer. Last Monday evening, the Belchertown Post 239 squad faced off with Wilbraham 1 at Spec Pond under the lights. Wilbraham Post 286 was able to get the 5-4 win. It was the only action of the week for Belchertown while Wilbraham had another win later in the week and are 2-0 to start the summer.



Eli Sayball-Wimmer slings a throw to first.

Mutiny ‘rush’ past Albany

BY TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – The June 11 United Women’s Soccer match between the Albany Rush and the New England Mutiny featured several outstanding soccer players from Western Massachusetts.

There was also a talented soccer player from Eastern Massachusetts, who put on the home jersey for the final time during the regular season.

Before heading back to the University of South Carolina to prepare for the upcoming fall soccer season, Catherine Berry scored a second half goal leading the Mutiny to a 2-0 shutout victory over the Rush before a large crowd at historic Lusitano Stadium.

“It’s a bittersweet night for me,” said Berry, who’s from Hingham. “I do have a commitment at my school, and I’m

required to be there next week. I’m very grateful for every game that I do get to play for the Mutiny. I have two more years of eligibility remaining at South Carolina and I’m hoping to play for the Mutiny again next summer.”

Joe Ferrara, who’s the Mutiny’s owner/general manager, is hoping Berry will be returning to Lusitano Stadium in the middle of July if the Mutiny qualify for the U.W.S. playoffs.

Berry, who’s entering her senior season, has scored 24 goals and has 14 assists for a total of 62 points in her first three years playing college soccer.

Berry scored four goals in the Mutiny season and home opener against the Worcester Fuel, which was a 7-1 victory.

The Mutiny (2-0-1), who

Please see **MUTINY**, page 12



PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM Rachel Marchini settles the ball.

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SPORTS

Valley Blue Sox out to 6-3 start

HOLYOKE – The wins keep coming for the Valley Blue Sox in the early goings. The team defeated the Danbury Westerners last Saturday by a score of 8-6 to increase their lead in the West Division to two games. The Blue Sox now sit at 6-3 on the season.

Thomas Ballard started for the Blue Sox today, and pitched four innings with four strikeouts allowing three runs. Greg Jeffries and James Vaughn both made their team debuts. Jeffries earned the win after he pitched a clean fifth inning with one strikeout. Vaughn pitched two innings and struck out three batters.

The bottom of the lineup was the story of the game for the Blue Sox. The seven, eight, and nine hitters combined for four RBIs in the ballgame.

Third Baseman Zach Ketterman went 2 for 3 with an RBI single. The Pennsylvania native boosted his average to .208 on the season.

Second Baseman Jeff Pierantoni went 2 for 2 with two singles and two RBIs. He was also hit by a pitch twice in this game, getting on base in each of his four plate appearances.

Catcher Efrain Correa Jr. went 1 for 2 with an RBI and a walk.

Danbury had a chance to come back in this game in the seventh and eighth innings, but hit into two double plays to minimize the damage. The defense was on full display tonight as AJ Guerrero made an excellent over-the-shoulder catch on the run to end the game in the top of the ninth inning.



PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Matthew Garcia hops over the runner as he makes a relay to first.



Matthew Bergevin gets the high throw.



Nick Callano delivers a pitch.

Athletes invited to participate in sports clinics

LUDLOW – Lions Pride Sports Clinics are back. Young inspiring athletes have the opportunity to participate in one or all of our exciting clinics. The 2023 lineup consists of, Soccer session 1 from June 26 to 30, Soccer Session 2 from July 17 to July 21. Athlete Prep strength and conditioning program from June 27 to Aug. 10, Basketball from July 10 to 14, High School and Beach Volleyball June 20 to Aug. 15, Volleyball Basics July to Aug. 16, and Wrestling July 10 to Aug. 16. All clinics are held on the campus of Ludlow High School and are geared toward the development of fundamental skills. For more information log on to lionspridesc.wix.com/lpsc or contact Tim Brillo TBrillo1723@gmail.com. Registration is now online at https://www.familyid.com/organizations/lions-den-sports-clinics

Blue Sox holding promotional games

The Valley Blue Sox revealed their home promotions for the rest of June. The team is offering different promotions each night in cooperation with sponsoring companies.

The next night on Thursday, June 22 vs. the Newport Gulls at 6:35 p.m., the team will give away water bottles sponsored by Holyoke Gas and Electric.

Sunday June 25, vs. the Danbury Westerners is Military Appreciation Night. The Blue Sox will celebrate the courage and sacrifice of the United States Military by giving away military towels. The night will be sponsored by the Veterans Affairs of Central Western Massachusetts as well as UMassFive College Federal Credit Union.

Finally on Friday June 30, vs. the Bristol Blues, the official bus drivers of the Blue Sox, Michael's Bus Lines, will sponsor a giveaway of seat cushions for the first 150 fans to enter the ballpark. Additionally, Michael's Bus Lines will raffle off a free 25-person ride to a destination of the winner's choosing.

The Blue Sox are looking forward to ending the month of June right, and encourage fans to come out to MacKenzie Stadium to join their celebrations and promotions.



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Dennis G. Rex, 64

BELCHERTOWN – Dennis George Rex was born in 1958 and entered into eternal peace on Tuesday, May 30, 2023 at Baystate Medical Center after a valiant battle with cancer.



He was born in Springfield to the late Ernest and Rita (Murphy) Rex. Dennis graduated from Putnam Trade and received his Class One CDL License. He then went on to work for Springfield Area Transit Company and hauled freight throughout his career.

Dennis built his home and raised his family in Belchertown. He worked diligently and was adaptable to changes during his career. We are thankful for his support and the life he provided for us. He enjoyed being with his son with whom he loved and had a special bond. We will miss him dearly.

Dennis leaves his wife Lola, and son Patrick; his sister Sandra (Ronald) and their late son Scott who passed in 2001; Scott's son Josh (Taryn), his niece Kelly (Jeff) and extended cousins and family members on both sides.

Dennis was predeceased by his uncle's, James Rex, Robert Rex, Herbert Rex and his cousin Patricia Raines. The family would like to extend a special thank you to Dr. Marsh and all the nurses and staff who cared for Dennis.

Brunelle Funeral Home in Chicopee has been entrusted with the arrangements and services will be held at a later date with burial in South Street Cemetery, Belchertown.

Memorial donations in Dennis' memory can be made to the D'Amour Center For Cancer Care, 3350 Main St. Springfield, MA 01107 or St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place Memphis, TN 38105.

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CAMPUS NOTES from page 8

Fitchburg State University

The following local students were named to the Dean's List at Fitchburg State University for the spring 2023 semester:

Josephine L. Elias and Daniel R. Sullivan of Belchertown and Julia A. Gauvin of Granby.

A student is placed on the Dean's List for the semester if an average grade of 3.20 or better is attained and the student is attending the university full time.

SUNY Potsdam

Paige Ivey of Belchertown was recently named to the President's List at The State University of New York at Potsdam. Ivey majors in Childhood/Early Childhood Education.

To achieve the honor of being on the President's List, each student must have satisfactorily completed 12 numerically-graded semester hours, with a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher.

American International College

The following local students were recently awarded degrees from American International College:

Trystin Burger of Granby, Doctor of Physical Therapy; Brett Moody of Granby, Doctor of Physical Therapy; Katherine Bean of Granby, Master of Science in Nursing; Alex Frank of Granby, Master of Arts; Rileigh Berneche of Belchertown, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; and Emma LeBlanc of Belchertown, Bachelor of Science.

University of New England

The following local students were named to the Dean's List at the University of New England for the 2023 spring semester:

AnnaMaria Biagi, Elizabeth Chiasson and Maya Monteiro, all of Belchertown; and Bella St. George of Granby.

Dean's List students have attained a grade-point average of 3.3 or better out of a possible 4.0 at the end of the semester.

GARDEN from page 6

window where it would get some afternoon sun and checked on it periodically, misting it a couple times a day. After about five days the seeds had sprouted.

It was a little challenging to keep them growing well indoors, but I did, and was able to move the tray outside on nice days where it could get some filtered sunlight.

On one such occasion I hit the end of the doorway with the tray, knocking a number of the cells loose! I re-filled the cells and transplanted what I could salvage and they adjusted fine.

About a month later, in early May, I planted the lettuce seedlings into the garden. Since I planned to grow the lettuce for leaves and not heads, I planted them fairly close to one another, just about six inches apart in a wide block about four feet long by two feet deep.

Every foot or so I interplanted a leek plant; leeks require a long growing season and will outlive the lettuce, but for now they make good companions.

I began harvesting the third week of May, and now, I can make a salad to feed an army. The bed is a beautiful blend of colors, textures and flavors.

Typically, I pick it right before I want to eat it, rinsing it in a sink of cool water before sending it through the salad spinner or blotting it dry with a paper towel.

Lettuce is undemanding in the garden as long as you provide it with rich soil and a daily watering if nature does not provide.

Some compost mixed into the top couple inches of soil will keep it well fed.

When temperatures rise, lettuce will bolt. Bolting simply means that the lettuce is going to seed. It will send up a main stalk that has little leaves on it, inevitably flowering at the end of the stalk.

The flowers are yellow, with seeds forming at the end of little pieces of fluff that help them to disperse in the breeze.

Sometimes lettuce will even self sow. I had a beauty come up in the middle of my mulched path this year and moved it to the wide bed.

To keep lettuce growing during the heat of summer gardeners get creative, often planting heat tolerant varieties and/or planting it in the shade of trellises of vines or under shade cloth.

I am planning on planting a succession crop soon so that I'll have replacement plants on standby to tuck into the bed that my garlic will be harvested from. My husband enjoys a big salad every night and this will surely help our grocery bill.

If you have never tried growing lettuce, I encourage to you give it a whirl!

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.

MUTINY from page 9

also played a 1-1 tie at the Maine Footy on May 21, had a couple of weeks off before hosting the Rush (2-1-1).

"The support that we receive from our fans at this stadium is something that's very special. I wouldn't trade being a part of this for the world," Berry said. "Joe Ferrara is also an awesome person. He has become a close friend to my family during the past few years. The players on this team are also very special."

Berry is following in the footsteps of her mother, Lauren, who played soccer at Middlebury College. Her father, Chris, played college basketball at Middlebury. Her parents attended last Saturday's home match.

The local players that played in last Saturday's home match for the Mutiny are Alexis Legowski (South Hadley), Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Ela Kopec (Ludlow), Laura Gouvin (Monson), Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown) Chandler Pedolzsky (Westfield), Emma Pedolzsky (Westfield), and Catherine Bean (Westfield).

Klingensmith, who started in five games as a freshman on the American University women's soccer team last fall, has enjoyed being teammates with Berry.

"Cat is a great soccer player," said Klingensmith, who's a midfielder. "We can always count on her to score goals for us. Playing for this soccer team is very similar to my college team."

Kopec, who was Mutiny starting goalie against Albany, didn't have to make any saves in recording her first shutout of the

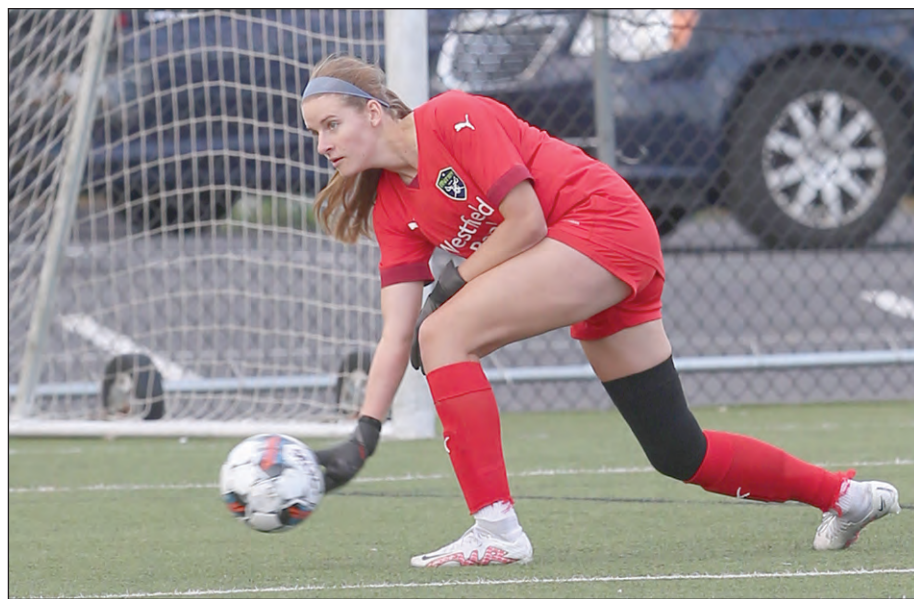


Alexis Legowski dribbles past midfield

season.

The Mutiny defense, which was led by Laci Lewis, Meghan Cunningham, Rachel Marchini, Sofia Weber, Anna Carson, and Bean shutdown Albany forward Katelyn Krohn. She had scored a team leading seven goals in her team's first three regular season matches.

"We do have a very strong defensive unit this year," said Mutiny first-year head



Goalie Ela Kopec makes a save.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGHOTOS.COM

coach Mauricio "Toto" Coimbra said. "Their chemistry has been getting better and better in every match. It's always nice to post a shutout."

Berry had several shots on goal during the first 45 minutes of the contest, but Albany goalie Emma Anderson (10 saves) was able to make the saves on them.

The contest was still scoreless at half-time.

Following a breakaway shot attempt by Santaniello that deflected off the right post, Berry gave her team a 1-0 lead in the 56th minute. She fired a line-drive shot from the top of the box into the left corner of the net.

"We did put a lot of pressure on them in the first half," Berry said. "I had a scoring opportunity early in the second half and I didn't want to miss it. It's always special whenever you score a goal, especially in this stadium."

With less than five minutes remaining in regulation, Chandler Pedolzsky knocked home a rebound shot giving the home team a 2-0 advantage.

Berry was scheduled to play in her final regular season match for the Mutiny against the Scorpions SC on Monday night in a make-up game at Medway High School.

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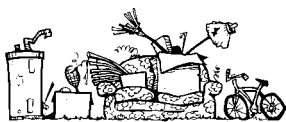
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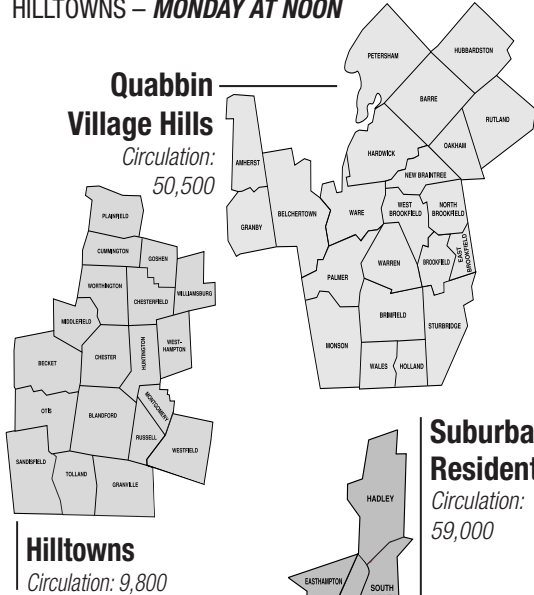
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PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of June 7 through June 13. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the 338 calls police responded to, there were 14 incidents, three accidents, four arrests/summons and 21 citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS
Thursday, June 8

5:55 p.m. - A 46-year-old Ludlow man was placed in protective custody. An officer responded to a trail for a report of a lost hiker. The person was unsure where they were when the officers responded and were found three quarters of a mile off the trail. They said they didn't know how he got there or where their vehicle was. The officers noted they had slurred speech and was swaying back and forth. The hiker was transported to the station and a relative came to pick them up shortly after.

Saturday, June 10

9:53 p.m. - Jared P. Rodericks, 43, of 51 Ware Road, Belchertown was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, operating to endanger and possession of an open container in the vehicle. An officer responded to State Street for a report of a vehicle that side swiped a vehicle in the town of Granby that was pulling into a business. The vehicle left at a high rate of speed as the officer approached. It continued to travel, came to a stop at Bridge Street. The officer identified the person and noticed an odor of an alcoholic beverage. Contact was made with Granby Police about the matter because there were fresh scratches consistent with the accident. A field sobriety test was given and the person was arrested.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS
Wednesday, June 7

9:09 a.m. - An officer took a report of larceny. A person was parked on Main Street left their vehicle unlocked with the windows down. A purse was taken from the vehicle. There are no suspects at this time.

9:43 a.m. - An officer spoke to a person who came to the station to report a stolen phone. They said they dropped their phone in the parking lot of the Swift River boating area and when they came back it was gone. They went to the Verizon store and was able to ping its location. The person went to the location and the residents denied having the phone. They then found it was pinged at another address and went there. The residents at the second location also stated they did not have the phone.

7:49 p.m. - An officer responded to an accident at State Street. A vehicle parked at the basketball court at Chestnut Hill Elementary School backed out of a spot and hit the side of the vehicle parked next to it. The driver got out of the vehicle, looked at where the vehicles collided and left the scene traveling in an unknown direction.

Thursday, June 8

6:12 a.m. - Officers assisted Belchertown fire and paramedics.

7:42 a.m. - Officers assisted Belchertown fire and paramedics.

Friday, June 9

5:28 a.m. - An officer responded to West Street for a report of a stolen vehicle. The person was renting the vehicle and left the keys inside it. There were valuable items inside the vehicle. A be on the lookout notification was issued and it was entered as missing.

7:25 a.m. - An officer on patrol ran a random plate inquiry and the registration came back as expired and nonrenewable. The officer conducted a stop on Maple Street. The driver said they were not the owner of the vehicle. The vehicle was towed from the scene.

11:56 a.m. - An officer responded to Federal Street and Bay Road for a report of an elderly person walking in the road. Belchertown Fire and paramedics requested to respond to evaluate them. The person was transported to the hospital.

10:30 p.m. - An officer spoke with a juvenile about juvenile issues.

Saturday, June 10

3:32 p.m. - A caller reported graffiti on the underpass at West and South Street for a report of derogatory, pornographic images in black spray paint. There are no suspects at this time.

Sunday, June 11

11:47 a.m. - An officer took a report of an accident. An operator was traveling north on Amherst Road when a dog ran across road and the vehicle struck it. The animal control officer was contacted, and the person later drove away from the scene.

Monday, June 12

11:59 a.m. - An officer responded to an Old Amherst Road residence with an open front door. The person reporting owned the property and said the second story door was open and it was consistent with a forced entry. The officer said the front screen door was bent and the door frame and interior wall also had damage. A check was done on the building. The officer contacted the previous tenants of the building and they said they moved out of the apartment later in the day. No assistance as needed.

3:52 p.m. - An officer took a report of

a dog bite. They spoke with the reporting party who declined treatment. The animal control officer was advised.

Tuesday, June 13

12:43 a.m. - A 38-year-old Westfield male was issued a summons for following too close and operating with a suspended license. An officer on patrol saw dark colored van going 8 to 10 feet behind a truck activated the lights after catching up with the van. they pulled them over, they said they didn't have their license. query showed it was suspended. they were subsequently charged. someone else took control of the vehicle.

2:04 p.m. - An officer took a report of fraud. The person said they got email from Credit Karma that a loan was taken out with their information. Follow up on the incident will be done at a later date.

2:49 p.m. - An officer responded to an accident on Mill Valley Road. A vehicle crossed into the southbound lane into oncoming traffic. The driver said they were looking at something in their passenger seat. An operator of another vehicle saw the first swerve and attempted to avoid it but was struck in the front passenger's side of the vehicle. The first vehicle went on to strike a utility pole. Both vehicles were towed from the scene. No injuries were reported.

3:02 p.m. - An officer took a report of fraud. A person was told a fraudulent check was made from their home equity loan. The check didn't match the person's real checks.

Granby Police

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 217 calls for the week of June 9 through June 15. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Friday, June 9

5:50 p.m. - A motorist reported a minor two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries and responding officers completed an accident report.

Saturday, June 10

1:25 a.m. - A motorist reported that a vehicle drove off the road and struck a tree. Granby Police and Fire responded. The operator fled the scene of the accident on foot prior to the arrival of the police. The operator was issued a criminal citation the following day for leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

10:06 p.m. - A motorist reported that a vehicle in front of them struck a parked car on Route 202. The vehicle in question was later stopped by Belchertown Police and the operator was arrested for operating a

motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

10:28 p.m. - A fairgoer reported that they had been assaulted while at the fair. Officers were unable to locate the responsible parties in the park. Superficial injuries were sustained by the reporting party. The matter is under investigation.

11:47 p.m. - A motorist reported that a vehicle drove off the road and struck a utility pole. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries and responding officers completed an accident report.

Sunday, June 11

10:36 a.m. - A motorist came to the lobby of the station to report that a motorcycle struck her vehicle near Five Corners. The operator of the motorcycle fled the scene. An officer completed an accident report and the matter is under investigation.

Tuesday, June 13

6:42 p.m. - A caller reported a disturbance between several male parties outside of Granby Liquors. Officers responded and after speaking with the involved parties it was found to be a verbal argument only. All parties were sent on their way and an incident report was completed.

7:32 p.m. - A resident came to the station to report they were a victim of a scam. An officer spoke with the party and an incident report was completed.

8:57 p.m. - While on patrol, an officer observed a motor vehicle fail to stop for a stop sign. The operator made no attempt to slow down and proceeded through the intersection. The vehicle was stopped and the operator was issued a civil citation.

Wednesday, June 14

12:13 a.m. - It was reported that a blue Honda backed into hit a parked car in the parking lot of Red Fire Farm and then drove off towards Taylor St. An officer responded and completed an accident report.

1:54 p.m. - A manager at Dollar General reported that someone had stolen several items that were on display outside of the store during the overnight hours. An officer responded and completed an incident report. The matter is under investigation.

2:30 p.m. - A motorist reported a minor 2-car accident in the parking lot. There were no injuries and the responding officer completed an accident report.

Thursday, June 15

7:58 a.m. - A motorist reported that a vehicle rear-ended a school bus. There were students on the bus at the time of the accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries and responding officers completed an accident report.

2:01 p.m. - A motorist reported a minor two-car accident. An officer responded and completed an accident report. There were no injuries.

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Enjoying the outdoors with dogs

Be courteous and respectful of others

BELCHERTOWN – Summer is here and everyone is enjoying the outdoors. Belchertown has plenty of trails and paths that are available to bicyclists, runners and folks to walk their dogs or ride their horses.

We would like to give a gentle reminder that these trails are available to everyone for their use courtesy of the town, state and private land owners. With this availability comes the responsibility to follow proper rules and etiquette while recreating with dogs.

Make sure your dog is wearing a collar with current tags for license and rabies vaccine.

Unless invited, do not allow your dog, even if friendly, to approach other dogs or people, who may not desire such contact. Keep dogs under effective control at all times and make sure they do not engage in aggressive behavior.

Belchertown along with the DCR has a leash law and it is enforced. If your dog is off leash that means it is within sight at all times, comes immediately when called, stays at your command and does not charge or chase people, dogs, horses,



or wildlife.

If it cannot do these things it must be on leash when off your property for the safety of it and others.

And lastly always clean up after your dog(s) and carry out waste or dispose of it in an appropriate receptacle. Do not leave it on the ground.

Dog waste is full of harmful bacteria, excess nutrients, and sometimes parasites and viruses. Parasites such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium can last for long periods of time in dog waste. When dog waste is left on the ground, heavy rain and snow-melt wash the waste into streams and tributaries.

Dog waste carrying bacteria, parasites, and viruses can also infect wildlife and have a serious impact on local ecosystems.

Still time to sign up for summer dance and drama programs

PALMER — Kids and teens ages 7 to 17 are invited to a Summer Drama and Dance Program Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Palmer Historical and Cultural Center, 2072 Main Street in Three Rivers through Aug. 27.

The program instructor is Torie Jock, who started singing and acting at 9 years old. She has been writing her own music since she was old enough to write and has been in many theatrical performances in various starring and supporting roles. Jock has written many plays and film scripts and has been working with youth

as a dance assistant/teacher since she was 12.

The cost is \$120 for drama only, \$100 for dance only or \$150 for both.

Sign up for either drama or dance or both. All students will take part in an end-of-season performance. A registration form is available at tinyurl.com/mrx2ek57. For more information, email Jock at trulytorie2000@gmail.com, call or email the PHCC at palmerhcc@gmail.com or 289-9295 or go to palmerhcc.org.

GRANBY



CELEBRATE SHARK WEEK

The Granby Public Library is getting ready for Shark Week beginning July 11. Stop by the library to see the Shark Week display and help name the Library Shark. The winning name will be chosen on

National Shark Awareness Day on July 14. Check out any shark themed book or movie and receive a raffle ticket to win a shark-theme prize basket. This is a fun event for adults and children.

Weekly farmers' market to open at Medical Center

HOLYOKE — Holyoke Medical Center recently announced the opening of a new farmers market at the hospital 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. every Wednesday through Oct. 25.

Located in the hospital's Parking Lot D, the HMC Farmer's Market is conveniently close to the front entrance of the hospital, with valet parking available. Holyoke residents are encouraged to utilize the hospital's free transportation shuttles. The transportation schedule is available at holyokeyhealth.com/ride.

"The hospital's Community Health Needs Assessment has identified access to healthy food as an area of concern for many people in our community," says HMC Director of Community Benefits, Lisa Wray-Schechterle.

"Holyoke Medical Center is proud to provide a convenient location and transportation, while also collaboratively partnering

with others to make this new market a success."

The HMC Farmer's Market is a collaboration with the Holyoke Farmers' Market, the Holyoke Chamber of Commerce, Let's Move Hampden County 5210, and many local businesses. Some of the vendors participating this season include Agudelo Farms, Atlas Farm, Brown Cow Farm, From the Roots to the Table, Gifted Peace, Living Sowful, Woodnote Coffee, and more. EBT/SNAP and HIP benefits are accepted.

A list of participating vendors will regularly be updated at holyokeyhealth.com/market.

The HMC Farmer's Market is still accepting new vendor applications at forms.gle/LxrsCzeaS9y3ympT9. There is no vendor cost associated with the HMC Farmers' Market. Vendor questions can be directed to holyokeyfarmersmarket@gmail.com.

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- Thank you!

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