

At the CAR WASH



Senior class washes cars to raise funds

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – The high school students of the class of 2025 hosted a car wash over the weekend in order to raise money for their senior picnic, trips, events throughout the year, and of course, prom.

“I love spending time with the students outside the classroom,” Chelsea Reynolds, the Class of 2025 Advisor, said. “My class officers work so hard and have given me hope for the future.”

Please see **CAR WASH**, page 4

The students who worked together to make the car wash a success.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Police investigate fatal crash Sunday

Third fatal crash in Hampshire County in 72-hour stretch

BELCHERTOWN – Police on Sunday responded to the scene of a single-car fatal crash at 7:45 p.m. on Washington Street in Belchertown.

According to a press release from the office of Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan, 51-year-old Belchertown man, the sole occupant of the vehicle, died as a result of the crash. Belchertown Police, State Police detectives attached to the Northwestern District Attorney’s Office, State Troopers with the Crime Scene Services Section and the Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section responded.

Sunday’s crash marked the third fatal motor vehicle crash in Hampshire County in 72 hours.

Jose M. Soto, 62, of Springfield, died shortly before 9 p.m. after two vehicles collided at the intersection of Damon

Please see **CRASH**, page 5

Finance Committee under investigation

OML violation complaint filed

BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Correspondent

GRANBY – The town received an Open Law Complaint against the Finance Committee for not posting a meeting with enough notice.

Town Administrator Chris Martin discussed the complaint at the Selectboard’s recent meeting.

The complaint was forwarded to the town’s lawyer.

Martin said the board had 14 days from the receipt of the complaint to meet and they have 30 days to draft a response to the complaint to the Massachusetts Attorney General’s Office.

The Attorney General’s office will then determine about whether the Open Meeting Law was broken or not.

The violation was filed with

the Finance Committee on June 11 and with the state on July 5.

According to the Attorney General’s guide, “The purpose of the Open Meeting Law is to ensure transparency in the deliberations on which public policy is based. Because the democratic process depends on the public having knowledge about the considerations underlying governmental action, the Open Meeting Law requires, with some exceptions, that meetings of public bodies be open to the public.”

On June 17, the Finance Committee met to discuss the complaint, unanimously approving the town’s counsel to investigate the complaint.

According to attorney Brian O’Toole, the complaint has to do with “whether or not there was sufficient notice, and the notice was posted 48 hours before the May 23 meeting took place.”

He added that the posting requirement falls on the chair of the committee.



Members of the Lion Club in their line, ready to serve the next customers some meatball subs.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Lions Club sells subs for a good cause

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
Staff Writer
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BELCHERTOWN – Once a month, the Lions Club members get together to sell a delicious lunch of chips, a drink, and a meatball sub.

The proceeds of this month’s

meatball sub sale will go towards the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation.

“My favorite part is doing this- having the folks come down and we serve them,” member John Piekara said. “We have good club membership, and our motto is ‘we serve’.”

The Lions Club members go

out and purchase all of the food and drinks, set up drive-up style at the common, and when all the subs are gone, pack up and donate all the funds to the veterans or a charity.

“We get the opportunity to give back to the commu-

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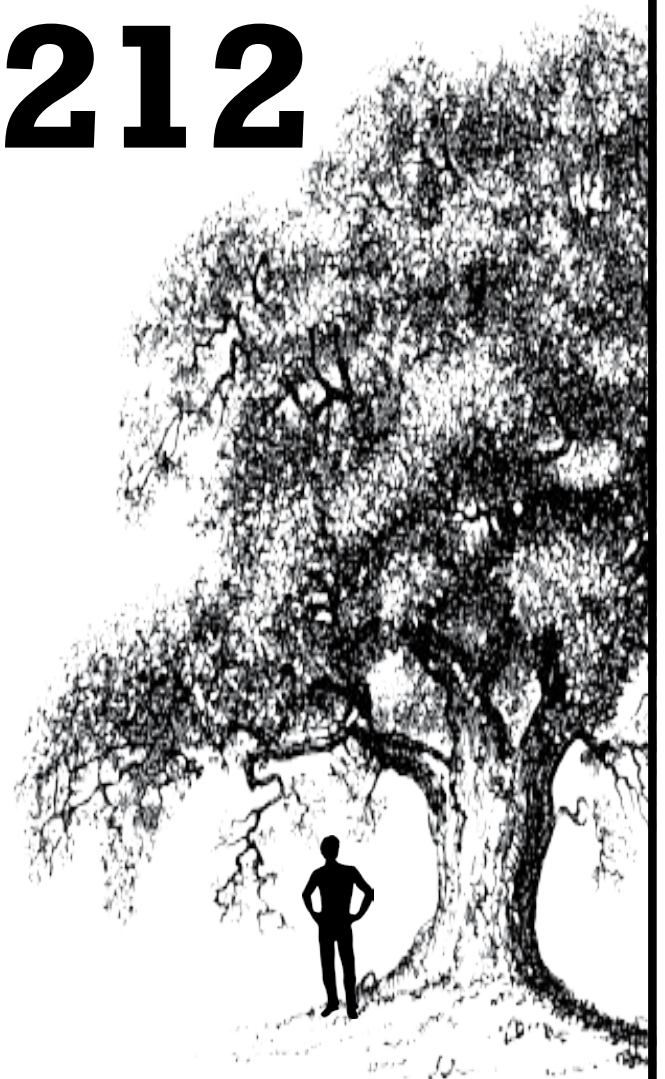
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DL&G TREE



Local museum hosts ice cream social for community

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS
Staff Writer
epappas@tulare.com

BELCHERTOWN – The Stone House Museum, to celebrate National Ice Cream Day on Sunday, hosted a special Ice Cream Social in the yard of the museum for all to enjoy.

Sponsored by Liberty Orchards Landscaping, the ice cream choices included Rondeau’s delicious classic vanilla and chocolate ice creams and lemon sorbet.

“I just love getting the community together, both young and old,” Sall Shattuck, a member of the museum’s Board of Trustees said. “It’s nice to get the younger people involved.”

The day also featured some live music by local musician Pop’s Hooten, as well as yard games like hoop toss and cornhole.

The museum, owned by the Belchertown Historical Association, contains artifacts unique to the town, some of which date back to the 1830’s.

From furniture to textiles, there is no shortage of beautiful trinkets and treasures from our town’s unique history.

The museum will also be hosting a special Revolutionary War event on Saturday, Sept. 14, to commemorate its 250th anniversary.

There will be live reenactments, and plenty of cool costumes to see, and activities all day long for all to enjoy.

The event was fun for all, and after four years, the museum is looking forward to hosting many more in the future.



The Stone House Museum’s Board of Trustees smiling and having fun at the ice cream social.



Sophie Medina (left) and Camryn Scoon (right) with some cool historical merch, pursuing their dreams to pursue history right in their hometown.



The tent is full of people enjoying this warm Sunday afternoon.



Musician Pop’s Hooten singing “If You’re Happy and You Know It” for all the kids gathered for the special day.



Doug and Cait Cameron with their nieces, Addie and Kylie Liptak enjoying some ice cream and family time.



Kylie Liptak and Sally Shattuck trying their hands at a game of hoop toss together.

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COMMUNITY

What's new at Belchertown fair exhibit

BELCHERTOWN— The Belchertown Fair Exhibit Hall team has added new opportunities for entries in the annual exhibit hall. To expand on this year's theme of "Barn in the USA", everyone is invited to join the barn quilt contest. Bring a photo of a wooden barn or shed quilt to the Exhibit Hall during check-in hours or submit it via email to belchertownfair@gmail.com. Visitors to the hall during the weekend will cast their votes for their favorite. The chosen design will be announced on Sunday at 2 p.m. and its owner will receive a \$25 Atkins gift card.

Also new this year in both Youth and Adult categories are "Swifty" friendship bracelets and Paint-by-number art. Donna Butler, a long-time volunteer and the vision behind the Exhibit Hall decorations every year will be honored with a new rosette, the Department 113 "Donna Butler Award" for best gift basket. The full Exhibit Hall booklet can be found online at www.btownfair.com/exhibit-hall. Entry forms can be submitted by mail until Sept. 9, and by email until Sept. 14.

BCTV Schedule

- Friday, July 26**
8 a.m. Conversations with Pakman
5 p.m. Conversations with Pakman
- Saturday, July 27**
8 a.m. BHS- Best Buddies- 2024
9:30 a.m. Lost Towns of the Quabbin
5 p.m. BHS- Best Buddies- 2024
6:30 p.m. Lost Towns of the Quabbin
- Sunday, July 28**
4:30 p.m. St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
6 p.m. Christ Community Church
7 p.m. Hope United Methodist Church
8:30 p.m. Concert on the Common July 25
- Monday, July 29**
8 a.m. Concert on the Common July 25
5 p.m. Concert on the Common July 25
- Wednesday, July 31**
8 a.m. Concert on the Common July 25
5 p.m. Concert on the Common July 25



Class President Adam Cooper (left) and Vice President Chloe LaRoche (right) holding handmade signs for their car wash fundraiser.

CAR WASH from page 1

The students of Belchertown High School have worked hard to raise money, and this weekend, raised a total of \$333 at the end of the day.

Adam Cooper, the Class President, Chloe LaRoche, the Class Vice-President, Addison Sullivan, Class Secretary, and George Wheeler, Class Treasurer, were all present for the car wash.

"I truthfully can't put into words how great these kids are," Reynolds said. "These young adults spend countless hours organizing and executing fundraisers. I want to thank their parents for doing an awesome job raising them."

The students will have another car wash on Saturday, Aug. 24 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and will also have a booth at the Belchertown Fair doing basketball and pies in the face.

Sales Tax holiday approved

BOSTON— The Massachusetts Legislature approved Aug. 10 and Aug. 11 as a sales tax holiday weekend for Massachusetts. On those days, the Massachusetts sales tax of 6.25% will be suspended for most items that retail for less than \$2,500.

The holiday welcomes Massachusetts residents to visit retailers and small businesses around the state. A spike in consumer activity routinely boosts indirect tax revenues. According to the Department of Revenue, during the 2023

sales tax holiday, indirect tax revenues due to increased economic activity were approximately \$3.54 million.

"I am glad to see the sales tax holiday be approved in the legislature today, giving our residents a great chance to get outside and embrace their local businesses and community at a little bit of a discount," said Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield). "This annual holiday gives a boost to our small business owners and consumers, and I am proud to support this measure annually."

Local business grants available

The South Hadley & Granby Chamber of Commerce has created a capacity building grant program for businesses in our municipalities. Under our grant program, funded by the Commonwealth of MA's Workforce/Economic Development Initiative, the SHG Chamber will award eligible South Hadley and Granby businesses up to \$5,000 each. Grants may be

used in the following areas:

Website Design or Redesign, Marketing, Social Media, IT Infrastructure Enhancements, Professional Development, Resource Skill Development, Business Coaching, and Strategic Planning.

Applications now being accepted online: www.shgchamber.com.



Students working together to get this car squeaky clean.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



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RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Selectboard discusses uses for opioid settlement funds

BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN — The Selectboard approved about \$75,000 in opioid settlement funds for two prevention programs in the school district.

Chair of the Opioid Settlement Funds Advisory Committee Gail Gramarossa spoke to the Selectboard on Monday.

Money from the settlement of opioid-related lawsuits which are being distributed across the state for prevention, harm reduction, treatment and recovery. Some of these funds will be distributed to towns through 2038.

Currently the town has several hundred thousand dollars of funding, according to Town Manager Steve Williams.

Gramarossa received two proposals — adding to the Drug-Free Community staffing and an after-school program at the Jabish Brook Middle School.

The seven-member committee began in January, and has representation from the school district, medical professionals, law enforcement, finance and the Quabog Hills Substance Use Alliance.

There is currently one vacancy on the board and Gramarossa said she is trying to get a member of the Belchertown Board of Health to join.

Earlier this year, the group asked the selectboard to clarify its role.

“You all are the ones who have the authority to approve or not the allocation of any of the dollars from the opioid settlement fund,” she said.

The town will be getting “a fair amount of money in the next multiple, multiple years.”

She said modeling grant applications after the other committees across the state, they received proposals and refined them with input from the schools and the committee members.

Both proposals were unanimously approved by the committee at its June meeting.

“Both of these are prevention focused, which, as a public health person myself, and having worked in what is called primary prevention, I totally support. These dollars can also be used for treatment, recovery and other supports,” Gramarossa said. “We were expecting that maybe down the road, we’ll come back to you with additional

proposals aro und that.”

She added that if the Selectboard approves the funding the groups know that they will need to go back to the committee level and report on the programs through June 30, 2025.

Selectboard member Whitney Jorns-Kuhnlenz said she thought the after-school program would be well attended.

“This is an often-forgotten group of students,” she said. “It’s prior to being able to drive and private daycare programs no longer exist for them.”

Selectboard Vice Chair Lesa Lessard Pearson asked about progress reports about the programs.

“These would be data driven? Like increase lower truancy rates, improved grades?” She asked.

Gramarossa said that would be the expectation as well as getting feedback from the students.

She said that if the programs are successful, then the process would begin in September 2025.

The committee is also in the process of creating a page on the newly launched town website.

Mobile Blood Donation Team is coming to Palmer

PALMER— The community is invited to join the Baystate Health blood drive held on Wednesday, Aug. 7, at Baystate Wing Hospital, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Additionally, Blood Drives will be held every other month on Wednesdays at Baystate Wing on Oct. 9, and Dec. 11.

When people donate blood this summer at Baystate Health, they’ll not only help save lives but will also receive a free ticket to the Big E, while supplies last.

“The need for blood donations never takes a break. When you donate blood to Baystate Health, your precious gift remains in our local communities,” said Nicole VanZandt, MLT III, supervisor, BRL Blood Donor Services. “Please help us to ensure a safe and adequate blood supply is available by donating blood with the Baystate Health Blood Donor Program.

“There is no substitute for human

blood,” said VanZandt. “Every donation is critical, and you can make a lifesaving difference. Blood donations take approximately one hour to complete, including the interview, donation, and refreshments. To donate blood, you must be at least 17 years old; weigh at least 110 pounds have a photo ID; be in good health (no colds, or sore throat); and have not donated blood within the past eight weeks.”

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

History happened here

BELCHERTOWN— The Belchertown Historical Association is looking for volunteers to give tours of the museum. The Stone House Museum was built in 1827. The house portrays family life during the years 1840-1890. The furniture, textiles, ceramics and carriages all belonged to local residents. The museum committed is offering a workshop for anyone interested to training to become a docent (tour guide). The museum is a busy place and requires a lot of “people support.” Contact the historical association if interested and a date for the workshop will be scheduled. Please consider helping in the effort to share the history and to protect the treasures for future generations.

Contact: sallyshattuck54@gmail.com.

CRASH from page 1

Road and King Street in Northampton. Soto’s vehicle rear-ended another vehicle, pushing it into the intersection.

The driver of the other vehicle was not seriously injured. It appears possible that Soto’s death was related to medical event.

Approximately one hour later, a 17-year-old Westfield male was killed in a one-vehicle crash on Southampton Road in Westhampton. He was the sole occupant of the vehicle.

Due to his age, authorities are withholding his identity.

All three crashes remain under investigation by State Police. The

Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine the causes of death in those accidents.

Criminal charges are based on probable cause to believe a person has committed a crime. All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.



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OPINION



Should I retire at 65 or 67? And what about earnings and taxes?

Dear Rusty:

I'm just trying to figure out how to determine whether to retire at 65 or 67 and, if I retire, approximately how much could I make outside of my Social Security without being overly taxed. *Signed: Thinking About Retiring*

Dear Thinking:

Deciding when to retire is serious business, because it affects your future and what your retirement income will be going forward. Thus, it's good you are taking the time to fully understand your options and we're happy to assist you with that. Here are some things which should help you decide whether to retire at 65 or 67.

Social Security benefits are subject to income tax by the IRS if your combined income from all sources, which includes your Adjusted Gross Income on your tax return, plus half of the SS benefits you received during the tax year, exceeds certain thresholds for your income tax filing status. If you file your income tax as "married/jointly" and your combined income from all sources is more than \$32,000, then 50% of your received SS benefits are subject to income tax at your normal IRS tax rate. But if your combined income as a married couple is more than \$44,000, then 85% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes part of your taxable income. FYI, the taxation thresholds are lower for those, who file taxes as an individual, \$25,000 and \$34,000 respectively.

Born in 1960 or later, your Full Retirement Age for Social Security's purposes is 67. If you claim SS benefits before your FRA, not only will your monthly amount be permanently reduced, but you'll also be subject to Social Security's "earnings test," which limits how much you can earn before they take away some of your benefits. The earnings limit changes annually, but for 2024 it is \$22,320, future year's limits will be a bit higher each year.

If your work earnings exceed the annual limit, Social Security will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. They take away by withholding future benefits for as many months as necessary for them to recover what you owe for exceeding the annual limit. FYI, the limit goes up during the year you attain FRA, and the earnings test no longer applies after you reach your full retirement age.

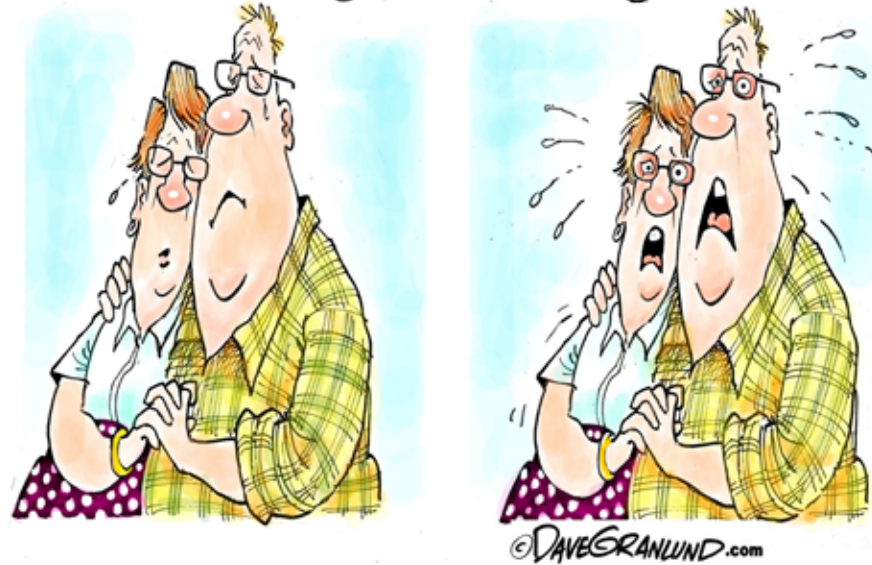
If you claim SS before your FRA, your monthly amount will be permanently reduced. If you claim at age 65, you will get about 87% of the amount you would get by waiting until age 67 to claim. If you claim at age 66, your monthly amount would be about 93% of your FRA entitlement and, by claiming at 67 you'll get 100% of the benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working.

The reductions for early claiming are permanent reductions except for the Annual Cost of Living Adjustments. Note that you can also delay longer than your FRA to get an even larger benefit amount; you can delay up to age 70 when your maximum benefit is reached. Just remember, the earnings test, as described above, will apply if you claim SS before your FRA and you are still working.

If your plan is to continue to work full time, be aware that if you claim early SS and significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible to collect SS benefits. If your work income is high enough that the penalty for exceeding the earnings limit is more than SS can recover through withheld benefits in one year, they will tell you that you're unable to collect benefits at this time, until you either earn less or reach your FRA. So, deciding whether to claim Social Security at 65 or 67 is your personal choice and, hopefully, the above provides the information you need to make an informed decision.

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

When Kids move out to attend college... When Kids move back in after graduation...



By Ellenor Downer



Male scarlet tanager

Early this week I saw two scarlet tanagers on the ground in my daughter's driveway.

As I drove in, they flew up. The red of the male was clearly visible. I think the second bird was either a juvenile or a female. It has been years since I have seen a scarlet tanager. The previous sighting was one along the side of the road near my house.

The scarlet tanager is about seven inches long. The male is scarlet red as the name implies with black wings and tails. The female is yellowish below and greenish feathers above with grayish brown wings. The juvenile male has patches of red and yellow with dark brown wings and tail. The juvenile female is like the adult female.

They feed on the ground where I spotted these two and in foliage. They eat insects and wild berries. The female lays two to five pale blue green eggs with brown dots in a nest of twigs, grasses and rootlets placed in at tree from five to 75 feet above the ground.

Scarlet tanagers inhabit mature, deciduous forests. Tanagers are often heard rather than seen despite the males bright red when in the forest canopy. They make a two part whistle "zureet zeeeyer zeeroo." Their call is a metallic "chip."

Other birds

This past weekend while traveling on Route 122 in Barre, I saw three great blue heron fly over. I often see a lone wild turkey on New Braintree Road in Oakham.

Whippoorwills

I received two more comments about whippoorwills since the last column. A Pelham resident sent an email. He said, "I live in Pelham and hear an eastern whippoorwill most nights around 8:30. It's a beautiful call." A Brimfield resident, who regularly sends emails about birds in his area, also had a comment about the whippoorwill. He said, "I saw you most recent column where you wrote about a woman reporting whippoorwills. We built our house in Brimfield in 1981 and during the summer of 1984 we heard whippoorwills calling behind the house all summer. Unfortunately they have never returned."

Brimfield birds

In the most recent email from the Brimfield resident, he said, "In the yard I have started to see young birds recently out of their nests. Three juvenile Baltimore orioles were following an adult male

around the yard, also juvenile cardinal (dark bill), male hairy woodpecker (red on top of it head), blue jays (young begging with quivering wings) and towhee have been seen recently. House wren and

great crested flycatcher used nesting boxes in the yard and the young have fledged."

Birds near water

The Brimfield resident frequently checks local ponds. He reported the common grackle nesting in a tree cavity, kingbird, chickadee and tree swallow with nests he watched at a pond in Warren all fledged their young.

He also keeps track of four great blue heron nests and said the first nesting herons to start incubating fledged their young a week ago. The other three nests still have young herons in them. He also watches an osprey nest, which has three chicks. He said, "About a week ago on a very hot and sunny day I saw that the adult on the nest was spreading its wings to provide shade for the chicks. I watched the nest for over an hour and the adult kept its wings spread the entire time trying to provide shade for the young birds." He said the young stay around the pond for awhile after fledging, sometimes until late August.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising represen-

tatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

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



TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

The Club's system is down... chips in the bag, drink of choice in the bag, and lastly, do you want some mozzarella cheese on that sub?

SUB from page 1

nity," another member, Richard Greene, said. "This group loves what we do- just going out there and serving."

"We have fun. It's a nice exchange with the community. You meet new people and see people returning," Piekara said.

On Aug. 10, the Lions Club will be hosting their very first ever car show on the common. Registration will start at 8 a.m., and there will be raffles, prizes, and the Club will have burgers and hot dogs to be enjoyed.

"It's our first car show ever," Piekara said. Make sure you mark your calendar and get to the car show, the money going to a great cause.

You can find the Club one last time this summer on the third Saturday in August, so make sure to grab one of their delicious meatball subs for your lunch.

The group is always looking for new members that want to work and serve the community, and meet on the second and third Wednesdays every month at Villa Rose.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Getting ready to dig in to some delicious food supporting a good cause.

Grant application process for opioid settlement funds

BELCHERTOWN— The Belchertown Opioid Settlement Funds Advisory Committee has established an application process for considering proposals for the use of the town's funding, to be authorized by the Belchertown Select Board. The Committee will accept and review grant proposals that benefit the community of Belchertown.

The main purpose of the Settlement Funds is to address and mitigate the harms and impacts of the opioid epidemic in the state brought about by opioid manufacturers, distributors and pharmacies. Belchertown has the chance to use its opioid settlement funds to prevent substance use disorders, save lives, support harm reduction, treatment and recovery, and mitigate the impact from drug misuse.

Grant proposals will be accepted on a rolling basis; proposals can be submitted anytime after Aug. 1. There is no specific submission deadline, applications will be reviewed, and recommendations for approval brought to the Select Board. Funding will be dispensed also on a rolling basis.

Unspent funds will be added to the following fiscal year's budget. In the event that funds for a given year are exhausted, applicants may reapply in the next fiscal year (July 1 through June 30). Any applicant, whether funded or not, is eli-

gible to apply in the next year. Applicants may apply for more than one grant per year, as long as they are for separate programs. Once grant applications are reviewed, recommendations by the Advisory Committee will be presented to the Belchertown Select Board for its consideration and final approval.

Statewide guidelines require that the funds are to be used for the following: Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) treatment; Supporting people in treatment or recovery, including family members; Providing connections to care for people who have or are at-risk of developing an OUD; Harm Reduction services, community education, and outreach; Addressing needs of criminal-justice-involved persons with assistance around treatment and/or recovery services and supports; Supporting pregnant or parenting women and their families, including babies with Neonatal Abstinence Syndrome; Preventing misuse of opioids and implementing effective prevention education programs.

To request the grant-making guidelines, application forms, and instructions for applying, send an email to: opioidcommittee@belchertown.org.

For more information, email the Committee Chair, Gail L. Gramarossa at glgramarossa@charter.net.

Shark Month ends soon at the GPL

GRANBY— The last day to celebrate "Shark Month" at the Granby Public Library is July 31. There will be fun for all ages. Stop by the library on Wednesday, July 31 to receive a shark themed gift bag while supplies last. There is still time check out any shark themed book or movie to receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win "Crazy for Sharks" Family Gift Basket to be drawn

on Aug. 1. Take the shark trivia quiz or correctly answer a shark joke to earn a raffle ticket.

Don't forget to stop in to say hello to Finn, Granby Library's very own shark week mascot.

Patrons can also show thier shark spirit by purchasing a cute shark water bottle cozy for \$5. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Granby Public Library.

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police Log

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of July 10 through July 16. 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 calls police responded to, there were 15 incidents, five accidents, five arrests/summons and 51 citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

Thursday, July 11

11:34 p.m. – An officer responded to a residence for a report of a large party with underage drinking. The officer observed large groups of people in the house and cars in the driveway. When the officer approached, the lights were shut off and the occupants refused to come to the door. The officer could see open and closed alcoholic beverages through the window. No one was 21 or older and were advised to have their parent/guardians pick them up. Two juveniles were charged possession of liquor under 21.

Sunday, July 14

2:28 p.m. – A 33-year-old Hadley male was charged with speeding, uninsured motor vehicle and unregistered motor vehicle. An officer was conducting radar enforcement in the area of Franklin Street when they saw a vehicle going north at a high rate of 52 mph in a 35-mph zone. The officer stopped the vehicle. The person had an unregistered motor vehicle, and they didn't have insurance. The vehicle was towed, and a criminal application was given to the person.

10:54 p.m.– Benjamin Juda, 18, of 349 Main Street Gilbertville was arrested and charged for failure to yield, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and operating under the influence of liquor.

An officer and Fire Department responded to State Street for report of a crash. There was a detection of a head on collision, and it was reported the person was having a medical event. Upon their arrival two vehicles were found in the eastbound lane near the driveway of Swift River Elementary. The responders went to assist the person who was having an issue. The accident occurred when a vehicle was unable to stop and struck a vehicle that attempted to turn left at the last minute. The person reported they didn't see the other vehicle due to rain. They did a field sobriety test for the driver of the second vehicle. They were evaluated by Palmer Ambulance. They were transported from the hospital and charged accordingly.

INCIDENTS/ACCIDENTS

Wednesday, July 10

8:55 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Mill Valley Road. A vehicle stopped at the stop light in the left turn lane was side swiped by another vehicle. The second vehicle didn't stop following the crash and remained unknown. No injuries were reported, and no tow was needed.

10:45 a.m. – An officer took a report of fraud. A resident got mail with three different credit card rejections. The resident reported the matter to several credit unions, local banks and requested the matter be documented.

11:18 a.m. – An officer spoke with a resident about children riding bikes around Park Street when an older male began to talk to them. The person asked the children to get into their car. The resident called and reported they got the vehicle's registration, and the officer was able to identify who the registered owner was. They had a conversation, and the person said they were looking for direction to the police station for a Facebook marketplace purchase.

Thursday, July 11

5:47 a.m. – An officer responded to a Main Street resident reporting trespassing on the property person was going to pick up their mail. The person said it was trespassing. They filled out new trespass paperwork. There was an address change, and they were served a copy of the notice on scene and the officer explained it. The person said they shouldn't be getting mail at their previous residence.

12:39 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on South Street and East Street. A vehicle traveling south on South Street and another vehicle was traveling in the opposite direction. The first vehicle was too close to the center of the road and the vehicles' driver's side mirrors collided. No injuries were reported, and no tows were needed.

5:35 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Jabish Street and Main Street. A vehicle stopped at the traffic light when another vehicle collided with the back of the first vehicle. The operator of the second vehicle said they reached down for their keys and let go of the break, striking the first vehicle. No tows were needed, and no injuries were reported.

8:01 p.m. – An officer took a report of fraud. A person posted an item for sale on Facebook marketplace and a purchaser from out of state asked if it could be shipped. The person created an account for the purchaser to pay. They got an email, and they realized it wasn't real. They were told they needed to send \$1,000. They wanted the matter on file.

Friday, July 12

8:47 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on George Hannum Road. A vehicle going westbound struck the railroad bridge. There was damage to the trailer attached to the vehicle, which was able to be driven from the scene. No injuries were reported.

11:07 a.m. – An officer spoke with a resident about a possible instance of fraud. The person found a receipt from a business transaction, when a separate one that took place in another similar store in another community. Upon investigation, the business and address don't exist in any other

town. The person said they would follow up with their bank to rectify the situation.

3:34 p.m. – Officers responded to assist Belchertown fire and paramedics.

3:37 p.m. – An officer responded to a North Main Street business for a report of a verbal altercation between an employee and a customer. The officer spoke with the customer who was upset with service they received. They said the incident never became physical and was a minor disagreement. The employee was identified and reported the same narrative. The customer was willing to leave the store.

Saturday, July 13

5:55 p.m. – An officer was requested to speak with someone in the station. When the officers went to speak to the person, they were gone. A key was left in the lobby. It was placed into property.

Sunday, July 14

7:39 a.m. – An officer responded to a North Main Street residence for a report of a child walking around unsupervised. They were causing damage to a property. They were later found at the neighbor's house and was returned to their residence. The guardian was contacted.

6:42 p.m. – A person reported a stolen fanny pack. They said they were in an out-of-town location the day prior. The person couldn't find it in their vehicle the next day called the place they were at and see if anyone turned it in.

3:54 p.m. – An officer spoke with a person who was a manager from a company who got a bill in the mail from a utility company. They were told the bill wasn't paid. They were sent a barcode via text and were told to go to stores and scan the code. The person contacted the utility company and was told there was no outstanding balance.

8:38 p.m. – A person called to report there was an unoccupied vehicle with its hazards light on. There was no reported damage. It was there for three hours and was subsequently towed.

Tuesday, July 16

506 – An officer returned a phone call to a resident regarding a missing or stolen fanny pack.

166 – An officer responded to an accident on South Main and Maple Streets. A vehicle stopped on South Main Street and a motor vehicle approached 2 traveling north and contacted bumper of mv2 and there was minor damage to both. No to and no injuries reported.

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 177 calls for the week of July 12 through July 18. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Friday, July 12

10:28 a.m. – A resident reported harassing phone calls. An incident report was completed.

Sunday, July 14

6:44 p.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 60MPH in 40MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped, and the operator was issued a civil citation for speeding and failing to meet safety standards.

Tuesday, July 16

4:04 p.m. – A resident came to the station to report being harassed by another person. An incident report was completed.

Wednesday, July 17

12:29 p.m. – A motorist reported another vehicle backed into their car in the parking lot. No injuries reported. An accident report was completed.

5:33 p.m. – Several reports of power outages, wires down, trees blocking the road and in power lines throughout town after a severe storm went through the area.

7:59 p.m. – A motorist reported a two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries.

Thursday, July 18

11:55 a.m. – A resident came to the station to report that a large tree fell onto his vehicle during the storm yesterday. His insurance company requested an accident report.

PUBLIC NOTICES

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of July 26, 2024 the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

2006 Honda CRV
VIN: JHLRD78576C004920
Color: Blue
LKO: Errol Bartley
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Belchertown, MA 01007

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07/11, 07/18, 07/25/2024

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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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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 - Fireplace • Vinyl & Brick Veneer Exterior •
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 - ★ Two Car Built-In Garage ★

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Of the firm of Doherty, Wallace, Pillsbury & Murphy, P.C.
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Attorney for Mortgagee

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

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

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

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

EDUCATION

Joint scholarship recipients announced

AMHERST— The Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce, in partnership with Cooley Dickinson Hospital, is proud to announce the celebration of the 20th year of their joint scholarship program. This long standing collaboration highlights their commitment to supporting the academic and career ambitions of local high school students.

This year, four outstanding seniors from Amherst Regional High School, Hopkins Academy, Frontier Regional High School, and Belchertown High School were each awarded a \$1,000 scholarship. These scholarships recognize students who have demonstrated exceptional academic achievement, community involvement, and a commitment to pursuing a future in business or healthcare-related fields in Massachusetts.

“The Chamber and Cooley Dickinson Hospital have jointly awarded these scholarships for two decades, reflecting our deep commitment to fostering local talent and supporting our community’s future leaders,” said Jacob Robinson, executive director of the Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce. “Each year, we are impressed by the caliber of students in our region, and we are proud to support their educational journeys.”

Historically, the scholarship recipients have been presented their awards at the Chamber’s annual charity golf tournament, with further recognition at the A+ Awards Ceremony in November. This year, to give these exceptional students the spotlight they deserve, the awards were presented at a standalone event held at the Boltwood Inn, providing an intimate setting that celebrates their achievements.

Dr. Lynnette M. Watkins, President



The newest recipients of the Scholarship Awards from Amherst Area Chamber of Commerce and Cooley Dickinson Hospital Partnership.

and COO of Cooley Dickinson Hospital, expressed her enthusiasm for the program. “It’s an honor to continue this partnership with the Chamber, contributing to the education of promising young individuals who are poised to make significant impacts in their fields and the future of our community,” stated Dr. Watkins. “These scholarships

are a testament to Cooley Dickinson’s commitment to fostering the next generation of leaders and professionals who will drive innovation and excellence in business, health care, and beyond.”

The following students are the scholarship recipients.

Emalee Chaisson, of Belchertown Belchertown H.S.

Emalee has been recognized for her outstanding achievements in academics, activities, and community outreach. She aspires to study occupational therapy at Springfield College, aiming to become an occupational therapist helping patients regain independence.

Declan Sullivan-Flynn, of Amherst Amherst Regional H.S.

Declan is celebrated for his excellence in academics, activities, and community service. His goal is to pursue biochemistry on a pre-med track at Amherst College, with aspirations to earn a medical degree and work in a hospital setting.

Dominic Aloisi, of Hadley Hopkins Academy

Dominic is honored for his achievements and community contributions. He plans to study construction management with a minor in business and accounting at Western New England University, aspiring to own and operate his own business.

Tenzin Smith, of Conway Frontier Regional H.S.

Tenzin is acknowledged for his academic excellence and community involvement. He aims to study biology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, with the goal of becoming a dentist.

The Chamber and Cooley Dickinson Health Care look forward to the continued success of this program and the bright futures of its recipients. For more information on the scholarship program or to participate in next year’s application process, please visit www.amherstarea.com.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

NOTICE

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CLUES ACROSS

- Average damage per system (abbr.)
- Lustful woodland gods (Greek mythology)
- Colombian Town
- Sour
- A way to stuff
- Former AL MVP Vaughn
- Carried or transported
- Cannot even fathom
- Hammer is one
- A way to separate
- Not moving
- Women’s service organization (abbr.)
- German river
- Quantitative fact
- A person’s head
- Process that produces ammonia
- French modernist painter
- Too much noise
- Agree to a demand
- One a line at right angles to a ship’s length
- Employees
- Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
- Component of hemoglobin
- Quick and skillful in movement
- Passing trend
- Part of the eye
- One who acclaims
- Deadly amount (abbr.)
- Taste property
- Genus of mosquitoes
- Blood type
- A group of countries in special alliance
- Institute legal proceedings against
- Shade of a color
- Spoke
- Work units
- Boil at low temperature
- Lapps of northern Scandinavia
- Poisonous plant
- Atomic #22
- 36 inches
- Monetary unit of Russia
- Type of gin
- An alternative
- Alone
- A way to ooze
- Publicity
- American firm
- Jewish calendar month
- Popular sandwich
- Comedian Cook
- The NFL’s big game (abbr.)
- Political action committee
- Make a low, steady sound
- Legendary sportscaster Michaels
- One thousand cubic feet (abbr.)
- Designed to keep ears warm
- One who scrapes
- Tear into two or more pieces
- Supervises flying
- Flying arm of the U.S. military (abbr.)
- District in Peru
- One died leaving a will
- Morning
- The world of the dead
- Widen
- Drink containing medicine
- Celebrating
- Secret encounters
- A type of tag
- Halfback
- Modern tech
- Monetary unit
- Resigned to one’s sleeping chamber
- Execute or perform
- “The Golden State” (abbr.)
- “The Beehive State” (abbr.)

CLUES DOWN

- Charge with a crime
- Mended with yarn
- North Atlantic flatfish

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Dispositions begin in connection with arrests in UMass protests

BELCHERTOWN – Four people arrested in connection with University of Massachusetts protests in May accepted dispositions to their cases by agreeing to a four-month diversion program.

That means if they stay out of trouble, the charges will be dismissed.

Another 16 defendants who were scheduled for a pretrial con-

ference today requested further time to consult with their attorney. Those cases were continued to Sept. 16.

The cases were in court before Eastern Hampshire District Court Judge Bruce S. Melikian, who will hear cases in batches of around 20 defendants every day this week, and into next week.

In all, 130 people were arrest-

ed in the protests that took place in May, among them UMass students, UMass faculty members and people from the community at large.

“As our prosecutors have reviewed hundreds of hours of police bodycam footage, they have offered defendants dispositional arrangements that are in keeping with their behavior at the

time of arrests. Our office sees no reason to be punitive to defendants who were peacefully protesting, engaging with democracy, and exercising their right to speak freely,” said Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan in a press release. “We believe the offer of a diversion opportunity is just and fair, in keeping with the circumstances of each case.”

District Court Chief Michael Russo, working with other Northwestern Assistant District Attorneys are handling the plea negotiations.

Criminal charges are based on probable cause to believe a person has committed a crime. All defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in court.



The Department of Developmental Services is looking for Direct Care Workers and Licensed Practical Nurses to join their team in the Central and Western Region



Direct Care Worker & LPN

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Hotel

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Benefits
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Orioles in line for playoff spot



David Akudo tries to settle the ball during recent action.

BELCHERTOWN – Heading into the final week of the regular season, Belchertown A boys summer soccer is 4-4-1 and hopes to secure one of eight playoff spots. The Orioles had a setback last Wednesday, losing 1-0 against West Springfield. The Orioles have their final regular season games this week.



Esat Cayan traps the ball before heading up the field.



Jack Sullivan sends a pass forward.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Camryn Kaczowka goes after the ball.



TURLEY PHOTO BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

The New England Mutiny has won its conference championship.

Mutiny wins in double OT to capture conference title

BY TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The New England Mutiny lost a heartbreaker to the Lancaster Inferno FC, 2-1, in the 2019 United Women's Soccer East Conference championship match. The 2019 season was also the Mutiny's first year playing home matches at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow.

Five years later, the top-seeded Mutiny faced second-seeded Sporting CT in the East Conference finals at Lusitano July 14.

It took 120 minutes to get the job done, but the Mutiny players celebrated a 1-0 overtime victo-

ry on a very hot afternoon, last Sunday.

"We went undefeated during the regular season, and it just feels awesome to finally win a championship title," said Agawam's Hope Santaniello, who's the only remaining Mutiny player from the 2019 squad. This has been our number one goal since the start of the regular season."

In the second game of the 2024 regular season, the Mutiny (10-0-0) defeated Sporting CT, 4-1, at Lusitano Stadium. Cat Barry, who only played in a couple of matches for the Mutiny, recorded a hat-trick.

It wound up being the only regular loss for Sporting CT (8-2-0),

who captured the East Conference championship trophy a year ago.

The Mutiny will be playing in the National Semifinals for the first time since joining the U.W.S. in 2016.

"It's a very nice feeling winning a championship game, especially since this is my first season coaching a women's soccer team," said first-year Mutiny head coach Federico Molinari. "We now have one more weekend to go. I'm very happy for these players."

The U.W.S. National semifinals and finals are scheduled to be held at All-High Stadium in Buffalo, New York on Friday and

Please see **MUTINY**, page 13

WMass Pioneers start championship hunt

BY TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Joao Bernardo has been the public address announcer at historic Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow for many years.

Bernardo made his usual announcements during last Tuesday night's USL-League 2 qualifying playoff match between FC Motown STA and the Western Mass. Pioneers. He didn't make his famous goal call for the home squad until the 83rd minute.

The Pioneers tied the score at 1-1 with a penalty kick goal before taking the lead for the first time in the 104th minute. They also added an empty net goal in the final seconds of extra time giving them a 3-1 victory.

"We had a lot of opportunities during the first half, but we just couldn't score a goal," said West Mass Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. "We were able to score three goals in the second half, which was nice to see."

The Pioneers, who finished the regular season in second place in the Northeast Division with an 11-2-1 record, faced FC Motown for the first time. It was also the Pioneers first playoff victory since they defeated Manhattan SC in the 2022 quarterfinals at Lusitano Stadium.

FC Motown, who are from Morristown, New Jersey, also finished in second place in the Metropolitan Division with an

Please see **PIONEERS**, page 12



Alec Hughes takes a shot on goal.

SPORTS

Blue Sox pull off big win over Bristol

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox walked into Saturday night’s game on a two game losing streak, 3.5 games behind the Bristol Blues for the division lead, and fell out of the play-off picture. It was a must-win situation against the division leader themselves, the Bristol Blues, in a possible season-changing win. Win and hope to make the playoffs increases monumentally, lose and the chances plummet.



Before the game even began, the weather decided to make its own imprint on today’s game. A late storm before gametime pushed the first pitch back in a 30-minute delay. Regardless, it was just a prelude for the storm that was about to take place on the field.

Tonight’s game was a thriller, plain and simple. From the opening pitch, to the final strike, it was eye-gluing baseball and a battle of both pitching and hitting. Both teams went out the depth of their bullpen to the test, with the Blue Sox using four

pitchers, and the Blues seven.

From the opening pitch however, it was clear tonight’s game would not be a pitcher’s paradise. Off an early Jay Bant single in the bottom of the first inning, the Blue Sox brought Logan Hugo home early to take a 1-0 lead. Minutes later, in the top of the second, the Blues tied it up thanks to a Thomas Rollaver RBI single.

In the bottom of the third and fourth inning, the Blue Sox began growing their lead, scoring six unanswered runs of their own to take their lead to 7-2 going into the fifth. Ethan Lyke started on the mound for the Blue Sox, pitching four innings total while giving up two earned runs off five hits, tacking-in two strikeouts of his own.

Moving to the sixth inning, the Blues closed the distance, scoring two runs in the top of the inning to cut the lead to three. However, Jonathan Hogart and Derek Williams had other

plans. In a two punch combo, Hogart hit a double first to bring Logan Hugo home first. Minutes after, on a 0-1 count with two outs and Hogart now stranded at third base, Williams hit a massive shot deep out of the park to center field to give the Blue Sox a 10-4 advantage. Williams now leads the Blue Sox with the most home-runs hit so far this year with four.

The Blues ended up making things interesting by cutting the lead to 10-8, but the pitching of Chris Torres over the last two innings sealed the door for a comeback.

This Blue Sox win now puts them just 2.5 games behind the Blues for the division lead with two meetings to go, both split at Muzzy and Mackenzie fields. This game also puts the Blue Sox back in the playoff picture as they hold the series lead tie-breaker over the Upper Valley Nighthawks, with no meetings left between the two. With eight games to go on the season, the Blue Sox are once again in full control of their destiny, and their eyes on the Blue’s division lead.

T-Birds announce staff member promotions

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds announced multiple promotions and hires in the team’s hockey operations department.

First, the club has announced that Steve Passineau, formerly the Thunderbirds Head Equipment Manager, has accepted a promotion to join the St. Louis Blues as an Assistant Equipment Manager.

In addition, Abe Edson, formerly the Thunderbirds’ Strength and Conditioning Coach, will join the NHL’s Minnesota Wild as an Assistant Strength and Conditioning Coach.

Casey Barile has been promoted to Head Equipment Manager with the Thunderbirds after serving as an assistant for the last three seasons. A graduate of Kent State University and a native of St. Louis, MO, Barile previously has experience in the ECHL with the Orlando Solar Bears as an Assistant Equipment Manager during the 2020-21 season.

The Thunderbirds will also welcome two new members to the hockey operations staff for the 2024-25 season. Phil Currier

will join the organization as a Strength and Conditioning Coach. A Haverhill, N.H. native, Currier most recently served as the Director of Hockey Performance at the University of Vermont last season. His prior experience also includes stints at the University of Maine and his alma mater, Plymouth State University, where he graduated with a Bachelor’s degree in Exercise and Sport Physiology and a Master’s degree in Applied Exercise Physiology and Human Performance.

Lastly, Steven Smith will join the Thunderbirds as Assistant Equipment Manager. The McAllen, Texas native most recently served as the Head Equipment Manager for the United States Hockey League’s Youngstown Phantoms from 2022-24, where he was a member of Youngstown’s Clark Cup championship in 2023. He has served in the same capacity for six organizations, including the ECHL’s Wichita Thunder and the North American Hockey League’s Rio Grande Valley Killer Bees, Amarillo Bulls, Jamestown Rebels, and New Jersey Titans.

PIONEERS from page 11

8-1-3 mark. They joined USL-League 2 in 2021 and qualified for the playoffs for the first time.

The Pioneers had three corner kicks during the first ten minutes of the opening half.

Two of them were headers by Kerman Sukia, who’s a member of the Bryant University men’s soccer team. Both of Sukia’s headers sailed high over the crossbar.

FC Motown took a 1-0 lead during the 12th minute following an unassisted goal by Jason Bouregy.

The Pioneers had five more corner kicks during the first 45 minutes of the contest, but the visitors from New Jersey held a 1-0 halftime advantage.

The Pioneers also outshot FC Motown, 12-4, during the first half.

In the 61st minute, Laurie Goddard, who’ll be a member of the Hofstra men’s soccer team in the fall, fired a low shot from the top of the box, but FC Motown goalie Ryan Friedberg made a diving save keeping the score at 1-0 for a little while longer.

Friedberg made another save on a shot attempt by Jared Smith in the 75th minute.

The Pioneers were given a pen-



Franco Vila Nieves shoots in traffic.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Lawrence Goddard fights to keep the ball just past midfield.

alty kick seven minutes later by referee Dan Aloï following a foul in the box. Alec Hughes, who’s the USL-2 Golden Boot winner with 16 regular season goals, fired a low shot into the left corner of the net tying the score at 1-1.

“We had a lot of chances to score the entire game,” said Hughes, who’ll be playing one more season of college soccer at UMass Amherst. “Before I took the PK, I tried not to think about it very much. I was relieved when I saw the ball go into the net. I knew we would be able to take control of the game after that.”

With less than five minutes remaining in regulation, FC Motown’s Bryce LeBel received his second yellow card resulting in a red card.

The Pioneers held a man advantage until the 101st minute of extra time when Aidan Kelly received a straight red from the referee.

The home team took the lead for the first time on a goal from Ali Taleb three minutes later.

Goddard was credited with the assist on the go-ahead goal.

“Laurie made an amazing pass to me, and I just finished off the



Mamadi Jiana sprints upfield with the ball.

play with a goal,” said Taleb, who’s a first-year Pioneers player. “It just felt amazing, especially doing it in a home playoff match. This place has a lot of history.”

Taleb, who’s from Glastonbury,



Scott Testori looks to make a pass.

Connecticut, entered the match for the first time during the 93rd minute. Taleb and Hughes attended the same high school, but they weren’t teammates on the same

soccer team.

“Alec is from my hometown, and I grew up watching him play soccer,” said Taleb, who scored four goals for the Pioneers this summer. “He broke a lot of records for the high school soccer team, but I played for the Oakwood Soccer Club. It’s nice to finally be teammates with him.”

Taleb began his collegiate soccer career at AIC before transferring to Northern Kentucky University.

The head coach of the NKU men’s soccer team is Tom Poitras, who was previously the head coach of the men’s soccer team at the University of Hartford.

The Pioneers sealed the home playoff victory with an empty net goal by Mamadi Jiana in the final seconds of extra time.

Jiana, who played high school soccer at Chicopee High School, scored another goal in last Friday night’s round of 32 contest against Lionsbridge FC giving the Pioneers a 1-0 halftime lead. Lionsbridge FC, who hosted the round of 32 playoffs, netted a pair of second half goals which ended the Pioneers outstanding season.

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MUTINY from page 11

Saturday night.

The other three teams who'll be trying to take home the National championship trophy, which is very similar to the Stanley Cup, are the Michigan Jaguars, the Santa Clarita Blue Heat, and FC Buffalo, who earned an automatic bid to the championship weekend because they're the host team.

The Jaguars are the U.W.S. defending National champions.

Another local player listed on the Mutiny roster is Avery Klingensmith, who graduated from Belchertown High School. She was one of the starters in the final home match of the season.

"This is the farthest we've gone in the three years that I've been a member of this soccer team," said Klingensmith, who's also a member of the women's soccer team at American University. "Winning a championship with this team is very special. We have a couple of local players on this year's team, along with several other players who live a little bit farther away. It's really cool that we can all come together and win a championship."

The other local Mutiny players who were starters in the East Conference finals are Maddy Theriault (Palmer) and Alex Legowski (South Hadley).

Several of the Mutiny players are current or former players members of the UConn women's soccer team.

Two of the current UConn players are Chioma Okafor and Maddie Fried, who played a key role in last Sunday's match

The contest was scoreless until the duo hooked up five minutes into the second 15-minute overtime session.

Okafor, who's a first-year player for the Mutiny, sent a crossing pass from the left side of the penalty box to the far post where Fried put a shot into the back of the net past Sporting CT goalie Abby McCarthy.

"It just feels amazing to score what turned out to be the game winning goal," said Fried, who transferred to UConn from



Abbey Jones fights to keep the ball.

Villanova. "Chioma sent me an incredible pass and I just didn't want to miss that shot. We really wanted to win today's game."

Fried, who has scored three goals this season, has been playing for the Mutiny for the past four seasons. She's from Monroe Connecticut and was an All-American high school soccer player at St. Joseph High School, in Trumbull, Conn.

The other UConn players listed on the Mutiny roster are Anna Carson, Laci Lewis, Jess Mazo, Abbey Jones, and Rachel Marchini, who's the Mutiny captain.

Joe Ferrera, who's the Mutiny's owner and general manager, has built a very good relationship with UConn women's soccer coach Margaret Rodriguez.

"We wanted to win this championship title for Joe, and I hope he's happy," Fried said. "He's like a dad to us. He treats us like his own kids."

Okafor would like to see a few more UConn soccer players play for the Mutiny during the next couple of years.

"It's very special having some of my UConn teammates on the field with me. We know each other very well," Okafor said. "I hope

more UConn players come play for this team in the future. It's a great atmosphere here."

When Okafor was a freshman at UConn, the Huskies lost to St. John's in a penalty shootout in the quarterfinals of the Big East tournament. She really didn't want to see the East Conference championship game end in another shootout.

"I was really hoping that we could score an overtime goal because any team could win the penalty shootout regardless of who the better team is. I don't like that aspect of soccer," Okafor added. "When I passed the ball to Maddie, I knew that she was going to put



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHTOS.COM

Alexis Legowski, of South Hadley, goes through the opposing defense.



Madalyn Theriault, of Palmer, looks to shoot.

the ball into the back of the net." Mutiny goalie Natalie Mutscheler made a couple saves during the next ten minutes before the celebration began.

The Mutiny players are looking forward to making a six hour bus ride to Buffalo this weekend.

Win or lose, the 2024 season has been a memorable one for them.



Avery Klingensmith, of Belchertown, takes a free kick.

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CAMPUS Notes

Mavlouganis named to Johnson & Wales University Dean's list

Johnson & Wales University in Providence, RI announced their Spring Dean's List. The Dean's List includes full-time undergraduate students who demonstrate academic excellence by achieving a term grade point average (GPA) of at least 3.50 while also earning a minimum of 12 or more GPA/credit hours, receive dean's list commendation. **Zachary Mavlouganis**, a freshman studying Food and Beverage Industry Management/Culinary Arts, earned this honor for the second consecutive semester. Zach has joined the staff at Leena's Place this summer!

Bramucci named to College of the Holy Cross' Spring 2024 Dean's List

Cameron Bramucci of Amherst was named to the College of the Holy Cross Spring 2024 Dean's List.

A member of the Class of 2025, Bramucci was named to the Dean's List for outstanding academic achievement during the spring semester of the 2023-24 academic year.

To qualify, students must pass four or more letter-graded courses with no failing grades during the semester and earn a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Students awarded degrees at St. Lawrence Univ. commencement ceremony

The following local students were among the 433 students awarded a degree at St. Lawrence University's Commencement ceremony, held May 19 on campus in Canton, New York.

- Will Andresen** of Amherst
- Grace Lane** of Amherst
- Kya Monette** of Belchertown

Emily Frank named to Dean's List at Boston Univ.

Emily Frank of Granby, Massachusetts has been named to the Dean's list of Boston University for spring semester 2024. A sophomore at BU, Emily is majoring in Film and Television in the University's College of Communications and minoring in Education in the University's Wheelock College of Education and Human Development.

Local students named to Hamilton College Spring 2024 Dean's List

The following local residents were named to the Dean's List at Hamilton College for the spring 2024 semester:

Carter Hampson of Amherst. Hampson, a May graduate, majored in economics at Hamilton.

Sea Kay Leung of Belchertown. Leung, a rising sophomore, is a graduate of Amherst Regional High School.

Stuart May of Amherst. May, a rising sophomore, is a graduate of Livermore High School.

Anna Richardson of Granby. Richardson, a rising senior majoring in government and Hispanic studies, is a graduate of Williston Northampton School.

To be named to the Dean's List, a student must have carried a course load of four or more graded credits throughout the semester and earned an average GPA of 3.5 or above on a 4.0 scale.

St. Lawrence Univ. students named to Dean's List

St. Lawrence University congratulates more than 680 students named to the Dean's List for the Spring 2024 semester.

- Grace Lane** of Amherst
- Arianna Roeder-Fabos** of Amherst

4th Quarter Honor Roll for Granby Jr Sr High School

GRANBY— Granby Jr. Sr. High School would like to extend congratulations to those students who achieved Honor Roll for the 4th quarter of the 2023-2024 school year:

7th Grade Maximum Honors – Rowan Cook, Allisandra Crowley, Jocelyn Curran, Honor DeCarlo, Piper Godbout, Addison Hill, Arianna Mislak, Macie Pelletier, Stella Siudak, Mia Smith and Zachary Vega.

7th Grade High Honors – Gwen LePage, Marley Skipton, Marcela Tapia, Kaylee Vincelette and Kara White.

7th Grade Honors - Ella Clark, Audree Flowers, Nathaniel Gomez and Ruby Murdza.

8th Grade Maximum Honors – Gianna Capone, Noah Chambers, Emily Durham, Ralph El Aouji, Vitaly Gavel, Wyatt Kennedy, Kaileena Smith, Richard Sweet, Isabella Tetreault and Jacob Weglarz.

8th Grade High Honors – Adrien Harrington, Sophia Labonte, Abigail LaDuke, Emma Murphy, Kaelynn Slapski and James Vulpe.

8th Grade Honors - Chase Hauschild, Analise Huertas, Isabella Pike, Sophia Press and Isaac Simpson.

9th Grade Maximum Honors - Meredith Bartosz, Sydney Chateaneuf and Brenna Moreno.

9th Grade High Honors - Tessa Healey, Lauren Piercey, Lydia Pike and Eleanor Szlosek.

9th Grade Honors – Lyla Bergeron, Daniel Brown, Madelyn LaPointe,

Jaidyn Roberge and Nathan Walsh.

10th Grade Maximum Honors – Kaitlyn Curran, Quinn Fuller, Braeden Gallagher, Maxwell Kennedy, Scarlett LaRose, Faith Ramos and Stephen Szlosek.

10th Grade High Honors - Allison Charron, Benjamin French, Daniel Hackett, Mylin Laliberte, Blake Swett and Isabella Woods.

10th Grade Honors – Emma Beaulieu, Ethan Bergeron, Jared Lapite, Keith Patterson and Daniel Santiago.

11th Grade Maximum – Jena Abbott, Nathan Benson, Alexis Labite, Cameron LeBlanc and Austin Smith.

11th Grade High Honors – Xavier Arroyo, Aiden Beach, Margaret Crawford, Cassandra Flaherty, Cole Fuller, Gavin Kennedy, Cheyenne Laramée, Olah Roller, Ava Saunders, Autumn Sicard and Molly Zumbruski.

11th Grade Honors – Mabel Carillon, Raymond Colon, John Crawford, Katie Grabherr, Bear Lacharite, Justin Merced, Tristan Moe, Emma Parsons

12th Grade Maximum - Brandie Dumais, Andrew Feldman, Jessica Holubowich, Cindy Kusumo, Tia Looney, Maya Nott and Corey Rondeau.

12th Grade High Honors - Chloe Castro, Ciara Charest, Thomas Merced and Noel Summerlin.

12th Grade Honors - Zachary Auclair, Isabella Bumgarner, Rhea Gagnon, Sophia Gagnon, Henry Jenks, Sara Lessard, David Silchuk, Phillip Silchuk and Michael Swanigan.

SHHS band reunion

SOUTH HADLEY— There will be a reunion for the South Hadley Marching 100 during Roger Farnworth's tenure from 1965-1980. There will be a three-day celebration of the band and accomplishments. The schedule is as follows:

Friday, August 16, Casual gathering, place and time TBD.

Saturday, August 17, SHHS Meet and Greet at 9 a.m.; Donuts, coffee, photo-op and tour of the band room.

Saturday, August 17, Main Event, The

Elks Lodge in Holyoke at 5 p.m., \$25 per person.

Sunday, August 18, Breakfast Buffet at the Boathouse in South Hadley MA at 9:30 a.m., \$29 per person.

Join in for all the events or any of the events to make new memories and celebrate the old. For tickets or more information visit: The South Hadley Tiger Marching 100 on Facebook or contact Karen Kawalec Quinn at jkequinn@gmail.com or Craig Parker at craig1414p@gmail.com.

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BBB offers tips to avoid summer festival scams

Many people are looking forward to fun festivals this summer and as usual, scammers are taking advantage of the building excitement.

This time, they are cashing in with phony tickets-and even fake events.

How the scam works
You see a fantastic deal on tickets to a summer festival in your area, usually through a link on social media. The event promises live music, all-you-can-eat meals, craft beer or wine, or other fun activities.

When you click the social media link, it takes you to a professional website with fantastic pictures. You enter your credit card information to buy tickets and think you are all set.

But before you buy, do a little research. Whether the event is non-existent, merely disappointing, or you just bought phony tickets, the result is the same: someone pockets your hard-earned money.

BBB Scam Tracker has received numerous reports from people who purchased fake tickets to actual events or events that have yet to materialize.

A customer in Memphis, Tennessee reported buying tickets for \$220 for a concert: "I saw an offer for presale tickets for the group Khruangbin for a concert in May. I clicked on the links and it led me to what looked like a legit site until I realized that they are a resellers site and had marked up the ticket prices tremendously. The prices were also in USD and the service charge was astounding. I contacted the company right away but they just dismiss and ignore. They are scammers and need to be off the market. They have scammed lots of people and it is very humiliating and stressful."

One consumer who purchased tickets to a fake beer crawl reported: "Reviews across multiple platforms make it clear that these events are at best extremely misleading or at worst canceled. No refunds are given, even when their inconsistent and mostly unreachable customer service email address responds to confirm a refund will be provided."

How to spot a fake festival
Research before you buy. Search online for the festival's name and ensure the name advertised matches the website. Scammers often use names that sound similar to those of real festivals.

Check for (working) contact information. The festival website should have a real phone number and email address.

Watch out for prices that sound too good to be true. There is no way a festival can offer tickets at extremely low prices without losing money. If the prices are much lower than elsewhere, it's likely a scam.

What can you do?
Pay with a credit card. You can dispute the charges if the business doesn't come through. Be wary of online sellers that don't accept credit cards.

Look for secure sites. The website should begin with HTTPS (the extra "s" is for security) and have a lock symbol on the address bar.

Avoid tickets sold on Craigslist, Facebook Marketplace, and other free online listings. Scammers are skilled at providing realistic tickets and fake receipts.

For more information, check out third-party ticket sites at BBB.org before making purchases.

Home Builders Foundation awards scholarships and tool stipends

The Home Builders Foundation, the charitable arm of the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Western Massachusetts, is pleased to announce the 2024 winners of their \$1,000 Member Scholarship Awards: Declan Buchanan, grandson of James Walsh- WLC Consultants Inc; Beau Walton, grandson of Wayne Walton- LP Adams; John Fitzpatrick, son of Mark & Margaret Fitzpatrick- Fitzpatrick Painting; Lauren Tomala, daughter of Walt & Heather Tomala- TNT General Contracting; Michael Nevins, employee- Laplante Construction; Savannah Hebert, Student of Chicopee Comprehensive School; Brooke Sellica, daughter of Charlene Clark- Connecticut Lighting Centers; and Gabriella Noonan Pear, granddaughter of Edward Noonan- Noonan Energy.

These annual scholarships are available to members of the Home Builders Association, their family members, their employees, and the families of employees. All applications are reviewed and voted on by a scholarship committee through a blind ballot process. Scholarships are awarded based on academic performance, employment history, essay quality, and community or charitable involvement.

The association is also proud to announce that it has awarded nine \$750 Tool Stipends to the following trade

school graduates: Jeffrey LeProvost from Lee High School; Aidan Lind from Taconic High School; Zander Melo from Smith Vocational & Agricultural High School; Zachary Kenyon from Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School; Jesus Cintron Roman from Putnam High School; Aidan Layng from Westfield Technical Academy; Nathan Fox from Lower Pioneer Valley Career Tech; Hannah Boisvert from McCann Technical High School; and Joseph Sanchez from Pittsfield High School.

Guidance counselors from vocational and trade schools in the Hampden, Hampshire, Franklin, and Berkshire County areas nominate their top senior candidates for this prestigious annual award. The association collaborates with each student to purchase tools tailored to their chosen career path in their respective trades.

To date, the Home Builders Foundation has awarded over \$443,250 in scholarships and awards to deserving students since its inception in 1990. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to all these outstanding students and wish them the very best in their future careers.

For more information, please contact Heather Leclerc at the Home Builders Association of Western Massachusetts at 413-733-3126.

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