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ARPA funding approved for disk golf vegetation management

BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – Using \$8,500 of American Rescue Plan Act funding, brush and vegetation will be removed from the disk golf course behind the soccer field at Ron Constantino

Recreation Area with the approval of the Selectboard.

At last week's meeting, Recreation Director Kyle Thibeault provided an update on the course and how the one-time funding would be used in a long-term way.

This project began about two

years ago, and all 18 baskets of the course have been installed. Thibeault said a lot of effort on this project was done by volunteers to help clear the area of brush and vegetation. Students from Pathfinder Regional Vocational High School also came out to help with downed tree

removal and clearing as well.

"Unfortunately, with school ending and all the rain we've had, we have all 18 holes playable with rough cuts of the holes so people can play," he said. "We got feedback on how each hole was and if we needed to adjust anything in any way."

One suggestion included permanent signage for each hole and where they are, but Thibeault said he didn't want to jump the gun too early just in case there were any changes that needed to be made.

Please see **ARPA**, page 7

'Belchertown Twirlers' find success in national competition

BELCHERTOWN – The Belchertown Twirlers, an award-winning program offered by the town's Recreation Department, recently found success in a week-long national competition.

The National Baton Twirling Championships at Notre Dame University in South Bend, Indiana, saw twirlers from across the country competing, and Belchertown residents Emelia Maldanis, 11, Evelyn Maldanis, 8, and Delaney Ochs, 10, represented the region and the Commonwealth at the competition.

"The highlight of the week was Maldanis and Ochs placing third in Advanced Duet Preliminary Competition," the Belchertown Twirlers released. "A Top 5 Preliminary Placement put Ochs and Maldanis in a twirl off with the best duets in the



Delaney Ochs, Evelyn Maldanis, and Emelia Maldanis with national awards

COURTESY PHOTO

country."

Maldanis and Ochs finished fourth place and received plaques on the podium in the National

Awards Ceremony.

Evelyn Maldanis received medals for "Top 10" placements, placing ninth in Novice 2 Baton,

tenth in Novice Strut, and tenth in All American Girl Modeling.

Please see **TWIRLERS**, page 3

New Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force seeks to fill vacancies

BELCHERTOWN – The town's newly-formed Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force is seeking to fill vacancies.

The town is accepting letters of interest for the task force, which aims to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement for the Select Board to review and consider adopting. The task force also aims to "seek out opportunities to acknowledge and/or celebrate the diversity within our own community" and welcomes the whole community to join in and offer suggestions on "how the town addresses specific or potential acts of violence, including hate speech, should such acts arise in our community, region, or state."

"Efforts should be made to include voices from the community or communities that are directly affected," the town released, adding that partnership opportunities with surrounding towns to strengthen regional or state efforts may also be explored.

The task force is a seven-member committee and will include a representative from law enforcement, a representative from Town Hall, and five community members representing diversity in one or more of the following areas: racial and ethnic backgrounds, social positions with respect to gender identity and sexual orientation, social positions with respect to disability, and age groups and prior vocational experiences.

All are encouraged to apply; letters of interest must be submitted to the Select Board, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007, or by email to selectboard@belchertown.org.

Man sentenced to probation after guilty plea in fatal crash

BELCHERTOWN – The driver who struck and killed a motorcyclist on Route 9 in 2021 has pleaded guilty to a single charge of negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

The crash, which took place on May 15, 2021, on Route 9 in Belchertown near the Ware town line, claimed the life of Wales resident Niles N. Robbins, who was operating a 2018 Harley

Davidson motorcycle. A passenger on his motorcycle sustained non-life-threatening injuries and was transported to Mary Lane Hospital for treatment, according to the office of Northwestern District Attorney David Sullivan.

State Police investigators later determined that Aleksandyr Saykin, 59, of East Longmeadow was at fault for the crash.

"Saykin was driving his SUV

eastbound on Route 9 when he made a left-hand turn into the path of Robbins' oncoming motorcycle," the District Attorney's office released. "This caused Robbins to abruptly apply his brakes, lose control of his motorcycle, skid and crash into the SUV."

As required by state law, Saykin's license was suspended immediately, according to

reports; at a recent change of plea hearing, Eastern Hampshire District Court Judge Tina Cafaro sentenced Saykin to three years of probation.

Conditions of probation, according to a press release, are that Saykin not operate a motor vehicle, that he not seek license reinstatement, that he com-

Please see **CRASH**, page 10

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COMMUNITY

Zonta Palooza event this weekend

NORTHAMPTON - A musical fundraiser benefitting STEM scholarships for local women will take place this weekend.

“Zonta Palooza” will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, August 6, at the Northampton Center for the Arts and feature music by jazz/blues duo Blackbird & Applegate, singer-songwriter Louise Mosrie, and Valley swing band The O-Tones.

Tickets are \$20. There will also be light refreshments, raffle prizes, and auction items, the Zonta Club of Northampton, which is hosting the event, released.

According to event details, Zonta Palooza will be held in memory of Lynn

Goodhue, a Williamsburg resident and Smith College alumna who earned two postgraduate degrees—an MBA and a Master’s in computing and electrical engineering—and worked for many years directing the computer center at Smith College. She eventually moved on to the Center for Human Development in Springfield as Technical Director; the scholarship in her name will be “for local women pursuing a science, technology, engineering, or mathematics (STEM) degree program at an accredited university/college/institution.”

Recipients will also be eligible

for an additional award from Zonta International, the organization shared. Zonta Northampton’s Club President Seren Derin added that the event emcee will be Judith Fine, former owner of Gazebo in Northampton and a tireless volunteer for “good local government and good causes.”

The music lineup will include a mix of swing, blues, folk, and soul.

The Northampton Center for the Arts is located at 33 Hawley Street; for more details and tickets, visit Northampton.ZontaDistrict1.org.



Meatball grinder sale this month

BELCHERTOWN - The Belchertown Lions Club will hold its monthly drive-thru/pick-up “Meatball Grinder Sale” from 11 a.m. to sell-out on Saturday, August 19, on the grounds of the Belchertown United Church of Christ, 20 Park Street in Belchertown.

There is no need to pre-order; \$10 includes the sub, chips, and a beverage.

“Actually, there is no need to even leave your vehicle—just drive up, tell us what you would like, and we will prepare it fresh on the spot and deliver it to your window,” the Belchertown Lions Club released.

All proceeds from the club’s fundraising events go to charity and local projects.

Tri-Lakes chicken BBQ upcoming

BELCHERTOWN - On Sunday, August 20, the Tri-Lakes Association will hold its Annual Chicken BBQ at the Belchertown VFW from 1-4 p.m. There will be music and raffles; tickets are \$25, which includes: Half chicken, baked potato, corn, salad, and dessert. Meals are available to go, and tickets are available for purchase at eventbrite.com. Find the Tri-Lakes Association on Facebook by searching “Friends of the Tri-Lakes.”



TWIRLERS from page 1

All of Evelyn’s placements were in the seven-year-old category.

Emelia Maldanis competed in the Pre-Teen Division with a fourth-place finish in Advanced Solo 1 Baton, third-place finish in Intermediate 2 Baton, and fourth-place finish in Showtwirl. Emelia’s fourth-place solo finish put her in the solo twirl off against the top twirlers in the Pre-Teen division.

Ochs also competed in the Juvenile Age Division and achieved “Top 10” placements, with fifth place in All American Girl Modeling, seventh place in Advanced Solo 1 Baton, and ninth place in Advanced 2 Baton.

“The proud coaches are Kristi Ochs, Cate Senecal, Brittani Ladd, and Barbara Kupras,” the group added.

The Belchertown Twirlers is a program offered through the Belchertown Recreation Department. Register now for a summer clinic and a four-week class, including marching in the Fair Parade.

Emelia Maldanis and Delaney Ochs, national duet twirl off finalists

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EDUCATION

Residents named to Dickinson College spring dean's list

AMHERST – Dickinson College has announced two residents to the spring 2023 dean's list.

Max Shannon, a junior international studies and law & policy major, is the son of John Shannon of Amherst; and Sarah Tepfer, a senior biochemistry & molecular biology major, is a graduate of Amherst Regional High School and is the daughter of Marci Lowy and David Tepfer of Amherst.

All students earning a position on the dean's list, a recognition of academic excellence, must have a grade-point average of 3.7 or above on a 4.0 GPA scale for the semester.

Tufts University announces graduates

AMHERST – Resident Leija Helling has graduated from Tufts University Summa Cum Laude with a degree in Biology.

More than 2,800 students across all schools graduated from Tufts University in May during a university-wide commencement ceremony that featured the awarding of honorary degrees to a number of academic, business, and civic leaders making a positive impact on the world.



COURTESY PHOTO, ELMS COLLEGE

Local students graduate from Elms College

REGION - More than 440 students graduated from College of Our Lady of the Elms during its 92nd Commencement held in May. The following local students earned degrees:

Belchertown: Anna-Elise Pikul, Bachelor of Arts in Biology; Lauren Pope, Bachelor of Arts in Communication Science & Disorders; Joe Laporte, Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science; Kelsey McMorro, Bachelor of

Science in Nursing; Hayleigh Gagne, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Emily Gay, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Jennifer Girard, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Emily Krasinkiewicz, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Connor Laflamme, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Alexander Szarkowski, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; Kathreen Collado, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; and Jennifer Stebbins, Doctor of Nursing Practice in

Health Systems Innovation & Leadership.

Granby: Oliver Abbott, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology; and Samantha Gilpatrick, Certificate of Advanced Graduate Study in Education.

Amherst: Michelle Redenz, Bachelor of Science in Nursing; and Jaime Caron, Doctor of Nursing Practice in Health Systems Innovation & Leadership.

Amherst resident graduates from RIT

AMHERST – Resident Theo McCallum has graduated from Rochester Institute of Technology with a degree in industrial design.

Some 4,800 degrees were conferred in the 2022-2023 academic year at all of RIT's campuses. RIT's academic convocation celebration was held in May and featured remarks by Thomas Zurbuchen, astrophysicist and the longest continually serving associate administrator for the Science Mission Directorate in NASA's history.

Resident graduates from UAlbany

AMHERST – Resident Sarah Zahed has recently graduated from the University at Albany as a Doctor of Philosophy, English.

UAlbany celebrated more than 4,200 students who received their degrees at the University's 2023 Commencement ceremonies; this included summer, fall, and winter semester recipients from the 2022-2023 academic year.

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COMMUNITY

Quabbin Visitor Center lists free upcoming events

BELCHERTOWN – The Department of Conservation and Recreation’s Les and Terry Campbell Quabbin Visitor Center will offer several free programs this spring.

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

Please dress appropriately for the weather and bring water and snacks. Dogs are not allowed anywhere on the Quabbin Watershed.

Space is limited.

To register for any of these events, visit www.mass.gov/locations/quabbin-reservoir/events?_page=1.

Barrens habitat hike

Barrens habitats are anything but barren - they are teeming with life. On Thursday, Aug. 3 from 10-11 a.m., come see some of the flora and fauna of a recently restored inland sandplain heath (a type of barrens) and find out what makes these globally rare ecosystems so special.

The 1.5 mile hike is easy, but the terrain is uneven, so secure footwear is recommended. Please come prepared for sun and ticks and bring water.

Meet at Gate 29, New Salem and caravan to site (<https://goo.gl/maps/CZipU7XxWGSGE6faA>).

Late summer meadow visit

Enjoy a later summer hike at Quabbin Park on Thursday, Sept. 7 from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. This hike will meet at the parking area at the Middle Entrance and walk along the Spillway Road to a small meadow across from the Boat Cove.

The approximately 1-mile walk is easy, but the road along the Spillway is heavily trafficked, so caution is advised. Please wear appropriate clothing and footwear, bring water, and come prepared for insects.

Meet at the Middle Entrance parking lot (<https://goo.gl/maps/2xFhXU-WcU7H8fmae8>).

Donations needed for upcoming tag sale on the Town Common

BELCHERTOWN - The annual St. Francis Tag Sale team is gearing up for another sale on the Belchertown Town Common, and community donations are encouraged.

The tag sale will be held from 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Saturday, August 26.

“Your donated treasures will be welcome additions and always help to define the success of this annual event,” the tag sale team released. “If you are cleaning, downsizing, or upsizing, your adult child finally has an apartment and you are ready to reclaim their room, get ready to donate to this event.”

Since its inception 30 years ago when the late Claire Oberly started it “as a small fundraiser targeting the eventual building of a new St. Francis Church,” the tag sale team said the event is “anticipated every year.”

“An army of volunteers recently met to review the details of the well-planned 2023 sale,” the group released. “As always, your donated treasures are needed.”

The Tag Sale Team will accept, categorize, and competitively price donated contributions from Monday,

August 7, to Sunday, August 20. The committee designates items into more than 20 donated goods categories, including: antiques, boutique, crafts, electrical, frames, hardware, handbags, hats, holidays, infants, jewelry, kitchenware, knick-knacks, linens, pictures, religious, shoes, sporting goods, toys, and miscellaneous.

“Bring your items and the team will find a new home for them,” the group shared, adding that clothing over size 2T is not accepted.

The Pine Room, located at the lower level of the Park Street Social Center, will be opened to accept donations from 9 a.m. – 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and noon-5 p.m. on Sundays through August 20.

As per a list of “not accepted items,” a significant change this year is that clothing sized over 2T is no longer accepted, but “hats, caps, handbags, and shoes will be accepted.” Additionally, neither bed pillows or used candles will be accepted.

“Your generous donations are appreciated,” the St. Francis Tag Sale team added.

Teen book hours event next week

BELCHERTOWN - Celebrate the end of the Teen Summer Reading Program at Clapp Memorial Library by picking out a free teen book to keep for good. The library is having “Free Teen Book Hours” next week on Friday, August 11, from 5-6 p.m., during which a table with bins of books will be set up outside the side door of the library for teens to pick a new favorite.

Teens must be registered for the Teen Summer Reading Program to pick out a book, and they may register at the table, the library released. Teens who attend will also be eligible for an additional raffle ticket for the Teen Summer Reading Program. Books are donated by the library and the Friends of the Library.

Boy Scout ‘Can & Bottle Drive’ this weekend

BELCHERTOWN - Boy Scout Troop 507 is holding a Can & Bottle Drive from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. on Saturday, August 5, at the Pride Gas Station at the intersection of Rt. 21 and Rt. 202, 165 State Street.

“Gather up all of those unwanted returnable bottles and cans from your summer gatherings and help support the Scouts,” a press statement reads. “Bring them to the Pride station where the Scouts will be collecting them to raise money to help make their scouting experience more meaningful.”

For more information, email RichardStewart.TM26769@troop-master.email.

Drive-by, drop-off donations at Clapp Memorial Library

BELCHERTOWN - The Friends of Clapp Memorial Library are conducting their final Drive-by, Drop-off Donation Day of the year from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, August 12, in the municipal parking lot by the back entrance to the library.

“Volunteers will unload boxed

books directly from your car for you,” the Friends released, adding that they are accepting children’s and adult books in good condition (except encyclopedias), as well as DVDs and CDs for their upcoming October Sale.

All donations are tax deductible.

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OPINION

Grandma Gatewood's Excellent Adventure

A senior's walk into the record books

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I've been getting into shape recently.

But my progress pales compared to what a remarkable senior did nearly 70 years ago.

Emma Gatewood's life was hard. Born in Ohio in 1887, she was one of 15 kids in a family that slept four to a bed.

Her father lost a leg in the Civil War and spent the rest of his life drinking and gambling. Though her formal education ended in the 8th grade, she kept learning by devouring encyclopedias, Greek classics, and books on woods and wildlife.

At age 19 Emma married a 27-year-old teacher and tobacco farmer named P.C. Gatewood. The honeymoon ended quickly, when Emma discovered she was expected to work in the fields alongside the men, plus cook, clean, and raise their 11 kids.

P.C. was mean. He killed a man in 1924 but avoided prison because the judge said his many children would go hungry with him behind bars.

He beat Emma often, sometimes almost to the point of death. When he turned violent, she tried to run into the nearby woods. Safe in the security of her beloved trees and plants, she found peace and solitude.

P.C. repeatedly threatened to send Emma to a mental institution to keep her from divorcing him.

In 1939, he had her jailed in the first step toward having her committed. Seeing Emma's cracked teeth and broken ribs, their town's mayor moved her into his home and helped her get a job.

She divorced P.C. the next year. A series of odd jobs saw her through the next decade until her children were all grown.

Then, as so often happens, fate unexpectedly called. For Emma, it came in the form of an old magazine.

She happened upon a 1949 National Geographic issue featuring an article on the Appalachian Trail.

At that moment an incredible idea took root in her mind. She would become the first woman to walk the entire length of the trail, all 2,200 miles from Springer Mountain in Georgia to Maine's Mount Katahdin.

At age 66, no less.

The idea grew into an obsession. At a time when people nearing 70 were expected to relax in rocking chairs, Emma began preparing to attempt what no woman before had ever done.

Her legs were strong, she was in good health, so why not?

She began her journey at Mount Katahdin in July 1954 – and promptly met with one disaster after another. She broke her glasses, she got lost, then she ran out of food.

When rangers found her, they persuaded the hapless sexagenarian to go home.

But while Emma Gatewood may have failed, she didn't quit. She told no one about her setback and quietly prepared for a second attempt.

She learned from her initial mistakes and changed her strategy.

In 1955, she started two months earlier this time and began in Georgia. Again, it wasn't easy.

That 1949 article had made her believe the route was a smooth trail. It wasn't, and her Keds tennis shoes were no match for the rugged mountain terrain.

She expected to find shelters along the way; there weren't any, forcing her to sleep in piles of leaves.

But she stuck with it and kept walking. Newspapers picked up her story as she went, and soon she acquired a nickname – Grandma Gatewood – along with celebrity status.

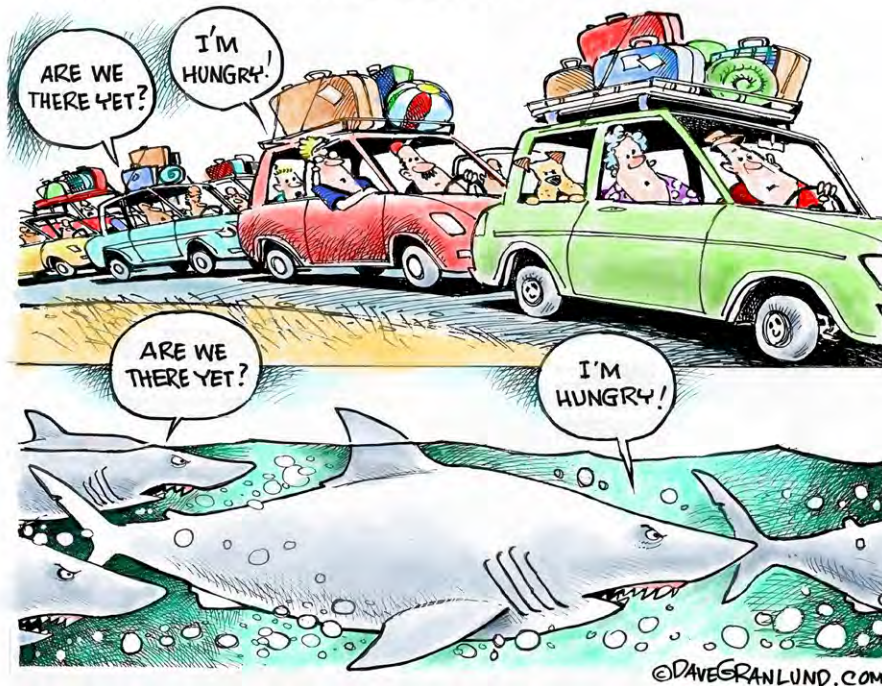
She achieved her goal 146 days later when she reached Baxter Peak atop Mount Katahdin. She signed the register, sang "America the Beautiful," and said to herself out loud, "I did it. I said I'd do it, and I've done it."

Grandma Gatewood then appeared on the Today show, was a guest on a TV game show, and was even profiled in Sports Illustrated where she said, "This is no trail. It's a nightmare. For some fool reason, they always lead you right up over the biggest rock on top of the



J. MARK POWELL'S
HOLY COW! HISTORY

FAMILIES HEADED TO THE BEACH...



The daylily, both friend and foe

I have never been a daylily aficionado, but as of late, they are growing on me.

Why I write is because on Cape Cod they are everywhere. The last few days I have seen them paired with shrubs, other perennials and even as a backdrop to carefully placed annuals.

Read on as I resurrect a column from the archives with new and updated factoids.

We've all seen the clumps of orange daylilies (*Hemerocallis fulva*) blooming along roadsides each summer. These remnants of long ago have oftentimes outlived the people who planted them and the farmhouse in which they were planted around.

Arriving from Asia in the late 1800s, the common daylily is now considered invasive because it crowds out native plants. While experts advise not planting daylilies that are known to run amok, there are many cultivars that rightly deserve a place in the landscape.

Two varieties of daylilies presently occupy space in my landscape, one that is a family heirloom, and another that was purchased on a whim.

The lemon lily (*Hemerocallis lilioasphodelus*) was a family heirloom, although I am not sure where it originated. I think it was my grand babci that first gave it to my mother back in the 1950s.

It has been almost entirely choked out of the banking of my childhood home by lily of the valley, but I am lucky enough to have saved a piece and it is thriving in my perennial garden. It is delicate as far as daylilies go, perfectly lemon yellow and subtly scented.

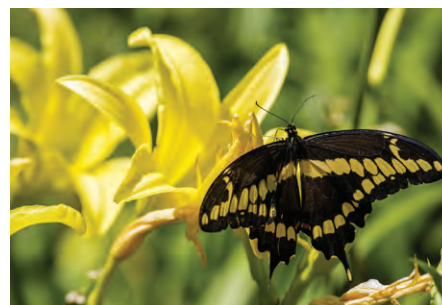
The lemon lily has a short bloom time, a week or less in early June, but it makes a perfect bed fellow to deep purple bearded iris.

Today, thousands of cultivars of daylilies are available, many of which bloom for longer periods of time than the old-fashioned types. They are offered in shades of all colors except blue and pure white.

Minatures look great in rock gardens, while more beefy types work well to stabilize bankings. The majority blend nicely with annuals, perennials, and shrubbery, as mentioned.

Daylilies belong to the genus *Hemerocallis* - hemero being Greek for "beautiful," and callis Greek for "day." Individual flowers do open and perish in 24 hours or less.

Luckily though, there are usually several flowers per scape (stem), and when one goes by another is waiting to take its place.



A desirable variety will bloom for at least two weeks, or will repeat blooming later in the season.

When shopping for daylilies at the nursery simply count the number of buds per scape of the potted plant. The number of buds (or the number of scars if blooming is nearly finished) coincides with the number of days that particular variety is expected to bloom.

Unfortunately, my lemon lily had a mere four.

If you choose carefully and plan accordingly by including early, mid, and late season bloomers in your mix, it is possible to achieve continuous bloom over a three month period in a mixed border of daylilies.

Many people are opting to plant a single variety for a season's worth of flowers. Different than varieties that rebloom, everbloomers offer a nonstop performance from the beginning of their bloom period until frost.

It is said that Dr. Darrel Apps, a geneticist and master breeder evaluated some 11,000 seedlings to end up with a mere few that flower continuously.

Breeding continues, so look for the newest introductions each year. My whim purchase from a few years back is a rebloomer called "Purple D'oro." I bought it because it was blooming in the nursery alongside Gayfeather, orange Helenium, and Purple Coneflower.

They are a power quartet in my summer border for sure, and the rebloom factor surely stretches out the show.

Locate daylilies where they will receive at least six hours of sun a day. Average soil, as long as it drains well, will grow strong plants.

Vigor determines whether clumps need to be separated and divided every few years, or if they can grow uninterrupted for many seasons. Division is best accomplished in early spring or immediately after bloom.

If you take the later approach, just be sure the plant has at least one month of growing time before frost hits. This way it will have an opportunity to root well, anchoring itself before winter freezing and thawing can heave it from the ground.

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.

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AMHERST

BankESB awards \$25,000 grant to Hurricanes TURF Project

AMHERST — Matthew Sosik, president and CEO of BankESB, recently announced that the bank is awarding up to \$25,000 in a matching challenge grant to support the Amherst Hurricanes Boosters' Transformative Uses for Regional Fields Project.

According to a press release, alongside the support of parents and community members, the total could reach as much as \$50,000.

The Amherst Hurricane Athletic Boosters approached BankESB in search of a community partner to help them replace and reorient the condemned 23-year-old track and field with a usable, eight-lane track and year-round playable fields offering the "best pedagogical experience and community gathering place in the area."

To support their fundraising initiative, they wanted a partner who shared their commitment to eco-friendly facilities, health and wellness, equal

Please see **BANK ESB**, page 12



COURTESY PHOTO

BankESB Amherst Assistant Vice President and Branch Officer Jessica West and Senior Vice President of Retail Banking Gary Turku with members of the board of the Amherst Hurricanes Athletic Boosters.

GRANBY

Road construction scheduled for Granby

GRANBY - Road reconstruction projects have begun in Granby; the work will be performed on Taylor Street between Hubbard Drive and Route 202.

"We will also be working on Barton Street and on Easton Street between Porter and North Street," said David Desrosiers, the town's Highway Superintendent. "Through traffic may be detoured at times or reduced to a single lane. Seek alternate routes if possible."

The roads will remain open to residents on the streets, but short-term inconvenience or delays due to construction operations are possible, he added.

Immaculate Heart of Mary to hold Summerfest event

GRANBY – The Immaculate Heart of Mary Church will hold its Summerfest event from 12-4 p.m. on Sunday, August 20. Chicken dinner is \$15 and includes: Half BBQ chicken, baked potato, and corn on the cob; hamburgers and hot dogs will also be available.

The event will feature raffle prizes of \$500, \$250, and \$100, raffle baskets, a bake sale, kids' games, prizes, music, and more.

ARPA from page 1

The challenge now is that due to heavy rains, there is rapid vegetation growth.

"It's an uphill battle," Thibeault said. "We do have working day that I put out onto community disk golf websites to get help out there."

However, the funding request would pay for specialized equipment.

"It would get everything leveled off, everything to the ground, everything you can't get to with weedwhackers," Thibeault said. "We have two holes that look awful. When we were out there a couple of weeks ago, there were ferns, but it's kind of invasive."

He added that the goal is to "stay on top of everything down low to the ground and prevent some of the invasive species from

coming back."

He said the funds would be for a one-time clearing and there would be a maintenance plan for his staff to execute. Pathfinder students would also be invited to help maintain the course.

The hope would be to allow the work to occur and for the course to open in the beginning of August. A grand opening of the course has been mentioned, and Thibeault said they would have the event in November.

During the meeting, Selectboard member Peg Louraine said she was concerned about having to pay for the work to be done again next year.

"We currently have a little over a quarter million dollars left and some of that money already went to [the Recreation Department,] \$500,000 for the parking area, a bunch of money on Chestnut Hill,"

she said. "I'm reluctant about ARPA funds, and I'm concerned about continuing maintenance of a piece of property, relying solely on volunteers and hoping disk golf enthusiasts will come out there and do it."

Thibeault said once the course is open, tournaments can occur which will raise money that will be used for the course.

Town Administrator Steve Williams said the area is difficult to work with due to regeneration and material that is difficult to work with, due to the location of the course.

"The contractor will hopefully open it enough for different types of equipment to be used in the future," he said. "Right now, it's just a sprawling site."

Selectboard Chair Ed Boscher said he's been out to the course and "it's an impossible piece of terrain."

"We don't have the equipment in town, it's really specialized equipment that can get back there through that sort of terrain," he said.

The board unanimously approved the funding request.

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POLICE

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 19 through July 25. 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 297 calls police responded to, there were 18 incidents, four accidents, five arrests/summons and 11 citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

Tuesday, July 25

9:23 a.m. – A person was arrested for violation of an abuse prevention order.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS

Wednesday, July 19

11:10 a.m. – An officer spoke with a resident regarding a person who rented the home where items were taken. The person who rented there may have thrown away the items. The person wanted the incident documented.

12:24 p.m. – An officer responded to Turkey Hill Road for a disabled vehicle. The driver's oil light came on and the vehicle wouldn't move. The Massachusetts State Police helped to move the vehicle onto the shoulder of the road because the vehicle was a road hazard. The vehicle was later towed from the scene.

7:42 p.m. – An officer responded to the area of Amherst Road for a report of a driver in a pickup truck with scrap metal in the cab who threw a nip bottle out the window. An officer on Federal Street observed a vehicle matching the description provided. As the vehicle drove by, the tailgate was a different color than the provided description. The officer stopped the vehicle and identified the driver. They were not slurring their words. The person had a dog in the vehicle and a relative responded to take the dog. The person did a breath test and reported a preexisting diabetic condition. A relative took the person home and the vehicle was towed from the scene.

Thursday, July 20

1:27 p.m. – An officer responded to Bay Road for an accident. A vehicle was traveling east on Bay Road when the driver fell asleep at the wheel. The vehicle travelled until it came to rest on a utility pole and a fence. There was heavy front-end dam-

age. The property owners of the fence and National Grid were advised of the incident. The vehicle was towed from the scene. No injuries were reported.

Friday, July 21

5:46 a.m. – An officer responded to Metacomet Street and Bay Road for an accident. A vehicle stopped at the stop sign at Metacomet and Bay Road pulled into traffic turning left. Another vehicle traveling on Bay Road collided with the first vehicle. There was moderate damage to the first vehicle and heavy damage to the second, which was towed from the scene. No injuries were reported.

8:29 a.m. – An officer took a report of fraud. The person reported they were on a video chat with a scammer. They realized the person was fake and not what it seemed to be. The person demanded money or they would use photos as blackmail. It is unknown who the suspect was.

7:41 p.m. – An officer spoke to a person about a vehicle break in. The vehicle was at a Turkey Hill Road business when the vehicle was broken into. There was a credit card that was later used at a different business in town. The person checked their wallet, and the card was missing. The person was told to contact their bank and credit bureau. There is no further information at this time.

8:04 p.m. – An officer responded to a second call at a Turkey Hill Road business. The person reported they lost their debit and credit cards as well as some cash. There was an issue with the driver's side door resulting from damage during the break in. The person later reported the cards were used at another business in town. The officer was able to follow up with the business which provided a description and camera footage of the incident. The person attempted to use the stolen card to purchase a gift card but stopped and left when asked for their identification. The matter is under investigation.

Saturday, July 22

10:47 a.m. – Officers and Belchertown Fire and paramedics responded to Bay Road for a report of a motorcycle accident. It was found that the operator was a missing person. They were transported to the hospital for their injuries. The motorcycle went off the roadway and about 25 feet down the embankment. Photos were taken. The motorcycle was towed from the scene.

7:27 p.m. – An officer responded to State Street for a report of an erratic operator. Two people called to report the matter

where a vehicle was going in and out of the opposite lane and driving very slowly. The officer observed 15 to 20 cars behind the vehicle and attempted to stop the vehicle. The vehicle was going on the double yellow lines and over them, while going under the speed limit. The officer stopped the vehicle and there was an odor of marijuana coming from the vehicle. The person said they were trying to get to a location that was in the opposite direction from where they were driving. A field sobriety test was given. The passenger of the vehicle had no license so they couldn't drive from the scene. A towing company was contacted to remove the vehicle. The person was given a citation due to crossing and going into the opposite lanes and for an expired inspection sticker.

Sunday, July 23

9:44 a.m. – Police officers and Belchertown Fire and paramedics responded to the Norwottuck rail trail for a person who was injured in a bike crash on the trail between North Washington Street and Franklin Street about 20 feet into the woods. The officers assisted with removing the person from the woods. The person was transported from the scene.

12:34 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a domestic disturbance.

Monday, July 24

3:36 p.m. – An officer responded to a North Main Street residence for a report of a juvenile on the sidewalk who later walked into a house. The officer checked the area and then saw a screen door was ripped out. The officer went into the doorway to look further when they were charged at by a dog, which kept coming after the officer, and the officer attempted to grab its collar to secure it. The dog was later secured and the animal control officer was contacted. It was determined the dog didn't have any licenses or registration to the address. The officer went on to get treated for injuries sustained in the incident. It was later found that the child was playing hide and seek.

4:13 p.m. – An officer responded to a George Hannum Road business for a report of an accident. A vehicle parked in a space waiting for an online order was struck by a second vehicle attempting to back into the space next to the first vehicle. No injuries were reported and both vehicles were able to be driven from the scene.

Tuesday, July 25

10:48 a.m. – An officer spoke with a resident about a child custody issue.

10:58 p.m. – An officer spoke with person about fraudulent actions on a resident's Venmo account. The person reported that they'd noticed three transactions to the same account, and they were unsure when they happened, but the person did not make them. They reported allowing friends to use their phone, and the receiving person on Venmo was a former coworker. The person contacted Venmo and the person who received the withdrawals said they would give the funds back. The matter is open and documented, pending return of the funds.

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 149 calls for the week of July 21 through July 27. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Friday, July 21

12:56 a.m. – While on patrol, an officer observed a motor vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 48MPH in a 35MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped, and it was discovered that it was unregistered. The operator was issued a criminal citation for speeding, unregistered motor vehicle, and operating a motor vehicle without insurance.

11:05 a.m. – A resident came to the station to report their trailer had been stolen. An incident report was completed, and the matter is under investigation.

Saturday, July 22

1:01p.m. – The manager reported that it was discovered that a fake \$100 dollar bill was given to a bartender last night. An incident report was completed, and the matter is under investigation.

Sunday, July 23

2:10 p.m. – A motorist reported a two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries, and the responding officers completed an accident report.

8:54 p.m. – A resident reported that it appears as though someone put something in his mailbox that exploded as the box appears burnt and melted. An officer responded and completed an incident report. The matter is under investigation.

Please see **POLICE**, page 9

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

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PUBLIC NOTICE BAIL COMMISSIONERS NEEDED EASTERN HAMPSHIRE DISTRICT COURT JURISDICTION

The Massachusetts Trial Court hereby gives notice of the availability of one or more Bail Commissioner appointments for the Eastern Hampshire District Court located in Hampshire County.

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PLEASE NOTE: This is an appointment only. No salary or benefits are included but fees may be collected from the person in custody at the time of release. The base fee is \$40.00.

Bail Commissioners are required to have reliable transportation in order to travel to the Eastern Hampshire District Court and the police departments located in Amherst, Belchertown, Granby, Hadley, Pelham, South Hadley and Ware. Proximity to the communities listed and familiarity with criminal law and procedures helpful.

If you are interested in being considered for appointment please contact:

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POLICE



Youth Police Academy wraps up

BELCHERTOWN – The police department’s “Youth Police Academy” has recently wrapped up; on the fifth and final day, recruits learned about “patrol procedures and defensive tactics, including practicing how to handcuff a suspect,” the Belchertown Police Department shared in a statement on social media.

In the afternoon, the Belchertown Fire Department showed the recruits a crash rescue demonstration, and after that, Relentless Towing & Recovery showed how they tow a vehicle after a crash.

“We would like to thank all those youth who participated this week, and thank their parents and guardians for letting us teach and spend the week with your children,” the police department shared. “It was a great time and hopefully they all learned something new about policing.”



PHOTO CREDIT: BELCHERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

POLICE from page 8

Thursday, July 27

1:43 p.m. – A motorist reported a two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries, and the responding officers completed an accident report.

5:55 p.m. – A resident reported that a FedEx truck struck a utility pole causing minor damage. An officer responded and completed an accident report. There were no injuries.

11:37 p.m. – Onstar reported a possible motor vehicle crash on Morgan Street. Granby Police and Fire responded. It was discovered

that a motor vehicle struck a utility pole and rolled over onto its roof. The operator was transported to the hospital with minor injuries. The operator was charged with crossing marked lanes, failure to wear a seatbelt, and operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol.

Chicopee RMV Service Center offering road tests

BOSTON — The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles recently announced that its Service Center located in Chicopee has expanded to offer road tests.

According to a press release, this location will continue to accept dropped-off registration bundles for B2B bulk transactions for insurance agents and car dealerships, including new registration and titles, registration transfers and renewals, address changes, and cancellations.

The RMV is implementing this customer service change to further support its ongoing efforts to prepare for the Work and Family Mobility Act, which took effect on July 1. The RMV has also increased staffing and will be making translation assistance available for customers using a hotline, informational materials, and interpreter services, according to the press statement.

“The Registry of Motor Vehicles continues to strategically prepare for the implementation of the Work and Family Mobility Act and the anticipated customer service demand,” said Registrar of Motor Vehicles Colleen Ogilvie. “The transitioning of this service center to accommodate additional road tests will help provide customers in Western Massachusetts with increased access, dedicated support services and additional opportunities to help secure driving credentials.”

The RMV has created a webpage to help applicants locate all information related to their road test. The webpage includes information on what to expect, videos to help prepare for the road test, links to checklists and applications to increase applicants’ chances of passing their exams. For more information, visit mass.gov/guides/road-test-information.

River East gets surprise donation from MSB

MONSON – As part of a pursuit to support local students, Monson Savings Bank has supported River East School-to-Career, a non-profit that aims to promote career education and assist in preparing youth for the “demands of the 21st century workplace,” since 2005.

The River East School-to-Career Partnership brings together schools, businesses, and organizations to create exciting career exploration opportunities for students, and Monson Savings has supported this mission by offering internship opportunities, scholarship sponsorships, Board participation, financial support, and participation in Career Readiness programs, according to a press statement.

Monson Savings VP and HR Officer Dodie Carpentier has served on the River East Board of Directors since 2014. She is a current member of the Executive Committee and Scholarship Committee and served as President from July 2020 to 2022.

“Working with River East School-to-Career has been so

rewarding,” Carpentier said. “The Bank has hosted several interns over the years. I am continuously so impressed by their hard work and dedication. I am always so happy to see the confidence and knowledge these students gain from the hands-on experience they receive during an internship. Career readiness is a priceless addition to the education they receive at our local schools, and I am proud that Monson Savings has been able to support that through River East.”

Throughout its 18-year partnership with River East, Monson Savings has hosted student interns from Monson High, Minnechaug, Pathfinder Tech, and Ware High School. The bank’s Accounting, Commercial Loans, and Residential Loans departments, as well as the Ware Branch, have participated in developing local high school interns, the press statement reads.

In addition to hosting interns, numerous Monson Savings Bank managers and officers have conducted mock job

Please see **RIVER EAST**, page 10

OPPORTUNITY

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Death Notice

Brighenti (Gibbs), Laurina H.
Died July 26, 2023
Funeral August 7, 2023

Barszcz, David M.
Died July 24, 2023
Funeral August 2, 2023

The Sentinel
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

OBITUARIES

David M. Barszcz



BELCHERTOWN - David M. Barszcz, 70, passed away unexpectedly on July 24, 2023, of cardiac arrest after a heroic battle with esophageal cancer. Born in Ludlow on August 5, 1952, he was the son of Edward W. and Alfreda (Gawron) Barszcz. Dave grew up in Ludlow and lived in Northern Virginia where he honorably served in the U.S. Marine Corps, stationed at Marine Corps Headquarters in Washington, D.C. In 1978, Dave and his wife, Nancy, moved to Belchertown where they raised their two daughters and made their home.

Dave was a commercial banker for 38 years and loved being a part of his community. Among the many organizations that he was involved with, he was most proud of his time serving as President of the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Exalted Ruler of the Elks Club, and Corporator of the Ludlow Boys and Girls Club. As president of the Calvin Coolidge Commemorative Society, he was honored to present President Ronald Reagan with an award in 1990.

A family man, Dave took so much joy in being with his wife, children, and grandchildren. He was especially excited the day he became a Dziadziu. On any average day, you might find Dave on the golf course, working in his vegetable garden, or cooking in his kitchen, always experimenting with different recipes. Nothing brought him more joy than to cook for those he loved, his specialties being homemade pierogis and chicken fran-

aise, as well as anything to come from the grill or smoker. To say he was an avid Patriots fan is an understatement—he never missed a game. His love of classic rock and spending time with friends was such a big part of what made him happy.

He will be remembered as a hard-working man who supported his family and loved those closest to him.

His love will forever remain with his family: his wife of 49 years, Nancy (Hoy) Barszcz, as well as their two daughters, Katie Chudy and her husband Richard of Waltham, and Beth Lavallee and her husband Matthew of Belchertown, as well as his two grandchildren, Benjamin and Madeline. He will also be missed by his brother, Robert Barszcz and his wife, Carol, also of Belchertown, along with several nieces and nephews. Besides his parents, Dave was predeceased by his brother, Daniel.

Visitation was Tuesday, August 1, from 4-7 p.m. at the Beers & Story Belchertown Funeral Home. A funeral service was held on Wednesday, August 2, at 11 a.m. at St. Francis Church. Military honors and rites of committal did take place at 1 p.m. at the MA Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Agawam. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in his memory to Dana Farber Cancer Institute for Research.

Please visit www.beersandstory.com.



Laurina H. (Gibbs) Brighenti

BELCHERTOWN - Laurina H. (Gibbs) Brighenti, 89, passed away on July 26, 2023, after an extended illness, during which time she received loving care from her family.

She was born in Athol on December 21, 1933, to Robert and Beatrice Gibbs. Laurina was predeceased by her beloved husband of 62 years, Albert, as well as by her daughter, Nancy Kwiatkowski, and sister Regina Canning.

Laurina was raised in Athol, graduating from Athol High School in 1951 and working as a telephone operator before marrying her close neighbor, Albert, in 1952. Laurina and Albert moved to Belchertown in 1958 where they raised their children and were active members of their community and St. Francis Parish.

Laurina and Albert raised blueberries, chrysanthemums, and evergreens at their home, serving local farm stands, and together owned a quality fly-tying material business that supplied anglers worldwide. She worked at home for Universal Vice for many years, and enjoyed spending time with family and friends camping on the Battenkill River in Arlington, Vermont.

Hosting large Sunday family dinners with extended family was a great joy to her, and guests to her home would always find a homemade baked good on her counter. After caring for her husband in his later years, she became an active member of the Belchertown Senior Center, where she reconnected with friends, made new ones, and enjoyed her

time with the "Lunch Bunch." Laurina was known for being a sharp dresser and a shrewd rummy card player.

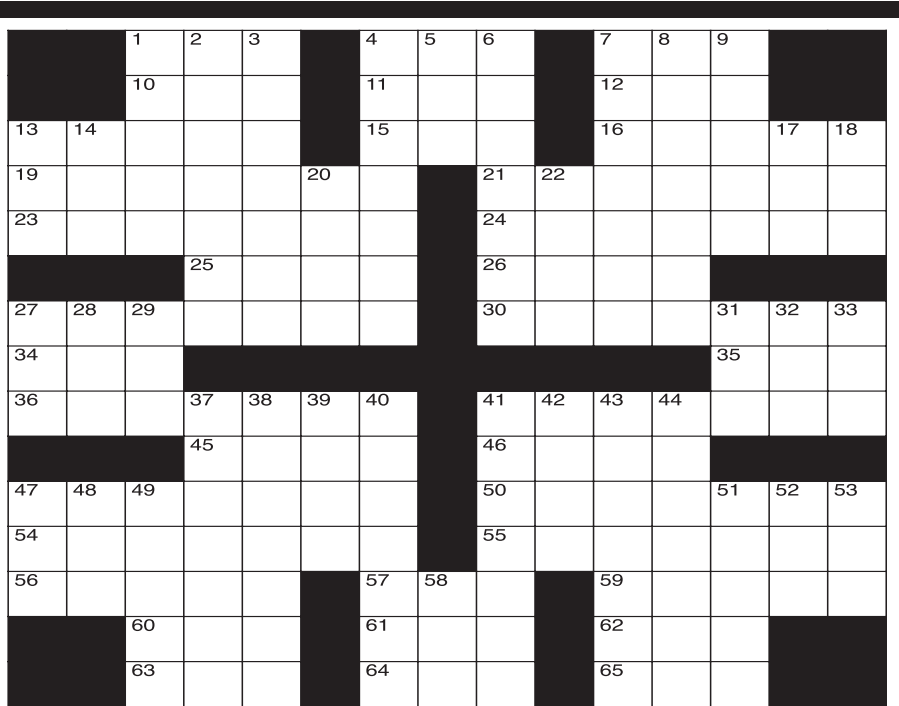
Laurina will be dearly missed by her devoted family; son Albert Brighenti and his wife Susan, daughter Marie Budness and her husband James, all of Belchertown, and daughter Susan Reynolds and

her husband Scott of Concord, New Hampshire, as well as her son-in-law Paul Kwiatkowski. She also leaves behind her dear grandchildren, Matthew Kwiatkowski, Anthony and Morgan Brighenti, Lauren and Marcley Duarte, Michael and Suzie Budness, Catherine, Alex, and Nicholas Reynolds, and great-grandchildren Brayden, Alexa and Caleb Duarte, and Nolan Brighenti, all a delight to her.

She is also survived by her beloved brother Roy Gibbs and his wife Kathy, sister Linda Cole (Gary), along with many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be from 4-7 p.m. on Sunday, August 6, 2023, at Beers & Story Funeral Home in Belchertown. Family and friends may gather at the funeral home on Monday, August 7, at 9 a.m. for a procession to St. Francis Church for a Funeral Mass at 10 a.m. with burial immediately following at South Cemetery. Donations may be made to the Belchertown Senior Center at 60 State Street, Belchertown, or the Cooley Dickinson VNA and Hospice at 168 Industrial Drive, Northampton.

Please visit www.beersandstory.com for more information.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Indicates tire pressure
- 4. Request
- 7. Clairvoyance
- 10. 007's creator
- 11. Adult male
- 12. Scandinavian god of battle
- 13. Cloths spread on a coffin
- 15. Breeze through
- 16. Ladyfish genus
- 19. It's good to take them
- 21. Noble-governed territory
- 23. Members of U.S. Navy
- 24. Card game resembling rummy
- 25. Affected by injury
- 26. Member of a Semitic people
- 27. Left
- 30. Woman's cloak

- 34. S. American plant
- 35. Prohibit
- 36. Offense
- 41. Dish soap brand
- 45. Ottoman military commanders
- 46. Ancient Greek City
- 47. Makes unhappy
- 50. Discuss again
- 54. Medical instrument
- 55. Promote
- 56. A beloved carb
- 57. Tag the base runner to get him out
- 59. Prehistoric people
- 60. Large African antelope
- 61. Vehicle
- 62. Georgia rockers
- 63. Scientific instrument (abbr.)
- 64. A major division of geological time
- 65. Attempt

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Plant of the nettle family
- 2. Fit to be sold
- 3. Rather
- 4. Collected
- 5. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
- 6. Patella
- 7. Ageless
- 8. Lists of course requirements
- 9. Pokes at
- 13. TV network
- 14. They ___
- 17. Cooking hardware
- 18. U.S. Army title
- 20. Iron-containing compound
- 22. Swiss river (alt. spelling)
- 27. Former French coin
- 28. Electronic countermeasures
- 29. Taxi

- 31. Helps little firms
- 32. Woeful
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Glowing
- 38. Tasks which should be done
- 39. An informal body of friends
- 40. Intrinsic nature
- 41. Neural structures
- 42. Brews
- 43. Where ships unload cargo
- 44. Singer
- 47. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 48. Southwest Scotland town
- 49. Most worthless parts
- 51. Viscous
- 52. Put to work
- 53. Old world, new
- 58. Swiss river

CRASH from page 1

plete a safe drivers course, and perform 100 hours of community service. Assistant District Attorney Andrew Covington and Springfield defense lawyer Charles Dolan jointly recommended the sentence to Cafaro, according to reports; Covington informed Judge Cafaro that Robbins' family agreed with the joint sentencing recommendation. Four of Robbins' family members spoke in court about the impact his death has had on their lives.

"These are amongst the most difficult cases to craft a fair sentence. Mr. Saykin's split-second, poor decision cost Mr. Robbins his life and his passenger to suffer serious injuries," said ADA Covington. "The Commonwealth appreciates Mr. Saykin's willingness to accept responsibility for his actions."

ADA Covington also thanked the victim's family for their perseverance through the lengthy investigation and prosecution, and the State Police for their thorough work on the case.

HOLY COW from page 6

highest mountain they can find." And she didn't stop walking. She hiked the entire Appalachian Trail a second time two years later, walked all 2,000 miles of the Oregon Train in 1959, and at age 76 she did the Appalachian Trial yet again (though this time in sections), becoming the first person to walk it three times.

She went right on hiking right up until her death in 1973 at 85.

What was the secret to her success? Grandma Gatewood refused to let anything – failure, adversity, or advanced age – stand in her way.

Holy Cow! History is written by novelist, former TV journalist and diehard history buff J. Mark Powell.

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Morgan Litz tries to get around a South Hadley player.



Mattionly Marques sends the free kick away.



Jill DeBarge attempts to make a save.

Teams clinch playoff spots as Valley Wheel season nears close

WILBRAHAM – Sunday’s action in the Valley Wheel Over-28 baseball league got a lot clearer as three teams cemented their spots in the playoffs while the fourth team will be determined by a match-up this week.

The Twins-Angels game held at Bruce Park in Suffield provided the stage for a preview to the playoffs.

The two teams have met in the last two playoff finals. It will not happen this year. Thanks to a complete game from Todd Bergstrom, as well as a two-run single in the ninth inning he also provided, the Twins prevailed over the Angels 6-4.

The game was close throughout, with the Angels and Twins trading leads a few times. Down 4-3 in the eighth, Trevor Portlock, of Wilbraham, drove home a run with a single to make the game 4-4. The Angels, unfortunately, could not bring home the go-head runs, which were at second and third with one out. Bergstrom was able to close the game in the ninth.

With the win, the Angels fell to 8-7 and their regular season is finished. The Twins are 8-6, and had a makeup game scheduled with the Tigers on Wednesday at Spec Pond under the lights. A win gets the Twins to 9-6 and the final playoff

Please see **PLAYOFF**, page 12



Maddie DeCosta winds up for a long kick.

Orioles grab win

BELCHERTOWN – Last week in A Girls summer soccer action, Belchertown defeated South Hadley 2-0. Unfortunately, it was not enough to get Belchertown in the playoffs as they finished 3-7-1 this summer. South Hadley would squeeze in at 4-6-1. These two teams’ varsity squads faced off in the Western Mass. finals last year, with South Hadley getting the win.

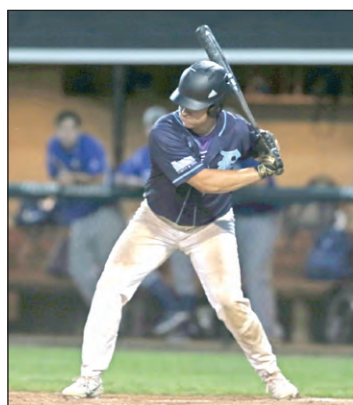


Izzy Moreau goes after the loose ball.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



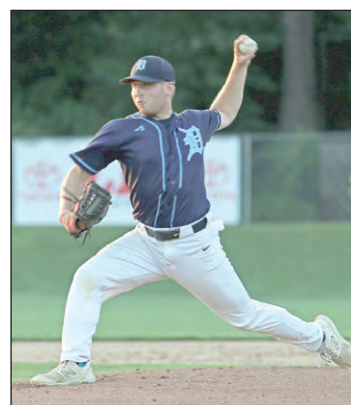
Zach Handzel, of Palmer, pitches for PeoplesBank.



Ryan Hemenway, of Wilbraham sizes up a pitch.



Braeden Lamirande gets an out at first for DiFranco.



Agawam’s Cam Rivest delivers a pitch for DiFranco Realty.



Cam McDonald throw to first.

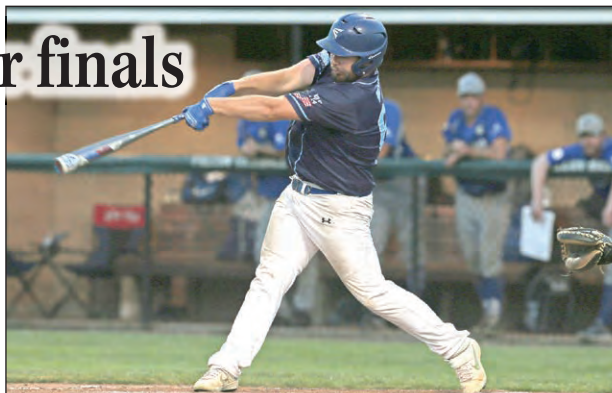
TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Dave Clark fields a grounder for PeoplesBank.

Bankers cash in for finals

WILBRAHAM – Last Friday night, PeoplesBank Tri-County baseball took down DiFranco in the opener of a best-of-three series 17-0 in five innings. The Bankers are the No. 1 seed in the Tri-County League playoffs. They would punch their ticket to the finals the following day when DiFranco forfeited the second game of the series, giving the Bankers the finals berth. The finals were scheduled to begin earlier this week.



Nicholas Wilken, of Ludlow, swings and connects.

SPORTS

West showcased in volleyball

BOSTON – In last month's Bay State Games, the Western part of the state featured a volleyball team. Here is a look at how they fared in some of their matchups held July 8 and 9:

The Central girls team opened up the Girls side of the showcase with strong play from Katy O'Connell (Northborough, Algonquin Reg. HS) and Lily Davidson (Rutland, Wachusett Reg. HS), leading them to a 25-13 first game win. The second game saw more of the same, as the Nault twins Victoria, and Sabrina (Shrewsbury, Shrewsbury HS) also helped power Central to a dominant game one performance, winning the second set 25-12.

Coastal 2, West 0

This match featured an impressive start for the West squad, as they held the lead numerous times thanks to Sasha Fyfe (Dalton, Waconah Reg. HS) and Gabrielle Adams (Greenfield, Frontier Reg. HS). Unfortunately, they were unable to hold the lead, as Coastal stormed back to grab a 25:16 win in the first set, and rolled through the second game as well. Although closer in the end, the Coastal team found success thanks to consistent play from Haley Jenkins (Dartmouth, Dartmouth HS) and Hannah Storm (Swansea, Joseph Case HS).

West 2, Southeast 0

During this match, Southeast

used a 6-point run, along with multiple diving plays to help propel them to a quick 25-15 first-game win. In the second game, West used great efforts from Chloe Schott (Longmeadow, Longmeadow HS) and Gabriella Manes (Feeding Hills, Agawam HS), however it wasn't enough as Zoe Smallman (Weston, Weston HS) and Caroline Gray (Whitman, Whitman-Hanson Reg. HS) continued their good performances on the day, winning the second game 25-21.

The west would play in a challenge game on Sunday, July 9, but did not play in either of the medal games.

T-Birds caravan event moved

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds today announced that the first installment of the T-Birds Community Caravan presented by Dunkin' has been postponed to Saturday, Aug. 12 due to potential inclement weather this weekend. The T-Birds Community Caravan will still make a total of three stops in the Springfield area throughout the summer months:

Saturday, Aug. 12 - Szot Park (Chicopee), 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, Aug. 19 - Amelia Ice Arena (Westfield), 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in conjunction with the T-Birds Street Hockey Tournament

Public skating from 10:50 to 11:50 a.m.

Saturday, Sept. 9 - Forest Park & Cyr Arena (Springfield), 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Each event will feature an appearance from Thunderbirds mascot Boomer and team staff, as well as a wide variety of activities and vendors, including a Dunkin' Taste Truck, street hockey activities, and various food options.

PLAYOFF from page 11

spot. But a loss would make the Twins 8-7 like the Angels, and put the Angels in the playoffs. The Angels hold a 2-1 advantage in their tiebreaker over the Twins this year, winning the first two matchups the teams had.

Elsewhere in the league, the Cubs cemented their playoff spot, winning their ninth game of the season with a 14-12 win over the Orioles. The Orioles would finish 1-14 and out of playoff contention.

The Cubs meet the Athletics on Thursday night with the top seeds on the line.

The Athletics defeated the Tigers on Sunday evening at Spec Pond 9-7. Both teams have already made the playoffs this year, but will look for momentum in their respective games later this week.

The two makeup games were necessitated from rainouts last Thursday night that wiped out all the action about two hours before the games were scheduled.

The playoffs are currently scheduled for this Sunday at Spec Pond with the 2 and 3 seeds playing at 2:30 p.m. and the 1 and 4 seeds playing at 6 p.m.

Belanger, Grenier get first career wins in Monadnock races

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Joel Belanger and Carlos Grenier each scored his first career Monadnock Speedway victory Saturday at the historic high-banked oval.

Belanger won the night-cap 30-lapper in the NHSTRA Modifieds, while Nate Wenzel topped the first open-wheel go-round. Grenier earned his victory lap by holding Colton Martin at bay to win the 50-lap Pure Stock main event. In the NHSTRA Late Models, it was Hillary Renaud scoring her first win of the summer and, in so doing, becoming the fifth different LM victor this year.

Steve Miller Jr. won for the first time this year in the Six Shooters, and Adrian Smith continued to outrun everyone as he dominated en route to his third 2023 Young Guns victory.

Wenzel's win in the first Modified feature came gift-wrapped in the form of a Brian Chapin/Tyler Leary last-lap tangle that saw Wenzel avoid the mess immediately before him as he darted off to victory.

Chapin had taken control on lap three and was probably already making plans for where the night's trophy would later be displayed when he and Leary, up to second on lap 25, jingled in turn two as the checkers awaited them less than a lap away. Wenzel steered clear and blasted to his second win of the summer.

In the nightcap, Belanger held off all challengers to wire the event for his first career victory on the high banks. Geoff Rollins got up for second on lap 15 but, on this night, was no match for the speedy Belanger. Rollins was the night's overall Modified winner, putting together a pair of deuce runs. Aaron Fellows and Scott Zilinski each had a third for their hard night's work.

A field of 21 potent chargers went to war in the night's Pure Stock 50-lapper. Carlos Grenier, starting up front, had seen victory slip away from him in his last outing on the high banks and wasn't about to let it happen again.

He led Dominick Stafford on

laps one and two, with two-time winner Colton Martin then taking over on a restart and riding in Grenier's shadow the rest of the way.

While the lap-two jingle didn't affect the race's outcome, it strongly impacted the mid-season points chase. Multi-time track champ and points titan Chris Davis, along with Zach Phillips and Andrea St. Amour were the big victims in this one, with Davis' early demise dropping him to 20th on the night.

Grenier and Martin fought hard the rest of the way, with Zach Zilinski in close tow until 2022 Claremont champ Chris Chambers claimed third on lap 42. Grenier, third his last time out, prevailed to take a happy victory lap.

Hillary Renaud used her Saturday victory in the NHSTRA Late Models to leapfrog two spots in the points parade into second. She led all the way, with Haydon Grenier – up to second on lap two – strong in his runner-up performance. Points leader and reigning track champ Tim Wenzel used a final-turn blast to snatch third from JD Stockwell.

Steve Miller Jr. took the lead from Jacob Scott on lap three of the Six Shooter feature and never looked back. Scott then had his hands full for much of the race holding off Miller's father, Steve Sr., for second, as Scott, Miller Sr., and Andrew Scott took the checkers nose-to-tail.

Adrian Smith took the lead from Madison Cousino on lap eight of the Young Guns feature and then blasted off to his third win of the summer. Cousino, impressive all night, held strong the rest of the way to earn her first career podium finish in second, while Markus O'Neil came home third.

After a week off, Monadnock Speedway will return to action on Saturday, August 5, when the high-banked speedplant will host another full night of oval track racing featuring 50 Lap Mini Stock Challenge.

Blue Sox win the West, playoffs begin

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox are the 2023 NECBL West Division Champions. In their final game of the regular season, the Blue Sox defeated the Keene Swamp Bats 8-7, to finish 23-18-2 on the season.

In a game that saw 23 hits and four different position players on the mound, the Blue Sox scored runs in four different innings.

Brendan Yagesh started the game for the Blue Sox, pitching two innings while allowing four runs with three strikeouts.

Keene got on the board first in the top of the second inning, following three RBI singles and a wild pitch to put the Swamp Bats up 4-0 early.

Valley rallied back to quickly take the lead back in the bottom of the second inning, batting around their entire lineup. Conor Kiely hit an RBI single to score EJ Kreutzmann in his first at-bat of the season. Zach Ketterman hit an RBI single to score Michael Zarrillo.

Will Gale walked with the bases loaded, AJ Guerrero hit an RBI single, then EJ Kreutzmann was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded, to allow the Blue Sox to take the lead 5-4.

Kurt Thomas took over for Yagesh in the top of the third, pitching two innings while allowing one run.

Keene tied the game at five after Bryan Padillia was hit by a pitch with the bases loaded.

Valley took the lead back in the bottom of the fourth after Michael Zarrillo walked with the bases loaded to put the team ahead 6-5.

Third Baseman Zach

Ketterman made his first appearance on the mound this season, taking over for Thomas in the top of the fifth inning. The right-hander pitched two innings with three strikeouts, allowing one run.

The Swamp Bats tied the game at six following an RBI single in the top of the fifth, but Valley quickly took the lead back in the bottom of the inning after Guerrero hit an RBI groundout.

Center Fielder Will Gale also made his first appearance on the mound this season, taking over for Ketterman in the top of the seventh inning. The speedy outfielder pitched one inning, allowing one run and striking out one batter.

The Swamp Bats tied the game at seven in the top of the seventh inning after an RBI single.

CJ Willis, a position player who has made four different appearances on the mound this season, once again saw himself on the mound after relieving Gale in the top of the eighth inning. Willis pitched two scoreless innings to earn himself his second win of the season.

The Blue Sox took the lead in the bottom of the eighth after 2023 All-Star EJ Kreutzmann hit an RBI single to score Collier Cranford.

Willis pitched a clean ninth inning to secure the victory and division title for the Blue Sox.

With the NECBL Playoffs beginning Monday night, the Blue Sox remained at home to host their division rival Bristol Blues in the first game of a best-of-three-game series.

BANK ESB from page 7

access, safety and innovation, the press statement reads. This matching grant affords parents, families, and community members the opportunity to purchase a seat or row in the new stands that would receive a named plaque, with BankESB matching donations dollar for dollar up to \$25,000.

"What an amazing opportunity for student-athletes to have a facility like this to use year-round to help unlock their full potential," Sosik said.

RIVER EAST from page 9

interviews with students in the Career Readiness programs at Monson High and Minnechaug for more than 10 years. This year, Monson Savings has also dedicated approximately \$25,000 for scholarships to local high school students.

At this year's River East School-to-Career Annual Recognition Breakfast, it was announced that Monson Savings would receive the Business Champion Award for all the support it offered to the local non-profit.

"We are so thankful for the partnership we have with Monson Savings Bank," said Amy Scribner, River East School-to-Career director. "So many doors have been opened for students because of the

"BankESB is proud to stand with our community in Amherst, and we look forward to breaking ground on such an impactful project."

Organizations and community members contributing to the Amherst TURF Project can double the impact of their donations through this matching grant. Contributions may be sent to the Amherst Hurricanes Boosters office at 141 No. Pleasant Street, P.O. Box 758, Amherst, MA 01002, or made on the organization's website at hurricaneboosters.com.

Bank's support of our organization."

During the breakfast ceremony, Monson Savings President and CEO Dan Moriarty made a surprise announcement—the Bank would be donating an additional \$10,000 to River East School-to-Career.

"Being a champion means making the right decision, at the right time, for the right reason. We recognize the value of the programs and opportunities offered through River East School-to-Career and this surprise announcement felt right," Moriarty said. "Today's students are tomorrow's employees and leaders. Thank you to the Career Facilitators, RESTC Board, and Amy Scribner for their dedication to preparing our students to enter the workforce."

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Remembering Mike Dymon

Family and friends honor Quabbin educator and coach

BY PAULA OUIMETTE
pouimette@turley.com

BARRE – Family, friends and former high school students and athletes came together recently to remember a man whose drive and determination forever shaped their lives.

Joseph Michael “Mike” Dymon of Amherst, a longtime educator, athletic director and coach at Quabbin Regional High School, died on May 23 at the age of 84.

Born in Ware in 1939, Dymon attend Barre High School, earning the title of Most Valuable Player for basketball and baseball. He went on to earn degrees from Boston University before taking his first teaching job at East Corinth Academy in Maine.

In the mid-1960s, Dymon became athletic director for Wilmington High School in Vermont, as well as coach of the basketball and baseball teams. His baseball team won the first and only state championship ever won by Wilmington High School.

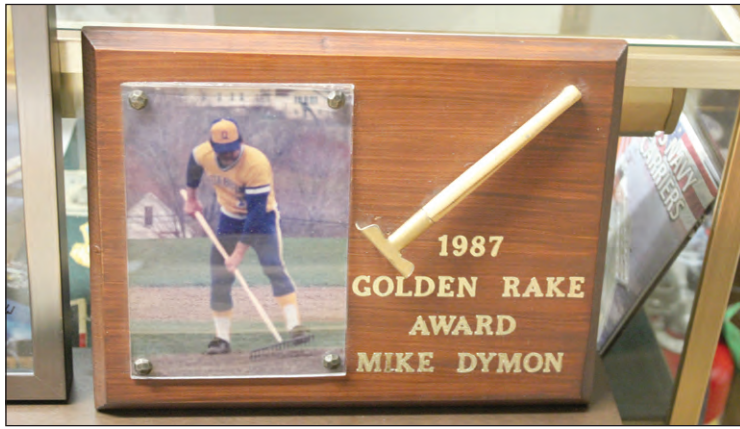
Dymon then returned to Barre to dedicate the rest of his career to the students and athletes at the newly created Quabbin Regional High School, where he stayed from 1967 until his retirement in 1994.

Dymon was inducted into the Massachusetts Baseball Coaches Hall of Fame in 1988 and the Quabbin Athletic Hall of Fame in 2006.

Baseball was Dymon’s top sport, his daughter Rachel said, and she remembered attending games as a child.

“My grandfather used to change the scoreboard during the games,” she said. “Every so often I’d get to change the numbers.”

A petition was signed by at least 26 people in attendance at



Mike Dymon’s cherished Golden Rake Award. Dymon was known to bring a rake and shovel to all baseball games.

the remembrance held at Barre Post 2 American Legion recently, seeking to dedicate Quabbin’s baseball field in Dymon’s memory.

“I grew up on baseball,” Rachel said. “It’s really so meaningful.”

While many remember Dymon for being an inspiring coach, his role as a husband, father and grandfather is where he truly set records.

“He made my childhood magical,” Rachel said. “He just had an enthusiasm for everything he did...I’m really going to miss him.”

Fellow Quabbin coach and educator Dennis Dextradeur acted as master of ceremonies at the remembrance, listing Dymon’s many impressive accomplishments.

One of the most significant being leading the 1972-1973 basketball team to an undefeated Wachusett League championship.

Although Dextradeur didn’t play on Dymon’s championship team, he went on to coach varsity basketball and led his own team to victory 22 years later.

“That meant a lot to me and to Mike, it made a major impact on my coaching career,” Dextradeur said.

Dextradeur first met Dymon in 1981, when he was 22 years old

and just out of college.

Dextradeur was surprised when Quabbin’s administrators named him as varsity coach at the start of his career, with Dymon as the junior varsity coach. But years later he realized it was so Dymon could continue to mentor him, while letting him get a handle on coaching.

“They knew I would stumble in that position, but Mike Dymon wouldn’t let me fall,” he said. “I always think of that when I work with younger coaches...don’t let them fall.”

Still coaching after more than 40 years, Dextradeur credits Dymon for his fulfilling career.

“I had one of the most rewarding experiences working under Mike,” he said. “It’s a debt of gratitude.”

Several former athletes that Dymon coached traveled from across the country to share their memories, including Cliff Duncan, an alumnus of Wilmington High School.

“Mike had a gift that transcended...he was a boundless man of energy,” Duncan said.

Duncan said Dymon had the ability to look at each athlete as an individual, offering them the personalized support they needed to succeed.

“He would push you out of



Rachel Dymon said her father made her childhood “magical.”



Rayne shared his favorite memories of his grandfather with the help of Dennis Dextradeur.

your comfort zone...he read you like a map,” he said.

Dymon would also find ways to get things his students needed, including new glass backboards to replace the school’s old tin ones.

Duncan said the school’s principal said the backboards could only be replaced over his “dead body,” but Dymon found a loophole when the principal was admitted to the hospital and out of the school for a period of time. Through fundraising and his own money, Dymon replaced those backboards.

Like Dextradeur, Duncan also went on to become a coach.

“It made me realize that this is important,” Duncan said. “Mike always said, ‘baseball emulates life more than any other sport.’”

Dennis “The Bear” Davis said he injured his knee going into his senior year of high school, and his doctor recommended surgery.

This would have ended his career, but Dymon pushed for a second opinion. It turned out that the injury was just a sprain and Davis was able to return to the court to play his final year of high school basketball.

He went on to become the first Quabbin Regional High School student to score 1,000 points.

Davis thanked Rachel and her mother Ute for supporting



Mike Richard shared memories of his coach and colleague.

Dymon’s coaching career.

“Thank you for sharing Mike over all these years,” Davis said.

Olen Muir remembered how Dymon would bring rakes and shovels to all baseball games, even earning the “Golden Rake” award.

Muir and Dymon were both catchers, and would spend many car rides just talking baseball.

“He loved to teach baseball,” Muir said of his coach.

Al Gray remembers the “grueling” conditioning Dymon put his athletes through, and how it was all worth it.

Please see **DYMON**, page 15



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WANTED

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy **(860)874-8396**

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

DUPLEX APT. 2 br., 2 ba., full basement, washer/dryer hookups. No pets. Town St., Ware. **413-283-9575**

GREEN STREET, PALMER Newly renovated 1 bedroom apt. porch, off-street parking, coin-op laundry, \$1,100/mo includes heat. No Pets. Call Tom **413-896-1555**

Classified Advertising DEADLINES

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HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

Find archives of this local newspaper at **www.newspapers.turley.com**

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – **FRIDAY AT NOON**
HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00

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Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Belchertown Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the authority of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, its Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) and the Belchertown Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Chapter 139), the Belchertown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Lawrence Memorial Hall Auditorium, located at 2 Jabish Street in Belchertown, MA 01007** to review a **Request for Determination of Applicability** permit application submitted by Wendell Wetland Services for the **confirmation of jurisdiction regarding an isolated wetland in a right-of-way located between 252 and 256 North Liberty Street (Assessor's Map 268-34) in Belchertown.** No work is proposed under this application. Anyone interested in this matter should appear at the time and place designated. 08/03/2023

Belchertown Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the authority of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, its Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) and the Belchertown Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Chapter 139), the Belchertown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Lawrence Memorial Hall Auditorium,**

located at **2 Jabish Street in Belchertown, MA 01007** to review a **Notice of Intent** for an Ecological Restoration Project permit application submitted by Fuss & O'Neill for the **proposed replacement of an undersized culvert with a bridge that will meet the MA Stream Crossing Standards on Gulf Road (Assessor's Map 206-13, 14) in Belchertown.** Work is proposed to occur within Bank, Land Under Waterbodies and Waterways, Bordering Land Subject to Flooding, and Riverfront Area to Scarborough brook, a coldwater fisheries stream. Anyone interested in this matter should appear at the time and place designated. 08/03/2023

Public Hearing Special Permit Legal Notice Belchertown Planning Board

In accordance with the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, Sections 9 and 11, the Planning Board will hold a public hearing to discuss a special permit application for an accessory apartment by Orin and Mary Ellen O'Reilly-Bracey for 110 Munsell St., Map 214, Lot 10, Belchertown, MA.

A public hearing will be held as follows:

Place: Belchertown Town Hall, 2 Jabish St., Belchertown, MA

Date: August 22, 2023

Time: 7:20 PM

Remote access information:

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet

or smartphone. <https://meet.goto.com/173538941>

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The application is available for inspection during regular business hours at the Town Clerk and Planning Board office, 2 Jabish Street.

Daniel Beaudette
Chair, Planning Board
08/03, 08/10/2023

Belchertown Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the authority of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, its Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) and the Belchertown Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Chapter 139), the Belchertown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Lawrence Memorial Hall Auditorium, located at 2 Jabish Street in Belchertown, MA 01007** to review a **Request for Determination of Applicability** permit application submitted by POWER Engineers c/o National Grid for the **proposed subsurface geotechnical inves-**

tigations in support of maintenance an improvement to the existing 301 Transmission Line right-of-way (Assessor's Map 280-2, 280-3, 280-47, 281-8) in Belchertown. Work is proposed to occur within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and their 100-foot Buffer Zone. Anyone interested in this matter should appear at the time and place designated. 08/03/2023

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of August 18, 2023 at 12 p.m. the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:
Vehicle: 2004 Ford F150
Vin #: 1FTPX04564KB27023
Color: Red
LKO: Lucas Merrill
Address: 274 Gates Street
Palmer, MA 01069

Relentless Towing
Belchertown, MA
413-530-3804
08/03, 08/10, 08/17/2023

Belchertown Conservation Commission LEGAL NOTICE

Pursuant to the authority of the Wetlands Protection Act (M.G.L. Ch. 131, Sec. 40, its Regulations (310 CMR 10.00) and the Belchertown Wetlands Protection Bylaw (Chapter 139), the Belchertown Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Monday, August 14, 2023 at 7:00 PM in the Lawrence Memorial Hall Auditorium, located at 2 Jabish Street in Belchertown, MA**

01007 to review a **Request for Determination of Applicability** permit application submitted by Sherman & Frydryk for the **proposed construction of a single family home and associated facilities at Lot H Woodland Lane (Assessor's Map 267-25.06) in Belchertown.** Work is proposed to occur within the 100-foot Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands. Anyone interested in this matter should appear at the time and place designated. 08/03/2023

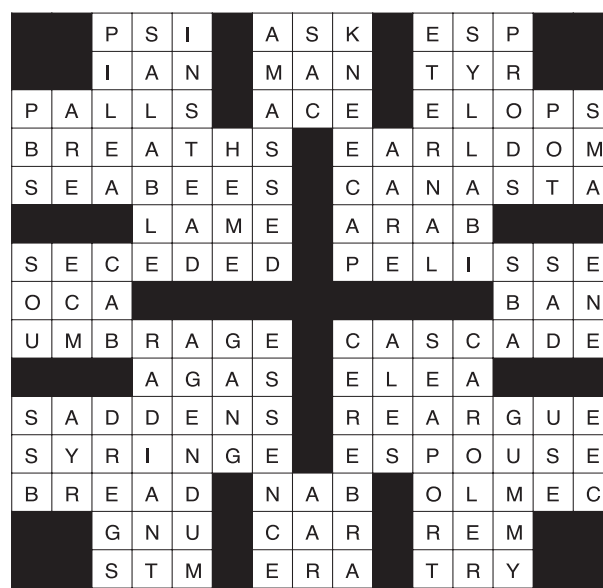
Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 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



DYMON from page 13

Gray kept in touch with Dymon, who always wanted to know how he and his family were doing.

"I was one of hundreds of players that he had, and he took the time," Gray said.

Mike Richard said Dymon's memory was "incredible," and he could remember any stats. However, he was not so good at remembering first

names of his female colleagues and would often refer to them as "Missy."

"The only women in his life were Ute and Rachel," Richard said.

Tommy Gareau talked about a faster-than-expected drive to Groton for a game with Dymon, joking that he must have dreamed of being a NASCAR driver outside of coaching. During this time, he "met the man," not just the coach or teacher.

In addition to being a coach, Dymon was also an avid outdoors-

man, hiking parts of the Appalachian Trail with his daughter and traveling the world with his wife Ute.

"Mike's unwavering passion for athletics and the great outdoors was infectious," Dextrateur said.

Dymon's family asked that donations be made in his memory to the Quabbin Alumni Field Press Box Fund, c/o Quabbin Regional School District, 872 South St., Barre, MA 01005.

BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY

AUTO BODY

REECE AUTO BODY Complete Auto Body, Paint & Repair" auto glass, computerized paint matching, also routine car maintenance. Free estimates. Old Springfield Road, Belchertown. 413-323-6664.

HAIRDRESSER

COUNTRY STYLIST, 171 Federal St., Belchertown. 413-323-6012. Great cuts for men and women. A full service hair salon. Open Tue-Sat., evening hours available.

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ALIX & SONS COMPUTER CENTER. PC/Macs, Laptops, Screen Repairs. New Computer Sales and Accessories, PC Diagnostic Repairs and Upgrades, On Site Work, Home or Office. 40 Daniel Shays Highway. 413-323-1122. John Alix, Owner.

INSURANCE

BELL & HUDSON INSURANCE AGENCY INC., 19 North Main St., Belchertown, MA 01007. Tel. 413-323-9611, 800-894-9591. Fax 413-323-6117. Home, auto, life, commercial, group health.

PLUMBING SERVICES

D.F. PLUMBING & MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS are now offering plumbing services to Belchertown and surrounding town. Scheduling appointments Monday-Friday, 8 am to 4pm. Call 413-323-9966.

WELDING

AMHERST WELDING, INC. Snow plows, sanders, sales & service, hydraulic hoses & repairs, trailer hitches, trailer repairs, welding, fabrication, lawnmower repairs. 330 Harkness Road, Amherst 413-253-4867.

TO ADVERTISE ON THE BUSINESS & SERVICE DIRECTORY PLEASE CALL 283-8393

Senior dogs fetch grant funding



COURTESY PHOTO, SECOND CHANCE ANIMAL SERVICES Senior pup, Charlie Brown, and his owner

REGION - Senior dogs have something to wag about this summer, as The Grey Muzzle Organization has announced the recipients of its annual grants, and dogs at one area animal organization are among the award winners.

Second Chance Animal Services Community Veterinary Hospitals, which has locations in North Brookfield, Southbridge, Springfield, and Worcester, is one of 90 animal welfare groups chosen from 370 applicants to receive this grant to help local senior dogs. Together the winning groups received a total of \$848,000 in funding to help save or improve the lives of at-risk old dogs in their communities, according to a press statement.

"This grant will help us give senior dogs like 16-year-old Charlie Brown the veterinary care they need," said Lindsay Doray, Second Chance's Chief Development Officer. "No one is more grateful or loving than an old dog, and we're looking forward to helping more senior dogs get the second chance they all deserve."

Over the past 15 years, the national nonprofit Grey Muzzle Organization has provided more than \$4.6 million in grants to support its vision of "a world where no old dog dies alone and afraid."

"Thanks to the generosity of our donors, we're delighted to help deserving organizations like Second Chance make a difference in the lives of dogs and people in their communities," said Grey Muzzle's Executive Director Lisa Lunghofer. "Many senior dogs in Massachusetts are enjoying their golden years in loving homes thanks to the wonderful work of Second Chance."

Evening of magic Aug. 19 at PAC Club

LUDLOW — Prepare to be spellbound as three world-class magicians join local magicians for an unforgettable evening of enchantment at 6:30 p.m. Aug. 19 in the Polish American Citizens Club.

Magic in the Valley will showcase the remarkable talents of internationally renowned Chris Capehart, Jimmy C. and Bill Wisch and local conjurers Rich Gilbert, Bob Hale, Deanna Congo and Jake Dufour. This extraordinary event promises to captivate audiences of all ages with their mind-boggling illusions, comedic performances, and awe-inspiring tricks.

Witness the impossible, laugh until your sides ache and be amazed as these world-class magicians take you on an extraordinary journey that will leave you breathless and wanting more. Magic in the Valley promises an evening of family-friendly entertainment, making it the perfect event for individuals of all ages.

The Magicians

Chris Capehart is known around the world for his award-winning magic and charismatic stage presence, and has been captivating audiences for over four decades. With his expertly crafted routines and interactive performances, Capehart is renowned as one of the most skillful magicians of our time.

Jimmy C., a master of comedy magic, combines quick wit, impeccable timing, and astonishing prestidigitation to create an experience like no other. With his hilarious antics

and mind-blowing tricks, Jimmy C is guaranteed to leave audiences in fits of laughter while scratching their heads in disbelief. A consummate entertainer, Jimmy was the master of ceremonies for the Valley Conjurers' 100th Anniversary show last year.

Bill Wisch is a distinguished sleight of hand artist in the tradition of Slydini, one of the greatest magicians of the 20th century. In fact, he is the only magician specifically endorsed to perform and teach Slydini's tricks. Bill has since performed thousands of shows for parties, graduations, and corporations and lectured over 600 times all over the United States and Canada. He performs regularly in the New York/New Jersey Tri-State area.

Bob Hale, a beloved, regional performer of the highest caliber, has been providing magical entertainment for over 50 years for a variety of audiences. From the Mohegan Sun: Casino and Resort to kids' parties to the Valley Conjurers 100th Anniversary show, Bob is a consummate entertainer. Children and adults alike have been spellbound by his performances, making him a sought-after entertainer for all ages.

Rich Gilbert has been performing at parties, banquets, and special occasions for over 30 years. As well as performing, Rich is an inveterate student of magic and attends magic conventions across the country. He has held numerous offices in the Assembly 17 of the Society of American magicians. Always a crowd-pleaser, Rich is well-known

across the Valley.

DC Magic Girl (Deanna Congo) has been performing magic for 20 years. She became interested in magic as an acting student in New York when she followed a rabbit down the hall of her apartment building to a clown magician who set her on the path to magic. She has performed in New York, performed in LA, and Texas.

Jacob Dufour was 7 years-old and watching Breaking the Magician's Code when he was bitten by the magic bug. As chance would have it, he was attending a show by the Valley Conjurers and joined the group. He's been practicing magic for eight years and prefers stage illusions with an emphasis on comedy and danger. He and his assistant Sam met at Demented FX, New England's premiere haunted attraction.

Magic in the Valley is a production of the Valley Conjurers, the local affiliate of Society of the American Magicians.

General admission is \$30 for adults and \$15 for children 12 and under, offering exceptional value for an evening of top-tier entertainment. Don't miss this opportunity to be part of a magical experience that will leave you with memories to cherish forever.

Tickets for Magic in the Valley are available now from Tom Gentile by emailing tdgmagic@gmail.com or by calling 413-533-7653 for more details, reservations, tickets and will call.

Devine Overhead Doors

There's nothing better than dealing with someone who truly loves his job. Gerry Devine of Devine Overhead Doors certainly does. Talk with him and you'll agree.

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