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Selectboard discusses master plan update

BY MELINA BOURDEAU
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – Following a presentation from the Town Planner in August, the Selectboard discussed updating the Master Plan.

Selectboard member Jen Turner said she wanted the item on the agenda so the board would revisit the topic with Selectboard Chair Ed Boscher, who wasn't present when the presentation occurred.

"My thoughts are, look at the plan in its different sections," Turner said. "Review them and make some notes to yourself about what you think about the implementation pieces, and we come together to pull together what we view as priorities as a board."

Town Administrator Steve Williams said doing that would be a "multi-meeting process."

"We can try to get some sort of format about how we're going to list those priorities," he said. "The problem is a lot of these documents are outdated so these priorities might be completed, or they may not

Please see **UPDATE**, page 2

Resident celebrates 100th birthday



Rolland Rodier, center, recently celebrated his 100th birthday.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

'The sweetest, kindest, most respectful man'

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
sentinel@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – Resident Rolland Rodier has recently celebrated his 100th birthday.

A celebration event was held for Rolland on Sept. 8 at Christopher Heights in Belchertown. According to a press statement, Rolland was born on Sept. 8, 1923.

"He loves to play Domino's, so Christopher Heights decided to have a black and white theme for his party," a spokesperson with Christopher Heights released. "It was well-attended by all of his friends, family, and staff at Christopher Heights."

Rolland's daughters, Denise Londrville and Claire Bigos, attended; Deacon John Murphy of Saint Francis of Assisi in Belchertown started the festivities by giving a birthday blessing, according to the press statement.

"State Representative Aaron Saunders stopped by to congratulate Rolland on his 100th birthday and to give him a Citation by the House," the spokesperson said, adding that Rolland was also given a citation from the Senate's Office from State Senator Jake Oliveira.

"Laura Hicks read his biography of his life so far and sang beautiful songs for him. It was a beautiful and memorable event for him and his family."

Please see **BIRTHDAY**, page 2

Granby veteran, Purple Heart recipient to be honored

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
sentinel@turley.com

GRANBY – Resident James J. Bouchard, a Vietnam veteran and Purple Heart recipient, has been selected to receive "the experience of a lifetime" honoring his military service.

"The 2023 Purple Heart Patriot Project, part of the National Purple Heart Honor Mission, has named James Bouchard of Granby its honoree representing Massachusetts," a press statement reads.

A Vietnam veteran and former U.S. Navy combat corpsman assigned to the Marine Corps, Bouchard, a Purple Heart recipient, will join other awardees from every state for a week-

long tribute tour in New York to honor of their service and sacrifice.

The program, according to a press statement, will provide an all-expenses-paid trip to New York with tours of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, the historic Washington Headquarters, and a special tour of the National Purple Heart Hall of Honor. Bouchard and his wife, Susan, will also be given private tours in New York City of the Statute of Liberty, the Vietnam Veterans Plaza, and the National September 11 Memorial & Museum.

"Project organizers selected Bouchard, a Maine native,

Please see **VETERAN**, page 8

Police dept. welcomes 'comfort dog' to its ranks

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
sentinel@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – The police department has recently announced its newest member—Comfort Dog Oliver.

Oliver is an eight-week-old Labrador retriever who recently began training and working with his handler, Officer Valerie Austin, according to a statement on social media penned by the department.

"We would like to thank everyone who helped us get the Comfort Dog Program up and running," police said, adding that Boonefield Labradors offered "support and donation" of Oliver.

"Well, I had my first day on the job," Comfort Dog Oliver's official Facebook page shared on behalf of the pup. "It was a lot of work so I am resting up for tomorrow. I had a lot of company everyone wants to see me."



COURTESY PHOTO, BELCHERTOWN POLICE DEPARTMENT

The town's police department has announced its newest member, Comfort Dog Oliver.

For more information and news on Oliver, members of the community can visit his Facebook page, titled: Oliver Belchertown Police Department Comfort Dog.

In other news, the Belchertown Police Department is hosting its pickleball tournament fundraiser on Sept. 30.

"We still have some open slots for anyone wishing to take part in the tournament," police said.



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Residents to participate in Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
sentinel@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – Six residents will participate in October’s Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk.

Belchertown’s Ann Royce, Sandra Wilk, Andy Fulmer, Julia Cady, David Hulmes, and Rick Royce, along with thousands of other walkers, will be in Boston on Oct. 1 for this “iconic annual event that will unite the community to raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and cancer research at the nation’s premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute,” a press statement reads.

“The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 34-year history, raising a record-breaking more than \$8.8 million in 2022,” according to the media release.

“Throughout the past 34 years, the Jimmy Fund Walk has continuously supported life-saving research and cancer care at Dana-Farber. The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund’s 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer,” said Zack Blackburn, Director of the Jimmy Fund Walk. “This year also marks the 35th annual Jimmy Fund Walk. We are eager to get out on the

course and see all our outstanding walkers and teams come together to support this great cause.”

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk “permitted on the famed Boston Marathon course,” and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: a 5K walk (from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute’s Longwood Medical Campus), a 10K walk (from Newton), a Half-Marathon walk (from Wellesley), and a Marathon Walk (from Hopkinton).

“Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to 10 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients—Jimmy Fund Walk

Heroes—displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration,” a press statement reads. “All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric.”

Due to construction in Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line location has been moved to the Fenway neighborhood for 2023, according to reports.

“Walkers should know that distances may be slightly shorter as we finish the walk in front of Fenway Park. The finish line will include a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.”

Walkers my participate “a bit closer to home,” the press statement added, as the Jimmy Fund Walk has “flexible opportunities.”

“Participants can also join the event virtually by ‘walking their way’ from wherever they are most comfortable—in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Materials to support Virtual Walkers are available.”

To register or volunteer, or to support a walker, visit JimmyFundWalk.org or call 866-531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

UPDATE from page 1

even be what our citizens are expecting us to be focused on.”

He suggested jumping into the summaries and working backwards from there.

At the Aug. 21 meeting, Albertson provided background to the board.

The first master plan was done in 1975, and Albertson said he believes it was widely forgotten. Then in 1998, it was picked back up by a member of the Planning Board.

It took about three to four years to get a new master plan, Albertson said, because the one completed in 1975 was obsolete.

“The plan was finished and adopted in 2002,” Albertson said. “Over time, peoples’ memories fade and we updated it in 2007... We added a section on agriculture.”

Two sections of the plan have been updated and two more were added—the economic development section which occurred three years ago, open space and recreation, which was done in 2021, the age- and dementia-friendly section, and climate resilience and sustainability.

As of that meeting, the Planning Board was in the process of updating the housing section of the plan and was set to vote to adopt it on Aug. 22.

Boscher asked how the process works to update the document.

Williams said he believes the process is already underway with the Planning Board, but there will be some back and forth.

“Once we identify the priorities and the departments responsible, we can ask the departments to report on it, similar to their goals and objectives,” he said.

Turner said usually the town gets help with updating sections with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission.

“I’d love to tackle community facilities, we’re really challenged right now,” Turner said.

Williams said the challenge currently is funding the capital needs listed in the capital needs plan, which was created last year by Williams and Town Accountant Jill Rossi.

The board agreed to talk about the plan on Oct. 2, and then every two weeks until Thanksgiving.



Rolland's birthday celebration was held at Christopher Heights in Belchertown.



Rolland's 100th birthday cake.

BIRTHDAY from page 1

“It was an honor to present Rolland with a House Citation commemorating his 100th birthday. Thank you to all of the folks at Christopher Heights for hosting a great party,” Rep. Saunders released in a statement on social media. “Happy birthday, Rolland.”

“He is the sweetest, kindest, [most] respectful man you will ever meet,” Christopher Heights released in a separate statement online.

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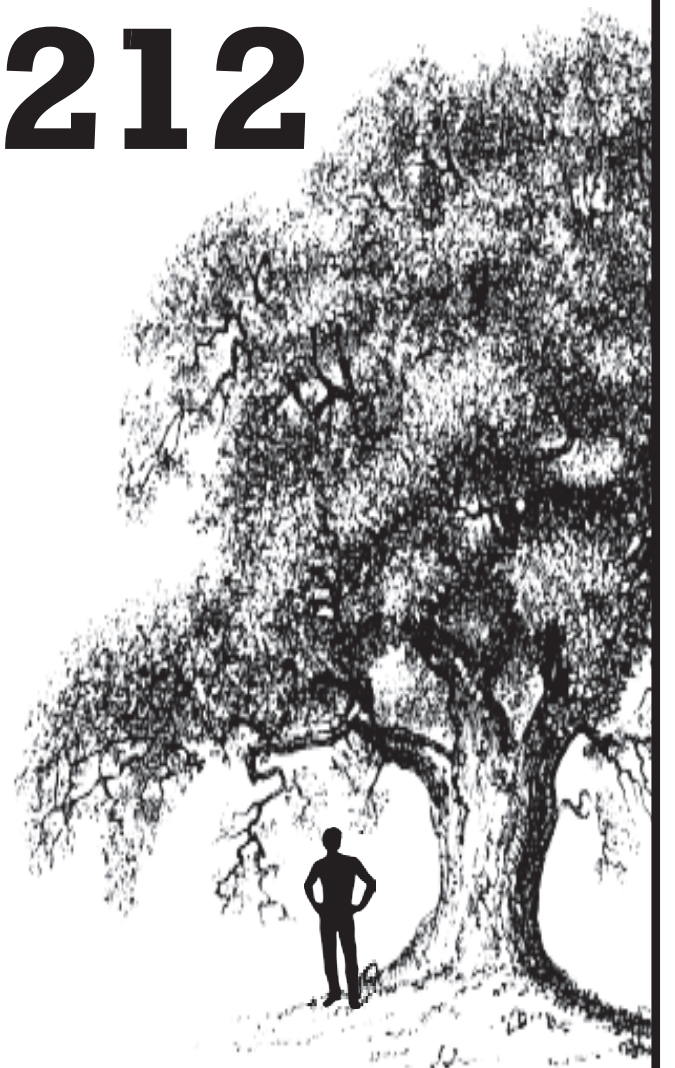
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SENIORS

Belchertown Senior Center announces events

BELCHERTOWN - The town's Council on Aging is a community-based resource for citizens of Belchertown aged 60 and over.

The Senior Center is located at 60 State Street, just off Route 202 at the William Gerald Whitlock Municipal Complex (next to the police station), and is home to a variety of programs and services.

Hours are Mondays from 8 – 3:30 p.m., and Tuesdays-Fridays from 8 – 4:30 p.m.; contact the Senior Center at 413-323-0420.

Upcoming events at the Senior Center include:

Nutrition Program

The Nutrition Department offers both congregate and home delivered meals, Monday through Friday. All meals are home cooked and prepared daily in the kitchen; meals are balanced and nutritious, served with dessert and choice of juice, coffee, tea, or milk. There is no fee for these services, but there is a suggested, voluntary, confidential donation of \$2.50 for adults 60 and over. (Increasing to \$3 on October 1). Guests under 60 are required to pay \$5. This money is used exclusively by the kitchen to defray rising food costs.

Congregate Meals

In-person dining is offered

Monday through Friday at 11:30 a.m. Reservations must be made 24 hours before by calling Kim at 413-323-0420 ext. 508.

This is an opportunity to enjoy a delicious meal while socializing and meeting new people.

Home Delivered Meals

Meals are delivered Monday through Friday between 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. to those clients who are eligible. Supper and weekend meals are also available. Eligibility is based on individual circumstances, and can be available on a short- or long-term basis.

For more information, contact the program staff:

Laura Wagner, Nutrition Program Coordinator, 413-323-0420 ext. 507 or LWagner@belchertown.org;

Mariah Diesi, Nutrition Program Assistant, MDiesi@belchertown.org

Social Services and Outreach

Certified SHINE Counselors Review and assist with Medicare, health insurance, and prescription plan renewals. Other services are available, including referrals to local agencies, a private pay list, home visits to ensure safety and to determine needs, and more.

Please call for an appointment at 413-323-0420

Laurene Kendall, Social Services Coordinator, ext. 505 or Heather Woodworth, Social Services Asst., ext. 509

Transportation

Van service in Belchertown can be scheduled within town to and from the BCOA and to local businesses for food, prescriptions, or personal care—\$1 each way.

Medical transportation by a driver in a personal vehicle can be scheduled for medical appointments in or out of town. Fees apply, and vary based on income and distance of travel.

Walmart and Big Y bi-weekly trips can be scheduled to Ware—\$3 round trip.

Rides are scheduled on a first-come, first-serve basis and as the schedule allows.

Please call 413-323-0420 for information or to schedule.

Kim Rossi, Transportation Coordinator, ext. 508

Health & Wellness

At BCOA, there is “something for everyone,” including classes, clubs, wellness clinics, and other activities each week.

Footcare: Piper Sagan, RN and Certified Foot Care Specialist,

provides services on the second Monday of every month. She will assess overall foot health, clip/file nails, file callouses, and recommend shoe wear and cushioning as needed. She will finish with a massage using healing essential oils to promote foot health—\$50 per visit.

Skincare: Diane Neill, licensed esthetician, offers facials and waxing services on the third Wednesday of every month. She offers a Signature Facial, a Microdermabrasion Facial, LED Light Therapy, or waxing services. Prices vary by service.

Massage: Jodi Kaufman, licensed massage therapist and certified in geriatric massage, offers one-hour massages on the first Tuesday of every month—\$70 per visit.

Yoga: Classes offered Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 9:30 a.m.—\$5/class. Preregistration required.

Tai Chi: Classes offered outdoors (weather permitting) on Tuesdays and Fridays at 10 a.m. Suggested donation is \$0.50 cents/class.

Healthy Bones & Balance: Classes offered Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. Suggested donation is \$0.50 cents/class.

Wholefood/Plant-Based Program: Group meets on the third Thursday of every month at 10 a.m. Free to attend.

Quabbinaires Walking Group: Walks take place three-four times per month. Days and times vary. Free to attend.

Nurse “Office Hours”: Walk-in blood pressure/glucose checks and general questions. Offered second and fourth Mondays, 10-11 a.m.

Exercise Equipment Room: State-of-the-art treadmills, exercise bikes, and weights. Free to use. No appointment necessary.

Grief/Loss Support Group: Group meets on the first Wednesday of every month at 12:30 p.m. Free to attend.

Call Stephanie at 413-323-0420 ext. 501 for more information or to sign up.

Ukelele Group: Every Monday at 12:30 p.m., bring your own ukelele, and play for fun.

Book Club: Third Monday of the month, 10 a.m.

Wii Bowling: Every Friday, 10 a.m.

For even more events and offerings, contact the Belchertown Senior Center.

COMMUNITY

Select Board announces board, committee vacancies

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
sentinel@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – The town's Select Board is seeking citizens to share their expertise by serving on a town board or committee.

Those who have time and are interested in getting involved in the town's activities are asked to submit a letter of interest to: Select Board, The Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007, or by email to select-board@belchertown.org.

The town has announced that it wishes to fill the following vacancies:

Agricultural Commission

Three associate non-voting member seats

This commission promotes agricultural-based economic opportunities; preserves, revitalizes and sustains the Belchertown agricultural industries, and

encourages the pursuit of agriculture as a career opportunity and lifestyle.

Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Trustee for the Calvin Bridgman Library Fund

Three-year elected volunteer position

Random hours as needs arise; this position will be elected at the 2024 Annual Town Meeting. Individual will work with two other Trustees to oversee disbursements of funds to libraries within the town of Belchertown.

Deadline: May 10, 2024

Trail Stewardship Council

One vacancy
The town wishes to fill a vacancy to represent landowners of the town on the Trail Stewardship Council. Interested individuals should be knowledgeable about local land use and related issues. Additional information specific to this council can be found at newenglandtrail.org.

Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Animal Control Advisory Board

One vacancy
This board has the authority to conduct hearings as allowed in the town's by-laws and pose reasonable conditions as deemed appropriate. The ideal applicants may be a dog breeder, a dog trainer, a veterinarian, a non-pet owner from the community, a medical professional specializing in emergency medicine, an animal enthusiast or caregiver, a pet owner, and/or interested residents.

Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Cultural Council

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

Cultural Council. Additionally, the council sponsors two flagship events: Food Truck Fridays and Winter Light Night.

The Belchertown Cultural Council generally meets on the first Tuesday evening of the month via Zoom. They are especially interested in recruiting a member who is experienced with website design and social media platforms.

Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Communications Committee

Two full-member seats
The purpose of this committee is to develop a communication plan for the town of Belchertown, to improve information flow from the town to the public. Experience with marketing, communications, and/or social media is highly preferred.

Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Veterans' Services Advisory Board (VSAB)

One anticipated At-Large vacancy

VSAB works closely with the town's Veterans' Agent on issues pertaining to veterans, including Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies, war memorials, veterans' graves, or any other related areas of concern.

Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Scholarship Committee

Home-schooling representative seat

Those interested in serving in this capacity may submit a letter of interest.

Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Belchertown State School Buildings and Grounds Committee

Two additional full-member seats

The committee will advise the town and the Select Board on funding opportunities for maintaining and developing the

Please see **VACANCIES**, page 10



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COMMUNITY

Cultural Council seeks funding proposals

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
sentinel@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – The town’s Cultural Council is seeking funding proposals for community-oriented arts, humanities, and science programs.

The Belchertown Cultural Council (BCC) has announced it will be accepting applications for the 2024 grants cycle through Tuesday, Oct. 17.

“Organizations and individuals are invited to apply for grants that support cultural activities in the community,” the BCC released in a press statement. “Grants from the BCC can be used to support a variety of artistic projects and activities in Belchertown—

including exhibits, festivals, field trips, short-term artist residencies, performances, workshops, or lectures.”

The BCC is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCC) serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth.

“The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences, and humanities every year,” Belchertown’s Cultural Council released. “The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.”

According to reports, past projects

funded by the BCC include a pastel painting workshop at the Clapp Memorial Library, Sarah the Fiddler at the Senior Center, The Belchertown Skatepark Graffiti Jam and Skate Deck Paint Party, the sculpture installation Anillo at the Lake Wallace Sensory trail, and much more.

“All proposals and ideas are welcome,” the BCC added.

For local guidelines and information on the BCC, visit the website at: belchertownculturalcouncil.com or email grants@belchertownculturalcouncil.com.

Application forms and more information about the Local Cultural Council Program are available online at mass-culture.org.

Clapp Memorial Library’s September events

BELCHERTOWN - The Clapp Memorial Library offers a wealth of resources for the community, as well as a full schedule of free public programs for all ages. “Stop in at 19 South Main Street, or go to clapplibrary.org to see what’s new,” the library released in a press statement.

The library will be open:
Mondays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturdays, 9:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Upcoming programs at the Clapp Memorial Library include:

Transform Your Yard to Support Pollinators, A 12-Step Guide

7 p.m. on Tuesday, September 19
Many people now realize the importance of pollinators and other essential wildlife and want to make their yard pollinator-friendly, but don’t know where to start. In this talk, master gardener Heidi Dollard will step you through the process of evaluation, planning, and implementation, with many options for large and small changes.

The Jellyfish (pastel painting workshop)

Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 1 p.m.
This is a pastel painting workshop designed for both sheer beginners to advanced adult participants. In this new, fun, two-hour workshop, all participants produce their very own personalized and original pastel based on these captivating sea creatures. Maichack guides everyone in drawing, blending, and layering.

Registration and confirmation are required.

Science Fiction & Fantasy Book Club

Tuesday, Sept. 26, at 6 p.m. (virtual)

A monthly book group for lovers of high fantasy, hard science fiction, fable, far future, and all of the speculative fiction options. This group meets online via Google Meet. To sign-up or ask questions, email Tegan at tmannino@cwmar.org

Let’s Talk Emergency Preparedness

Wednesday, Sept. 27, at 6 p.m.

September is Emergency Preparedness Month. Join Kirsten Krieger, Public Health Nurse for the Quabbin Health District, for a presentation and learn about preparing for an emergency.

Imagine 2200: Climate Fiction for Future Ancestors

Wednesday, Sept. 27, at 6:30 p.m. (virtual)

Join Tory Stephens of Grist Magazine, an independent non-profit media organization focused on the climate crisis, and learn how he created “Imagine 2200: Climate Fiction for Future Ancestors.”

“Imagine is a storytelling initiative that calls for fiction writers to envision the next 180 years of equitable climate progress, imagining intersectional worlds of abundance, adaptation, reform, and hope.”

Email clapp@cwmar.org for a Zoom link.

Historical Crafts from Ancient to Renaissance

Friday, Sept. 29, from 3-6 p.m.

Get hands-on with history with Castle Nitor. Learn about daily life and try a few crafts. We often think of the past as a foreign land that we can’t understand, but their lives were very

similar to ours. Enjoy a break in a different time; this program is outside on the library lawn, all are welcome.

This class is run by Allison, the Lady of Castle Nitor; she is a history lover who collects craft skills and loves teaching and “creating a fun, relaxing environment for all,” the library released.

“Castle Nitor helps people live fully by learning from historical daily life and bringing the arts of the past to life again.”

Additionally, story times for ages three months to six years old will begin the week of Monday, September 18. Story times feature age-appropriate stories, songs, finger plays, and art activities; registration and confirmation are required. For more information and to register, visit clapplibrary.org/story-hour.

Babytime Storytime (3-12 months)

9 - 9:45 a.m., Mondays (September 18 & 25, October 2, 23, & 30, and November 6)

Babytime is for ages three – 12 months.

First Steps Storytime (12-24 months)

10 - 10:45 a.m., Mondays (September 18 & 25, October 2, 23, & 30, and November 6)

First Steps is for ages 12 – 24 months.

Toddler Time (Two-year-olds)

9:30-10:30 a.m., Tuesdays (September 19 & 26, October 3, 24, & 31, and November 7)

Toddler Time is for two-year-old children.

Preschool Storytime (Three- through six-year-olds)

9:30-10:30 a.m., Thursdays (September 28, October 5, 19, & 26, and November 2 & 9)

Preschool Story Time is for children ages three to six.

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OPINION



Types of animal shelters

Editor's Note: The following information was acquired over the course of my career as a journalist, through my work as an animal advocate, and through common knowledge.

Did you know there are different types of animal shelters? Years ago, when I first started volunteering in the world of animal rescue, I learned the difference between open admission shelters, limited admission shelters, and local animal rescues.

All three serve a vital role, requiring equal amounts of care and support from us.

Municipal Shelters

Municipal animal shelters are run by a government, operating on a budget just like police departments, public health departments, and more. These shelters work as part of a city or county's animal control division, and are most often funded with taxpayer monies, aiming to assist animals within the shelter's authority while also protecting humans from the potential hazards posed by animals. As per certain regulations, municipal shelters are often contractually required to take in any animal, regardless of health, disposition, or age—including every single dog that's surrendered, every stray cat, animals that are sick, kittens too young for adoption, animals taken from hoarding situations, and so much more. Because of this, municipal shelters are considered "open admission" and risk becoming overstrained. As part of a governmental body, the requirement that falls on these shelters is to serve the public as a whole.

Private Shelters

While some privately-run shelters do contract with one or more municipalities, most are independently-operated nonprofit facilities—not run by a government. Private shelters often have a Board of Directors establishing policies, procedures, operations, and bylaws within the shelter, and while private shelters can be open admission (if they're contracted with a municipality) they're most often considered "limited admission." This means that private shelters can choose which animals they take in, and they are able to turn animals away. Private shelters are typically funded through donations, as opposed to an operating budget.

Rescue Organizations

Nonprofit rescue groups are another alternative to consider when adopting a pet; these groups can have a physical location, but often do not and are "foster-based," relying on a network of foster homes instead. These organizations often take in animals from overburdened open admission shelters, and many function exclusively on donations and the efforts of volunteers.

Limited Admission vs. Open Admission Shelters

Open admission shelters will not, or cannot as per certain regulations, turn away an animal. This creates a problem when intake rates are high and resources are strained.

Limited admission shelters, on the other hand, are not obligated to accept every animal; they can say, "we're at capacity," or they can also accept only a specific group of animals, such as special needs pets or very young kittens, concentrating their resources and offering services that otherwise may not be available. These facilities are often considered "no-kill" as they will not euthanize animals regarded as healthy or adoptable.

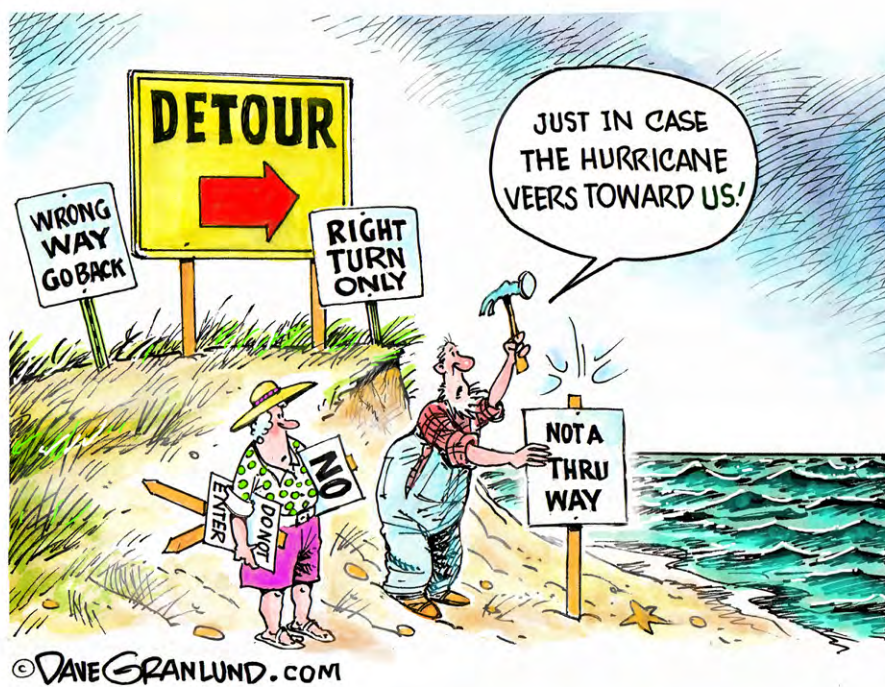
Opinion: The Writer's Take

It's our duty to look beyond these labels to become part of the solution. I believe it's a mistake to criticize or vilify the open admission shelters that so urgently need our support. Without these facilities, the animals would have no place to go—these shelters must exist, and it's our job to help them, not decry them.

To be considered "no-kill," an organization must reach a 90 percent placement rate for the animals in their care, which can include adoption, rescue transfers, and more. This is simply a more achievable standard for the limited admission shelters that can turn animals away, but the good news is that open admission shelters can also reach that "no-kill" status, although it requires a tremendous level of support from us, the community.

To help every open admission shelter get to this status, we must get involved. We must use our voices to spread truth and light, and we must contribute to the programming offered by these facilities. The goal of every animal shelter reaching this benchmark requires

Please see **FUR-EVER**, page 7



LETTER

Spectrum fee increases—again

Dear Editor,

Last year, I wrote to you about the large increase in the fees for my Spectrum services. At that time, my bill had increased over \$33 in less than two years. Fast forward another year and my fee has increased another \$26 in just one year! Once again, I understand the need to increase fees but Spectrum's increases are totally unreasonable, as I have not changed any of my services and stick to a relatively basic slate of

options.

Again, it might be time for Belchertown to consider another cable/internet/phone provider. Spectrum seems to feel that they can increase their fees as much as they want and whenever they want. As I said last year, is that the kind of company our community wants to do business with? I, for one, don't think it should be.

Thank you,

Cathy Terry



Why is my age 70 benefit not higher than my January amount?

Dear Rusty,

I plan to retire in 2025, the year I turn 70. Given that I'm still working, I'm delaying my Social Security until that year. I noticed on my Social Security statement that my payment in January of 2025 will not be much different than my age 70 amount in October of 2025.

If that is truly the case, would it not be better for me to start taking Social Security payments starting in January of 2025. Am I missing anything here?

Signed: Uncertain Senior

Dear Uncertain Senior,

Your benefit in October 2025 at age 70 will be about six percent more than it will be in January 2025. If that isn't shown on your Statement of Estimated Benefits, it may be due to a particular nuance in Social Security's rules relating to Delayed Retirement Credits.

When benefits are claimed mid-year after full retirement age, the DRCs earned in that year aren't applied until the following January. Thus, someone who claims benefits to start mid-year will initially get the DRCs they've earned through the end of the previous year, but not immediately get credit for the additional DRCs earned during the claim-year. Those extra DRCs earned between January and the month benefits started will be applied the following January.

By way of example, if someone beyond FRA claims benefits to start in October 2024, their initial SS retirement benefit will be what they were entitled to at the end

of 2023 and would not include DRCs earned between January 2024 and September 2024. They will collect that initial January 2024 benefit until January 2025 when the DRCs earned in 2024 are applied, at which point their benefit would increase by six percent.

There is, however, one exception to this rule, which is that all DRCs are immediately credited when benefits are claimed to start in the month age 70 is reached, so despite what your Statement of Estimated Benefits might reflect, if you claim for benefits to start in the month you turn 70 (October 2025) you will get your maximum age 70 benefit immediately and won't need to wait until January 2026 for those extra DRCs to be applied.

Unfortunately, Social Security's benefit estimator doesn't explain how this nuance works and may show someone claiming mid-year receiving the same benefit as for the preceding January, without further explanation.

That is, in my opinion, a flaw in the estimator which may result in people making a wrong decision on when to claim their Social Security benefit. Nevertheless, rest assured that your benefit in October 2025, the month you turn 70, will be your maximum amount - 6% more than it would be if you claimed benefits to start in January 2025 and you won't need to wait until the following January to get the DRCs earned earlier in 2025.

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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Things to consider when overwintering your favorite herbs

It's getting to be "that time," where we must concede that summer is winding down.

What comes next? Frost and then a season of rest!

But there is much to do before then, especially if you have herbs that you'd like to dig up and overwinter inside.

At Old Sturbridge Village we dig up Rosemary, Bay, Lemon Verbena and many more tender plants. At home I am getting my own collection of plants that I too must dig up if I want to save my investment.

Over time, I have ended up with some very good-sized specimens. Overwintering these biggies can prove to be challenging space-wise, but they make such a statement in the garden I look forward to the hassle of digging them up and keeping them alive during the off-season.

Before the interpreters dig up the plants, I always ask that they give the plants a good bath to cut down on the number of insects that will be brought into the greenhouse. For the home gardener this is equally important.

I say "bath" because my pesticide of choice is a natural and fairly benign one - made of potassium salts of fatty acids (soap) that weaken the insect's outer shell

and cause dehydration. It is sprayed on leaves and stems until they are soaked, and can be reapplied every 7-10 days as needed.

This product is especially effective on insects that make their home on herbs and houseplants: whitefly, aphids and mealy bugs.

Once the insects have been eradicated, it is time to get out the shovel and get to work digging up and repotting the plants. As mentioned, it's amazing at how large some of them can become after only a few months in the ground.

It is important to salvage as much of the root ball as possible to minimize the shock of being potted up. To do this, position your shovel along the "drip line" of the plant and dig straight down, completely around its circumference.

After you've made your way around, get your shovel underneath and lift. Have a pot ready - one that is an inch or two bigger than the root ball is sufficient, and will allow for minimal winter growth.

My container of choice is always plastic, but glazed pottery is fine, although it is heavy. I steer clear of clay; it dries out too quickly.

I usually put a couple of inches of moist potting soil into the container, set the plant and then fill in with more as needed before watering well. Oftentimes I leave the plants outside until a frost threatens, then I bring them in and back out until the weather turns decidedly cold.

Perhaps the most cherished of all tender herbs is Rosemary (*Rosemarinus officinalis*), the herb of remembrance. The key to growing it successfully indoors is "cool but sunny."

My new old house affords me many such microclimates. If you aren't as lucky, try for a sunny window away from dry heat, in other words far from heat vents, etc.

My mudroom runs at about 50 degrees but has decent sunlight. Win-win!

Bay tree (*Laurus nobilis*) is another favorite and can be grown right through the winter with little or no coddling provided it is given medium to bright light and consistent watering. Do be on guard for the waxy-looking scale insect; one giveaway is leaves covered in a sticky, shiny sap called honey dew.

Try to "Q-tip" individual insects with rubbing alcohol or use insecticidal soap or horticultural oil to smother larger infestations. If the bugs have been active for a while, sooty mold may have formed.

This thick, black coating will likely need to be scrubbed off leaf by leaf to allow the plant to photosynthesize properly.

To have success overwintering scented geraniums (*Pelargonium* spp.) indoors, situate them in bright light where daytime temperatures are 65-70 degrees, and night temps are in the 50s. Fertilize every other month during the fall and winter.

Smaller leaved varieties will be easier to manage; large leaved cultivars will get top-heavy quickly- take terminal or "tip" cuttings of these instead.

Lemon Verbena (*Aloysia triphylla*) may start out looking great, but a month or so into indoor culture will likely begin to lose its leaves. Fear not, leaf drop is completely normal and to be expected!

You may be tempted to throw it out; instead, position in a sunny spot, water as needed and await new growth in the spring.

I hope this has provided you with the necessary information to extend the lifespan of your tender herbs.

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.

The big birthday plunge



The woman who went over Niagara Falls in a Barrel

You're turning 63. How should you celebrate?

With a cake with candles? A family get-together? Maybe a party?

How about crawling into a wooden barrel, having it screwed shut, then plunging 60-feet over one of the world's great natural wonders? Which, by the way, nobody else has ever lived to tell about.

A woman did that nearly 120 years ago, the crowning achievement in her quirky life. Here's what happened.

Annie Edson Taylor was a tomboy growing up. One of 11 children raised on a farm in upstate New York, she preferred outdoors and sports to dolls and dresses.

She was a dreamer whose imagination constantly sprouted new ideas.

She married at the age of 18. Annie quickly regretted it, but not for long.

Their only child died in infancy and her husband passed away soon afterward.

It was hard for a woman to support herself in the 19th Century. Annie bounced around the country from one job to another, with interesting experiences woven in between.

She survived a house fire in Chattanooga, a small earthquake in South Carolina, and even a stagecoach robbery out west. (Refusing to hand over the \$800 hidden in her dress - all the money

Please see **HOLY COW**, page 13

FUR-EVER from page 6

us to dig deep within ourselves, to identify where our help is needed, and to contribute our skills and efforts.

The employees and volunteers working in the world of animal rescue are some of

the most compassionate and courageous souls I've met; they choose to do what they do because they love animals, and they often put every aspect of their own health on the line. Together, we can help.

It's important that we focus our efforts not on labels but rather on what matters—

the animals and the people working to help them.

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MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Clapp Memorial Library wishes to thank the Belchertown community for a successful Summer Reading Program.

200 adults, 107 teens, and 383 children participated in our Summer Reading Program this year!

We especially want to thank our sponsors, whose support was instrumental in our success:

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We are now open
 Monday & Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 9:30 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
 Saturday: 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

GRANBY

Granby Library to host nature story time

GRANBY - Nature story times, crafts, and hands-on with Ranger Tasha will be held twice monthly at the Granby Library this fall.

How Do Critters Prepare for Winter?

10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 19 Hear a story about how squirrels get ready for winter.

Future nature story time dates include Oct. 3 and 17 and Nov. 7

and 21. The Granby Free Public Library is located at 297 East State Street, Granby.

Granby Library hours: Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Fridays: 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Monthlong book sale offered

GRANBY - Throughout the month of September, a fall book sale is ongoing at the Granby Free Public Library.

the library's regular operating hours, which are: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Fridays from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.,

The Granby Free Public Library is located at 297 E State Street, Granby.

Through Sept. 30, book lovers can choose from a large assortment of used and like-new books in fiction and non-fiction, according to a press statement.

'Library Anniversary Bookmark' designs due this weekend

GRANBY - Children ages Pre-K-12yrs are invited to design and enter a bookmark in the 2023 10th Anniversary of the Granby Free Public Library's new building

"Your bookmark should represent what the Granby Library means to you and to the community," a press statement reads.

Bookmark entries are due back to the library by Sept. 17.

Stop by the library during open hours to pick up a bookmark template and entry form.

'Talk like a Pirate' day at local library upcoming

GRANBY - The library will hold "Talk like a Pirate" day next Tuesday, Sept. 19.

"Ahoy All Ye Pirates Young and Old. Dress up in pirate garb or just put on yer pirate eyepatch to earn some pirate booty," the Granby Public Library released.

The event has been described as "fun for all ages."



'Constitution Week' upcoming

BELCHERTOWN - In honor of this month's upcoming Constitution Week, the Clapp Memorial Library in town will offer a selection of books for all ages related to the U.S. Constitution.

According to a press statement issued by the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), community members are urged to "reflect on the United States Constitution during this month's annual observance."

The DAR initiated the observance in 1955, according to reports, when the service organization petitioned the U.S. Congress to dedicate Sept. 17-23 of each year to the commemoration of Constitution Week.

"Congress adopted the resolution, and on August 2, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed it into Public Law #915," DAR released.

Area 'shred day' event this weekend

REGION - The Wealth Transition Collective of Holyoke is partnering with Cooley Dickinson for its annual shred day.

"If you have financial or sensitive documents that need shredding, bring them to Cooley Dickinson on Saturday, Sept. 16, from 9-11 a.m.

izens' responsibility to protect, defend, and preserve the U.S. Constitution."

In the press statement, DAR described itself as the "foremost advocate for the awareness, promotion, and celebration of Constitution Week."

"The annual observance provides innumerable opportunities for educational initiatives and community outreach, two mission areas of crucial importance to the National Society," DAR released.

One of the "largest patriotic women's organizations in the world," DAR has 190,000 members in approximately 3,000 chapters across the country and in several foreign countries.

"DAR members promote historic preservation, education, and patriotism via commemorative events, scholarships and educational initiatives, citizenship programs, service to veterans, meaningful community service and more."

For additional information about DAR and its mission, visit dar.org.

Additionally, the public is invited to join the Betty Allen Chapter NSDAR Bell Ringing Ceremony at 3:30 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 17, at the historic chapter house, located at 148 South St., Northampton.

VETERAN from page 1

who enlisted in the service in the Navy in 1967," a press statement reads. "Bouchard was deployed to Vietnam as a combat corpsman where he was wounded in August 1969.

Following his U.S. Navy service, Bouchard became an emergency medical technician and instructor, according to the media release.

western Massachusetts, including the Disabled American Veterans.

Along with his Purple Heart and a Bronze Star, Bouchard was awarded the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Navy Commendation Medal with Combat V, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm, and the Vietnam Service Medal with Marine Corps Combat Insignia with 1 Star Combat Action Ribbon.

According to a release from the national Purple Heart Mission, Bouchard is a member of the project's 2023 class of veterans who served in World War II, the Vietnam War, Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom,

and other conflicts.

Members of the group represent all branches of the service and range from 37- to 100-years-old.

"Our Purple Heart recipients have made enormous sacrifices for America, and this is our opportunity to say, 'thank you' on behalf of a grateful nation," said Col. Russ Vernon (NYARNG Ret.), the executive director for the National Purple Heart Honor Mission.

"For some, this will be like the homecoming they never had. We received hundreds of nominations from across the country, and we look forward to honoring James for his courage and service, both during combat

operations and in the years since returning home."

Nearly 54 years after his service in Vietnam, Bouchard said it's gratifying to be honored in such a way.

"Vietnam veterans didn't get the best welcome when we returned home," he said, further crediting his family—his wife Sue, daughter Irene, and son Joshua, also a combat-wounded veteran and Purple Heart recipient from service in Afghanistan—for their "many years of support and love."

"I am so honored to represent Massachusetts and to be in New York with my fellow veterans," he said. "I look forward to hearing

about their experiences, to make new friends and comrades, and to learn more ways to help educate our citizens about what the Purple Heart means and its significance. We must never forget the sacrifices of those who have served our country."

The Purple Heart Medal is the oldest award still given to U.S. Armed Forces veterans who were killed or wounded in combat, according to reports.

"The purpose of the Patriot Mission is to give these medal recipients proper thanks," a press statement reads.

For information on the National Purple Heart Honor Mission, purpleheartmission.org.

90 Meat Outlet advertisement featuring various meat products like Center Cut Pork Loin, Beef Ribeye Steaks, and Ground Beef with prices and promotional text.

Devine Overhead Doors advertisement featuring images of garage doors and contact information for professional installation.

SPORTS

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Belchertown takes loss against West Side



Nathan Marino makes his way up the field.



Esat Cayan goes after a loose ball.



Christopher Rivers makes a stop with the ball.



TREVOR WEISS HEADS FOR THE LOOSE BALL.



Gavin Boisjolie heads toward the sideline.

WEST SPRINGFIELD – In Belchertown boys soccer’s season opener, the Orioles were defeated 2-0 at West Springfield. The Orioles allowed singles goal in each half and were not able to find the net themselves. Jack Mandeville was busy, making 12 saves for the Orioles.



Autumn Sicard controls the ball.



Lydia Kicza attempts to clear the ball.



Olyvia Redmond sends a pass up the field.



Tough first half sinks Rams

MONSON – Last Friday afternoon, Monson scored seven goals to put the game out of reach in Granby’s first game of the regular season. Granby got one goal in the second half as Kalli White tallied for the visitors. Granby is 0-2 to start the season.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Rhea Gagnon passes ahead of pressure from Monson.



Sophia Gagnon sends a pass away.

Orioles suffer shutout in opener

BY TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM—The previous four meetings between Coombs Division rivals Belchertown and Minnechaug ended in ties.

The Lady Falcons kicked off the 2023 high school soccer season with an impressive 4-0 home shutout victory over the Lady Orioles, last Wednesday night.

“We’ve tied Belchertown the last four times that we played them, so this is a very good result for us,” said longtime Minnechaug girls varsity soccer coach Nundi Goncalves. “Because of the MIAA power ratings, shutouts are huge. Scoring three or more goals in a match is another important thing.”

Minnechaug finished the 2022 regular season with a 14-2-2 record and posted more than ten shutouts.

The Lady Falcons, who are the defending Western Mass. Class A champions, lost to Silver Lake Regional in the Division 2 state semifinals.

Junior goalie Makenzi Pastreck made a total of 12 saves in the season opening victory against the Lady Orioles.

“We do have several new defenders this year,” Pastreck said. “They played very well in tonight’s game.”

The Lady Falcons starting defensive unit is led by freshman Ainsley Holden, sophomore Zorah Way, junior Nora Kennedy, and senior Lylah Jeannotte, who’s a tri-captain. Freshman Carson Humphries and junior Taylor Labadorf also saw playing time in the back row.

Having to start the regular season on the road against a quality opponent wasn’t a very easy task for the Lady Orioles.

“We did do some things well in tonight’s game, but there are other things that we still need to work on,” said Belchertown head coach Kyle Thibeault. “We gave Minnechaug some opportunities and they capitalized on them.”

The Lady Orioles lost to South Hadley in the Western Mass. Class B championship match. They also lost to Stoneham in the Division 3 round of eight contest.

Minnechaug sophomore Kelly Cronin broke the ice in the season opening match but netting a goal less than ten minutes into the opening half.

Belchertown senior goalie Michaela Dubey tried to make the save on Cronin’s shot attempt from the top of the box, but the ball bounced over the line before she was able to grab it.

Senior Zoey Cardano was credited with the assists on Cronin’s first goal of the regular season.

Please see **ORIOLES**, page 10

SPORTS

Doug Coby, Tommy Baldwin Racing earn Granite crown

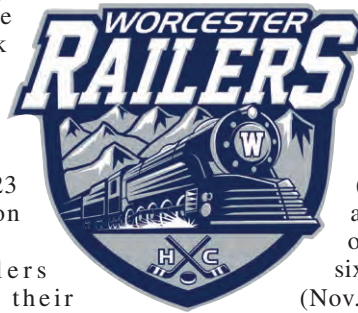
WINCHESTER, N.H. – Doug Coby and Tommy Baldwin Racing returned to NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour competition on Saturday night at Monadnock Speedway and they were celebrating after 150 laps in New Hampshire. Coby finished fifth in the Winchester Fair 150 in the Mayhew Tools 7NY, but the finish was enough for the team to capture the second annual Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup championship crown. The Cup, which included three races at Monadnock Speedway,

Lee USA Speedway and back at Monadnock on Saturday night, saw Coby grab three finishes inside the top-six, including a win at Monadnock in May. By winning the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup, the team collected at least \$5,000 in bonus awards. Coby returned to action Saturday for the first time since Thompson Speedway in August. Team owner Tommy Baldwin Jr. announced a cancer diagnosis and the team stepped back from full-time competition and missed the last two races. They couldn't pass

up returning to chase the Granite State Short Track Cup crown. "Just to be here with our family and Tommy battling cancer, I mean, he's a warrior," Coby said. "He told us from the beginning that he was going to fight through this and he's been courageous enough to share his battle and everything on social media, which is uncommon. To be here as the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup champions, it just means a lot. We've got a great group of guys and Tommy really wanted to be here to do this. This one is for Tommy Baldwin."

Railers schedule released, first game set for Oct. 22

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers Hockey Club (@RailersHC), proud ECHL (@ECHL) affiliate of the New York Islanders (@NYIslanders) announced today the team's 2022-23 regular season schedule.



The Railers will begin their fifth ECHL season in Worcester on Saturday, Oct. 22 vs. the Adirondack Thunder at 7:05 p.m. at the DCU Center. Worcester is slated to play 36 regular season home games at the DCU Center.

A printable schedule is available at www.railershc.com. 30 of the 36 Railers home games will be played on the weekends with 20 of the 30 occurring either Saturday or Sunday. The Railers will wel-

come nine different opponents to the DCU Center during the seven-month regular season which runs Oct. 22 through April 16. Worcester will host a season long five-game homestand (Dec. 9 to 18) and will embark on season long six-game road trip (Nov. 23 to Dec. 4). Worcester's 72-game regular season schedule comes to an end on April 16 with a 3 p.m. start vs. Adirondack in Glens Falls, NY at the Cool Insuring Arena.

The 2022-23 Worcester Railers HC promotional schedule will be released later this summer. Idaho will make their first trip to the DCU Center this season. Full breakdown of opponents this season:

Community Caravan postponed by weather

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds announced last Friday that the third installment of the T-Birds Community Caravan presented by Dunkin' has been postponed due to potential inclement weather this weekend. A rescheduled date

will be announced in the future. The previous two events featured 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 vari-

ous food options. Fans can reserve their seats to be part of the Thunderbirds' hockey action for the 2023-24 season by calling (413) 739-GOAL (4625) or visiting www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.

Great Falls Discovery Center announce September events

REGION – Here are the September events at the Great Falls Discovery Center, located at 2 Avenue A, Turners Falls.

All programs are free and open to the public; an adult must accompany children, according to a press statement, and inclement weather cancels outdoor programs.

"Explore the natural, cultural, and industrial history of the Connecticut River Watershed in our dynamic exhibit dioramas," the Center released. "Adjacent to the Canalside Rail Trail, the center also includes the Great Hall exhibit gallery, restrooms, and drinking water."

Great Hall Exhibit: Intervals Ongoing through Oct. 2

Karen Axtell presents "Intervals," mixed-media prints about time on handmade paper, layered with oil and water-based materials. The prints reference the rings of trees, the depth of rivers, the shape of leaves, ebb of tides, phases of the moon, and more.

StoryWalk: Agua, Agüita Ongoing through Sept. 26

Enjoy a story, fresh air, and exercise. Join on the center's grounds for a free self-guided StoryWalk featuring a children's bilingual picture book, "Agua, Agüita / Water, Little Water" by Jorge Argueta, for readers ages four and up. Follow the path to book pages posted along the route.

Nice & Easy Walks Fridays, Sept. 15, 22, and 29, 1-2 p.m.

An easy-paced, one- to two-mile guided walk along the Canalside Rail Trail or downtown Turners Falls, geared for seniors, but open to all ages. Join others seeking fresh air and exercise. A DCR Park Interpreter highlights natural and local history along the way. Wear appropriate clothing for the weather and sturdy foot-

wear and bring water. Meet outside the main entrance.

Kidleidoscope Story Hour Fridays, Sept. 29, Raptors; 10:30-11:30 a.m.

For ages three-six, accompanied by an adult. Learn more about wildlife neighbors who share our home. Program includes a story, activities, and a craft. Activities are indoors and outdoors, weather permitting. Siblings and friends welcome. Meet in the Great Hall.

Art Naturally Series Saturday, Sept. 16, 10:30 a.m. - noon

Discover nature through story, poetry, and art in this series of free Art Naturally programs. Using words and images, instruction, and techniques one can create an art piece inspired by the natural world to take home. For adults, teens, and children ages six and up (accompanied by an adult). All art materials provided. Meet in the Great Hall.

Adventures in the Microcosmos: Foldscopes Sunday, Sept. 17, 10:30 a.m. - noon

Learn how to use an origami microscope. Join ornithologist Ezekiel "Zeke" Jakub, co-founder of the non-profit Conservacion Panama, for "adventures in the microcosmos," an opportunity to observe tiny parts of the world up close and get an introduction to scientific methods and conservation—all while using a Foldscope. Free. Registration required. Please call 413-863-3221 to sign-up. For children and families ages nine and up. Meet in the Great Hall.

Artist Reception: Intervals Sunday, Sept. 17, 2-4 p.m.

Join Karen Axtell for a reception celebrating her work, "Intervals," a series of mixed-media prints about time. Meet in the Great Hall.

Source To Sea Cleanup: Canalside Rail Trail Saturday, Sept. 23, 10 a.m. - noon

Hard work, real fun, true impact: the annual fall trash cleanup of the Connecticut River and its tributaries. Join DCR staff to clean-up the Canalside Rail Trail. To register, visit bit.ly/canalside2023 or contact DCR staff at 413-863-3221 for more information. Meet at the main entrance.

At Sword's Point: A History of Trade Unions in the Machine Tool Industry in Franklin County Saturday, Sept. 30, 2-3:30 p.m.

Public historian Tom Goldscheider discusses Franklin County precision steel tool manufacturing, where it was a world leader for generations. Workers organized with a democratic trade union that was targeted in a national political campaign aimed against it. This led to a peaceful confrontation in Greenfield and surrounding towns that surprised onlookers near and far. Meet in the Great Hall.

At Sword's Point: Oral History project Saturday, Sept. 30

"Did you or someone you know work in the local machine tool industry? Your stories can help enrich this research," the Center released.

Those interested in sharing their memories may introduce themselves at the At Sword's Point event or contact the presenter at tom.goldscheider@gmail.com.

ORIOLES from page 9

"I thought our forwards and midfielders worked together very well," Goncalves said. "We were able to create some offense."

About six minutes later, the Lady Falcons took a 2-0 lead when junior Mackenzie DaFonseca received a pass from Cardano before blasting a shot into the left corner of the net.

The Lady Orioles also fell behind 2-0 in last year's game played on Minnechaug's turf field and they battled back to tie the score. There wouldn't be any comebacks in the season opener.

"We did comeback from a 2-0 deficit in last year's game here," Thibeault said. "We were hoping to do it again tonight, but things just didn't go our way. All of our league games are going to be hard fought battles this year."

With a little more than six minutes remaining in the first

half, Dubey suffered a left leg injury and had to be helped off the field.

"We're hoping it's not a serious injury," Thibeault said. "I don't think it's a knee injury. We do have two quality goalies."

Dubey, who only made a couple of saves, was replaced in goal by junior Jillian DeBarge (3 saves).

Prior to the start of the match, Thibeault was planning to change goalies at the start of the second half.

During the 45th minute, Belchertown junior Mia Corish fired a shot on goal from the right side, which was saved by Pastreck.

Cronin's second goal, which was unassisted, gave the Lady Falcons a commanding 3-0 lead during the 49th minute.

Minnechaug's fourth and final goal was netted by senior Kylie Ray with about twenty minutes remaining in regulation. It was assisted by senior Claire Poindexter.

VACANCIES from page 4

remaining State School buildings, as well as advising on historical and cultural development opportunities. Expertise with real estate/architecture, grant writing, or historical experience to strengthen the skill set of the committee is highly preferred. Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Belchertown Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force Multiple vacancies, newly-developed Task Force

The focus of the Task Force is to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement for the Select Board to review and to consider adopting, to seek out opportunities to acknowledge and/or celebrate the diversity within the community, and to welcome the whole community to join in, offering suggestions on how the town addresses specific or potential acts of violence, including hate speech, should such acts arise in the community, region, or state. "Efforts should be made to include voices from the com-

munity or communities that are directly affected," the town released.

Partnership opportunities with surrounding towns to strengthen regional or state efforts might also be explored. This is a seven-member committee to 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. Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023

Zoning Board of Appeals Associate Member seat

The ZBA is responsible for hearing and deciding on applications for special permits, variances and appeals from decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector. Deadline: Sept. 29, 2023



EDUCATION

HCC announces dean's list for summer 2023

REGION – Several local students have been announced to Holyoke Community College's dean's list for summer 2023.

Each semester, Holyoke Community College (HCC) recognizes "superior scholarship" through the dean's list, the school released. A student is placed on the dean's list if their GPA is 3.2 or higher. The students listed below have earned dean's list honors:

- Amherst:** Ikraam Mohammed Fazal, Saro Ntahobari
- Belchertown:** Joshua Ayinde Anderson, Rebekah Clough, Grace Drost
- Granby:** Olivia Lauren Hinkley



Holyoke Community College's Campus Center

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Residents announced to SNHU summer President's List

REGION – Three area residents have been announced to the Southern New Hampshire University's summer 2023 President's List.

Belchertown's Melissa Walker and Ryan Tatro, and Amherst's Grafton Brown have made the list.

The summer terms run from May to August, according to a press statement.

Full-time undergraduate students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.7 and above for the reporting term are named to the President's List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits over each 16-week term or paired 8-week terms grouped in fall, winter/spring, and summer.

REGION

Free shred days at local bank upcoming

EASTHAMPTON and BELCHERTOWN - bankESB has invited customers and members of the community to two free "Shred Days" at local offices. Events will be held from 9-11 a.m., or until the truck is full, on the following dates and at the following locations. No appointment is necessary.

Saturday, Sept. 23: Easthampton office, 241 Northampton Street

Saturday, Oct. 14: Belchertown office, 40 State Street

Local residents can "reduce their risk of identity theft by bringing old mail, receipts, statements or bills, cancelled checks, pay stubs, medical records, or any other unwanted paper documents containing personal or confidential information and shredding them safely and securely for free," a press statement reads.

A professional document destruction company will be on site in the bank's parking lot and can accept up to two boxes of documents per person.

Fort River clean-up, RiverFest upcoming

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
sentinel@turley.com

REGION - The Fort River Watershed Association is hosting a free community event this month to clean-up and celebrate the Fort River.

"We'd be grateful to have you join us," a press statement reads. "To celebrate the amazing Fort River, we are going to clean it up."

The Fort River Cleanup, part of the Connecticut River Conservancy's 27th Annual Source to Sea Cleanup, will take place at Groff Park in Amherst from 10 a.m. – noon on Saturday, Sept. 23.; coffee and snacks will be available at 9:30 a.m., and all ages and abilities are welcome.

"Bring your boots, long pants, and a water bottle. Everything else will be provided," the press statement reads.

Register online at fortriver.org/cleanup

by selecting Fort River from the drop-down menu.

"We are eager to partner with the Connecticut River Conservancy and thousands of volunteers across Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, and Connecticut to remove trash from our neighborhoods and enhance the health of the rivers and streams that sustain us—cleaning the Connecticut River and its tributaries from beginning in New Hampshire to joining the Long Island Sound in Connecticut," the Association released.

"Source to Sea Cleanup volunteers have worked hard to combat litter and illegally dumped trash," said Kelsey Wentling, CRC's Massachusetts River Steward. "In the past 26 years, volunteers have removed over 1,100 tons of trash from the Connecticut River and its tributaries, preventing it from reaching our

oceans and becoming a global trash problem. Many areas are cleaner thanks to the efforts of volunteers."

The Fort River watershed runs through parts of Amherst, Shutesbury, Pelham, Belchertown, and Hadley and the river is the longest tributary of the Connecticut River with free passage for fish and other species, a press statement reads.

"The Fort River is home to several species of freshwater mussel, including one species federally listed as being endangered—the dwarf wedge mussel, and the watershed feeds the drinking water supply for both Amherst and Hadley. Please consider joining us in contributing to this impressive and impactful regional effort."

Those interested in volunteering as a clean-up site leader, festival logistics wrangler, or being an event sponsor may email fortriverwatershed@gmail.com.



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PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police Log

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of Aug. 30 through Sept. 5. 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 325 calls police responded to, there were 13 incidents, four accidents, five arrests/summons and 13 citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS

Wednesday, Aug. 30

9:19 p.m. – A 38-year-old Belchertown man arrested on charges of failure to register as a sex offender. The person was in violation because of their status as a homeless person. They were supposed to register within 30 days of moving and they had not. Bail was set \$5,000 plus a \$40 fee and they were transported to the Hampshire Regional Corrections Center.

Thursday, Aug. 31

5:25 p.m. – James A Williams, of 60 Posner Circle in Ludlow, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence. An officer responded to the area of Daniel Shays Highway for a report of a vehicle driving erratically. The vehicle was identified from the registration number. The reporting party said the vehicle was going all over the roadway. The operator was going down Main Street. The officer pulled the vehicle over. The operator had blood-shot glassy eyes and there was an odor of alcohol. A field sobriety test was administered. Based on the officer's observations, the person was arrested and transported to the station.

Saturday, Sept. 2

1:35 a.m. – Nathalie E. Dougan, 22, of 3 Martin Circle in Belchertown, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of alcohol, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, and a marked lanes violation. An officer responded to State Street after being told by Granby Police that there was an erratic operator on Route 202. Belchertown Police responded to the area and went behind the vehicle. The vehicle's tires went over the white fog lines and over the double yellow lines. The officer activated their lights and pulled them over. The person said they were trying to get home. The officer detected a small odor of alcohol coming from the interior. The officer administered a sobriety test. The person declined finishing and was placed under arrest. When the booking process was done, the clerk was contacted and a bail fee of \$40 was charged. They were transported to Hampshire County House of Corrections. The person became violent and uncooperative upon arrival and began kicking the glass window. There was footage turned into evidence.

Tuesday, Sept. 5

3:42 p.m. – A 27-year-old Ludlow woman was charged with leaving the scene of property damage of an accident. An officer responded to a Sabin Street residence after a

delivery driver snapped a dog cable run and left. It shattered at least one of the windows of the delivery truck. There was a delivery van on another street that had a window broken. The officer contacted the operator and said there was video recording. It got caught on the van and snapped. The operator said they talked to their dispatch and went to the homeowner to try to inform them that there was broken glass and a broken cable. The homeowner had video footage of the incident and the operator didn't contact them. A criminal application was issued.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS

Wednesday, Aug. 30

1:40 a.m. – An officer responded to a report of people at a house that weren't supposed to be there. The person said they were having friends over to the house, but the house was for sale, and no one was supposed to be there. The officers found a group of youths were parties. The officers made arrangements for everyone to get a ride home.

4:34 p.m. – An officer responded to the Belchertown Public School's central office for a report of a large tree branch that fell on the vehicle. There was damage from the branch on the hood of the vehicle. The matter was documented.

Thursday, Aug. 31

12:04 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident at a Turkey Hill Road business. Two vehicles were backing out of parking spaces and backed into each other. There was damage to both vehicles, but both were driven from the scene. No injuries were reported.

Friday, Sept. 1

8:32 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Old Enfield Road. A vehicle stopped on Old Enfield Road to turn onto Jabish Street was rear ended by a vehicle behind it. There was no damage reported to one of the vehicles. None of the occupants were harmed and no tows were necessary.

11:04 p.m. – Police and fire responded to 204 Bardwell Street regarding an accident with injury and airbag deployment. The vehicle was in a driveway and the airbag deployed. There was a small group outside the vehicle who said the operator was stuck inside the vehicle. One of the operators were traveling east on Bardwell Street and saw the other vehicle going west. The vehicle was going into the westbound lane and entered their lane of travel. They slowed to avoid collision and the vehicle sideswiped them. Belchertown Fire Department had to free the trapped person with mechanical means, and they were transported to Baystate Springfield. The person appeared confused and was unable to answer questions. Due to not being able to answer, there was an immediate threat placed on their license.

Saturday, Sept. 2

8:42 a.m. – A resident came to the station after they found a cell phone in their vehicle. The person recently had the vehicle serviced. The officer was able to get a number off the call screen. The person said they deactivated the phone and got a new one. The officer said they would keep the phone until the end of the shift and then it would be placed into evidence.

Sunday, Sept. 3

12:31 p.m. – An officer responded to a North Washington Street disturbance between neighbors. There were multiple people involved in an argument. There was one person on the steps and there were two more in the yard screaming. The officers separated the parties and informed them that they could get a harassment order. They also told the group if they had to return, they could be arrested for disorderly conduct.

7:30 p.m. – An officer responded to Stadler Street for an accident. A vehicle attempted to back up and park on Stadler Street when it backed into side of a trailer. There

was no damage to the first vehicle. No injuries were reported.

Monday, Sept. 4

1:08 a.m. – An officer conducted a building check at Jabish Brook Middle School. There was a vehicle occupied by two young people. The school was closed and there were signs stating there was no trespassing. The people were identified and one of them was a junior operator who was in violation of passenger restrictions and hours of operations. They said they were looking for a place to hang out and both were cooperative. They were advised to contact a relative. They were given a warning and the vehicle was left in the lot until the morning.

Tuesday, Sept. 5

2:24 p.m. – An officer responded to a residence for a report of a person who had money taken out of their account. Their debit card was stolen and was used to get money out of their account after their vehicle was broken into. The officer requested information on where the vehicle was throughout the day and will investigate the matter.

3:28 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Main Street. A vehicle was stopped at a red light in the turn lane while another vehicle was attempting to take a turn as well. Both vehicles struck each other in the rear. There was damage to the first vehicle, but not the second vehicle. No injuries were reported and neither vehicle was towed.

3:43 p.m. – An officer spoke with a person about an active restraining order, and someone contacted the person via text. There was no evidence supporting a violation of the 209A. They blocked the phone number, and the incident was documented.

4:20 p.m. – An officer took a report of a small lockbox missing from a residence, there was cash missing and they hired a house cleaner through a website. The officer contacted the business' customer service. They said they couldn't provide further information. The person called the officer back and said one of the items that was reported missing was found but there was still cash missing. The business owner indicated the customer would be refunded and the cleaner would investigate further.

4:27 p.m. – A person called to report their vehicle was running on the side of the road while they were talking a call in the woods. When they came back to the vehicle after the call, and the vehicle was not running, and the keys were removed from the vehicle. The operator couldn't find the keys. There was a copy of a previous police report that was also taken. The matter was documented.

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 161 calls for the week of Sept. 1 through Sept. 7. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Friday, Sept. 1

9:46 p.m. – A motorist reported that they struck a deer. The operator was not injured. An accident report was completed.

Monday, Sept. 4

6:54 p.m. – Johnathan Raffa, 35, of Granby, was placed under arrest for an active arrest warrant.

10:29 p.m. – While on patrol, an officer performed a random plate query and discovered that the vehicle did not have a valid inspection sticker. After stopping the vehicle, it was discovered that the operator did not have a MA driver's license. The operator was issued a criminal citation for failure to inspect motor vehicle and operating without a driver's license.

Tuesday, Sept. 5

6:58 a.m. – A motorist reported a single car accident. There were no injuries and responding officers completed an accident report.

Thursday, Sept. 7

4:38 a.m. – A motorist reported striking a utility pole. Granby Police and Fire responded. The operator was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. An accident report was completed.

1:44 p.m. – A motorist reported a two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries and an accident report was completed.

JOB OPENING

STAFF WRITER

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

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

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

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
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- Proficiency in Associated Press style

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

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OPPORTUNITY

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OBITUARIES

Robert Alan Dewhurst



BELCHERTOWN - Robert Alan Dewhurst left his beloved wife of 39 years on September 8, 2023, at Baystate Medical Center. Robert was born in Montague on January 11, 1954, to the late Eleanor (Thompson) and Albert F. Dewhurst of Belchertown in the middle of a raging blizzard. He attended Belchertown Schools and graduated in 1972. During that time, he worked with his Dad and also at service stations in the area (when people actually pumped your gas and washed your windshield) and with his earnings, he acquired some pretty nice vehicles—a 1970 Chevelle and a 1967 Corvette.



After graduation, he entered the U.S. Air Force and served as an aircraft mechanic and also as an inflight refueling technician. In 1978, he joined the Pennsylvania Air National Guard 171st air refueling wing in Pittsburgh. He loved his time there and enjoyed the different places he flew to with "Mickey." He was an in-flight refueling technician and a Boom operator and named his last golden, "Boomer," in honor of that. He graduated from Springfield Technical Community College in 1982 with an associate's degree in civil engineering. He worked for JD contracting in Westfield and

later with Gagliarducci Construction in Springfield until his retirement in 2020.

Bob leaves his wife, Darlene (Czapla) Dewhurst, brother-in-law, Robert Cole of Longwood, Fla., brother-in-law, Father Bruce Czapla of Winsted, Conn., as well as nephews, Kevin (Lois) and Shawn Cole of Alton Bay, N.H., niece, Kelly Berren of Longwood, Fla., and great niece, Samantha and Robin Cole of N.H. and Alexandria Berren of Mich. Also, the many friends who became more family than friends also survive him. Now in the next phase, he joins his buddies, Tim and Mick, the three amigos back together again. His sister, Judy Cole and our golden boys are back with his Dad and our beautiful tabby, Jam, is smack dab in the middle right on Dad's lap where she'd always be. He will be forever missed. I love you, Robert Alan.

Visitation will be held Monday, Sept. 18, from 9-10:30 a.m. at the Beers & Story Belchertown Funeral Home with a memorial Mass at 11 a.m. at St. Francis Church. Donations may be made to either BARC, P.O. Box 161, Belchertown, MA 01007, or to St. Francis Church, PO Box 612, Belchertown, MA 01007.

Please visit www.beersandstory.com.

HOLY COW from page 7

she had - Annie told the robbers, "Blow away!")

She eventually settled in Bay City, Michigan and scratched out a living by operating a charm school where she taught kids table manners and dance basics. But soon pupils dwindled, along with her bank account.

Annie began worrying how she would support herself in old age.

Then, as she later wrote, "the idea came to me like a flash of lightning. Go over Niagara Falls in a barrel." At an age when most people are contemplating retirement, she began contemplating a stunt the bravest daredevils wouldn't attempt.

Her rationale wasn't as crazy as it sounds.

The Pan-American Exposition (a kind of World's Fair) was being held next door in Buffalo, New York. A large contingent of reporters was there.

If she survived, the news coverage would make Annie an instant celebrity. That could mean a book deal and lecture tours and enough money for her final years.

But there was a huge qualifier. "If."

If she survived the plunge. If she didn't, she wouldn't have to worry about anything ever again.

So, Annie headed to Niagara Falls. She designed a special white oak barrel and had it built by a company that made beer kegs.

Three feet at its widest part with tapered ends and metal hoops to secure it, plus a small anvil to keep it weighted down. An old mattress was the only padding.

Word of what she was attempting spread. A crowd gathered as she crawled into the barrel late on Thursday afternoon - her 63rd birthday (although she adamantly insisted to reporters later she was in her 40s).

At 4:30 p.m. the barrel was screwed shut and dropped into the water. Inside, Annie clung to her lucky heart-shaped pillow; and probably prayed.

In about 15 minutes, it was all over. The barrel went over the Falls, briefly submerged, then bobbed to the surface. Boatmen hauled it onto their vessel and unscrewed the lid.

A rescuer peered inside and then shouted, "Good God! She's alive!"

Annie had indeed survived the 167-foot fall. Her only injury was a cut on her forehead as she was removed from the barrel.

She then told reporters, "I would rather face a cannon than go over the Falls again."

Annie got the fame she desired. Her photo and story were in newspapers from coast to coast.

One admirer even wrote a poem called "Goddess of Water".

"This great heroine of our nation has won both fortune and fame.

Now people all over creation will praise this illustrious dame."

(Ok, Shakespeare it's not. But how many poems have been written about you?)

Then, as quickly as celebrity status arrived, the public forgot Annie. Her fifteen minutes of fame didn't even last fifteen minutes.

There was no fortune as she'd hoped. In a final insult, someone even stole her most prized possession: her special barrel.

Annie spent her last years selling a booklet she wrote about her adventure for a dime. She was impoverished when she died in 1921 at age 82.

So, when it comes time to turn 63, go with a birthday cake instead of a stunt. Trust me on this.

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

Doris (Martin) Sobzak

WESTFIELD - Doris (Martin) Sobzak passed away at the age of 100 on September 4, 2023, at her home in Westfield. She was born on January 4, 1923, (when Warren G. Harding was president) in the Aldenville neighborhood of Chicopee to Hermenegilde and Delia Martin.



In the 1970s and 1980s, Doris and her late husband, Walter Sr., were well-loved by local flea market aficionados for their multiple tables of jewelry and beads. Growing up during the Depression was instrumental in their appreciation of the opportunities life offered. (Doris was always looking for the best bargains, and was usually successful in finding them).

Doris is survived by her five children: Patricia Costantino of Tucson, Ariz., Carol Vanderheiden of Belchertown, JoAnne Sargent of Rye, N.H., Walter Jr. of Tucson, Ariz., and Rita Choe of Westfield. She was blessed with 16 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild.

Doris was pre-deceased by her husband, Walter Sr., a grandchild, Kyle Olechnowicz, sisters Lillian Talbot, Jeannette Williamson, and Cecile Gaulin, and brothers Henry, Alfred, and Roland Martin.

She will be greatly missed by her family, and friends, and her neighbors in the Kennedy Apartments in Westfield. Special thanks go to Carol and Rita for their tireless, unstinting care of Doris during her last few years.

Her Graveside service was held on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 1:30 p.m. at St. Mary's Cemetery at 203 Southampton Rd. in Westfield. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made in her name to Our Lady of the Blessed Sacrament Parish, 127 Holyoke Rd., Westfield. Visit www.firtionadams.com.

Death notices

Dewhurst, Robert Allen
Died September 8, 2023
Funeral September 18, 2023

Sobzak (Martin), Doris
Died September 4, 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.

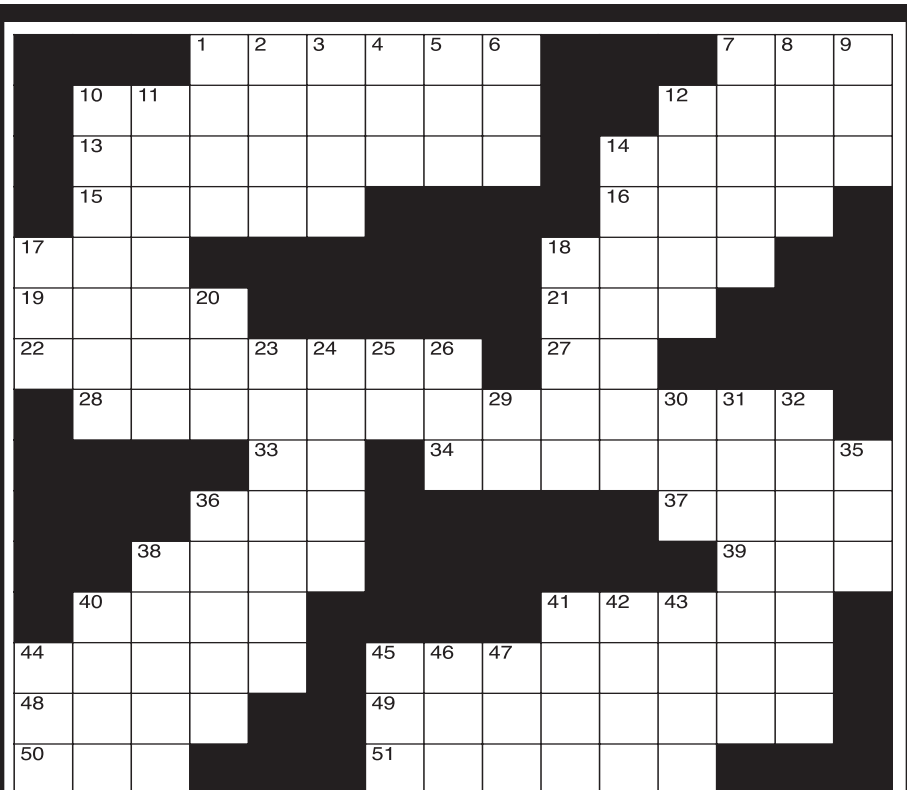
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Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Type of crayon
 - 7. Fashion accessory
 - 10. Most cerebral
 - 12. Incline from vertical
 - 13. Dependent on
 - 14. Broken in
 - 15. Strongly desires
 - 16. Mounted soldier
 - 17. Ad ___: when necessary
 - 18. Cattle
 - 19. Ottoman military commanders
 - 21. ___ student, learns healing
 - 22. Composed in poetic meter
 - 27. Promotional material
 - 28. Where people live
 - 33. Sodium
 - 34. Embarrassing
 - 36. Medical man
 - 37. Mother of Hermes
 - 38. One who saves the day
 - 39. Tooth caregiver
 - 40. Not clothed
 - 41. Slope covered with loose stones
 - 44. Used to cook
 - 45. Praises enthusiastically
 - 48. Rooney is a famous one
 - 49. Beekeeper
 - 50. Pigpen
 - 51. Potato chip brand
 - 5. Midway between east and southeast
 - 6. Confined (abbr.)
 - 7. Book of Esther antagonist
 - 8. Port in Yemen
 - 9. CNN's founder
 - 10. Type of bulb
 - 11. Prepare
 - 12. Promoted
 - 14. Dinner jackets
 - 17. Partner to cheese
 - 18. Nebraska city
 - 20. Human gene
 - 23. Pays no attention to
 - 24. Lowland South American plain
 - 25. Blood group
 - 26. Mauna ___, Hawaiian volcano
 - 29. Atomic #37
 - 30. Unit of electrical resistance
 - 31. Jeweled crowns
 - 32. Nastiest
 - 35. Traditional cars need it
 - 36. Bowler hat
 - 38. Robust
 - 40. Not straight
 - 41. Stony waste matter
 - 42. Have an interest in
 - 43. Jacob ___, journalist
 - 44. Maintains possession of
 - 45. Swiss river
 - 46. Average cost of market goods
 - 47. Spanish soldier: El ___
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Living quarters
 - 2. Horizontal passage
 - 3. Attacks
 - 4. Vietnamese

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The position works under the general supervision of the Town Manager in cooperation with the elected Town Planning Board. Please go to www.townofpalmer.com for a full job description. Send resume and cover letter to rmcnuitt@townofpalmer.com or to 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Salary commensurate with experience.

This position requires a Bachelor's Degree in planning or related field and five years' experience in municipal planning, or any equivalent combination of education and experience. Strong interpersonal, written, and oral communications skills and a working knowledge of MS Office and ArcView GIS.

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■ PUBLIC NOTICES

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 Derek Stebbins and Jillian Brunell for 130 Shea Ave., Map 217, Lot 23, Belchertown, MA.

A public hearing will be held as follows:

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

Date: September 26, 2023
Time: 7:00 PM

Remote access information:

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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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
09/07, 09/14/2023

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, September 25, 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** permit application submitted by Fuss & O'Neill for the **proposed construction of stormwater retrofits at the Department of Public Works, located at 290 Jackson Street (Assessor's Map 238-287)**

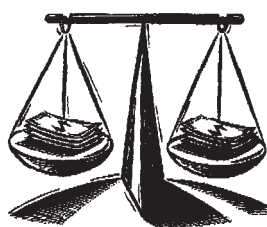
in Belchertown. Work is proposed to occur within the Riverfront Area to a tributary to Lampson Brook. Anyone interested in this matter should appear at the time and place designated.
09/14/2023

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE

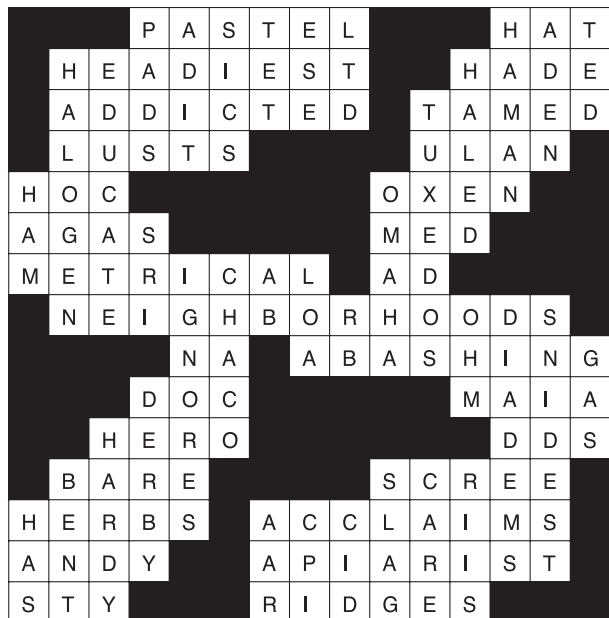
This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of September 15, 2023 the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

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



■ REGION



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

This year's event will feature "Rave On!"



A regional music and car show is scheduled on Sept. 23.

Annual music and car show returns

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI
sentinel@turley.com

REGION – Community members are invited to kick up their heels for a rocking good time this month.

"Come as you are or roll up in your vintage car for [The Center at Eagle Hill's] annual Music & Car Show on Sept. 23, this year featuring Rave On," a press statement reads. "Electrifying music, classic cars, and plentiful food will make this an afternoon not to miss."

Inspired by "some of the most influential music ever written," Rave On was formed to "keep the music of the 50s and 60s alive for all to hear."

"Rave On will take you back in time to when Rock & Roll was just emerging, and the jukebox and dance floor was all that was needed for a good time," a press statement reads. "Experience the thrill of listening to Buddy Holly's classic

hits as well as songs by Jerry Lee Lewis, Elvis, Etta James, Richie Valens, Dion, and many more. Rave On will have you dancing in your seats and bopping down the aisles."

The event is scheduled from 1-4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 23; tickets are \$20, and tickets for students under 12 are free. The Center is also offering discounted \$10 tickets to EBT cardholders through Massachusetts' Card to Culture Program.

For tickets and information, visit thecenterateaglehill.org or call the Box Office at 413-477-6746. In case of inclement weather, this outdoor concert will move indoors with general admission seating.

The Center at Eagle Hill is a performance venue in central Massachusetts presenting "world class music, dance, theatre, and comedy." The Center at Eagle Hill is located at 242 Old Petersham Rd., Hardwick.

New York City Bus Trip Dec. 9

REGION – Come and spend Saturday, Dec. 9, for a day in NYC on a 36-passenger King-Gray coach bus and spend the day shopping, sightseeing or museum hopping. The roundtrip fare is \$77 and includes the driver's gratuity.

Participants will arrive at 6:45 am at Ludlow High School's parking lot at 500 Chapin St. for a prompt 7 a.m. departure. There will be one rest stop going to NYC and one coming home. The bus will drop passengers off in Times

Square. Note: Departure from NYC will be 6 p.m. from the New York Palace Hotel (formerly The Helmsley Palace) on 455 Madison Avenue at 50th Street.

Send check made to Gloria Fortunato, 52 Deer Run, Belchertown, Mass. 01007. In the notation section of the check, write your cell phone number. Deadline for seat reservation is Nov. It and a wait list will be kept. Thank you, and we look forward to having you join us.

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The Quabbin Health District, a MGL Chapter 111, Section 27A District comprised of the towns of Belchertown, Pelham, and Ware is accepting applications for an **18 hour/week part time, un-benefitted, Support Staff Position** to support Quabbin Health District staff in administrative duties, projects, and assisting in health inspections to promote and protect the public health of it's residents in the Quabbin Health District.

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For a full job description please visit <http://quabbinhealthdistrict.com> for more information, or to apply for the position please send request or resume with cover letter to Administrative Assistant, Betty Barlow.

Email to bbarlow@townofware.com
or mail to

Quabbin Health District ATTN: Betty Barlow; 126 Main Street, Ware MA, 01082.



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REGION

Rare but resilient: Endangered moth found in Hardwick

BY **KIMBERLY PALMUCCI**
sentinel@turley.com

HARDWICK – Wildlife experts say the recent discovery of an orange sallow moth at the Muddy Brook Wildlife Management Area is an example of animals and plants responding favorably to habitat restoration work.

“About 75 plants, insects, and animals on the Massachusetts Endangered Species List depend on habitats that experience periodic fires,” the state’s Division of Fisheries and Wildlife (MassWildlife) released in a press statement. “But natural wildland fires that support fire-dependent ecosystems have been suppressed for decades in the interest of public safety.”

However, wildlife experts said many of these specialized plants and animals are “incredibly resilient.”

“Plants can lie dormant as seeds in the ground for decades waiting for the right growing conditions to return,” MassWildlife said. “Mobile species, like birds, bees, and moths, can travel to restored areas to recolonize fire-influenced habitats.”

This plant and animal resilience is on full display at MassWildlife’s Muddy Brook Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Hardwick.



A rare orange sallow moth has recently been found at Muddy Brook WMA.

COURTESY PHOTO, MASSWILDLIFE

The greater Muddy Brook Valley contains “a collection of globally rare, fire-influenced habitats.”

“After 70 years of fire exclusion, most of these habitats were not able to support the specialized plant and animal species that once occurred there,” wildlife experts said, adding that MassWildlife began habitat restoration work at Muddy Brook WMA in 2014 after years of planning. “Restoration included tree canopy thinning and prescribed fire treatments.”

Within a year of the first prescribed fire, an “abundance of native plants”—some that been absent for decades—began to

emerge from the seedbank and become established, wildlife officials said.

“After a few growing seasons, long-absent insects and birds were observed making use of the restored habitat,” MassWildlife released.

The most recent marker of success was discovered in the summer of 2023, when MassWildlife biologists observed the orange sallow moth (*Pyrrha aurantiago*) at Muddy Brook WMA. This is the seventh MESA-listed moth species recorded in the valley since the habitat restoration work began.

The orange sallow moth is listed as a “Species of Special

Concern” in Massachusetts. The moth’s larva (caterpillar) feeds exclusively on the flowers, seeds, and leaves of false foxglove plants, according to reports.

“False foxglove grows in areas with occasional fire. Surveys show that false foxglove was not growing in the Muddy Brook Valley in the years leading up to the restoration work,” MassWildlife released. “Following initial canopy thinning and the introduction of prescribed fire, a small patch of fern-leaved foxglove emerged from the seedbank in 2019. By 2023, more than 1,000 foxglove plants were counted, and in August the orange sallow moth was discovered at this foxglove patch.”

The false foxglove plants at Muddy Brook likely originated from seed that had been dormant since the late 1950s, wildlife officials added.

“Habitat restoration allowed sunlight to reach the soil and re-introduced fire where it had been absent for decades. The nearest orange sallow population is about five miles away,” wildlife experts said. “The moths detected the growing patch of foxgloves (likely signaled by the fragrant flowers) and set out to colonize this new habitat.”

In a press statement, MassWildlife described this orange sallow at Muddy Brook as

“just one of many amazing examples of the resilience displayed by fire-adapted plants and animals.”

“Less than a decade after restoration work began, Muddy Brook WMA now supports over 20 MESA-listed species, including whip-poor-wills, rare bees, and Endangered plants. All of these have similar stories to the orange sallow that show how their highly specialized adaptations allow them to reemerge and flourish following long periods of time.”

Additionally, Muddy Brook WMA is showing what wildlife officials described as “an impressive ecological response to MassWildlife’s habitat restoration work,” including: the emergence of 28 fire-influenced plants not observed prior to restoration, including four Endangered, one Threatened, one Special Concern, and five Watchlist species; the return of the eastern whip-poor-will bird to the site following a documented 30-year absence; a significant increase in early successional breeding birds, including the American woodcock, prairie warbler, field sparrow, and eastern towhee; an increase in bee species from 36 to 150 species (including one Threatened); and a growing list of specialized moths and butterflies that includes several state-listed species.

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