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COMMUNITY Library announces Spooky stories event...p. 2



**NATURE** In My Backyard...p. 6



**SPORTS** B'town football picks up second win...p. 12



# **EDUCATION** Scarecrow and corn tents, oh my!...p. 20

# School garden pollinator news

BY KIMBERLY PALMUCCI sentinel@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN - A pollinator garden maintained by the schools is a "beauty to behold in every season."

"The pollinator garden is located in the same area as the raised vegetable beds, between Swift River Elementary and Chestnut Hill Community Schools," the Belchertown School Gardens released in a news statement. "This section of garden is expertly maintained by Master Gardener Deb Lapointe and is a beauty to behold in every season. Guests are welcome and encouraged to take a stroll along the pathways through the garden, but please don't pick the flowers; we'll leave those for the pollinators.'

Those walking through the school garden might encounter many species of bees, butterflies, and other insects, according to reports; one such visitor is the iconic monarch butterfly.

"These beautiful orange and black butterflies lay their eggs on milkweed plants, the only food source the growing caterpillars can eat," the school garden released.



(PHOTO CREDIT: DEBRA LAPOINTE) Adult spicebush swallowtail.



(PHOTO CREDIT: DEBRA LAPOINTE) An older caterpillar.

In 2022, the monarch butterfly was listed as an endangered species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature.

"We try very hard to keep any milkweed plants that grow in our

Please see **GARDEN**, page 9





PHOTO CREDIT: BELCHERTOWN POLICE K9 UNIT) The Belchertown K9 unit at the Fire Department's recent Open House.

BELCHERTOWN The town's fire department described its Open House event last weekend as a "great turnout with lessons learned for fire prevention week."

"A big thank you to Belchertown Police, Animal Control, MEMA, and Wing Hospital for joining us," the fire department released in a statement after the event. "We have great partnerships."

**PLEASE SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 4** 



A person practices CPR.

# **BOAT** to celebrate **Red Ribbon** Week

BELCHERTOWN - Large red ribbons have been displayed in various locations throughout town and at the schools to honor the Red Ribbon Week national campaign, promoted by the Drug Enforcement Administration across the country.

"[Belchertown Overcoming Adversity Together (BOAT)] invites the community to take a stand against drugs by celebrating Red Ribbon Week from October 23-31," a press statement reads, adding that Red Ribbon week raises awareness of drug use and the problems

Please see **BOAT**, page 7



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# COMMUNITY

# Clapp library's upcoming events

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.  $-\overline{2}$  p.m. Upcoming programs at the Clapp Memorial Library include:

#### Make your own Mail Bracelet Friday, Oct. 20, 3-6 p.m.

Are you curious about mail armor? Mail dates back to the 5th century B.C. in texts and is still used today to protect people from cuts. Throughout history and today, mail is used as decoration. Come get hands-on with history with Castle Nitor. Learn how to make your own mail bracelet. "You will leave with a bracelet and some extra rings to play with. We will show you the fundamental techniques as you

tools needed for you to make a fun project." Registration required: forms.gle/ PuyBvGhsAWenZyTq5

create your own piece of history.

We will have all the supplies and

## A Pleasant Pairing: Tea & Fine Chocolate

Saturday, Oct. 21, 2-4 p.m. Kim Larkin of Klassic Kreations will present a tea and chocolate workshop and tasting. This program includes samplings of tea, tea-infused food, various chocolates, trivia, poetry, and an antique teapot/lace display. This library program is free and open to the public. This program has

BELCHERTOWN - The limited space and registration is required: forms.gle/z2r5Cz4p-GAQxsY369

#### Spooky Stories and Flashlight Scavenger Hunt at the School Gardens

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 5:30 p.m. Join Gardener Debra Lapointe and Head of Youth Services Jennifer Whitehead at the gardens at Spring River Elementary and Chestnut Hill Community Schools for an evening of creepy stories and a dark scavenger hunt through the gardens.

'Costumes welcome, come dressed for the weather and bring your own flashlight," the library released. "The program is geared towards brave children ages 5 to 9 and their families."

Stories start at 5:30 p.m. in the garden; ending time will depend on how quickly one completes the hunt.

### **Science Fiction and Fantasy Book Club**

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 6 p.m.

A monthly book group for lovers of high fantasy, hard science fiction, fable, far future, and all of the speculative fiction

"This month, we are reading 'Annihilation' by Jeff Vandermeer. We meet online via Google Meet."

Contact Tegan Mannino at tmannino@cwmars.org for the

#### Mammoth, Massachusetts **Book Launch Party &** Reception

Tuesday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m. Meet local author Jordan J. Hall and celebrate the launch of his new book, "Mammoth, Massachusetts." Enjoy a refreshment while he reads from this collection of specula-

tive short stories. "Mammoth,

of sci-fi, fantasy and horror that combines unfortunate histories with the world of folk tales.

# **Teen Write Night Info Session**

Wednesday, Oct. 25, 5:30 p.m.

Attention young writers, poets, playwrights, and novelists: Teen Write Nights, a weekly creative writing program for students in grades 7-12, will soon resume at the Clapp Memorial Library. "This program celebrating National Novel Writing Month is a great opportunity for young writers to get feedback, build community, participate in writing exercises and grow their word count," the library released.

There will be an Information Session for interested teens on Wednesday, Oct. 25, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Young writers should email clapplibrarytab@gmail. com for more information about the program and to register. No creative writing experience is necessary.

## Things That Go Bump in the **Night: The History and Impact of the Horror Film**

Thursday, Oct. 26, 7 p.m.

Join film historian Frank Mandosa at the Clapp Memorial Library as he shows the fascinating history of horror films on the big screen—just in time for Halloween.

"You will view all kinds of spooky and outrageous bits from great scary films through the ages in this fun event and learn more about them," the library released. "Even if you have never been a fan of horror movies, this funny, entertaining look at snippets of some brilliant films produced by American cinema shown on our big screen will send some thrills your way. Hopefully this program might

Please see **EVENTS**, page 4



SUBMITTED PHOTO, BELCHERTOWN SCHOOL GARDEN

An upcoming event on Oct. 24 will feature a spooky story and scavenger hunt in the pollinator garden.

# Library announces 'spooky stories' garden event

BELCHERTOWN - On Tuesday, Oct. 24, a "spooky story and scavenger hunt" event will be held in the school pollinator

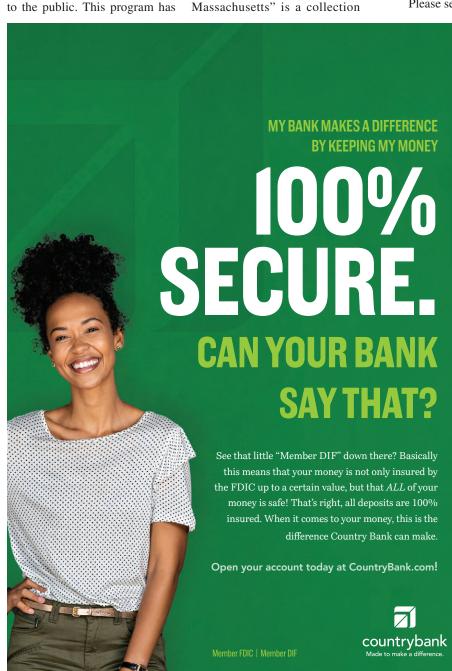
The event, hosted by Clapp Memorial Librarian Jennifer Whitehead and Deb Lapointe, will take place at 5:30 p.m. at the gardens at Spring River Elementary and Chestnut Hill Community Schools for an evening of creepy stories and a dark scavenger hunt through the gar-

"Come in costume," the

Belchertown School Garden released. "Keep an eye out for more upcoming event collaborations between the Clapp Memorial Library and the pollinator garden.'

"Come dressed for the weather and bring your own flashlight," the library released. "The program is geared towards brave children ages 5 to 9 and their families.'

Stories start at 5:30 p.m. in the garden; ending time will depend on how quickly one completes







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# ■ COMMUNITY

# **BCTV Schedule**

# Thursday, Oct. 19 - Wednesday, Oct. 25

BELCHERTOWN - Here is next week's BCTV schedule:

## Thursday, Oct. 19

- 8 a.m. Select Board, Oct. 16 School
- 10 a.m. Committee, Oct. 17
- 12 p.m. Communication Committee, Oct. 12
- 7 p.m. Energy and Sustainability Committee-Channel 192
- 7 p.m. Select Board, Oct. 16 • 9 p.m. - School Committee,
- Oct. 17

#### Friday, Oct. 20

- 8 a.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. BOAT, Oct. 18
- 11 a.m. EDIC, Oct. 18
- 5 p.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 6 p.m. Communication Committee, Oct. 12
- 8 p.m. BOAT, Oct. 18 • 10 p.m. – EDIC, Oct. 18

# Saturday, Oct. 21

- 8 a.m. Educational Crafting with Charlotte, Milking Betsy
- 8:30 a.m. Belchertown Fair Friday/Parade/Saturday 2023
- 10:30 a.m. BHS Jazz Showcase 2023
- 4:30 p.m. Educational

- Crafting with Charlotte, Milking Betsy
- 7 p.m. Belchertown Fair Friday/Parade/Saturday 2023
- 9 p.m. BHS Jazz Showcase

# Sunday, Oct. 22

- 4:30 p.m. St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
- 6 p.m. Christ Community Church
- 7 p.m. Hope United Methodist Church
- 8:30 p.m. How to Run for Local Office

# Monday, Oct. 23

- 8 a.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 5 p.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 6:30 p.m. Select Board, Channel 191
- 7 p.m. Conservation Commission, Channel 192

# Tuesday, Oct. 24

• 7 p.m. - Planning Board, Channel 191

# Wednesday, Oct. 25

- 8 a.m. Conversation with Pakman
- 5 p.m. Conversation with Pakman

# **BUCC** craft fair upcoming

BELCHERTOWN - The Belchertown United Church of Christ (BUCC) will hold its annual Holiday Craft Fair in the Church Parish House, 18 Park St., from 9 a.m. -3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 4.

Numerous crafters from throughout the area will be selling various handmade items including painted slates, cutting boards, knitted, crochet, and quilted items, handmade soaps, photography, paintings, cat toys, jams, jellies, wooden wares, jewelry, personalized ornaments, and more. Lunch will be served. The menu will include baked potatoes, chili, hot dogs, and freshly-popped popcorn, according to a press release.

For more information, email Lucy at luse26@charter.net.



An informational booth at the Open House event.



Youngsters gather around the K9 unit.



A person practices with a fire extinguisher.

# **EVENTS** from page 2

entice you to then maybe watch a spine-chilling film all the way through. Mr. Mandosa is a very entertaining speaker and has tons of movie information to share."

## **Peanut's Playhouse Presents:** Be a Superhero, Not a Bully Friday, Oct. 27, 6 p.m.

"Be a superhero and help stop bullying."

Learn how to be one with this puppet show by Peanut's Playhouse. Kids can participate and will enjoy singing a special song.

# **Red Ribbon Week Bookmark Contest Awards**

Friday, Oct. 27, 6:45 p.m. Join the Clapp Memorial Library and Belchertown Overcoming Adversity Together (BOAT) as they announce the winners of the Red Ribbon Week Bookmark Contest. A winner will be chosen from each age category: ages 12-18, and 11 and younger. Free pizza provided by Sleigh City Pizza Co. will be provided.

# **Teen Halloween Interactive Movie Night**

Friday, Oct. 27, 7 p.m. "Fly on your broom to the Clapp Memorial Library...for a spooky and interactive movie night. Arrive early and dress like your favorite witch or zombie and get ready to be transported to a wild Halloween night in Salem, Massachusetts."

A gift card will be awarded to the teen with the best costume, and free pizza will be provided by Sleigh City Pizza Co. This program is for teens in grades 7-12 and is co-sponsored by **BOAT-Belchertown Overcoming** Adversity Together. Register by emailing clapplibrarytab@gmail. com or by visiting the Clapp Memorial Library.

Additionally, story times for ages three months to six years old began the week of Sept. 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 (Oct. 23 and 30, and Nov. 6) Babytime is for ages three -12

> First Steps Storytime (12-24 months)

months.

10 - 10:45 a.m., Mondays (Oct. 23 and 30, and Nov. 6)

First Steps is for ages 12 - 24 months.

# **Toddler Time (Two-year-olds)**

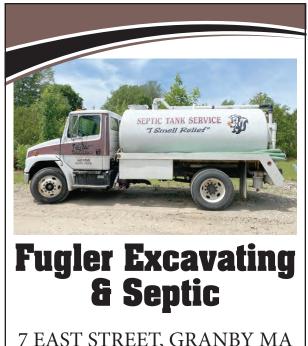
9:30-10:30 a.m., Tuesdays (Oct. 24 and 31, and Nov. 7)

Toddler Time is for two-yearold children.

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

9:30-10:30 a.m., Thursdays (Oct. 19, and 26, and Nov. 2 & 9) Preschool Story Time is for children ages three to six.





7 EAST STREET, GRANBY MA 413-537-3047

# SENIORS

# **Belchertown COA announces** October events, services

Council on Aging is a communitybased 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.

Upcoming events at the Senior Center include:

# **Social Services and Outreach**

Medicare Open Enrollment - Open enrollment for Medicare will take place through Dec. 7.

"This is a great time to review your plan," the COA released.

Complete pre-enrollment forms, located in the blue folder outside Laurene's office; return the forms to the COA's staff, and Laurene "will call you to schedule an appointment."

Fuel Assistance Program - The Fuel Assistance Program officially opens on Nov. 1.

"If you have received your renewal application in the mail, please call Heather to set up an appointment for assistance," the COA released. "For new applicants, please call after

BELCHERTOWN - The town's Nov. 1 for an appointment. We cannot process new applications until after that date.'

> For all other inquiries, call for an appointment:

Laurene Kendall, Social Services Coordinator 413-323-0420 x 505

Heather Woodworth, Social Services Assistant 413-323-0420 x

## AARP Tax-Aide Program **Volunteer Opportunity**

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide is the nation's largest volunteer-run tax preparation and assistance service, the COA released.

"We want you to join us. Please volunteer as a Tax Counselor and work with area residents in preparing their tax returns on the computer. Basic computer skills and some experience in filing your own tax returns are helpful, along with a willingness to make a one day per week time commitment during our 10-week tax season.'

Hands-on training is provided in the classroom, and there are counselors to assist at all sites.

"Please consider whether you, or someone you know, might be willing to help this year. Please fill out an application to become a part of this invaluable team at: mataxaide.org/ Interest."

Training will be done this fall. For questions or additional information, contact D5Taxaide@comcast.net.

#### **BSCCA Calendar Raffle**

The fundraising group is offering a calendar raffle. Stop in to the Senior Center to purchase a ticket; winners will be drawn throughout the month of November. Purchase one ticket for \$20 or two for \$30.

### BSCCA's Holiday Bazaar: Saturday, Nov. 4, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Hosted by the Belchertown Senior Citizens' Center Association

"Don't miss this opportunity to stock up on holiday gifts, or a little something for yourself," the COA released. "Our crafters will have items for purchase in our main dining room, and the Thrift Shop will be open all day as well! In addition to shopping, try your luck at winning one of over 50 fabulous raffle baskets donated by our community members."

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

# Boy Scout Troop 507 can, bottle drive this weekend

BELCHERTOWN - Boy Scout Troop 507 is holding a can and bottle drive from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 21, at the Pride Gas

21 and Rt. 202, 165 State St., Belchertown.

"Gather up all of those unwanted returnable bottles and cans from your Station at the intersection of Rt. summer gatherings and help support

the Scouts," a press statement reads. "Bring them to the Pride station where the Scouts will be collecting them to raise money to help make their scouting experience more meaningful."

# Town announces Veterans Day ceremony

BELCHETOWN - Charly Oliva, the town's Veterans' Agent, has announced the annual Veterans Day event set for this year in the Belchertown High School Veterans' Memorial Auditorium

"Please come out and join the community in celebrating our nation's veterans," a press statement reads.

The following Veterans Day event is planned:

# Saturday, Nov. 11

Anyone wishing to join is asked to gather at the Belchertown High School Auditorium. The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m.

"This year's ceremony is dedicated to pinning Belchertown resident, Marine Corps Sergeant Kevin McMenamin, with his Purple Heart," Oliva released. "He was combat wounded in Vietnam in 1969; our town has the honor of formally pinning him for the first time. We will be joined by state and local government officials, Belchertown's Chestnut Hill Community School's band and chorus, as well as local Scouts."

Those wishing to retire worn U.S. flags may drop them off at the office of the Veterans' Agent in the Freedom Center (6 Berkshire Ave.) or in the Flag Drop Box on the second floor of the Town Hall.

Gold Star families planning to attend Saturday's ceremony are asked to contact Oliva at 413-323-0409.

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

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

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

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.

NEWS & FEATURES

news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school

committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by

the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover,

but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many

interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding

for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general

# 1/24/28 to 10/18/01

With love,

ARTHUR L. DANIELS, SR. God saw him getting tired, and a cure was not to be So He put His arms around him and whispered, "Come to Me." With tearful eyes we watched him suffer, and saw him slowly fade away. Although we loved him dearly, we could not make him stay. A golden heart stopped beating, hard working hands put to rest, God broke our hearts to prove to us, He only takes the best. Claire Daniels & Family

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# RANDALL'S PUMP **DECORATING CONTEST**

# October 21st & 22nd

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YOUTH & ADULT CLASSES



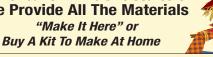
All Entries Must Be Submitted By Saturday, October 21st **VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITES,** OCTOBER 22ND Cash Prizes By Category: "Best" "Funniest" "Scariest" "Most Original"

# LAST WEEKEND FOR FALL FUN WORKSHOPS!

Outside In The Garden Center Saturdays & Sundays 11am-4pm

# Scarecrow Making Workshop

**Make Your Own Life Size Scarecrow We Provide All The Materials** "Make It Here" or



# Pumpkin Decorating Workshop



**We Provide The Pumpkins** & Decorations "Make It Here" or Buv A Kit To Make At Home

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# OPINION



# How will my wife's Social Security be affected by her teacher's pension?

#### Dear Rusty,

My wife, born in 1960, was a Texas school teacher for about 10 years and receives a \$1,000 per month pension from that work. She didn't pay into Social Security while teaching, but she paid into it for about 23 years while working elsewhere. I paid into Social Security my entire life, the maximum in most years, so my SS benefit will be much greater than hers.

I understand there are some sort of penalties or restrictions on my wife's Social Security benefits and also for spousal benefits due to her school pension. Please share the process I can use to estimate my wife's Social Security and tell me if she can file for spousal benefits.

Signed: Planning for the Future

#### Dear Planning,

Because your wife has a Texas school teacher pension earned without contributing to Social Security, any SS benefits she is entitled to will be affected by two rules: first, by the Windfall Elimination Provision. which will reduce her personally earned Social Security retirement benefit and, second, by the Government Pension, which will reduce any spousal boost if she is entitled to one to her own benefit.

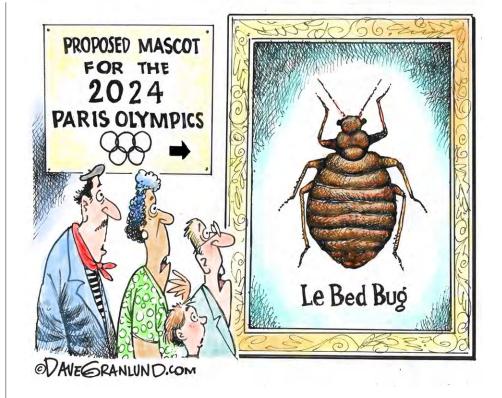
The amount of the WEP reduction to your wife's personal SS retirement benefit will be computed using a special formula, which considers the number of years she has contributed to Social Security through other (non-state) work. Since your wife became eligible for Social Security benefits in 2022 the maximum WEP reduction with 23 years contributing to SS will be \$358. If your wife has already obtained an estimate of her Social Security retirement benefit, deduct \$358 from that estimate and that will be pretty close to her actual SS retirement benefit when she claims. Social Security will figure out the exact amount of her WEP reduction when your wife applies, but you can also use Social Security's "WEP Calculator" for an estimate, which you can find by visiting www.ssa.gov/benefits/calculators/.

Whether your wife will be entitled to a "spousal boost" to her own Social Security retirement benefit depends on how your respective FRA entitlements compare and the GPO. The base amount of your wife's spousal boost will be the difference between her pre-WEP FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement. If your wife's normal FRA entitlement is less than 50% of your FRA entitlement, the difference is a "spousal boost" added to your wife's personal SS retirement benefit. However, that base spousal boost will be reduced if taken before your wife reaches her FRA and even further reduced by the GPO (the GPO reduction will be 2/3rds your wife's State of Texas pension, e.g., about \$667. Any remainder left after these reductions to your wife's spousal boost will be added to her own WEP-reduced SS retirement amount, but if the remainder is \$0 then no spousal boost will be given and your wife will get only her WEP-reduced Social Security retirement amount.

FYI, Social Security's WEP and GPO provisions apply to anyone, who has a pension earned without contributing to Social Security, including many public service retirees in the 26 states, which do not participate in the federal Social Security program. I've published numerous articles about how these rules affect benefits and also about the rationale behind both provisions, which you are welcome to review at this AMAC Foundation website by visiting www. SocialSecurityReport.org.

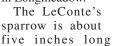
The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations 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.

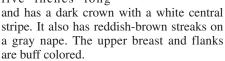






n Friday, Oct. 6 Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a sighting of a LeConte's sparrow in Longmeadow.





LeConte's sparrow

It has a orang to buff orange face surrounding a gray ear patch. Other distinct features are a flat head and a short tail with fine streaking on the upper breast of juveniles.

This sparrow feeds on the ground and eats grass and weed seeds as well as insects. The female lays three to five light gray eggs with darker marks in a cup like nest of grasses placed on or just about the ground. They breed in Canada and winter in the Florida Gulf states.

To avoid danger, it often runs through grasses rather than flying over the grass. It may sing during the day and night. LeConte's sparrows inhabit mashes, wet meadows and weedy fields. Their song is a high-pitched buzz with accents at start and end like "tika-zzzzzz-tzt."

# Other sightings

Other sightings for Oct. 6 reported to Massachusetts Audubon Society included a Townsend's warbler at Plum Island, a prothonotary warbler in Winchester and several reports of clay-colored sparrows.



# **Loon Preservation Committee**

Loon Preservation Committee staff and volunteers in the month of September focused on a number of important post-season tasks including storing nest rafts on shore for the winter (over 140 rafts statewide), pulling and storing the signs that were used to protect vulnerable loon families, rescuing loons in distress and beginning the process of quality checking the data collected during the summer months.

LPC staff rescued five loons in distress throughout the state during the month of September. Rescuing a loon is just the first step in getting it the help that it needs. They thank the veterinarians and rehabilitators who worked with us to evaluate and treat ailing loons: the wonderful veterinarians and staff at VCA Capital Area Veterinary Emergency and Specialty, Hopkinton Animal Hospital, and Meadow Pond Animal Hospital, who helped with x-rays, blood work and assessment of rescued loons; Dr. Mark Pokras, who consulted on all cases and provided valuable insight and suggestions for care; and Maria Colby of Wings of the Dawn Wildlife Rehabilitation, who housed, fed and provided daily care and treatment to all five loons rescued in

Sadly, LPC also continued to collect and necropsy dead loons throughout the state, nine total in September. While it is always sad to lose a loon, being able to determine the cause of death for individual loons allows LPC to collect valuable data on the challenges that the loon population is facing.

# Feeders

I put out my suet feeder during the day and take it in before dusk so the bears don't take the suet and feeder. I have lost quite a few feeder that way. I have downy, hairy and red-bellied woodpeckers coming to the suet as well as white-breasted nuthatches and black-capped chickadees.

I also have a small tray feeder for meal worms and bird seed. I put a small amount of the meal worms and seed each day. The birds empty the feeder so the bears only find an empty tray.

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

# Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy Letters to the edi-

Letters to the editor should be 350 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources. Send letters to: Sentinel, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or via email to sentinel@ turley.com. The deadline for submissions is Friday at 5 p.m.





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**DEANNA SLOAT** *Graphics Manager* 



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# The Garden Lady takes on squash pollination

hristl, a recent transplant to Belchertown from California, wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady:

"We are doing the post-mortem on our veggie garden and we had an issue with our butternut squash.

Last year we grew butternut from seed and had some lovely fruit that lasted most of the winter. This year we used the same seed, but the fruit was white without the distinctive crookneck shape.

I've cooked some and it is definitely not as sweet, but my dog is enjoying the special treats. I suspect that it cross pollinated with something else in the garden.

We also grew two types of cucumbers (which despite the rain went gangbuster), Mini cantaloupe melons and a yellow summer squash. None of these fruits seemed to be affected.

My question is how to avoid this? Are there particular cucurbits that are more likely to cross-pollinate or be cross-pollinated? Is there a certain distance one can plant away from each other?

I was hoping to plant some pumpkins and watermelon next year, but in light of

the butternut, I am wary. I may be willing to forego planting some of the cucurbits, but cukes are a must and I'd hate to give up my melons.

I have enough room that pumpkins will stay out of the veggie garden."

Thank you for the wonderful and very timely question! First let's talk about how cross pollination occurs.

In the simplest of terms, bees carry pollen from plant to plant. When fruit forms, and the seeds from the fruit are saved and used the following year to start new plants, you can sometimes run into trouble and not end up with the exact plants you grew the year before.

We will take melon and cucumbers out of the equation here - they belong to the genus Cucumis and are species melo and sativus respectively. They cannot cross pollinate because they are different species.

Nor can watermelons, since they are a different genus and species altogether: Citrullus lanatus.

The genus Cucurbita, to which squash belongs, has five different species. Three of them are commonly grown in our climate; one more only occasionally:

Cucurbita pepo includes summer squash: zucchini, patty pan, and yellow crookneck as well as acorn, delicata/dumpling, and spaghetti winter squashes. Small gourds, and most pumpkins also belong to this species. Pepos have hard, five-sided ribbed stems.

Cucurbita maxima is comprised of banana, buttercup, Hubbard winter squash as well as some pumpkins, most notably the white pumpkin Lumina and the pretty deep orange-red "Cinderella." Fruit in this species have round stems and tend to be on the large side. They often have bumps on their skin and button ends (think of a

belly-button). Highest carotenoid content when mature and sometimes the largest fruit on earth!

Cucurbita moschata is comprised of the familiar butternut-type of winter squashes as well as the cheese pumpkin, ancient "Seminole," and many other less common fruits. One distinguishing feature of this group is its smooth surface and usually a tan color. It is often used interchangeably for pumpkin in pie recipes. Quality of flesh and carotenoid content can range from good to poor; seed is nutritious.

Cucurbita argyrosperma. To people that live in the Southwest, their "pumpkin" of choice is the "Green Striped Cushaw" or "White Cushaw." Most consider it to be a rather pretty winter squash. Just like the moschatas, it can be used interchangeably in recipes calling for pumpkin. Reportedly, it handles dry weather and is quite resistant to vine borer. It is rarely grown in our climate. One distinguishing factor of this species is silver seed which is large and nutritious. Culinary quality, however, is pale and poor.

Confusion sets in when you want to save seeds of your produce!

All squash are monoecious, that is male and female flowers are produced on the same plant. Note male flowers (usually outnumber female flowers 4:1) are on stems, flowers are fused with stamens versus female flowers that have an ovary at base.

Both are high in nectar that is attractive to visiting bees, most notably the honeybee and native ground bees.

Cross-pollination will not occur between different species - say between a pepo and a maxima but it will take place among members of the same species.

Since I grew zucchini, yellow crookneck and pumpkins in my garden, all Cucurbita

pepos, I can't save the seeds from any of those fruits and expect them to look, or taste, exactly like their parents did.

What makes seed saving even more confusing for the novice is whether or not the variety they are growing is open-pollinated or a hybrid. Hybrids, however, are the result of crossing two inbreds.

Seeds saved from hybrid plants will likely germinate and produce fruit. Unfortunately, it will not be true, and it may or may not have a resemblance to the fruit you saved it from - it will likely resort back to either of its parents or some unique, different combination of genes.

With all of this said, I have a few thoughts as to what happened to produce misshapen butternut squash. If it was seed you saved from the plants you grew the year before, maybe they were hybrids and what you ended up with is something back in the genetic line.

Or maybe they cross pollinated with your neighbors moschatas; for true seed, plants would need to be isolated one-half to one mile.

If what you grew was from the original seed packet- not anything you saved, then it remains a mystery.

Regardless, I do hope this helped in de-tangling a confusing topic and encourages you to plant all of your favorites next year!

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.

# **BOAT** from page 1

related to drugs facing the community; it "encourages parents, educators, business owners, and other community organizations to promote drug-free lifestyles."

"Red Ribbon Week encourages our entire community to adopt healthy, drug-free lifestyles and to keep our youth healthy, safe, and drug-free." said Kris Hoag, Belchertown Public Schools Drug-Free Communities Program Director.

Since its beginning in 1985, the Red Ribbon Week Campaign has touched the lives of millions of people around the world. This is an annual national drug prevention campaign that encourages Americans to wear red ribbons in memory of U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency Special Agent Enrique "Kiki" Camarena, according to a BOAT press release.

"Agent Camarena had become well known in both the United States and Latin America for his success in busting up drug trafficking groups. Kiki embraced the belief that one person can make a difference," the press statement reads.

On February 7, 1985, the 37-yearold Camarena left his office to meet his wife for lunch. Five men appeared at the agent's side and shoved him in a car. One month later, Camarena's body was found. He had been tortured to death, according to reports.

"In honor of Kiki's memory and battle against illegal drug trafficking, his high school friends and Rep. Duncan Hunter launched 'Camarena Club' in Camarena's hometown of Calexico, Calif. where hundreds of members pledged to lead drugfree lives in his honor and began to where red satin badges."

The pledge was delivered to then First Lady Nancy Reagan at a national conference focusing on combating youth drug use. In 1988, Reagan chaired the first National Red Ribbon Week, which was proclaimed by Congress as an annual campaign that would take place during the last week of October. The red ribbons are in remembrance of "Kiki" and his sacrifice.

More than 80 million people participate in Red Ribbon anti-drug events each year, according to reports. The 2023 campaign theme, "Be Kind to Your Mind. Live Drug Free," serves as a reminder that every day Americans across the country make valuable contributions to their communities by being the best they can by living drug free.

"It is also important to remember the dangers of drugs and commemorate the many lives lost to the hazards of drug abuse," BOAT released. "With the rates of overdose deaths across the country in 2022 topping well over 109,000 and in Massachusetts 2,357 overdose deaths and

the highest in our history, it is important to stand together against this destroyer of lives, families, and communities."

The red ribbons across town symbolize the commitment to a drug-free life, to a drug-free community and serve as a catalyst to mobilize communities to educate youth and encourage participation in drugfree activities.

"Red Ribbon Week gives us the opportunity to be vocal and visible in our efforts to achieve a drug-free community," Hoag said. "Research shows that children are less likely to use alcohol and other drugs when parents and other role models are clear and consistent in their communication about the dangers of drug use, specifically the damaging effects on the adolescent brain."

For those struggling with drug or alcohol issues, "reach out for help," BOAT released. The MA Substance Use Helpline is 1-800-327.5050. The Helpline is a statewide public resource for finding substance use treatment, recovery, and also problem gambling services. The Helpline is free and confidential and trained specialists are there to assist.

"Hope is here," BOAT added.

BOAT is also available to obtain resources and may be reached at 413-323-0423 ext. 115.

# Holiday Bazaar event in November

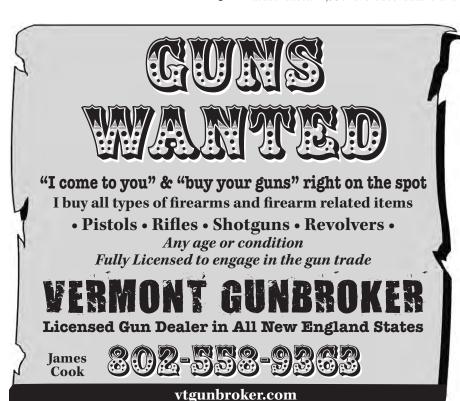
BELCHERTOWN – The annual Holiday Bazaar will be held on Saturday, Nov. 4, at Hope United Methodist Church, 31 Main St., Belchertown.

"Come join us for fun and fellowship," event organizers released. "This is your chance to stock up on our famous Conkey jams and jellies. We have beautiful hand-crafted items, and tempting breads and baked goodies. We will also be featuring our Holiday Cookie Shop. Come fill a bag with all your favorite cookies for only \$6.00."

The event will also feature a silent auction including a Harley Davidson quilt, two hand-knit sweaters, and an assortment of other unique items.

"The quilt is the last Harley Davidson T-shirt quilt, made from brand new T-shirts from across America and Canada," event organizers added. "We will also be hosting a variety of vendors. Also new, enjoy a morning snack with coffee and donuts, or grab a cup of soup for a quick lunch. Come and enjoy the best place to do some early Christmas shopping."

The Bazaar runs from 9 a.m. -3 p.m., and the auction is from 9 a.m. until bidding closes at 2:30 p.m.



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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 Oct. 4 through Oct. 10. 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 337 calls police responded to, there were eight incidents, two accidents, three arrest/summons and 26 citations.

## ARRESTS/SUMMONS Wednesday, Oct. 4

5:06 p.m. – A male Belchertown resident was arrested on charges of domestic assault

## Thursday, Oct. 5

6:22 p.m. – A male Belchertown resident was arrested on charges of domestic assault and battery.

## Sunday, Oct. 8

12:32 a.m. - John A. Nally, 38, of 238 Federal Street Belchertown was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of alcohol. An officer responded to a report of a vehicle driving erratically. The operator was tailgating and had a marked lanes violation. The officer pulled the operator over and Massachusetts State Police were acting as backup.

# ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS Wednesday, Oct. 4

1:20 p.m. - An officer took a report of fraud. They were told by a Geek Squad representative that their account was cancelled and provided personal information. The person provided the number to the officer to report the matter, but the officer couldn't reach the person via the number. The Geek Squad representative allegedly was trying to help with the pending charge. The person said they never used Geek Squad and they were not sure if it was pending. The representative wanted more and more information. The resident said they began giving the information, including their Social Security number. As soon as that happened, the resident's computer was locked. The resident then ended the phone call and reported the incident. They

were advised to freeze their accounts and contact the local credit bureau. They wanted the document on file.

#### Thursday, Oct. 5

10:44 a.m. - An officer took a report of unemployment fraud. A resident found their unemployment check was incorrectly deposited. They checked their account online and it was found the money was deposited into a different account under their name. They were able to determine the other bank was added fraudulently, but it was unknown how that was done. The matter was documented.

#### Friday, Oct. 6

1:17 p.m. – Notification that a credit card was used at a local store, out of state at the time. The card was cancelled and a new card was received. Then, the bank contacted the person and said the claim was not

4:36 p.m. - An officer responded to an accident on Turkey Hill Road. A vehicle traveling south on Turkey Hill Road struck a bear that ran into the roadway. The bear ran away after impact. There were no tows and no injuries reported.

# Saturday, Oct. 7

2:44 a.m. - Officers responded to assist Belchertown fire and paramedics for a person having a mental health crisis.

10:26 p.m. - An officer responded to an adjacent department about a juvenile who posted concerning pictures. The officers were able to contact the involved person and there were images found on various social media channels. It was found that the person in question did not post the images.

# Sunday, Oct. 8

3 a.m. – An officer responded to a residence for a report of a suspicious incident. The resident reported their backdoor was open and it shouldn't have been. The person was concerned there was someone in the house. They said their security system didn't go off and they were unsure if their child may not have shut the door all the way. The officer searched the residence and there was nothing of note. They advised the resident if there was anything missing to call and report the matter.

11:32 a.m. - An officer responded to an accident on Daniel Shay's Highway. A

vehicle attempting to turn out of the parking lot of the VFW struck another vehicle in the passenger's side. No injuries were reported, and no tow was necessary.

# Monday, Oct. 9

6:33 p.m. - An officer responded to the intersection of Route 9 and Route 202 for a report of disabled motor vehicle. The vehicle was able to pull into a parking lot on Federal St. The officer suggested the person try to drive the vehicle to their residence, while the officer followed just in case something was to happen. The vehicle ended up breaking down again on Route 9. Due to the narrow area of roadway, the vehicle was towed from the scene.

# Tuesday, Oct. 10

5:29 p.m. - An officer responded to assist a person having a mental health crisis. The person was transported to the hos-

# **Granby Police Log**

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 316 calls for the week of Sept. 29 through Oct. 12. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all informa-

## Friday, Sept. 29

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

#### Tuesday, Oct. 3

7:14 a.m. – An on-duty officer witnessed a two-vehicle accident. There were no injuries, and an accident report was completed.

1:10 p.m. - A resident came to the station to report someone stole their identity and rerouted their social security payments. An incident report was completed.

# Wednesday, Oct. 4

6:47 p.m. – A motorist came to the lobby of the station and reported that their driver's side mirror struck the mirror of an oncoming vehicle. The motorist sustained minor injuries from flying glass. The other

driver called the station to report the accident and stated that they were uninjured. An accident report was completed.

### Thursday, Oct. 5

3:29 p.m. – A motorist reported that a vehicle drove off the road and caused lawn damage and did not stop. An officer located the vehicle a short time later. An accident report was completed. The operator was issued a criminal citation for crossing marked lanes and leaving the scene of a property damage/accident.

## Friday, Oct. 6

10:28 a.m. - A resident reported discovering that their vehicle was stolen sometime between 1-5:30 a.m. An officer responded and completed an incident report. The matter is under investigation.

6:29 p.m. - A motorist reported a minor two-car accident in the parking lot. An officer responded and completed an accident report. There were no injuries.

### Sunday, Oct. 8

12:51 a.m. - While on patrol, an officer observed a motor vehicle operating without its headlights on. The vehicle was stopped, and it was discovered that the registration was revoked. It was also discovered that the operator did not have a driver's license. The operator was issued a criminal citation for operating a motor vehicle without a license and for defective equipment. The registered owner was issued a criminal citation for allowing a motor vehicle to be operated with a revoked registration.

9:33 a.m. - A resident reported that a parked vehicle's mirror was struck by another passing vehicle at a tag sale. The operator of the parked vehicle came to the station to file an accident report. The other vehicle was described as a black SUV and could not be located.

2:22 p.m. - Several motorists reported a single car rollover accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. The operator sustained minor injuries but refused transport to the hospital. See next call.

3:03 p.m. - Erin Young, 34, of Granby, was arrested on charges of operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, operating a motor vehicle without a license, and crossing marked lanes.

Please see **POLICE LOGS**, page 9







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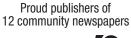


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Students gather in the school garden.

### **GARDEN** from page 1

garden, even if they sprout in the middle of a bed of vegetables," the garden released. "It is important to encourage a nurturing environment for these precious creatures so the population can bounce back, and they can thrive once more."

This fall, while Mrs. Whitney's first-grade class was harvesting in the garden, one student spotted a monarch caterpillar resting on a milkweed plant, the garden added in its news statement.

"Over the following weeks, they were able to watch it grow, observe it in the chrysalis stage, and watch it begin its migration thousands of miles to Mexico."

Milkweed isn't the only plant on which butterflies lay their eggs. Another bush in the pollinator garden, the spice bush, is the host plant for the spicebush swallowtail.

"To find the caterpillars, look in the early summer for leaves that are eaten and then curled. If you carefully fold back the leaves you may get a glimpse of what looks like bird poop but is actually an early life stage of the spicebush swallowtail caterpillar," the garden released. "The curled leaves and the coloration of the caterpillar act as camouflage so it isn't eaten by birds."

After a few weeks, the caterpillar changes colors and looks like "it has a cute little face," according to reports.

"The adult stage is a beautiful butterfly. Look for them next time you are in the pollinator garden."

# **Donated Crops**

In other news, many of the crops planted in the school garden get harvested by the students and donated to the school kitchens for use in lunches or in the Summer Eats program, a free lunch



Flowers in the Belchertown School Garden.

program run through the school cafeteria during July and August.

"This year we donated lettuce, peas, basil, and leeks," the garden reported. "One of our best crops in the garden was kale with over 75 pounds of delicious green leaves delivered to the school kitchens. A great big thanks to the kitchen staff for making delicious, healthy, fresh meals and incorporating the garden's offerings."

Step-Up Day Sunflowers

At the end of the 2022-23 school year, the kindergarteners from Cold Spring School came to step-up day at Swift River Elementary and planted beds of sunflowers to welcome them when they returned as first-graders this September.

"Despite repeated attempts by resident bunnies to make the sunflowers their lunch, first-graders were greeted with beautiful yellow blooms when they started school this

For those who wish to get involved with the school garden, contact btowngarden@gmail.com.



At the end of the 2022-23 school year, the kindergarteners from Cold Spring School came to step-up day at Swift River Elementary and planted beds of sunflowers to welcome them when they returned as first-graders this September.



Many of the crops planted in the school garden get harvested by the students and donated to the school kitchens.

# SENTINEL

Send us your Halloween House Decoration photos from this year! We are looking for decor in 4 categories:

# Scariest

People run screaming!

**Most Creative**Best use of recycled materials!

# Kid Friendly

Kids just want to hang out with you!

# Flashy

Lights, lights and more lights!

the winners being announced.

McCarthy's Pub

We will choose a winner in each

category who will receive a gift

card from one of our sponsors.



All photos will run in our paper with

# **POLICE LOGS** from page 8

# Tuesday, Oct. 10

1:20 p.m. – A motorist reported a twocar accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. The operator of one of the vehicles was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. An accident report was completed.

# Thursday, Oct. 12

2:29 a.m. – A resident called to report a disturbance in an apartment complex. Officers responded and spoke with all involved parties. The situation was resolved for the night.

6:59 a.m. – A resident reported that a

vehicle had struck a pedestrian. Granby Police and Fire responded. The pedestrian was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. An accident report was completed.

11:28 a.m. – A motorist reported that their vehicle was struck by a loose tire rolling in the roadway. An officer responded and determined that the accident occurred in South Hadley. The operator was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. South Hadley PD was notified and responded to complete the accident report.

12:17 a.m. – Several motorists reported a two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries, and an accident report was completed.

To the fire departments of Belchertown and surrounding towns, the police departments of Belchertown and Hadley, and to all our neighbors and the wonderful people of Belchertown who helped in our time of sadness and loss.

The Korenewsky Family

# OBITUARIES

# Lauren N. Surprenant, 34

Surprenant, 34, passed away peacefuling Belchertown Public Schools, taking

ly in the arms of her parents while surrounded by their love on October 9, 2023.

Lauren was the best daughter anyone could ask for; she was the most precious gift her parents ever received. Lauren was a beautiful, kind, and gentle young lady with the strength and determination to live life to the fullest. She was one of God's special angels, she could smile through any challenges she faced.

She was a loving and compassionate woman who treasured her friends and family. Words that best describe Lauren are beautiful, strong, and resilient, with a mischievous sense of humor. She always enjoyed a good knock-knock joke and had a laugh that was contagious! Her favorite song was "Happy Birthday," and she adored celebrating anyone's birthday.

A few of her favorite activities were reading, watching her favorite TV shows, swimming, biking, kayaking, and taking walks with her friends. Throughout Lauren's adventurous life (the riskier the better), she loved the wind in her face and the water at her fingertips.

Lauren was a trailblazer and impacted everyone who was lucky enough to know her. She taught people what was possible

BELCHERTOWN - Lauren N. as a person with a disability by attend-

college courses at HCC, as well as being a presenter at many conferences held by the Department of Developmental Services. After completing her education, she worked at Atkins, and volunteered at Dakin Humane Society, Belchertown Senior Center. and was an active member in her community.

Her love and memory will long be cherished by

her parents, Gary, Linda, and her dog, Sadie, as well as her extended family of aunts, uncles, and cousins. The caregivers that became family along with many dear friends both near and far will hold Lauren's memory close to their hearts.

Lauren's love for life and great strength was seen each and every day by those around her.

Visitation will be on Friday, Oct. 20, from 4-7 p.m. at the Beers & Story Belchertown Funeral Home. Friends and family may gather on Saturday at 10 a.m. at the funeral home to join in procession to St. Francis of Assisi for a funeral mass at 11 a.m. In lieu of flowers, please consider donations in her memory to either All Out Adventures or Baystate Inpatient Palliative Care. Please visit beersandstorv.com.



# **Cemetery Memorials + Markers Granite Benches** Religious Statuary + Outdoor Display

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# **CLUES ACROSS**

- gage without a key
- 5. Subdivision 8. Network of nerves
- 12. Lounge chair
- 14. Ocean
- 15. C. European river
- 16. Bowl-shaped cavity
- 18. Caesar, comedian
- 19. Lyric poems
- 20. Tia's sister
- 21. A way to develop 22. Cows collectively
- 23. Areas close by
- 30. Made a mistake
- 31. One who cites 32. Food stall: \_\_ pai
- dong 33. Narrow valley
- between hills 34. Members of people living mainly in the Congo

- 39. More (Spanish) ments
- 44. Cognizant of
- 46. One who tells on others
- 47. Free from slavery 49. Thick piece of something
- 50. Containing two nitrogen atoms between carbon
- atoms 51. Removed entirely
- 56. Late rocker Turner 57. Appreciated
- 26. Slightly disreputable 58. Observation expedition
  - 59. Opposite of subtracts
  - 60. Unit of work 61. Wreckage on the
  - sea bed 62. Affirmative! (slang)

  - 63. Witness 64. River in England

# **CLUES DOWN**

- A dissenting clique 2. Japanese city
- 3. Spiritual leader
- 4. Second letter of Greek alphabet
- 5. Musical term 6. Ruled over 7. Fortified wine
- 8. First year player 9. Moved in a circu-
- lar way 10. Adolescents
- 11. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language 13. Someone who
- serves in the armed forces 17. Bring up
- 24. Factual written account (abbr.) 25. Having three sides
- 26. Annoy 27. Hustle
- 28. American WW2 leader
- 48. German explorer of the Congo Basin 49. Stick around 52. From a distance 53. Heroic tale 54. Amounts of time

55. Eat

29. Stale atmosphere

36. Sound unit

38. Soviet Socialist

Republic

40. Places to play

41. Medical event

arrive

song

43. Fixed prices

44. Popular Boston

45. Valley in Indiana

and Illinois

47. Omit when

speaking

video games

42. When you hope to

37. They

# Susan E. (Miner) Merrell, 77

MIDDLEFIELD – Susan E. Merrell, 77, of Middlefield, passed away peacefully

at home on Saturday, Oct. 14, 2023, in the loving care of her husband and daughter.

She was born on Feb. 14, 1946, the daughter of Leland and Helen Miner. She attended Belchertown High School and graduated from Fitchburg State College with a BSN degree in

Susan had a 44-year career as an RN in various settings in New Jersey, Vermont and

Massachusetts. She worked primarily in the field of developmental disabilities as a supervising RN and later as a consultant to several local agencies in Berkshire, Hampshire and Franklin counties.

In her leisure time. Susan loved to travel, especially to Bar Harbor and Sanibel Island, with a one-time detour to Kaui and Maui in Hawaii. She was an avid gardener, who provided food for her family and special flowers for her hummingbirds and

butterflies.

She loved animals, especially her grand kitty Gracie, and helped to convert family land into a permanent wildlife sanctuary under the auspices of The Nature Conservancy and Orenda Wildlife Land Trust. She enjoyed driving, particularly small British sports cars with a four speed. She was also a voracious reader, whose Kindle was always within reach.

Susan is survived by her husband of 55 years, Richard S. Merrell, of Middlefield and her

daughter Janis L. Merrell, of Belchertown. She is predeceased by her brother, Leland P. Miner, who died on June 28, 2021.

A memorial service for Susan will be held Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023 at 10 a.m. at the Kelly Funeral Home, 3 Main Street, Lee. In lieu of flowers, those wishing to may make a donation in Susan's name to the Dakin Humane Society, P.O. Box 6307, Springfield, MA 01101.

# 'Graveyard Tours' event upcoming

BELCHERTOWN - The Belchertown Historical Association is once again holding its Halloween Graveyard Tours in the Mount Hope Cemetery.

"Have you ever spent a night in the graveyard when Halloween is approaching?" a press statement reads.

Inhabitants of the cemetery that impacted Belchertown's history will "come to life," represented by members of the community in period costumes, according to reports. Tours will start from the Old Town Hall and be led by a tour guide.

"Visitors will meet Belchertown residents from the 19th century, along with some occasional spirits and lost souls wandering among the tombstones," a press statement reads.

The event is free, donations being collected toward continued reconstruction of the Washington District Schoolhouse. Tours will be from 6-8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29, in the cemetery behind the United Church of Christ on Park Street. This is not a trick or treat event.

# Lions Club 'Halloween Rag Shag Parade' returns

BELCHERTOWN - The town's Lions Club has announced that its 70th annual Rag Shag Parade will assume its traditional format once again this year.

The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 31, at Chestnut Hill Community School.

"Costumed children along with their parents and friends will follow Belchertown Police Department cruisers and our high school marching band in a parade around the school property and, as customary, the Belchertown Fire Department will bring up the rear with its shiny, bright fire trucks," the Belchertown

Lions Club released. At the conclusion of the parade, members of the Belchertown Lions Club will hand out candy to all in attendanceindoors this year-in the candied halls of the CHCS for a fun and safe Halloween

experience, according to a press statement. "Many thanks to Lion Mike Loftus, the

Belchertown Board of Health, and our Police and Fire Departments who all worked diligently in the planning of these safety guidelines for this community activity which will bring back our town's Halloween tradition in 2023," the Lions Club released.

The Belchertown Lions Club Rag Shag parade began back in 1953, when "even a few of our own current members (as very young children) actually partook in the sunset parade around the town common led by seven members of the high school band," according to the Lions Club.

"Festivities were capped off with apple bobbing and candy handouts for the kids and cider donuts for the parents in the Old Town Hall," the Lions Clubs released, adding it "would like to thank our townspeople for their support in its many fundraisers held throughout the year that make such memorable community endeavors possi-

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The community is invited to attend a Celebration of Life in loving memory of Michael A. Beresky, Sr. (1948-2022)Sunday, November 5, 2023 3:00-6:00pm at Mill Valley Links, Belchertown, MA

Light refreshments will be served.

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# Orioles hang with Falcons in narrow loss

**BYTIM PETERSON** 

Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN—The Minnechaug and Belchertown varsity field hockey teams entered last Friday's non-league match-up with a 17-3-2 combined record.

The Lady Falcons, who haven't lost a regular season match to a Western Mass. opponent since last October, scored an early goal and managed to hold on for a 1-0 road victory versus the Lady

It was an extra special game for Minnechaug senior captain Mary Woytowicz and Belchertown sophomore Mya Philpott, who are second cousins.

"It was a lot of fun playing a field hockey game against one of my cousins," Woytowicz said. "We played Belchertown in a home game last year and Mya has really improved a lot. I was really looking forward to today's game. Our whole family was here watching us play.'

Whenever Woytowicz does get together with her younger cousin in the coming years, she'll have the bragging rights.

The Lady Falcons (10-1-1), who are a Division 2 team, also posted a 3-0 shutout victory in last year's meeting against the Lady Orioles, which took place under the lights at Minnechaug.

Belchertown made another visit to Minnechaug's turf field a month later. They defeated East Longmeadow, 1-0, in the Western Mass. Class B finals.

The Lady Orioles, who are a Division 3 team, had an 8-3-1 overall record following last Friday afternoon's home setback.

"We're having another very good season," Philpott said. 'We've been able to win most of our games.'

The Lady Falcons lost to rival Longmeadow, 2-0, in the 2022 Western Mass. Class A finals.

Minnechaug's only setback so far this fall was a 2-0 non-league home loss to Algonquin Regional of Northborough in the season opener. The Lady Falcons also tied Frontier Regional.

"We just didn't communicate very well in our first game of the regular season," Woytowicz said.

Please see **FIELD HOCKEY**, page 16



TURLEY PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Laura Cote tries to steal the ball.



Chris Daskam tries to avoid a tackle.



Landon Andre fires a pass.



Nico St. George looks for a seam.

# Orioles edged at home by Ludlow

**BYTIM PETERSON** 

Sports Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN- The Ludlow boys' varsity soccer team has won 10 or more games 13 times since 2008.

The Lions reached that milestone this season following a 2-0 road win against Smith Division rival Belchertown last Wednesday night.

The Lions also defeated the Orioles, 2-0, in the first meeting of this season at Lusitano

"Not only is Ludlow the best team that we're going to face during the regular season, they're also one of the best boys' soccer teams in the entire state," said Zach Siano, who has won 73 games since replacing Tony Almeida as the Orioles

boys' varsity soccer coach in 2018. "I've lost more games to Greg (Kolodziey) than I've won over the past six years. For him to reach 200 victories is a testament of his character and his commitment to his program. We might be members of the same league, but we're in different Divisions. I would love to see Ludlow win the Division 1 state title this year."

Greg Kolodziey was an assistant soccer coach at his alma mater prior to replacing Tony Goncalves as the varsity coach in the fall 2008. The Lions won three state championship titles during Kolodziey's first five seasons at the helm. The most wins Ludlow has had in one season during the past 16

Please see **ORIOLES**, page 12

# Belchertown football picks up second straight win

was the second straight win for keep the momentum going this

BELCHERTOWN - the Orioles and four out of five Last Friday night at home, this season, with Belchertown Commerce on Friday, Oct. 20 at Belchertown football defeated having a 2-1 conference record Easthampton handily 41-14. It to this point. The Orioles hope to

8 p.m. at Berte Field at Central High School.



Josh Grillo sprints up the field for the Orioles



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM Brian Carlin attempts the kick.

# **T-Birds rebound to beat Bruins**

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-1-0-0) overcame a subpar second period and battled their way to a 4-3 win over the Providence Bruins (0-1-0-1) on Sunday afternoon inside the MassMutual Center.

Vadim Zherenko got the nod in net for Springfield and picked up the win, stopping 38 shots on the afternoon. On the other end, Brandon Bussi got the start for Providence in the net, making 20 saves on 24 T-Birds attempts.

After a flurry of chances in the Providence zone about halfway through the first period, captain Matthew Peca got the T-Birds on the board first as he knocked a rebound home at the 7:48 mark.

On a seemingly harmless play, Wyatt Kalynuk wristed a point shot toward Bussi, who appeared like he would squeeze it in the glove to get a whistle. Instead, the puck popped out of his trapper, and Springfield kept the puck in the zone the next half minute, culminating in the goal by Peca, which came as a sixth attacker was jumping on the ice following a delayed Providence penalty.

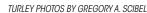
Peca's first goal of the season would be the only tally of the period, as the T-Birds marched back to their dressing room with a 1-0 lead. Nathan Walker picked up a point for a second straight day, getting credit for the primary helper, while Dylan Coghlan accrued his first point as a T-Bird with the secondary

Please see **T-BIRDS**, page 16

# **SPORTS**



Dylan Cominoli gets a first down with a short run.





TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI The Pathfinder defensive line attacks.

# Burke leads way for Pathfinder football

BY TIM PETERSON

Sports Correspondent

THORNDIKE—During the first five weeks of the high school football season, Pathfinder Tech senior William Burke was a cornerback.

Burke saw his first action at the running back position against Tri-County League rival Drury last Friday night.

Burke scored the first rushing touchdown of his varsity career late in the fourth quarter. It turned out to be the difference maker, as the Pioneers pulled out an exciting 26-18 victory over the Blue Devils at St Joesph's Park.

"When I scored my first touchdown of the season, it was just an amazing feeling," said Burke, who rushed for a total of 73 yards on 10 carries in the home game. "I was a tight-end last year, but this was the first time that I've been a running back."

Pathfinder head coach Bill Darling is very glad that he and his coaching staff decided to move Burke to running back.

"Most of our running backs are either freshmen or sophomores. We just needed to make a change at that position," Darling said. "Billy is a solid football player and he's a very hard worker. I just thought it was awesome when he scored that touchdown late in the fourth quarter."

Burke also scored a touchdown in a varsity football game a year

"I did catch a touchdown pass against Ware last year," said Burke, who's going to be a member of the Pioneers wrestling team this winter. "Scoring a touchdown in tonight's game was a much better feeling because I just love being a running back."

The home victory evened the Pioneers overall record at 3-3 and they have a 2-1 league record. They're also 2-0 at home and are in a four-way tie for first place in the league standings.

Drury (1-5,1-2), who captured the Tri-County League title a year ago, tied the score at 18-18 with 7:44 remaining in the fourth quarter. The Pioneers defense made a stop on the two-point conversion play, which would've given the visitors from North Adams a twopoint lead.

Following a 23-yard kickoff return by sophomore Dustyn Cook, the Pioneers offense, which is led by senior quarterback Hunter Griswold, set-up shop at their own 40-yard line.

After gaining just six yards on the first three plays of the series, Griswold kept the drive alive by completing a nine-yard pass to sophomore wide receiver Jarett Skowyra on fourth down.

"Hunter is an outstanding athlete, and he's also a great kid," Darling said. "We have a lot of confidence in him to complete that pass to Jarett on fourth down. It was a pivotal play of that drive."

Griswold also completed a 17-yard pass to senior wide receiver Ethan Nompleggi-Hawk and a four-yard pass to senior tight-end Jacob Longo, which moved the ball down to the Blue Devils 33.

Then Griswold called his own number and rushed for ten yards, which set the stage for Burke, who scored on a 19-yard power run up the middle with 3:23 left on the scoreboard clock.

Griswold completed a touchdown pass to Longo on the conversion play giving the home team an eight-point lead.

The Blue Devils offense did move the ball down to the Pioneers 20-yard line with the help of a 25-yard reception by junior Cole Wetherell, but freshman Nicholas Pfister made the Pioneers fourth fumble recovery of the game on the next play.

The Pioneers picked up a first down on their final offensive series before Griswold took a knee on the last two plays of the

Things didn't start out very well for Pathfinder Tech, as the Drury offense marched down the field during the opening series. The Blue Devils took a 6-0 lead five minutes into the first quarter following a short TD run by senior Hunter Marceau.

Pathfinder Tech answered with an eight-play scoring drive, which was capped off with a four-yard dash into the endzone by Griswold. A pass attempt on the two-point conversion try was incomplete in the endzone.

On the ensuing kickoff, senior Orion Flowers recovered a fumble, which gave the Pioneers the ball back at the Blue Devils 18.

The home team took the lead for the first time two plays later when Griswold hooked up with Skowyra for a 13-yard TD reception. The extra point attempt was

The Pioneers defensive unit took over the spotlight during the second quarter. Junior Landyn Russo, and sophomore Francis Meade both recovered fumbles, which prevented Drury from scoring the go-ahead touchdown.

Holding a slim six-point halftime advantage, the Pioneers took

Please see **PANTHERS**, page 16



Jarett Skowyra starts a return for the Pioneers.



Hunter Griswold scrambles around looking for a receiver.



William Burke powers through the middle.

# Cambridge half-marathon registration open

CAMBRIDGE - Registration is open for the Cambridge Half Marathon and 5K at CambridgeSide. The races are scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 5 (race begins 7 a.m. EST) on a gorgeous new course with views of the Charles River along Memorial

The Cambridge Half Marathon is a 13.1 mile fast and flat course featuring views of the MIT, John W. Weeks Footbridge, Harvard University Stadium, Charles River and more. The new 5K race also offers scenic views alongside the Charles River. Both courses are USATF certified and start and finish at CambridgeSide.

Register for both races at CambridgeSide.com.

# **ORIOLES** from page 11

years was 20 in 2017. That season ended with a thrilling 1-0 overtime victory against Wellsley in the Division 1 state finals.

The Belchertown boys' soccer team might not have as many championship trophies as Ludlow does in their trophy case, but they do have a very strong tradition on

The last time that the Orioles won a state title was in 2019. They defeated Medway, 1-0 in overtime in the Division 3 state finals. A year ago, the Orioles defeated South Hadley, 3-0, in the Western Mass. Class B finals before losing to Dedham, 2-1, in the Division 3 state semifinals.

"We play in a very difficult league, so we're battled tested every year," said Siano, who was selected as the small schools coach of the year in 2022. "We're hoping to make another run in this year's postseason tourna-

The Orioles faced the Lions on their home field without the services of three key starters.

Junior Joey Borelli suffered a season ending knee injury in the first meeting of the regular season against Ludlow. Junior Joe Yoon and senior Trevor Weiss also missed last Wednesday's match with injuries.

"We were missing three of our starting midfielder's," Siano said. "We're hoping to have Joe Yoon and Trevor Weiss back on the pitch very soon."

It took the Lions less than three minutes to take a 1-0 lead.

The scoring play began with senior Cole Bamford delivering a pass across the box to classmate Tommy Quiterio, who blasted a shot into the upper left corner of the net past Belchertown junior goalkeeper Jack Mandeville (6 saves). It was Quiterio's second goal of the season. He netted his first goal of the season in a 4-2

win at West Springfield in the middle of September.

"Our last regular season loss was to Belchertown last year, so it feels very good to come here and get another win against them," Quiterio said. "It also felt good to score an early goal. It was a special night with coach Kolodziey winning his 200th career game. He's a great soccer coach and we're hoping to win the state title for him this year."

The Lions, who have been struggling putting the ball into the net this season, scored another goal in the middle of the first

"We were able to score two goals in tonight's game, which is always a very good thing," Kolodziey said. "Our defense also posted another shutout."

Bamford also assisted on the Lions second goal, which was scored by senior Diogo Dos Santos. It was his first goal of the

"We just dug ourselves a hole in the first half," Siano said. "We did have some chances in the second half, but we couldn't find the

Down at the other end of the field, Ludlow senior goalie Anthony Shea (5 saves) posted his eighth shutout of the regular season. Shea received plenty of support from his defense, which is led by junior Gavin Vala, junior Alvan Lucas, junior James Dias, and senior Christian Casares.

Five minutes into the second half, Belchertown sophomore Austin Raymer fired a shot on goal, but Shea made a diving save. The Orioles other second half shots were taken by senior Tanner Lockwood and junior

The Lions posted a 2-0 home victory over East Longmeadow the following day.

The Orioles got a 1-0 win at Amherst last Friday.

# business//O/EN'sweek



Dr. Molly Russo, originally from Whately, made her way back to the Valley in 2015 and became sole owner of Westbrook Veterinary Hospital in Pelham in 2018. She is a graduate of Tufts Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine. Dr. Russo currently leads an all-female team, and their goal is to provide high quality medicine while appreciating the human-animal bond. They value each pet and treat them as if they were their own. Dr. Russo has every intention of raising her 2 daughters. Avery and Winnie, to be strong independent women – maybe even business owners.



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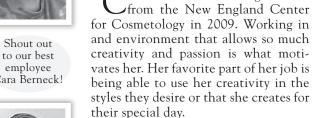
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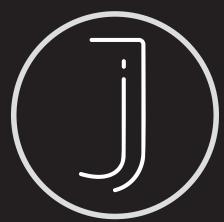
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her family at the agency. Her grandfather, Charlie Moulton founded the agency in 1952. In 1990 her mother, Cynthia Moulton St. George, became the president and ran the agency until her retirement in 2020. Katie and her father, Roy St. George, are both currently the co-principals of the agency. In her 14 years at the agency, she has obtained her Certified Insurance Counselor (CIC) and Certified Insurance Service Representative (CISR) designations. She is a member and a director for the Ware Business and Civic Association. Katie is an active member of the Quincy Mutual Insurance Company Agent's Council among other insurance companies' agency council boards in the region. Outside of work, Katie resides in Belchertown and enjoys spending time outdoors with her husband Jeff and her sons Coleman and Clay.

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# Kimberly Allen

imberly Allen has been a full time REALTOR® since 2004. She began a real estate team in ▶2017 and has grown it to 21 team members. Throughout her tenure, she and her team have closed more than 890 properties and \$212 million in sales. In 2023, the team was the recipient of the Chairman Platinum award and the #1 Team at Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices. They have also received many awards throughout the years for being Top Producers.



Serving families throughout Western Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maine and Florida, Kim and her Team strive to give back to their communities in many facets. To include regularly donating to 4-H, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Boy Scouts, Veterans Administration, Lion's Club and Toys for Tots. Other causes include Jessica's Boundless Playground, where Kim served on the fundraising team.

As designated Luxury Collection Specialists, Kimberly and her team focus on each client's goals and provide a customized marketing and pricing proposal to achieve each objective with the intention of providing the most profits for their client. Every offer is skillfully analyzed and negotiated based on the clients' needs.

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Walk-In

# SPORTS

# Railers fall to Mariners in opener

The Worcester Railers HC (0-1-0-0, 0pts) fell to the Maine Mariners (1-0-0-0, 2pts), on Friday night by the final score of 4-2 at Norway Savings Bank Arena. The Railers are at the Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center against the Maine Mariners on Saturday, October 14th at 7:05 p.m. EST.

Maine started the game with two quick goals in the first from Ethan Keppen (2-0-2) and Wyllum Deveaux (1-0-1) to grab a 2-0 lead through one period. Worcester got on the board in the second thanks to Zach White's tip in front to make it 2-1. The Railers and Mariners traded goals midway through the second, as Jimmy Lambert (1-1-2) for Maine put the Mariners up 3-1

just before Jake Pivonka (1-0-1) got the Railers back to within one. Keppen scored the only goal of the third, as Maine would go on to beat Worcester 4-2 on Friday night.

The Mariners poured on the offense in a hurry to open the first, scoring twice in the first 3:06 of the game. Ethan Keppen (1st) finished off a cross-ice passing sequence from Tyler Drevitch to beat Tikkanen farside and make it 1-0 Mariners. Wyllum Deveaux similarly capped off an up-ice rush with a backdoor tap-in past Tikkanen off a feed from Reid Stefanson (1st) to make it 2-0 Mariners. Former Railer Jimmy Lambert was in the lineup for the Mariners and managed to record the secondary assist on Deveaux's goal. Shots in the first favored Worcester 14-6.

Zach White (1st) got Worcester on the board early in the second with his first as a Railer. John Copeland unleashed a shoulder-high shot from the point that White redirected past Starrett to make it 2-1 Maine. Lambert (1st) recorded his second point of the night as he beat Tikkanen with 8:01 to go in the second, and put Maine back up by two, 3-1. Just 19 seconds later, Jake Pivonka (1st) got Worcester back to within one off assists from Riley Piercey and Ashton Calder. The second period came to an end at 3-2, with Worcester continuing to outshoot the Mariners 12-11. The Railers led in shots through two at 26-17.

Intensity & physicality esca-

lated midway through the third period. Mike Higgins and Cole Dubinsky dropped the gloves in response to a check on Worcester's Artyom Kulakov, which left him slow to get up. Maine scored first in the third when Ethan Keppen (2nd) found the puck alone far side off a feed from Stefanson to beat Tikkanen and make it 4-2. Worcester went on the power play late in the game with 1:46 remaining as Connor Doherty was sent to the box two minutes for roughing. Kulakov then dropped the gloves with Doherty, with both players ejected for the rest of the game after the fight. Neither team would score to wrap up the third, as the Railers fell 4-2 to Maine to open the preseason.

the scoring, with Adam Gaudette and Calle Rosen getting credit with the assists.

HUNDERBIRDS

Just 4:19 later, Bolduc joined the scoring party on a 2-on-1 rush as he rifled home a shot past Bussi on the blocker side. The first-round pick's first career pro goal made it a 3-2 game.

Providence did not go away quietly though, as Marc McLaughlin tipped in a Reilly Walsh point shot on a Bruins power play at the 13:21 mark, bringing the game to a 3-3 tie.

In need of another response, and with another delayed penalty situation, the top line delivered in the clutch. Finding a quiet area in the slot area, Gaudette snapped a perfect shot under the crossbar and recorded his first of the year and second point on the day, making it 4-3 with just 4:52 to go in the third.

Despite pulling their goalie and several dangerous scoring chances, Providence could not tie the score and the T-Birds escaped with their first victory of the year in thrilling fashion.

The T-Birds return to the MassMutual Center on Friday to complete their season-opening three-game homestand as they take on the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, with puck drop set for 7:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome.

# **Follow Turley Sports on Instagram**

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

## **PANTHERS** from page 12

an 18-6 lead when Griswold sprinted 38 yards down the sideline for a touchdown with 8:41 left in the third quarter. Griswold broke away from a couple of tacklers along the way.

"They were trying to tackle me, but I just kept running on that touchdown run," Griswold said. "I was very happy when I finally reached the end zone. This was a fun back and forth game.'

Drury answered right back with a 47-yard TD reception by senior wide receiver Dante Dillard in the middle of the third quarter. Dillard also caught another touchdown pass in the fourth quarter before Burke became the hero of the game.

The Pioneers will be making a trip to North Adams to face McCann Tech on Friday night before wrapping up the regular season with a home game against Smith Vocational on October 27.

# **T-BIRDS** from page 11

Providence had a golden opportunity to score five minutes into the second frame when Vincent Arseneau took advantage of a turnover and found teammate Joey Abate in the slot, but Abate's shot nailed the post and the score remained 1-0.

The T-Birds had a golden opportunity of their own to capitalize on with 7:28 to go in the second after Zachary Bolduc intercepted an errant pass, but Bolduc just missed on the glove side of Bussi as the shot sailed over the crossbar.

John Farinacci finally got the P-Bruins on the board, hammering home a rebound past Zherenko on the power play, tying the game up at one apiece.

With just over a minute to play in the second. after an unforced giveaway in the defensive end by Springfield, the Bruins took advantage as Farinacci found Luke Toporowski for a one-timer in the slot, giving the P-Bruins a 2-1 lead going

It didn't take long for the T-Birds to get even in the third, as Walker recorded his second goal of the season just nine seconds into the period to open up

into the dressing room.

# **FIELD HOCKEY** from page 11

"We've improved a lot since then and we're working together a lot better now."

Woytowicz, who's a threesport varsity athlete, is a starting defender, along with senior's Emily Esteves, and Ainsley Sheehan.

"The three of us have been playing together for the past three years," said Woytowicz, who's also a member of the swimming and tennis teams. "It's always very important to stop the other team from scoring a goal."

Minnechaug senior goalie Kayleigh Kinsman, who only made two saves against the Lady Orioles, posted her sixth shutout of the season.

With 13:35 remaining in the first quarter, the Lady Falcons took a 1-0 lead following a penalty corner goal by junior Alayna Lucas, who banged a shot into the back of the cage. Junior captain Audrey Izzo was credited with the assist.

"We're always looking to score more than one goal in every game that we play," Woytowicz said. "After we took the early 1-0 lead in today's game, we were able to keep them from scoring a goal, which was very crucial."

Philpott was hoping to beat her older cousin at least once before she graduates.

"Minnechaug beat us both times that we faced them," said Philpott, who's a midfielder. "It's kind of disappointing, but they came out on fire in the first quarter, but we only allowed them to score one goal against us."

Philpott dribbled the ball past her older cousin a couple of times during the game.

"Mary is a very good field hockey player," Philpott said. "I was able to get around her a few times, but she did make a couple of stops.'

First-year Belchertown head coach Dina Brunetti was disappointed with the way her team started the game.

"My girls were flat during the first five minutes of the game, and Minnechaug was able to score a goal against us," Brunetti said. We did play very well after that. I really wish that we could face Minnechaug again this year."

With seven minutes left in the second quarter, a shot attempt by Belchertown sophomore Edith Audette was saved by Kinsman. It was the Lady Orioles' best scoring chance.

Down at the other end of the field, Belchertown senior goalie Brooke Stelmokas was credited with eight saves.

Minnechaug also had ten penlty corners during the third quarter, but they couldn't put the ball into the cage.



Karyna Rondeau takes possession of the ball

With a little more than five minutes remaining in regulation, Belchertown senior Laura Cote ers and not having on the field was given a yellow card and was for five minutes was a big factor," forced to sit on the sideline for

five minutes.

"Laura is one of our best play-Brunetti said. "If she was on the

field, we could've made one final push to score the tying goal. I would've been ecstatic with a tie. I'm still very proud of my girls."



Molly Mazzaferro looks to break up a long hit.



Isabella Cebula looks to split the defense.

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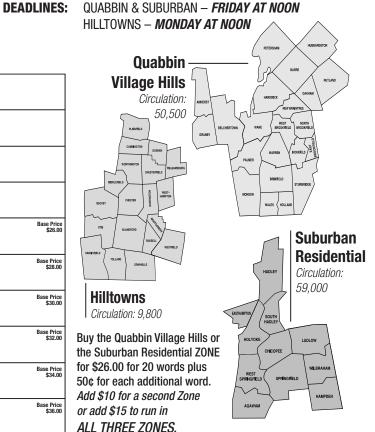
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# **■ PUBLIC NOTICES**

TOWN OF
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REQUEST FOR
PROPOSALS (RFP)
SALE OR LEASE OF
6 BERKSHIRE AVENUE

AND 8 BERKSHIRE AVENUE, BELCHERTOWN MASSACHUSETTS

The Town of Belchertown (the "Town") is seeking proposals to sale or lease (for a term of up to ninety-nine (99) years) the following two (2) parcels of Town-owned property (individually or together, the "Property"): (a) the 1.022-acre parcel of land with the building and other improvements thereon located at 6 Berkshire Avenue. Belchertown, Massachusetts, and identified on Assessor's 243 as 243A (the "6 Berkshire Property"), and (2) the 1.028-acre parcel of land with the building and other improvements thereon located at 8 Berkshire Avenue, Belchertown, Massachusetts, and identified on Assessor's 243 as 244 (the "8 Berkshire Property"). Proposers may submit proposals for the purchase or lease of the 6 Berkshire Property, the 8 Berkshire Property, or both, provided that a separate proposal is submitted for each Property. The property record cards are attached as Exhibit A and the Assessor's map is attached and incorporated into the RFP as Exhibit B, which exhibits are incorporated herein. The Town will also consider a lease with an option to purchase.

Copies of the full Request for Proposals may be obtained from the Town Administrator's Office located at Finnerty House, 2 Jabish Street, Belchertown MA 01007. Copies may also be obtained by contacting Steve Williams, the Town Administrator, by email at

swilliams@belchertown.org.
Proposers are advised that the deed by which the Commonwealth conveyed the Property to the Town, recorded with the Hampshire

Registry of Deeds in Book 5341, Page 34 (the "Deed"), states that the Property is to be used for those uses set forth in the Belchertown Economic Development Industrial Corporation Economic Development Plan of 1993 (as such plan may be changed from time to time, the "Plans"). Attached to and incorporated into the RFP as Exhibit C are the 1993 Plan, the 2001 Plan, the 2009 Plan, and the 2014 Plan. The following is a list of some, but not all, of the uses set forth in the Plans: offices, commercial, business, light industrial, and retail; research, and/ or development, assisted living facilities and/or services in support thereof; education; hospital and/or geriatric center; recreation; tourism; and other uses that support the economic development of the Town. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Town will consider all proposed uses of the Property, even if not listed on the Plans, and may seek all approvals required to allow such use.

All questions must be submitted in writing to Steve Williams, Town Administrator, email: swi <u>lliams@belchertown.org</u> and facsimile: (413) 3233-0403, and received by the Town on or before 3:00 p.m. on October 31, 2023. Questions that the Town, in its sole discretion, deems appropriate for a response will be answered in writing and sent to all proposers on record as having requested the RFP. It is the Town's preference to use email to respond to questions and to send future addendums to potential proposers who have provided their contact information to the Town.

Proposals must be sent or delivered to the Town Administrator's Office, Finnerty House, 2 Jabish Street, Belchertown MA 01007 on or before 11:00 a.m. on November 7, 2023, at which time and place the proposals will be publicly opened. Proposals become

public information when opened. Late proposals will not be considered.

The successful proposer must enter into a purchase and sale agreement, substantially similar to the Purchase and Sale Agreement attached and incorporated into the RFP as Exhibit D (the "P&S"), within thirty (30) days from the date the sale of the Property is awarded to the proposer. Alternatively, if the successful proposer intends to lease the Property, the successful proposer shall enter into an Option to Lease on the terms set forth in Exhibit E, attached and incorporated into the RFP and agree on the terms of the Lease Agreement (on the terms set forth herein), which shall be attached as an exhibit to the Option to Lease, within forty-five (45) days from the date the lease of the Property is awarded to the proposer. The terms and conditions applicable to the sale or lease of the Property are more fully set forth in Section K and Exhibits D and E of the RFP.

No proposer may withdraw his or her proposal for a period of one hundred twenty (120) days after the date set for the opening thereof. The awarding authority is the Belchertown Select Board. The Town of Belchertown, acting through its Select Board, reserves the right to waive any informality, to negotiate sale terms with the successful proposer, to award the sale or lease of the Property to the proposal deemed in the best interest of the Town, and/or to reject any or all proposals if it is in the

Town of Belchertown BID #2023-01 SALE OF TOWN OWNED SURPLUS VEHICLES/

public interest to do so.

10/19, 10/26/2023

EQUIPMENT
The Town of Belchertown will receive sealed bids labeled "SALE OF TOWN OWNED SURPLUS VEHICLE/EQUIPMENT" at the Office of the Select Board, Finnerty House, One South Main Street, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, Massachusetts 01007, until 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 2, 2023. At that time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud.

Bid forms and additional information on the listed vehicles/equipment can be obtained at the Office of the Select Board (413-323-0403) or Department of Public Works (413-323-0415). All bids must be submitted in a

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G2300 (60 +/- hours) 1 – DR 3pt Hitch Mounted

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1 – Concord Road Equipment Manufacturing, CRE960 Truck Mounted Material Spreader

1 – Shark STP#352007 Hot Water Pressure Washer

1 – Wacker, VPG160A Vibratory Plate Compactor

The successful bidder(s) must pay in full within ten (10) days by cashier's check, at which time the vehicles/ equipment will become the

possession of the successful bidder. The Select Board reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids and to award the contract in the best interest of the Town of Belchertown. Vehicles are offered in "Salvage" or "Parts Only" Condition.

Steven J. Williams, Town Administrator 10/19, 10/26/2023

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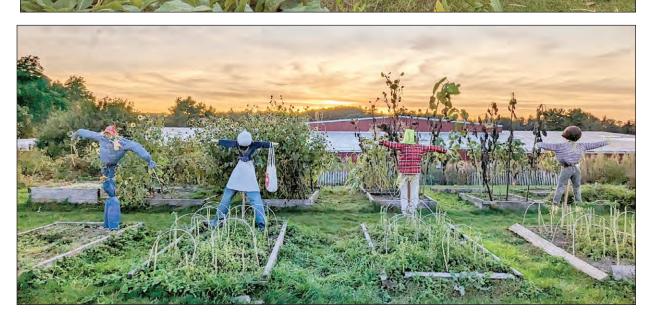
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aura Swirk runs an Outdoor Learners program after school, and her group often does projects in the School Garden space. These pictures are of the Outdoor Learner group and the scarecrows and corn tent SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY LAURA SWIRK





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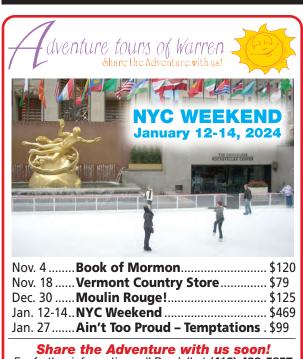
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