

## TRUNK OR TREAT raises money for 4-H programs

BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS  
Staff Writer  
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BELCHERTOWN – With Halloween just a week away, people are excitedly getting their costumes ready, and preparations for some delicious candy to be enjoyed.

The tradition of trunk-or-treating became something more widespread during the pandemic, but it has been around for years longer than that.

Kids can get the opportunity to go trick-or-treating at a smaller scale with the trunks of peoples' cars decorated in fun themes being the stops for some delicious treats.

Janet Theroux and Erin Thibault put together this special trunk-or-treat in order to support the local Belchertown 4-H clubs that include topics ranging from livestock, sewing, and homesteading, to community service and gardening.

Thibault started this special trunk-or-treat at Austin's Corn

Please see **TRUNK OR TREAT**, page 10



A family group with their corn-maze themed truck, ready for trunk-or-treaters.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

## EV fleet in the town's future

BY MELINA BOURDEAU  
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN—The Selectboard received the final report from the National Grid Fleet Advisory Service Program recommending the transition of 31 vehicles to electric over the next 15 years.

According to the report, the town's current fleet includes 74 vehicles, of which 31 are suitable for EV replacement. There is a projected \$941,000 in cost savings and 36 metric tons of CO2 reduction.

David Kirkey, senior energy analyst from ICF explained the report to the board.

"This was across departments – fire police, DPW, animal control and some other smaller departments. Most of the vehicles are gasoline. Most of the vehicles are light duty," he said. "We have some sedans, SUVs, a minivan, light and medium duty pickups, occasional trucks, one street sweeper, nine heavy-duty trucks and three firefighting equipment, which we included as other and were excluded from the analysis."

Kirkey said that the analysis of the EV transition would follow the vehicles' retirement schedule.

Please see **FLEET**, page 7

## Dining director reports previous solid fiscal year

BY MELINA BOURDEAU  
Correspondent

GRANBY—At its recent meeting, the school committee heard from Ken Lopez, the director of dining services, about last year's program results, which turned a \$100,000 profit.

With universal free meals, he said the program has been better since COVID-19.

"We still see some increase in participation," he said. "Our a la carte sales have increased by 35%. Students now have more money in their pockets."

The cost of food has increased, Lopez reported, and more meals are being served.

Lopez said dining services promote its events and programs to the community as well. These include a Super Bowl tailgate lunch, lucky tray days at East Meadow, the food boost, discov-

ery kitchen at East Meadow.

Breaking down the 2023-2024 school year to the 2022-2023 school year, Lopez said the total meals were up – 5,300 meals were served compared to the last year. So the revenue was about \$30,000 higher.

Expenses were higher due to staffing and food costs, but overall, \$10,000 more was made than the year prior.

Dining services were awarded over \$15,000 this school year for local fresh fruits and vegetables.

"We get a lot of fresh fruits and vegetables for the students, and we hope to increase our a la carte menu," he said. He said there are challenges due to strict regulations of what can be served.

Lopez said the district is also partnering with UMass and its

Please see **REPORT**, page 7

## Dufresne Park hosts Halloween event

BY JOHN WOODSIDE  
Correspondent

GRANBY – With Halloween along the way, a screen was erected early Friday night in Dufresne Park, 32 Kendall St, Granby. The movie of the Ghosts and ghouls and costumed fools came out to support local business. A place known for disc golf and bonfires.

It was a community gathering of almost 100. Sheb Wooley and "I Want Candy" play side-by-side. There was a DJ playing music all evening, and the Cub Scouts sold tacos, hot chocolate, a variety of candies. There were also smores for the fire. The Springfield Thunderbirds, a professional hockey team, offer candy and cheer, their mascot Boomer, dancing around the park. Brie's Balloons make Halloween themed blow-up balloons in the fashion of Dracula, aliens, ghosts, and goblins.

"Part of our community outreach," said Joe Manning. "Happy

Please see **EVENT**, page 17



Dave Kaskeski and Meghan Hastings sell popcorn year long.

TURLEY PHOTO BY JOHN WOODSIDE

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SUBMITTED PHOTOS  
Aubrey Basile, Anna K-L, Jack from Hampshire Towing, Jay Dwinell, and Xylena Torres.



(Left to Right) Marion Mason, Helen Butcher, Ruth Ruel, Duane Shipee, Cheryl Sawicki, Cindy Watson, Gloria Smith, and Karen Eaton preparing the chicken pies for the 135th Chicken Pie Supper.

# Local church brings food to those in need

**BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS**  
Staff Writer  
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GRANBY – The United Church of Christ in the center of town has been working hard to bring food to those who need it in the community and beyond.

The food drive brought in almost 600 nonperishable food items that were distributed to both the Neighbors Food Pantry and the Granby Council on Aging.

Over half of the donated food items went to support Neighbors Helping Neighbors and their mission to bring food to all in need that would go to help serve a family.

“We do small food drives usually, but this was our first community-wide one in a long time,” Tasondra Jardine, one of the organizers of the food drive, said. “We were so excited to see the response from people and local businesses wanting to help.”

The church works diligently to supply food to many different organizations around the area, and once a month, send 86-98 PB&J sandwiches to Kate’s Kitchen at Providence Ministries

to help feed children in need.

“We send a yearly donation to Holy Joe’s which buys coffee for our troops and donate regularly to Granby to Go which works in the school system to help with food insecurity for students and their families,” Jardine said.

The church’s Missions Board and Youth Group worked together to intake and sort the food, and “our whole church family joined us in collecting as well as several area businesses,” Jardine said.

These businesses included Hampshire Towing and their affiliates, especially Jack, the director of marketing, Mae’s Pizza, The Immaculate Heart of Mary, Dressel’s Service Station, East Hampton Savings Bank, 5 Corner Cuts, and many more.

The church sent out a flyer and letter to businesses and other churches in the community asking for their help by being drop-off centers for food donations.

All donations were delivered to the church on October 13, and the youth group was ready to help carry in the donations. “We were thrilled with how much food we were able to donate,” Jardine said.

The church holds various drives throughout the year when requested by the church members, other organizations, or if they hear or see a larger need within the community.

“We’re not a huge Church but the love we have for our community and the people in it runs deep. We truly try to embrace Christ’s teachings and “Walk or Talk” as we teach our youth,” Jardine said.

For the past 135 years, the church has hosted Chicken Pie Suppers, serving their town-favorite chicken pies, and this year, they put the meals together to go.

Marion Mason, the general chair of the committee working to make these meals has been serving them for about ten years and loves every part of it.

“It was started to help with the maintenance of the church, mainly the kitchen equipment. We mainly do outreach, and if we know if there is a specific need in the area, then we will help them,” Mason said.

The chicken pies are served with mashed potatoes or butternut

Please see **FOOD DRIVE**, page 3



Anna K-L, Jay Dwinell, Aubrey Basile, Xylena Torres (above), Isaac Simpson, Lydia Pike, John Hine, the Chair of the Neighbors Helping Neighbors Board, and one of the church’s volunteers.



Xylena Torres and Jay Dwinell with one of the delivery drivers from Mae’s Pizza.

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Belchertown residents must be able to show 2 proofs of residency; a mortgage statement/rental agreement and a utility bill that is addressed to the residential address.

You may contact Student Support Services at: Belchertown Public Schools, Student Support Services, 14 Maple Street, PO Box 841, Belchertown, MA 01007 or 413-323-0423 Ext. 112

## BARC Holiday Pop-up

BELCHERTOWN— Please join in on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Belchertown Animal Control, 165 George Hannum Road. There will be 10 year, special edition celebratory t-shirts for sale. Get them now while supplies last. There will also be cat toys, dog tails, hats, jackets, t-shirts, plus much more. BARC merchandise makes great holiday gifts for your animal loving friends and family and at the same time, you help to support a great organization. It's a win win. With any donation or purchase donors will have a chance to take home one of the special baskets. Please bring cat or dog, dry or wet food for the pet food pantry. This will be an outside event.

## Annual craft fair Nov. 23

BELCHERTOWN—Come enjoy our 3rd annual Craft Fair / Bake Sale for some holiday shopping with 40 crafters on Nov. 23 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The craft fair / bake sale will be at the Family Moose Lodge, 244 Fuller St., Chicopee. There will be food to purchase for lunch and afterwards indulge in some baked goods for dessert. There will also be a raffle for everyone to participate in. Proceeds benefit American Cancer Society, Quaboag Valley Relay for Life.

## Hometown Hero award nominations open

BELCHERTOWN—The Belchertown Hometown hero award nominations are now open. The deadline to nominate is Nov. 1 and will be presented at annual Town Meeting. There are two categories Military: Veteran, Active Duty, National Guard/Reserve and First Responder: Police, Fire, EMT, Medical Personnel. Please submit nominations by Nov. 1 to: The Veterans' Services Advisory Board C/O Veterans' Services, 4C Berkshire Avenue, P.O. Box 670, Belchertown, MA 01007, Fax: 413-323-0445 or C/O Charly Oliva @ COliva@Belchertown.org Subject: Hometown Hero.

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## Pine Valley annual craft and vendor fair this Saturday

BELCHERTOWN—Pine Valley Plantation Mobilehome Community is preparing for their upcoming, annual Craft and Vendor Fair, being held on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

This is a much-anticipated event for Pine Valley's over-55 community of 530 residents, as well as for shoppers in Belchertown and surrounding

towns. Thirty-six crafters and vendors come together to display (and sell) their Fall and Holiday items. There are always lots of one-of-a-kind, hand created gift ideas to satisfy even the most difficult to buy for. From crocheted and quilted items to elaborate birdhouses and hand-crafted wooden spoons and carving boards, the variety is amazing.

For shoppers' convenience, home-made chicken soup is served, along with hotdogs, egg- and ham-salad sandwiches, beverages and snacks.

Pine Valley is just off route 21, by the Coldspring Golf Course. Vendors will be indoors in the Community Room (back of the main building) and outdoors, under tents. It's a rain-or-shine event.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Lydia Pike, Aubrey Basile, Xyelena Torres, Wally from the Immaculate Heart of Mary, Anna K-L, Jay Dwinell, and Isaac Simpson.

### FOOD DRIVE from page 2

squash, and after having boiled onions as a staple, have made the switch to serving peas and carrots to go with it.

About 230 people came to get their meals, and this year, the Women of the Church led a group of people in making some delicious apple crisp for dessert.

"My favorite part is seeing the people that come back every year and see how grateful they are that we are

still doing it because they enjoy it so much," Mason said.

"Our mission is to help others, and so we just all work together. It's a very warm church where we work together to do our missions," Mason said.

The church, in partnership with the COA, puts together about 60-70 Thanksgiving baskets for the elderly and some families in the town in need.

The church collects items for the baskets in their food pantry through

the month of November, mostly Thanksgiving foods items like boxes of stuffing, canned veggies, and instant potatoes. This year, the Women of the Church will be leading in making apple crisps to go with the baskets.

The church is truly dedicated to their community, and ensuring that everyone, no matter who they are or their circumstances, will always have something to eat.

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# Crop circles and their unusual origins are explored



John Root, ready to give his presentation on the research he has done on the mysterious phenomenon known as crop circles.

**BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS**  
Staff Writer  
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GRANBY – When it comes to mysteries about life outside of our planet, many theories about aliens and other extraterrestrial creatures come to mind.

For decades, aliens have been a consistent form of entertainment in movies, TV shows, and other media as humans wonder about the distant stars up in the sky.

However, there is one unexplained phenomenon that has been documented by humans for centuries, and those are crop circles.

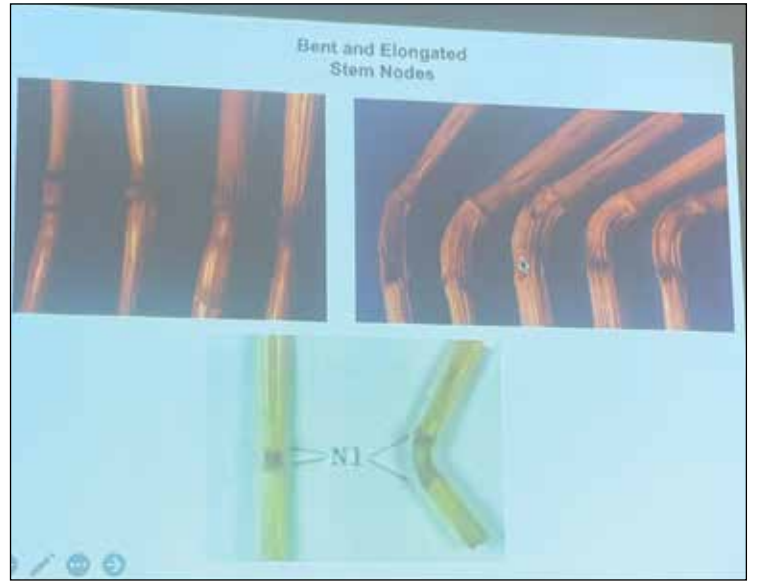
These strange occurrences, which witnesses always describe the same way, are giant geometric patterns, and some have even stretched a quarter of a mile in size.

“It really interests me how complex these designs are. It’s inconceivable that humans could make them,” said John Root, who has taken an interest in studying these strange occurrences.

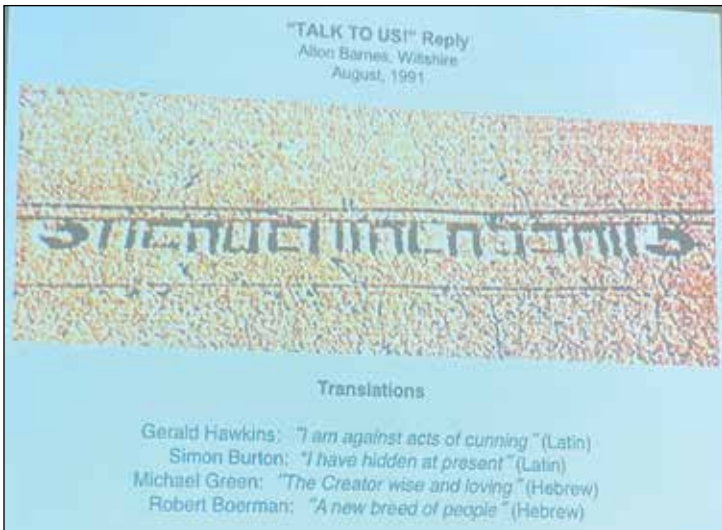
The complexity and artistry of these crop circles is truly astounding, even with most of them only being composed of lines and circles, and yet, no one knows how they appear.

When it comes to crop circles, several things are noted: the plants, mostly the stalks of corn or other grains, are bent, not broken, as if the stem itself was instantly made flexible, bent, and relaxed again.

Where these crop circles are found, there is always signs of soil dehydration underneath the plants, white sulfurous residue, and later, the growth rate is affected by 30%



TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS  
What the plants looked like elongated and bent that are found within a crop circle.



A reply to a Alton Barnes tramped out message “Talk to us,” given only a few days later with the following reply eerily projected into the earth.

positively.

Most of these plants are also found with an iron sort of frosting, with the rocks and plants otherwise unharmed, a process mysterious, and impossible in every stretch of the imagination.

“They’re much more complex than what you see when first viewing them,” Root said. “Many people who have gone into these circles experience visceral reactions, positive or negative.”

These responses from the people, which have stated they have felt a sense of wonder and calm, or intense anxiety, have noted it was only within the circles themselves.

Reports of these crop circles can be found in early manuscripts and texts, such as within old

Native American tales, and even in a 1678 story of a “mowing devil” that creates these strange circles.

Robert Plot, a naturalist, recorded these circles as well in his account, “The Natural History of Staffordshire”, from 1686, where he theorized that the shapes came from lighting in the clouds.

Coincidentally, nearly every witness, or anyone near a crop circle being created, has noted three common things: a flash of light, and a loud bang like thunder or jet planes, and wind.

Reports of crop circles have even been found in Africa from the early twentieth century, but it is England with the most reports of them. From 1880 to

Please see **CROP CIRCLES**, page 5



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## Belchertown Lions introduces new officers



The Belchertown Lions Club would like to introduce its new slate of officers for the 2024-25 fiscal year: (L to R) President Morgan Kimball, 1st Vice-president Josh Dufresne, 2nd Vice-president Steve Cmuchowski, and 3rd Vice-president Morgan Kimball, Jr. Say, "Hi," to these fine young men at our upcoming town events—the Rag Shag Parade on Halloween, our Super Raffle on Nov. 22nd, our Saturday meatball grinder sales starting up in the Spring, our 2nd Annual "Cruisin' the Common" Car Show on Aug. 9th, 2025 and, of course, our food wagon at the Belchertown Fair 2025.

## Hope United Church announces Holiday Bazaar on Nov. 2

BELCHERTOWN— Come join in for fun and fellowship at the annual Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, Nov. 2, at Hope United Methodist Church, 31 Main St. This is the chance to stock up on the famous Conkey jams and jellies. There will be beautiful hand crafted items, and tempting breads

and baked goodies. Also be featuring our Holiday Cookie Shop. Come fill a bag with cookies for only \$7. There will be a Silent auction including a beautiful quilt and an assortment of other unique items. We will also be hosting a variety of vendors. Enjoy a morning snack with coffee

and donuts, or grab a cup of soup and a finger sandwich for a quick lunch. Come and enjoy the best place to do some early Christmas shopping. The Bazaar runs from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and the auction is from 9 a.m. until bidding closes at 2:30 p.m.

### CROP CIRCLES from page 5

1978, 25 crop circles were reported, where generations each saw at least one in their lifetimes.

As technology progressed, we were able to get photographs of these strange creations, and from the sky, the only probably way they could have been formed, was from that height.

With no visible imperfections, no foot paths around the perimeter of the entire crop circle design, it ruled out humans making them quickly, even debunking hoaxes who tried to take credit for them.

"The belief that they are created by aliens fits the evidence more closely than anything in my opinion," Root said.

Every crop circle has its own distinct pattern and shapes within it, and no one to this day knows where they



Some of the many shapes of crop circles found around the world over the decades have appeared with red lines tracing their geometric patterns.

come from, what strange residue is left behind, and much more.

"Who knows what happened? Who knows what's going to happen? It's like trying to piece together a crossword puzzle, but we don't have any clues," Root said.

And so, crop circles will remain a mystery, but their effects on their surroundings is very real, and their creators, probably just as real.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

A more recent circle found with strange lines on either side with eerily perfect uniformity.

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## Pretty leaves make great mulch and more!

Even though we thought it was going to be a year of drab fall foliage, the colors this past weekend surprised me.

I saw so many neat plants doing their thing in response to the shorter days. When chlorophyll is broken down as a result of less daylight, lots of other colors take the place of green in the leaves.

We have our oranges and yellows from the carotenoids, the purple and red shades from the anthocyanins and the rusts and browns from tannins, and then there are plants that look ghost-like because the green color is just plain gone!

Besides enjoying great foliage, I saw the start of some very large leaf piles. I know that raking up fallen leaves are not everyone's favorite task, but gardeners should rejoice!

Read on to learn about the many uses of leaves, straight from the archives.

Consider for a moment the forest, and how stands of trees grow successfully without any input from us. Why is that so?

It is thanks to nature's own process of decomposition. Leaves, branches, and pine needles, etc., fall onto the forest floor where microbes such as fungi and bacteria break them down into humus.

Humus works between the mineral particles and air spaces in the soil, helping it to retain moisture yet drain readily. It also helps to enhance overall soil fertility by making nutrients available to plants in a form they can readily use.

Worms and other macro-organisms aerate the soil and disperse the humus around plant roots, making a self-perpetuating system. We can apply this lesson from nature to our own situation, making for more successful gardens and healthier lawns, and all by the use of leaves!

Perhaps the easiest way to deal with a small amount of leaves is to mow over them several times with the lawn mower. Soon the tiny pieces will disappear into the soil adding valuable nutrients as they break down.

The lawn mower also comes in handy after piles have been made. Mow over low piles or chop them up with a shredder, then they can be used for a variety of purposes.

Once the soil has frozen, chopped leaves make an excellent protective winter mulch for any type of garden. They won't mat down and rot the crowns of your favorite perennials the way whole leaves might, but they will moderate soil temperatures enough to prevent them from being heaved out of the ground during normal cycles of freezing and thawing.

When spring arrives just pull back the mulch off the tops of the plants. It can stay in place covering bare soil, all the while conserving moisture, preventing weeds, and making humus!

If the "natural look" is unappealing to you apply a thin coat of bark mulch over chopped leaves to dress things up a bit. Repeat this drill every year for your own self-perpetuating garden.

You can also incorporate chopped leaves right into the vegetable garden each fall. The use of a rototiller makes this job a snap.

Most will have decomposed by spring, but till the garden again a month or so before planting to finish the job.

Chopped leaves make a great addition to the compost pile.

Layer brown, carbon rich ingredients (such as chopped leaves) with green, nitrogen rich ingredients (such as grass clippings, vegetable scraps, non-weedy plant parts) together to get the pile cooking. Add a shovel full of garden soil or finished compost per layer to inoculate it with microbes and water well.

Let the pile sit for a year or turn it frequently for faster results. Compost is a near neutral source of humus, a well-balanced fertilizer and soil tonic, good for all types of gardens and even the lawn.

If you are too busy to layer and shredding sounds like a messy job, simply pile the leaves, moistening as you go. The resulting leaf mold is another healthy addition to the garden.

Research has proven that members of the cabbage family respond especially well to this type of humus. Keep in mind that oak leaves are more acidic than other leaves of trees native to our area.

If you use more of these in any of your gardening situations, adjust liming accordingly.

So get out the rake and improve your landscape!!  
*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

## OPINION



### LETTER

## Keeping Halloween safe and fun

#### Letter to the Editor:

Dana Woods is a neighborhood that knows how to make Halloween fun, and many trick-or-treaters visit us. But large numbers of cars going through the neighborhood present a safety hazard, both to residents and visitors. If you plan on visiting Dana Woods for Halloween, please remember the following:

1. Per order of the police, there will be absolutely no parking allowed on George Hannum Road.
2. Driving in the development will be extremely limited. Parents in cars following trick-or-treaters will be asked to park and walk.
3. Please follow signs and use common sense by parking on only one side of the

street to allow for passage of emergency vehicles.

4. Please don't allow kids to zigzag across the streets. In addition to the obvious safety concern, many of the streets are cul-de-sacs and this tends to result in homes being visited twice.

5. Please do not litter—keep candy wrappers in treat bags.

6. Please do not block driveways.

7. If a house's lights are off, they are either not participating or have run out of candy.

Keeping these points in mind will help assure a safe, fun night.

Thank you,  
**Dana Woods Homeowners Association**



## Signing up for Social Security and Medicare Part B at 70

#### Dear Rusty:

I just turned 69 years old in August 2024 and am still working full time. I signed up for Medicare Part A but, it is my secondary insurance because I have great health insurance through where I work.

My wife is retired and has Medicare Part A but, is on my insurance also and she is taking Social Security.

Our plan is for me to work until August 2026 when I'll be 71. I'll file for Social Security when I turn 70 and bank all of it for a year until I retire. That is money we plan to use for travel and fun things. I have three questions: when should I file for my Social Security so it starts in September; when do my wife and I file for Medicare Part B with a supplement so it starts in September; and are there negative tax implications to this plan that I haven't thought of?

Signed: *Needing Info*

#### Dear Needing Info:

Sounds like you have a great strategy planned for your personal Social Security benefits and your Medicare Part B enrollment for both of you. To your questions:

If you will be 70 in August 2025, you can apply for Social Security about three months prior e.g., in May 2025. Just be sure to specify that you wish your SS benefits to start effective with the month of your 70th birthday.

Signing up a few months early is perfectly okay; you will indicate your desired benefit start date on your application and that is when SS will start your benefits. Remember, SS pays benefits in the month following the month earned, so your first payment will be received in September 2025 on the second Wednesday if you were born before the 11th of the month

As for Medicare Part B coverage for you and your wife, both of you can enroll in Medicare Part B a couple of months prior to you leaving work, but request that Medicare Part B coverage starts in the month your work coverage ends. In other words, you can enroll in Medicare before you retire from work, but request that your Part B coverage starts in the first month your employer coverage ends to avoid any gap in healthcare coverage. Obviously, you should begin your private supplemental

Please see **MEDICARE**, page 7

## Turley Publications Letters to the Editor Policy

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

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## Turley Election Policy

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

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

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



**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. 9 through Oct. 15. The information was provided by a member of the police department based on the review of the detailed log summary. This feature is designed to provide context and explanation to some of the calls police respond to every day. Of the calls police responded to, there were 10 incidents, nine accidents, two arrests/summons and 14 citations.*

**ARRESTS/SUMMONS  
Friday, Oct. 13**

2:23 p.m. – A 24-year-old Dorchester man was issued a summons on charges of leaving a scene of property damage. A truck left a scene after damaging property. The operator was located and charged accordingly.

**Monday, Oct. 14**

9:26 a.m. – A 48-year-old Belchertown woman was issued a summons for unlicensed motor vehicle operation charges. An officer was patrolling the north section of town and conducting random status on the RMV. They had insurance, but the license status was unknown. During the stop, the person confirmed to have a Massachusetts resident but not a license. They have a Florida resident.

**INCIDENTS/ACCIDENTS  
Thursday, Oct. 10**

10:02 a.m. – An officer responded to the lobby for a report of a minor motor vehicle crash on Hamilton Street. A vehicle backed into a parked vehicle. No tow was needed, and no injuries were reported.

11:33 a.m. – A report of two stolen dirt bikes from a North Washington Street address. The matter is under investigation.

3:14 p.m. – An officer responded to North Washington Street for a two-vehicle crash report. One vehicle was coming from under the underpass, and the other was moving towards the first and struck it on the side. No injuries were reported, and no tows were needed.

6:06 p.m. – An officer received a report of harassment from a neighbor and placed a trespass order.

**Friday, Oct. 11**

6:47 a.m. – An officer responded to assist Belchertown Fire and paramedics.

9:05 a.m. – A debit card was placed in the police department drop box. Officers were unable to get in contact with the owner.

12:28 p.m. – An officer spoke with a resident who said there was an incident of fraud. There was a fraudulent activity done with an online business.

**Saturday, Oct. 12**

10:35 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on North and Federal Streets. Two vehicles collided at the intersection of Federal and North Street. No injuries were reported, and no tow was needed.

12:39 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Federal Street. An operator of a vehicle struck a pedestrian while they were backing out of a space. One person was transported from the scene.

**Monday, Oct. 14**

12:36 p.m. – An officer responded to a report of a crash on North Main Street. An operator was backing when they struck a parked vehicle on North Main Street. No injuries were reported, and no tow was needed.

12:55 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on North Liberty Street. A vehicle was traveling on North Liberty Street when the operator dropped something on the floor. While bending down to pick it up, the vehicle left a lane and struck a mailbox and two trees. No injuries were reported, and no tow was needed.

11:05 p.m. – An officer conducted a well-being check on a juvenile after a call was made to the crisis hotline.

**Tuesday, Oct. 15**

11:05 a.m. – An officer returned a phone call to a resident regarding threats made while they were walking their dog. The person was pushed to the ground by another dog off-leash. The owner took the dog off the person. The dog officer reported the owner would be cited.

12:29 p.m. – A vehicle struck a rock wall on Mill Valley Road. No injuries were reported, and the vehicle was privately towed.

**Granby Police Log**

*Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 142 calls from Oct. 11 through Oct. 17. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all the information.*

**Saturday, Oct. 12**

3:46 p.m. – A motorist reported a minor two-car accident. There were no injuries.

**Monday, Oct. 14**

1:11 p.m. – While on patrol, an officer observed a motor vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 53MPH in 40MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped, and the operator was issued a written warning for speeding.

**Tuesday, Oct. 15**

8:47 a.m. – A motorist reported a two-car accident. There were no injuries.

**Wednesday, Oct. 16**

7:12 a.m. – A resident reported that someone drove over their lawn and took down all their political signs.

3:37 p.m. – It was reported that a vehicle struck a parked car in the parking lot, causing minor damage, and then left the scene. The operator of the other vehicle involved was identified, and an accident report was completed.

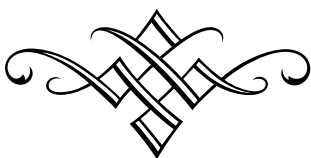
**REPORT** from page 1

nutritional department.

“We’re going to be bringing in interns to do some educational activities in the cafeteria and the classroom,” he said. “We’re hoping to get that started in January.”

Challenges for this year include keeping students engaged and excited for breakfast and lunch at the high school and space constraints.

“We have one kitchen here; it’s a small elementary-sized kitchen, so we’re really tight on space,” Lopez said. “If we start doing more meals, we may have to talk about bringing in an outside freezer truck for supplies.”



**FLEET** from page 1

The report details which vehicles could be replaced and when and incentives.

“There are a lot of federal, state and utility incentives out there, and those are baked into some of our total cost of ownership calculations,” he said.

Currently, the town is in step five of the process, presenting the information to stakeholders.

“Once you start to figure out what is the low-hanging fruit, where viable options for you guys to look to electrify your first five or 10 vehicles, then you start to have those discussions about at what site we want, what capacity do we have?” said Kirkey.

Selectboard member Lesa Lessard Pearson asked for the vehicle taken home by employees.

Kirkey said the report breaks down which vehicles were battery electric vehicles, for example, which would be charged during the workday.

Town Manager Steve Williams said the town would not install chargers in people’s homes.

Selectboard Chair Ed Boscher asked if the lowest cost over the vehicle’s lifespan was calculated, including maintenance.

“Everything in here is based on the total cost of ownership, not just the upfront capital cost,” Kirkey said.

Belchertown Department of Public Works Director Linda Leduc told the board that ICF would support the town for five years.

“They will regularly update the plan based on needs, how they change, and advancements in EV technology,” Leduc said. “My goal for the town is to look at how realistically we could start the transition.”

Lessard Pearson asked about the timeline for the transition to EV vehicles.

Kirkey said the hard part is determining which vehicle the town wants to use as an EV and where the charges need to be installed.

“You can go out and buy a vehicle tomorrow; that wouldn’t be the hard part but figuring out where the vehicle will charge and what incentives will apply,” he said. “We want to go after grants and incentives, and that’s part of what this program is here to do.”

Williams added that there isn’t a hard deadline, and the town has already purchased its first fully EV vehicle, an administrative vehicle for the police department.

Lessard Pearson said she wanted to understand the cost analysis overall.

“The angst I really have about it is the costs. We know that technology is going to evolve,” Lessard Pearson said.

“It’s a big figure we need to figure out. This report is here as a baseline. It’s there to help us work through all of these pieces over the next five years,” Leduc said. “This is the beginning of it.”

The next refresh of the report will be in January.

**MEDICARE** from page 6

healthcare coverage to coincide with the start of your Medicare Part B coverage.

Regarding the tax implications, just be aware that a portion of your received Social Security benefits become taxable income if your Modified Adjusted Gross Income as a married couple exceeds certain thresholds. FYI, “MAGI” is your Adjusted Gross Income on your tax return plus 50% of your received SS benefits, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had.

If you file your taxes as “married/jointly” and your MAGI is more than \$32,000, then 50% of the SS benefits you receive during the tax year becomes taxable income or if your MAGI as a married couple is over \$44,000 then up to 85% of the SS benefits received during the tax year becomes taxable income at your normal IRS tax rate. Income tax on SS benefits occurs when your MAGI is over the thresholds for your tax filing status, so you should plan accordingly.

If your MAGI will be consistently over these thresholds after you retire from working, you may choose to have income tax withheld from your SS benefits, which is easy to do by submitting IRS FORM W-4V to your local Social Security office.

*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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*



**Belchertown Water District  
1024000  
Our Public Water System  
has no Lead,  
Galvanized Requiring  
Replacement (GRR)  
or Unknown Service Lines**

On October 16th 2024 MassDEP approved Belchertown Water District’s request for approval to release a statement that our system has no service lines of Lead, Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR) or unknown materials.

This statement is based on the results of a service line inventory that was developed using the following verification method(s):  
Field Inspection by PWS, Records Review, and Customer Self-Identification.

For information on all service lines in the Belchertown Water District  
Please call the District’s main office at  
413-323-6987 or e-mail: [Admin@belchertownwaterdistrict.org](mailto:Admin@belchertownwaterdistrict.org).  
The District’s full Service Line Inventory is available for viewing at the main office at  
206 Jabish Street during normal business hours.



COMMUNITY

# Palmer services support annual blood drive

PALMER— On Wednesday, Oct. 9, the Palmer Ambulance Service sponsored their 4th annual Ambulance, Police and Fire Department Blood Drive in partnership with the Baystate Health Blood donor team at Baystate Wing Hospital.

“As members of the EMS, Fire and Police departments we are out in the front line responding to medical emergencies and we often witness why there is a great need for blood donations,” said Mary Lee Frydryk, EMT, who challenged her colleagues and members of the Police and Fire Departments to give blood. “There is a dire need for blood and blood products and just by giving one pint of blood you can help to save numerous lives,” noted Frydryk, who has a 40-year legacy of providing emergency care in the town of Palmer.

Blood donations are needed for a wide variety of medical reasons, including trauma and accident victims, mothers experiencing complications after childbirth, and individuals receiving cancer treatment.

“One donation can save up to three lives,” said Nicole VanZandt, MLT III, Supervisor, BRL Blood Donor Services. “We are grateful to the Palmer Ambulance Service, and the Palmer Police and Fire Department team members who gave blood, as a result of their friendly competition we received 26 blood donations.”

“Regardless of the time of the



Mary Lee Frydryk, EMT, Palmer Ambulance Service, and the Baystate Health Blood Donor team at Baystate Wing Hospital during the Oct. 9, Blood Drive.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

year, the need for blood donations never takes a break and when you donate blood to Baystate Health, your precious gift remains in our local communities,” said VanZandt. “Please help us to ensure a safe and adequate blood supply is available by donating blood with the Baystate Health Blood Donor Program. There is no substitute for human blood,” said VanZandt. “Every donation is critical, and you can make a

difference in someone’s life with your donation.”

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

On Wednesday, Dec. 11, the

Baystate Blood Donor Program team will return to Baystate Wing Hospital, 40 Wright Street, Palmer, in Snow Conference Room C. In appreciation, all eligible donors can choose from a \$10.00 Gift card.

For more information or to book an appointment to donate blood please call the Baystate Health Blood Donor Center at 413-794-4600.

# Early in-person voting

BELCHERTOWN—Early in-person voting begins Oct. 19 and runs through Nov.1. It is being held in the auditorium at Town Hall, 2 Jabish St. with the following dates and times:

Sat. Oct. 19, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mon - Fri, Oct. 21 through Oct. 25 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sat., Oct. 26 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. - Last day to register to vote

Mon - Fri, Oct. 28 through Nov. 1, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Vote by mail applications are available on the Town Clerk’s website at [www.belchertown.org](http://www.belchertown.org). The final day to request a ballot by mail is Oct. 29.

The last day to register to vote is Oct. 26. Citizens can either register in person in the Town Clerk’s office or online at [www.registertovotema.com](http://www.registertovotema.com).

Please feel free to call the Town Clerk’s office with any questions.



# Baystate Wing Audiology Program offers free hearing screenings

PALMER— October is National Audiology Awareness Month a time to be aware of the importance of good hearing health.

Hearing loss is one of the most common conditions affecting older adults. The National Institutes of Health’s National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders states that approximately 28.8 million

Americans could benefit from using hearing aids. While age is often cited as a factor, there are growing numbers of younger people reporting hearing difficulties.

“Hearing is one of the most important aspects of our health—it connects us to people, keeps us vital in the workplace as we age, and when left untreated it is often associated with other health issues,” said Jeanne Coburn,

Au.D., CCC-A/SLP, Audiologist at Baystate Rehabilitation Care at Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer. “In recognition of Audiology Awareness Month, we are offering free hearing screenings to our community members through November.

“Even with the obvious signs, it still can be difficult to admit a change in one’s hearing,” said Coburn. “When seniors experi-

ence hearing loss, they sometimes feel embarrassed, afraid, and left out. When you have trouble hearing, it can impact nearly every aspect of your daily life. Those with hearing impairment face troubles with work, personal relationships, and even their favorite pastimes.”

For patients of all ages, Baystate Wing Hospital’s Audiology and Hearing Services

and team are located in the Griswold Center, 42 Wright Street in Palmer, and offer routine hearing tests, specialized audiological testing, and a comprehensive hearing-aid program providing hearing-aid evaluations, demonstrations, purchases, fittings, adjustments, and cleanings. For more information or to book an appointment call 413-370-5254.



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**GRANBY**

**GPL October and November events**

GRANBY— The Granby Public Library, 297 E. State St., will be holding events throughout October and November. For more information, please visit <http://granbylibrary.com>.

**Burial Grounds of Granby and South Hadley throughout their History**

Thursday, Oct. 24 from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Join us in the Community Room for a presentation of Burial Grounds of Granby and South Hadley Throughout History presented by Robert Comeau of holyokecanaltour.org. This project is supported in part from a grant from the Granby Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

**Pastel Workshop with Greg Maichack**

Saturday, Nov. 16 at 11 a.m.

Join us and pastel paint your own Seascapes in Pastel Inspired by Winslow Homer. All levels of experience are welcome. Space is limited, so please call the library to reserve your space to join us for pastel painting!

On Saturday, Nov. 16 at 11 a.m., award-winning artist Gregory Maichack will present "Seascapes: How to Pastel Paint" at the Granby Free Public Library.

This workshop offers both beginner and advanced participants an opportunity to creatively explore pastel painting inspired by the work of Winslow Homer. Participants will receive instruction on expressive pastel strokes, blending, slurring, layering and creating the wave effect of spray by embedding pigment particles into the painting. Please call (413) 467-3320.

This project is supported in part from a grant from the Granby Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

**Granby nonprofits need volunteers**

GRANBY— The Friends of the Granby Free Public Library and GCAM are hosting a Local Nonprofit Volunteer Fair, giving residents a chance to connect with Granby's local nonprofit organizations and discover opportunities to support their community. The event will be held at the Granby Free Public Library at 297 E State St., on Saturday, Nov. 2 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The event will be catered with refreshments and packed with lots of fun. Join to see what each group is about, meet other like-minded residents, and even grab some swag.

**Nature is Fun Times at the GPL**

GRANBY— Twice Monthly, on Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. in the Granby public library's Community Room, come join Ranger Tasha for hands on science. Enjoy a nature theme story, learn hands on and make a craft about the world around us in New England. Ranger Tasha teaches interesting, lesser known facts about each topic, always keeps it interesting.

**Upcoming dates and topics**

- Nov. 19 Frogs and Turtles in Winter
  - Nov. 26 Turkeys
  - Dec. 3 Birds Adapt to Winter
  - Dec. 10 Snowflake Science
  - Jan. 7 Living under the Snow
  - Jan. 14 Fur, what is it good for?
  - Feb. 4 Woodpeckers - Nature's Drumming Rockstars
  - Feb. 11 The Stink of Love - Skunks are looking for mates
- Presented by Tasha Daniels, Park Ranger/Visitor Services Specialist at the Silvio O.Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Ages 3 and up.

**COMMUNITY**

**St. Francis Christmas Fair in Belchertown**

BELCHERTOWN— Mark a calendar, the St. Francis Christmas Fair is back. On Saturday, Nov. 2, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., the St. Francis of Assisi Annual Christmas Fair will return to 10 Park St. in Belchertown. The fair includes a giant basket raffle, a holiday crafts and gift bazaar, and a bakery featuring homemade goodies and gourmet coffee served in take-home holiday mugs. The Pine Room Café is serving lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The menu will include homemade soups, sandwiches, burgers, hot dogs, chips, and a variety of beverages. Make a day of it, buy some raffle chances and select gifts from an assortment of offerings, join family and friends at this traditional Belchertown event.

**IHOM Craft fair set for Nov. 2**

GRANBY— Please join in at Immaculate Heart of Mary on Sunday, Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. for the annual Craft Fair/Holiday Bazaar. Many vendors, basket raffles, lottery raffles, food and more.

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A Sesame Street family with Scooby Dog to join the mix.

# TRUNK OR TREAT



A beautiful fall-themed trunk, with glowing smiles and beautiful leaves.



A pokemon trainer, his pokemon, and two unicorns having fun collecting some candy.



Be careful- there's a haunted pumpkin in that carriage.

## TRUNK OR TREAT from page 1

Maze thirteen years ago, and after joining as a participant eleven years ago, Theroux fell in love with it and has been a part of it ever since.

The fourteen volunteers that make up the Town Council that puts the trunk-or-treats together is works hard to take in dnations for candy, and trunks to set up.

The Council works to raise money in order to support these clubs by providing scholarships and assistance through the help of membership costs.

“We decided to start taking sponsors three years ago to ease the burden of the cost of candy. The event has grown from less than 100 children to about 500 this year,” Theroux said.

The council supplies the candy for the 4-H families and sponsor cars, and after asking for sponsors, it significantly helped with the cost for candy, as one car’s candy supply can cost up to \$75 or more.

We encourage sponsors simply because buying candy for that many kids costs way more

“This year we had 42 cars and trucks signed up. We had a very fun mix of cars, trucks, tree trucks, tractors, and even a big rig,” Theroux said.

With 500 kids at the trunk-or-treat this year, and a \$3 entrance fee, it is estimated that the event brought in \$15000 for the many 4-H clubs within Balchertown.

“Sponsor money covered most, if not all of our candy expenses. We had about 40 sponsors this year,” Theroux said.

“For me, the most meaningful part of the night is the smiles on the children’s faces. Seeing them get excited at the blowups, and how their faces light up at the fun decorations, that makes all the planning easy,” Theroux said.

The night was more than just costumes and candy, and there was a hay ride for all to enjoy after getting all the candy and trinkets from the trunks with Jack Arcoquette driving the tractor, who has been a huge supporter of the trunk-or-treat for many years.

“I love seeing the community come together, everyone sets their differences aside and simply enjoys the event,” Theroux said.

This year, they also instead of assigning spots, just had cars pull in one next to another, and it worked well in everyone’s favor, and the process is in place and ready for next year’s.

Already planning for next year, you can mark your calendar for October 18, 2025, and a rain date of October 25, 2025 to your calendar to experience this amazing event for yourself.

A beautifully perfect fall day for a trunk-or-treat.



Two trunks making two scary pirate ships, but watch out for the kraken.



Come get an ice cream scoop and other fun treats at the trunk for Poissany and Neveu Real Estate Team.



Two chickens ready for some candy!

TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



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Daddies can be mermaids, too!



Loralie with a basket of beautiful handmade origami butterflies which she made to give to people at the trunk-or-treat.

A little girl with the cutest little buns dressed as Princess Leia.



A mermaid, a dragon, and a phoenix, all homemade costumes. TURLEY PHOTOS BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS



An adorable little cow, with a happy mama and dad.



The Spanish Club at BHS, ready to give out candy with big smiles.



Buzz Lightyear, Jessie, and Woody ready to give out candy and glowsticks out of their toy chest.



Mary Poppins, Bert, and a little penguin enjoying the day.



Janet Theroux dressed as Cruella Deville handing out some Scooby Snacks.



Jack, Sally, and Oogie Boogie ready to get all of the candy.

# SNOWPLOW CONTRACTORS WANTED:

The Town of Belchertown is seeking private contractors to plow for Winter Season 2024-2025. Insurance, W-9 and Vehicle Registration is required. Interested parties should call (413) 323-0415.

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 — Jeanette & Paul Johnson  
 Liberty Family Farms





# Cold Spring Orchard *embracing the fall season*



**BY JOHN WOODSIDE**  
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN – At UMass Cold Spring Orchard, a historic farm in Belchertown, new apples are being grown. The farm also houses tree and fruit research done by the University of Massachusetts and select state and federal fronts. Workers change outside of a vehicle outfitted by the university, rubber boots and overalls, a hat that reads research.

“We have almost 300 varieties of apples, a lot of them are research apples, a lot of them do not even have official names yet, this one L-29 tastes similar to a Honeycrisp a little more flavor,” research assistant Jake Suarez said.

The later-season apple harvest is going strong. There are Jonagold, Honeycrisp (treated with ReTain), Empire, Golden Delicious, Macoun, Ambrosia, Delicious, Spencer. Etc... They don’t do breeding on the farm, only testing and research. Apple and peach variety evaluations where-in breeders from across the United States send them their more advanced selections to plant and test and see how they do here so they can give growers a heads-up as

to what they might be able to plant going forward. An example would be “Evercrisp” which they have grown for 10-plus years.

“We open the different parts of the orchard depending on what is ripe to pick. I think the earliest we start is the second week of September,” Suarez said. “The land has been an apple orchard for over 80 years. The Massachusetts Fruit Growing Association bought the land and donated it to the university, allowing it to become a prominent apple research center.. It can take up to 20 years for an apple variety to hit the market.

One of their newest plantings are unique cider varieties, Spanish and French in origin, Suarez says.

“We do not make hard cider for sale, but we make sweet cider and sell that,” he said. “For those who are hard cider enthusiasts we do offer if they make hard cider as a hobby, they can bring their carboys and the next time we press we fill them with sweet cider for fermentation.”

Suarez says he eats apples each day. “That way I can better direct and describe the different varieties we have,” he said.

Please see **ORCHARD**, page 13



Newly planted apple trees in-between rows of peach and apple trees.



A family from the University of Massachusetts pick apples on Saturday.



An apple tree seen through a cut out.

LEFT: A skeleton holds onto gourds just outside the UMass Cold Spring Orchard.



A view of the valley.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY JOHN WOODSIDE



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A tree after grafting.



# Violinist's Story of Music, Medicine, and Healing

PALMER—Linda Newland, a violinist who lives in Monson, MA was settling down for a relaxing evening on a warm summer night. Then the unthinkable happened.

"My husband John and I had finished our showers and were looking forward to a movie in bed," Linda recalls. "As I stood by the closet, I thought, 'Strange! I don't have any feeling in my right arm and leg. Something temporary, maybe. I think I'll try walking across the room.' Total disaster! I went down like a rock.

John was right there, leaning over me, and said, 'Can you get up?' My lips moved, but no words came. 'Can you talk?' he asked. I shook my head. Scooping me up to the bed, he grabbed the phone and dialed 911, with shock and disbelief on his face. 'My wife is having a stroke,' he said. 'How long ago did this happen?' the person on the 911 line asked. 'She's having it now,' John replied. After answering a couple more questions from EMS, he managed to get me into my pajamas while I used my left arm to help put the lifeless right arm into the sleeve."

Emergency medical service (EMS) providers working in the community have a protocol for alerting the Emergency Department (ED) about a suspected stroke. When the EMTs arrived at Linda Newland's home, they made a quick assessment, and the team notified the Emergency Department at Baystate Wing Hospital that they were coming in with a patient suspected to be having a stroke. The care team in the ED quickly called a Stroke Alert and readied to care for Linda.

"It wasn't long before two angels from the EMS team were there, lifting me and somehow getting me down the stairs and into the ambulance," Linda says. "John drove behind them as the EMT, Lisa Hamill, tested my reactions: left side, OK; right side, nil. Then we arrived at Baystate Wing's Emergency Department, where more angels took over my treatment while discussing the situation with John."

Stroke is the fifth-leading cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the U.S. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Linda Newland, a violinist from Monson, shares her stroke survival story.

carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs, so brain cells die. The entire team at Baystate Wing works closely with area EMS providers to immediately evaluate a patient with suspected stroke symptoms once they arrive at the hospital to expedite care, knowing that every minute counts.

"We are fortunate that Linda's husband recognized her concerning symptoms and immediately called for help, and our EMS team was then able to get her to us as fast as possible," says Dr. Michelle Holton, the Emergency Department physician who cared for Linda. "Once Linda arrived and we were able to evaluate her, it was clear that she was a perfect candidate for thrombolytics, more commonly known as clot busters. For many patients, symptoms such as slurred speech, slight arm or leg weakness, significant dizziness, facial droop, and difficulty speaking, among others are attributed to other things or are ignored, and patients frequently present too late for us to intervene aggressively. This is why it is so important that these symptoms are taken seriously. We were so fortunate to be able to intervene quickly for Linda and to see her regain the function that she has."

A CT scan confirmed that Linda met the criteria for acute

stroke treatment and TNK (tenecteplase), was given. TNK is a medication that can quickly dissolve the clots that cause many strokes. By opening a blocked blood vessel and restoring blood flow, TNK can reduce the damage to the brain that occurs during a stroke. To be effective, TNK and other drugs like it must be given within a few hours of the stroke symptoms beginning.

The TNK worked quickly. Linda smiled as she found she could lift her right leg and arm a little. When Dr. Holton discussed a further procedure with Linda's husband John, he immediately gave his approval, and Linda was taken by helicopter to Baystate Medical Center in Springfield for a thrombectomy, the surgery to remove the blockage in her artery and restore normal blood flow to her brain.

"With John's permission, they loaded me onto a helicopter, and I was on my way to a miraculous procedure," says Linda.

Linda arrived at Baystate Medical Center where she was cared for by neuroendovascular physician Dr. E. Jesus Duffis, and stroke neurologist Dr. Heydi Flores-Podadera.

"I was the neurologist on call and talked to Dr. Holton, then jumped to the video where we were able to assess Linda, give the thrombolytic and decide need for transfer and intervention," said Dr. Flores-Podadera. "Linda's

care happened very quickly and efficiently. The goal for thrombolytics and the procedure known as a thrombectomy, is to obtain better functional outcomes in the next three months. Sometimes we see amazing results similar to Linda's: she had great improvement very soon after the procedure and a complete recovery. These better results depend on many factors, but definitely, rapid recognition and 911 activation play a very important role."

A thrombectomy involves anesthetizing the patient and then inserting a thin, metallic, stent-like device into an artery in the leg. The neuroendovascular specialist then threads the device up to the blockage in the brain, where it opens to immediately restore blood circulation, eventually grabbing onto the clot and pulling it out. Until recently, clot-busting treatment was the only proven therapy to treat ischemic stroke. Now doctors nationwide are performing this advanced procedure, which has transformed care for those with an acute ischemic stroke. In western MA, the procedure is performed exclusively at Baystate Medical Center's state-of-the-art neuro-interventional laboratory.

"When I woke up at Baystate Medical Center, a smiling nurse put me through a test: 'Can you move your right leg? Your right arm? What is your name? Date of birth?' says Linda. "Then my beloved John was there, leaning over me as I spoke as well as I could through the oxygen mask. 'Well, we can take that off, now, so you can make out what she is saying,' the nurse said. As I formed some words, joy, and relief transformed John's face. I was back again! 'She'll speak better tomorrow morning,' the nurse said, 'but we'll wake her every hour tonight to check on her.' "Well worth the effort," I thought."

Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability, and accelerating recovery times.

"The physician who gave me the MRI after my thrombectomy, marveled that in all the years they'd been giving MRIs, they'd never seen such a minimal amount of damage with a major stroke," recalls Linda. I told John

to go home and sleep, and the nurse heartily concurred, cautioning him against emotional collapse after the stressful night. He had been central to my quick treatment. If he hadn't been right with me at the time of my stroke, it would have been a sadder story. I'm forever grateful to all involved in my recovery. Every day is a gift from that devoted crew."

As soon as I got home, four days after the surgery, I picked up my violin," recounts Linda. "I can do it! Yes! Right arm, right hand, left hand - they all work! My life is back." A few days later, I started giving online lessons, and the week after that, I began teaching all 25 of my precious students in person again. My heartfelt thanks to all who made all these things possible."

Baystate Wing Hospital in Palmer and Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, where Linda received her care, has received the Get with the Guidelines - Stroke Gold Plus Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association for their commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines, leading to more lives saved and reduced disability. In addition, Baystate Wing also received the American Heart Association's Target: Type 2 Diabetes™ Honor Roll award. Target: Type 2 Diabetes aims to ensure patients with Type 2 diabetes, who might be at higher risk for complications, receive the most up to date- evidence-based care when hospitalized due to stroke.

"We are grateful to our care teams at Baystate Wing Hospital and Baystate Medical Center who drive our success in delivering the very best care to our patients," says Karli Barrett, MS, RN, NE-BC, vice president and chief nursing officer/chief administrative officer of Baystate Wing Hospital. "This is an example of our team's hard work and commitment to providing the highest quality of care in the many communities served by Baystate Health."

## ORCHARD from page 12

Suarez should grapes that are being experimented on. He said it is a trial they did with an agricultural company they make bio pesticides better for us than traditional poison pesticides. "We are researching if it affects the growth or the sugar level of the grapes," Suarez said. "The chardonnay we harvested. The grapes are used to make wine, sold to a variety of vineyards in the area."

The past couple years they had buckwheat and sunflower planted in rows before us, "this is the year we finally planted our new plum orchard" Jake says. "This is a row of fuji trees. You can see they were cut for grafting. This was our first attempt". Grafting is a method of asexual plant propagation that joins plant parts from different plants together so they will grow as one plant. "Almost like cloning" he tells us. "They all got infected with disease. Probably fire blight" one of the tropes of a research farm "a few of the trees bounced back surprisingly" Jake says and "say it is a branch off this tree. When you graft you want to aim for one year old wood. What you do is you

look for the growth ring. When it is dormant you want to do this, in the wintertime, you want to make the cut. Then you try to line up the cambium layer with the trunk". Then they tape the cut branch to the tree and seal it up hoping for union. "Next year we should do better, I suppose. Oh, there a new tree" he says pointing to a successful experiment. The new trees dance in the sun before us.

When testing an apple, researchers or the trained consumer look for traits: texture (crispness, juiciness firmness), flavor (sweetness acidity, aroma), appearance (color, finish, shape), fruit size, storing ability, disease resistance, productivity, and tree form from which it came. The apple itself. Researchers even look at whether a tree drops fruit or not. Or how much fruit one can bear.



Specialty apples some not seen anywhere else in the state on sale for the consumer.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY JOHN WOODSIDE



The sign reads open.



**OBITUARY**

**DEATH NOTICE**

**Julianna (Blake) Christen, 87**  
 Died Oct. 11, 2024  
 Services Nov. 2, 2024  
 Beers & Story Funeral Home

**Julianna (Blake) Christen, 87**

Julianna (Blake) Christen, 87, of Belchertown, died peacefully in her sleep at home on Oct. 11, 2024. She was the first born to Henry and Alsace Blake on July 8, 1937 in Boston, MA. While going to Walpole High School (1956) she worked at the Walpole A&P and that is where she met the love of her life Richard W. Christen, Sr (deceased). The two married in 1957 and they welcomed two children Richard Jr (deceased) and Heidi.



She was a wonderful mother/friend and made sure her children had the best childhood. She would go without to make sure they had everything, especially love and happiness. Not only would she make sure her children would have wonderful memories of their childhood, she made wonderful memories with the other children in the neighborhood, who called her "Mrs. C." Weather it was making Christmas cookies to watching the Wizard of Oz and making Jiffy popcorn. She was a loving, caring, funny, always put others first and amazing woman/mother. As her daughter, my heart aches losing her. It's hard to imagine my life without her.

She leaves behind her family and friends but was welcome to heaven by many. She leaves her daughter Heidi, her sister Mary (Blake) and Bob Trayers and her brother-in-law Everett Littlefield of Los Angeles, CA. She has many nieces and nephews that she leaves behind: Susan (niece) and Brian Portanova, Paul (nephew) and Julie Chiereghio, Holly Luck (niece), Jeff (nephew) and Page Luck, Danny (nephew) Luck, Colin Littlefield (nephew) and Randy Christen (nephew). As well as her very close friends, Pat and Don Conroy, Christine and Tito (Tato) Medina and Scott Conroy. Most of all, she will miss her little friends in our neighborhood that brighten her day, Taylor, Colby, Livy, Bella and her best friend David. David would visit my mother often, just to check on her, give her a hug and say hi. That meant so much to my mother. The one thing she leaves behind that meant the world to her, was her cat, Charlie.

A graveside service will be held Saturday, Nov. 2 at 10 a.m. at South Cemetery.

*The Sentinel*  
**OBITUARY POLICY**

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

**Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be

submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

**Enrollment Now Open for Massachusetts Home Energy Assistance Program**

**Eligible Massachusetts households can now apply for financial assistance for the '24-'25 heating season**

BOSTON - The Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities today announced that the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) enrollment period for the 2024-2025 winter heating season will open on October 1. This critical program provides financial relief to eligible households to help them pay their winter heating bills, ensuring they can keep their homes safe and warm during the colder months.

HEAP is a free, statewide resource that assists eligible renters and homeowners by paying a portion of their winter heating bills directly to their heating companies. Starting Oct. 1, homeowners and renters can apply online or through local administering agencies across the state. The assistance period runs from Nov. 1, 2024, to April 30, 2025. HEAP offers grants that do not need to be

repaid; however, households must meet specific eligibility requirements to qualify.

"No resident should have to worry about heating their home during the winter," said Secretary of Housing and Livable Communities Ed Augustus. "With high costs continuing to strain household finances, the Home Energy Assistance Program is more critical than ever. We urge anyone in need of heating assistance to explore their eligibility by applying online or visiting the nearest administering agency. Please share this valuable information with loved ones or neighbors who could benefit from this support during the colder months."

Eligibility is determined by several factors, including household size and the combined gross annual income of residents 18 and older. Qualifying households, including those with the cost of heat included in the rent, can receive assistance for all heating sources, including oil, electricity, natural gas, propane, kerosene, wood and coal. Households do not need to be on public assistance or have unpaid heating bills to qualify.

For more information find your local HEAP agency at <https://hedfuel.azurewebsites.net/>

**New monument commemorates Franco-Americans**

There are deep roots among those in Chicopee, the surrounding communities, and New England with musical French names. Franco-Americans inherited a rich culture, history, and heritage that must never be forgotten.

French heritage will be remembered and celebrated on Sunday, Oct. 27, at 1 p.m., with the dedication of a new monument. The rain date will be Sunday, Nov. 3.

The monument will stand in recognition of the contributions made by French Canadian immigrants and the generations of Franco-Americans that followed. Funding for the project, which began in August of 2023, was made possible by the French Heritage Center.

The ceremony will take place at the

Aldenville Commons, 688 Grattan St., Chicopee, Massachusetts. Those who attend are advised to bring their own chairs.

Marie Proulx Meder, former director of the French Heritage Center, and former Assistant Director, Jeanne Proulx Hebert will officiate the ceremony. Guest speaker will be Denis Ledoux, author of "French Boy" and director of The Memoir Network.

Come join us for this special occasion as we gather to celebrate, acknowledge, and embrace the rich heritage of our forefathers, thereby preserving the past for future generations. The French "Joie de Vivre" spirit lives on in all of us who are proud to say "I am French Canadian".

**Halloween Rag Shag parade returns**

BELCHERTOWN—The Belchertown Lions Club is happy to announce that its 71st annual Rag Shag Parade will assume its traditional format once again this year. The parade will take place on Thursday, Oct. 31, at 6:30 p.m. at the 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.

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

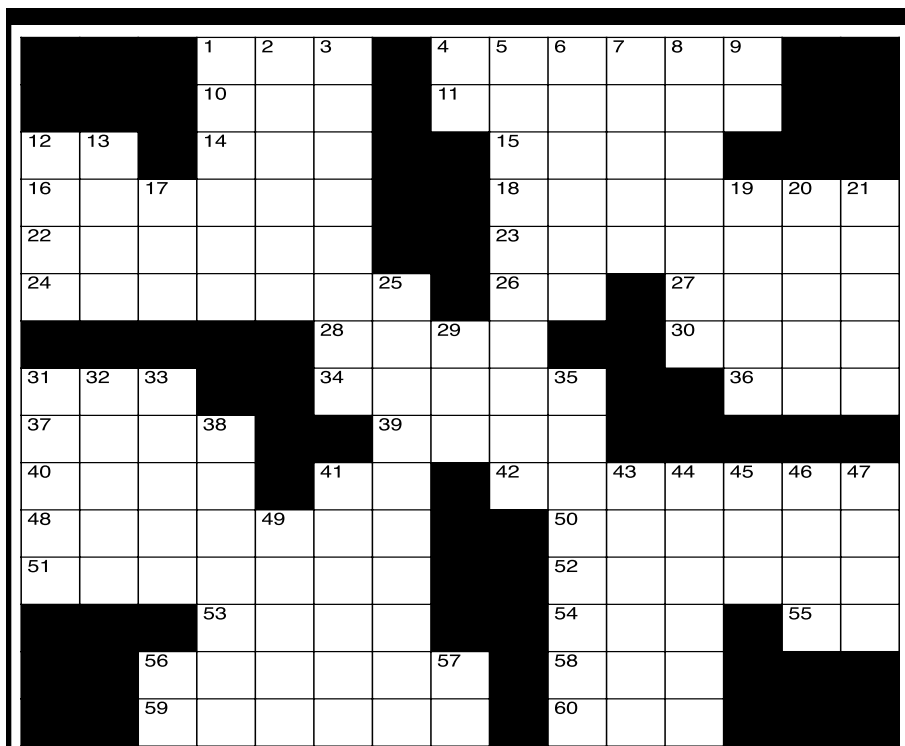
Many thanks to Lion Mike Loftus, the Belchertown Board of Health, and our Police and Fire Departments who all worked diligently in the planning of these safety guidelines for this community activity. The Belchertown Lions Club Rag Shag parade began back in 1953 when even a few of our own current members (as very young children) actually partook in the sunset parade around the town common led by seven members of the high school band. 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 Belchertown Lions Club would like to thank our townspeople for their support in its many fundraisers held throughout the year that make such memorable community endeavors possible.

**Coloring contest Fair Guide Winners**

BELCHERTOWN—These are the winners for this years coloring contest, Barn in the USA.

1st Place Olivia Johnson; 2nd Place Grant Lussier; 3rd Place Paisley Axton



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. "60 Minutes" network
- 4. Train line
- 10. Go quickly
- 11. Straightforward
- 12. Canadian province
- 14. At any rate (abbr.)
- 15. Genealogy
- 16. Make changes
- 18. Utter repeatedly
- 22. In a way, turned up
- 23. Type of ship
- 24. Agents of one's downfall
- 26. Not out
- 27. Something to scratch
- 28. Round water pot
- 30. Refreshing green fruit (slang)
- 31. Promotions

- 34. Primordial matters
- 36. One-time world power (abbr.)
- 37. Source of illumination
- 39. The content of cognition
- 40. An Arab ruler
- 41. South Dakota
- 42. Gnawed at with teeth
- 48. Hawaiian island
- 50. Smaller
- 51. Of a single person
- 52. Rigid bracelet
- 53. Barbary sheep (Fr.)
- 54. Not even
- 55. Specific gravity
- 56. Engage in petty bargaining
- 58. Boxing's "GOAT"
- 59. Split between parties

- 60. Notable offensive

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. A place to lounge
- 2. Skewed views
- 3. Peacefully
- 4. Commercial
- 5. Auxiliary forces
- 6. Large mollusk
- 7. Take out again
- 8. Sharp and forthright
- 9. Knight (chess)
- 12. Source of fiber
- 13. Flesh covering some birds' beaks
- 17. Energy
- 19. Night monkeys genus
- 20. Small, sharp nails
- 21. Pleasant-smelling liquid
- 25. Affirms one's hold
- 29. CNN's founder
- 31. Texans can't forget it
- 32. "Oppenheimer" actor Matt
- 33. Expression
- 35. Vessel
- 38. Lacking poetic beauty
- 41. Tall, swift and slender dog
- 43. Sports personality Michelle
- 44. Robber
- 45. Liquefied natural gas
- 46. Snakelike fishes
- 47. The most worthless part of something
- 49. City in Crimea
- 56. Bad grades
- 57. Reichsmark

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Jack Mandeville looks to clear the ball out of his end.

## Yet another draw for Orioles

BELCHERTOWN – It has been an unusual season for the Belchertown High School boys soccer team. The Orioles are likely for the state tournament despite just three wins all season long. The reason for this is a tough schedule and an unusual seven ties. Overall, after four consecutive draws, including a scoreless draw at Chicopee Comprehensive last Monday, the Orioles are 3-5-7. The Orioles currently hold the No. 11 rank in Division 3. Barring any major movements, the Orioles will qualify for the state tournament as part of the top 32. The Orioles will also await a potential spot in the Western Mass. Tournament as well.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Jacob Gladu corraling the ball under pressure.



Chase Connor fights to keep the ball.



Joseph Borelli chases the ball.



Adonis Dupre steals the ball.



Owen Pear passes ahead of pressure.



Justin Davis chases down the ball.



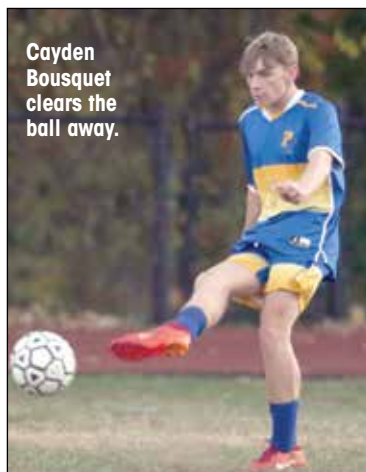
Evan Costa sends a quick pass away.

## Regular season concludes with win

WARREN – Last Friday, the Pathfinder High School boys soccer team borrowed Quaboag’s stadium field to play its final home game, scoring a 6-1 win over Athol. In the win, Jaleel Roman had two goals for the Pioneers. Evan Costa, Adonis Dupre, Talon Clark, and Cayden Bousquet had the other goals for the Pioneers. Pathfinder, which co-ops with Palmer, finishes the regular season at 9-5-1. The Pioneers are guaranteed a Division 5 state tournament spot, and will wait to learn if it made the Western Mass. tournament. If the Pioneers do not play in the section tournament, they will play a couple of non-playoff games this week.



Brody Wetnicka chases after a loose ball.



Cayden Bousquet clears the ball away.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY  
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Ethan Fenn takes a shot for the Rams.

## Unified basketball action

GRANBY – Last Wednesday afternoon, Granby High School Unified basketball was in action. The Rams would host Holyoke. The Rams have more games remaining on their regular season schedule. The season concludes with a jamboree event in November.



Leo Esquivel extends at the free throw line.



Nathaniel Gomez sends a shot up.

Austin Raymer attempts to settle the ball.



## SPORTS

## COLLEGE:

## Owls comeback falls short

WESTFIELD – Westfield State senior Dylan Disabella (Granby, Conn.) ran for 130 yards and caught a touchdown pass in his debut as the Owls' feature back, but it wasn't enough as Framingham State foiled the Owls homecoming with a 21-7 win.

Both teams are now 2-4 on the season and 2-3 in the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference.

Westfield got on the scoreboard first, with QB Gabe Fernandez (Holyoke, Mass.) finding Disabella for a 13-yard scoring strike with Disabella leaping into the endzone to punctuate a 9-play, 82-yard drive.

Turnovers again punished the Owls, as Framingham's first score came on an 11-yard Carl Renaudin (Waltham, Mass.) scoop and score fumble recovery touchdown, on a busted toss run for the Owls.

Westfield had a chance to take a lead into the half, after Tafari Proctor (Amherst, Mass.) intercepted his third pass of the season, and returned it 59 yards to the Framingham 3, but on the ensuing play Framingham forced a fumble and the Rams recovered to keep the score 7-7 heading to the half.

The Rams grabbed a 14-7 lead midway through the third quar-

ter with a 25-yard TD toss from Luke Thompson (West Islip, NY) to Elijah Nichols (Burlington Twp., NJ), capping an 11-play, 79-yard drive.

Early in the fourth quarter, Westfield had a chance to tie as the Owls marched the ball from their own 28 yard line all the way to the Framingham four yard line, but the Rams forced a fumble with Ronyel Pena (Lawrence, Mass.) slashing between the Owls offensive line to force a fumble.

Framingham added a 2-yard touchdown run from Jaheim Daniels (Norwalk, Conn.) with 46 seconds left in the fourth quarter to put the game out of reach, after the Rams defense forced a 4-and-out from the Owls. Westfield had their backs against the wall with a drive that started inside their own 10-yard line with less than two minutes to play.

Disabella had a big day on the ground in his first action as the feature back in the Owls triple-option attack. He played two seasons as a tight end for the Owls before moving to wing back in the offense this season, but moved behind the quarterback for today's game for the first time with Owls regular starter Sean Willis out with an injury. The Owls played with three offensive

regulars sidelined by injury today.

Fernandez finished 7-20 passing for 66 yards, with 1 td and 1 interception. Jacob Swinehart (Holyoke, Mass.) caught two passes for 23 yards and added six carries for 27 yards.

Blake Simpson (Bellingham, Mass.) and Corey Henderson (Gardner, Mass.) led the Owls with eight tackles each. Henderson added a sack and Cade Nelson (Shrewsbury, Mass.) had 1.5 sacks for the Owls.

Framingham QB Thompson finished 11-27 passing for 169 yards with a TD and an interception. Nichols led the Rams with eight catches for 90 yards and a TD. Daniels finished with 52 yards rushing on seven carries.

Pena was the man of the hour for the Framingham defense, getting in on 17 tackles (9 solo), with four for losses and a sack. Renaudin had the fumble recovery for TD and a 22-yard interception return.

The Owls ran 75 offensive plays to the Rams 52, and Westfield outgained the Rams 246-219 and held a 37-23 edge in time of possession, but the key turnovers hampered the Owls chances to win.

Westfield will travel to Plymouth State for a MASCAC game next Saturday, Oct. 26 at noon. Framingham will next host Mass Maritime on Noon on Oct. 26.



## Thunderbird offense stymied in Providence

PROVIDENCE, R.I. - The Springfield Thunderbirds (2-3-0-0) could not solve the Providence Bruins (2-2-0-0) and their goaltender Michael DiPietro, falling 3-0 on Sunday afternoon inside Amica Mutual Pavilion.

Colten Ellis earned a second consecutive start after defeating the Bruins an evening earlier, and the young goaltender was kept busy in a first period that saw Providence outshoot Springfield 12-4.

The Bruins eventually cracked the ice at 12:17 following an extended shift in the offensive zone. Veteran blueliner Jordan Oesterle located open ice in the left circle, stepped up, and slapped a one-time feed from Fabian Lysell over Ellis's shoulder, giving the Bruins the 1-0 edge.

5:42 later, in his second tour of duty as a Bruin, Vinni Lettieri continued his lengthy history of success against the T-Birds when he one-timed a shot through Ellis to extend the Bruins lead to 2-0 heading into intermission.

Springfield came out hun-

grier in the second period, but DiPietro was equal to the task, as he calmly stood tall against 10 T-Birds attempts. His best save came past the

midpoint of the second, when he came out to challenge Aleksanteri Kaskimaki on a 4-on-2, denying the rookie his first

AHL goal.

As the game moved to the third, the T-Birds tried to up the ante on offense, and Marcus Sylvegard had the best chance of the day with a breakaway bid, but DiPietro had the answer to turn aside the man who had the game-winning goal a night earlier.

In the end, despite a perfect 4-for-4 showing by the Springfield penalty kill and a 31-save performance from Ellis, the offensive drought proved costly, and Patrick Brown sealed matters with an empty-netter in the final 90 seconds to seal it up for the Bruins.

The T-Birds return home to begin another three-game weekend on Friday, Oct. 25 against the Grand Rapids Griffins. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome.



## Bonsignore sweeps weekend at North Wilkesboro

Justin Bonsignore found himself in North Wilkesboro Speedway Victory Lane twice this weekend. The driver of the No. 51 Phoenix Communications machine for Kenneth Massa Motorsports swept the weekend of Modified competition at the historic track - winning both the SMART Modified Tour season-finale 99 on Saturday and the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Brushy Mountain Powersports 150 on Sunday.

Bonsignore's SMART Tour victory came in his first career start with the series. He dominated the race and held off Matt Hirschman over the final laps to score the win.

His NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour win on Sunday was his fourth of the season and second straight. It was also his 44th career Whelen Modified Tour win - tying Reggie Ruggiero for second on the all-time NWMT wins list. Bonsignore also took back the series points lead heading for the finale at Martinsville Speedway (October 26) by 10 points in search of his fourth series championship.

"This car is two-for-two this year," Bonsignore said. "Just a great job by everyone. These cars have been lights out. It's just really special. Forty-four wins... it's cool. But there's a bigger goal next week. I'm looking forward to Martinsville... it can't come soon enough."

Bonsignore and the Kenneth Massa Motorsports crew will return to the track for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season-finale at Martinsville Speedway on Saturday, Oct. 26.

## Railers lose weekend finale against Reading

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers lost to the Reading Royals by a 2-1 final on Sunday afternoon in front of a crowd of 2,621 Sunday, they actually put three shots in the net. The problem was that only one counted, Anthony Repaci's short wrist shot at 13:37 of the third period. It accounted for the final score of 2-1.

Repaci was involved in one of the disallowed goals as well. That happened 44 seconds into the third period when Matias Rajaniemi's 45-foot wrist shot eluded Reading goaltender Parker Gahagen. Repaci was at the top of the crease and was called for interference. After a long review, the call was upheld.

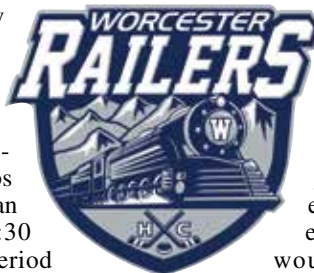
"I didn't think my skates were in the blue paint, and I could feel some contact," Repaci said, "but (the officials) said my arm was

in there. I know they call that closely."

The other wave-off was less controversial. Colin Jacobs tucked one into an open net at 18:30 of the second period but it was after a whistle when the officials thought that Gahagen had covered the puck.

Maybe he had, maybe he had not. No matter. The play was dead.

Gahagen was opposed in net by John Muse and it was an excellent goaltending duel as expected. Muse made 19 saves, Gahagen 22. The victory improved Gahagen's all-time record versus Worcester to 5-0-0. It is not just the Railers. His career ECHL record is 70-30-7.



Worcester played a slow first period and fell behind 2-0 after 20 minutes.

Reading's first goal came as the puck entered the Worcester end and the Royals wound up in control.

Nolan Welsh was set up in the slot by Tyler Gratton after just 4:38.

The visitors made it 2-0 with a power play goal at 9:55. Connor McMenamin got it via a 25-footer from the right circle. That was it for Reading's scoring but that was all it needed. The Royals were blanked for the final 50:05.

Repaci's goal came late in the third period and gave the Railers a chance to tie it late. Cam McDonald and Riley Piercy got assists on the play for their first

points of the season.

The Railers were without two experienced defensemen who moved up to the AHL. Christian Krygier was recalled to Bridgeport and Griffin Luce was signed to a pro tryout by the Harford Wolf Pack.

Two inexperienced players made their professional debuts. One was defenseman McDonald, so the assist was his first pro point. Forward Cole Crowder was the other. McDonald is the second Alaskan to play for the Railers, following goalie Michael Bullion.

Worcester's next home game is next month. The Maine Mariners visit on Nov. 8. In between, the Railers are off on a five-game road swing. They play in Trois-Rivieres Friday night then in Maine on Sunday. They are in Norfolk for three games after that.

## HCC to host annual 'Trunk or Treat' event Oct. 25

HOLYOKE - Visitors to Holyoke Community College on Friday, Oct. 25, can expect to see ghosts, witches, and ghouls, along with an assortment of characters from their favorite children's movies, games, and TV shows as the college celebrates Halloween with its annual Trunk or Treat event.

Dozens of HCC departments, programs, and student clubs, as well as community groups and area businesses decorate vehicles every year for this event.

Trunk or Treat runs from 5 to 7 p.m. in Parking Lot M by the Bartley Center for Athletics and Recreation on the main HCC campus, 303 Homestead Ave.

In the past, trunk sponsors from HCC have included the Early Education program,

Student Engagement, Veterinary and Animal Science, Dance Club, ASL Club, Japanese Anime Club, C.A.M.O. (military club), Radiologic Technology, El Centro, Student Records, Early Childhood Grants Initiative, Culinary Club, Business department, President's Cabinet, Disney Club, Nursing program, Student Senate, STEM Club, Latinx Empowerment Association, Psychology Club, Radio Club, Animation Club, and Dungeons & Dragons Club.

And from the community: Dean Technical High School, Holyoke Police Dept., Berkshire Hathaway, Valley Opportunity Council, YWCA, Mass. Dept. for Children and Families Holyoke, Positive Regard Network/Center School, NexGen Roofing, Elms

College: The Teachers' Lounge, Holyoke Credit Union, Y Kids Learning Center, Girls Inc. of the Valley, and Holyoke Public Schools-Early Childhood program.

Past year's trunk themes have included crayons, rubber ducks, happy clowns, a witch's house, a haunted house, Jurassic Park, The Nightmare Before Christmas, Hungry Hungry Hippos, construction, Hocus Pocus, Paw Patrol, bones, Encanto, Star Wars, spooky fun prom, M&M's, Frozen, Ratatouille, Disney villains, Muppets, Mary Poppins, Spiderman and other Marvel superheroes, outer space, a pumpkin patch, Alice in Wonderland, the Multiverse, and Ghostbusters.

Prizes are awarded to vehicle

sponsors in various categories including best executed theme, scariest trunk, best costumes, and most original.

Each vehicle will be handing out free Halloween treats and also have non-food items for children with dietary restrictions.

Trunk or Treat at HCC started in 2017 as a safe, fun, and early alternative to traditional trick-or-treating on Halloween night. Rather than going door to door seeking Halloween treats, children go "trunk to trunk" to collect their candy, visiting cars decorated with seasonal themes and familiar stories and characters.

The event is free and open to the public and will be held outdoors, rain or shine. Children must be accompanied by an adult.





A skeleton plays banjo in the park.



Katlin, Ashley, Meghan, and Jocelyn of Children First in Granby.

SEE MORE PHOTOS FROM THE EVENT ON PAGE 19.



Joimary Acevedo offers locals the opportunity to travel the world.



A local family celebrates Halloween early this year.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY JOHN WOODSIDE



Aubrey Fournier of Brie's Balloons ties the knot on a Dracula.



Erica and Erika from the Polish National Credit Union hand out candy to the public.



Boomer of the Springfield Thunderbirds poses with Joe and Shea of the sales team.

EVENT from page 1

to be here. Granby Parks and Recreation was nice enough to host us. Hopefully it is the start of something we do for years to come."

"Thriller" by Michael Jackson plays while Joshua Fernandez dressed as Woody from Toy Story talks of the Friends of Granby Parks and Recreation.

"I want to say there are 7-8 parks in Granby. This one being the most used," Fernandez said.

Fernandez is newer to being on Parks and Recreation.

Granby doesn't have a Parks and Rec department, just an ad hoc committee. Right now they don't have a great means of fundraising, so the non-profit, The Friends of Granby Parks and Recreation, acts as a fundraising means for the park.

"We requested local businesses to come out and show the public what they do," he said. "Get the community out and involved. They support us through volunteering and handing candy out to the public. They are fundraising with the Thunderbirds on Black Friday. It is going to be Granby Day, we have discounted tickets. We are going to be doing some raffles there. Should be a good time."

Black Friday is Friday Nov. 29. The event featured several vendors, including Legends, a video game reseller based in Granby.

They feature video games, movies, and more. They refurbish old machines. They joined this year's festivities after being in business a year and a half:

"It was colder last year," said Aubrey Fournier, a balloon twister from Granby.

Joy Travel Agency passed out candy and business cards.

Oh. And what movie was on the screen last Friday night? Inside Out 2, a Pixar film.



Jerimiah of Cindy's Drive In poses with his dog.

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**FALL CRAFT & VENDOR FAIR** Pine Valley, 281 Chauncey Walker St., Belchertown (off Rte. 21). **Saturday, Oct. 26, 9-3**. 36 crafters & vendors, indoors & out. Snack/lunch bar. Rain or shine.

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**AMHERST**

# Winter coat and cold-weather clothing drive

HADLEY—UMassFive College Federal Credit Union is running a winter coat and cold-weather clothing drive in its Hadley, Northampton, UMass Amherst, Springfield, and Worcester branches throughout October.

Donations from this drive, held annually, will be distributed in partnership with the Amherst Survival Center, Gray House in Springfield, and Net of Compassion in Worcester.

“We know that our neighbors in need have come to count on the coats and warm clothing our members donate during this drive,” says Cait Murray, UMassFive Community Outreach manager. “We are so grateful to partner with the great local organizations that can ensure donations are directed where they can have a significant impact.”

UMassFive thankfully accepts any clean, new, or gently used coats, gloves, scarves, hats, sweaters, snow gear, and boots. Donations should be placed in a bag and may be dropped off during business hours at the Hadley branch at 200 Westgate Center Drive, Northampton branch at 225 King Street, UMass Amherst Campus Center Branch (Room 224,) Springfield branch at 233 Carew Street (Mercy Hospital Rehabilitation Building, Room 110,) or Worcester Branch (UMass Chan Medical School, Room S1-820.)

# UMass student solo and chamber performance

AMHERST— Join in for a free performance by musicians from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst on Thursday, Nov. 7, in the Jones Library Woodbury Room from 7 to 8 p.m.

Enjoy an evening of live music performed by musicians from the University of Massachusetts - Amherst. Pieces and performers will be announced at the time of the concert. This concert is part of a new performance series offering students the opportunity to play off-campus for community members and each other. Free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Janet Ryan at 413-259-3223.

# Dufresne Park hosts Halloween event



Cub Scout leaders Heather Guzman and Lucy Schafer make hot chocolate and tacos for the youth to fundraise for the troop.



A thank you from The Friends of Granby Parks and Recreation.

Joshua Fernandez, chair of The Friends of Granby Parks and Recreation, dresses as Woody from Toy Story.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY JOHN WOODSIDE



The Friends of Granby Parks and Recreation.



The screen erected in Dufresne Park.



Children chase a white balloon at nightfall.

**PUBLIC NOTICES**

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampshire Division  
Docket No. HS24P0564EA  
Estate of:  
Charles A. Zink  
Date of Death: 08/10/2024  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Wendy A. Cook of Belchertown, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate. Wendy A. Cook of Belchertown, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but inter-

ested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and

to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 10/24/2024

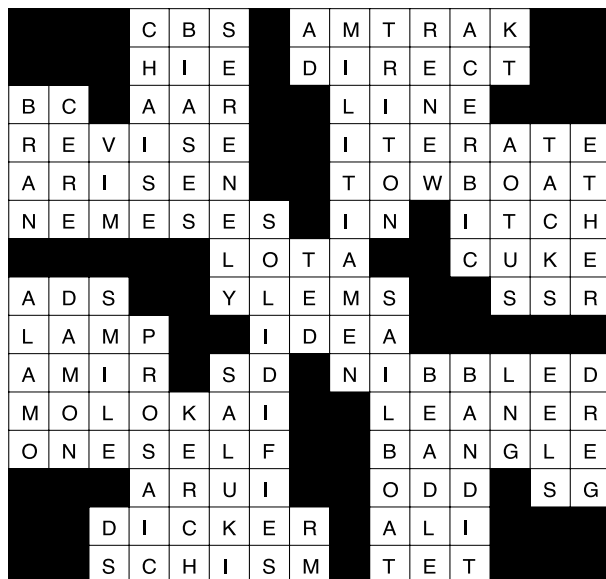
**SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLE**  
This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of October 25, 2024 the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:  
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- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)



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