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VETERANS DAY 2023

BY AIMEE M. HENDERSON
Correspondent

BELCHERTOWN - It has taken more than 50 years, but on this year's Veterans Day, Marine Corps Sgt. Kevin McMenamin was formally pinned with a Purple Heart for the wounds he received in action against the enemy on Nov. 4, 1969 while serving in Vietnam.

Belchertown honored McMenamin, and all of its veterans, during a ceremony held on Sept. 11 at the Belchertown High School, where many gathered to thank the brave men and women who have chosen service over self.

The ceremony started with the ringing of the bell at 11 a.m. and was followed by the posting of Colors by Cub Scout Pack 507. An invocation prayer was given by Army veteran, Alex Loss, of the Belchertown United Church of Christ. He bestowed a blessing



PHOTOS BY AIMEE M. HENDERSON

Please see **VETERANS**, page 4

Marine Corps Sgt. Kevin McMenamin stands with his wife, Cosette, after being pinned with a Purple Heart.



Cub Scout Pack 507 presents the colors during the Veterans Day ceremony.



Veterans stand while their military branch's melody is sung by the chorus.

QUILTS OF VALOR

Local veterans honored for answering call to service

BY PAULA OUIMETTE
pouimette@turley.com

WARE - Over 359,000 quilts have been gifted to veterans thanks to the efforts of the Quilts of Valor Foundation, which was started 20 years ago by founder

Catherine Roberts. This past Veterans Day, five area veterans received quilts during HomeFront Strong's Military Appreciation Breakfast, held at the Senior Center. The quilts were lovingly made by quilters of the Pro Style Graphics

Chapter of Quilts of Valor in Springfield.

After the National Anthem was performed on violin by 13-year-old Graciella Baublitz, those in attendance joined in the Pledge of Allegiance led by brothers Ron and Bobby Rucki.

Presenting the quilts were Kate Blanchard and Connie Barnes.

Blanchard said the quilters in the Springfield chapter started making Quilts of Valor 10 years ago, traveling to the Charlton

Please see **QUILTS**, page 16

One Stop for Growth grant awards announced

BELCHERTOWN - State Senator Jake Oliveira (Hampden, Hampshire & Worcester District) and State Representative Aaron Saunders (7th Hampden District) announced recently that Belchertown has been awarded several One Stop for Growth Grant Awards for the Fiscal Year 2024.



State Senator
Jake Oliveira



State Rep.
Aaron Saunders

The four grants total more than 1.3 million dollars of funding headed to Belchertown for various needs and projects.

According to a press release, the grants include \$275,000 to the Belchertown Community Alliance (BCA), \$470,000 for Phase 2 of the Lake Wallace Sensory Trail, \$320,000 for the installation of a pressure-reducing valve at Carriage Grove, and \$281,000 for a survey of land being transferred to Belchertown's Economic Development Industrial Corporation (EDIC).

Oliveira said he was thrilled to see the grant funding headed back to Western Mass. and credited the hard work of everyone involved in securing the much-needed funds.

"This incredible amount of money to continue Belchertown's economic development is not only a testament to the talented individuals working hard to write and apply for these grants but also acknowledges the success Belchertown has already had with previous funds. One of the major criteria for winning these highly-competitive grants is having already demonstrated the ability to make the most of the money. It doesn't take long to see Belchertown is doing just that and is on the rise and headed in the right direction."

Please see **ONE STOP**, page 7



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Quabbin Art Association hosts annual 'Art Take-Away' event



Visitors choosing gifts.



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

The Quabbin Art Association Art Take-Away event will take place later this month.

Event set for this Nov. 25

BELCHERTOWN - The Quabbin Art Association (QAA) returns for its fourth year as part of the 2023 Belchertown Winter Light Night Festival with the "Art Take-Away" Tree.

The event will be held from 1-3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 25 at the Town Common.

"QAA members have generously donated original artwork, art supplies and other art-related gifts to decorate the town tree," a press statement reads.

This is a free public event and is open to all ages. Last year, the QAA gave away more than two hundred items to the community, according to reports.

"The line-up to choose one gift per person starts promptly at 1 p.m."

The Quabbin Art Association promotes community interest and appreciation in the visual arts by providing education, support, and opportunity for local artists. For more information on joining the group, please visit their website at www.quabbinartassociation.com.



The "Art Take-Away" Tree on the Town Common.

Town announces new board, committee vacancies

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

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

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

Agricultural Commission

Two associate non-voting member seats
This commission promotes agricultural-based economic opportunities; preserves, revitalizes and sustains the Belchertown agricultural industries, and encourages the pursuit of agriculture as a career opportunity and lifestyle.

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Trail Stewardship Council

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

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Animal Control Advisory Board

Three vacancies
This board has the authority to conduct hearings as allowed in the town's by-laws and pose reasonable conditions as deemed appropriate. The ideal applicants may be a

dog breeder, a dog trainer, a veterinarian, a non-pet owner from the community, a medical professional specializing in emergency medicine, an animal enthusiast or caregiver, a pet owner, and/or interested residents.

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Communications Committee

Two full-member seats

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

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Belchertown State School Buildings and Grounds Committee

One full-member seat

The committee will advise the town and the Select Board on funding opportunities for maintaining and developing the remaining State School buildings, as well as advising on historical and cultural development opportunities. Expertise with real estate/architecture, grant writing, or historical experience to strengthen the skill set of the committee is highly preferred.

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Belchertown Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force

One community member vacancy

The focus of the Task Force is to develop a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement for the Select Board to review and to consider adopting, to seek out opportunities to acknowledge and/or celebrate the diversity

Please see **VACANCIES**, page 7

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Chestnut Hill Community School fifth- and sixth-grade chorus sing the Armed Forces Medley.



CHCS musicians perform during the Veterans Day ceremony.

VETERANS DAY 2023

VETERANS from page 1

on all those gathered to honor those that have been called to serve and protect the United States.

Select Board Vice Chair Ronald Aponte then addressed the crowd, reminding all those gathered that they are only able to have such a ceremony because of the veterans. He read the poem "It is the Veteran" which reinforced that message.

"It is the veteran, not the preacher who has given us freedom of religion. It is the veteran, not the reporter who has given us freedom of the press. It is the veteran, not the poet who has given us freedom of speech. It is the veteran, not the campus organizer who has given us freedom of assemble. It is the veteran, not the lawyer who has given us the right to a fair trial. It is the veteran, not the politician who has given us the right to vote. It is the veteran who salutes the flag, who serves under the flag and whose coffin will be draped by the flag."

The Chestnut Hill Community School sixth-grade band and fifth/sixth-grade chorus performed throughout the event, such songs like "The Star-Spangled Banner," "America the Beautiful," "Amazing Grace," and the "Armed Forces Medley." As the chorus sang each military branch's melody, veterans were asked to be recognized in the crowd, to which the audience gave an applause of gratitude.

Instead of a keynote speaker at this year's ceremony, Veterans Agent Charly Oliva thought it appropriate to recognize McMenamin.

"Over 350,000 Purple Hearts were awarded during the Vietnam War. Well-known soldier recipients include Generals Colin L. Powell, H. Norman Schwarzkopf, and Eric K. Shinseki," she said. "Occasionally this award comes after the service member has been discharged. This may be due to medical status, relocation of the service member, death or even a matter of paperwork delays and red tape.

"One such example is Marine Cops Sergeant Kevin McMenamin. He served in the Marine Corps from September of 1967 to June of 1970. Of his two years, eight months and 13 days of service, two years and two months was foreign service," she said.

Oliva went on to share that McMenamin had fought through multiple attacks and military operations, and has



Ron Aponte, Belchertown Select Board vice chair, reads the poem "It is the Veteran."

been awarded such honors as: the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat "V" device, Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Meritorious Unit Commendation with 1 Bronze Star, the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal with 1 Silver Star and 2 Bronze Campaign Stars, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device...to name a few.

"Forty-eight years after his honorable discharge, with the post-marked date of Sept. 14, 2018, Sgt. McMenamin was formally notified he was issued a Purple Heart," Oliva said. "He still has never been pinned, meaning he has never received the physical medal. We gather as a community - friends, neighbors and family - to participate and thank him for his sacrifices to our country."

McMenamin and his wife, Cosette, joined Oliva on stage where State Sen. Jacob Oliveria and State Rep. Aaron Saunders presented him with citations from the Senate and House. After which, Oliva pinned McMenamin with his Purple Heart.

Following the ceremony McMenamin said, "I am very humbled and exceptionally honored" about receiving the award.

The ceremony was closed with a benediction prayer by Loss and retrieval of Colors by the Cub Scouts.



A Girl Scout reads information about the Purple Heart.



A Girl Scout tells the crowd about the Purple Heart.



CHCS band members perform "America the Beautiful."

PHOTOS BY AIMEE M. HENDERSON



CHCS Band, directed by Jason Mosall, performs "The Star-Spangled Banner."



A Brownie scout gives information about the Purple Heart.

Purple Heart pinned on Sgt. McMenamin after 54 years



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Marine Corps Sergeant Kevin McMenamin was pinned with his long overdue Purple Heart during the town's recent Veterans Day ceremony.

'He has waited 54 years for this moment'

BELCHERTOWN – The town's Veterans Day celebration this year included the pinning of Marine Corps Sergeant Kevin McMenamin with his Purple Heart 54 years after he was

combat wounded in Vietnam. He was pinned by Belchertown Veterans' Agent, Charly N. Oliva, MSW, according to reports; the ceremony took place on Nov. 11. A long list of other awards and conflict participations were also noted.

A long list of other awards and conflict participations were also noted.

"He received a commendation from the Commonwealth, one from the Senate presented by Senator Oliviera, and one from the House of Representatives presented by Representative Saunders," a press statement reads. "Representative Aaron Saunders congratulated Sgt. McMenamin for his bravery...and his patience."

Belchertown Community TV Schedule

BELCHERTOWN – Here is the BCTV schedule for Thursday, Nov 16, through Wednesday, Nov. 22.

Thursday, Nov. 16

- 8 a.m. – Conservation Comm., Nov. 13
- 10 a.m. – Planning Board, Nov. 14
- 7 p.m. – Energy and Sustainability Comm., Channel 192
- 7 p.m. – Conversation Comm., Nov. 13
- 9 p.m. – Planning Board, Nov. 14

Friday, Nov. 17

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. – Veterans Day 2023
- 10 a.m. – School Committee, Nov. 14
- 5 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 7 p.m. – Veterans Day 2023
- 8 p.m. – School Committee, Nov. 14

Saturday, Nov. 18

- 8 a.m. – Educational Crafting with Charlotte, Earthworm
- 8:30 a.m. – Veterans Day 2023
- 4:30 p.m. – Educational Crafting with Charlotte, Earthworm
- 5 p.m. – Veterans Day 2023

Sunday, Nov. 19

- 4:30 p.m. – St. Francis Roman Catholic Church
- 6 p.m. – Christ Community Church
- 7 p.m. – Hope United Methodist Church
- 8:30 p.m. – Veterans Day 2023

Monday, Nov. 20

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. – Belchertown Heritage Visioning
- 5 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 6:30 p.m. – Select Board, Channel 191

Tuesday, Nov. 21

- 8 a.m. – Last Month in Belchertown, October
- 9 a.m. – Clapp – Nine People You Should Know in Belchertown
- 10 a.m. – Veterans Day 2023
- 10 a.m. – Community Preservation Comm., Channel 191

Wednesday, Nov. 22

- 8 a.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 9 a.m. – Belchertown Fair Highlights 2023
- 10 a.m. – Belchertown Fair Parade 2023
- 5 p.m. – Conversation with Pakman
- 7 p.m. – Belchertown Fair Highlights 2023
- 8 p.m. – Belchertown Fair Parade 2023

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- Golden Ripe Pineapples... \$2.99 each
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OPINION

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid



Thanksgiving thoughts

My dad has been gone a long time. I sometimes feel badly that he is not in my thoughts as much as he used to be. A lot has happened since his death - marriage and children, a new (old) house. Sometimes it's easy to get caught up in the day to day, but today, as I write, I think of him. Holidays at my childhood home were always a lot of fun. I reflect on that now, as we make plans for our Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings. I can still picture him standing at the counter by the sink, carving the turkey and later in the day enjoying a whopping piece of apple pie (with American cheese?) from his recliner.

My mom still keeps some of the traditions alive as do other family members. Read on to learn about some of the favorite vegetables, fruits and even herbs that make an appearance at the table.

I am not exactly sure where my mom's stuffing recipe originally came from, but it is always a big hit. My Illinois based brother loves it so much that my sister-in-law asked for a copy and now makes it for him on Thanksgiving.

I guess if you can't be at home, having mom's stuffing is the next best thing! Her recipe wouldn't be the same without sage and I doubt yours would either.

Common garden sage (*Salvia officinalis*) is a shrubby perennial plant native to the Mediterranean.

Its leaves start out lime-green in color, but at maturity end up more grey than green. They are somewhat "pebbly" in texture and are very aromatic.

For the most pungency, sage leaves should be harvested just prior to flowering. Hang the leaves and stem tips in loose bunches upside down in an airy, dark place to dry.

Once completely dry (crispy to the touch), leaves can be stripped from their stems and stored in an airtight container.

Remember, as with any herb, drying concentrates the oils in the foliage. Use only half the amount of dried herbs if you have to substitute them for fresh in any recipe.

Because sage is nearly evergreen (actually, "evergrey") I rarely dry any, but harvest it for immediate use even through the winter months - it is freeze-dried but still tasty! Cut back the plant hard in early spring- you will sacrifice a few flowers, but will be rewarded with a lush bushy plant, rather than one that is woody and sparse.

Another one of mom's cherished contributions to Thanksgiving dinner is her apple cranberry relish. This is a simple recipe in which fresh cranberries and peeled apples are chopped fine and mixed together with a little sugar.

So easy yet incredibly yummy! I tried growing cranberries only to be disappointed that voles chewed the roots and killed the plants.

Maybe I'll try again sometime in the future. They don't need a bog, but the water does help with harvesting.

My mom always bought a small turnip for my Dad to enjoy at Thanksgiving dinner. I have to say that I don't recall any other members of the family eagerly anticipating it, not the way he did anyway.

I remember mom carefully cutting away the hard outer skin and then cubing the flesh. It was then boiled and mashed as you would potatoes, with lots of butter.

Turnip must be one of those foods that you acquire a taste for, and as of yet I have not.

To produce the best-tasting, largest turnips time your plantings to grow and mature in cool weather. For Thanksgiving turnips sow seeds 90 days before the

Please see **GARDEN**, page 7

LETTER

BCTV streaming service change

Dear Editor,
Belchertown Community TV's streaming service has changed. The old streaming service is no longer active. To view streaming BCTV, you now need to go to:

Cloud.castus.tv/vod.belchertown?page=HOME
Click on "live" on the left side of the page, and then click on either Channel 191 or 192.

Lew Louraine
Station Manager, Belchertown Community TV



in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer

I received an email from a reader, who had a Cooper's hawk in his yard for two days. He said, "The barred tail was distinctive flying through the yard ... and looked like a dart with the tail straight out. Many people don't realize they, like the Peregrine Falcon, were decimated by DDT and pesticides."



Cooper's hawk

The Cooper's hawk is 16 inches long and as the reader said in his email they have a long tail with barring. They also have fine streaking on the breast. They are gray above with reddish brown barring. Their crown is darker than the back. The immature Cooper's hawk is dark brown above and light below with thin streaking. Immature plumage is kept for one year.

During the breeding season, these hawks have a regular feeding route where it hunts for common medium sized birds such as mourning doves, blue jays and starlings.

The female lays three to six pale blue green eggs with dark marks in a platform nest of sticks place in a tree ten to 70 feet high.

Cooper's hawks may show up at bird feeders especially during the winter months, when it roams a wider area for food. Cooper's hawks inhabit mixed forests and open woodlands. They make a loud repeated "kek kek kek" call given during alarm or during pair interaction. As mentioned in the email above, the Cooper's hawks were decimated in the 1950s and 1960s due to the use of DDT.

Other birds by the lake

He lives on a lake and said, "There is an old pine the Bald Eagles love to fish from. There are two Red Shouldered Hawks' nests within three or four hundred feet of each other and when the young start yelling for food the other nest invariably starts and I have them in stereo. Last year a pair of Blue Heron nested, but this year there is only one who patrols the cove shoreline alone. The eagles seem to ignore the adult." He also sees Golden eagles as well.

Bird tally

I received an email from a reader, who visits ponds in Warren. He sent a tally of bird observed on Nov. 2, 3 and 4. They

Please see **BACKYARD**, page 7

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Social Security Disability vs. Spouse Benefits vs. Survivor Benefits and COLA

Dear Rusty
I retired from working in June but will not sign up for Social Security until age 70 and, to do that, I plan to draw from my IRA for the next three years. My wife is receiving Social Security disability benefits and will reach her full retirement age in March of next year.

I know that my wife simply reaching her full retirement age will not mean an increase to her benefit except for Cost Of Living Allowance. What I'm wondering is, can my wife get spousal benefits of any sort based on my Social Security benefits either before I draw or after I am drawing apart from her benefits at my death? Her Social Security disability amount is only a fraction of my maximum benefit.

Signed

Baffled Husband

Dear Baffled
Looks like you're confused about your

wife's Social Security disability benefits, retirement benefits, spousal benefits, and survivor benefits. Here's what you need to know:

When your wife reaches her Full Retirement Age next year, her current Social Security Disability Insurance benefit will automatically convert to become her regular SS retirement benefit at the same amount she was receiving on SSDI (disability). The amount stays the same because your wife's SSDI amount is based on her FRA entitlement.

Your wife cannot get any spousal benefits from you until you claim your own Social Security retirement benefit. Since you plan to delay claiming until you are 70 several years from now, after your wife's SSDI converts to become her regular retirement benefit at her FRA next year, she will continue to receive her own SS retirement benefit until you claim. At that point your wife will get a "spousal boost" added to her own SS retirement benefit. The amount of her spousal boost will be the difference between her FRA entitlement (same as her SSDI amount) and 50% of your FRA entitlement (not half of your age 70 amount - spouse benefits are always calculated using FRA amounts, regardless of when Social Security is actually claimed).

Your wife cannot get a spousal benefit from you until you start your Social

Please see **SSI**, page 7

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ONE STOP from page 1

Representative Saunders noted the strong partnership among the legislature, administration, town, and non-profits.

"This funding is a result of hard work and working together. When I took office, one of my top priorities was to fight to make funding available to our talented local partners working to improve our community. Today's announcement is another example of that collective work coming to fruition," Saunders said.

The Community One Stop for Growth is the Executive Office of Economic Development's streamlined application process for communities and other eligible entities seeking to access various economic development grant programs. The portal has 12 different state grant programs that fund economic development projects related to community capacity building, planning and zoning, site preparation, building construction, and infrastructure. The MassWorks program is the most extensive grant program in the One Stop portfolio, according to reports.

The \$275,000 for the Belchertown Community Alliance falls under the underutilized properties criteria and will support providing ADA-compliant access to the 6 Berkshire Avenue building, currently being reutilized into a Creative Economy Hub for the town, once a dorm on the former Belchertown State School campus. The grant will support ADA-compliant access to the building by reconfiguring the first-floor entryway, constructing first-floor ADA-accessible bathrooms, and adding an elevator.

The \$470,000 for the second phase of the Lake Wallace Sensory Trail is set to connect the trail back to Carriage Grove's housing. In 2022, phase 1 became a vital element of the Carriage Grove area's

"This incredible amount of money to continue Belchertown's economic development is not only a testament to the talented individuals working hard to write and apply for these grants but also acknowledges the success Belchertown has already had with previous funds."

JAKE OLIVEIRA
State Senator

rebirth and linked the trail to the town's schools, Lampson Brook Farm, a recreation area next to Christopher Heights assisted living, and a pending 100-unit mixed housing by Brisa Builders.

The \$320,000 through MassWorks will be used to buy and install a pressure-reducing valve (PRV) to continue the master-planned economic development growth at Carriage Grove, where developers have identified the need for a PRV from the new developments at Carriage Grove into the existing old water system piping.

Finally, the \$281,000 for surveys in Parcel D of Industrial Park will survey two new lines of the 10-acre lot being transferred to the EDIC as part of the site-readiness grant. The EDIC had a survey of the original Parcel D in the past, including site engineering work and layout. A constraint and best-use analysis must be conducted to better develop and market the entire Parcel D, and an appraisal must be made of the new configuration. The site is undeveloped with no access road and challenging topography but with substantial private sector interest.

SSI from page 6

Security, but after you claim she will receive her higher spousal benefit, her own SS retirement benefit plus a spousal boost, for the rest of her life or until you predecease her. If you die first, your wife will get 100% of the amount you were receiving at your death (e.g., your age 70 amount), instead of the smaller amount she was receiving as your spouse while you are both living.

Regarding COLA, after becoming eligible for benefits, everyone gets the annually awarded COLA increase whether they are already collecting SS benefits or not. The next annual COLA increase will be added to your wife's SSDI at the end of this year and added to her SS retirement amount each year thereafter, and then to her higher amount as your spouse after you claim.

And even though you are waiting until age 70 to claim, the annual COLA will still be added to your Primary Insurance Amount each year, and you will receive that past COLA in your monthly payments after you later claim.

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

BACKYARD from page 6

included on Nov. 2 46 Canada geese and again the same number on Nov. 3 and six on Nov. 4; one pied-billed grebe on Nov. 3, four great blue herons on Nov. 2, two on Nov. 3 and 3 on Nov. 4; a red-tailed hawk on Nov. 2 and one bald eagle on Nov. 3.

He also reported seeing two American crows on Nov. 2, a yellow-bellied sapsucker on Nov. 2, two blue jays on Nov. 2, a titmouse on Nov. 2, one bluebird on Nov. 2 and two on Nov. 3, six robins on Nov. 2, two yellow-dumped warblers on Nov. 2 and again on Nov. 3 and three song sparrows on Nov. 2. Yellow-bellied

sapsuckers, yellow-rumped warblers and bluebirds were eating poison ivy berries.

Canada geese

This weekend my granddaughter and I saw about two dozen Canada geese fly over her house. They were honking as they flew overhead. They headed for a beaver pond across the street.

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

Quabbin Photo Group to host underwater photographer

BELCHERTOWN – The Quabbin Photo Group will host underwater photographer Norm Vexler, a resident of Amherst, at an upcoming meeting.

The event, "Another World," will take place at 7 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 27, in the lower level of the Hope Methodist Church, 31 Main St., Belchertown.

Vexler has been involved with underwater photography for the past 33 years, according to a press statement from the photo group.

"His extensive travels around the world have taken him to some of the most remote and beautiful locations on the planet, including Micronesia, Australia, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, The Maldives, The Red



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Underwater Photography by Norm Vexler, "Another World."

Sea, Fiji, The Galapagos Islands, and many locations of Indonesia," the group released. "His love of nature is reflected in his art as a photographer, and his images capture the essence of the beauty of the underwater world."

For more information, email Gail Platz at gspqpg@gmail.com.

VACANCIES from page 2

within the community, and to welcome the whole community to join in, offering suggestions on how the town addresses specific or potential acts of violence, including hate speech, should such acts arise in the community, region, or state.

"Efforts should be made to include voices from the community or communities that are directly affected," the town released.

Partnership opportunities with surrounding towns to strengthen regional or state efforts might also be explored. This is a seven-member committee to include a representative from law enforcement, a representative from Town Hall, and five community members representing diversity in one or more of the following areas: racial and ethnic backgrounds, social positions with respect to gender identity and sexual orientation, social positions with respect to disability, and age groups and prior vocational experiences.

All are encouraged to apply.
Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Zoning Board of Appeals
One Associate Member seat

The ZBA is responsible for hearing and deciding on applications for special permits,

variances and appeals from decisions of the Zoning Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector.

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Community Preservation Committee
One at-large seat

The CP Committee studies the community presentation needs, possibilities, and resources of the town.

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Council on Aging
One vacancy

Members of the Council on Aging coordinate programs and services for the elderly population and oversee the Belchertown Senior Center.

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

Historic District By-Law Commission
One full-member real estate seat

The Commission has regulatory control over new construction, reconstruction, alterations, movements, and demolition of all exterior architectural features of buildings and structures within the Historic District, which are visible from any public street, public way, or public park.

Deadline: Friday, Dec. 1

GARDEN from page 6

first fall frost is expected.

Simply make a shallow trench one-quarter to one-half inch deep and position seeds one to one and a half inches apart. Once germination occurs and plants have developed their first set of true leaves, thin seedlings to three inches apart.

Deep, loose soil is best for root vegetables of any kind. Turnips benefit from extra water during droughty periods.

If an early frost threatens and your roots aren't yet mature you can cover turnip plants with a sheet or blanket on chilly nights to get through the cold spell and sneak out some additional growing time. Do watch out for frigid temps, however, since mercury that measures below the twenty-five degree mark can damage the crown of the plant.

This type of injury can make turnips more susceptible to rot and reduce storage

capabilities. Turnips are best stored at temperatures around thirty-five degrees.

They can be packed in damp sand or leaves in a cold cellar and should keep for at least two or three months. Some books recommend wrapping individual roots in plastic wrap to hold in moisture as well as prevent the strong turnip odor from permeating other vegetables.

Commercial turnip growers use a food grade wax for this purpose, which makes cutting away the outer flesh all the more challenging.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

Still Time To Order!

THANKSGIVING REVIEW

"Hi Paul, she was great! Lots of plump meat and just enough fat to help prevent her from drying out. We will be having leftovers for a very long time."
— Beth from Belchertown

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PUBLIC SAFETY

Belchertown Police Log

Editor's note: The following are brief explanations of select entries in the Belchertown Police log and arrests for the weeks of Nov. 1 through Nov. 7. 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 responded to every day. Of the 376 calls police responded to, there were 17 incidents, 11 accidents, four arrests/summons and 45 citations.

ARRESTS/SUMMONS
Wednesday, Nov. 1

6:54 p.m. – A 26-year-old Belchertown man and an 18-year-old Granby man were issued summons for disturbing the peace. An officer responded to North Liberty St. for a report of people walking back and forth in front of a business carrying a rifle. The reporting party said they were scared because of the recent shooting in Maine. The officer conducted a search and spoke to the reporting party who said they were afraid to leave their residence. A second call reported two men in the area of North Liberty St. The officers flashed lights into the woods nearby and began to walk down after announcing their presence. A man came out with their hands in the air alone and said they had no weapons. A second person came out of the woods with a BB gun and a hunting knife. There were BB guns found that looked like a pistol and an AR. The two people said they were going to go into the woods and shoot a tree. Due to the alarming nature of the incident which was moderately exposed to the public, the people were charged accordingly. The BB guns and knives were seized.

Saturday, Nov. 4

10:41 a.m. – A 21-year-old Harvard man was issued a summons for unlicensed operation of motor vehicle and a crosswalk violation. An officer parked at a Main St. residence was monitoring traffic in the roadway and sidewalk. A vehicle didn't stop for a woman attempting to cross in the crosswalk. The officer stopped the vehicle and took the person's license, which was expired. The person made arrangements to get a ride.

3:15 p.m. – A 16-year-old Springfield female summons for assault and battery

with a dangerous weapon on a pregnant person and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon.

ACCIDENTS/INCIDENTS
Wednesday, Nov. 1

1:40 a.m. – A parent contacted the department about a teen that left their residence and was in Belchertown then Amherst. A missing person report was filed and the person was entered into the system as missing.

7:43 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on North Washington St. Two vehicles were traveling south on North Washington when the first vehicle slowed for a turkey in the road. The second vehicle attempted to slow but struck the rear of the first vehicle. The operator of the second vehicle said they tried to slow but their tires slid. There were no injuries reported and no tows necessary.

8:44 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on State St. A vehicle stopped at a stop sign exiting Chestnut Hill School was waiting to make a left turn onto State Street. A vehicle in the northbound lane signaled for the vehicle to go, but the traffic in the other lane was not stopped. The vehicle went to turn and was struck by another vehicle. There were no injuries reported and no tow was necessary.

2:32 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Main St. A vehicle traveling south on Main St. was attempting to take a right turn into a parking lot. A second vehicle then attempted to merge in the right lane, striking the first vehicle. There were no injuries reported and no tow was necessary.

5:27 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Boardman Road. A vehicle traveling east on Boardman Road struck a deer that ran into the roadway. No injuries were reported and no tow was necessary.

Thursday, Nov. 2

6:26 p.m. – An officer spoke with a parent about a juvenile-related substance abuse issue. The calling party was worried about the welfare of the child. A portable breath test was done, and the result were that the juvenile was under the influence. The reporting parties said they would bring the child to the hospital themselves. The officers followed up and the people were at the hospital. A report was filed with DCF.

Friday, Nov. 3

8:21 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Federal St. A vehicle traveling west on Federal St. attempted to turn left into a driveway and another vehicle attempted to pass it on the left side, colliding with the first. No injuries were reported, and no tows were needed.

12:39 p.m. – A person came to the station to turn in a toiletry bag with miscellaneous items and the person's license. The officers contacted the person and left a message. The bag was placed into property so the person could retrieve it.

1:36 p.m. – An officer took a report of a part missing from a truck. The person came out of a business and reported their driver's side rear hubcap was missing. There is no other information available.

9:04 p.m. – An officer responded to a golf course for a report of a juvenile riding a bike refusing to get into the car with a parent. The youth entered a locked gate and the officer's pursued the person on foot. The person ran into a wooded area and fell into water and mud. The officers were able to bring the child back to their parents. The person was on parole and the matter was reported to the SRO and DCF.

Saturday, Nov. 4

1:50 a.m. – A resident came to station and asked to speak with the chief regarding the CIA. They said they wanted to keep as much information private as possible and refused to speak to other people. The person appeared to be under the influence. A field sobriety test was given and there were no signs of impairment. An officer responded to the person's residence to speak with their relatives to take custody of them.

6:22 a.m. – An officer responded to Amherst Road for an accident. A vehicle ran into a deer that ran into the road. There were no injuries reported and no tows were necessary.

10 a.m. – An officer responded to a North Main St. for a report of a neighbor dispute. A resident was picking branches out of their vehicle and a neighbor began harassing them. The other neighbor reported they were taking out their trash when they got yelled at. The officer advised the neighbors of their options.

11:06 a.m. – A caller spoke to an officer about a former partner picking up property. They wanted to document who owned what items.

1:14 p.m. – An officer returned a phone call to a resident who reported a missing comic book in perfect condition. They said the last time they saw the book was last summer. They believed their neighbors might have been involved. There are no suspects at this time.

4:16 p.m. – An officer took a report of a threat made at a business.

7:10 p.m. – An officer responded to Old Pelham Road for a resident who reported objects were moved into unusual locations following their return home after a trip. Nothing was missing. The officer did an area of the neighbors. The incident was documented, and the person was advised to contact the department if they find anything missing.

Sunday, Nov. 5

6:31 a.m. – An officer responded to a residence for a report of an ill party. Officers assisted Belchertown fire and paramedics.

8:38 a.m. – An officer responded to Mini-Fenway for a report of a break-in to the snack shack. The shed was also vandalized. The door had holes in it in the shape of a cross. Photos were taken and the matter is under investigation.

12:55 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Jabish St. A motorcycle traveling north on Jabish St. lost control, falling onto its right side and sliding up the street. The operator was ejected from the motorcycle. The operator sustained injuries and was issued a citation for a tire tread violation.

2:56 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on South St. A vehicle traveling west on South St. dodged a vehicle traveling east on South St. The second vehicle had no damage and was able to be driven from the scene. The first vehicle left the roadway and went into a ditch, causing a tire to pop. The first vehicle was towed from the scene. No injuries were reported.

5:29 p.m. – Officer responded to an accident on Franklin St. A vehicle traveling south on Franklin St. struck a deer on the front right side of the vehicle. No injuries were reported and no tow was necessary.

Monday, Nov. 6

7:29 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident at Federal St. and Pelham Road. A vehicle stopped at a stop sign was rear

Please see **POLICE LOG**, page 9



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POLICE LOG from page 8

ended by a second vehicle. There was minor damage to the vehicles. No injuries were reported.

5:06 p.m. – A resident called the station to report suspicious mail. The officer responded to the residence and observed mail with different messages written. The resident reported a few weeks prior they got calls and texts saying they were being watched. The officer got the numbers and checked them through an investigatory tool at the department. The matter was forwarded to the detective bureau.

8:15 p.m. – An officer responded to Federal St. for an accident. A vehicle traveling west on Federal St. struck a deer that ran into the roadway from behind a tree. No injuries were reported and no tow was necessary.

Tuesday, Nov. 7

3:56 p.m. – An officer took a report from a Stebbins St. resident reporting their child was threatened by a neighbor and the person was getting a gun. The suspect said they just moved to the area and were taking a walk around the neighborhood when they were approached by a person who asked what they were doing. The person walking was on the phone and was believed to have spoken to the second person's children. No one involved had a firearms license or possessed a firearm. There were no other services required.

8:27 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Amherst Road. A vehicle traveling east on Amherst Road struck a deer that ran out into the roadway, causing mortal injury to the deer. There was no injury reported to the person and no tow was necessary.

Granby Police Log

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 149 calls for the week of Nov. 3 through Nov. 9. Those arrested are presumed innocent

until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Friday, Nov. 3

7:53 a.m. – Belchertown PD reported a call they received for a car vs pole near Chicopee Street and Route 202. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries. An accident report was completed.

Saturday, Nov. 4

9:58 a.m. – A motorist reported a minor two-car accident. No reported injuries. Granby Police responded and an accident report was completed.

11:15 a.m. – An officer discovered that a traffic light pole was struck near five corners. Mass State Highway has been notified an accident report was completed.

Sunday, Nov. 5

1:42 p.m. – A motorist reported they struck a deer. There were no injuries and only minor damage to the vehicle.

23-6811 5:47 p.m. – An employee at Cumberland Farms reported a shoplifting that just occurred. The party left in a vehicle prior to police arrival. An incident report was completed.

Wednesday, Nov. 8

11:32 a.m. – A motorist reported that they struck a tree and a guardrail. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries. The road had to be closed for a short time to recover the vehicle from its location down a hill.

Thursday, Nov. 9

11:07 a.m. – A resident reported that a package was stolen from their doorstep. An incident report was completed.

2:04 p.m. – A resident reported that a sedan struck their rock wall and did not stop. The vehicle was located a short distance away by an officer. There were no injuries. An accident report was completed.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Lions Club assists with cost of ceremonial flags

Belchertown Lions Club members (left to right) Victor Robidoux, Mike Pease, and Keith Poulin present Belchertown's Veterans' Services Department agent Charly Oliva with a check to help defray the costs of purchasing ceremonial flags for the organization at the Veterans' Day Ceremony on Nov. 11.

Town offices to close for holiday

BELCHERTOWN - The Town Hall and the Select Board's Office at the Finnerty House will be closing at noon on Wednesday, Nov. 22, for the Thanksgiving holiday. Offices will reopen at 8 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 27, according to a town officials.



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Tue., Nov. 21
1:00 p.m.
Polish American Citizens Club
355 East St.
Ludlow, MA

Mon., Nov. 27
2:00 p.m.
West Springfield Senior Center
128 Park St.
West Springfield, MA

Sat., Dec. 2
Open House
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(Stop in and chat with us!
No formal presentation.)
Residence Inn
(behind PetSmart)
500 Memorial Dr.
Chicopee, MA

Tue., Dec. 5
Open House
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
(Stop in and chat with us!
No formal presentation.)
Willits Hollowell Center
Mt. Holyoke College
(park in rear of building)
25 Park St.
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Visit our website or call for a full session schedule:
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OBITUARIES

DEATH NOTICES

Rene Pepin
Died: August 28, 2023

William Ira Shattuck Jr.
Died: November 4, 2023

Earle H. Atwell
Died: November 5, 2023
Funeral: November 21, 2023

Sharon Griswold
Died: November 13, 2023

John Carl Beebe
Died: November 7, 2023
Funeral: November 16, 2023



The Sentinel
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

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

Earle H. Atwell



BELCHERTOWN - Earle H. Atwell, 84, passed away November 5, 2023. He was born on October 18, 1939, in North Adams to Earle G and Dorothy (Shepard) Atwell. Earle lived in Belchertown since 1956. He worked as a carpenter and then worked as the Head Janitor for Amherst Pelham School System and after he retired from there, he drove for Hulmes Transportation.

Earle enjoyed his daily walks on the Norwottuck Rail Trail, playing guitar, and listening to country music. He was an avid Red Sox and Patriots fan and loved spending time with his grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

He was predeceased by his wife Nancy (Capen) Atwell, his stepdaughter Jo-Anne Hatt, his son-in-law Michael, and 13 siblings and four stepsiblings.

He is survived by his son, Carle (Beth) Atwell of Palmer, his daughter, Sherry Walsh of Belchertown, his brother, Steve Atwell and sister, Candy McNeaney both of Belchertown. He also leaves five grandchildren, Shauna (Adam), Trisha (Nelson), Shani (James), Eric (Christina) and Adam, also 12 great grandchildren Riley, Grace, Dante, NyZIAH, Angelina, Mason, Aviana, Lincoln, Caleb, Shannon, Lana, and Jayden.

A graveside service will be held on Nov. 21, 2023, at 11 a.m. at South Cemetery in Belchertown. Donations in his memory may be made to the Department of Conservation & Recreation Norwottuck Rail Trail, www.mass.gov/how-to/how-to-donate.

For more information, please visit www.beersandstory.com.

John Carl Beebe

LUDLOW - John Carl Beebe, 79, of Ludlow, passed away peacefully on November 7, 2023, surrounded by his loving family. Born in Falls Church, Va., to the late John and Mary (Moore) Beebe, he was a 1962 graduate of Fair Haven High School in Vt. and proudly served his country in the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserves from 1964-1970.

John went on to further his education earning a Bachelor's Degree from Castleton State College in 1970 and a Master's Degree in Education from Westfield State College in 1976. John had a distinguished lifetime career within the Belchertown school system. He began his career teaching fourth grade at Center School and retired as the Assistant Principal at Chestnut Hill Community School. Outside of his career, he was a member of the American Legion Post 49 in Fair Haven, Vt., for over 50 years, an avid red sox fan, loved to travel, play golf, and trips to the casino. John was the

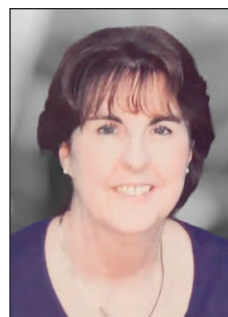


beloved husband of the late Ann (Lynch) Beebe, who predeceased him in 2014; a devoted father to Deborah Singleton and partner Cliff Reed of Ludlow, and Erin Beebe and wife Jaime Yott, of Enfield; a cherished grandfather to Kayden and Emily Singleton; a dear brother to Mary Beebe, and the late Burt Beebe, Brigid Beebe, and Teresa Fenton; and also leaves his dear friend Rose DeForge, as well as many loving extended family members, dear friends, and colleagues.

Funeral services for John will be held on Thursday, Nov. 16, 2023. Visiting hours are from 11 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. at Ludlow Funeral Home followed by procession to MA Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Agawam for committal services with Military Honors at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers and due to cemetery restrictions, it is requested that donations be made in John's memory to The Alzheimer's Association (alz.org).

Sharon L. (Belisle) Griswold

BELCHERTOWN - Sharon L. (Belisle) Griswold, 74, passed away November 13, 2023 surrounded by love of family. Sharon was born in Holyoke, May 28, 1949 to Russell L. and Esther (Hickson) Belisle. She was a graduate of Holyoke Catholic High School. For many years she worked with the Holyoke Medical Group as a medical coder.



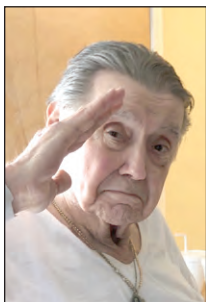
Sharon loved horses and was an accomplished equestrian. She trained and showed horses for many years. She also enjoyed traveling, camping and spending the colder months in Florida. She especially loved spending time on Merrit Island watching the rockets launch from NASA. In the quiet moments she often could be found reading.

Sharon leaves her loving husband of 55 years, Charles M. Griswold; a son, David A. Griswold and his wife Kimberly of Granby; sister, Colleen Raina Belisle of Granby and sister-in-law Cindy Belisle of Alaska; two grandchildren, Tyler A. Griswold and his partner, Terra Hondrogen, Brooke K. Griswold and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents and a brother, Lari Belisle.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to Lombard Funeral Home of Monson.

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. Please omit flowers. For online condolences visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com

Rene (Don) Pepin



FALMOUTH - It is with great sadness that the family of Rene Pepin announce his passing August 28, 2023, in Falmouth.

Don struggled with his disability for many years and always said God never gave him more than he could handle. He was a Navy Veteran, loved his prayer times, calls from his children, sports, and scratch tick-

ets. He leaves behind his loving family and friends, wife Maryann, children Julie/Wayne, Chris/Jennifer, Jeff, Evelyn/Marc, grandchildren Cassie, Veronica, Nic, sisters Theresa Murray, Annette Crevier, and Diane Hupfer, nephew David and Elaine Pepin.

Service will be at the discretion of the family.

William Ira Shattuck Jr.

BELCHERTOWN - Beloved William Ira Shattuck Jr., 75, passed away on November 4, 2023. Born on May 21, 1948, he was a lifelong resident of Belchertown. After graduating Belchertown High School in 1966, he went on to earn a degree from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at UMass Amherst.



Together with his brother Tom, he worked as owner/operator of the family business, Devon Lane Farm Supply and Power Equipment. He served clients across New England, helping farmers get their harvests in with working equipment in any weather and at all hours.

Creating many sweet memories, Will enjoyed making maple syrup with his dear wife of 50 years, Judi, building Shattuck's Sugarhouse since 1972. He was committed to the land maintaining the family's farm property and caring for the Devon herd throughout his lifetime. He also found joy in tinkering and repairing large engines of all sorts, as well as a lifetime love of flying small planes and fast cars.

For 50 years, he served both the Belchertown Firefighters Association and the Masonic Order. He was a Trustee for the Belchertown Congregational Church and founding member of the Belchertown Agricultural Commission. He served as past president and longtime member of the Franklin Harvest Club and Massachusetts

Maple Producers Association, as well as the Northeast Equipment Dealers Association. He was generous with his time, engaging always in support of the community.

Will leaves behind his wife, Judi, and their children: Nate, Emily, Kristin, and Dan. He was a proud grandfather to eight grandchildren who brought him immense happiness.

A "Celebration of Life" Service to spread his ashes and honor his memory is planned at the farm for Saturday, July 27, 2024. In lieu of flowers and formal services, memorial contributions may be made in his name at Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School supporting the Agriculture Mechanics Program, which suffered a great loss of essential equipment in the 2022 fire. Will was dedicated to supporting the students in the Ag Mech program for more than 50 years as did his father before him. Beers & Story Funeral Home of Belchertown will handle the arrangements and their compassionate assistance during this difficult time is greatly appreciated.

Will is remembered as a dedicated family man, a loving husband, father and grandfather, and a hardworking pillar of the community. May his legacy of service and generosity continue to inspire us all.

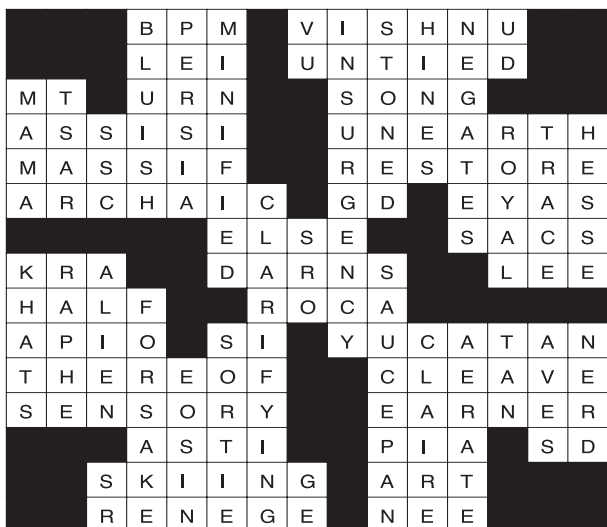
For more information, please visit beersandstory.com.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

BELCHERTOWN - The churches of Belchertown will be gathering for an Ecumenical Thanksgiving service on Sunday, Nov. 19.

The 2 p.m. service will take place at Belchertown United Church of Christ (BUCC) at 18 Park St. in Belchertown. BUCC will be joined by Hope United Methodist Church, St. Francis of Assisi Parish, and Christ Community Church.

Choir members from the four churches will join their voices together to provide music that day. The service will be led by the clergy and deacons from the churches. The community is invited to come and take part in this time of giving thanks and praise.



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Rams fall in Class D championship game

BY TIM PETERSON
Sports Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD—The difference in the Western Mass Class D championship soccer match between Granby and Palmer was postseason experience.

Six of the players listed on this year's Palmer varsity soccer roster were also members of the 2021 squad, which celebrated a 2-1 overtime victory against Mount Greylock in the Western Mass. Class C finals at Agawam High School.

Led by sophomore Charlotte Theriault, the top-seeded Lady Panthers captured the Western Mass. title for the second time in the past three years with a 3-1 victory over the second-seeded Lady Rams at Berte Field located on the Springfield Central campus, on Oct. 31.

"This is the second time that we've won the Western Mass. since I've been playing for the varsity soccer team," Theriault said. "I won my first title with my older sister (Maddy) two years ago and I just don't know how to explain my feelings right now."

The other Palmer players, who won their second Western Mass. title, are senior Vanessa Baer, senior Jordan Bigda, senior Grace Burke, junior Loretta Petrashewicz, and junior Ava Przybycien.

A year ago, the Lady Panthers (11-7-1) lost to rival Monson in the Class D semifinals.

The last time that the Lady Rams (9-10) made an appearance



Molly Zumbruski sends a long kick away.

in the Western Mass. finals was in 2019. They lost to Lenox, 3-0, in that contest, which was also played at Berte Field. It was the final year of the old playoff format.

"This is the first time that any

of my players have played in the Western Mass. finals. We have six or seven freshmen who played a ton of minutes this season. They got a taste of it tonight," said Granby head coach Bob Weaver. "We lost to Lenox here in 2019,



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Kalli White tries to get a pass by a Palmer defender.

but we won three straight Western Mass. titles before that."

Both girls' soccer teams are members of the Central Division.

"We joined the Central Division this season and we faced some pretty tough competition during the regular season," said Palmer head coach Celso Sandoval. "Winning our second Western Mass title in the past three years is a very good thing for our program."

Palmer won the first meeting of the regular season, 7-3, at Legion Field on September 12.

Granby evened the season series at 1-1 with a 5-1 home win on October 4.

"It's very difficult playing the

same team three times in the same season," Sandoval added. "Both teams scored eight goals against each other during the regular season. The margin of victory was four goals. Granby is a very young squad, and this probably won't be the last time we play them in the tournament."

Both teams also entered the championship having won their previous four matches.

The Lady Panthers took a 1-0 lead during the third minute of the opening half.

Junior Gianna Perry began the scoring play by delivering a pass towards the goal between a couple

Please see **RAMS**, page 12



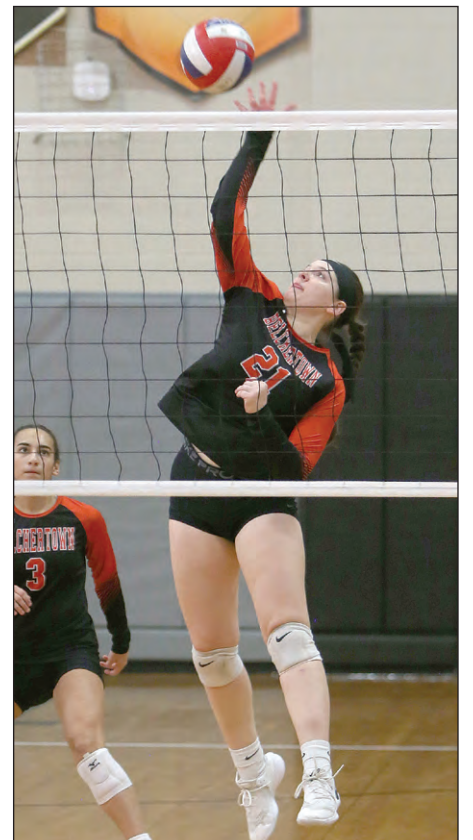
Christina Santiago reaches out for a bump.



Vivian Ross gets a hit on the back line.



Ava Shea tries to clear the ball.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Gianna Picardi sends a spike over the net.

Girls volleyball reaches second round

BELCHERTOWN – After a season in which Belchertown girls volleyball reached the Western Mass. semifinals, they qualified for the Division 3

State Tournament, playing in two games before being eliminated in the Round of 16. Last Tuesday, Belchertown would lose at Weston High School 3-0. The first

round victory Belchertown got was against a regional opponent, as Belchertown met Taconic and swept the Braves 3-0. Belchertown also faced and defeated

Taconic in the Western Mass. quarterfinals. The Orioles finished the season 13-6 overall.

SPORTS

Pioneers, Orioles set to matchup on Thanksgiving



Hunter Griswold makes a throw for Pathfinder.

PALMER – Last Thanksgiving, the Pathfinder High School football team scored early and often, utilizing the pass game to their advantage en route to a win over Belchertown. It was the first Thanksgiving win in a few years for the Pioneers, which finished the season above .500 for the first time in several years.

This year, both teams are coming off pretty successful seasons, setting up for a very good matchup on Thanksgiving morning, next Thursday.

This year's game will be held at Belchertown High School and the kickoff will take place a little early, at 9 a.m. Belchertown utilized the early kickoff two years ago for the first time.

Belchertown made the state tournament for the first time with a 7-1 record and a 4-1 conference record, losing only to Hoosac on Oct. 1.

The Orioles would be defeated by Shawsheen Valley Vocational 49-8 on Nov. 3 and then faced Ware in nonplayoff action in Week 10. The Orioles were defeated in that matchup, entering the Thanksgiving matchup with a 7-3 record overall. Pathfinder enters this year's matchup at 4-6, though their team has had a much better season than their record



Quarterback Landon Andre attempts a throw for the Orioles during last year's game

STAFF PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

reflects.

Even in defeat, Pathfinder always was in competitive matchups, and they were successful in Tri-County action, going 3-2, including a win over Smith Vocational on

Oct. 27.

Smith Vocational got a bit of revenge, defeating Pathfinder in nonplayoff action on Nov. 10. Pathfinder also lost to Lee in Week 9.

Thunderbird fall in overtime

BRIDGEPORT, CT – The Springfield Thunderbirds (7-6-1-0) got a terrific netminding performance, but the offense went cold in a 2-1 overtime loss to the Bridgeport Islanders (4-6-1-0) on Saturday night at Total Mortgage Arena in Bridgeport.

The starting goaltenders were the best performers in the opening period. Malcolm Subban got the nod for the T-Birds after a strong relief effort in Providence on Friday and helped Springfield kill off a pair of Islander power plays in the first, denying nine shots in the period. At the other end, Ken Appleby was far busier than he was

last Sunday when he needed to make just 17 saves in 60 minutes against the T-Birds. He had an answer for all 11 Springfield shots in the first frame.

The scoreless affair was broken at the 5:54 mark in the second period. After Springfield failed to generate a chance on an odd-man rush, it sprung the Islanders into the T-Birds zone on a 3-on-1, and Ruslan Iskhakov elected to take the shot himself from the right circle, slipping it between Subban's legs to give Bridgeport the 1-0 advantage and snap a streak of more than 75 minutes without a goal for the Isles.

Despite some shaky moments in the stanza, the T-Birds fought back to even the score at 15:28. Near the end of a shift, Will Bitten entered the offensive zone on the left wing, dropping a pass at the top of the left circle for Joey Duszak. After stumbling slightly, Duszak regathered his footing and surprised Appleby with a low shot along the ice that sneaked home, equaling things at 1-1. Bitten picked up his first assist of the year, while Duszak's tally was his first goal as a Thunderbird.

Subban remained stout in between the pipes, as he shut down each of the other 13

Please see **T-BIRDS**, page 15

Sign up for the Wilbraham Turkey Trot

WILBRAHAM – Please join us on Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 23 for the Wilbraham Turkey Trot - a five-mile road race up Monson Road now in its 44th year. The annual tradition, started in 1980, has grown in recent years selling out at 500 runners the past several years. This year, the maximum has been increased to 550 participants.

The race returned successfully returned last Thanksgiving morning for the annual tradition benefiting the Community Survival Center. There is no vaccination requirement this year. The course starts in Woodland Dell Cemetery just up from race headquarters at the Wilbraham United Church. Runners then make a left onto Main St. and head up Monson Road. Once summited, runners turn left and enjoy scenic views of the valley from atop Ridge Road and enjoy the downhill along Mountain Road before turning back on Main Street to the church. The race starts at 8:30 a.m. with bib pick-up beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the church.

The race focuses on providing a classic New England Turkey Trot with chip timing, race swag, and one big hill. Awards will be given for the first male and female runners to the top of Monson Road.

Registration is only \$20 and available online at www.RunReg.com/wilbrahamturkeytrot

Residents are asked not to park on Woodland Dell or Main Street on Thanksgiving morning and to avoid driving on the route until after the race has concluded at 10 a.m. Any traffic will be detoured downhill from Monson Road to Main along Ridge and Mountain Roads.

Expected road closures are as follows:
Main Street: From Monson to Woodland Dell: 8:30-8:35 a.m.

Monson Road: Closed to downhill traffic from Ridge Road to Main Street: 8:30-8:50 a.m. (Traffic detoured down ridge road)

Ridge Road: Closed to uphill traffic from Mountain to Monson: 8:35-9:10 a.m.

(Traffic detoured down Mountain Road)

Mountain Road: Closed to uphill traffic from Main to Ridge: 8:40-9:25 a.m.

(Traffic can travel uphill via Monson Road)



Kelly Lynne Kennedy heads the ball forward.



Rhea Gagnon is closely pursued by an opponent.



Olyvia Redmond passes the ball ahead of pressure.

RAMS from page 11

of defenders. Theriault completed the play with a low shot that deflected into the net after hitting off the right post.

"It was a beautiful pass by Gianna," Theriault said. "I was feeling very good after I watched the ball bounce into the net. It's always very important to take the lead in every game."

In the middle of the first half, a free kick taken from about 35 yards out by Granby junior Molly Zumbruski was saved by Palmer junior goalie Aubrey Boucher.

With five minutes remaining in the opening half, Theriault, who's closing in on her 100th career goal, scored her second goal on a corner kick. Petraszewicz was credited with the assist.

Just like in the first half, the Lady Panthers scored their third goal three minutes into the second half on a breakaway shot into the upper right corner by senior Fallon Lynch.

Then Boucher made a couple of outstanding saves on free kicks by junior Lydia Kicza.

The Lady Rams ended Boucher's shut-

out bid in the 78th minute when freshman Brenna Moreno blasted a shot into the back of the net.

Granby junior Maggie Crawford also had a shot on goal in the final minute, but Boucher made the save.

Both soccer teams also qualified for the Division 5 state

Granby, who's the 20th-seeded, was scheduled to play at 13th-seeded David Prouty in the round of 32 on Sunday night.

Palmer is the 12th-seed hosted 21st-seeded Hopkins Academy in the round of 32 at Legion Field on Monday night.

Volleyball All-Star Showcase set for next Tuesday

HOLYOKE – The 11th IVHF All-Star Showcase will feature the top players in Western Massachusetts in two showcase matches. The event will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 21 at the Holyoke Community College Bartley Center located at 303 Homestead Avenue, Holyoke.

The event will start with a 3-set Second team all-star match at 6 p.m. followed by the award presentation and a 3-set First team match at 7:30 p.m. Adult tickets are \$10, Seniors 65-and-over are \$5 and Students/Children are free of charge. Admission to the All-Star Game also

includes a free of charge future admission pass to the International Volleyball Hall of Fame Museum.

“The IVHF is very proud to have its home in Western Massachusetts and we are very excited to again recognize the top players in our area.” said IVHF Executive

Director George Mulry.

Selected players are chosen by vote of the Western Massachusetts girls high school coaches.

For more information on the Hall of Fame Girls All-Star Volleyball Showcase, contact events@volleyhall.org.

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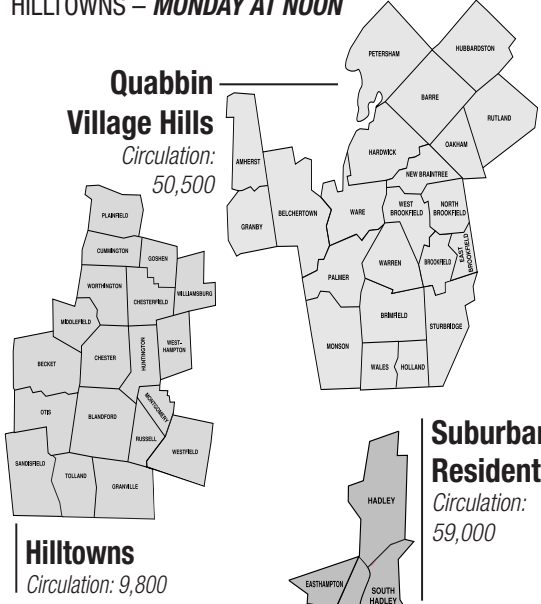


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PUBLIC NOTICES

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampshire Division
Docket No. HS23P0601EA**

**Estate of:
Brian F. Lefebvre
Date of Death:
August 23, 2022
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Gerardine Lefebvre of Belchertown, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate. **Gerardine Lefebvre 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 interested 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. 11/16/2023

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of November 17, 2023, the following motor vehicles will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

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Address: 26 Rochelle Street
Springfield, MA 01109

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T-BIRDS from page 12

shots he faced in the period, allowing just the Iskhakov wrister to beat him, taking the 1-1 tie into the final 20 minutes.

Shots and chances heavily favored the Islanders in the third period, as Springfield just a single shot on goal in the final 20 minutes. Subban, though, maintained his poise and nearly singlehandedly earned a standings point for the T-Birds, forcing the 1-1 tie into overtime.

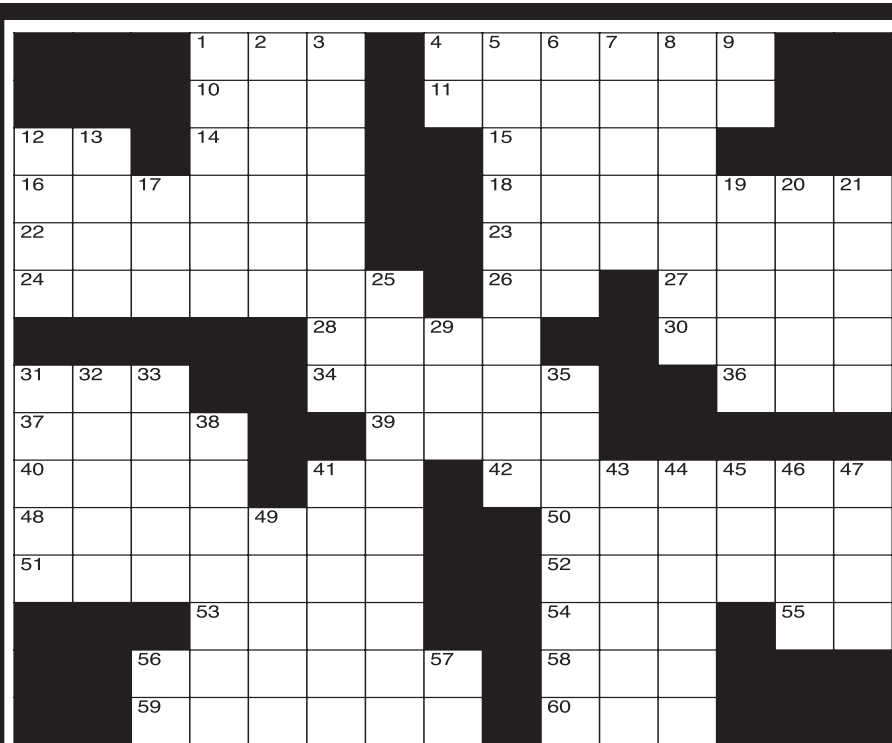
After winning their first two overtime games of the season, Springfield could not make it three straight, as Iskhakov stormed up the ice to create a 2-on-1 with Sam Asselin with under a minute left in overtime. Asselin hit Iskhakov in stride, and the skilled winger made no mistake in beating Subban on the

stick side to seal the victory at 4:08 of extra time.

The T-Birds come back home next Friday, Nov. 17 for another Deuces Wild Friday at the Thunderdome, where the T-Birds will take on the Utica Comets for their first of four matchups on the season, with puck drop at 7:05 p.m.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Beats per minute
- 4. Hindu deity
- 10. Polynesian garland of flowers
- 11. Not chained to
- 12. Metric ton
- 14. Tall, rounded vase
- 15. Musical composition
- 16. St. Francis of ___
- 18. Discover the location of
- 22. Compact group of mountains
- 23. Mend
- 24. Not current
- 26. Atomic #64
- 27. Young hawk
- 28. Or ___
- 30. Pouches
- 31. Southern Thailand isthmus
- 34. Mends with yarn

- 36. Downwinds
- 37. One of two equal parts of a divisible whole
- 39. Italian archaeological site
- 40. Cold appetizer
- 41. Yes
- 42. Peninsula
- 48. Of that
- 50. A way to divide
- 51. Relating to the physical senses
- 52. One who makes money
- 53. ___ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 54. Inconvenience (abbr.)
- 55. South Dakota
- 56. Snow sport
- 58. The products of human creativity
- 59. Change mind
- 60. Born of

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Similar to the color of a clear unclouded sky
- 2. Former name of Iran
- 3. Made smaller
- 4. Type of meter
- 5. Revolt
- 6. Killed with rocks
- 7. Gregory ___, US dancer
- 8. Nullifies
- 9. Home to the Flyers
- 12. Female parent
- 13. Pre-1917 Russian emperor
- 17. Outsourcing (abbr.)
- 19. Regal
- 20. Line
- 21. Hermann ___, author of "Siddhartha"

- 25. Clearing up
- 29. No seats available
- 31. Leaves of an Arabian shrub
- 32. Groove in organ or tissue
- 33. Not of this world
- 35. Cooking device
- 38. Forget
- 41. Operational flight
- 43. Actress Danes
- 44. Poke holes in
- 45. A way to discolor
- 46. Shouts of welcome or farewell
- 47. Pharrell's group
- 49. Red fluorescent dye
- 56. Jr.'s dad
- 57. Electronics firm

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

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AUTO BODY

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

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

QUILTS from page 1

Sewing Center before starting their own chapter closer to home. Together, they've made over 150 quilts.

Veterans can receive a lot of awards and recognition for their acts of service and bravery when protecting their country and freedom, she said, but these quilts are really to honor their willingness to serve.

"Quilts of Valor are honoring those who served and went where they were told to go," Blanchard said. "You did it, you served."

Blanchard shared a story she heard from a Korean War veteran, who had enlisted when he was just 16 years old. By the time he was 19, he was the "old man" of his unit, with the rank of sergeant.

One day, as this veteran was being driven past another servicemember handling artillery, he noticed something wasn't right with the gun that was about to be fired. He jumped out of the Jeep, and threw a hammer at the gun.

His quick actions saved five lives that day. There wasn't even a notation about this heroic action in his military files, Blanchard said.

This is the life of a veteran, she said.

"In many times, this isn't even acknowledged," Blanchard said. "We are grateful for that service."

The quilts were presented to William Griswold, a U.S. Army veteran from Palmer, Belinda Morrone, a U.S. Air Force veteran from Worcester, William "Billy" Byrnes, a U.S. Army veteran from Palmer and Willie Lemieux, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran from Belchertown. Gerald Flynn, a U.S. Army veteran, also received a quilt but was unable to attend the ceremony.

Morrone, a retired HomeFront Strong board member, is part of a smaller group of veterans recognized for their service, Blanchard said.

"We're in a minority being female, but we are veterans," said Blanchard, who is also a veteran.

Blanchard and Barnes wrapped each quilt around its recipient, thanking them individually for their service.

"We truly hope they provide

warmth and comfort to you," Blanchard said of the quilts.

This is the third year HomeFront Strong, formerly the Brookfield Institute, has hosted its Military Appreciation Breakfast on Veterans Day. The breakfast is always free, and open to all veterans, servicemembers, and their families.

"We had a veterans breakfast prior to the pandemic," Jennifer Baublitz, executive director for HomeFront Strong said, seeing it return as an annual event last year.

This breakfast is just one of the ways HomeFront Strong continues its mission to build resiliency in veterans and military families through targeted programs and resources. The organization also hosts a drop-in Morning Coffee program on the fourth Thursday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Palmer Public Library, offering snacks, coffee and camaraderie.

"We remember those who serve the people," Baublitz said. "We remember our comrades."

While almost every seat in the dining room of the Senior Center was filled on Saturday, one chair at a small table remained empty the entire time.

The table, which was draped in a white table cloth, was set to honor prisoners of war and those missing in action.

"We remember them," Baublitz said, as she read the significance of each item placed on the table. "Remember until the day they come home."

The table is smaller than the other tables in the dining room, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner alone against their captors. The black napkin represents the emptiness left in the families' hearts.

The table has a red rose, a candle, a bread plate and an inverted wine glass. On the bread plate is a lemon, a bitter reminder of these POW/MIA's fate, and salt to represent the tears of their loved ones.

The glass is overturned, to remind people that these servicemembers are not here to raise their glasses.

Baublitz credited a crew of dedicated volunteers for making



These Quilts of Valor are all made with 100% cotton fabric, in shades of red, white and blue.



A U.S. Air Force veteran stands for his branch's song.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY PAULA QUIMETTE

U.S. Air Force veteran and retired HomeFront Strong board member Belinda Morrone receives a Quilt of Valor from Kate Blanchard and Connie Barnes during HomeFront Strong's Military Appreciation Breakfast held at the Ware Senior Center this past Saturday.

the breakfast a success, including Senior Center Executive Director John Zienowicz, Chef Alton Davis, Council on Aging members and Senior Center volunteers, along with Country Bank staff, who served and cleared plates.

Morrone presented a medallion coin to each volunteer, as well as to HomeFront Strong staff and volunteers.

She also recognized Town Manager Stuart Beckley, Veterans Service Officer Mark Avis, along with Selectboard members Nancy Talbot and Jack Cascio and Superintendent of Ware Public Schools Michael Lovato, who all attended the breakfast.

For more information about

HomeFront Strong and the programs and services it offers, find them on Facebook and Instagram, visit brookfieldinstitute.org, call 508-499-9589 or email jennifer@brookfieldinstitute.org.

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