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THURSDAY,

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# Jingle Bell Bazaar

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer epappas@turley.com

GRANBY - The holiday season brings many opportunities to find something new, especially at holiday markets and craft

A well-loved tradition amongst the various communities and towns across the country is getting together donated items into a bazaar, and these bazaars are oftentimes used as a fundraiser.

The United Church of Christ in Granby has been hosting their annual Jingle Bell Bazaar since 1946- seventy-eight years of community love and participation.

It was started by the Women's Guild within the church, and not only features handmade crafts and items, but also, true to any good Bazaar, some newto-vou items.

From housewares to beautiful pieces of jewelry, handmade knitting and crochet, earrings, plants and wreaths, and a bake sale, you can find a little bit of everything.

Please see **BAZAAR**, page 7



TURLEY PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Jenni Oyola, Xylena Torres, and Tasondra Jardine taking a family photo with Santa.

# Granby Fire Chief resigns

By Melina Bourdeau Correspondent

GRANBY- On Dec. 5, the board unanimously accepted the chief's resignation, including waiving the required 60 days. Fire Chief Michael O'Neill submitted a resignation letter to the town's lawyer stating that Jan. 22, 2025, will be his last day.

During this time, O'Neill stated he intended to use his available sick time for that time win-

According to Town Administrator Chris Martin, according to O'Neill's contract, the board can accept it immedi-

Martin recommended accepting immediately.

"He's going to be an absent chief, period," he said. "You need a chain of command."

Selectboard member Crystal Dufresne asked what the procedure would be if the board accepted it immediately.

Martin said he spoke with Deputy Chief Tyler Yvon and asked if he would be the interim chief, and he declined.

"He feels we should try and find somebody from outside to serve as the interim chief until we can hire a permanent replacement," Martin said. "He declined to be internment but was willing to hold the fort as deputy."

Please see **RESIGNS**, page 10

# Toys collected for needy children

#### Police Department, Girl Scouts work together

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer epappas@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN - As the holidays approach, it comes time for the stores to fill with the newest gadgets and gizmos to check off any wish list, with sales

The holidays are a time of gift giving, and the Police Department with the Girl Scout troops of Belchertown got together to collect toy donations for kids from all over the town.

For about fifteen years, the police department has been hosting these special toy drives, which began as just a "stuff-a-cruiser", but it has now become so much more.

Please see **TOYS**, page 16



TURLEY PHOTO BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Charlotte, Adelade, and Bradlee holding toys they are ready to organize in the police station.

### **Community Preservation Committee reviews grants**

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer epappas@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN - The Community Preservation Committee met last week in order to discuss nine grant applications, and the specifics regarding the grants and application requests.

The meeting included Wilbur Quirk, At-Large Member, Alex Loss, from the Historical Commission, Michael Hofler, from the Planning Board, Steve Corbin, from the Recreation Committee,

**New Grant Applications** 

The committee discussed new grant applications for this

fiscal year, and the possibility of being able to fund the various projects put forward by community grant applicants.

They reviewed the different applications and the amounts the applicants were asking for.

A few applicants were present at the meeting, and the fown Manager was also present to share his thoughts regarding the specific grants.

Members of the community came to share their thoughts, as well as support for the various grants being requested.

The first grant was not able to be reviewed as it was assigned to someone absent and went on record to be reviewed later.

Please see **GRANTS**, page 13

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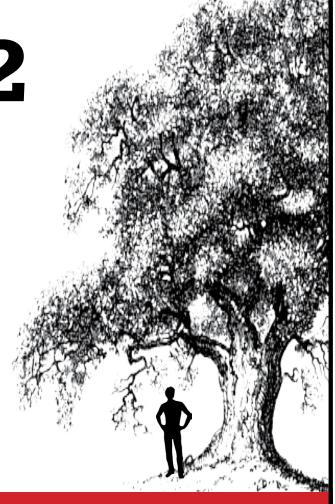
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# Library hosts opportunity for support and gifts with sale

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer epappas@turley.com

GRANBY — Our town library is one of the most valuable resources, providing a new book to read, games, and more to check out, to hosting free public events.

The Granby Free Public Library has, since it opened, brought to our community opportunities to thrive and learn in a communal space that everyone can find some sort of enjoyment in.

With the generosity of the community, the Friends of the Granby Public Library hosted a special knit and basket sale, all proceeds going towards the library and its various needs.

The Knit and Basket sale has been going for the past ten years, and is an annual event that is looked forward to every year.

"I love seeing all the creativity that patrons put into making baskets and to see the generosity of the community," said Jenn Crosby, the director of the library.

There were dozens of baskets, each one filled with a unique assortment of gifts and items in a special theme, donated by people and businesses within the community.

Baskets include baking kits for gingerbread and corn bread, a Mickey Mouse themed basket, and more to choose from for the perfect and intentionally designed gift.

"Our small community really comes together over the holidays," said Crosby.

The day also featured a cocoa bar with a variety of toppings to add to a tasty and warm treat to be enjoyed on a cold winter day with some coloring pages to enjoy while parents shop.

"I like that the sale makes it so that we can provide affordable gifts for Christmas, and you are able to help support the library," Crosby said.

There was whipped cream,

sprinkles, candy canes and candy cane pieces, and of course, marshmallows. And no cocoa is complete without a cookie to be enjoyed alongside it

"The knit sale is special to me because we have been doing it for so long, and our own In-Stitches Knitting Group works so hard all year to make the sale special and profitable for the Friends of the Granby Library, who support our programming,"

Crosby said. The knitted items included ornaments, blankets, hats and scarves, adorable little Christmastime gnomes, and even some crocheted chickens with their own adoption certificates.

Please see KNIT/ BAKE SALE, page 4 scarves, and some with adorable little snowman head gloves.

Beautiful

An array

of baskets

community.

donated by the



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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. 27 through Dec. 3. 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 explain some calls police respond to daily. Of the calls police responded to, there were 13 incidents, six accidents, six arrests/summons and 20 citations.

#### ARRESTS/SUMMONS Wednesday, Nov. 27

11:58 a.m. – A person was issued a summons 209A violation person.

9:56 p.m. – Jesus A. Prado-Alzamora, 47, 9 Barr Street, Worcester, was arrested for operating under the influence of alcohol and a marked lanes violation. An officer responded to a report of an erratic operator almost colliding with passing vehicles. One person got the registration plate. The officer was able to identify the vehicle from the number and stopped the vehicle. They were having a video conversation with someone. A sobriety test

was done. The person was booked, and the vehicle was towed.

#### Monday, Dec. 2

9:12 a.m. - A 40-year-old Holyoke woman was issued a summons on a charge of shoplifting, third offense. An officer responded to past shoplifting. After speaking with loss prevention staff, the officer got video footage. The video was used on social media to request help. A police officer in Ludlow was able to identify one of the parties. The department then got a call from Holyoke Police that the male party in the video was a current suspect in a shoplifting incident that they had. The officer was advised the male party was the boyfriend of the female party, and the officer attempted to contact them.

A 38-year-old Holyoke male was issued a summons for a third shoplifting offense

#### INCIDENTS/ACCIDENTS Wednesday, Nov. 27

7:44 a.m. – An officer responded to a North Main Street business for a report of a male party acting suspiciously. People thought they were following them. The person was identified and

wasn't intentionally following people.

10:02 a.m. – An officer responded to Warren Wright Road for an accident. The operator reported they thought they hit an icy spot. They lost control of the vehicle, spun northbound and struck a guardrail. The officer examined the road, and there was no ice. No tow and no injuries were reported.

12:12 p.m. – An officer contacted a George Hannum Road business to speak to loss prevention staff—a report of two people who came in and walked out without paying for merchandise.

1:32 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on North Main Street. A motor vehicle in a North Main Street parking lot backed out, and I didn't see a second vehicle going through the parking lot. The vehicle continued to back out and struck the second vehicle. No injuries were reported, and no tow was needed.

#### Friday, Nov. 29

8:53 a.m. – An officer responded to a Franklin Street residence for a report of a person trespassing. They were greeted by the person who owned the property, who came onto the property and refused to leave. and went over and spoke with the person and said to retrieve an item.

If returned, they would be arrested and agreed to leave. The trespass form was completed and given to them.

9:21 a.m. – An officer responded to a Hamilton Street property to investigate a report of animal remains dumped on the property. The reporting party said they were walking the property and noted carcasses of dead coyotes and some dead geese. The officer then contacted the Environmental Police to discuss the matter. It was legal, and the property owner was aware.

9:52 a.m. - An officer responded to a residence for a past breaking and entering incident. The people used it as a vacation home and decided to sell the property the neighbors were interested in purchasing. They wanted to buy it. They were given a key to the property and began using it. Items moved to the property. They could not do. They requested the key back, and then the realtor and property owner changed the locks. When that occurred, some of their items were still inside. A glass door was shattered, and only the belongings were from that person. There was cardboard put over it to protect it from the elements.

Please see **POLICE LOGS**, page 10

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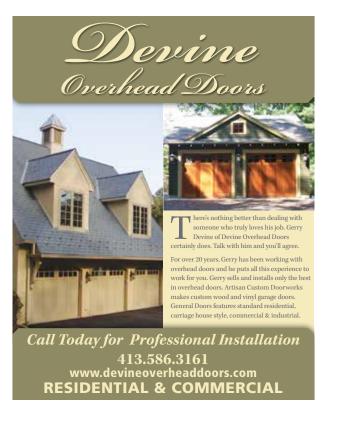
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# Holiday & Oecember Events

# **Belchertown**

#### **Monday December 16**

- Belchertown Senior Center Book Club, 10 a.m.
- Clapp Memorial Library, Penguin Needle Felting, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m.
- Clapp Memorial Library, Belchertown Community Bell Choir, 7 p.m.

#### **Tuesday December 17**

· Clapp Memorial Library, The State School at Christmas, 7 p.m.

#### Wednesday December 18

• Senior Center and Clapp Memorial Library's Holiday Sing-A-Long, 10 a.m.

#### **Thursday December 19**

• Belchertown High School Winter Pops Concert, 7 to 9 p.m.

#### Friday December 20

• Free Food Friday at Clapp Memorial Library. 2 p.m.

#### **Tuesday December 24**

Christmas Eve: All Offices Closed

#### Wednesday December 25

• Christmas Day: All Offices Closed

#### **Monday December 30**

- · Clapp Memorial Library, Penguin Needle Felting Teen Session, 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.
- Clapp Memorial Library, Good Morning Farm Animals with Ruth Sanderson, 6 p.m.

#### **Tuesday December 31**

• New Year's Eve: Christmas Eve

#### Saturday December 14

- · Granby Historical Association Wonders of Christmas, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Granby United Church of Christ's Living Nativity, 5:30 p.m.

#### **Sunday December 15**

• Granby Historical Association Wonders of Christmas, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

#### **Saturday December 21**

• Library's Oh Snap! Gingerbread on the Loose Scavenger Hunt: 4th Annual Town-Wide Scavenger Hunt (Last Day)

#### **Tuesday December 24**

• Christmas Eve: All Offices Closed

#### Wednesday December 25

• Christmas Day: All Offices Closed

#### **Tuesday December 31**

• New Year's Eve: Christmas Eve



### Annual Tree of Love honors loves ones

PALMER— As the holiday season approaches, the Baystate Wing Auxiliary has set up the annual Tree of Love. This special tree has been created to honor and remember loved ones and features ornaments that can be purchased and personalized with names in memory of family and friends to be placed on the tree.

"The Tree of Love gives our community members a chance to join us in remembering loved ones during the holiday season," said Evelyn Glabicky, president of the Auxiliary at Baystate Wing Hospital. "We understand how difficult the holiday season can be for those who have lost loved ones. For some families placing the name of a family member on an ornament and being a part of the Tree of Love can bring them

Beginning Nov. 1, the ornaments may be purchased for \$5 for a single name and \$10 for a family. The Tree of Love will be displayed in the lobby located on the first floor of the hospital by the gift shop.

All proceeds benefit the Baystate Wing Auxiliary, which in turn donates needed equipment and other items to the hospital for the benefit of patients. For over 70

years, the Auxiliary has supported Baystate Wing Hospital through its sponsorship of special events and gift shop sales. This diverse group of women and men includes teachers, nurses, business owners, and retirees, who live in many different communities and are united by a shared commitment to support the mission of the hospital.

To purchase an ornament, visit the gift shop located on the first floor open Monday through Thursday 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Friday from 9:30 to 1 p.m.



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#### OPINION



# **Kissing balls for** a new porch

It's really funny that sometimes I have to consult my own columns to remember how to do something.

the front porch is done, there is a new area to decorate, an area well-suited for kissing balls! My daughter and I were at the local garden center and there were so many beauties for sale.



would break my

budget to buy one to go in the middle of each pair of columns, so it looks like I'll be making them myself.

The first thing you will need is a styrofoam ball. One that is six inches in diameter would make a good size kissing ball.

Then gather a coat hanger and some wire cutters. Snip away the hook and straighten out the rest. Insert it through the middle of the ball and bend one end as a hanger.

About 18 inches will be showing; it will look better if you choose a gold colored hanger. If not, you can always cover it later.

Getting the piece of wire into the dead center can be difficult, so use a long wooden pick to pre-make the hole. After that insertion will be easy.

Having a selection of greens on hand will make a pretty kissing ball. Scavenge the landscape for holly, yew, white pine, juniper and the like. Now it is time to insert clumps of greenery into the ball.

Styrofoam is very durable – great for holding all of these stems, but much more difficult to work with than floral foam. For that reason, all but the most rigid stems need to be put on wooden picks before they can be stuck into the ball.

Make small bunches of greenery about four inches long, holding their stems next to the pick and wrapping the attached wire to it. One by one insert these bunches into the styrofoam.

It is best to work randomly around the ball – setting the dimensions if you will, rather than starting in one place and working out. Being that it is round, it will be hard to put it down while working on it.

After a while you'll get into the swing of things by wiring a few bunches of greens, putting them in, wiring a few more and so forth. Finally, give it a good look. Is it a nice, round shape? Is there any foam showing? Where could it use a few berries

Rose hips or winterberry, or even artificial berries will surely brighten it up, as will strands of ribbon wired to a wooden pick and inserted into the bottom. Wired ribbon is a good choice since it has a little shape; less droopy so to speak.

It will be surprising just how much greenery it takes to make a kissing ball. When I am making wreaths or decorations of any sort I always continue harvesting even after I think I have enough, just as a bit of insurance. It's always better to have extra than have to stop everything and go picking again.

One little factoid for cruise ship trivia: "Kissing bunches" in Old England were comprised of two intersecting circles of greens that were often decorated with fruit as well as figures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The "kissing" aspect came from the sprig of mistletoe that hung on the very bottom of the sphere - evoking the same response it does when hung by itself today.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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.



#### **LETTERS**

#### Thankful for volunteers

Dear Editor,

During this holiday season, I would like to recognize the efforts of the quiet volunteers who regularly deliver food to our local food programs. These volunteers bring donated food from Stop & Shop to food programs at the United Church of Christ, St. Francis Church, Dwight Chapel, and the Belchertown Senior Center. This crew works diligently "under the radar" to be sure that these programs have the means to assist our community.

Of course, none of this would be possi-

ble without the assistance of the employees at Stop & Shop, the food program volunteers, and especially those members of the Belchertown community who regularly support these efforts with donated food.

If you would like to help by donating non-perishable foods, look for the large bin just past the checkout lanes at Stop & Shop.

Yours thankfully,

**Cliff McCarthy** Belchertown resident

#### Be aware of legislation

**Letter to the Editor:** 

The threat of climate change looms over us all. From its impact on species extinction, increasing natural disasters, and habitat loss, climate change is a serious issue. I have always loved the environment. I can not stand greenhouse gases continuing to be pumped into the atmosphere by fossil fuel companies.

The Energy Permitting Reform Act of 2024 is being promoted as a faster way to get more energy. However, this would come at the cost of deregulating environmental standards and losing community input. What's worse, is that it would require leases to fossil fuel projects to be given out before leases can be given to renewable energy projects. It would even require 60 million acres of federal land to be leased to fossil fuel projects every year. This would stifle progress for renewable energy that can limit the

Earth's rising temperatures to dangerous levels. Besides increasing all the harmful effects of climate change, offshore oil and gas drilling could harm local wild-

or reforming it to only have parts that would benefit renewable energy sources would greatly help.

I urge you to become aware of these issues and take action if you have not already. Do not let corporations be prioritized over environmental protection. Sign this petition and let your representa-

Link to petition: https://actionnetwork. org/letters/tell-your-us-senators-to-rejectthis-pro-drilling-bill

Sincerely,

**Bart Scheer** Environmental Science Freshman

# Making sure this bill does not pass

tive know that you care about this issue.



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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.



Ruth Desroches, Jenni Oyola, and Marion Mason working together at the Cookie Walk to put together customized cookie boxes.



Jay Dwinell, Lydia Pike, Heather Pike, and Tasondra Jardine selling some beautiful handmade ornaments and other fun crafts.



Carol Russo and Brenda Reed Knight at the bake sale, and happy to welcome people to the Bazaar.

#### **BAZAAR** from page 1

There was also the Jingle Bell Bazaar's famous Cookie Walk, and the kitchens were filled with the comforting smells of cookies, as hundreds were baked.

People could fill up a box for \$10, and take home a variety of cookies to enjoy with a mug of hot cocoa.

Santa Claus was also present for pictures, and gave kids a candy cane and a present to take home with them after hearing about their wish list.

"It's a small church, with lots of helpers," said member Deb LaBonte, who has fallen in love with the members of this tight-knit church.

"I love that people can come and find things for gifts that they can afford," said member Cheryl Sawicki. "It helps that they are gifts that are affordable, and it in turn helps the church.'

The church's main goal and mission is that they make it a priority to help as much as they can, and whoever they can.

The church puts together blessing bags for those who need the help, and they consist of a drawstring bag with personal care items and food to bless someone in a simple way we may take for granted.

to 90 sandwiches.



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TURLEY PHOTOS SUBMITTED BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

#### Gloria Smith and Cheryl Sawicki with some beautiful jewelry.

They also donate to the Ministry's pantries food and clothing, and purchased ten beehives sent overseas through Church World Service in order to bring honey to a community.

All of the money raised at the Jingle Bell Bazaar is used in some way to aid one of the ministries they sup-

Whether it's helping with maintenance in the parish house's kitchen, to ensure they are up to date for cooking for the community, or to use the money to purchase supplies, the money always circles back to benefiting the community.



Deb LaBonte and Sharon Dwinell with their aprons, running the bazaar side of things

"This really is a community event, and it means so much to me to see everyone come together for this," said Tasondra Jardine.

The Jingle Bell Bazaar, since its beginning, has been orchestrated by the dedicated women of the church, and their supportive husbands, beginning with the Women's Guild so long ago, and still being run by it today.

This Christmas season, take some time to pause, and think of how you can bless the community, and see how even the smallest of actions can have the largest of impacts.





Quabbin Hill Farm came down from Pelham.



Goats of the Pioneer Valley's goats milk products.



Alex and Supreme Microgreens.

# It's good to be home The Winter Farmers' Market returns to Amherst

By Richard Murphy Correspondent

AMHERST - On Dec.7 at 10 a.m. The Amherst Winter Farmers' Market began its first session at the Bang's Community Center, 70 Boltwood Walk.

It was a small odyssey to arrive there.

Once resident in the local Middle School, The winter market became a wandering orphan for some years. The market family thought it had a home in the Hampshire Mall in Hadley even though it was not simpatico as an institution.

Eventually, the mall increased what the market would have to pay and that was an offer the market could refuse. An attempt was made to move the Winter Market to Wancyk's Nursery's heated greenhouse. Unfortunately, there were problems with the town.

Still, the leadership team did not give up and Winter 2024/2025 was to become the turnaround year.

David Machowski, long time summer market manager began the quest for a new home well before the summer market was done. In this, he was successful and found vendors and shoppers a lovely spot.

When shoppers entered on Saturday they were met by a wonderful complement of vendors. First to the left was Barton Beeswax Candles. Beeswax candles are without the toxins found in many other

Bee Co. No, it's not a suggestion, but they do have so much in the way of honey and wax products.

mer, now at the winter market.

Quabbin Hill Farm brought seasonal produce, fresh microgreens, pasture raised eggs, frozen pesto, jarred tomatoes, and

Moving on, Kathryn was beverage.

Ben of Chase Hill Farm in Warwick brought the farm's meats and cheeses as he also watched the Maple products

It's winter and what could be more useful in cold weather than an Alpaca sweater, and Donna of From Fiber to

To the right was Buzz Off

Next is Carol Joyce and her White Buffalo Herbs. If you have it, she can cure it.

Going into the main hall, to the left was Aaron Andrews' Beyond Happiness skin care products, popular in the sum-

offering Lifebooch Kombucha. Lifebooch Kombucha is a nutrient rich functional, fermented

from Justamere Tree Farm.



Carol Joyce and White Buffalo Herbs.

Fashion has that.

Goats of the Pioneer Valley came with, what else, but goat milk soaps and products, lots

Dan of Berkshire Mountain Bakery has been coming to the market for many years and

brings a host of sourdough breads from out west in the Commonwealth.

The Bread Basket was staffed by two young ladies offering fresh donuts and fresh breads, and cakes.

Twisted is a vegan bakery

that could and does tempt the appetites of even the most hardcore carnivores.

Then we came to Cold Spring Soapery with soaps of many bright colors that are gentle on

Please see MARKET, page 9



Chase Hill Farm had all the meat and cheese you could want.



**Aaron and Beyond Happiness.** 



Barton Beeswax Candles, burning clean.



Come clean with Cold Spring Soapery at the Amherst Winter Farmers' Market.

Twisted Bakery is not just for vegans.

#### **MARKET** from page 8

the skin while cleansing.

Last vendor, and by no means least, was Alex and Supreme Microgreens. Talk about specialization, if there is a microgreen they don't have it would be surprising.

Patrons enjoyed the offerings of vendors, as well as the entertainment. Popular summer market singer, Bruce Colegrove played his repertoire of folkish, rock, blues and country for the market goers' pleasure.

Andy, well known pioneer valley juggler, came and taught that art to one of the vendors and a few market goers.

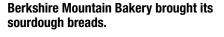
All too soon, the market ended. Dave gave a short after-action report and it was positive. He expressed his gratitude to the town for their confidence in the market. Vendors and shoppers enjoyed the day. As a shakedown cruise of a new venue, few would disagree.

The market will continue every Saturday, same hours, through December.

In the New Year, bi-weekly will be the schedule. That is on the second and fourth Saturdays in January, February and March.

The Amherst Winter Farmers' Market at the Bang's Community Center was a pleasant day.





The Bread Basket had a lot to offer on



Donna's Fiber to Fashion alpaca styles will keep you warm this winter.



**Everyone enjoyed Bruce Colegrove's** 



If it's maple, Justamere Tree Farm has it.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY RICHARD MURPHY





David and Buzz Off Bee Co.



The Red Fire Farm team brought a lot more than just one pumpkin.

#### **RESIGNS** from page 1

He asked if any lieutenants were interested as well.

Martin also asked if he had any recommendations of who could serve and mentioned the former South Hadley District #2 Chief Todd Calkins.

"I don't know if he'd want to come for a short-term basis just to guide the ship until we can find a replacement," he said.

Selectboard member Glen Sexton said he wanted to wait rather than accept the resignation immediately.

"I was hoping that the deputy chief would take it on for a little bit," he said.

Assistant Fire Chief Joe Fernandes came before the board at its Dec. 5 meeting.

Sexton asked the difference between an assistant chief and a deputy chief.

"Technically, if the chief is not present, the top two tiers have the right to make decisions to keep the department moving forward," he said. "So, on Tuesday night, the deputy chief and I met with a huge part of the body, and we reviewed the situation."

There are 39 active members. The staffing is already scheduled for December, and they are working on January.

"The next thing we have to work on is the budget going," he said. He added that he'd contacted retired fire chiefs to see if someone could do the day-to-day.

"We need to move as fast as possible to fill that because you can't put all the burden on the only six full-timers because they have to do calls," Fernandes said.

Sexton said his concern is that before an interim chief, there is one person responsible for the department.

The board advised Martin to use the previous job description on Monster.com but update the salary and due date to Jan. 14, 2025.

The board will decide on a hiring committee at its next meeting.

#### **POLICE LOGS** from page 4

2:43 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on East Street. A vehicle was traveling on the road when a group of turkeys came up in front. The vehicle stopped and was rear-ended by the vehicle behind them.

#### Sunday, Dec. 1

1:42 a.m. – A person requested a well-being checkout because of concerns about where their children would spend Christmas. They were advised to contact their lawyer to determine a custody agreement.

1:42 a.m. – An officer and Belchertown Fire Department were called for a report of someone locked out of their apartment inside the corridor with another party downstairs. The neighbors were locked out, and a relative was coming to pick them up. The person couldn't remember a lot of things. They were evaluated and able to enter the residence. Then they decided to go to the hospital. They then declined, and a report was made to elder services.

10:09 a.m. – A person called regarding a former significant other who was making concerning statements in texts. The officer tried to leave a voicemail with the person. They returned home and contacted the cell phone provider to ping, and a be on the lookout alert was put out for the vehicle. The officer was able to get ahold of them, and they advised the officer where they were, at a church in another town. The reporting person provided a statement. A Section 12 was completed and was able to get ahold of the person and got transported for an evaluation.

#### Monday, Dec. 2

5:27 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Ware Road. A vehicle going west on Ware Road swerved to avoid a deer that ran into the roadway. The vehicle hit a mailbox, went off the roadway, and struck a tree headon. There was a significant front end, and the airbag deployed. The vehicle went off the roadway for 250 feet. No skid marks indicated the vehicle didn't attempt to stop. There was also no evidence of swerving. There was no reason to go off the roadway. There were no signs of impairment for the person.

10:01 p.m. – An officer responded to an accident on State Street. A vehicle pulling out of a driveway was trying to make a left turn when another vehicle going west on State Street had the right of way ad, pulled in front of the vehicle, and then braked hard into the front driver's side of the first vehicle. One vehicle was towed from the scene. No injuries were reported.

#### Tuesday, Dec. 3

7:39 a.m. – An officer responded to an accident on Federal Street. A vehicle going west on Federal Street failed to yield and struck a vehicle going south on Allen Road. The operator said they stopped but didn't see the first vehicle. Multiple 911 calls reported the crash. Both vehicles were towed, and two people were transported from the scene.

#### **Granby Police Log**

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 118 calls from Nov. 29 through Dec. 5. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all the information.

#### Friday, Nov. 29

6:19 a.m. – A motorist reported driving into a ditch and rolling their vehicle over. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries.

8:35 p.m. – A motorist reported driving off the road and striking a large rock. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries.

#### Saturday, Nov. 30

11:17 p.m. – A motorist reported that their vehicle caught on fire. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries.

#### Monday, Dec. 2

7:45 a.m. – Several motorists reported a two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries.

8:08 a.m. – While on the previous accident scene, another vehicle struck a tow truck and drove away. An officer caught up to the vehicle and stopped it. The operator was issued a criminal citation for leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

8:08 a.m. – While on the previous accident scene, another vehicle struck a tow truck and drove away. An officer caught up to the vehicle and stopped it. The operator was issued a criminal citation for leaving the scene of a property damage accident.

#### Wednesday, Dec. 4

6:48 p.m. – A resident reported a package stolen from their front porch.

#### Thursday, Dec. 5

7:59 a.m. – A motorist reported a twocar accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries.



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# SPORTS

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**Newest co-op prepares for 2024-2025 season** 

TOP: Charlie Fijal makes a stop with the puck.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOG-PHOTOS.COM

> RIGHT: Kellen Steigmeyer lines up a shot on goal.

WEST SPRINGFIELD -After a tough year with numbers, Belchertown and Ludlow hockey made the decision to co-op for the sport in order to sustain participation. Ludlow will be the host school for the co-op program between the two programs, which were also once rivals. Belchertown, once a strong program and Western Mass. contender in recent memory, saw its numbers plummet during the past two years. The new co-op starts the regular season on Thursday, Dec. 12 at Olympia Ice Center at Agawam at 6:30 p.m. They face Minnechaug on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 12:30 p.m. The co-ops home games will be played on Ludlow's home ice of Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield.



### Girls basketball preps for new season

The Belchertown High School girls basketball team practiced last week in preparation for the upcoming winter season. The Orioles season-opener is this Friday, Dec. 13, at home against Monument Mountain. The Orioles then travel to Mt. Greylock on Tuesday, Dec. 17.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

The Belchertown girls basketball team practice last week.



Logan Moses goes for the longrange shot.



Cassidy MacLean extends for her shot.



Emma Litz pushes a pass in the paint.



### Pioneers set for new season

PALMER – Last week, Pathfinder girls basketball started its preparation for the winter season. This week, the Pioneers face off with North Brookfield in scrimmage action. Pathfinder then opens up the regular season on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17 at 6 p.m. at home against the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School.

> TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Addison Doktor goes for a layup.



#### **Belchertown**

#### **Boys Basketball**

Thursday, Dec. 12	Home	South Hadley	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 16	Home	Monument Mtn.	7 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19	Home	Hoosac	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Home	Baystate Acad.	7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Home	Granby	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Home	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 8	Away	South Hadley	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 10	Away	Smith Academy	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 13	Home	Chicopee	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Away	Monument Mtn.	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17	Home	Westfield	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	Baystate Acad.	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 28	Home	E. Longmeadow	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31	Away	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	Agawam	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Home	Quabbin	5:15 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7	Away	Hoosac	7 p.m.

#### Girls Basketball

GHIS DASKELDAH							
Friday, Dec. 13	Home	Monument Mtn.	7 p.m.				
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Away	Mt. Greylock	6:30 p.m.				
Friday, Dec. 20	Home	Pope Francis	7 p.m.				
Monday, Dec. 23	Away	Southwick	7 p.m.				
Monday, Dec. 30	Away	Agawam	7 p.m.				
Friday, Jan. 3	Home	Drury	7 p.m.				
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Away	Monument Mtn.	7 p.m.				
Friday, Jan. 10	Home	Mt. Greylock	7 p.m.				
Monday, Jan. 13	Away	Pope Francis	7 p.m.				
Thursday, Jan. 16	Home	Agawam	7 p.m.				
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Home	Hampshire	7 p.m.				
Thursday, Jan. 23	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.				
Monday, Jan. 27	Home	South Hadley	7 p.m.				
Thursday, Jan. 30	Away	Drury	7 p.m.				
Friday, Jan. 31	Home	Minnechaug	7 p.m.				
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	Frontier	7:30 p.m.				
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Home	Quabbin	7 p.m.				
Friday, Feb. 7	Away	Chicopee Comp.	7 p.m.				

#### Ice Hockey (co-op with Ludlow)

200 220		op with Butter	,
Thursday, Dec. 12	Away	Agawam	6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 14	Away	Minnechaug	12:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19	Away	E. Longmeadov	v 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 21	Home	Minnechaug	2:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Home	Westfield	12 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4	Away	Greenfield	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Away	Amherst	5:15 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 9	Away	Longmeadow	6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 11	Away	Northbridge	8 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 15	Away	Westfield	7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 18	Away	Hopedale	5 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 20	Home	Blackstone	10 a.m.
		Valley Tech	
Thursday, Jan. 23	Away	W. Springfield	6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 25	Home	Lunenburg	4:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 28	Home	E. Longmeadov	v 8:40 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 30	Home	West Springfiel	
Saturday, Feb. 1	Home	Greenfield	4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 8	Home	Longmeadow	4:30 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 15	Away	Saint Paul	5:15 p.m.

#### **Boys and Girls Swimming**

Friday, Dec. 13	Home	Palmer	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 18	Home	Hampden Charter	4 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	West Springfield	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Away	Northampton	5:30 p.m
Friday, Jan. 10	Home	E. Longmeadow	4 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 13	Home	Amherst	4 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17	Away	Westfield	4 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Home	Longmeadow	4 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	Away	Minnechaug	6 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 27	Away	Agawam	4 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Home	Chicopee Comp.	4 p.m.

#### Wrestling

Saturday, Dec. 14 Away Knight-Hawk Tournament Wednesday, Dec. 18 Home Saturday, Dec. 21 Away Mohawk 9 a.	
Wednesday, Dec. 18 <b>Home</b> Frontier 7 p.	ı.m.
Saturday, Dec. 21 Away Mohawk 9 a.	m.
	m.
Wednesday, Jan. 8 Away Pathfinder 7 p.	m.
Wednesday, Jan. 15 Away Hampshire 7 p.	m.
Wednesday, Jan. 22 <b>Home</b> Longmeadow 7 p.	m.
Saturday, Jan. 25 Away Mt. Greylock 9 a.	
Tournament	
Wednesday, Jan. 29 <b>Home</b> Hampden Charter 7 p.	m.
1	ı.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5 Away Southwick 7 p.	m.
Saturday, Feb. 8 Away Agawam Duals 9 a.	

#### 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.

#### Granby

#### **Boys Basketball**

TTI 1 D 10	**	D .	7
Thursday, Dec. 12	Home	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 16	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19	Away	Southwick	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Away	Gardner	7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Belchertown	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 30	Home	Ware	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Duggan	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Home	Monson	7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 9	Away	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17	Home	Southwick	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	Ware	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 28	Home	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31	Away	Monson	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Home	Hoosac	7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7	Away	Monument Mtn.	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Home	South Hadley	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 12	Home	Hopkins	7 p.m.

#### **Girls Basketball**

Friday, Dec. 13	Away	Lee	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Home	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19	Home	Athol	9 a.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Home	Smith Academy	7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Ware	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	Home	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Monson	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 10	Home	McCann Tech	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 13	Away	Ludlow	7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 16	Home	Southwick	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 20	Home	Lee	7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 25	Away	Hampshire	1:30 p.m
Monday, Jan. 27	Away	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Away	Hopkins	7:30 p.m
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	McCann Tech	7 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 6	Home	Ludlow	7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7	Home	Hopkins	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Away	Southwick	7 p.m.

#### Ice Hockey (co-op)

Saturday, Dec. 14 Thursday, Dec. 19 Saturday, Dec. 21 Thursday, Dec. 26 Monday, Dec. 30 Saturday, Jan. 4 Wednesday, Jan. 8 Saturday, Jan. 11 Monday, Jan. 13 Wednesday, Jan. 15 Saturday, Jan. 18 Monday, Jan. 20 Friday, Jan. 24 Wednesday, Jan. 29 Saturday, Feb. 1 Wednesday, Feb. 5 Saturday, Feb. 8 Tuesday, Feb. 11	Away Home Away Away Home Away Home Away Home Away Home Away Home Home Home	Saint Paul Amherst Peabody Southwick Agawam Oakmont Taconic Easthampton Taconic Agawam Montachusett Southwick Easthampton McCann Tech East Boston Amherst East Boston	5 p.m. 8 p.m. 4 p.m. 1 p.m. 3 p.m. 1 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 2 p.m. 7 p.m. 5 p.m. 3 p.m. 3 p.m. 2 p.m. 2 p.m. 3 p.m. 3 p.m. 7 p.m.
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#### Wrestling

Saturday, Dec. 14	Away	Knight-Hawk	
		Tournament	10 a.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19	Away	SICS	6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Monument Mtn.	8 a.m.
Thursday, Jan. 2	Home	Smith Voke	7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4	Away	Norton	10 a.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 8	Away	Frontier	7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 11	Away	Quabbin Duals	10 a.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 15	Away	South Hadley	7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 18	Away	Franklin Tech	9 a.m.
-	-	Duals	
Wednesday, Jan. 22	Away	Athol	6:30 p.n
Saturday, Jan. 25	Away	Mt. Greylock	9 a.m.
•		Tournament	
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Home	Mahar	7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 1	Away	Southington, CT	8 a.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 4	Home	Franklin Tech	7 p.m.

#### **Pathfinder**

#### **Boys Basketball**

Thursday, Dec. 12	Home	P.V. Christian	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 16	Home	Mt. Everett	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Home	Ludlow	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 30	Away	Gateway	6:30 p.m.
Thusday, Jan. 2	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Away	Smith Vocational	6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 9	Home	Hampden Charter	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Away	PVCIC	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17	Away	St. Mary's	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	P.V. Christian	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	Home	Duggan	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 28	Away	Monson	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31	Home	Gateway	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 4	Away	Smith Vocational	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Away	Hampden Charter	7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7	Home	PVCIC	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Away	St. Mary's	6:30 p.m.

#### **Girls Basketball**

Tuesday, Dec. 17	Home	PVCIC	6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 20	Away	Duggan	6 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Home	Smith Academy	6 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 30	Home	Gateway	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	Home	Baystate Acad.	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	St. Mary's	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 10	Away	Hampden Charter	6 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 13	Home	Sci-Tech	6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 16	Away	Westfield Tech	6 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 20	Home	Duggan	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	McCann Tech	6 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 23	Away	Smith Academy	6 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 27	Away	Gateway	6:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Away	Mohawk	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	St. Mary's	6 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 6	Home	Hampden Charter	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7	Home	McCann Tech	5 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Away	Sci-Tech	6 p.m.

#### Ice Hockey (co-op with Amherst)

Tuesday, Dec. 17	Home	Greenfield	8:15 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19	Home	Chicopee	8 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Away	Longmeadow	10 a.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Minnechaug	2 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 2	Home	Agawam	6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4	Away	McCann Tech	6 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Ludlow	5:15 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 9	Home	Easthampton	6 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 15	Away	Taconic	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 22	Home	McCann Tech	5:15 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 23	Away	Westfield Tech	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Away	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 1	Away	Southwick	6 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Away	Chicopee	4 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Home	Southwick	8:20 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Away	Agawam	8:40 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 13	Home	Taconic	8:20 p.m.

w resuing				
	Saturday, Dec. 14	Away	Knight-Hawk	
			Tournament	10 a.m.
	Wednesday, Dec. 18	Home	Smith Voke	7 p.m.
	Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Monument Mtn.	8 a.m.
	Thursday, Jan. 2	Away	Frontier	7 p.m.
	Wednesday, Jan. 8	Home	Belchertown	7 p.m.
	Saturday, Jan. 11	Away	Taconic Duals	9 a.m.
	Wednesday, Jan. 15	Away	Mohawk	7 p.m.
	Wednesday, Jan. 29	Home	Gateway	7 p.m.
	Saturday, Feb. 1	Away	Wayland Duals	10 a.m.





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# College NOTES

#### Aidan Messier receives award for excellent GPA

ONEONTA, NY- Aidan Messier, of Belchertown, MA, was one of 83 SUNY Oneonta who received the Richard Siegfried Student Award in the fall 2024 semester for earning a total GPA of 3.9 or higher. To be eligible for the award, a student who meets the GPA requirement must either be a full-time first-year or transfer student.

Students received the award on Dec. 3 following the annual Richard Siegfried Junior Faculty Prize for Academic Excellence Lecture. Dr. Chelsea McCracken, assistant professor of media studies at SUNY Oneonta, was this year's Junior Faculty Prize recipient. McCracken delivered this year's Richard Siegfried Lecture, titled "Visualizing Hollywood's Gender Inequities Through Female Dialogue" at the Morris Conference Center on campus.

The award is named in memory of Richard K. Siegfried, SUNY Oneonta Professor of Theatre from 1958 until 1995. Professor Siegfried (or Sieg as generations of students fondly called him) epitomized excellence in his academic life, through imagination, meticulous scholarship and

discipline, and through his expectation of the same pursuit of excellence in his students and colleagues. His dedication brought excellence to his work in such historical theater worlds as Aristophanes, Moliere, Ibsen and Chekhov, his rigorous study of the skills of voice and movement, and his leadership in improvisation's imaginative creativity.

#### Belchertown resident appointed to NSAC

DUDLEY- Troy Pelletier of Belchertown, is one of 16 students appointed by Nichols College President Bill Pieczynski to the 2024-2025 Nichols Senior Advisory Council.

This group of accomplished seniors will meet with the President and members of the President's Counsel monthly and act as an advisory group as the College plans for the future.

"Congratulations to the students selected for this year's NSAC cohort. These are exemplary students, citizens and leaders who have distinguished themselves among a strong senior class," said Pieczynski. "Their

insights will be invaluable to the leadership team, and we look forward to hearing their perspectives and learning more about these outstanding stu-

Upcoming NSAC meetings will include discussions on the College's new initiatives as well as broader trends and issues in higher education. In addition to helping Nichols enhance the overall experience for all members of its community, the meetings are also intended as an opportunity for students to further strengthen their communication and presentation skills, which are critical to career advancement.

#### University of Utah's summer 2024 dean's list

SALT LAKE CITY, UT- Gianna Laroche, of Belchertown, was named to the University of Utah's summer 2024 dean's list.

Laroche was among more than 2,800 students named to the Summer 2024 Dean's List at the U. To qualify, the students earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher in at least 12 graded credit hours during the summer term.

#### **Belchertown Winter** Market, Dec. 15

BELCHERTOWN- Organizers from the Belchertown Farmers and Artisans Market have put together a local shopping experience. Scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 15, at Jabish Brook Middle School, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. is a special collection of local food, local goods and locally made products all under one roof. Stop by and talk with the people who are growing food and making local gifts and food items. Also, the market will be a collection site for Stuff a Cruiser for Belchertown Police Department. Bring an unwrapped toy for donation. www.belchertownfarmersmarket.weebly.com.

#### First Church opens **Christmas Shop**

LUDLOW-The first church in Ludlow, located at 859 Center Street, will be opening their Christmas shop on Friday, Dec. 13 and Saturday, Dec. 14 from 9 a.m. until 12 p.m. There will be assorted Christmas items along with knitted, crochet, quilted items, and several home- made crafts.

The Humming bird shop will be open with an assorted fabrics and yarns for at reduced prices and the book store will also be open that is filled with some of your favorite authors along with a selection of children books at fabulous prices.

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#### **GRANTS** from page 1

The second came in regarding a request from the Conservation to survey the golf course and it was voted no. The third for the town beach was voted yes.

The fourth regarded a grant request for new handbells, and the committee voted no.

The fifth was a request for work on the firefighter museum, and the committee voted no. The sixth was in relation to some necessary renovations to a horse barn and voted yes.

The seventh was a presentation for a grant to maintain the McPherson sensory garden, and the committee voted yes on funding the grant.

The eighth application was for the Friends of the Tri-Lakes was voted yes, and the ninth application for a gravestone restoration was voted no.

The tenth, regarding the high school's athletic field, the committee voted yes to accept the application for a grant to make the necessary fixes.

The board gave the dates of January 7 and 21, as well as February 4 and 18 for grant meetings with the approved applicants.

#### **Mass Community Preservation Program**

Stuart Saginor, the Executive Director of the Massachusetts Community Preservation

Program, will be visiting our Belchertown Community in 2025.

The plan of the committee is to take Saginor out to dinner, as well as show him some completed CPC projects, then hear a presentation from him on current trends, CPA news, best practices, and more at their meeting.

#### **Mobile Home Park Project**

The board met with a representative of the project to receive an update on the Sports Haven Mobile Home Park proj-

The Sports Haven is a mobile home park, originally built for people to come who like to

hunt and fish in the area, hence where it got its name.

"The priority right now is the water infrastructure. What we don't have is the generator for the pump, we don't have a storage tank, and we don't have a distribution system that's adequate, because what's there is as old as the park," said the representative.

Roadwork restoration and installation of the waterline with the well that's already in place is the current focus, with a discovered new total amount needed to complete the project, a little over \$9 million.

"Right now, we don't have the money for the septic system or the pump stations, but

we feel we have enough money to get the pavement down, the sewer pipes under the roadway, the water and holding tank, and the generators," said the project representative.

He said they are hoping to get it in and underway by the beginning of January to get started in the summer of 2025.

#### **Other Business**

During a time of public comment at the beginning of the meeting, a member of the community came to ask questions about Lake Wallace, and the projects going on to install accessible trails.



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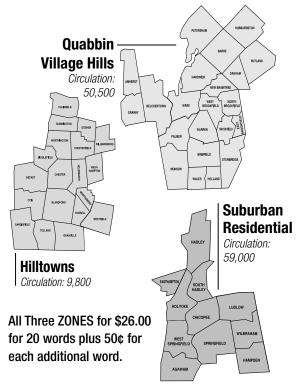


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#### **■ PUBLIC NOTICES**

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court** 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 Docket No. HS24P0677PM In the matter of: **Doris May Goodrow** Of: Belchertown, MA RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/ Minor) CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF **CONSERVATOR OR** OTHER PROTECTIVE **ORDER PURSUANT** TO G. L c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by

Howard F. Goodrow, Jr. of Belchertown, MA

Lynn A. Goodrow of Belchertown, MA

in the above captioned matter alleging that **Doris May Goodrow** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that

Howard F. Goodrow, Jr. of Belchertown, MA

Lynn A. Goodrow of Belchertown, MA

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that

a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **01/08/2025**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the witten appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris,** First Justice of this Court.

Date: November 22, 2024

Mark S. Ames
Register of Probate
12/12/2024

#### TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN INVITATION TO BID

The Town of Belchertown is soliciting bids for infrastructure improvements at Sportshaven Mobile Home Park including roadway, drainage, water distribution system, and sanitary sewer systems located at 370 Mill Valley Road, Belchertown, Massachusetts. This project is being funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities Community Development Block Grant program through awards made in the FFY18 and FFY22/23 award cycles. This project is also being funded through drinking water grants from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), as well as the Town of Belchertown Community Preservation Act program. Additional funding for this project has been secured through an EPA Community Project Funding request through Representative Richard Neal. The Estimated total project cost is \$3

Contract Documents, including plans and specifications, will be available electronically beginning December 13, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM through the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC), 60

Congress Street, 1st Floor, Springfield, MA 01104, phone: 413-781-6045. Electronic copies may be obtained by contacting Sue Ortiz at sortiz@pvpc.org.

The project includes furnishing all labor, equipment and materials required to perform the Sportshaven Infrastructure Improvement Project, which is located at 370 Mill Valley Road, Belchertown, Massachusetts. The project includes, but is not limited to, abatement/ demolition of existing mobile homes, utility improvements (water and wastewater), roadway and drainage improvements and incidental items as set forth in the specifications.

All bids for this project are subject to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 30, Section 39M as amended.

Minimum Wage Rates as determined by the Commissioner of Department of Labor and Workforce Development under the provision of the Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 149, Sections 26 to 27H, as amended, apply to this project. All applicable Federal minimum wage rates and applicable Federal labor standards shall also apply pursuant to the Davis-Bacon Act. When both State and Federal wage rates are applicable, the higher rate must be paid. It is the responsibility of the contractor, before bid opening, to request if necessary, any additional information on Minimum Wage Rates for those trades people who may be employed for the proposed work under this contract.

Bid security in the form of a bid bond, certified or cashier's check, payable to the Town of Belchertown, is required in a dollar amount of not less than five percent (5%) of the total bid amount. A performance bond and labor and materials bond for 100% of the total contract price, issued by a satisfactory surety company shall be required by the successful bidder.

The Town of Belchertown reserves the right to reject any and all bids, to accept proposals deemed to be in the best interest of the Town, and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn within 30 days of the bid opening.

The Town of Belchertown, through its Selectboard, reserves the right to waive any informality in the bidding or to reject any and all bids in total or in part as may be deemed to serve the best interest of the Town.

The Town of Belchertown will not be responsible for any costs incurred by a bidder in preparing and submitting a bid in response to this IFB.

The Town of Belchertown Selectboard is the Awarding and Contracting Authority.

The submission and review of bids must comply with 2 CFR Part 200, MGL Chapter 30, Section 39M, Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities/Community Development Fund Program (EOHLC/CDF) policies, DEP, EPA, and CPA policies, and other laws and regulations of the Commonwealth. Acceptance of any bid is subject to the continued availability of funds through the EOHLC/CDF grant awarded to the Town of Belchertown.

Questions regarding the technical specifications should be directed in writing to Timothy St. Germain at Fuss & O'Neill at tgermain@fando.com. Questions regarding general bid information should be directed to Erica Johnson at PVPC, at ejohnson@pvpc.org.

A pre-bid conference will be held on Monday, January 6th, 2025, at 10AM at 370 Mill Valley Road, Belchertown, MA (Sports Haven Mobile Home Park). In the event of inclement weather, the pre-bid conference will take place on January 7th. A change in date will be communicated to all plan-holders.

Hard copy bids for the construction of the Sportshaven Infrastructure Improvement Project for the Town of Belchertown, Massachusetts, must be received by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, 60 Congress Street, 1st Floor, Springfield, MA 01104 by 2:00 p.m. prevailing time, on Tuesday, January 21st, 2025.

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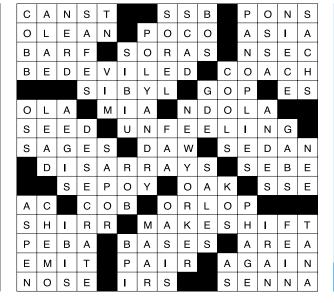
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#### **TOYS** from page 1

Within just the first hour of the toy drive on Saturday, the community managed to fill the conference room at the police station with different toys from all over the town.

The toys and games were brought for ages six to fourteen, and several baby and toddler toys were brought in, including, blocks, Legos, action figures, stuffed animals, baby dolls, outdoor and sports games, and so much more.

"It all goes back to Belchertown residents, and seeing the community get together is my favorite part," said Officer Rivera.

The Girl Scouts Brownie Troop 65329 and other Girl Scout Troops to come and work with the police department to take toy donations inside the station.

The Girl Scouts got together all of the toys and sorted them into sections, with toys for older girls, younger girls, and a section for board games and puzzles, one for stuffed animals and Squishmallows in abundance, and another for the baby and toddler tovs.

'Our troop is really big on giving back to the community," said Leader Jessica Stagnaro. "The girls love it and sorting the toys."

"It makes me feel happy that the kids who get the toys are going to have a good Christmas, too," said Charlotte, a Brownie Girl Scout helping sort and organize the toys.

In order to ensure that the kids who need it most get a toy for Christmas, an elf from Santa goes to the schools to collect names, and toys are ensured to be given to them.

"It's nice that the community comes together to bring in these toys to give to the kids who need it," said Chief Kevin Pacunas. "It's amazing how generous the community is. That room is sure to be filled top to bottom."

The end of the drive did indeed fill that room in the station, and the department will next be hosting on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 5:30 p.m. a time with Santa to pick out a toy, and get a photo with him.

The magic of Christmas deserves to be experienced by every child, no matter their age or circumstance, and it is through the generosity of our community that hundreds of children will have smiles on their faces this Christmas.

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