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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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Teens try to escape from haunted library

By Quinn Suomala Staff Writer

AGAWAM – Agawam Public Library held a haunted housethemed escape room for teens on Wednesday, Oct. 23.

This escape room was designed by Youth Associate Evan Delano who thought it would be a fun event to get teens into the mood of the season.

"Since Halloween is coming up I thought it was a good time to do something a little spooky," Delano said. "The premise was that you and your friends go to a Halloween haunted house but it turns out there is a secret plot involved and the person who lives in the haunted house traps you inside of it."

As the teens arrived at the event Delano gave them a rundown of what the event was going to look like and welcomed them into the escape room space.

Delano had decorated the room so it would fit the theme of the escape room.

"I had the lights off and some lanterns and LED candles on so it was a dark, spooky ambiance," Delano said.

Throughout their time in the escape room the teens had to find and solve different riddles that would help to lead them out of

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TMarcel Maj, Nicholas Albro, Faith Berry and Irene Birch all enjoyed their time at the haunted house escape room at the library. eens worked together at Agawam Public Library to solve different clues in the Halloween escape room. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Library hosts grow, play and learn event

By Quinn Suomala Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The Agawam Public Library hosted a grow, play and learn event for children between ages three and five.

This program was put on by Pathways for Parents and is hosted weekly at APL.

Facilitator Andra Cummings organizes the event each week and ensures that there are a variety of activities available for all the children who attend.

"We have various materials for the children to explore," Cummings said. "We have fine motor activities, a raking activity which is more gross motor and there are number and letter activities, shape and color sorting and I always have a sensory bin."

On top of these activities, she always makes sure to have a craft each week that fits the theme of the month (this months' being fall and Halloween) and she has an area for children to play with

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Children played with the jack-o-lantern craft that was set up at the grow, play and learn event.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA

Multiple ballot questions, senate race on ballot

By Quinn Suomala Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The state and federal elections are planned for Nov. 5 and many people are preparing for this big day.

For Agawam, the ballot will contain five or six different ballot questions, depending on what precinct a person is in.

Precinct one has only five ballot questions. Precincts two through eight have six ballot questions.

The first question asks if the auditor has the authority to audit the legislature. A vote yes would give the auditor this authority, a no vote would leave the auditors' rights the same.

For the second question it asks people if they would like to remove the MCAS as part of the high school graduation requirements for students in Massachusetts.

A yes vote would remove the MCAS while a no vote would

leave it as a graduation requirement.

The third question addresses transportation network drivers' right to form a union. It would also establish a procedure for determining what drivers are active drivers.

Voting yes on this question would give drivers the right to form a union and would establish the aforementioned procedure.

The fourth question asks if people over the age of 21 should have the right to use certain natural psychedelic substances for certain circumstances. The psychedelics would only be able to be purchased under supervision from a licensed facilitator.

Additionally, it would allow those who are 21 and older to grow certain psychedelic substances in a 12 foot by 12 foot area in their homes. They could only grow and possess limit-

BALLOT | page 2



Allied makes donation



After raising \$20,859,73 through its first annual golf tournament, Allied Flooring, Paint and Design and Budget Cabinets has made substantial donations to two local charities: Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts and the Gándara Center in Holyoke. Allied Flooring & Painting President Mario Tedeschi, Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts President Amie Miarecki, Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts Board Co-chair Tracey Alves, Junior Achievement of Western Massachusetts Board Member Joe Williams, Allied Flooring & Painting President of Sales Jorge Morgado. The check presentation was made last week.

Town announces Veterans Day ceremony and activities

AGAWAM - The Agawam Veterans' council will be honoring veterans at their Veteran's Day Ceremony on Monday, Nov. 11. This year's ceremony will be held at the Veteran's Green at Phelps school in Agawam at 10:45 a.m. (The location in case

of rain will be the Agawam Junior High school).

The veterans' council will also be laving a wreath at the Vietnam veterans' Memorial Bridge (strathmore Bridge) ar 7 a.m. All are welcome to attend.



Partners Restaurant Honors **Veterans & Active Military**

FREE Breakfast or Lunch Tuesday, November 12, 6 AM – 2 PM

Simply bring proof of service and enjoy a meal on us!





Partners Restaurant is now accepting orders for our delicious traditional Thanksgiving dinners

This Thanksgiving, savor a delicious and stress-free meal with your loved ones!

Visit our website at www.partnersrestaurant.com for all the details and to place your order.

ORDER DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 22, 2024

Make your holiday memorable with a meal from Partners!

485 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills, MA 01030 (413) 786-0975

Feline Friends to hold food, supplies donation drive

FEEDING HILLS - Feline Friends Inc. Cheryl K, Norma C, Elizabeth S, Joan E, Cat Sanctuary of Feeding Hills will be holding food/supply drives at Smithland Pet & Garden Center on Saturday, Nov. 2 and Saturday, Dec.14 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers will be collecting food, litter and monetary donations for the kitties. Opened bags/boxes

will be accepted. Gift cards from Smithland or Costco or BJ's would be appreciated. Smithland, a valued sponsor, is stocked with Friskies Pate or Shreds canned food (single fla-

vor cases are preferred), many

Fancy Feast varieties and un-

scented, clumping cat litter.

The donation bin/barrel is located near the cash registers. Other Wish List items include disinfecting wipes, paper towels, puppy pee pads, jars of baby food (meat varieties) and dry cat and dog food for strays and colonies.

Thanks to community members who generously donated at the Sept. 28 event including Marissa P, Joanne L, Carl and Darlene, Crystal M and Debra L. Congrat-

ulations to the winners of our 3 Raffle Baskets: Marissa P (Fall Fun), Cheryl K (Cat) and Debra L (Dog).

Checks or cash are always gratefully accepted (Feline Friends, P.O. Box 174, Feeding Hills 01030) or Pay Pal (Feline Friends Inc) or Venmo (@Feline-Friends).

Just a reminder that there are collection bins at the Agawam Public Library as well as at Smithland in Agawam. Please add contact information if donors would like an acknowledgement.

Feline Friends Inc. is a community-based, nonprofit sanctuary that does not discriminate against any cat

based on age, gender or disability.

More information about the sanctuary may be found on the website at felinefriendsinc.org or the Facebook page at Feline Friends Cat Sanctuary. Contact with questions at info@felinefriendsinc.org or by phone at 413-786-5019.





New officers sworn in

Agawam is happy to announce the swearing in of the newest fire and police personnel. Agawam's newest firefighter is Joseph Farwell. Agawam's newest police officers are Alexina Ferrentino and Julian Colon

SUBMITTED PHOTO

BALLOT ■ from page 1

ed amounts of these substances in their

Furthermore, a commission would be formed in order to monitor the sale and use of these substances.

For this question, a yes vote approves the law allowing the use of the specified psychedelic substances. A no vote would leave the law regarding these substances as it is.

The fifth question proposes that the minimum wage for tipped workers be slowly increased to meet the federal minimum wage over the course of five years, going to 100% of the federal minimum wage on Jan. 1, 2029.

A yes vote approves this increase while a no vote leaves the minimum wage for tipped workers the same.

The sixth and final question, which is only on the ballots of those in precincts two through eight, asks if the representative in congress for the district should be required to vote in favor of a single-payer universal healthcare system for Massachusetts.

Voting yes agrees that the representative should be required to vote in favor of this healthcare. Voting no does not require the representative to vote for this initiative.

On top of these ballot questions, the ballot also contains the chance to vote for the president and vice president and the state senator and representative.

The elections for councilor, senator in general court, representative in general court, and clerk in general court are all uncontested.

There are two candidates running for the register of deeds, Cheryl Coakley-Rivera and Bob Collamore.

For those who may be uncertain about how they want to vote on any of the questions, officials recommend that they do the research prior to coming in to vote. It is always best to be an informed voter.

To learn more about election day in Agawam, go to the town election website at https://www.agawam.ma.us/231/Election-Information.

A sample of the ballot for election day can be found on this website as can specification of what precincts a voter belongs to.

Senior center announces November events

AGAWAM – The Agawam Senior center, 954 Main St., has great events planned for the month of November, the Center is open Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, please call 413-821-0605

Important update of the Agawam Senior center hours of operation. Starting Monday, Nov. 4, the Agawam Senior Center will be closing at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday.

The Agawam Senior Center will remain open on Tuesday evenings until 7:30 p.m. We hope this will give you a chance to access more of what we have to offer. The Billiards Hall, Computer Room, Fitness Room and more. ZUMBA Gold will offer classes on Tuesday evenings starting at 5:30 p.m.

Cardio Fusion Class

Tuesday, Nov. 5, 12, 19, 26 at 10:30 a.m. Thursday, Nov. 7, 14, 21 at 9:30 a.m.

The Cardio Fusion Class has been going strong. If you are looking for a fun, low impact aerobic class Cardio Fusion is for you. Please join us.

Seminar with Attorney Marie Jablonski Estate Deeds, Power of Attorney, Life Estate Deeds

Nov. 6 at 1:30 p.m. in the Dining Room Join Marie as she talks about life estate deeds, give a brief summary of wills, POA, health care proxy, and their importance, and what is a life estate deed, and should you have one? Reasons why you may not want to have one. Please call Kristina at 726.2836 to register.

Alzheimer's and Dementia program

Wednesday, Nov. 20, at 1 p.m.
Certified Dementia Practitioner Laurie
Martin, LPN will be here to teach about
Alzheimer's Dementia as well as Agawam
Rehab. November is Alzheimer's Awareness Month and this disease affects much
of the aging population. Refreshments
and a raffle will be offered. Call Kristina at

413.726.2836 to register.

Free Veterans Lunch Friday, Nov. 8

The Agawam Senior Center would like to extend an invitation to our Veterans to please join us on Friday, Nov. 8, for a complimentary lunch at the Senior Center. Call the Senior Center at 821-0604 by Friday, Nov. 1 to place a reservation. This is a great opportunity for us to honor our veterans and say thank you for all you have done. Lunch will be Ziti with a homemade meat sauce, Caesar salad and a baked good. We will also enjoy the sound of Paul the Accordion Guy! Please call 413.821.0604 to reserve your lunch.



Communion breakfast

AGAWAM - All Catholic women and girls are invited to join The Catholic Women's Club of Agawam for the club's Communion Breakfast on Sunday, Nov. 10. The Sunday morning 10:30 a.m. Mass, at St. John the Evangelist Church, 833 Main St., in memory of deceased club members, will begin the day. Members can sit together in the reserved pews. A buffet breakfast will be served in the parish center directly behind the church following Mass. The menu consists of Pastries, French Toast, Scrambled Eggs, Bacon, Home Fried Potatoes, Orange Juice, Tea and Coffee which will be prepared by Mark Tansey of Partner's Restaurant. The fee is \$15 per person. Cash or checks made out to Catholic Women's Club, should be sent to Katie Heald, 66 Beekman Drive, Agawam, MA, by Nov. 3, or can placed in the collection basket on the weekend or placed in the church office mailbox. No refunds will be given after Nov. 3. This event is open seating of tables of 8-10 people.

The speaker at the breakfast will be Deacon Dan Prats of St. Rose de Lima Parish in Chicopee, MA.

For more information contact Katie at (413) 786-1287.

ACC holding Holly Wreath Bazaar

AGAWAM – On Saturday, Nov. 23 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., the Agawam Congregational Church will host its Holly Wreath Bazaar.

Our vendors and crafters are in place for a variety of your Christmas shopping needs. Don't forget we have cards for sale (sports and famous people).

Again, we will have our bakery at the country store featuring sumptuous homemade pies, cakes, cookies, bars, and candy. There will be something for everyone at Santa's seconds. Also, you can participate in two raffles (grand raffle and our church raffle with numerous choices).

Stay for lunch at our cafe for our deliciously prepared grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, and cheeseburgers. Popcorn will also be available for that festive feeling. We look forward to your visit to our church located in the historic district of Agawam at 745 Main Street on Saturday, Nov. 23.

Food Fest West to be held Nov. 20

AGAWAM – The Food Fest West will be taking place on Wednesday, Nov. 20, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at the Crestview Country Club, Shoemake Ln. For more information and tickets visit westoftheriverchamber.com.

Care Center completes endowment campaign

HOLYOKE – The Care Center's Moving Women Forward campaign, launched in November 2022, has now completed its goal to raise a \$4 million endowment. The funds will ensure that its growing college for young mothers and other under-resourced women will remain tuition-free.

The Care Center, a nationally recognized nonprofit championing the education of young mothers, partners with Bard College to run Bard Microcollege Holyoke, the first-of-its-kind college designed for young mothers and other under-resourced women. Through small class sizes, a rich curriculum, and extensive support services including childcare, transportation, meals, healthcare, and housing vouchers, the Microcollege breaks down barriers to education. The associate degree program boasts a 71% graduation rate, compared to 30% for associate degree programs nation-wide, and just 8% for single moms nationally.

The Microcollege's supportive environment and small cohort sizes are intentional. The combined challenges of living in poverty, raising children, and participating in a rigorous academic environment can cause students to become overwhelmed and discontinue their education. Students receive personal attention from a team of open-minded, resourceful professionals. They are bolstered by the camaraderie of the tight-knit group of fellow students. This high level of individualized support is vital to student persistence and success.

"We are so grateful to everyone who made this possible," said Oona Cook, executive director of The Care Center. "Because of our community's incredible generosity, women will break the cycle of poverty.



The Care Center's Moving Women Forward campaign completed its goal to raise a \$4 million endowment.

They will earn degrees, launch meaningful careers, buy homes, and advocate for their children and communities. Their success will be felt by generations to come."

The Ceres Foundation, a long-time supporter of The Care Center, helped launch the endowment with a \$1 million leadership gift. Amanda Northrop, Executive Director of The Ceres Foundation, remarked, "We are so proud to invest in this critical initiative advancing women's education. By removing barriers to success, The Care Center makes college completion possible and changes the trajectory for women and their families."

Last fall, the campaign received a \$500,000 gift from The Irene. E. and George A. Davis Foundation. Laurel Ferretti, a Director of The Davis Foundation, also expressed her enthusiasm, "The Care Center's groundbreaking work embodies our commitment to innovation and excellence in education. We are honored to help sustain this powerful resource, which not only supports young families as they navigate the path to financial stability but also stands out as a model for other college access programs."

The Care Center's innovative programs and commitment to education have not gone unnoticed, earning recognition from The White House, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, and numerous national publications. With the completion of this campaign, The Care Center is poised to expand its impact and continue its vital work in the community for generations to come.

Girl Scouts of Central and Western MA celebrate 'Geek is Glam'

WORCESTER – Hundreds of Girl Scouts gathered at Worcester Polytechnic Institute on Sunday, Oct. 13, for the tenth Geek is Glam STEM event, hosted by the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts. This day-long, interactive conference celebrated science, technology, engineering, and mathematics, providing girls in grades 4-8 with hands-on experiences and exposure to some of the area's top scientific and engineering minds.

From building bridges and designing buildings and aircraft, to learning the basics of chemical engineering to make their own bath bombs, girls were immersed in a variety of engaging activities, games, and workshops. These experiences were designed to spark curiosity and foster a love for STEM subjects in a supportive, all-girl environment.

"The enthusiasm and engagement displayed by the girls throughout the day was truly inspiring. From dissecting owl pellets to creating robots, the variety of activities offered a comprehensive glimpse into the exciting world of STEM", said Theresa Lynn, CEO of GSCWM. "It was remarkable to see these young minds exploring cutting-edge fields like AI, biotech, and medicine with such curiosity. This event not only showcased the diverse opportunities in STEM but also played a crucial role in igniting a

passion for science and technology in these bright young women."

Participants engaged in a wide array of interactive workshops, demonstrations, and hands-on exhibits throughout the day.

"We need more girls in STEM, and we need them in Clean Energy, too!" said Amanda Downey, vice president, Strategy Development & Partnerships, for National Grid. "I enjoyed being a panelist and found that the girls were enthusiastic about learning, and they asked thoughtful questions. National Grid is proud to support the Girl Scouts 'Geek is Glam' STEM Expo. I'm already looking forward to next year's event."

The success of Geek is Glam was made possible through the collaboration of GSCWM, WPI, more than 60 area education and STEM partners, 90 volunteers and sponsors Dietz & Co. Architects, Flexcon, and Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. This collective effort ensured that girls had access to a diverse range of STEM experiences and role models.

GSCWM is committed to continuing this annual tradition, with plans already underway for the next Geek is Glam event. The organization aims to inspire more girls to pursue STEM careers and close the gender gap in these critical fields.

Guest Column



Worried about Taxation of Social Security benefits

Dear Rusty

I am past my Social Security full retirement age, and I am still working. I am married and we file our income tax jointly. My husband is 64 and is not working now, but he may or may not, be able to work in the next year or so. At what point will my Social Security benefits be taxed, if I decide to take them now?

Signed Worried About Taxes

Dear Worried

Many Social Security recipients are surprised to find that their benefits may be considered taxable by the IRS, so I welcome the opportunity to clarify this topic for you.

Whether or not your Social Security benefits are taxable depends on your overall combined taxable income for your IRS tax filing status. Taxation of Social Security benefits for a married couple (filing jointly) depends on your combined income as a couple, which is called your "Modified Adjusted Gross Income" by the IRS. Your MAGI consists of your normal Adjusted Gross Income on your IRS tax return, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had.

If your MAGI, filing jointly, exceeds \$32,000, then 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year becomes taxable, but if your MAGI as a couple exceeds \$44,000 then up to 85% of your received SS benefits becomes taxable (at your standard IRS tax rate). Note that these tax thresholds are less for those who file their taxes as a single - e.g., for someone whose IRS filing status is "single," half of their Social Security benefits become part of their taxable income if their personal MAGI is over \$25,000 and up to 85% of their SS benefits are taxable if their individual MAGI is over \$34,000.

Another factor often misunderstood is that only a portion of SS benefits are added to your income amount taxed by the IRS. The amount added, somewhere between 50% and 85% of the SS benefits received during the tax year depending on your MAGI, becomes taxable income at your normal IRS tax rate.

So, in your case, if you claim your SS benefits now and your combined income your MAGI exceeds the above levels for a married couple, then a portion either 50% or up to 85% of your SS benefits received during the tax year will be included in your income taxable by the IRS. Note, too, that it is possible to have income tax withheld from your Social Security benefits by submitting IRS form W-4V to your local Social Security office. You can download this IRS form at www.

SECURITY | page 5



DAVE GRANLIND (a) www.davegranlund.com

Guest Column

Blood donors are everyday heroes



┓ arlier this year, a 77-year-old Massachusetts grandfather was celebrated for his 550th so was inspired to begin donating when his best friend's then-14-year-old daughter was diagnosed with cancer in 1996.

And he just kept giving.

We could use more everyday heroes like Rocco. Although the country seems to have weathered the severe blood shortage seen in January of this year, when the Red Cross declared a national crisis, hospitals can't have enough blood. A single trauma patient can require 20 units of blood - or more.

Regular blood donation by a sufficient number of healthy people is needed to ensure that blood will always be available whenever and wherever it is needed. With World Blood Donor Day celebrating its 20th anniversary on June 14, it's a good time to thank donors and encourage new ones.

Who can give blood?

Even though roughly 7 million Americans donate blood each year, that's only 3 percent of the eligible population. The qualifications are simple: Be 17 or older (there's no upper age limit as long as you're in good health); feel well; and weigh 110 pounds or more. Many people are disqualified because of various infections, low iron, travel, pregnancy and other factors, so if you are eligible, give it some consideration.

At the donation site, after a brief health assessment (temperature, blood pressure, iron level), you'll be able to give the gift of life to a fellow human being.

Isn't there artificial blood?

Researchers are racing to develop artificial red blood cells that could stand in for whole blood, but we're probably a decade or more away from that becoming reality. For now, there's no substitute for the real McCoy.

The parts can be greater than the whole

While you can donate whole blood six times a year, platelet donors (like Rocco) can give up to 24 times a year. This is because the donation process takes only part of your blood and returns the rest.

Platelets are tiny blood cells that form clots and stop bleeding. For millions of Americans, they are essential to surviving and fighting cancer, chronic diseases and traumatic injuries. Every 15 seconds, someone needs platelets.

You may even be able to sign up to donate platelets to help a friend with cancer. In platelet donation and transfusion, it's generally not necessary to match blood types.

Why don't more people donate?

The number of people who donate blood has dropped about 20 percent in the last few years. Fears about safety and needles keep some people from donating. There's also the bystander effect: It's common not to take action in a situation if you think someone else will.

Does giving blood actually hurt? It can, but it's usually no worse than stubbing your toe. There's that moment when you know the needle is coming close to the vein in your arm; the best thing to do is look away or close your eyes and keep breathing until that moment passes.

There are also still myths about who and who can't donate. In the early days of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, there were no tests to screen for HIV, so gay and bisexual men were prohibited from donating. The FDA rescinded that blanket ban in 2023 in favor of questions that assess the risk of HIV regardless of gender or gender expression.

Also, yes, you can donate if you have tattoos and piercings, as long as it was more than three months prior, you're completely healed and you took care to be inked or poked at a state-regulated facility.

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Election letters to the editor welcome

The Agawam Advertiser News welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Agawam Advertiser News, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to aan@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered

for that Friday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

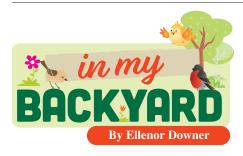
As part of its election coverage, the news-

paper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Agawam Advertiser News.

Opinion

Guest Column



Brimfield reported resident white-throated sparrows in his yard. He said, "Adult white-throated sparrows are polymorphic, occurring in two plumage types or forms: white striped (bright) or tan striped (dull). Almost all of the white-throated sparrows I see are the tan striped morph." I also saw white-throated sparrows, but they are mostly the white striped morph.

I put a small amount of bird seed and shelled peanuts in my feeders in the morning. I do not fill them as there are many black bears in my area. With this wonderful Indian summer weather, I have been working outside since I use a laptop computer. Besides working on the two papers I edit, Barre Gazette and Country Journal, I enjoy the weather, and get to see birds coming and going at the feeders.

The white-throated sparrow is 6 ½ inches long with a dark crown with a buff or tan central stripe and white throat. Depending on which morph, they have either white or tan eyebrows with a yellow mark before the eye. Their breast is gray with a few, faint streaks.

The female has a less bold pattern on the head, duller yellow by eye, more streaking on the breast and grayer. The immature of either sex looks like the female. Immature plumage is kept through their first winter. Breeding pair usually contains one bird from each morph, either a tan female and white male or white female and tan male.

The female lays four to six light bluegreen eggs with dark marks in a nest of grasses lined with hairs and rootlets. It is placed on the ground or under a small tree or shrub.

For many years, my family and I had horses. Their hair was a popular nesting material for the birds in our yard. Nests often had horse hair woven into them. After grooming the horses, birds would often come and fly away with strands of horse hair especially from the horses' mane or tail



White-throated sparrow, white and tan striped morphs

White throated sparrows summer in Canada and winter in the northeastern and part of the southern United States. They feed on the ground eating weed seeds, grain, fruit and insects. They come to trav type feeders or scattered on the ground. They like cracked corn, sunflower seeds and millet.

Their song is two long whistled notes followed by three or four higher, quivering notes. It sounds like "sweet sweet Canada Canada Canada." Calls are "tseeet" when birds are in flocks and "pink" in alarm. They inhabit coniferous and mixed woods and brushy areas.

Brimfield birds

The Brimfield resident reported not much happening at the Warren ponds. In his yard, he saw a male eastern towhee, a couple of ruby-crowned kinglets, five goldfinches, a chipping sparrow, song sparrow and white-throated sparrows.

Black swallow tail caterpillars

The Brimfield resident also said in an email, "Over a week ago we found a couple of black swallowtail caterpillars on a volunteer 12" tall fennel plant growing out of the space between pavers in our walkway. I collected the caterpillars and put them in the house in a small aquarium with fennel leaves. Last year we found three black swallowtail caterpillars chrysalises in the



Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN, is a

board-certified patient advocate and Monson resident. A critical care nurse for 30+

years, she is founder of NShore Patient Advocates, (www.NorthshoreRN.com). Her book,

Black swallow tail caterpillar

HEALTH ■ from page 4

(That also means you can't use fear of needles as an excuse!)

Virtual reality comes to blood donation

For some people, giving blood is easy and you get snacks when you're finished. For others, though, it can be unpleasant, and they are unlikely to become first-time donors, let alone repeat donors.

Virtual reality to the rescue, or actually a subset of VR called "mixed reality," which mingles the real and virtual worlds.

In 2023, a blood collection center let donors take their minds off the process by focusing on planting a garden - with just their eyes. Donors used the Microsoft HoloLens 2 to play Paragon, a game created by Abbott Labs and Blood Centers of America. The thinking is that a positive emotional response to blood donation will encourage folks to become repeat customers.

A blood donation truly is a unique gift that transcends gender, age, ethnic and political lines. Find a collection center or blood donor event near you, and roll up your sleeve.

"How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones is available on Amazon. She is offering a free phone consultation to Turley Newspaper readers. Contact her at Teri@northshorern.com to set it up.



SECURITY ■ from page 4

irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4v.pdf.

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ance. 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

garden, kept them inside a shed over the winter and in the spring tied the chrysalises to tree branches. All three hatched and flew away."

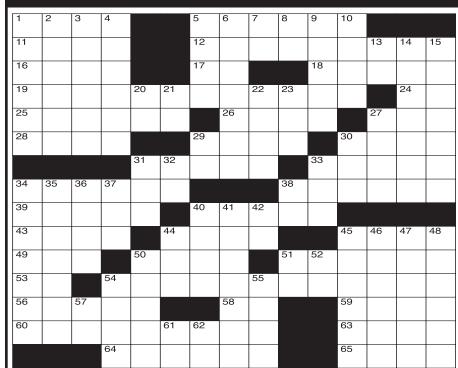
Fun facts about Canada geese

The Brimfield resident also offered some facts about Canada geese he got from MassWildlife. Human intervention radically altered the status of this species within the Bay State. Before the 1930s, these geese rarely nested here, today many Canada geese are in this state year round.

Theh migratory population still pass through in the spring and fall and stop to rest during migration. Resident population are descendants of captive geese used by waterfowl hunters; live decoys were outlawed in the 1930s and captive birds were released. With no pattern of migration, these geese began nesting in Massachusetts. In the 1960s and early 1970s, Mass-Wildlife moved geese from the coast into central and western Massachusetts to the applause of both hunters and non-hunters. A population explosion followed.

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.





33. Bar bill

CLUES ACROSS 1. __ Spumante (Italian

- wine) 5. Highly impressed
- 11. Pronoun to identify something specific 12. Uttered in an
- impassioned way 16. Outfits 17. "Westworld" actor

Harris

- 18. Stewed game casserole 19. Indignities inflicted on
- 24. Blood type 25. Says beneath one's
- breath 26. Taxis
- 27. Transmits genetic information from DNA to the cytoplasm
- 28. NFL great Randy 29. Where college students
- 30. Brief Yankees sensation Kevin

31. Condiment

- 33. -frutti 34. Polish city
- 38. Astronomy unit of distance 39. Romanian village
- 40. Bears first overall pick Williams 43. Irritated
- 44. Clothing for sale has them 45. One-time world power
- 49. When you anticipate arriving 50. Farm building
- 51. Organize thoughtfully 53. Detective
- 54. One who reduces 56. Nursemaids
- 58. Partner to "Pa" 59. World's longest river
- 60. Commemorates 63. Compound
- 64. The Lannisters and
 - Starks fought for one 65. Email function

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Open-roofed entrance 2. Japanese religion
- Dancer's garments 4. Distributes
- 5. Yemeni port 6. Spanish doctors 7. It cools your house
- 8. Engine variant 9. Makes more
- manageable 10. Days (Spanish)
- 13. Milliliter 14. Spread out from
- 15. With two replaceable hydrogen atoms
- 20. Respectful title for a man 21. Equally
- 22. Scarlett's home 23. Big Blue
- 27. Subway dwellers
- 29. One-tenth of a liter 30. Central European river
- 31. Distress signal 32. Expression of sympathy
- permission 48. Go over again 50. Auto parts
- manufacturer
- 51. Detective's source 52. Home of the Flyers

34. Football equipment

37. Mary ___, cosmetics

41. Fourth and honorable

42. Defeats (abbr.)

44. A way to color

46. Form of humor

47. Taken without

name in ancient Rome

35. Dance music

36. Russian river

38. Gym class

40. Autos

45. Planet

- 54. Short official note 55. Emit coherent radiation
- 57. In the year of Our Lord 61. Atomic #18
- 62. Not from, but...

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 9



Children were able to sort different colored objects into bowls as one of the grow, play and learn activities.



There was a playdough area set up for kids to play with.



Children had a variety of activities to engage in at the grow, play and TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA



Many of the different activities around were meant to engage childrens' different skills, including a raking activity for gross motor skills.



One of the activities children could engage in was sorting different colored balls.

EVENT I from page 1

playdough.

The children in attendance of the event get a half hour to play and another fifteen minutes for circle time.

During circle time the kids listen to and sing along different songs and they can even get a chance to read stories.

"Circle time is songs, movements, dancing and sometimes we read a book," Cummings said. "I try to do a lot of repetitive songs during circle time so kids can become familiar with them and learn and sing them along with us."

Many parents have told Cummings that their children come home and sing the different songs from circle time to their stuffed animals or their other family mem-

"I love to see that they're carrying it over somewhere else," Cummings said.

Cummings hopes that this weekly event will give kids a chance to get out and socialize with other kids and also to practice some of the skills they should be learning at their age level.

"It's nice for them to get used to following a routine and for them to explore the different materials and get exposure to early childhood skills," Cummings said.

Throughout this time each week Cummings enjoys seeing the kids begin to learn the different songs and get familiar with one another and with Cummings herself.

"The highlight for me is to see familiar faces and just to see the kids come in smiling and excited to play together," Cummings said.

Cummings puts on one of these events for children from birth to age two and another from ages three to five. These sessions are every Friday at the library, with the one for younger children starting at 9 a.m. and the one for older children starting at 10:30 a.m.

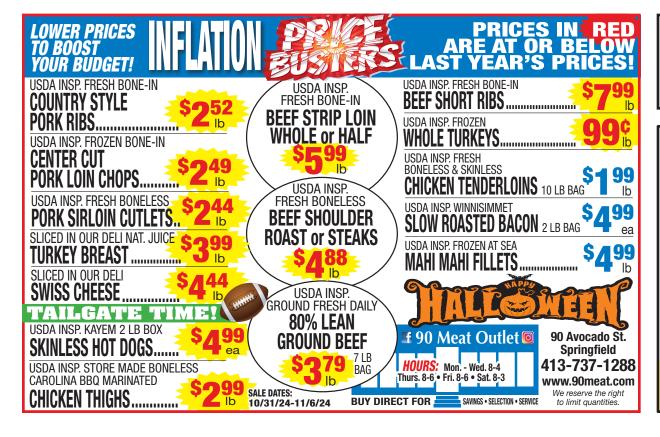
She is able to do this as her organization, Pathways for Parents, receives grant money.

They get this grant money from different organizations and resources that they send

parents to based on childrens' results on the Ages and Stages Questionnaire, which can be found at https://www.asqonline. com/family/defc2a.

"We really need families to take a few minutes and answer our ASQ online," Cummings said. "It's always available to parents..and it's really important to keep our grant going and to enable us to have the funds to keep this amazing program for the kids."

This event is just one of many that the library has planned for kids throughout the year. To keep updated on the different events at the library, go to their website at https://www.agawamlibrary.org/.



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SPORTS



scoring very many goals this season, but we always play very well defensively in every game," said Goncalves following his team's final home match of the regular season which was played under a full moon. "Agawam is a talented soccer team, and it was a very good game to-

The shutout victory improved Minnechaug's overall season record to 6-5-4. They were scheduled to wrap-up the regular season with an-

other non-league match at Westborough High School last Saturday.

Just like several other Athletic Directors in Western Massachusetts, Minnechaug A.D. Steve Burndrett didn't put TBA on the Lady Falcons schedule that's on the arbiter website for the two Western Mass. Tournament games before the start of the regular season. Unless the MIAA decides to make a change at the last minute, the Lady Falcons will have to forfeit both of those games, which will most likely affect their power rankings in the Division 2 state tournament. Since the new postseason tournament format began several years ago, the championship games of the Western Mass. tournament have never counted towards the MIAA

"If we do win our first game

state power ranks.

"We haven't been of the Western Mass. tournament, it'll go in the books as a 3-0 forfeit, but we can still move on in the tournament," Goncalves said. "I always thought the MIAA was all about the student-athletes. None of my players did anything wrong and this is going to hurt them. It's not like we're trying to hide students who have bad grades. The whole thing is insane."

> Agawam had a 7-7-1 overall record following the road loss.

> The Brownies are also hoping to still qualify for the Western Mass. Class A tournament, and they'll probably need to finish the regular season with at least a .500 record to qualify for the Division 2 state tourna-

> "We've been playing very well lately and losing a 1-0 game to Minnechaug is a heartbreaker," said Agawam head coach Laura Wray-Ramos. "We just couldn't put the ball into the net tonight."

> The Lady Falcons also defeated the Brownies on their senior night two years ago. One of the Lady Falcons seniors that season was Liliana Ramos, whose mother is the Brownies varsity soccer coach.

> This year, Wray-Ramos is coaching her youngest daughter, Gaby, who's a freshman member of the Brownies varsity

> "Tonight's game wasn't as emotional for me as it was

> > SOCCER | page 8

Agawam puts up strong effort in playoff loss

AGAWAM - Longmeadow field hockey has been an albatross to many Western Mass. programs, none more than Agawam, which has lost to Lancers in many regular season and playoff games during the past two decades. Last Thursday afternoon in the Class A Western Mass. Tournament, the

Brownies battled the Lancers to a scoreless draw, but would lose in penalty strokes.

It was Agawam's best effort in recent years against Longmeadow, and a great momentum shift for the Brownies as they head into the Division 2 State Tournament later this week.



Alexina Lentes controls the ball near the middle of the field.





Kyra Benard makes a backhand play to keep Agawam on offense.



Finnola Mahoney is defended closely.



Gabriela Cosentini sends a pass away.

By Tim Peterson

Sports Correspondent

the things that longtime Min-

nechaug girls' varsity soccer

coach Nundi Goncalves tells his

players is you can't lose if the

opposing team doesn't score a

aged to score a goal of their own

in the middle of the first half,

celebrated a 1-0 non-league vic-

tory over the Agawam Brownies

on senior night at Falcon Field,

Thursday, Oct. 17.

The Lady Falcons, who man-

WILBRAHAM—One

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY

WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Josiah Wyner looks to return the football up the middle.



Joe Duffy punts the ball



Domenick Pisano fakes a handoff to Rian Villareal. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Brownies football falls in shutout game

AGAWAM – Last Friday night was a disappointing return home after five straight road games.

Agawam football was defeated by East Longmeadow 24-0. The Brownies were not able to break through the end zone despite a couple of close opportunities. Agawam dropped to 3-4 on the season and close out the first part of the season at home against Amherst on Friday, Nov.1 at 7 p.m.



Noah Bushnik tries to break through the East Longmeadow offensive line. William Olson makes a block on the right side of the offensive line.



SOCCER ■ from page 7

the last time that we played a game here two years ago," Wray-Ramos said. "It's nice having my younger daughter on the varsity soccer team this year. It's been a lot of fun coaching her."

The four Lady Falcons seniors listed on this year's varsity soccer roster are Makenzi Pastreck, Mackenzie DaFonseca, Nora Kennedy, and Taylor Labadorf. They were recognized during a pregame ceremony

'The senior night game is always very emotional," Goncalves said. "The four seniors have been through some good times during the past several years. It's amazing how much they've grown."

Pastreck, who joined the varsity squad as a freshman, is the Lady Falcons starting goalkeeper.

"I'm very glad we were able to win on senior night," Pastreck said. "I've created a lot of bonds with the players and the coaching staff. We're a very close team this year."

Pastreck made seven saves in posting her ninth shutout of the regular season against the Brownies. It was also the Lady Falcons fourth 1-0 victory of the regular season. They've only scored more than two goals in a game one time, which was a 3-0 home win versus Coombs Division rival Belchertown on September 24.

Pastreck has been helped defensively by sophomore Ainsley Holden, junior Zoriah Wray, junior Zoe Pinnock,

and Kennedy.

'The defense never gets enough credit," Goncalves said. "We have a very strong defensive unit this year."

The eight Agawam seniors, who were also recognized during the pregame ceremony, are Kate Cleavall, Gaby Cosentini, Marlee Montagna, Madison Olyer, Tina Ritter, Taryn Smith, Julianna Warner, and Mia Wilkinson.

"The eight seniors have been outstanding leaders this year," Wray-Ramos said. "It's a very special group of players."

Junior's Mia Olyer, and Laura Parolo, who are both starters for the Brownies exited the game with injuries during the first half.

The Lady Falcons took a 1-0 lead during the 22nd minute when junior Kelly Cronin fired a shot from the left side into the right corner past Ritter, who's the Brownies starting goalie.

Holden was credited with the assist on what turned out to be the only goal of the contest.

Cronin has scored nine of the Lady Falcons eleven goals this season.

The Brownies did have a couple of chances to tie the score in the second half.

During the 66th minute, junior Makayla Rosario stole the ball from a Minnechaug defender, but Pastreck was able to make the save on the shot attempt.

Four minutes later, Pastreck made another save on a line-drive shot from about 25 yards out by junior Kylie

The Lady Falcons managed to hold onto the one goal lead during the final ten minutes of the match.

Marlee Montagna plays the ball off her body
TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Keira Murphy runs into traffic.



Kylie Warner heads up the field.



Railers score shutout of Maine Mariners

PORTLAND, ME- The Worcester Railers HC (2-2-0-0 4pts) beat the Maine Mariners (1-4-0-0, 2pts), on Sunday afternoon by the final score of 4-0 in front of a crowd of 2,947 at Cross Insurance Arena. The Railers are back on the ice next at Norfolk Scope taking on the Norfolk Admirals on Wednesday, October 30th at 7:05 p.m. EST.

Worcester got the scoring started tonight with Justin Gill (1-2-3) breakaway goal 6:22 into the period. Seven minutes later at 13:33 Matthew Kopperud (1-0-1) finished backside to give the Railers a 2-0 lead at the end of the first. The Railers continued their scoring late in the second when Riley Piercey (1-0-1) got his first goal of the season. Piercey scored with two minutes remaining in the period extending Worcester's lead to 3-0. Worcester finished the scoring off on the player play with a power play goal from Mason Klee 8:41 into the third, cementing the Railers 4-0 win.

Worcester found the back of the net first tonight, as Justin Gill (1st) forced a turnover and took it down the ice all alone scoring with his backhanded shot just 6:22 into the first. Matthew Kopperud (2nd) took an intercepted pass down the ice and scored off passes from Justin Gill and Jack Randl out in front 13:33 into the period. Neither team scored after Kopperud, ending the period with Worcester leading 2-0. Maine outshot Worcester 16-9.

The second period seemed as if it would come without a score from either team until the Railers extended their lead to 3-0 thanks to Riley Piercey (1st). Piercey broke the scoreless period 18 minutes in when he got one by Brad Arvanitis on the crossing dish from his teammate Justin Gill. Shots favored Worcester 12-11 in the second.

The Railers kept their great scoring night going in the third. Mason Klee (2nd) found the back of the net on the power play at 8:41 to make the Railers lead 4-0. The Mariners had a late power play opportunity, but the Railers penalty kill held strong on their perfect night. Shots favored Worcester 10-4 in the third and were even on the game 31-31.





Chicopee Register • Country Journal

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Sports

Thunderbirds scored bounce-back win over Hartford

HARTFORD - The Springfield Thunderbirds (3-5-0-0) bounced back from a pair of defeats to finish the three-game weekend with a 5-2 win over the Hartford Wolf Pack (3-2-0-1) on Sunday at the XL

The T-Birds faced challenges before the game even began, as seven lineup regulars were unavailable due to injury. Despite their shorthanded lineup, Steve Konowalchuk's T-Birds came out with a purpose, generating a pair of power plays in the opening half of the opening period, and forcing Louis Domingue to make many great saves in tight. Domingue's best work was when he reached back the paddle of his stick and pulled a loose puck dangerously close to the goal line.

The Wolf Pack, though, still managed to get on the board first, as top-line centerman Bo Groulx pounced on a loose puck in center, roared in on the right wing, and snapped a perfect wrist shot off the inside of the post behind Colten Ellis to make it a 1-0 game at 8:16.

That precise shot would be the only blemish on Ellis's record in an opening period that saw the young T-Birds backstop deny 11 Hartford chances, including several on a pair of Wolf Pack power plays.

At the other end, the T-Birds' third line evened the slate less than three minutes after Groulx's opening marker as Drew Callin swooped in front from behind Domingue's net and surprised the veteran with a wraparound through the legs to make it a 1-1 tie at 11:12.

The gutsy effort continued in the middle stanza, and Dalibor Dvorsky was rewarded at 8:52 with his third goal of the campaign. After skating the puck out of danger and entering the offensive zone, the 19-year-old pulled up on the leftwing boards and created a shooting lane. The rookie's flip shot into traffic found a home through Domingue's legs and gave Springfield its first lead of the day, 2-1, at

Not even three minutes later, Tanner Dickinson entered the scoring realm as he took a beautiful setup from Michael Buchinger and lifted a forehander over Domingue's stick at 11:08. Dickinson's first AHL goal of the season also marked Buchinger's first career point as a pro, and it gave Springfield a 3-1 lead into the

Just nine seconds into the final period, Springfield added to the lead as Hugh McGing spotted a wide-open Marcus Sylvegard at the net front for a tap-in. It tied for the fastest goal in any period in team history and propelled the T-Birds to a 4-1 advantage.

Ex-Hartford defenseman Hunter Skinner exacted some payback against his old team at 3:28, taking a drop from Dylan Peterson and rifling a wrister under the crossbar to build the lead up to 5-1.

Hartford mustered only one goal in response when Dylan Roobroeck stuffed a rebound through Ellis at 10:32. The Springfield goaltender put up his fourth consecutive start with just two goals allowed, stopping 27 shots for the game.

The T-Birds look to build upon the win on Friday night when they welcome the Bridgeport Islanders to the MassMutual Center for the first time this season. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m.

Hall of Fame Series heads for Vegas

PHOENIX - Position Sports, in partnership with the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame and the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority (LVCVA), announced that the 2027 Hall of Fame Series Las Vegas will take place at the iconic Allegiant Stadium on November 12, 2027, marking the first-ever basketball game at the renowned stadi-

The historic event will feature two marquee matchups between elite men's basketball programs: Arizona vs. Duke and Indiana vs. Kansas. Both games will once again be showcased on TNT Sports' networks and platforms, with additional programming information to be announced at a later date.

These four teams represent some of the most storied traditions in college basketball, with a combined 15 national championships, over 35 Hall of Famers, and a legion of passionate fans. The rivalry between Duke and Arizona, which will be on display in Tucson, Ariz., on November 22, as well as the timeless Kansas vs. Indiana matchup, is set to provide fans an unforgettable experience and signal a significant milestone in Las Vegas' sports history.

Allegiant Stadium, home of the NFL's Las Vegas Raiders and Super Bowl LVIII, will be hosting its first college basketball games, showcasing the versatility of the venue. The stadium will also serve as the site for the 2028 NCAA Men's Final Four, further solidifying its position as a premier destination for top-tier sporting events.

The Hall of Fame Series, owned and operated by Position Sports, is a collection of multi-game, singular events that showcase several of the top collegiate basketball teams in exciting non-conference matchups played both domestically and abroad. The inaugural Hall of Fame Series took place in 2023 in Las Vegas, Charlotte, San Antonio, Toronto, and Phoenix, and the series continues its successful run in 2024 with upcoming stops in Las Vegas (November 4), Phoenix (November 14), Baltimore (November 15), and New York (December 14).

Owls fall to Plymouth State

WESTFIELD - Plymouth State took advantage of three short fields in the first half to build a big lead, as the Panthers topped Westfield State 35-7 in a Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference game at Panther Field in Plymouth, N.H. on Saturday.

The Panthers capitalized on drives of 41, 39, and 40 yards, capped by two 2-yard TD runs from Willie Lombard sandwiched around a 3-yard plunge from Greg Walker to build a 21-0 halftime lead.

Westfield drops to 2-5, 2-4 in the MAS-CAC with the loss, while Plymouth evens its record at 3-3 overall and 3-3 in the

The Panthers tacked on a punt return TD and recovered a scoop-and-score fumble recovery on a 70 yard TD return by Nick Marcinowksi to put the finishing touches on the win.

Westfield got a late 4-yard rushing touchdown from Matt Varteresian for the Owls lone score of the day.

Defensive linemen Cade Nelson and Anthony Messore led the Owls with five tackles each.

Plymouth got 12 tackles from Evan Wilson. Westfield was limited to just 79 yards rushing on the day, led by 46 from Dylan Disabella. Conor Schlittler led the Owls receivers with two catches for 36 yards. Westfield QB's combined to go 14-24 passing for 172 yards, led by Ryan Scott, who completed 10 of 17 for 125 yards.

Plymouth's offense was led by an efficient performance from Braden Lynn, who completed 13 of 17 passes for 144 yards. Mitchell Cripps was his top target with six catches for 47 yards. Walker finished with 27 yards on the ground.

Westfield actually outgained the Panthers, 251-197 yards on the day, and had 15 first downs to Plymouth's 10.

Westfield will have a quick turnaround for their next game, as the Owls travel to conference foe Mass Maritime for a rare Thursday night kickoff.

Holiday fun offered at magical Connecticut Trolley Museum

EAST WINDSOR, CT - The Connecticut Trolley Museum presents Holiday Fun with several events planned. These events include:

Winterfest and the "Tunnel of Lights"

Winterfest 2024 and the dazzling "Tunnel of Lights" return to the Connecticut Trolley Museum. Experience the magic every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night from Nov. 29 through Dec. 22, with extended hours from Dec. 26 to Dec. 30 during school vacation. This family-friendly holiday tradition runs from 5 to 9 p.m. and promises to immerse visitors in festive cheer with over 10,000 lights illuminating both the museum's in terior and exterior. Opening Night Nov. 29

Santa will be visiting, bring a camera to capture a picture with Santa.

Outside, hop aboard one of the museum's cozy, closed trolley cars and ride through the enchanting "Tunnel of Lights". For a more immersive experience, brave the winter chill on one of the open-air trolleys, entirely adorned with holiday lights for an unforgettable view of the tunnel. Bundle up, bring blankets, and enjoy the

crisp air as you take in the festive atmo-

Inside, the Visitor Center transforms into a Winter Wonderland, featuring elaborate model train layouts, twinkling lights, and holiday decorations that will captivate visitors of all ages. With something magical around every corner, it is the perfect destination for families and holiday enthusiasts alike.

Admission ranges from \$16 to \$21 per person, and all tickets must be purchased in advance through the museum's website at www.ct-trolley.org. Museum members enjoy half off admission, making it a wonderful time to join and celebrate the season at the Connecticut Trolley Museum.

Breakfast with Santa

Kick off the holiday season with a magical morning at Breakfast with Santa at the Connecticut Trolley Museum on Dec 7. This unforgettable experience includes a delicious breakfast, a festive trolley ride, and access to the beautifully decorated Visitor Center-all while Santa himself ance to spread holiday cheer.

Breakfast features a hearty and delicious spread, including fluffy scrambled eggs, pancakes, assorted donuts, freshly brewed coffee, juice, and water. After enjoying a meal, take a memorable trolley ride through the scenic museum grounds, decked out in holiday splendor, and explore the Connecticut Fire Museum, located right next door. Marvel at a collection of antique fire trucks and historical fire apparatus, all included with your admission. This family-friendly event offers a full morning of festive fun for all ages. Admission is \$25 per person, with discounted tickets for museum members at just \$20. Come celebrate the season in style, with Santa, delicious food, and a whole lot of holiday magic.

Storytime Trolley with Santa and Elf A great program for our younger visitors. Storytime Trolley with Santa & his Elf will run on Saturday Dec 7 and Dec. 14. Visitors will enjoy a ride in a decorated vintage trolley car where Santa will visit with each child and be engaged the entire ride on the trolley. Also, while on board Santa's elf will read a holiday

story and each child will complete

a craft. Following the Trolley ride, Museum guests will head to the Visitors Center which has been transformed into a Winter Wonderland with multiple model train layouts & lights galore. The cost is \$25 for any age, half off for members and ticket sales must be made in advance.

Elf on the Elgin

All aboard the elegant Chicago, Aurora & Elgin Railroad #303, affectionately known as the 'Roarin' Elgin' or the 'Great Third Rail, for some old-fashioned holiday fun on Dec. 8 and Dec. 15. Passengers will board the historic car and enjoy a festive journey filled with hot chocolate in a souvenir cup, a cookie, and a candy cane-all served with holiday cheer by two friendly elves. As the train turns around, kids will have the chance to write letters to Santa, which will be collected on the Westbound trip and delivered straight to Santa's mailbox in the Visitor Center. After the ride, families are welcome to explore the Visitor Center as we prepare for the next magical adventure. The cost is \$30 for any age, half off for members and ticket sales must be made in advance.

Tickets are encouraged to be made in advance to secure a spot at www.ct-trolley.org. Walk-ins are welcome, but availability is not guaranteed. These events will be held rain or shine, ensuring nothing stops your holiday festivities. Please note that all ticket sales are final, and refunds or ticket transfers will only be honored up to seven days prior to the event date. After this period, no changes can be made. Transfers will have a charge associated with the transaction. No-shows will be charged the full price, so be sure to plan ahead and reserve your spot early for these festive experience. Please arrive 15 minutes prior to your departure time.

The Connecticut Trolley Museum is located at 58 North Road (Rt. 140) and is 15 minutes north of Hartford and 15 minutes south of Springfield. For more information, please call our business office at 860-627-6540 or visit our website at www. ct-trolley.org.

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PJ's Electrical offers fast and reliable electrical services for your home or business. Call now for a FREE estimate! (413) 366-1703 LICENSED & INSURED

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HOME IMPROVEMENTS. RE-MODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

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DEADLINES: MONDAY AT NOON

SERVICES

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Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call (508)867-2550

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GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & **HEATING** Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

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SERVICES

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DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount Call today for free estimate (413)478-

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212.

PETS

FREE TO A GOOD HOME. American Pitbull Terrier puppy, female, 10 weeks. Call Chris **919-491-8360.**

AUTO



HELP WANTED

CAR DRIVER WANTED Lizak Bus Service 413-436-5262 wo/l vlaaA

FLEXIBLE HOURS, decent pay & tips, healthy physical exercise, learn to move furniture and pianos correctly Jimmy Burgoff Moving & Hauling, Belchertown. 413-256-6800.

HOUSEKEEPER: Monday and Friday, 5 hours a day. Duties: cleaning, washing clothes, ironing. Three references from prior experience with names/phone. Send to PO Box 8, Hampden, MA 01036.

PLUMBER RNEYMAN **WANTED.** Excellent pay & benefits. Must be licensed in MA. Pioneer Plumbing 413-623-5911 or pioneerincoffice@gmail.com.

PART TIME SNOW PLOW **DRIVERS NEEDED**

Part time snow plow drivers are needed for the Town of New Braintree for the 2024-2025 season. Positions available for both CDL (\$30/hr) and non-CDL License (\$25/hr)

If you are interested, please contact Highway Superintendent Richard Ayer at (508) 867-2451 or email hwysecretary@newbraintree.org.

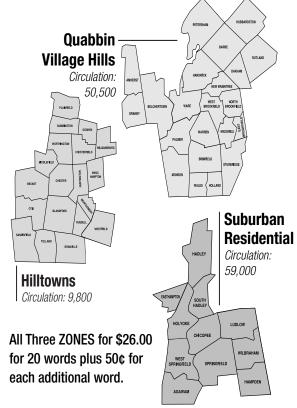
PART-TIME CUSTODIAL position at St. Mary's Parish in Hampden, \$20/ hours, 12 hours a week/flexible. Call 413-566-8843 or email stmary hampden@gmail.com.



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CATEGORY: 2 3 5 6 7 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 20 Base Price \$26.00 19 21 22 23 24 Base Price \$26.50 Base Price \$27.00 Base Price \$27.50 25 Base Price \$28.50 26 Base Price \$29.00 27 Base Price \$29.50 Base Price \$30.00 29 Base Price \$30.50 Base Price 32 \$31.50 Base Price \$32.00 Base Price \$31.00 33 Base Price \$32.50 Base Price 35 Base Price \$33.50 Base Price \$34.00 37 Base Price \$34.50 Base Price \$35.00 Base Price \$35.50 Base Price \$36.00

Name: Address: State: Town: Number of Weeks: X per week rate = \$ □ VISA Cash Credit Card: MasterCard Discover □ Check# Card #: Exp. Date Amount of charge: Date:



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HELP WANTED

The Town of Huntington is seeking a part-time Water and Sewer Administrative Coordinator for 18 hours per week. Applicants must be proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and Outlook and well organized. Hours are flexible but must be worked during the regular Water and Sewer department hours of Monday through Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to assist the Water and Sewer Department as needed. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing Wat- ${\bf erand Sewer@hunting tonma.us.}$ Position is open until filled.

Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

WARREN WATER DISTRICT is hiring for part-time office help. Please apply in person at 988 Main St., Warren 413-436-9819 EOE.

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

DIRECTOR OF VETERANS SERVICES

The Town of Wilbraham is looking for a Director of Veterans Services. For application and more information please visit www.wilbraham-ma.gov.

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON

HIGHWAY POSITION OPENING The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest from qualified candidates to fill two full-time Equipment Operator/General Laborer positions in the Town Highway Depart-

Valid MA CDL operator, Hydraulic Hoister's licenses and OSHA-10 certification is preferred.

- Highway maintenance laborer salary rate range: \$18.16 - \$26.46
- Highway maintenance laborer with CDL and Hoister's license salary rate range: \$25.00 - \$36.41

Further information can be found on the Town's website:

www.worthington-ma.us Questions will be answered by the Highway Superintendent at 64 Hun-

tington Road, Monday-Friday, 7 AM to 3 PM: 413-238-5830 or send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to: worthingtonhighway@gmail.com or to Worthington Highway Department, PO Box 643, Worthington, MA, 01098 This posting will remain pertinent until the two positions are filled.

The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



HELP WANTED

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT OPENING

Highway Department

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest and resumes from qualified candidates to fill the position of Highway Superintendent.

Nature of work: The Highway Superintendent is responsible for administering and overseeing the daily activities of the Highway Department including the maintenance and repair of town roads, parks, bridges, equipment maintenance and snow/ice removal operations.

This is a benefited position which requires a thorough knowledge of the principles, practices and techniques of highway department maintenance, construction and procurement Salary rate range: \$62,941.00 -

\$91,707.00, with potential for winter More information can be found on the Town of Worthington website:

www.worthington-ma.us Please send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to:

selectboard@worthington-ma.us. This posting will remain pertinent until the positions are filled.

The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

HELP WANTED

Worthington **Police Department** 51 Huntington Road, Worthington, MA 01098

FULL-TIME POLICE OFFICER

The Worthington Police Department is seeking qualified candidates for Fulltime Police Officer.

Applicants must be a minimum of 21 years of age or older, a U.S. Citizen and possess a valid driver's license. They should also have a high school diploma/GED, license to carry and be certified by Massachusetts Municipal Police Training Committee and be POST certified.

This is a benefited position with a salary range of: \$52,000.00 - \$75,733.00. The successful candidate shall be highly motivated, self-disciplined and possess a community policing philosophy and live in, or near Worthington. Previous candidates must reapply. Send letter of interest, resume and three references with relevant contact information to:

Worthington Police Department P.O. Box 246 Worthington, MA 01098

Or via email to

Subject line: Employment Responses will be accepted and reviewed until the position is filled.

chief@worthingtonpd.org

The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference. limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby nformed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is

Classified Advertising

DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON



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Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and** Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24C0340CA In the matter of: Denise Ann Donatini Browne CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Denise Ann Donatini Browne of Agawam, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name

Denise Ann Donatini IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 25, 2024 Rosemary A Saccomani Register of Probate 10/31/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24C0335CA In the matter of: **Landyn Taylor-Celmer** CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Landyn Taylor-Celmer of Agawam, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Landyn Cole Celmer IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/19/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this pro-

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 22, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani Register of Probate

Commonwealth of

Massachusetts

The Trial Court **Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P2184EA Estate of: Frank Korona Date of Death: 08/16/2023 CITATION ON PETITION FOR

ORDER OF COMPLETE **SETTLEMENT** A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Mary Jane Sobinski-Smith of Suffield, CT and John Korona of Springfield, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account. a determination of testacy and heirs at law and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/26/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 22, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate

Legal Notice Town of Agawam

The Agawam Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Thursday, November 7, 2024 at 6:00 p.m. and the Agawam City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, November 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m., both in the Veterans Hall at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of these hearings will be to hear the petition of Savonin for a zone change request for 71 Maynard Street/131 Coronet Circle from Agricultural to Residence A-1. City Council's public hearing will be livestreamed on the Town of Agawam's website at www.agawam.ma.us and will also be televised on Cable Access Channel 15 or Channel 1074. Copies of the proposed zone change can

be obtained from the Office of Planning and Community Development between the hours of 8:30am and 4:30pm at the Agawam Town Hall, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA or by emailing the Office of the City Clerk for an electronic copy at vgioscia@agawam. ma.us.

By Order Of: Violet Baldwin, Chair Agawam Planning Board

Rosemary Sandlin, President Agawam City Council 10/24, 10/31/2024

Commonwealth of

Massachusetts

The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24C0337CA In the matter of: Mariah Lynn Scott CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Mariah Lynn Scott of Feeding Hills, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Rylan Jonathan Scott IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/29/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 25, 2024 Rosemary A Saccomani Register of Probate 10/31/2024

Agawam Advertiser News **OBITUARY POLICY**

Turley Publications offers two types of

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.



The escape room was carefully decorated by Youth Associate Evan Delano so it would portray the haunted house theme of the event.

ESCAPE ■ from page 1

"They had to solve puzzles and find clues and decode things to escape from this haunted house," Delano said.

Within the puzzle there was even a cypher made of different Halloween-related symbols that each correlated with a letter of the alphabet. One riddle helped the teens find this cypher and another helped them to find the key to decode it so they could decode a hidden message.

"I had a great time watching them discover the clues and solve the puzzles," Delano said.

The teens worked well together and were able to solve all of the riddles in just enough time to escape the room. Delano was proud of them for being able to collaborate so



Teens scattered around the room to investigate the different clues they needed to solve to escape the haunted house escape room.

well to solve all of the puzzle clues.

Delano was thankful for Adult Services Library Associate Charlie Pope, who had done an escape room at the library previously, and helped Delano to come up with the different clues and riddles for the room.

"I had actually never participated in an escape room before...so I had no concept of how one would work," Delano said. "So because Charlie helped I was able to look at their materials and use their clues and prompts to help me to get a better understanding of how it works to do an escape room, especially when you are a librarian."

Using Pope's advice, Delano had a lot of fun creating all of the different riddles for the room and designing the room itself. They wanted to make the experience immersive and enjoyable for the teens.



The haunted house escape room was a popular event again this year.

"I feel like it succeeded in transporting them to a different place almost," Delano said. "The darkness and the way it was decorated and the puzzles they had to solve I think created an atmosphere that really let them feel like they were in a different place and unlocked their imaginations."

This escape room is not the only Halloween themed event the library has planned. They also have a Halloween parade open to people of all ages scheduled for Oct. 30 at

Additionally, the library has many fun events planned for the month of November for people of all ages.

One such event is an oreo-extravaganza for teens. This event will be on Nov. 6 and it will go form 6 p.m. to 7 p.m.

To keep updated on the different events at the library, go to their website at https://www.agawamlibrary.org/.





28 Moylan Lane, Agawam, MA 01001 Phone 413-786-2449 • Fax 413-789-3738 www.jrsweeping.com "No Haul is Too Big or Too Small"



