



LIBRARY
November
events
PAGE 2



LOCAL
Veterans
Day events
PAGE 3



SPORTS
Western
Mass.
playoffs
PAGE 7

AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

November 7, 2024 | Vol. 46, No. 37 | \$1.00

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com



Children's Librarian Pamela Weingart taught Halloween Parade and Party how to sign "ghosts" in American Sign Language. TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA

Children enjoy HALLOWEEN EVENT

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – Agawam Public Library celebrated Halloween with their annual Halloween parade for people of all ages.

Children's Librarian Pamela Weingart and Youth Associates Isabell Malvezzi and Evan Delano led the parade with the help of some teen volunteers.

Families gathered at the library in costume so they could trick-or-treat as a parade through the different areas of the library. As they went along they received a variety of trinkets and treats for children to enjoy.

"We like to start with the trick-

or-treating because that is what everybody is most excited for," Malvezzi said.

Not only do the kids look forward to trick-or-treating, but the other staff in the library as well.

"I love seeing the staff's reactions that don't work in children's," Malvezzi said. "We get to see the children being cute all the time but they don't so they get excited when we do this program because they get to see all the cute kids and participate in everything."

After the families finished trick-or-treating, the parade followed the children's librarians and the teen volunteers outside to take part in a story time and singalong.

"We were really happy to be able to have it outside this year," Malvezzi said.

The librarians read the books Eek! Halloween! By Sandra Boynton and Little Blue Truck's Halloween by Alice Shertle.

Delano worked to select the different stories. They especially liked Little Blue Truck's Halloween as all of the librarians leading the event were dressed as different trucks.

"The little blue truck was an obvious choice because we are trucks, it just felt appropriate," Delano said. "It's also a fun story-time book because the kids get to

HALLOWEEN | page 12

Council discusses 'Sister City' program

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The city council voted unanimously to re-establish their Sister City program with the city Reggio Calabria in Italy.

Recently, former Italian Honorary Consul for Western Massachusetts Giuseppe Polimeni reached out to City Council Vice President Anthony Russo about re-establishing this relationship, which had initially started in 1999.

Russo and Polimeni then met with Mayor Christopher Johnson and Italian Consul for Western Massachusetts Paul Picknelly in order to discuss how they could recreate this relationship.

Polimeni also went to Italy to meet with the mayor of Calabria.

"They [the people of Calabria] are very much on board and think it is a great idea," Russo said.

This work began in August and went through to October. The group also consulted with various individuals from Reggio Calabria.

The councilors were supportive of this initiative to connect with Reggio Calabria.

"Kudos to you for bringing this back," City Councilor Edward Borgatti said.

City Councilor George Bitzas was especially support-

ive of this work.

"I was very much involved with that in 1999, and I was very happy to see it happening at that time," Bitzas said. "I'm a huge supporter."

Bitzas is familiar with the city of Reggio Calabria, as they have connections with Greece as well, where Bitzas is from.

"I have a connection with Calabria," Bitzas said. "Calabria was occupied by the Ancient Greeks so Calabria...they still have Greek-Italians."

Bitzas is not the only one in the area with a connection to Calabria. The city was chosen to be a sister city with Agawam because many residents in Agawam can trace their roots back to the city.

The relationship was initially established in 1999 with the help of Johnson, Louis Russo, John Negrucci, Bill Euliano, and Anthony Bonavita.

"They were an intricate part of creating this in 1999," Russo said.

"They were legends in towns and they had a true passion for this," Borgatti said. "That's all they talked about."

Borgatti suggested perhaps even doing a dedication to the men who helped to establish the initial relationship as a way to honor all of the work they put into it.

Agawam is not the only town

SISTER CITY | page 11

AFD bans burning due to dry conditions

AGAWAM – Pursuant to section 10.10.2 of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code, the Agawam Fire Department is issuing an immediate ban on all forms of open burning within the Town of Agawam due to hazardous fire conditions. This action is taken to protect public health and safety and to prevent the potential spread of fire.

Reasons for the Ban The following conditions have been identified as contributing to an elevated fire risk in our area:

- Current and projected drought conditions
- Unseasonably high temperatures

- Wind conditions contributing to fire spread
- Very dry fuel conditions including leaf litter and dead wood
- Very dry ground surface conditions

Given these conditions, any form of open burning—including, but not limited to, brush burning, bonfires, fire pits, cooking fires and recreational fires—poses a substantial risk of uncontrolled fire spread, endangering life, property, and natural resources.

Scope of the Ban

Effective immediately, and until further notice, all open

BURNING | page 11

Town Hall employees support Breast Cancer Awareness Month

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – Employees at town hall wore pink on Oct. 30 in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.

These employees came together to wear pink, which is the color for breast cancer awareness, in the hopes that it would show solidarity for those impacted by breast cancer and help raise awareness of the disease.

"We thought it would be nice to wear pink on Wednesday, Oct. 30, to show our support, honor survivors, and remember those who have sadly lost their battle with this disease," Chief of Staff to the Mayor Barbara Bard said.

"Wearing pink helps show our comradery and support for all those who have received or are currently receiving treatment for breast cancer," Community Nurse Pam Franco said.

A breast cancer survivor in town shared how impactful it was for her to see the employees come together for this event.

"It makes you feel really good because it is a very private thing that you go through...so seeing other people join, that's amazing," they said. "It's just a nice feeling."

Bard is the one who pulled this event together. Bard and her family have been impacted by breast cancer, so she wanted the town to

CANCER | page 11



Library announces upcoming November adult programs

AGAWAM – There is something for everyone this month at the Agawam Library. It's shaping up to be a busy times here at the Library. Registration for adult programs opens on Nov. 1. Please visit the online calendar www.agawamlibrary.org to register, or call the Information Desk at (413) 789-1550 X4. A few reminders about holiday hours this month. The Agawam Library will be closed on Monday, November 11 in observance of Veterans' Day. In addition, the library will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 27 and remain closed for Thanksgiving Day. The library will reopen for regular weekend hours at 9 a.m. on Friday.

The drop-in Chair Yoga returns on Monday at 9:30 a.m. in the Clini Community Room.

Donations for the Bizarre Bazaar are ongoing until Nov. 8. Please drop off gently used holiday decorations anytime the library is open. Bizarre Bazaar shopping days will be Nov. 15 from 1. to 3 p.m. and Nov. 16 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Bags will be provided. Please call Kristen Frost for more information (413) 789-1550 X8865.

Just in time for holiday shopping time, join for a fraud prevention presentation by Lisa Pandolfi from the Freedom Credit Union. Pandolfi will be here on Monday, Nov. 4 at 6:30 p.m. in the Clini Community Room. Topics covered will include current scams, how to protect yourself and what to do if you fall victim to a financial scam.

Please register for this event.

Board Games for Adults is the perfect way to unwind and enjoy an old-fashioned evening with games and snacks. Our Game Night will be held on Wednesday, Nov. 6 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Clini Community Room. This is a drop-in event.

Monday, Nov. 18, adults can pick up the supplies needed for the next Craft Take & Make. Celebrate the season by creating Thanksgiving pie bunting that looks good enough to eat. Each kit will include most of the materials needed to craft three pumpkin pie slices and three blackberry pie slices out of felt, as well as a string of rustic twine to hold them together. These kits are available to patrons ages 18 and older while supplies last; 1 kit per person, please.

Tea & Trivia returns on Tuesday, Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m. and Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 2 p.m. Join in with a team or meet new friends. The same questions for both sessions this month, so choose the preferred time and join for some fun. These programs are for patrons ages 18 and older and will be held in the Clini Community Room. Please register for this event.

The library is excited to host Music Julie on Thursday, Nov. 21 at 3 p.m. in the Clini Community Room. Join for an afternoon of strumming fun with Music Julie. Explore the joy of playing the ukulele. Learn about this accessible instrument and begin a musical journey. One instructor, 24 ukuleles

and a really good time. This program is for patrons ages 18 and older. Please register for this event.

On Thursday, Nov. 19 at 6:30 p.m., the library will welcome the Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club for a special presentation about rowing. Join for a presentation from the Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club of Springfield to learn more about this exciting and beneficial sport. Rowing engages your entire body, serving as a terrific form of exercise for novices and experts alike. Learn the basics and benefits of rowing, try out a rowing machine in person, and hear more about how to get involved with rowing classes at the PVRC. Please register for this event.

On Saturday, Nov. 23, at 2 p.m., Join Tracy Kearcher of Kearcher Cookies for a Cure for a small-group lesson on decorating cookies using royal icing. Learn the basics of making royal icing and how to use it effectively to create professional looking iced cookies for the holiday table. Class size limited and registration is required. This event will take place in the Clini Community Room.

The Library Tech Session will be offered on Tuesday, Nov. 26 at 10 a.m. in the Clini Community Room. Curious about all the digital experiences you can have just with a free library card. While we won't go in-depth with every subject, we'll take a quick look at all the resources that the Agawam Public Library and the state of Massachu-

setts have to offer our patrons. It will be helpful for attendees to know their library login information in advance. Please register for this event.

On Thursday, Nov. 7 at 7 p.m., author Stanley Milford, Jr. will discuss his book *The Paranormal Ranger*, his chilling memoir recounting his investigations into bizarre cases of the paranormal on native Navajo land.

New York Times bestselling author Javier Zamora joins us for a special conversation about his story of survival and perseverance in *Solito*. This talk will run twice—in Spanish on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 2 p.m. and in English on Thursday, Nov. 14 at 4 p.m.

A Council of Dolls author, Mona Susan Power will join us on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 7 p.m. Please note that these author talks are virtual. Please visit <https://library.org/agawamlibrary> for more details and to register.

Registration for adult programs opens on Nov. 1. Please visit the online calendar www.agawamlibrary.org to register, or call the Information Desk at (413) 789-1550 X4. A few reminders about holiday hours this month. The Agawam Library will be closed on Monday, November 11 in observance of Veterans' Day. In addition, the library will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 27 and remain closed for Thanksgiving Day. The library will reopen for regular weekend hours at 9 a.m. on Friday.

Food Fest West set for 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, Shoemaker Ln.

For more information and tickets visit westoftheriverchamber.com

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 some-

thing 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.

Crafters needed for upcoming sale

AGAWAM – The Agawam Congregational Church is seeking crafters and vendors for our Christmas Holly Wreath bazaar to be held on Nov. 23 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. To register pick up an application at the church, Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. For more details call the church at (413) 786-7111 or email at office@agawamcong.com

Catholic Women's Club to hold communion breakfast Nov. 10

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 be 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.

Grinchmas Spirit returns to the Springfield Museums Saturday

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Museums is thrilled to present the return of Grinchmas, the most wonderful, awful way to celebrate the holiday season! Beginning with the opening of the Grinch's Grotto on Saturday, Nov. 9, hearts will grow three sizes during annual festivities that honor Springfield native Theodor Seuss Geisel, aka Dr. Seuss, the author who revolutionized learning how to read by making it fun.

"Grinchmas is a one-of-a-kind experience that features photo ops in the laugh-filled Grinch's Grotto, a look at the Grinch Cadillac owned by none other than Ted Geisel (AKA) Dr. Seuss himself and activities galore," says Kay Simpson, President and CEO of the Springfield Museums. "You won't want to miss it!"

Exclusive to the Museums, the Grinch's

Grotto is the lovable curmudgeon's home on Mount Crumpit—the perfect spot for holiday photos. This year, the Grotto features an interactive Who-ville Snack Shack and a towering ice sculpture station that are sure to amuse visitors of all ages. Check the Museums' online calendar to see when the Grinch himself will be there.

The Museums are also accepting entries in its annual gingerbread exhibition—a visitor favorite for more than a decade—through Monday, Nov. 11. Bakeries, schools, organizations, individuals, and families are invited to submit plans supporting this year's theme: Gingerbread in Toyland. The exhibit will be on view from Nov. 29 to Dec. 31, with all the gingerbread creations displayed in a large exhibit hall filled with classic toys, books, and festive decorations.



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

HOLIDAY TURKEYS
PASTURE-RAISED
IN LUDLOW
prices, weights, and
pickup schedule on
LibertyTurkeys.com
cash only
Call 413-426-6636
to reserve

HAND FED, PASTURE RAISED
On a Ludlow farm, turkeys run freely, hand fed on healthful grains and extra vegetables. Minimally processed, they have more meat, less water, and extra taste found only in tradition. No antibiotics, animal by-products, hormones, or additives are used.
— Jeanette & Paul Johnson
Liberty Family Farms



Artists answer call for HCC exhibit

HOLYOKE – Artists from as far away as Florida and Ukraine answered the call for submissions for the latest exhibition at the Taber Art Gallery at Holyoke Community College, "Thrive: Beyond Surviving."

The show, which opened on Oct. 31, and runs through Dec. 20, is a collaboration between the Taber Art Gallery and the Thrive Center, which operates the college's food pantry and provides other student support services focused on basic needs. The show includes about 60 submissions from artists in the Pioneer Valley, across the United States, and around the world.

Gallery director Rachel Rushing said the theme sprang from conversations she had with Ben Ostiguy, the Thrive Center special programs director.

"Thrive supports HCC students struggling to meet basic needs by focusing primarily on three areas: housing, hunger, and

healthcare," said Rushing. "One of the Taber gallery's values is collaboration. Working with Thrive is a great way to amplify their program while featuring work from artists who have concerns in these same areas."

Through an open call for submissions, artists were encouraged to enter work that considers the systemic, communal, or individual obstacles and barriers to survival, what surviving means, how we as humans can continue to dream, push, and hope for more than the minimum, and the struggle of exhaustion versus the ability to rest.

"I was impressed by the diversity of media," said Ostiguy. "Some of the pieces were surprising to me. One is a card catalog, with video inside the drawers. There's some traditional painting, and a lot of photography. The whole idea of Thrive, and overcoming

Christmas bazaar to be held Nov. 23

AGAWAM – The St. John the Evangelist Parish annual Christmas bazaar will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will take place in the parish center, directly behind the church at 833 Main St.

For sale will be Christmas treasures, baked goods, assorted candy, hand-made knitted goods, jewelry, books and media. Try your luck on the gift basket and gift card items. Santa will be visiting from 9 to 11 a.m. Food will be available at the snack bar. Proceeds from this event will go to the upgrading of furniture in the parish hall. Admission and parking are free, and the hall is handicap accessible. Come, bring a friend or two and help to support a worthy cause.

Breakfast fundraiser

AGAWAM – Agawam Scouting Troop 82 will be having a Pancake breakfast fundraiser on Sunday, Nov. 10, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. at the Lion's Club on the Big E fairgrounds. Cost is \$8 per person and there is free parking. There will also be a raffle table with lots of great prizes. Funds raised will be used for troop activities, training, and gear.



Senior center announce upcoming 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.

The 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.

Educational program on Alzheimer's and Dementia

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.

Salute to Veterans concert set to feature inspirational performers

WEST SPRINGFIELD – On Sunday, Nov. 10, A special Salute To Veterans Concert will be held at 3 p.m. at Red Oak Church in West Springfield.

The concert will feature songs of Americana and Inspiration performed by TV's The Voice Michelle Brooks-Thompson and her full band, including back-up singers. The performance will include special guest Ryan Bradley, accomplished guitarist, vocalist, and pastor of Red Oak Church performing "God Bless The USA".

The concert, initiated and coordinated by West Springfield resident Roberta Page, will have proceeds support one of the free, monthly Veterans' luncheons in West Springfield as well as hurricane Helene efforts in North Carolina through Samaritan's Purse.

"So many Veterans, still, experience challenges and difficulties," Page said. This

will be a good opportunity to remember all of them, past and present, she continued. Reservations are \$20 by contacting 413-279-4567, PageOneProductions@att.net or PageOneConcerts@gmail.com.

The church is located at 337 Piper Road. Reservations, also, may be taken at the door which will open at 2:30 p.m.

"Westover Air Reserve Base (the 439th Air Lift Wing) and Barnes Air National Guard Base (104th Fighter Wing) have been invited to participate," Page revealed.

Veterans Day Ceremony

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 laying a wreath at the Vietnam veterans' Memorial Bridge (strathmore Bridge) at 7 a.m. All are welcome to attend.



Smart meters coming next year

SPRINGFIELD – As part of Eversource's continued investment in modernizing the power grid to enhance electric reliability and improve service for customers, the energy company will begin transitioning homes and business across the commonwealth to smart meters in 2025. Smart meters offer several new capabilities that will provide customers with detailed information about their energy use and enable Eversource to proactively address issues on the electric system before power outages occur. The new technology will also deliver automatic, real-time information to Eversource that will eliminate the need for customers to report an outage and help speed power restoration outside major storms.

"Upgrading to smart meters is like replacing an old flip phone with a smart phone," said Eversource Senior Vice President of Customer Operations, Digital Strategy and Chief Customer Officer Jared Lawrence. "In addition to providing our team with information that we can use to reduce the length of power outages for our customers, smart meters will enable our customers to monitor their energy use in near real

time-including how they use power, how much they use and peak times of use during the day-empowering them to take steps to reduce their energy consumption and bill."

Eversource will begin replacing all electric meters with smart meters in the second half of 2025 starting in western Massachusetts. A smart meter is a digital electric meter with wireless communication capabilities. Network devices receive data from the smart meters and transmit it to Eversource's systems, allowing the energy company to communicate with the equipment. This modern, smart tech will provide customers with enhanced, real-time power outage alerts and enable Eversource to start or end a customers' service remotely, eliminating the time they wait for a crew to come out.

The transition to smart meters for all Eversource's Massachusetts electric customers is expected to take approximately three years to complete. Customers will be notified several times in advance of work to install their new smart meter. Learn more about Eversource's transition to the modern power grid of the future.

St. Joseph's Church to hold community chicken dinner

WESTFIELD – St. Joseph's National Catholic Church at 73 Main St. is hosting a Community dinner on Sunday, Nov. 17 at noon. This community dinner will feature succulent baked stuffed chicken breast with gravy, butternut squash, green peas, and cranberry sauce. Dessert served will be homemade pumpkin pie. Local Apple Cider, Coffee and Bottled Water will also be served.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Everyone is wel-

come. To purchase tickets and reserve a place, text or telephone Cliff at (413) 977-2007 and if leaving a message, provide a name and telephone number. Deadline for purchasing tickets is Nov. 13. A limited number of Take-Out Meals-To-Go will be available for pick-up at 12:30 p.m. When ordering tickets, please indicate if dinner is To-Go.

All community members are welcome. Please join for a wonderful and delicious Sunday dinner.

SECURITY ■ from page 4

struggle, there's a certain vocabulary that we use. But when you bridge that up with the visual arts, it can be nonverbal and interpreted in many ways."

For example, Zac Benson, an artist from Anderson, South Carolina, sent in a life preserver made with fabric salvaged from pews of an old church that was being renovated as a safe haven for the

town.

"The life jacket, the life preserver, I won't say it's a universal item, but it's pretty commonly understood across cultures," said Ostiguy.

The Taber Art Gallery, located off the lobby of the HCC Library on the second floor of the HCC Donahue Building, is free and open to the public Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. during regular school sessions.

Enrollment now open for Mass. Home Energy Assistance Program

Eligible Massachusetts households can now apply for financial assistance

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

they can keep their homes safe and warm during the colder months.

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

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

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

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

Opinion

Guest Column



Why does the government raid Social Security?

Dear Rusty

The Social Security program is funded by employees and their employers.

The federal government does not contribute to the program, right? So why does the federal government feel they have the right to raid the fund? All the money sent to Ukraine and other unnecessary programs could have been used to pay back what they owe to Social Security.

Signed: Disgruntled Senior

Dear Disgruntled Senior

You are correct that the Social Security program is mainly funded by payroll taxes on employee earnings and by employers, who match those employee contributions.

FYI, some additional SS revenue is received from income tax on Social Security benefits, as well as from interest on the special issue government bonds held in the Social Security Trust Fund. But the assertion that the Federal Government used (raided) the Social Security Trust Fund for any other purpose is a myth.

All Social Security revenue received since the program began in 1937 has been accounted for and all excess funds are contained in a special Trust Fund in the form of interest-bearing government bonds, reserved to pay future benefits. FYI, the interest on those bonds contributed about \$67 billion to the Trust Fund reserves in 2023. Social Security revenue, today, is not adequate to pay all benefit obligations and the extra money needed to pay full SS benefits for everyone is obtained by redeeming Trust Fund reserves. Redemption of those Trust Fund bonds is how the federal government "pays back" the cash loaned to it by Social Security.

The excess SS money received from contributions was loaned to the Federal Treasury by the SS Trust Funds, interest-bearing bonds were issued by the government in return for the cash received and the bonds issued are redeemable as needed by Social Security to pay benefits. FYI, the average interest on the 2023 bonds in the Trust Funds was about 4.125%, whereas the average rate of return on all bonds held in reserve was about 2.387%. This transaction is the same as for any other investment vehicle except the bonds in the Trust Funds are redeemable at any time without penalty. Said another way, all excess money ever received by Social Security is/was invested in special-issue government bonds and resides in reserve to pay future benefits, as needed.

"Paying back" the money represented by bonds held in the Trust Funds would not be a wise financial move because it would eliminate all future interest

SECURITY | page 5



©DAVEGRANLUND.COM

Guest Column

Tulips and daffodils on vacation, oh my!



My spring flowering bulbs have traveled quite a distance to make it to me, and what a debacle in the process.

Usually, my order, placed in late July comes effortlessly around mid October. The east coast port strike may have only lasted three days, but it sent my bulbs that had come from the Netherlands first to New York, then to Mobile, Alabama, then to the Bahamas and finally, a week ago, to New Jersey, where they will be sent to me, hopefully.

I say this because it is time to get the tulips and daffodils I ordered in the ground, so they can do their thing before the calendar finally decides it is November and not September.

We learned how to plant garlic last week, and we plant spring bulbs each fall nearly the same way. Read on for a refresher course, and if you haven't gotten your bulbs in yet, there is no time like the present!

Let's consider these main points:

Timing: We do our best to plant our bulbs in early fall, so that they can take advantage of optimal temperatures for rooting. Strong roots will keep the bulbs in place, well-anchored during the freeze/thaw cycles of winter.

Location: Most bulbs thrive in full sun, in fertile, well-drained soil. It is important to avoid "wet feet" at all costs when planting bulbs. This means you should steer clear of low areas in your yard, or those that tend to pool water, such as under downspouts or roof overhangs.

Fertilization: I like to use a well-balanced granular organic fertilizer for my bulbs, mixing it into the soil at planting at the rate recommended on the bag. Bone meal was always the fertilizer of choice for bulbs, but this is no longer so.

It has been shown that in addition to phosphorus and potassium, bulbs require small amounts of nitrogen and trace minerals for optimal growth. These days advanced methods of cleaning bones by steaming have all but eliminated the nitrogen and trace minerals from bone meal.

In the spring, another fertilizer application can be made, and if you have an option, choose one with a higher nitrogen to support strong leaf growth. Daffodils are less dependent on fertilizer than tulips and hyacinth- the size of these flowers will diminish over time.

Spacing: Most folks will agree that drifts or clusters of bulbs are more stunning than one or two sprinkled here and there about the garden. Spring bulbs can come in all sizes, so the general rule is to plant them two times the width of the bulb apart from one another. For example, if the bulb is three inches wide, plant it six inches apart from its neighbor.

Depth: The same rule applies for depth. Two times the height of the bulb is the ideal planting depth; you can even go a tad deeper.

This is especially true if you are hoping your tulip bulbs will return year after year. If your garden soil has been loosened up, planting lots of bulbs is easy.

I have described the fast, "jab and grab" method before, but here it is in a nutshell: Holding your trowel facing in, jab it into the soil and pull forward. If you have not achieved the desired depth, repeat the motion.

Grab the bulb and drop it into the hole, pushing the soil back over as you do so.

Care during bloom time: I always deadhead the spent flowers on my bulbs. The theory behind deadheading is that you remove the flower as it withers, before the plant wastes energy forming a seed.

That way energy is redirected to the bulb, and to forming next year's flowers. In college we were taught to do it, for the above rationale as well as to keep the plant looking tidy.

Most folks simply remove the entire stem at ground level. One part about this process always bothered me though, why don't we just pop off the

GARDEN | page 5



PHONE

413.283.8393
Fax: 413.283.7107
Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

EMAIL

Advertising Sales
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

Editor

Gregory Scibelli
aan@turley.com

Subscriptions

www.turley.com

\$35 per year pre-paid
(\$40 out of state)
Newsstand \$1.00

WEB

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

@AgawamAdvertiserNews

The Agawam Advertiser News is published by Turley Publications, Inc. • www.turley.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and length. The deadline is Monday at noon. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, care of Turley Publications Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, or e-mail aan@turley.com.

AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS TEAM



EDITOR/SPORTS
Greg Scibelli
aan@turley.com
sports@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

The Agawam Advertiser News (USPS 001-170) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.



@AgawamAdvertiserNews

WEB

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager



www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

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 fundraisers.

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

Hurricane Helene in the Southern Appalachians

By Julie Midura
Guest Columnist

After months of anticipation and weeks of planning, we were finally on our way to western North Carolina to begin our 200-mile backpacking trip on the Appalachian Trail. Our backcountry permits were safely stashed in our backpacks for the first 70 miles of trail that weave through the Great Smoky Mountains, and the resupply packages we had mailed to several trail towns would be waiting for us in some of the hostels and outfitters as we made our way north.

After the 800 mile drive from our home in MA, we dropped our car off at Mountain Harbour Hostel in Roan Mountain, TN, where my sister met us so that she could shuttle us to Fontana Dam in North Carolina- the starting point of our 17-day backpacking trip. Our SUV would be waiting for us at the hostel.

At least, that was the plan. But on Thursday evening, Sept. 26, just a few hours after arriving in TN, we received an urgent email from Great Smoky Mountain headquarters imploring us to postpone our hike. The hurricane that barreled into Florida was continuing inland without breaking stride... and was heading straight for the Southern Appalachians. Tom and I would be hiking right smack in the middle of it.

We considered delaying the start of our hike to Sunday, but the Appalachian Trail Conservancy soon issued a statement that the trail should be considered closed to hiking from the southern terminus in Georgia all the way to Rockfish Gap, Virginia. 860 miles of trail. This closure was unprecedented.

The unrelenting rain that fell- upwards of 30 inches in some areas- was creating perilous conditions in the mountains. Landslides were imminent and trees were falling like toothpicks. As the mountains became overrun with moisture, historic amounts of water rushed down the creeks and into the rivers, which resulted in the highest river levels ever observed across the region.

The monumental force of the flood wa-

ters widened the rivers beyond what the riverbanks could contain, rerouting the water directly into the towns. The angry water carved a path deeply into the earth and swallowed everything in its path, including trees, cars, homes and highways. Tractor trailers were picked up by the catastrophic flooding and crushed like matchbox cars. Highways were washed away, concrete bridges collapsed and entire towns were underwater. Hundreds of lives were lost. What remained were towns, homes and businesses buried in mud and looking more like war zones. The magnitude of the storm has made Hurricane Helene one of the most impactful weather events the Appalachians has ever seen.

Thankfully, Tom and I were taken in by family members who live in Gatlinburg, TN, which was spared significant damage. While there, we learned that all roads into Roan Mountain- where we had left our SUV- were inaccessible. Power and cell service were nonexistent. We looked on the hostel's Facebook page to see if there were any updates on how they had fared, and were shocked to see a video taken by the owners during the height of the storm. The entire property we had dropped our car off just three days prior had become unrecognizable. What was once a gravel parking lot was now a raging river. We watched the video as our SUV was inundated by the flood waters.

But we are the lucky ones. Had we already been on the trail when the storm hit, it could have easily been our lives we lost and not simply our car.

A few days later, we rented a car and began the long drive home, feeling heartbroken. Our heartbreak had nothing to do with our flooded SUV. Little to do with the lost backpacking trip that we had been looking forward to for so long. Rather, it had everything to do with the devastation we witnessed and the people who had lost homes, livelihoods and loved ones.

We arrived back home two weeks earlier than we planned to, and went through the motions of unpacking, doing laundry and going through the mail, all while feeling as though we were in a fog. Tom

shared that it felt strange to be back home so soon. Like we weren't supposed to be there.

Both of us were experiencing the kind of sadness that creeps into your bones and settles there.

So we took a day to regroup, then crammed our overnight backpacks and hiking gear into our tiny 2010 Honda Fit with 200,000 miles on the odometer, and headed to the White Mountains of NH. We prayed that our beat up old car would make it through the rough and rutted dirt roads that lead to some of the trailheads.

When we reached the trailhead at 5 p.m., we threw our heavy packs over our shoulders and headed into the woods to find a place to set up our tent for the night. It was our hope that spending a few days away from it all would allow us to process the devastation we saw in Tennessee and North Carolina.

We spent the next few days walking the trails, climbing the mountains and inhaling serenity in the wild places of New Hampshire. As we gazed out at the vast Pemigewasset Wilderness from a rock ledge on Zeacliff while waiting for the sun to set, it truly felt like a balm for our souls.

See you in the wild places, my friends!



Our advertisers make this publication possible. Let them know you saw their ad in the Country Journal

Liberty
GIANT TOM TURKEYS
30-40+ LBS IN SIZE
for the extended family
ORDER NOW
413-426-6636

SECURITY ■ from page 4

earned by those bonds again, that interest was about \$67 billion in 2023). Federal money spent for other purposes e.g., Ukraine is from the general U.S. Treasury and not from the Social Security Trust Fund, which is held totally separate from the U.S. Treasury. Since inception, all money ever contributed to Social Security has been and is used for one purpose and one purpose only to pay Social Security benefits to those eligible, which, by the way, does not include "illegal aliens" or anyone else who is not a legal resident of the United States.

For clarity, Social Security does have a future financial issue because annual benefit obligations are now greater than annual Social Security revenue and money from the SS Trust Fund is now used to make up the difference. Unless the program is reformed soon, the Trust Fund reserves about \$2.8 trillion as of 2023 will be depleted and benefits for all Social Security recipients

will be cut by about 23% starting in 2033 or 2034 according to the Trustees of Social Security and the Congressional Budget Office.

Congress needs to act soon to enact Social Security reform to restore the program to fiscal solvency. The Association of Mature American Citizens is steadfastly lobbying Congress to enact the needed Social Security reform as soon as possible.

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

GARDEN ■ from page 4

spent flower parts and leave the stem - it is very leaf-like in appearance and will do a fair job of photosynthesizing and adding to the plant's energy reserves.

Care during post bloom: Unfortunately, foliage should remain in place until it is completely yellow and withered. It seems to take a long time to get to that point, especially for daffodils, and we can get impatient in the process.

There is good reason for leaving it there - it is making energy for flowers next year. The best way around the inevitable ugliness is to camouflage them with other plants.

Try interplanting daffodil bulbs such

as alongside daylilies or other leafy plants. Once the foliage yellows it is safe to remove it - a gentle tug is all that is necessary to release the leaves.

I will certainly have my hands full when the shipment of bulbs arrives, but the beautiful gardens around Old Sturbridge Village come springtime will be well-worth the effort!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10											
11				12						13										
14								15					16	17						
	18									19								20		
				21		22						23								
					24		25	26	27			28								
				29			30				31			32						
36	37	38		39			40			41										
42			43		44			45												
46								47		48										
49				50	51					52		53	54	55						
	56						57		58										59	
				60					61											
															62					
																				63

- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Absence of effort
 - 5. Preserve a dead body
 - 11. Gratitude
 - 14. The act of coming together again
 - 15. Simpler
 - 18. Visionaries
 - 19. Large, fish-eating bird
 - 21. Indicates near
 - 23. Former CIA agent and critic
 - 24. Icelandic poems
 - 28. Pop
 - 29. "Hammer" is one
 - 30. Senses of self-importance
 - 32. Thyrotrophic hormone
 - 33. Not around
 - 35. Electronic data processing
 - 36. Licenses and passports are two types
 - 39. Snakelike fish
 - 41. Air Force
 - 42. Popular computers
 - 44. Of a withered nature
 - 46. Wings
 - 47. Used in combination
 - 49. Laid back
 - 52. Jeweled headdress
 - 56. In slow tempo
 - 58. ___ Falls
 - 60. Assertions made again
 - 62. Periods of history
 - 63. Hyphen
 - 4. Sea eagle
 - 5. A type of subdivision
 - 6. Variety of Chinese
 - 7. Mr. T's name on "The A-Team"
 - 8. Consumed
 - 9. Chinese dynasty
 - 10. NFL great Randy
 - 12. Ireland
 - 13. Palm trees with creeping roots
 - 16. Fungal disease
 - 17. Impressionable persons
 - 20. Affirmative! (slang)
 - 22. Instinctive part of the mind
 - 25. "The First State"
 - 26. A way to develop
 - 27. Fraternities
 - 29. Woman (French)
 - 31. Sunscreen rating
 - 34. Beer
 - 36. Spiritual leader
 - 37. Indigo bush
 - 38. Burn with a hot liquid
 - 40. Junior's father
 - 43. Ray-finned fishes
 - 45. Morning
 - 48. Line passing side to side through the center (abbr.)
 - 50. Double curve
 - 51. A small bundle of straw or hay
 - 53. Got older
 - 54. Crater on Mars
 - 55. Humanities
 - 57. Relating to the ears
 - 58. "To the ___ degree..."
 - 59. Residue of a burned product
 - 61. It cools a home



Mom Leah McIntire and daughter Noella Marsh who brought many boxes and jars of sauce for the church's Loaves & Fishes.



Detective Michael Gonet, his dog Kennedy, and Officer Andy Gentile.



Agawam residents Andre and Lurdelis Brown with their children one-year-old Amari and daughter Ailan.



Ray Pond, Laura Garvey of Agawam with her grandson Tony Allegrosso.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Trunk or treat a success

AGAWAM – Over 300 children enjoyed the exciting, colorful Sunday, Oct. 27, Trunk or Treat event at Agawam Congregational Church.

Det. Michael Gonet, with his dog Kennedy, and Officer Andy Gentile from the Agawam Police Department handed out candy from the back of a cruiser, and Ray Pond, a 43-year, retired Agawam Fire Department firefighter handed out candy from his personally-owned 1987 Maxim Pumper engine.

The church asked participants to bring boxes of macaroni and jars of sauce for the Loaves and Fishes mission the church pre-

pares to feed the homeless.

“It was an overwhelming response with macaroni and sauce. Enough to keep us helping folks for a while,” said Donna Decoteau, coordinator of the full event. Leah McIntire and her daughter Noella Marsh of Agawam were most generous with many boxes of pasta and numerous jars of sauce.

Children, parents, and grandparents had 15 trunks and a haunted bus with each giving out candy, fresh popcorn, or lemonade.

It was a safe and fun, Trunk or Treat with folks asking about next year’s event.

Go Ductless!

Let us design a system that works for your environment.



Looking for an AC solution for your home or office? Turn to the experts

Carrier

AC Tune-Ups & New Installations

STATE LINE PROPANE • OIL SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATIONS

OIL • HVAC 413-998-0090

PROANE 413-998-0080

StateLinePropaneOil.com 500•514 Salmon Brook St. Granby, CT

Lic. St: 303179 • P1: 204150 • HOD: 737 • 478



Liberty

HOLIDAY TURKEYS

TAKING ORDERS through Nov 26 fresh, local taste

413-426-6636



NE WASTE INC.

ALL SIZE TEMPORARY CONTAINERS BULK PICK UP OR COMPLETE CLEAN-OUT DEMOLITION SERVICE AVAILABLE

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”

CHECK OUT ALL THE

Turley Publications

www.turley.com



think OUTSIDE of the **BIG BOX**

SUPPORT COMMUNITY BUSINESSES

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.

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET! **INFLATION PRICE BUSTERS** **PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!**

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN RIB END or LOIN END PORKLOIN ROAST.....	\$2.44 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF RIB EYE WHOLE or HALF	\$8.99 lb CUT FREE	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP ROUND ROAST or STEAKS.....	\$4.99 lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK SHOULDER PICNIC.....	\$1.39 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF SHORT RIBS	\$7.77 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN WHOLE TURKEYS.....	\$1.29 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH GROUND PORK.....	\$2.79 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF	\$3.79 lb 7 LB BAG	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN WINGS WHOLE 10 LB BAG	\$2.22 lb
SLICED IN OUR DELI HORMEL SMOKED HAM.....	\$3.99 lb	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN RAW SHRIMP EASY PEELLED 31/40	\$8.88 ea 2 LB BAG.....	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHOCOLATE SILK PIE 23 OZ.....	\$5.99 ea
SLICED IN OUR DELI MONTEREY JACK CHEESE.....	\$4.99 lb				

TAILGATE TIME!

USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS KOREAN BBQ MARINATED PORK BUTT STRIPS..... **\$3.35** lb

USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS ITALIAN SAUSAGE..... **\$2.79** lb

90 Meat Outlet 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE We reserve the right to limit quantities.



CENTER STREET AUTO PARTS OF CHICOPEE, INC.

We will pay you top dollar for your car AND we will pick it up! Call us for a price!

- Top-Of-The-Line Auto Salvaging Services
- First-Rate Used Auto Parts
- Top-Grade Auto Body Parts
- Sell Your Old or Used Car to Us

“Serving all of Western Mass.”

\$\$\$ Money on the Spot for All Vehicles

centerstreetautoparts.com

651 Center St., Chicopee **413-733-2778**

 @turleysports

www.turleysports.com

 facebook.com/turleysports

SPORTS



Katelyn Cleavall sends a pass up the middle.



Gabriella Ramos heads a ball forward.



Laura Parolo heads down the left sideline.

Tie gets Agawam into states

AGAWAM – A 1-1 tie with Chicopee Comprehensive last Wednesday afternoon helped get the Brownies girls soccer team the .500 record it needed to get into the Division 2 State Tournament. Morgan Kriebel scored the lone goal for Agawam in the draw. Christian Ritter made four saves in the matchup and Agawam finished the season 8-8-2.

The Brownies drew the No. 34 seed and a local preliminary round matchup at Ludlow, which was scheduled for Monday evening.



Morgan Kriebel goes after a loose ball.
TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

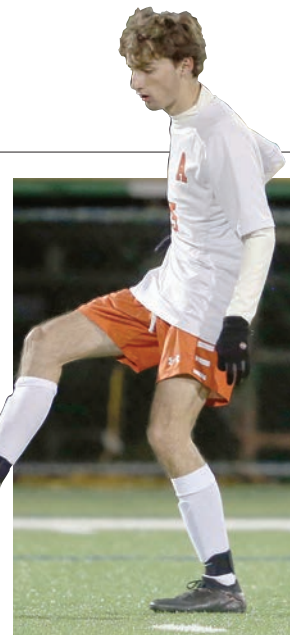


Kylie Warner, after taking possession of the ball, heads up the middle of the field.

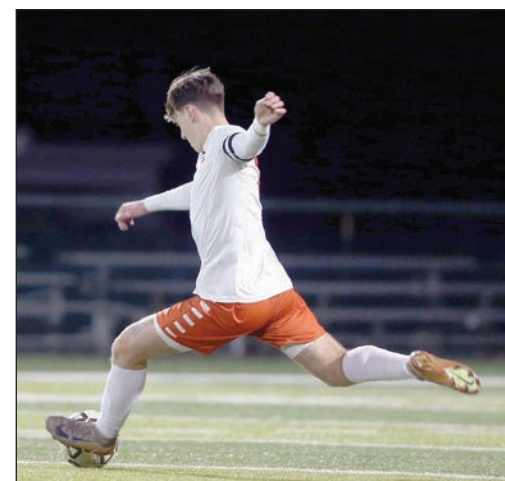
Falcons edge out Brownies to advance

WILBRAHAM – Last Sunday evening, Agawam opened up Western Mass. Class A Tournament action against Minnechaug. The Falcons would defeat Agawam 3-2 to advance to the semifinals of the tournament. Eric Nazarets and Lucas Ritson scored for Agawam while Kyle Atkin and Bryce Barlow had goals

for the Falcons. Minnechaug would go on to lose in the semifinals to eventual Class A champion West Springfield. Agawam tied Central in a non-playoff game. Both teams headed for the state tournament earlier this week.



Joseph Culhane sends a pass away.



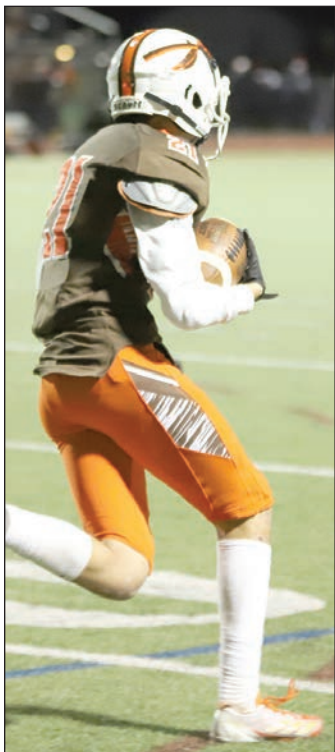
Lucas Ritson goes after the loose ball.



Gavin Shlosser navigates through the middle of the field.



Eric Nazarets goes for the header.
TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY



Dominick Andruss heads up the right
TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



The Agawam defense goes after the opposition.



Caleb Phillips heads around a crowded line of scrimmage.



Domenic Pisano gets the snap.



Joe Duffy scrambles with the ball for the Brownies.

AHS football holds off Amherst

AGAWAM – Thanks to an interception and some good early offense, the Brownies got out to a big lead. But Amherst did not take it lying down, nearly coming all the way back before Agawam closed out a close 42-40 win at home. Agawam finished the regular season with a 4-4 record. The Brownies did not make tournament, and instead will in nonplayoff action the next two weeks.

The Brownies drew Longmeadow on the road as a Week 9 opponent.

Sports

Thunderbirds fall to Phantoms at home

SPRINGFIELD - The Springfield Thunderbirds (3-7-0-0) and the Lehigh Valley Phantoms (3-3-1-1) combined for 88 penalty minutes on Saturday night inside the MassMutual Center. After the dust settled, the Phantoms came away with a 5-2 victory.

Before the opening draw even happened, there were indications of fireworks as Springfield bruiser Sam Bitten and Lehigh Valley captain Garrett Wilson exchanged pleasantries, leading both players to be separated by the officials. Still, the two enforcers' inevitable showdown occurred just 21 seconds into gameplay, as the two combatants traded fists in the neutral zone and elevated the noise level of both the benches and the crowd.

Two subsequent scraps followed the Bitten/Wilson tangle as Hunter Skinner squared off with rookie Hunter McDonald, and Marcus Sylvegard got his chance to drop his gloves for his first AHL fight

against J.R. Avon. All three concurrent sets of fighting majors happened in the first 7:49 of the period.

All the while, both teams had numerous chances to crack a scoreless draw, but the starting goaltenders were calm in the eye of the chaos around them. Colten Ellis made 16 first-period saves in the Springfield net, while Eetu Makiniemi denied 10 Springfield offerings in the opening 20 minutes.

Both teams left power play chances on the table in the opening half of the period, but in the dying minutes, Lehigh Valley earned a 5-on-3 on two straight high-stick minors to Springfield. Jacob Gaucher finally opened the scoring with just 48 sec-



onds left in the frame, jabbing a rebound between Ellis's legs just outside the goal crease.

Gaucher added to his total just 38 seconds into the middle period. Moments after the T-Birds killed off a power play, the puck took a fortuitous kick to Gaucher's stick in the slot, and he chopped a backhand past Ellis to give the Phantoms a 2-0 advantage.

2:59 later, the Lehigh Valley power play continued its early-season surge as Samu Tuomaala wristed one through traffic on the left side and past Ellis to make it a 3-0 lead for the visitors.

Springfield's power play entered the night with just two power-play goals over its first nine games, but the man advantage found its groove late in the second as Drew

Callin cleaned up a rebound from Nikita Alexandrov in the blue paint to make it a 3-1 game with 5:04 left in the frame.

Unfortunately, the momentum did not carry into the third. Gaucher completed his hat trick just 6:33 into the final period, scooping up a centering pass after a misplay behind the Springfield net and making it 4-1.

Dalibor Dvorsky continued his torrid run with a goal in his third straight game, picking up Springfield's second power-play goal at 8:14 of the third period, cutting the lead to 4-2.

That would be as close as the T-Birds would come, and Anthony Richard capped the scoring with a breakaway goal at 12:56 to round out the scoring.

The T-Birds complete their homestand on Wednesday morning for the annual School Day Game against the Bridgeport Islanders. Puck drop is set for 10:35 a.m. for the second meeting between the rivals.

Worcester Railers take road loss to Norfolk Admirals

NORFOLK, VA - The Worcester Railers HC (3-4-0-0 6pts) fell to the Norfolk Admirals (4-2-1-0, 9pts), on Sunday afternoon by the final score of 4-2 in front of a crowd of 3,224 at the Norfolk Scope. The Railers are back on the ice next at the DCU Center taking on the Maine Mariners on Friday, November 8th at 7:05 p.m. EST.

Worcester struck first tonight with a goal from Jack Randl (1-0-1) who scored 13:31 into the first period. Norfolk was quick to tie the score when Carson Golder (1-0-1) scored for the Admirals. Making the score 1-1 to end the first period. In the second period Norfolk pushed the score to 3-1 with goals from Sean Montgomery (1-0-1) and Connor Fedorek (1-0-1). Connor Welsh (1-0-1) later in the second cut into that deficit with his power play goal making the score 3-2 heading into the third.

The Railers got the scoring started in the first tonight when Jack Randl (2nd) scored on a shorthanded breakaway 13:31 into the first period. Norfolk re-

sponded back with a goal of their own just over 30 seconds after when Carson Golder (3rd) scored to tie the game at 1-1 Norfolk outshot Worcester 11-8.

Norfolk took the lead 7:49 into the second period, when Sean Montgomery (2nd) found the back of the net on dishes from Graham Sward and Carson Mussler. His goal was followed up by Connor Fedorek (1st) who extended the Norfolk lead to 3-1 in the 11th minute of the second period. The Railers cut the Norfolk lead to one when Connor Welsh (3rd) scored a power play goal assisted by Matthew Kopperud making the score 3-2. Norfolk outshot Worcester 7-6.

It took nearly the entire 20 minutes of the third period action for either team to score. The Railers had an opportunity late in the third to tie the score on the power play but could not find the back of the net. The lone goal in the third period came on the Railers empty net scored by Brady Fleurent (3rd) at 19:52 making the final score 4-2. Norfolk outshot Worcester 9-7, and 27-21 in the game.



WSU women's cross country team win conference title

WESTFIELD - Westfield State women's cross country ran to a dominating win at the 2024 Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference Championships on Saturday at the Doyle Conservation Center in Leominster, Mass.

Westfield placed eight runners in the meet's top 10, finishing with 20 points, 42 points better than runner up Bridgewater State.

The Owls individual performances were highlighted by a runner up placing from Tealei Chandonnet (Dracut, Mass./Greater Lowell Tech) in a time of 18:56.16, and conference rookie of the year honors for Sophia Rebenciuc (Southwick, Mass./Bedford), who placed sixth overall in 19:27.51.

"Our goal was to get nine runners in the top 10, and we just missed it," said Owls head coach Marlee Berg-Haryasz, who was named the league's women's cross country coach of the year. "We got 20 points as a team, which is the 2nd best team score in MASCAC history. We set that as a goal, as we knew we came into the meet favored, so it gave us something to work for, and the

women 'packed up' and really stepped up for a memorable day. We had a bunch of times that were personal bests or very close to them."

While Bridgewater's Naomi Cass won the individual title, Westfield runners ran 2-3-4-5-6-7-8-10 among their scoring seven runners.

Julianne Kelly (Natick, Mass.) was third in 19:05, Shea Hamel (Longmeadow, Mass.) fourth in 19:20. Molly Kennedy (West Springfield, Mass.) placed fifth in 19:23, Reese Stevens (Agawam, Mass.) seventh in 19:34, and Brynn LeCours (Haverhill, Mass.) eighth in 19:39. Eliza Lee (Walpole, Mass.) placed 10th in 20:06. The top 10 runners in the race will earn all-conference honors when formally announced by the league later this week.

For the Owls, the conference title is their fourth in a row, and 26th overall in the league's 39 championship meets since the meet was first held in 1985.

Westfield will be idle next weekend before competing at the NCAA Regional meet in Connecticut on Nov. 16.



Read or subscribe to Agawam Advertiser News online: www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

Get the Facts.

Subscribe Today!

413.283.8393 • newspapers.turley.com

12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS

24 Water St., Palmer
80 Main St., Ware

Sports

HOF 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 stadium.

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).

Obituary

Rebecca I. Washburn

AGAWAM – Rebecca I. (Veroneau) Washburn, 76, of Agawam passed away on Nov. 1, 2024 at Mercy Medical Center. She was born in Springfield on June 18, 1948 and was a daughter of the late Francis and Elizabeth (Vincent) Veroneau. She graduated from Cathedral High School in 1966, STCC in 1967 as a Medical Lab Assistant and Holyoke Community College as a Medical Technician in 1992. She worked for Baystate Medical Center in their nuclear medicine, special procedures chemistry and endocrinology divisions for 27 years. She was an HIV Aids educator for the Red Cross. Becky served as the President of Agawam Chapter One Golden Age Club and was a member of the Agawam Senior Center. She is also a member of the Agawam Congregational Church. Becky will be remembered for her sense of humor, her attention to detail and wonderful smile.



Laurie Morgan and her husband Kevin of Westerly RI, and Tammy Rumpalik and her husband Shawn of Feeding Hills; her sister Cathy LaRochelle of Chicopee; and five grandchildren: Alex, Rachel, Rebecca, Christopher and Jonathan. Besides her parents, Becky was predeceased by her brother Edward Veroneau and her brother-in-law Bill LaRochelle.

Visiting hours will be on Friday, Nov. 15, 2024 from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. at Colonial Forastiere Funeral & Cremation, 985 Main Street in Agawam. Committal services will be private in the Massachusetts Veteran's Memorial Cemetery.

Memorial contributions in Becky's memory may be to the Best Buddies Agawam Chapter at the Agawam High School, 760 Cooper St., Agawam, MA 01001 or to Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001. For more information or to leave an online condolence, please visit www.forastiere.com.

She is survived by her caring husband William Washburn; her daughters,

Public Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD24P2278PM
In the matter of:
Frederick Milton Hartung, Jr.
Of: Feeding Hills, 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 Jonathan H. Hartung of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Frederick Milton Hartung, Jr.** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that **Jonathan H. Hartung** of Agawam, 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 **11/20/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written 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. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 30, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/07/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD23P1815EA
Estate of:
ROBERT L. LONGO
Date of Death:
July 11, 2023
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **MICHAEL LONGO of SOUTHWICK, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

MICHAEL LONGO of SOUTHWICK, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to insti-

tute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
11/07/2024

**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. HD24P2272EA
Estate of:
Betty Ann Manchino
Also known as:
Betty A. Manchino
Date of Death: 09/27/2024
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Gina M. Maloney of Agawam, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Gina M. Maloney of Agawam, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

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 11/27/2024. 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 you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration
WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: Octobr 29, 2024
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
11/07/2024

**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. HD24C0350CA
In the matter of:
Delilah Belle Elizabeth Nichols
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**

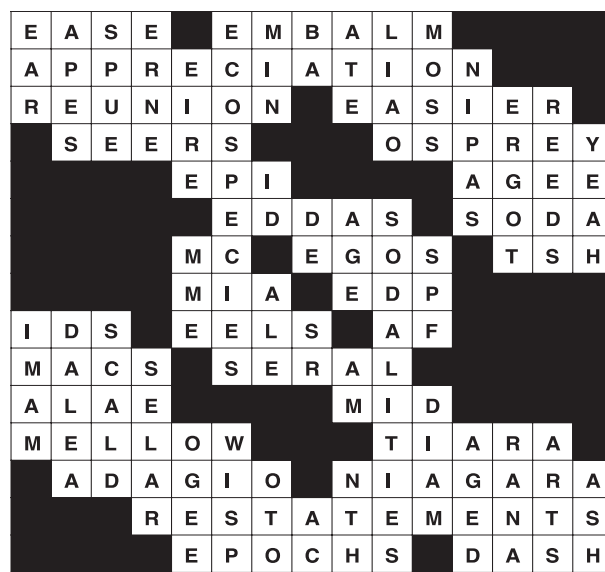
A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by **Delilah Belle Elizabeth Nichols** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:
Delilah Belle Elizabeth Calsetta
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/02/2024.**

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: November 04, 2024
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/07/2024

**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. HD24C0349CA
In the matter of:
Dominic Lee Nichols
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME**
A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by **Dominic Lee Nichols** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Dominic Emilio Calsetta
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 12/02/2024.**
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: November 04, 2024
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/07/2024



DEATH NOTICE

**WASHBURN (VERONEAU),
REBECCA I.**
Died: Nov. 1
Visiting hours: Nov. 15
Colonial Forastiere Funeral
& Cremation

Agawam Advertiser News

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

HORSE WINTER BLANKETS, size 76, new/used; riding Cap size 6-7/8, box of leather, bridles etc. Two folding saddle stands. Entertainment center, 5'x4.5'. Call **508-867-9734**.

MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. EXTRAORDINARY performance. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today **413-296-4320**.

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$200.00
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call **(508) 882-0178**.

MISCELLANEOUS

HORSE WINTER BLANKETS, size 76, new/used; riding Cap size 6-7/8, box of leather, bridles etc. Two folding saddle stands. Entertainment center, 5'x4.5'. Call **508-867-9734**.

WANTED

Buy, Sell & Trade Video Games
Retro World
413-301-5020 M-S 11-7
187 Main St.
Indian Orchard, MA

WANTED

FEMALE MODELS WANTED FOR PHOTO SHOOT. \$80 per session. Future work available. Call **413-727-9846**. Email: **bru2bru2@comcast.net**.

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.
BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy **(860) 874-8396**

SEEKING: Old Collectables. We are looking to pay cash for pipe holders, tobacco tins, advertising tins, beer trays, beer taps, beer signs, brass figures, etc. Please don't hesitate to reach out. **Teestreaures413@gmail.com**. Call or text: **413-374-7388** Marty. Located in Western Mass.

JUNK REMOVAL

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL
Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.
Fully insured.
Call Pete **413-433-0356**.

JUNK REMOVAL



2***A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*******
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868**.

JUNK REMOVAL

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

SERVICES

DRYWALL AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. **(413)563-0487**.

ELECTRICIAN

NEED AN ELECTRICIAN?
Look no further!
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

SERVICES

HEATING & AIR COND.
KELLUM HEATING & COOLING LLC. Licensed and insured HVAC Technician, 30 years experience, repairs, full and 24 hour emergency service. **413-275-4408**.

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HANDYMAN RESIDENTIAL REPAIRS. Powerwashing, home repairs, interior/exterior painting, ceiling/wall repairs and chimney repairs. Fully licensed/insured. Lic. #105950CSL. Call **413-566-5596/413-433-5073**.

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

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE

Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvite Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

****ALL SEASON**** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob **(413)537-5789 (413)538-7954**.

SERVICES

MASONRY
STOP WET BASEMENTS
ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call **(413)569-1611, (413)374-5377**.

PAINTING

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

PLUMBING

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**.

ROOFING

JENKINS ROOFING specializing in residential roofs & repairs, chimney repairs. Hampden, MA - **413-566-5596/413-433-5073**. Lic. #105950CSL. Fully insured.

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
MONDAY AT NOON

SERVICES

RUBBISH REMOVAL
BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 **(413)537-5090**

SEWING

LONGARM QUILTING. Reasonable rates, quick turn-around. 15% off quilting for seniors. Over 100 patterns. Call **508-612-5898**.

TREE WORK

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees, Free estimates, Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call **413-283-6374**.

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack **413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994**

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)478-4212**.

STUMP GRINDING

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

AUTO

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS
FREE TOWING FAST SERVICE CASH PAID AS IS
CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839

HELP WANTED

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**.

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

QVDC IS LOOKING for a part-time facilities person to attend to three properties in downtown Ware. Duties include minor repairs, scheduling necessary inspections and serving as a liaison with outside contractors. Previous maintenance experience preferred. Please visit **www.qvdc.org** for information.

Post your job openings in our classifieds.
WE GET RESULTS!

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **MONDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Better Business Bureau advice on how to avoid price gouging

People often find that the cost of high-demand items skyrockets during popular events or emergencies, such as ice storms, severe cold snaps, power outages, hurricanes, floods or other types of disasters. Better Business Bureau often receives reports about the frequency of scams involving sought-after items, such as high prices on gas, water, or hotel rooms after a natural disaster or during a popular event. Some state attorneys general offices have initiated state price-gouging laws, which automatically go into effect during a declared state of emergency to prevent businesses from over-charging customers.

Price gouging is a term referring to when a seller spikes the prices of goods,

services, or commodities to a level much higher than is considered reasonable or fair and is considered exploitative, potentially to an unethical extent. The best way to avoid price gouging is to plan ahead and have the necessary supplies you need before a disaster, if possible.

BBB warns businesses to avoid the temptation to raise prices during popular events or a situation such as a storm or a pandemic because it may be illegal to do so in certain states and because it erodes marketplace trust. People will remember which businesses took advantage of them.

Anyone who suspects price gouging during a declared state of emergency should report it to Better Business Bureau by filing a complaint, or go to BBB

Ad Truth. Consumers can report these activities to the state attorney general's office. When reporting a price gouging complaint, gather as much information as safely possible and follow these three tips:

- Be as specific about the transaction as possible, including the name and address of the business, names of any employees involved, and information detailing the spike in pricing.
- Gather documentation supporting the price gouging (receipts, photos of products and their advertised pricing, invoices, etc.)
- Compare pricing of similar products with other sellers in the area and online. It's important to note similarities and differences between brands, size/quantity, manufacturers, model numbers, and prices.

Check your state's laws. Price gouging laws vary by state. Consumers should first check their state's specific regulations to understand if an increase qualifies as price gouging. Some states may have specific thresholds for what constitutes illegal price hikes.

- Report to federal agencies. For price gouging related to essential goods during emergencies, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) or the Department of Justice may investigate. Provide the appropriate links.
- Spread awareness. Share your experiences on social media (without violating platform terms) to raise awareness.

CANCER ■ from page 1

acknowledge this awareness month.

"My mother, aunt, and cousin were diagnosed with breast cancer before they were forty years old so this has impacted my family in many ways," Bard said. "I just felt that this was a good way to join together as a family within the Town Hall and come together for a good cause."

The survivor was grateful for Bard's efforts in pulling this together.

So many people have been impacted by this disease in some way, whether it be that they had it themselves or they watched a loved one go through it.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness month. The goal of this month is to promote screening and prevention of breast cancer. The disease affects about 2.3 million women worldwide.

The disease is hard on the family of those impacted, but especially those who are fighting the disease.

"It's probably one of the roughest things that you will ever go through physically and mentally," a breast cancer survivor shared.

Doctors encourage women to get reg-

ularly screened for breast cancer at age 40, if not earlier depending on personal breast cancer risk factors.

"The importance of early detection is invaluable," Bard said.

Franco agreed on how crucial cancer awareness and early detection is.

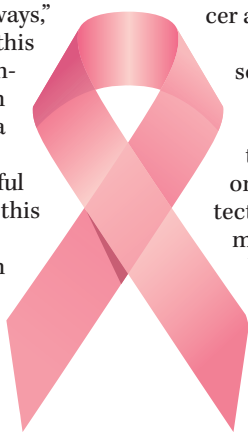
"Cancer awareness is vital as some type of cancer affects 1 in 3 people," Franco said. "Breast Cancer is the most common type of cancer in women, second only to skin cancer. Early detection is key. Getting your yearly mammogram and monthly self-breast exams are important for every woman to remember."

Many survivors of the disease agree that early detection is crucial, and was highly impactful for them in their own struggle with the disease.

"You have to be proactive with your health, especially when it comes to breast cancer," a survivor said.

All town hall employees hope that their work in wearing pink will help to remind those in Agawam to get screened as needed and to be proactive.

To learn more about breast cancer, the risk factors and how to get screened, people can go to <https://www.breastcancer.org/>. People can also go to <https://www.nationalbreastcancer.org/breast-cancer-awareness-month/> to learn more.



SISTER CITY ■ from page 1

in the area to have a sister city relationship. "Currently West Springfield is already doing this with a different city in Italy and it's been going great," Russo said.

A group of students from Italy came over to the town of Westside for a visit in spring of 2024.

This trip was a success and Russo had a chance to speak with some of the participants in it to learn more so that Agawam can take part some day.

"It's a great program," Russo said.

As the work to re-establish the relationship continues, Russo mentioned that a group from Westside is going to come and help Agawam.

"They are happy to work hand in hand with us to try to guide us in the process they use," Russo said.

With these thoughts in mind, the council voted unanimously to re-establish this relationship. This vote also established a sister city commission which will help to keep the relationship alive moving forward.

BURNING ■ from page 1

burning is prohibited within the jurisdiction of Agawam, including:

- Brush burning and debris burning
- Recreational fires, bonfires, and campfires including use of chimineas and outdoor fireplaces
- Cooking fires that do not use enclosed grills or propane appliances
- Any other form of open flame outdoors, regardless of purpose

Duration of the Ban

This temporary ban will remain in effect until further notice. The Fire Department will continually monitor conditions and will issue an official notice when the ban is lifted.

Enforcement and Penalties

Violation of this ban is subject to penalties as provided by Massachusetts General Laws and local ordinances. Enforcement actions, including fines, will be applied to those who disregard this order.

Alternatives for Cooking and Heating Residents are encouraged to use safe alternatives for outdoor cooking and heating, including:

- Enclosed propane or charcoal grills for cooking purposes only
- Electric outdoor heating appliances, where applicable, safe, and meeting applicable code.

We ask for your cooperation and compliance with this order to ensure the safety of our community. Your attention to this matter and adherence to the ban on open burning are critical to preventing fires during this period of elevated risk.

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON is hiring for the following seasonal on call Highway Department positions: **Sidewalk Machine Operator, Pickup Truck Driver** for Plowing and Sanding, and **Dump Truck Driver** for Plowing and Sanding. For more information, please visit www.huntingtonma.us, email admin@huntingtonma.us, or call **413-512-5200**. Positions are open until filled. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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 WaterandSewer@huntingtonma.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.

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 Department.

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 Huntington 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.

Find archives of this local newspaper at www.newspapers.turley.com

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 overtime.

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 **Full-time 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 reply. Send letter of interest, resume and three references with relevant contact information to:

To: **Worthington Police Department**
P.O. Box 246
Worthington, MA 01098

Or via email to: chief@worthingtonpd.org
Subject line: Employment
Responses will be accepted and reviewed until the position is filled.

The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



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.

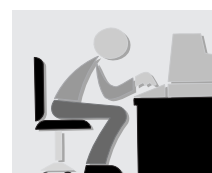
REAL ESTATE

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 informed that all dwellings advertised 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 1-800-927-9275.



Post your job openings in our classifieds section. **WE GET RESULTS!**
Call **1-413-283-8393**



Youth Associate Evan Delano, Children's Librarian Pamela Weingart and Youth Associate Isabell Malvezzi acted out scenes from the book *Eek! Halloween!* By Sandra Boynton.



Children's Librarian Pamela Weingart and Youth Associates Evan Delano and Isabell Malvezzi performed the song Delano created "There's Something in my Pumpkin".



Youth Associate Isabell Malvezzi read from the book *Little Blue Truck's Halloween* by Alice Shertle. TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA



Family members gathered in the children's area of the library to begin the Halloween Parade and Party.



Library Director Nancy Siegel handed out treats to those attending the Halloween Parade and Party.



Circulation and Technical Services Library Associate Chad Pelley dressed as Bob Ross.



PARTNERS RESTAURANT

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!

Thank You for YOUR SERVICE

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

HALLOWEEN ■ from page 1

guess what is hidden behind the flaps."

They also performed songs "The Ghosts in the House", "Creepy Crawly Spider", "There's Something in my Pumpkin" and "Five Little Pumpkins".

Delano came up with the song "There's Something in my Pumpkin" as they thought it would be a fun sing along.

During this song Delano told a story about trying to carve a pumpkin and finding different creatures inside as they did so. Weingart and Malvezzi then used little figures of the different creatures to act out them appearing by Delano from inside the pumpkin.

As they sang these different songs, the librarians invited the parade and party attendees to sing along.

Weingart also taught the gathered crowd a variety of signs in American Sign Language so they could sign along with some of the songs.

These signs included Happy Halloween, ghosts, bats, monsters, children, potions, and spiders.

Everyone in the crowd laughed and sang along with the librarians. Many attendees shared their enjoyment of the program after it was complete.

"It's just a great community builder," Malvezzi said. "This is something fun that introduces people to us...and it really just kind of brings some joy into the area."

The library was happy to be able to provide this safe and fun program for everyone to come out and enjoy.

"Halloween is kind of a tough holiday,"

Malvezzi said. "Trick-or-treating is not what it used to be...and a lot of people get nervous around the holiday because there is a lot of fear around food getting tampered with or kids being out in the dark so it's nice to offer something in a place where people feel really safe."

Malvezzi, Delano and Weingart were grateful for everyone who came out to enjoy this event with them.

They were especially grateful for the teen volunteers who offered their time to help to keep this event safe and fun for all involved.

"We couldn't have done this without the volunteers," Delano said.

The library has a variety of programs planned for the month of November. On Saturday, Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. there is a Learning in Motion program available for kids ages three to six.

This program is put on by Pathways for Parents and will help kids with their motor skills.

There is also a Cup Zipline program on Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. for children in grades three to four. During this program kids will make cup ziplines and learn about the science behind them.

On Thursday, Nov. 21 at 4 p.m. there will be a "crafternoon" for kids in kindergarten through second grade. Kids will get to make three projects to take home and one joint project that will stay at the library.

There are many more programs on top of these ones that the library has planned. To keep updated on them all, go to the library website at <https://www.agawamlibrary.org/>.