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SERVING PALMER, MONSON, BRIMFIELD, HOLLAND & WALES

The Journal Register

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MONSON

SC receives updates from PTSA, student reps, and interim super.

By Marcelo Gusmão
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MONSON – At its Nov. 13 meeting, the School Committee heard reports from the Parent Teacher Student Association, from the Student Representatives, and from the Acting Superintendent.

PTSA

Denise Newland provided an update from the PTSA.

"It has been a very busy fall for us at the PTSA, so I just wanted to share a few of the things that we've

been working on," Newland said. "First I wanted to say a huge thank you to all of the families, teachers, staff, administrators, and community members who volunteered at the Trunk-or-Treat last month, as well as the police, highway, and fire departments for working with us to put on that great community event!"

Newland reported 36 trunks participating this year, as well as 100s of kids coming through to trick-or-treat, who she said "had a wonderful time."

Newland reported that close to 60 kids turned in reading logs and earned free tickets to last weekend's

Thunderbirds game. In addition to this, families and members of the community were able to purchase tickets to the game at \$25 each, with \$4 from every ticket sale going to fund the PTSA.

Another partnership Newland announced was with the Big Y in Palmer.

"The Monson PTSA was selected as the Nonprofit of the Month in their community bag program," Newland said. "Anytime in the month of November, if you buy one of their reusable community bags at the Palmer Big Y specifically, we'll get a dollar from each one of those

purchases."

In December, the PTSA will host its annual holiday shop at the Early Childhood Center and Granite Valley School.

"Volunteers are always needed for that, so please reach out to us if you are interested or available to help," Newland said. "It's a super fun and rewarding experience to help the little ones with their shopping and to witness their thoughtful and generous nature when they're picking out gifts for their families."

Newland said that the dates are in the first week of December, from Dec. 3 through Dec. 6 at ECC, and

then the following week at Granite Valley. Newland asked that anyone interested in volunteering can email the PTSA.

Student reports

The first of the student reports was given by Julia Royce on behalf of the ECC about the Superstar of the Month certificates, and the guest readers who were invited to the school the week prior.

"Eight representatives from our community, including family members, the Town Administrator, our school resource and security officers, and a Monson Savings Bank

staff member, read to our preschool and kindergarten classes," Royce said. "We greatly appreciate all who attended, and we look forward to hosting more guest readers next month."

The next representative was Maya Bridges, who provided an update on Granite Valley School, such as its own 18 guest readers reading from the works of Peter Reynolds, and naming 12 students as Rock Stars of the Month.

"Some highlights on how these students showed 'rock' traits this

MONSON | page 5

POLICE/FIRE



The fire gets larger, prompting a brief stoppage in the football game so vehicles closest to the area could be moved as a precaution.

Fire breaks out during football game

Fire Dept. quickly quenches brush fire caused by rogue firework

By Marcelo Gusmão
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PALMER – Last weekend, the fire department responded to a fire that broke out at Legion Field as the result of a firework.

Chief William Bernat said that the department was notified at 6:09 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 15, of a fire breaking out near Legion Field.

"Initial reports were that a firework was lit, and lit the woods on fire and was spreading rapidly," Bernat said.

When the first units arrived on the scene, there was a large tree on fire with a decent sized area of

FIRE | page 8



The football game between Chicopee and Palmer resumed as public safety officials respond in the background.

POLICE/FIRE

Scouts collect clothes and food at Town Hall for America Recycles Day

By Marcelo Gusmão
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PALMER – Last Saturday, residents flocked to Town Hall to drop off donations with BSA Troop #64 and Cub Scouts Pack #164.

The Hartsprings Foundation declared Nov. 16 as America Recycles Day, and collaborated with troops in various towns across the state to organize a fundraising and donation drive event. Erin Chevalier, who acts as the Assistant Cubmaster for the pack and Advancement Chair for the troop, said that

Hartsprings will weigh the amount of donations the scouts received, and the troop will be awarded some funds per pound of clothes donated.

"They reached out to us and asked if we wanted to hold a donation drive," Chevalier said. "They're going to let us know by the end of the week how we did."

Chevalier said that the troop is expecting to get a decent amount back, as they were able to fill a truck with donations, which was then emptied and then came back to be refilled.

"It went really well, it was very successful," Chevalier said. "It was very advantageous to have it at Town Hall, which was offered to us by Town Manager Brad Broth-

ers. He reached out to us to say we could have it there."

Along with the Hartsprings Foundation fundraising drive, the troop also teamed up with the local Cub Scouts pack for their annual Scouting For Food drive.

"It was supposed to be at our charter at Second Congregational, but we moved it to make it easier," Chevalier said.

Chevalier said that the move

SCOUTS | page 8

Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão
The Cub Scouts collected for their annual food drive, (from left) Karen Champagne, Lincoln, age 11, Evan, age 8, Jonathan Kosnicki, Zach, age 11, Holly Riopel, and Jayden, age 9.

Holly Berry Bazaar



Santa and Mrs. Claus pose with sisters Chloe and Lily and mom Kristin during the Holly Berry Bazaar.

St. Paul's second annual holiday bazaar draws kids and crafters

By Marcelo Gusmão
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PALMER – This past weekend was the second annual Holly Berry Bazaar at St. Paul's Unitarian Universalist Church.

On Saturday, Nov. 16, residents from all over town were invited to the church's second annual craft and vendor fair. The bazaar involved holiday arts and crafts,

gifts, a raffle, a luncheon, a bake sale, and pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

"We had a good turnout last year, but I would say this year we have double or triple the turnout," said Reverend Steven Sousa.

The church's offices, known as the Fellowship House, were filled with local vendors and artisans with tables set up to display their wares, which included woodworking, photography, knitted clothing items, and a variety of other handmade wonders. One photographer, Dan DesPlaines, had a booth set up with pictures he had taken on his travels.

"I specialize in landscapes,"

said DesPlaines. "I just got back from Italy, I got a couple of cool prints from Lake Como, right across from the Swiss Alps."

In the offices' lower level, another vendor, Jeanette Tetreault, had a table set up to sell gloves, mittens, and other forms of winter wear.

"They're made from wool sweaters that we get at thrift stores," Tetreault explained. "They go through a felting process, and once they go through that process, I cut them apart and make mittens."

Reverend Sousa shared that

HOLLY BERRY | page 6

MONSON

Program updates on Community Development Block Grant

By Marcelo Gusmão
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MONSON – At last week's Select Board meeting, the town heard an update about the Community Development Block Grant and approved a \$4,000 gift to Wreaths Across America.

Community Development Block Grant

Joe Hagopian, one of the community development planners from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, approached the board to provide an update on the status of the Community Development Block Grant Program.

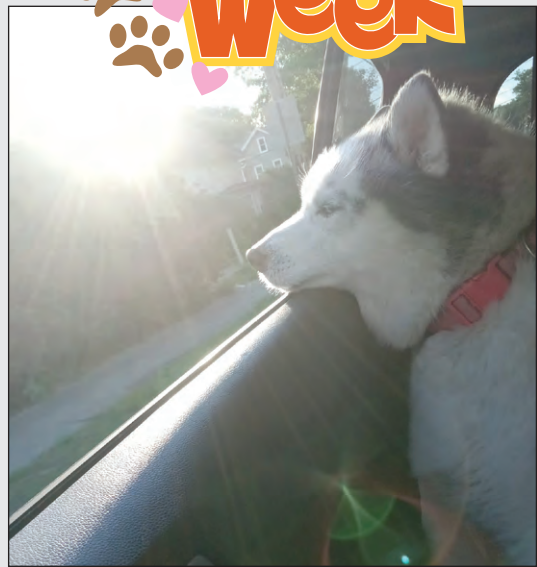
"This was a Fiscal Year 2021 awarded grant from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities's Small Cities and Town program, which is allocated to them by HUD through the annual federal budget," Hagopian said.

Hagopian identified three activities funded through this grant, including the ADA Self-Evaluation and Transition plan, the Omega Mills re-use study, and the Housing Rehabilitation Program.

"The Center for Living and Working out of Worcester was procured to conduct this (self-evaluation and transition) plan," Hagopian explained. "It was a full evaluation of all town-owned properties for ADA compliance, as well as to give

GRANT | page 5





ATHENA

This is Athena! Patricia Smith of Monson said that Athena loves going for rides. We feature your pets here. Is your fur friend a dog, cat, chicken, lizard, horse, bird, mouse... you get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to journalregister@turley.com.

Craft Fair to be held Nov. 23 and 24

BRIMFIELD—On Saturday, Nov. 23 and Sunday, Nov. 24, St. Christopher Church will hold its annual craft fair. Located at 20 Sturbridge Road (route 20) it has easy access and plenty of parking. The hours of the fair are Saturday 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Sunday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Each vendor highlights their own special talents offering the buyer an opportunity to get something unique. There is so much to choose from such as primitives, jewelry, Christmas ornaments, soaps, an array of one of a kind beautiful hand quilted, knitted & crochet items, stone and shell art, wood crafts, grapevine wreaths, shadow boxes, organic lotions and soaps, tie dye, and so much more. The fair is perfect timing for planning your gift giving shopping or to spruce up your home. Everyone is trying to stretch a dollar these days so why not do your shopping with these local crafters.

The kitchen is open throughout the day and will offer a breakfast menu and a variety of sandwiches, soups, chili, and chowder as well as homemade meat pies and turkey pot pie and desserts.

The pies can be pre-ordered to take home.

For those who like to try their luck, there are three raffles. The main raffle includes donations from local businesses and gift baskets. There is also a raffle comprised of unique gifts from crafters and a lottery tree raffle. A cookie walk held on Saturday only starting at 9 a.m. Come early as it sells out quickly. A strolling caroler will help bring the Christmas spirit.

The fair is organized by the Women of Saint Christopher's, faith, charity and service. Their work includes providing meals for families in need or after a funeral mass, visiting shut ins with cards and goodies bags, as well as a variety of other activities during the year to bring the parish community together. "As woman of faith our goal is to be a support for one another and those who need us to help us flourish in and practice our Christian faith through our work and provide programs to deepen and enrich our faith," said past president and long time member Sheila Fortier.

The craft fair raises funds to

meet parish needs. Those efforts have supported many of the maintenance projects undertaken in recent years. "Each year we dedicate a project for the proceeds. Maintenance of the church, just like a home is an ongoing project. We have begun restoration work on the stained glass windows and the proceeds from the craft fair will be earmarked to continue that process," said club president Cindy Skowyra.

"The group is an important part of our parish, and their work has a positive impact," said Father Jack Brennan. "Being pastor of two parishes can be challenging but I know that I can count on them for their support. I invite everyone to come, not just for the fair but anytime. Masses are on Saturdays at 6 p.m. and Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Our weekday masses are Monday and Wednesday at 9 a.m. Come join us"

Admission is free. For more information contact the parish at 413-245-7274 or email stchrisbrimfield@gmail.com or check it out on the church's Facebook page.



Light Up Palmer Christmas Holiday decorating contest

PALMER—Do you love the holiday season? Do you enjoy seeing the smiles on peoples faces when they see your holiday light display? Sign up for the Light Up Palmer Christmas decorating contest applications open Nov. 25 through Dec. 15. Voting and a map will be available starting Dec. 17. The winners will be announced on Dec. 24, 2024.

Prizes:

Through a Child's Eyes Winner
Overnight in the 1946 Bangor Aroostock Caboose: Experience the thrill of sleeping in a historic train caboose! Perfect for families seeking adventure and lasting memories.

Traditional/Classic Winner
\$200 Gift Certificate from Bygone Excursions: Embark on a scenic journey filled with history. This gift certificate is a ticket to incredible experiences in the area.

Best Blow Ups Winner
\$100 Visa Gift Card: Enjoy the freedom to spend as you wish! Treat yourself, buy gifts, or dine out—it's all up to you!

Business Winner
Company Outing on the 1909 Parlor Car at the Steaming Tender Restaurant: Unforgettable dining for up to 10 employees in a unique setting. Perfect for team bonding away from the office.

Griswold Christmas Winner
\$100 Gift Certificate to Filgio's Restaurant: Ideal for a romantic dinner or family night out. Indulge in delicious food and a welcoming atmosphere!

Baystate Wing Auxiliary selling Lotto calendars

PALMER—The Baystate Wing Hospital Auxiliary is currently selling their January 2025 Lotto Calendars. The one-month calendar, which costs \$5 each or 3 for \$10, has a daily winning amount of \$100 with special drawings on Jan. 1 and Jan. 31.

For over 65 years the Baystate Wing Hospital Auxiliary has been actively supporting local healthcare through its sponsorship of special events and sales from the Baystate Wing Hospital Gift Shop located on the first floor of the hospital.

The calendars will be on sale beginning Oct. 29 at the Baystate Wing Hospital gift shop. Funds raised by the annual Lotto Calendars support the Auxiliary's scholarship program and their philanthropic efforts that benefit Baystate Wing Hospital.

Whether looking for something special for a patient, a gift for a special occasion, or an item for the home, the Baystate Wing Hospital Gift Shop offers many unique, hand-selected items. For more information about the Lotto Calendar visit the gift shop located on the first floor of the hospital or call 413-370-8169.

Keep Homestead to present Santa history

MONSON—Ever wondered how Santa came to America? Plan to visit the Keep Homestead Museum, 35 Ely Road, when Lorraine German presents her program "How Santa Claus Came to Town" on Sunday, Dec. 8, at 1:30 p.m.

German is the owner of Mad River Antiques in North Granby, CT and she will share information about New Amsterdam's St. Nicholas, the marketing strategy used by members of the New York Historical Society, and finally the jolly old elf we grew up with. She will also bring Santa related antiques.

Visitors are welcome to tour the museum from 1 to 3:30 p.m. to view new Christmas button displays courtesy of the Monson Button Club and to enjoy light refreshments. Visit the gift shop where handmade note cards featuring buttons are for sale.

Join outside for hot roasted chestnuts compliments of Replanting Monson Tree Committee and students from the Tantasqua Chestnut Club.

Winter craft fair at PHS on Dec. 7

PALMER—Winter craft fair to be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 at Palmer High School, 4105 Main St., Palmer. Where creativity and holiday spirit merge. Wonderful unique and handmade treasures for a truly magical season.

For more information contact nlachance5282009@gmail.com.

Annual free Thanksgiving Dinner to be held Nov. 28

WARE – The United Church of Ware, 49 Church St., will provide a free community meal on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, Nov. 28.

This meal features a traditional turkey dinner with stuffing and all of the fixings, plus dessert. Meals will be delivered between 11:30 a.m.-noon and meals will be available for pick-up from noon-1 p.m.

Meals must be requested in advance. To request your meal for takeout or delivery, call United Church of Ware at 413-967-9981.

Volunteers are always welcome to help with the meal.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper. Let them know you saw their ad in the Journal Register

DEADLINE
The Journal Register has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition space permitting, email Editor at journalregister@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.

PALMER PUBLIC LIBRARY PRESENTS:

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN!

PALMER FOR

TOMORROW

Gathering

WHAT IS IT?

Palmer has received funding in a settlement between Massachusetts and pharmaceutical companies, placing them at blame for the current opioid crisis.

Now we must decide how to best use the money to support our community, and we want to hear from YOU!

COME JOIN US TO DISCUSS THE NEXT STEPS IN THE PROCESS AS WE TALK ABOUT:

- Creating a Community Survey
- How to Support Those With Substance Use
- Preventative Measures
- After Care

FREE FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED!

WE ARE LOOKING FOR:

- People with lived experience
- Individuals in recovery
- Family/friends of those with substance use disorder

To Join Our Group!

WHEN & WHERE

The Second Wednesday of Every Month

3:00pm-4:30pm

at The Palmer Public Library

For any questions reach out to:
(413)283-2606 or ngauthier@townofpalmer.com

*You will always be able to stay completely anonymous at Palmer for Tomorrow, we will never ask or share your name or your story.

Ladies Auxiliary Post 74 cordially invites you to our

Sip & Shop

December 5, 2024
4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Amvets
2150 Main St.
Three Rivers, MA

Sip while you shop at all the vendors. Enter the raffles and 50/50 raffles. Proceeds will be donated to:
Veterans Building Bridges luncheon and Ladies Auxiliary

Thank You for your support.

Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at journalregister@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

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The Journal Register
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.

“A Toast to the Flag”

by John J. Daly - 1917

Here's to the red of it—
There's not a thread of it,
No, nor a shred of it
In all the spread of it
From foot to head.
But heroes bled for it,
Faced steel and lead for it,
Precious blood shed for it,
Bathing it Red!

Here's to the white of it—
Thrilled by the sight of it,
Who knows the right of it,
But feels the might of it
Through day and night?
Womanhood's care for it
Made manhood dare for it,
Purity's prayer for it
Keeps it so white!

Here's to the blue of it—
Beauteous view of it,
Heavenly hue of it,
Star-spangled dew of it
Constant and true;
Diadems gleam for it,
States stand supreme for it,
Liberty's beam for it
Brightens the blue!

Here's to the whole of it—
Stars, stripes and pole of it,
Body and soul of it,
O, and the roll of it,
Sun shining through;
Hearts in accord for it,
Swear by the sword for it,
Thanking the Lord for it,
Red White and Blue!

Granite Valley honors local Veterans



Granite Valley Principal Dr. Joe Trivisonno addresses the assembly



Rep Brian Ashe and Amanda Hellyar, District Director for Sen. Fattman speak to the assembly.



6th Grade Speakers Fiona McManus and Liam Szado deliver their speeches.



Granite Valley Chorus performs for the assembly.

Submitted photos

MONSON—In what has fast become one of Monson's signature school community events, the Veteran's Day Assembly was held on Friday, Nov. 8 at Granite Valley. As in years past, the auditorium was packed with students, staff, families, and veterans. Students in the elementary school are encouraged every year to invite their veteran family members (oftentimes a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle) and introduce them from the stage, giving their family member a chance to stand and be recognized for

their service.

Student masters of ceremony, Madison Strom and Josiah Wallace, led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance. This year's ceremony featured student speakers Owen Newland, Adriana Loglisci, Fiona McManus, and Liam Szado, who all offered reflections on what Veteran's Day means to them. The Granite Valley Chorus, open to grades 4-6 and led by music teacher Megan Rapacki, sang the National Anthem and “God Bless America.”

Amanda Hellyar, District Director for Senator Fattman, recited “A Toast to the Flag,” a famous poem celebrating the colors of the Stars and Stripes written in 1917 by journalist John J. Daly. State Representative Brian Ashe offered heartfelt remarks commending the school for its efforts every year to create an event that showcases and honors the veterans of the community. Dr. Trivisonno, GV Principal, expressed his thanks to all those who make the assembly possible. He congratulated the student speakers on

their contributions, and extend his gratitude to the family members who served in the military that were able to join their students for the morning in such a special and unique capacity.

The ceremony closed with all in attendance joining together in singing Lee Greenwood's patriotic classic, “God Bless the USA,” with a standing ovation given to the veterans as they took their leave.

Millennium Magic to Perform Winter Wonderland Concert

MONSON—On December 8 at 2 p.m. the Millennium Magic Chorus, a Sweet Adelines group, will perform their Winter Wonderland Concert in the sanctuary of First Church Monson, 5 High Street. A cookies and punch reception will follow the concert in Fellowship Hall. The cost is a \$5.00 donation at the door.

Millennium Magic is a vibrant Sweet Adelines Barbershop and A cappella Chorus, composed of women from seven states and spanning four generations. This dynamic group performs a diverse repertoire and will present festive holiday and seasonal music at the

First Church concert.

With an impressive track record, Millennium Magic has qualified for the Sweet Adelines International competition eight times, proudly bringing home silver medals twice and gold medals three times. They are the undefeated champions of Region 1, Division A. Most recently, they won the divisional international championship in 2019, placed 16th in the world in 2023 and in 2024, they secured their division title and a second place finish regionally, qualifying for the 2025 international contest.

Millennium Magic is not just a chorus; it's a dynamic community

of women who thrive on connections and camaraderie. Together, they embrace growth and learning, fostering a supportive environment where everyone feels at home. Their passion for music shines through in every performance, creating unforgettable experiences that resonate deeply with their audience. It is all about joy, friendship and the magic that happens when they come together to celebrate their love for music.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Monson Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency.

support local journalism

Christmas on the Common

Sunday, Dec. 8th 2-6pm

HRYNEWICZ PARK
THREE RIVERS

Free Crafts For Kids,
Warming Stations
& Entertainment

Santa & Mrs. Claus
Arrive By Firetruck &
All Children Receive
A Special Treat!

Sponsored by Three Rivers
Chamber of Commerce

Free
Hot Chocolate &
Meme Rondeau's
Donuts

Fun for the
whole family!



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

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

COOKS 30% FASTER
than commerial birds



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IN LUDLOW

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Viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

Older Veteran asks about Special Social Security credit for military service

Dear Rusty

I served in the U S Army from January 1958 to February 1961.

What increase should I receive for those years and who do I call and at what phone number?

Signed: Proud Veteran

Dear Proud Veteran

First, thank you for your military service. I expect you are referring to the "special extra credits for military service," which are available to some who served in the US Military in earlier years. It is important to note that these "extra credits" take the form of an adjustment to your military pay record while serving and are not an incremental amount added to your monthly Social Security benefit because you served.

Military pay has been subject to deductions for Social Security since 1957. Thus, while serving between 1958 and 1961 you paid SS tax on your military earnings. But, for purposes of determining your Social Security benefit, your military earnings record would be increased by \$300 for each quarter you served on active duty, up to a maximum of \$1,200 increase per year of service.

That means for 1958 - 1960, when calculating your SS benefit, \$1,200 would be added to your military earnings record for each year you served. FYI, for those who served after 1967, this adjustment was automatically made by Social Security. But for service years prior to 1967, as in your case, you would need to inform Social Security of your service when you claimed SS and provide a copy of your military form DD-214, your discharge papers. SS would then make the appropriate adjustment to your military earnings record prior to calculating your benefit amount. And, for clarity, additional credits for military service are not available to those who served after 2001.

A key point to understand is that this adjustment to your military pay may or may not affect the amount of your Social Security benefit. Social Security determines your benefit amount based on your highest earning 35 years over your entire lifetime, adjusted for inflation.

If, after you served in the military, you had at least 35 years of civilian employment where you earned more than your military pay, it is probable that your military pay is not included when calculating your Social Security benefit. If that is the case, it is likely that the "special extra credits for military service" would have no effect on your Social Security payment. If, however, your military pay including those special extra credits for any year is more than you earned in civilian life, then you can contact Social Security (1-800-772-1213), provide them with a copy of your DD-214, and ask that they recalculate your Social Security benefit to include the extra credits for your years of military service.

Again, thank you for your service to our country, and please do not hesitate to contact us again if you have any further questions. FYI, you may also find the "For Veterans" section of our AMAC Foundation website by visiting www.amacfoundation.org.

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 ssadvisory@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Wrap it up!

I spent this past weekend trying to wrap things up. Before we know it the holidays will be upon us and there will be little time to spend in the garden.

I had, and sadly still have, areas yet to clean up, last minute bulbs to plant and statuary and tools to put into storage. One major concern is how dry it is.

Read on to learn about some chores that should be tackled before the ground freezes.

Honestly, in all my years of gardening I have never felt the need to water in spring bulbs after planting them. This year is the exception.

What about our newly planted perennials, trees and shrubs? Just to be safe, get out the hose and give them a good soaking.

If weather permits, move a slow running hose from shrub to shrub over the course of a few hours. This is especially critical for our broad leaf evergreens such as rhododendrons, azaleas, and Pieris.

Remember the damage on older rhododendrons a few winters back? Some large specimens lost a third or more of their overall size!

Much of that was caused by excessive cold and winter winds that desiccated (removed moisture from) the foliage and left it susceptible to injury. Antidesiccant sprays are available from nurseries and garden centers. These products leave a waxy layer of film over the leaf, locking in its moisture.

Did you purchase any shrubs, roses or otherwise that were so beautiful you couldn't resist, even though they were only marginally hardy in our area (zones 6 or higher)? These need special attention.

Plant some stakes into the ground just outside the drip line of the plant. Wrap the stakes with burlap and stuff it full of straw, salt marsh hay, or shredded leaves, anything that will insulate yet not pack down and cause rot.

Never use plastic; this material creates a greenhouse of fluctuating temperatures that will surely kill the plant. Climbing plants such as roses or clematis can be removed from their trellises, tied in loose bundles and wrapped in a similar fashion as above.

Many of our evergreen shrubs suffer under the weight of ice and snow. Smaller specimens can be protected by making "A-frame" tents out of plywood and placing them over the susceptible plant. Use hinges rather than nails to construct them; storage during the off-season will

be a breeze.

These types of enclosures also provide a great deal of wind protection. Paint them to blend in with the landscape.

Other articles have covered the importance of winter mulch to protect strawberries, fall mums, garlic, and spring flowering bulbs among others. Large

evergreen branches do well to cover bigger areas. I have used them successfully to weigh down other light mulches such as straw or chopped leaves for twice the protection.

Remember, this task is best accomplished after the ground freezes, with our goal being to keep it frozen, thereby avoiding thawing spells that heave plants from the ground.

During the winter voles and field mice can wreak havoc on young fruit trees by tunneling through the snow to the bark in search of food. Their gnawing will girdle the tree and if excessive enough will eventually kill it.

Remember, the layer of tissue just below the bark is the tree's "plumbing"! Protect the trunk by wrapping it with one-quarter inch hardware cloth or commercially made trunk protectors. Remove the protectors in the spring.

Unfortunately, I neglected to protect young trees one fall and that was all it took. A poor tree was gnawed almost completely around the trunk. I was surprised it had enough energy to leaf out the following spring, but less surprised to see it wither and die not a month later.

In case you were wondering, yes, my bulbs for Old Sturbridge Village did finally come in. I wish they could talk. What a story they would tell.

I think they have honestly traveled more in the last six weeks than I have in my entire life. Holland to New York to Alabama to the Bahamas to New Jersey and then to a shoe store in New York City. Yes, a shoe store.

A good Samaritan saw my name on the packing slip and called to say she received them. Regardless, I am happy they finally arrived in Sturbridge. I am hopeful that they will all be planted (and watered in) within the next couple of days!

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.

By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column

What to know about "informed consent"

The case of Henrietta Lacks became a cause célèbre when it was revealed that the doctors treating her for cancer at Johns Hopkins in Baltimore more than 70 years ago harvested some of her cervical cells without her knowledge or consent.

HeLa cells, as they were called, were continuously grown and reproduced, and they went on to become a cornerstone of modern medicine, enabling countless scientific and medical innovations, including the development of the polio vaccine, genetic mapping and even COVID-19 vaccines.

Science writer Rebecca Skloot turned Lacks' story into a best-seller, "The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks," in 2011, and it became an Emmy-nominated HBO film starring Oprah Winfrey. In 2021, Lacks' descendants filed suit against Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., of Waltham, Massachusetts, arguing that it unjustly benefited from the cell line long after its origin became well known. The biotech company and the family reached a confidential settlement in 2023.

What the doctors did in 1951 was not illegal, but it did breach the bounds of medical ethics. Today, however, informed consent is enforced by medical ethics, administrative process and the law. Although laws vary somewhat from state to state, general principles apply across the board, and if you're going to be undergoing a medical procedure, you should know what these are.

Informed consent is the basis for a trusting relationship between patient and provider while maintaining the patient's autonomy. It helps avoid misunderstandings and lapses in communication and ensures the patient knows what to expect.

Informed consent laws in Massachusetts require that patients or guardians provide written consent before certain medical procedures, research or other activities. Consent cannot be obtained through coercion and it expires one year after being signed, or when the procedure is completed.

Informed consent is required for most surgeries, blood transfusions, anesthesia, radiation, chemotherapy, biopsy, some blood tests (such as for HIV) and most vaccinations – which you know if you've filled out the forms for a flu or COVID shot.

In general, there are three elements, or pillars, of informed consent:

1. Decision capacity

You must be able to understand what the doctor is proposing, evaluate options and make an independent decision, free of coercion. Decision capacity doesn't necessarily mean that you will make a "good" or a "bad" decision, just that you are capable of understanding information and making a decision. If you are caring for a loved one with diminished cognition, it's important to have a power of attorney (POA) for health care allowing you to act on your loved one's behalf.

2. Documentation

For routine procedures such as X-rays and blood tests, consent is implied. For invasive tests, surgery or for treatments with significant risk, you should be given a written consent form and a verbal explanation in your native language. The document should include what medical condition warrants the test or procedure; what the benefits and risks are; what the consequences may be of not going ahead; and who will be performing the procedure. In a teaching hospital, an attending physician may plan to hand you off to a resident. If you don't want that to happen, be clear about your wishes.

When you sign a consent form, you are acknowledging that you received all the relevant information, that you understand it, that you used the information to decide whether you want the procedure and that you agree to all or some of the treatment options. Retain a copy for your records.

HEALTH | page 12

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Please send opinions to:
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Letter to the Editor
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Palmer MA 01069,**
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The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Journal Register 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 Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to journalregister@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 Thursday'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 the editor at 413-283-8393.

Campaign news
As part of its election coverage, the newspaper 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 Journal Register.

Thanksgiving Day Wedding

By Charles Barnes

A fasting hour by the open-doored day,
To where? Runs a rushing rill....
A reminder suddenly - of larger things;
Of a wedding down the hill.

And a mile or so away, where they are;
At the mid-region of a glen;
And, if to leave right away -
They might be waiting then.

For sixteen years I've known the bride;
Nearly as long - the groom;
Ten thousand years each has known,
The other, when the ice made room.

Rains that we have had, and now;
Warm sun, reduce further the snow,
With all amelt everywhere

Friends of the party will go.

A vermilion-red cape is drawn around,
In fullness for safety as for ceremony;
And follow tracks through green-shadowed woods,
But no others have arrived I see..

Except the bride, over rocks and stone;
And a swollen, hurtling, headlong groom;
They both had taken separate ways;
From different parts of town.

Another I wish could be in their presence;
And this place where a bridge had spanned,
The quiet waters where they met -
And notice in their midst some rounded band.

The bridge itself in a springtime bloom -
From courtship, to marriage, was crossed years

ago;
Until lately when one of them crossing went lightly
Where the other shall have occasion to go.

When ashes breathe upon the ashes;
As every moving line will end,
Except perhaps for those who live
Like these in the deepened glen.

Some can recall the wooden structure,
That went out nails and all in the flood;
But those below who raised it up,
Will last for its in their blood.

Just, as it seemed that someone
Would be celebrating at this hour,
Another Thanksgiving on this shore,
Ad in this hemlock bower...

Vintage snow can make a bitter cup,
But what better have I here,
When far away in Windham Village,
For ale, or cider or beer?

Besides, store and post office, and the church
Have ceased, — and few pastures open for wool;
And if no longer joy takes place, who
Will have the beauty of the bridal pool? -

Before turning, a fare-thee-well and fortune -
In lifted hopes to couple I say;
Perhaps a time I'll come back,
With a bride some summer day.

The pointed trees are completed by the stars;
And a long uphill hunger it has seemed;
And dinner - before off to bed
To live again where I walked and dreamed.

Monson Tree Committee and Chestnut Project to roast chestnuts and debut art work

Keep Homestead's "How Santa Claus Came to Town" Event

MONSON—The RePlanting Monson Tree Committee and the Tantasqua Chestnut Project are excited to announce their participation in the Keep Homestead's "How Santa Claus Came to Town" event. In addition to roasting chestnuts, the RePlanting Monson Tree Committee will be unveiling a captivating narrative painting commissioned by the committee through a grant from the Mass Cultural Council. The painting was created by artist and teacher Jarett Greene.

Greene's artwork is a stunning collage that tells the story of the American chestnut tree, once a dominant species in Eastern forests. The painting depicts the tree's historical significance, its decline due to blight, ongoing efforts to restore it, and the opportunity to revive the species at Flynt Park, a little known silver lining to Monson's, otherwise devastating June 1, 2011 tornado. The artwork will be permanently housed within a trailhead kiosk at Flynt Park, serving as an interpretive device for visitors exploring the chestnut plantings on the slopes of Mt. Ella. A future "Chestnut Trail" is slated to be among the first implemented from the Flynt Park & Keep Homestead Museum Trails Master Plan.

"Our committee is excited to once again partner with the Keep Homestead Museum to spread holiday cheer in Monson and the surrounding areas. We see this as the perfect opportunity to unveil the American chestnut mural, created by Jarett Greene, and funded by a local grant from the Mass Cultural Council," said Valerie Beaudoin, Chair of the RePlanting Monson Tree Committee.

Students from the Tantasqua Chestnut Project will be in attendance to help roast and serve chestnuts while sharing their knowledge of the American chestnut tree and detailing their quest to restore the tree at Flynt Park and possibly other forests in our region. "Chestnut reforestation in the tornado path at Flynt Park has been central to our project, and we are thrilled to contribute to the holiday festivities while being a part of the chestnut mural's public debut," said Jesse Greene and Kristin Daley, science teachers from Tantasqua Regional Jr. High School.

Join us for the "How Santa Claus Came to Town" event on Sunday, Dec. 8 from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Keep Homestead, located at 35 Ely Road in Monson. Enjoy the festive atmosphere, taste fresh roasted chestnuts, and be among the first to witness the captivating story of the American chestnut tree brought to life through art.

About the RePlanting Monson Tree Committee

The RePlanting Monson Tree Committee is committed to enhancing the natural beauty and ecological health of our community through tree planting and educational initiatives.

About the Tantasqua Chestnut Project

Inspired by a chance discovery of American chestnut re-sprouts in the June 1, 2011 tornado path on the slopes of Flynt Park's Mt. Ella, students from Tantasqua Regional Junior High School launched a project to revive the American chestnut tree. This ongoing effort, documented at www.tantasquachestnut.weebly.com, is a testament to student initiative and environmental stewardship.

BusinessWest Accepting Nominations for Difference Makers Awards

SPRINGFIELD – BusinessWest, the business journal of Western Massachusetts, is now accepting nominations for its 17th annual Difference Makers awards.

In 2009, BusinessWest initiated the Difference Makers program as a celebration of individuals, groups,

organizations, and families that are positively impacting the Pioneer Valley and are, as the name suggests, making a difference in this region. As previous nominees have shown, there are many ways to do this: through working within the community on one or many initiatives aimed at improving quality of life;

through succeeding in business, public service, or education; through inspiring others to get involved; through making an imaginative effort to help solve societal issues; or a combination of the above.

Nominations for the Difference Makers class of 2025 are due by Mon-

day, Dec. 16, 2024. They can be submitted at BusinessWest.com/difference-makers-nomination-form/

For more information, call Natasha Mercado-Santana, Marketing and Events manager, at 413-781-8600, ext. 100, or email Mercado@BusinessWest.com.

GRANT | from page 1

key highlights of areas to focus on future funding to better provide accessibility in town-owned buildings."

Hagopian said the town completed this plan, costing a total of \$38,000 for the contractor. He said that the Omega Mills re-use study is still currently underway.

"WestMass Area Development Corporation has been procured to complete that study, which is partially underway," Hagopian said, "but as there are ongoing issues with landcord regarding ownership of the building, we put a pause on that study for now. As soon as we're able to work things out, WestMass will be able to wrap up their part of the plan."

Select Board Member Peter Warren asked if the Omega Mills study hadn't already been done, and Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz clarified that this was the re-use study that was paused.

Hagopian said this section is budgeted for \$48,000. As for the Housing Rehabilitation Program, which provides a 15-year deferred payment loan to low-to-moderate-income homeowners throughout town for code compliance updates to their homes.

"This largely includes lead paint, asbestos removal, wells and septic in certain cases, as well as just full rehabilitation to bring homes up to code compliance," Hagopian said. "The original goal for this program was 10 units, but as we've seen across all levels of housing construction in the past two years, the average cost per unit pretty much skyrocketed due to the cost of materials increasing, so we're looking to rehabilitate a total of seven units."

Hagopian reported that five were completed with approval from the Building Inspector to date.

"One is currently underway and should be complete within the next month," Hagopian said, "then we should have our final project set to go out to bid in the next couple weeks."

Hagopian said that \$300,000 of the total grant budget that went to housing rehabilitation. Select

Board Member Pat Oney noted that the total \$53,500, and asked where the rest of the funds went.

"Just because CDBG is one of the most intensive programs to manage, it goes toward the PVPC cost to administer," Hagopian said. "When invoices from us are presented to you for your approval, that's where that money comes from."

Hagopian said there is still money left over from the grant, and it's expected to cover the continued administration throughout the remainder of the project.

Wreaths Across America

Karen Davis approached the board on behalf of Monson Together to request a gift of \$4,000 for Wreaths Across America.

"Last year it was an amazing community event, and we're hoping for the same turnout for this year, which is Dec. 14," Davis said. "It's become a year-round fundraising event for us to continue to keep up with the amount of money we have to raise for it."

Oney asked how people could make individual donations, and Davis said for them to write a check to Wreaths Across America and mail it to 209 Wales Road in Monson.

"We've been purchasing them throughout the year," Davis explained. "Dec. 1 is the final deadline."

The board voted unanimously to gift the sum of \$4,000 to Davis for Wreaths Across America. Oney invited Davis to return to the next Select Board meeting with an update on the fundraising, in case the organization is behind by then.

"We're also having our first annual golf tournament next year, it will be June 14 at Quaboag," Davis announced.

MONSON | from page 1

month are "I can always count on him to be a kind, helpful friend," she is always up for a challenge and loves to take on more rigorous work, and "she is open to differing ideas of classmates during discussions and group work," Royce said.

The last update was for the high school, and was presented by Sophia Galerno, who talked about the success of Spirit Week, the sophomore Candy Grams fundraiser, and the seventh and eighth grade dance.

"Report cards were recently sent out for Quarter One. Congrats to all the students on their start of the year academic achievements," Galerno said. "and also congrats to the boys' and girls' soccer teams; the girls made it to Round 16 of states, and the boys made it to Round 32."

Galerno also congratulated the cross-country runners who had recently competed at state qualifiers, and announced that sign-ups for winter sports, particularly swim, basketball, and cheer, are available.

Superintendent updates

During Public Comments, the Monson Educators Association announced a vote of no confidence against former Superintendent Cheryl Clarke.

"A few weeks ago, a vote was collected among all tenured and hourly paid staff across all units and buildings," said Caitlin Walker. "The results of this vote indicate that 93% of the voting membership lack confidence in Dr. Clarke's leadership, her ability to maintain a safe working environment, professionalism, and in her overall awareness of major building matters."



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Their wares were sold out by the afternoon, (from left) Jenn Koske, Haylee, age 13, Tanya Pina, and Kim Connors.

Seated at their table (from left) Leo Tassinari and Irene Dumas returned from last year's bazaar.

Photos by Marcelo Gusmão
Reverend Steve Sousa, Bonny Rathbone, and Jo Condon were very helpful as they worked the bazaar.

Holly Berry Bazaar



A local boy took a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus at the bazaar.



The Kane Family, pictured in front of St. Paul's Church just after they left the bazaar.



Submitted photo
Parents and families took pictures of their children with Santa Claus.

HOLLY BERRY | from page 1
earlier that day, he'd been approached by a woman who was scammed on Facebook. She had paid \$50 for a spot for her table to participate in the bazaar, but the money was intercepted by some online hacker.
"She showed us all her texts and emails and everything, so we gave her a free spot," Sousa said. "As a church, you have to treat people right."

Mrs. Claus, who visited the church to sit in the Fellowship House for the early portion of the event to take pictures with kids. Sousa noted that last year there weren't a lot of kids who attended the bazaar, and that there were many more this year.

One of the most popular features was the chili, which was served with an option of cheese and chopped onions, and with rolls provided by Barbara Win-



Chili was provided by (from left) Adrienne Keefe and Barb Windoloski, with Glenn Monteiro working in the background and Crystal Torrell (not pictured).



Submitted photo
Santa Claus waved to a camera with a local youngster.

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St. Paul's Church of Unitarian Universalist is located on Central Street. If you'd like to learn more about the church and its upcoming events, you can reach them by telephone at 413-283-8185, send an email to StPaulsUUChurch@gmail.com, or visit their website at StPaulsPalmer.org.

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Officer Bonnayer is always smiling and upbeat, not to mention she's colorblind.



Dan DesPlaines had a display of his landscape photographs, taken during his travels abroad.




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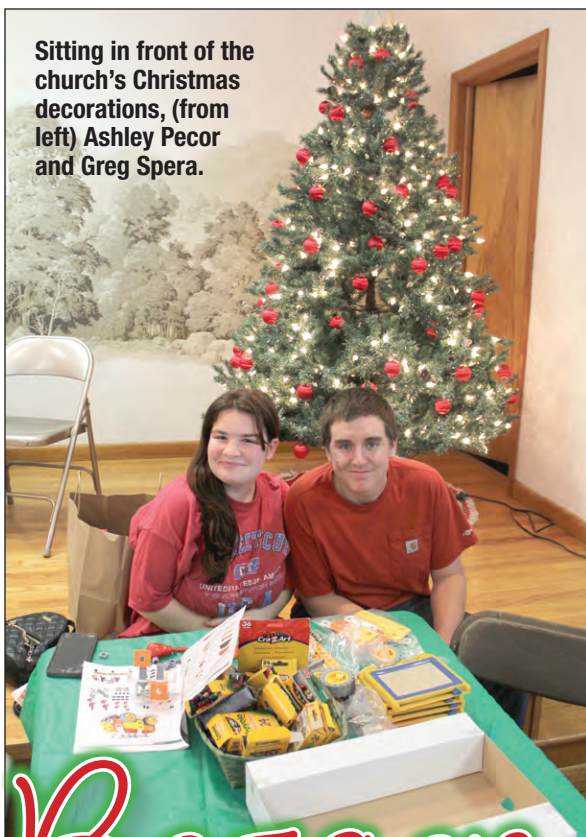


LooBug Designs featured plush toys made by Amanda St. Pierre.





Maria Nobile greeted people at the door, dressed in a festive apron.



Sitting in front of the church's Christmas decorations, (from left) Ashley Pecor and Greg Spera.



Jesse and Dave Corriveau had a table to sell items made by Uncle Dave's Crafts.

Holly Berry Bazaar



Denise and Marc LaCharite had a table set up to sell their photography.



Jeanette Tetreault launders sweaters in hot water and then dried at high heat to shrink the fabric to make gloves and mittens with extra thickness and warmth.



Melissa Seilder and Jerry Savary of Savary Designs showed their designs



Al and Marie Billings had a table in the lower levels of the church offices.



Resin Works had a variety of designs created by Kimberly Gonyea.



Kathleen Joyce said this event was the public debut of Joyce Holiday Wreaths.



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MSB holds toy drive

MONSON— Monson Savings Bank, a local community bank known for their commitment to giving back, is once again hosting their annual Toy Drive. The bank has proudly partnered with multiple local toy collection programs to help bring joy to children this holiday season.

From now through Friday, Dec. 6, new and unwrapped toys for children ages 0-12 can be dropped off at any Monson Savings Bank branch.

Monson Branch, 146 Main St, Monson
Hampden Branch, 15 Somers Rd, Hampden
Wilbraham Branch, 100 Post Office Park, Wilbraham

Ware Branch, 136 West St, Ware

East Longmeadow Branch, 61 North Main St. East Longmeadow

"The holidays are all about spreading love, joy, and happiness. The Toy Drive allows us all to come together to make that possible for children in our communities by collecting gifts for them to open. We have such generous communities, and we believe this year will be no different. We hope everyone will consider donating an item" said Dan Moriarty, president & CEO. "It goes without saying that we are extremely thankful for our partnering organizations who

host the toy programs that ensure all children have a bright and cheerful holiday. We are thrilled to support them in their toy collection efforts."

Monson Savings Bank is proud to partner with toy drive programs held by the Hampden Police Association, East Longmeadow Police Association, Wilbraham Police Department, Ware Police Department, and The Car Club of New England.

To learn more about Monson Savings Bank's commitment to our community, please visit: <https://www.monsonsavings.bank/connect/our-community/our-community-commitment.html>

Annual Tree of Love

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

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

Beginning Nov. 1, the ornaments may be purchased for \$5 for a single

name and \$10 for a family. The Tree of Love will be displayed in the lobby located on the first floor of the hospital by the gift shop.

All proceeds benefit the Baystate Wing Auxiliary, which in turn donates needed equipment and other items to the hospital for the benefit of patients. For over 70 years, the Auxiliary has supported Baystate Wing Hospital through its sponsorship of special events and gift shop sales. This diverse group of women and men includes teachers, nurses, business owners, and retirees, who live in many different communities and are united by a shared commitment to support the mission of the hospital.

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

Holiday Craft Fair to be held Dec. 7

WARE – A Holiday Craft Fair will be held on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in the Ware Junior Senior High School gym.

Admission is free and food is available to purchase. There will be over 50 vendors, fundraising and raffles.

This is a very exciting one-day shopping event of handcrafted, homemade, home baked, and one of a kind treasures made by local talent.



FIRE | from page 1

banking burning.

"Light winds were going up the hill, so there was potential to spread the fire rapidly with the dry conditions that we're having currently," Bernat said.

Bernat said that the first unit that arrived was able to make an attack on the fire by surrounding it and making a quick extinguishment.

"There is a house close to the location of the fire and the fire was heading in that direction," Bernat said.

Units from Three Rivers and Bondsville were called to respond to the fire as well, and the scene was cleared around 7:27 p.m.

Chief Bernat was among the firefighters that responded to the scene, and was accompanied by Captain Ryan Gauthier, Captain Sean Reynolds, Lieutenant Matt Caulfield, Lieutenant John Fitzgerald, Patrick Jessop, Jason Cousineau, Lucas Croft, and Jeffrey Zajac.

"When we were operating at the fire, we decided to connect to hydrant at the

end of Central Street that was a secure water supply, because of the potential of growth of the fire and the amount of water we'd need to use to fully extinguish fire," Bernat said. "Most of the time we use tankers for water supply for brush fires, usually because it's out of the hydrant district and so we don't affect the water district by creating rusty or dirty water, but with the potential threat to damage houses, we made the decision to use the fire hydrants."

Bernat praised the work of his fellow firefighters, saying that "they responded quickly and did a fantastic job surrounding the fire."

"This can be a difficult task on a regular basis in the daylight, and they did it in the dark with no entries," Bernat said. "That was pretty awesome."

Bernat said that the Water Department was notified so that it would be able to address any rusty water as soon as possible.

"Fireworks are illegal in Massachusetts and shouldn't be used," Bernat said. "With the extreme drought conditions



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Police and fire respond to the fire, helping get the bulk of it put out quickly before it was able to spread and cause catastrophic damage.

that we have, and current red flag conditions, people should be very vigilant on not having any open flame. These specific conditions that we currently have can promote rapid fire growth, so it's very dangerous, and structures and residents can be threatened very quickly."

Since Nov. 1, when a big brush fire broke out in Monson, the fire department has observed extreme drought and red flag conditions.

"There's a possibility of some rain coming in Thursday or Friday, but we'll see what happens with that," Bernat said.



BSA Troop #64 filled a truck with clothes, (from left) Brian Quinn, Cole Chevalier, Jack Quinn, Carl Wright, Spencer Skowyr, Devin Champagne, Seth Peets, and Pierre Chevalier.



Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão

The scouts filled up a truck with donations on Saturday – twice!

SCOUTS | from page 1

ended up working out well for the pack, as they received more donations than they have in the past. She said that the drive ended up being much more easily accessible thanks to its location.

The Hartsprings Foundations is responsible for the Big Brothers Big Sisters program that pairs up older "siblings" with younger kids who need help.

"They take in donations through items in your household and work with Savers," Chevalier explained. "Savers will purchase the items that were donated and gives money to Hartsprings, and Hartsprings uses that money for their programming."

As the Advancement Chair, Chevalier organizes board reviews for the

scouts' advancement, as well as keeping track of how they're ranking up and making sure they get awarded the merit badges that they've earned through scout activities. She said that a fundraiser like this food and clothing drive wouldn't qualify for rank advancement, but the scouts will still get attendance credits for being there.

"Not everybody showed up, but most of them did, especially the younger patrol," Chevalier said. "There were only a few Cub Scouts, but it was still a good showing for them, and there was well over half for the troop."

"The food drive is different, that wasn't fundraising," Chevalier added. "That was credit for the Palmer Food Share. The Cub Scouts earned service

hours that counts toward some of their adventure requirements, because every rank in Cub Scouts has a community service requirement."

Chevalier said that in addition to earning points for their advancement through the Scouting ranks, the drive is an opportunity for the troop to raise money to pay for activities such as camping trips and summer camp.

"It helps them raise money for their troop and helps them earn their way through their scouting adventures, but it also shows them how important it is to help out other entities as well, such as the Hartsprings Foundation," Chevalier said. "They did some work and are able to earn money for fundraising, and can also help out the community."

Chevalier thanked Town Manager Brad Brothers for the ability to collect for the drive in the Town Hall parking lot.

"A big thanks to Brad for allowing us to use Town Hall," Chevalier said, "and, of course, to our scouts, families, and leaders for coming to help us out."

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| USDA INSP. FROZEN 1/2 SPIRAL HAM | \$1.29 lb | USDA INSP. FRESH SKINLESS & SHANKLESS HATFIELD OLD TIME WHOLE HAM | \$2.89 lb | USDA INSP. FRESH CHICOPEE PROVISIONS BLUE SEAL KIELBASA | \$4.99 lb |
| USDA INSP. FRESH KAYEM BUDABALL WHOLE SMOKED PIT HAM | \$3.66 lb | USDA INSP. FRESH LEG LAMB | \$5.99 lb | USDA INSP. FROZEN SWEET POTATO PIE | \$2.99 ea |
| USDA INSP. FROZEN BACON WRAPPED SHRIMP 15 COUNT | \$8.99 ea | USDA INSP. FROZEN RAW SHRIMP 16/20 COUNT 2 LB BAG | \$14.99 ea | USDA INSP. FROZEN DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF | \$4.99 5 LB BAG |

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FOOTBALL

Lions, Panthers set for Turkey Day tilt

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The 77th meeting on the gridiron between rivals Palmer and Ludlow is scheduled to take place at the Ludlow Sports Complex on Thanksgiving morning. Kickoff is scheduled for 10 am.

It's the third oldest Thanksgiving Day high school football game in Western Mass. behind Mahar-Athol and Agawam-West Springfield.

Ludlow, who celebrated a 28-12 victory over Palmer at historic Legion Field a year ago, enters this year's contest with a 42-31-3 overall lead in the series, which began in 1947. The Lions have won ten of the last twelve meetings.

The Panthers (5-5), who lost their last three games of this season, will be looking to celebrate a win against the Lions (3-7) for the first time since posting a 21-0 home victory in 2021. It was also the last time they finished the season with an above .500 record.

Palmer head coach Matt Marciniec is looking forward to playing



Andrew Haley helps put an end to this run.

Turley photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com



Hunter White racks up some yardage on the sideline.

Ludlow on their brand new turf field for the first time.

"Playing a game on Ludlow's new field is going to be very exciting," said Marciniec, who hasn't seen the new turf field yet. "I think my guys will benefit playing on a turf field."

It'll be the second time this season that the Panthers will be playing a game on a turf field. They defeated Mahar Regional, 36-6, on their turf field at the beginning of October. Their other four victories were against Pathfinder Tech (40-7), Quaboag (27-26), Easthampton (36-30), and Greenfield (28-12)

The only seniors listed on the Panthers roster are Guillermo Rodriguez Rivera, Julien Valentin, and

Luis Rivera Alicea.

The Panthers are led by juniors Matt Santos, who's the starting QB, Dylan Doherty, Jordan Jones, Hunter White, Brecken Gilman, Kodah Laviolette-Gonzalez, Jared Perry, Gavin Smola, and Landon Couture.

Junior Theo Haley has been sidelined most of the season with an injury.

Theo's younger brother, Taydem, is one of the Panthers five sophomores.

The other sophomores are Griffin Nawrocki, Dylan Holbrook, Adrian Hernandez, and Hunter Baird.

Freshmen Kayden Harvey and Matt Mastalerz round out the Pan-

PANTHERS | page 10

PREVIEW



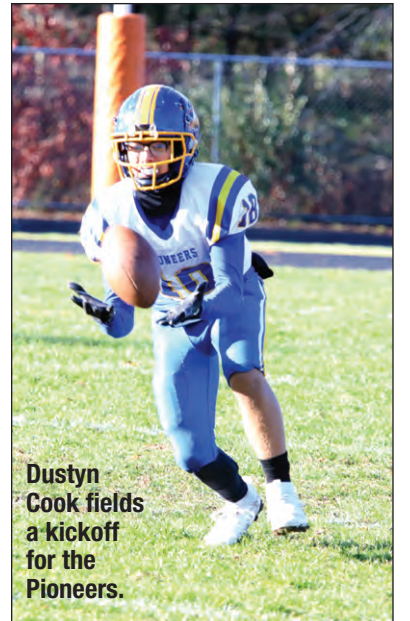
The Pathfinder defense stops a Belchertown rusher during last year's matchup in Belchertown.



Branden Hnitecki goes for a tackle.

Pathfinder looks to rebound from last Turkey Day

PALMER – Once again, the Pathfinder and Belchertown football teams will participate in a Thanksgiving morning football game. The unique part of this matchup is the teams begin play earlier than others, with kick off set for 9 a.m. instead of the traditional 10 a.m. other games start at on the holiday. The game time was changed a few years ago. Last year, Belchertown raised its Turkey Day record to 13-9 against Pathfinder with a 61-14 blowout. But it's not a winning streak yet as Pathfinder got a win in 2022 47-22. Both teams have had a tough 2024 with Belchertown going 1-8 while Pathfinder went just 2-8.



Dustyn Cook fields a kickoff for the Pioneers.



Addison Peterson makes her way up the field.



Madigan Graves-Harris is pressured closely.



Chelsea Hull follows her pass.

MONSON – The Monson High School girls soccer team reached the second round of the tournament this season after winning it all last year. The Mustangs defeated Rockport on Nov. 5 8-2 with Hannah Murphy scoring three times while Addison Peterson scored three times. The Mustangs would go on the road to Saint John Paul II High School on Nov. 9 and fell 1-0 in the Round of 16. Monson went 13-8 overall this season.

Mustangs season ends in second round of tournament



Emma Maziarz lunges and takes control of the ball.



Hannah Murphy looks to chase down a loose ball.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Nicholas Pfister attempts to stiff-arm a Belchertown defender.



Nicholas Pfister looks to make a handoff.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Owls finish football season with .500 record

WESTFIELD – Westfield State senior running back Dylan Disabella (Granby, Conn.) punctuated the Owls’ senior day with 241 yards rushing and three TD’s to power Westfield to a 22-7 win over Fitchburg State.

Westfield closes the season 4-6 overall and 4-5 in the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference under first-year head coach Lou Conte, Jr. Fitchburg ends its first season under coach Izzy Abraham at 2-8, 1-8 in the MASCAC.

Disabella and the Owls methodically ground out the win, as he finished with 35 carries, and scored on a 7-yard run in the first quarter, and a 21-yard run in the second quarter to grab a 14-0 lead at the half. He added a seven-yard TD run in the third quarter. He finishes the year as the Owls leading rusher with 763 yards and 7 rushing TD’s on 143 carries, switching into the primary ball-carrier role for Westfield after a mid-season injury to Sean Willis (450 yards). Disabella also led the Owls in receiving for the season with 14 catches for 240 yards and two more TD’s.

The Owls tacked on a 28-yard Cooper Harvey (Niskayuna, NY) field goal to take a 22-0 lead in the fourth quarter, before Fitchburg finally got on the board with 31 seconds left in the contest on a 50-yard Devin Lebron (Ledyard, Conn.) to Jeremy Allik (Natick, Mass.) completion.

Westfield dominated in time of possession, 42:42-17:18, and had 342 yards of total offense compared to 216 for the Falcons. The game also featured eight fumbles and two interceptions between the two teams, and a combined 26 flags for 227 yards in penalties.

Ryan Scott (Dalton, Mass./Wahconah) started at QB and finished 4-10 for 72 yards passing. He was relieved by Lucas Pickard (Dalton, Mass./Wahconah) in the second half, who was just 1-1, but that was a 38-yarder to Jordan Lanoue (Belchertown, Mass.). Jacob Swinehart (Holyoke, Mass.) finished with three catches for 63 yards.

Fitchburg’s offense was led by 55 yard rushing from Matthew Aguirre (Laredo, Tex.). Emilo Cabey (Boston, Mass./Dover Sherborn) caught three balls for 48 yards. Starter Rocky Marchitelli (Gunnison, Colo.) was 6-12 for 58 yards passing, but had to leave the game after receiving a second unspportsmanlike conduct foul. Lebron relieved him and completed 3 of 10 passes for 50 yards and a td.

Westfield’s Eric Lovell (Barnstable, Mass.) picked off a pair of Lebron’s passes, including a 24-yard return to the Falcons’ 7-yard line in the third quarter that set up Disabella’s third score of the day. Senior DT Cade Nelson (Shrewsbury, Mass.) led the Owls with seven tackles with 1.5 TFL., and Justyn Gardener (East Hartford, Conn.) added six stops and half a sack. Dylan Zuerblis (Wethersfield, Conn.) netted 1.5 sacks.

The Falcons defense was led by 13 tackles and a sack from Sebastian Burmester (Germantown, NY), ith John McGarry (Highland Lake, NY) adding eight stops.

Westfield State honored its 27 seniors before the game, and all who were healthy for the game played with the big lead late in the fourth quarter.

Jacob Applebee, Gavin Bullock, Dylan Clark, Curtis Dion, Dylan Disabella, Sean Ferguson, Gabriel Fernandez, Justyn Gardner, Nikolas Giotzas, Chris Greene, Jordan Lanoue, Adam Legere, Max Margeson, Anthony Messori, Cade Nelson, Tim O’Connor, Gilberto Rodriguez, Ethan Russell, Connor Schlittler, Blake Simpson, Jake Swinehart, Casey Tang, Matthew Varteresian, Nate Walton, Noah Will, Malachi Wright, and Alvin Yvon comprised the Owls senior class recognized in the pre-game ceremonies.

Westfield finished with four wins, one more than the 2023 campaign, and their best total since the fall of 2018 when the Owls finished 5-5.

Cancer fundraiser on Nov. 23

LUDLOW— The Fight Like Jeff fundraiser featuring Ready, Set, Go Band will be held at Gremio Lusitano Club, 385 Winsor St., on Nov. 23. This local event will benefit the Jeff Coelho fund for Dr. Haq’s melanoma research at the world-renowned Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

This event includes a Live Band, Dinner, Cash Bar, and Opportunity Drawings; doors open at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased via Venmo@SaraGladu or @Alyssacoelho. For more information, email at sgggladu@gmail.com.

Coelho was diagnosed with stage four melanoma in April of 2022 and was 56 years old when he passed away August 26, 2023. The Jeff Coelho fund is committed to raise \$100,000 over the next five years in his honor and to bring hope to families like Jeff’s who have lost loved ones to melanoma. To date, they have raised close to \$24,000.

Haq and his team focus on resistance to melanoma therapies, including targeted agents and immunotherapies. At Dana-Farber Cancer institute, Haq devotes his time to developing the next generation of melanoma therapeutics and translating them to innovative investigator-initiated clinical trials. This research is critical to understanding and developing future treatments for patients.

For those interested in Sponsoring this event, there are three available levels: Benefactor [1000.00], Supporter [500.00], and Donor [100.00]. Please contact sgggladu@gmail.com for more information.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

E-mail items to journalregister@turley.com or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

The Journal Register encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers for updated event times. Have an event to promote? Email the information (in sentence form and as a Word doc or plain email text – no PDFs or flyers, please – to journalregister@turley.com.

- Dec. 12 Jewelry by Diane
Dec. 17 Nails on You
Dec. 19 Sweets and Treats
Dec. 23 Wicked Good Treats

INTERESTS

Under the direction of Kiel Krommer, Director of Music Ministries at First Church, Monson, choir rehearsals take place every Thursday from 6:30-8 downstairs in the music area. New members of all faiths are welcome to join the choir. There is no need to audition or sign up, just come. Choir members will be sure to enjoy the music for Advent and Christmas and the special community concert at the Silver Street Chapel on Sunday, Dec. 15.

PIONEER VALLEY QUILTERS Guild meets at the Elks Lodge #61 at 440 Tiffany St., Springfield. Meetings are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. and all are welcome. The mission of the guild is two-fold: to share the joy of quilting with others and to work for the betterment of the community. Monies raised (as in the biannual quilt show) support various workshops and speakers for the meetings, as well as allow the guild to buy materials that are then used to create donated items. The guild has donated quilts, baby bibs, cardiac pillows, and Christmas stockings for veterans to a variety

of community agencies, including but not limited to the Springfield Rescue Mission and the Gray House.

CRAFTERNOONS: Drop in 2-4 p.m. daily at the Holland Public Library, 23 Sturbridge Road to learn or practice different crafts. There are new crafts every Wednesday. For more information, call 413-245-3607.

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM: Located at 35 Ely Rd., Monson, nature trails are open daily until dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the parking lot. The Phillips Sculpture Garden is open year-round (handouts in box on one of the signposts). For more information call 413-267-4137, email khm@keephomesteadmuseum.org or visit keephomesteadmuseum.org.

QUABOAG VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD: Members meet at 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the Amvets post at 2150 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no-pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E “Best In Show” winners. Dues are \$55 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow them on Facebook for more.

LINE DANCING CLASS: 3-5 p.m. and/or 6:30-8:30 p.m., every Thursday at the Monson Polish Club, 7 Bliss St, Monson. Rose’s line dancing classes include absolute beginners and beginners, and participants get to dance to all types of music. \$10 per class. Please wear comfortable footwear, no sandals.

GAME NIGHT: 6-7:45 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at Top Floor Learning (third floor of the Palmer Library at 1455 N. Main St.). Free and open to the public. Play available board and card games or bring your own. Must be 16 or older unless accompanied by an adult. No Registration Required – just show up! Questions? Call 283-2329, or 283-3691, or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

NOTCH VISITOR CENTER OPEN FOR WINTER SEASON: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday-Monday. The center is located on Rt 116, at the center of the Holyoke Range State Park. DCR Interpretive staff will be available for visitors. Coming in January, programs will also be offered to highlight the Range’s special nature in winter, see the park web site for details.

QI GONG: Qi Gong at Monson Free Library with Randy Emerson. Every Tuesday 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.

Holland Community Center upcoming events

Holland Wreaths Across America

The December Wreaths Across America event is on Dec. 14th at 12 p.m.

December 4th at 4:30 p.m. – Needle Felting \$15, limit of 10 people:

Want to make something crafty and that’s lots of fun? You don’t have to be crafty to do this craft. Join us for a brand-new activity – needle felting. Believe me, Martha Stewart would write me off as hopeless, and I made a cute Pumpkin on my first try! The cost for the class is \$15 per person and includes supplies to make an adorable snow man. Sign up now, you won’t want to miss this.

Need Help with Heating Bills:

If you missed the Fuel Assistance program representative (VOC) at the Center, you can apply online at: www.toapply.org/VOC.

The Brown-Bag Program needs your help:

Looking for a way to help your neighbors or to volunteer for a

much-needed service? The “Brown Bag Program”* needs drivers to deliver the bag of food items to folks in Holland, Wales and Brimfield. Driving not your thing? They always need folks that can help make up the bags of food to deliver.

Friends of the Holland Community Center – Jewelry Box Boutique

The Friends of the Holland Community Center (FoHCC) has jewelry available for sale at a donation rate of \$3 dollars (unless otherwise marked). All sales are appreciated as the proceeds benefit events held at the Community Center. Stop in and see the great selection!

Friends of the Holland Community - Center Monthly Basket:

The theme for the November basket is “Puppy’s First Christmas”. The basket has such goodies as a \$50 dollar gift certificate to a local doggie day care! Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. The winning ticket will be pulled at the end of the month.

Tadpoles Activities Group:

There’s still time to purchase your tickets for the “chunky blanket” quilt. All proceeds will be used for future Tadpole activities. This would make a great present (even for yourself). Tickets are 2 for \$5 dollars. All proceeds will be used for future Tadpole activities.

The winning ticket is drawn on the last day of the month.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Fri. Nov 22nd “Wreaths Across America” Pasta Dinner Fundraiser

Tues. Nov 26th Mobile Manicures with Sarah
Tues Dec 3rd National Grid Customer Advocate assistance

Wed. Dec 4th Assessor visit to answer members tax Abatement questions

Wed. Dec 4th Needle Felting

Wed. Dec 11th Holiday Lunch

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Monday
Mah Jongg Beginners 10:15 am
Take out Lunch 11:45 am
Lunch 12 pm
Dominoes 1 pm
Fusion Fitness 5:30 pm

Every Tuesday
Crafters Social 10:30 am
Texas Hold'em 5:30 pm

Every Wednesday
Mix it Up 10 am
Take out Lunch 11:45 am
Lunch 12 pm
Dominoes 1 pm
Mah Jongg 1 pm
Yoga 5:30 pm

Every Thursday
Stained Glass 10 am
Tai Chi (free, self-guided) 10 am
Cribbage 12:15 pm
Pitch 5:30 pm
- Starts up again September 12th
Bingo 6 pm

Advertisement for Turley Publications, Inc. featuring a baby's first Christmas theme. Includes a photo of a baby, a gift box, and a coupon for a newspaper advertisement. Text: 'BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS' by Turley Publications, Inc. Scarlett Legasey, January 25, 2023. Parents: Thomas & Jessica Legasey, Rutland. Grandparents: Donald & MaryAnn Dunbar, Ware; Thomas & Sharon Legasey, Spencer. Contact: Mail to: Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069. Attn: Jamie Joslyn. Include a self-addressed stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: BABY'S FIRST. This offer is available to all babies born in 2024. Pictures will be published the week of December 23-27, 2024. Deadline for photos and forms is Monday, December 16, 2024.

Crossword puzzle grid with numbered squares. Includes a list of clues for 'CLUES ACROSS' and 'CLUES DOWN'. Clues range from 'Defunct airline' to 'Indiana Pacer Toppin'.

DEATH NOTICES

Gramps Dodge
Died Nov. 15, 2024
Services Nov. 23, 2024
Beers & Story
Belchertown Funeral
Home



The Journal Register
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.

O B I T U A R I E S

Gramps Dodge



BELCHERTOWN—Gramps Dodge, born on Sept. 4, 1957, in Ware, passed away peacefully on Nov. 15, 2024 at his home surrounded by his family.
Gramps' deep connection to the great outdoors was the cornerstone of his life. Blessed with a spirit for adventure and a passion for nature, he was never more at peace than when he was surrounded by the beauty of the wild. Whether it was hunting, fishing, or simply bird watching, Gramps found joy in every aspect of the outdoor world. He also spoke of joys in his exhilarating pursuit of rattlesnake hunting in Arizona. Throughout these adventures, he was often known to relax by popping open

a cold Miller, a small pleasure that brought a smile to his face.
A dedicated father, Gramps devoted himself to raising his children, for whom he showed immense pride and deep love. His legacy lives on in the fond memories and cherished moments shared with family and friends.
Gramps is predeceased by his father, John V. Dodge; sister, Tiny; and his dear friend Alan.
He will be dearly missed by his wife, Michele (Newton) Dodge, with whom he shared 36 memorable years. He also leaves his daughters, Kari Dodge and

her husband Shane, and Melanie Dodge and her husband Connor; grandson, Maverick Dodge Ryan; mother, Joan (Mundell) Dodge; brother, Chuck Dodge and his wife Debbie; sister, Debra Earle and her husband Phil; as well as nieces, nephews and good friends, Barry and Steve.
Visitation will be held on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2024 from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at the Beers & Story Belchertown Funeral Home. Burial will immediately follow in South Cemetery.

Police/Fire

Police Logs

Palmer

The Palmer Police Department reported 458 incidents on its logs from Nov. 5 through Nov. 11.
Nov. 5
At 10:17 a.m. police gave summons to John P. Pierce, 43, of 454 State St., Belchertown, for disorderly conduct.
At 4:33 p.m. police received sex offender registration.
At 4:36 p.m. police received sex offender registration.
At 5:07 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on W. Ware Street.
At 6:51 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Ware Street.
At 7:25 p.m. police gave summons to Selvin Alexand Garcia Gonzalez, 30, 287 Main St., Indian Orchard, for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle and failure to stop/yield.
Nov. 6
At 4:24 p.m. police received sex offender registration.
At 4:26 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

At 5:10 p.m. police gave summons to Heather Marie Kennett, 49, of 1057 Pleasant St., Palmer, for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle and operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration.
Nov. 7
At 7:28 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on the corner of Sykes Street and Main Street.
At 10:10 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Old Warren Road.
Nov. 8
At 3:17 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on the Mass Turnpike.
Nov. 9
At 11:25 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Main Street.
At 9:01 p.m. police gave summons to Martin James Parks Jr., 71, for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license and no inspection sticker.
Nov. 10
At 1:02 a.m. police arrested Chelsea M. Peterson, 33, of 7 Turner St., Springfield, for OUI liquor.

At 5:36 p.m. police received sex offender registration.
At 6:42 p.m. police gave summons to Davidson Jourdain Michel, 34, of 122 Melha Ave. Springfield, operation of a motor vehicle without a license, number plate violation to conceal ID and number plate violation.
At 7:11 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Boston Road.
Nov. 11
At 1:30 a.m. police gave summons to Atakan Erhan, 25, of 28 Joy St., Ludlow, for unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle, no inspection sticker and speeding at a rate of speed exceeding posted limit.
At 5:22 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on the corner of Shearer Street and Randall Street.
At 5:04 p.m. police received sex offender registration.
At 6:19 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Church Street.
At 9:10 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Thorndike Street.

Fire Logs

THREE RIVERS

The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to eight calls for the week of Nov. 10-16.
On Sunday, Nov. 10, the department responded to Skyline Terrace for a brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire.
On Sunday, Nov. 10, the department responded to Meadow

Lane for an EMS call, excluding vehicle accident with injury.
On Wednesday, Nov. 13, the department responded to Advance Street for a carbon monoxide incident.
On Thursday, Nov. 14, the department responded to Wilbraham Street for a smoke scare or odor of smoke.
On Friday, Nov. 15, the department responded to Quaboag Street for a special outside fire.
On Saturday, Nov. 16, the department responded to Linda Street for a smoke scare or odor of smoke.
On Saturday, Nov. 16, the department responded to Overlook Drive for a medical assist to assist an EMS crew.

BHN to facilitate International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day event Nov. 23

In collaboration with the Mass. Chapter of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention a Day of Healing for those who've lost loved ones to suicide

ities, and a powerful AFSP-produced documentary that highlights themes of growth, resilience, and connection. This is one of hundreds of events taking place worldwide on Survivor Day.
Held on the Saturday before Thanksgiving each year, International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day is a one-day event in which survivors of suicide loss come together to find connection, understanding, and hope through their shared experience. Attendees learn practical coping strategies, explore grief, and discover resources to help with each unique healing journey.
International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day was created by an Act of Congress in 1999 following the passage of a resolution introduced by Senator Harry Reid, whose father took his own life in 1972. In addition to sponsoring in-person or virtual events across the globe for International Survivors of Suicide Loss Day, AFSP hosts two virtual events for survivors of suicide loss, Survivor Day Live and Día De Esperanza (in Spanish). To learn more, visit AFSP.org/survivorday.

BHN has been providing behavioral health services to children and families in Western Massachusetts since 1938. The agency provides community-based services that include innovative, integrated whole-health models as well as traditional clinical and outpatient and therapeutic services, day treatment, addiction services, crisis intervention and residential supports.
The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention is dedicated to saving lives and bringing hope to those affected by suicide, including those who have experienced a loss. AFSP creates a culture that's smart about mental health through public education and community programs, develops suicide prevention through research and advocacy, and provides support for those affected by suicide.
Led by CEO Robert Gebbia and headquartered in New York, with a public policy office in Washington, D.C., AFSP has local chapters in all 50 states, D.C. and Puerto Rico, with programs and events nationwide. Learn more about AFSP in its latest Annual Report and join the conversation on suicide prevention by following AFSP on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, LinkedIn and TikTok.

Virtual support groups for those with cancer

PALMER— During a cancer journey patients and their families often benefit from the support of others. Virtual support groups are being held now and through 2025, by Camille St.Onge, LICSW and oncology social worker.
For many years, people had to travel to a predetermined location to attend cancer support group meetings. As a result of restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic virtual support groups began meeting entirely online, with participants joining through video conferencing platforms like Zoom. Today, many people prefer this method because it offers flexibility, and convenience, and allows them to access support from where they are without need-

ing to physically travel to a meeting location.
"Sharing concerns with a support group can be a beneficial way for people facing cancer to get the help they need to cope with the physical and emotional concerns that arise during and after a cancer diagnosis," said St. Onge. "While support and self-help groups can vary greatly, groups share one thing in common, they are a place where people can share personal stories, express emotions, and be heard in an atmosphere of acceptance, understanding, and encouragement."
The support groups are designed to help patients, their families and caregivers cope with the challenges of a cancer diagnosis.

Virtual Support Group offered include: General Cancer Support Group; first Wednesday of each month, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Partners in Caregiving; second Wednesday of each month, 5 to 6:30 p.m.; Expressive Writing through Cancer, third Wednesday of each month, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Breast Cancer Support Group, fourth Wednesday of each month, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
All meetings are currently held virtually and are made possible by funds raised by the Walk of Champions. For more information contact Camille St.Onge, LICSW, Oncology Social Worker by calling 413-239-7239 or by email at cstmagin@gmail.com.

Notice on Current Drought Declaration Across Massachusetts

REGION – On Nov. 7, Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper declared the Western, Connecticut River Valley, and Southeast regions to be a Level Two Significant Drought, and elevated the Central and Northeast regions to a Level Three Critical Drought due to the lower-than-average precipitation over the past two months.
The lack of rainfall has allowed for an unprecedented increase in

brush fires in Massachusetts with many occurring in populated areas.
In order to mitigate the risks associated with these dry conditions, MDAR is asking the Massachusetts agricultural community to remain vigilant and refrain from engaging in any burn operations on agricultural production acreage. Additionally, MDAR is asking that livestock operations conserve water usage on animals when possible in light of the current drought declaration.

For more information on the drought conditions in Massachusetts, visit EEA's drought management page at Mass.gov/guides/Drought-Management-In-Massachusetts.
MDAR's mission is to cultivate a robust and equitable agricultural economy, promote a safe and resilient food system, and preserve a healthy environment for state farmers, animals, and consumers.

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HEALTH | from page 4
3. Disclosure
Any questions or concerns you have should be answered in language you can understand. It doesn't require that you are told every single detail of the test or procedure, but it does require that you are given enough information that would allow a reasonable person to make an informed decision.
So what happens in emergencies? When a decision must be made right now, the patient isn't able to participate and the patient's representative or advocate is unavailable, doctors can start treatment without prior informed consent. However, the doctor should tell you or your representative what happened and obtain consent for any further treatments as soon as possible.
Being on the receiving end of all this information may be overwhelming, so if you're facing a situation like this, a medically trained patient advocate may be a useful ally who can understand the medical language, translate it into lay terms and discuss alternatives. A patient advocate can also hold the physicians accountable for meeting all the terms of informed consent.
In its simplest form, informed consent puts you in the driver's seat, but it's important to know the rules of the road.
Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate, is the founder of Northshore Patient Advocates LLC (NShore). She is also founder and CEO of Nurse Advocate Entrepreneur, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. Teri offers a free phone consultation to newspaper readers as well as to nurses interested in becoming advocates. Reach her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com.

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Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
 50 State Street
 Springfield, MA 01103
 (413)748-7758

Docket No. HD23P0905EA
 Estate of:
Fredericka Ann Garreffa
 Also known as:
Fredericka A Garreffa
 Date of Death: 12/28/2022
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Ryann Garreffa of Somers, CT** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
 You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/17/2024.

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.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
 Date: November 14, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani
 Register of Probate
 11/21/2024

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. HD24P2396EA
 Estate of:
Gloria Jean Hawkins
 Date of Death: 10/06/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Erica Kenosi of Cape Elizabeth, ME** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Erica Kenosi of Cape Elizabeth, ME** 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 12/13/2024.

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: November 15, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani
 Register of Probate
 11/21/2024

More notices on page 13, 14

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Wales
Rebecca R. Smith, Collector of Taxes Office of the Collector of Taxes Notice of Tax Taking
 To the owners of the hereinafter described land and to all others concerned

You are hereby notified that on Thursday the 5th day of December 2024, at 9:00 A.M. at the Tax Collector's Office, PO Box 22, 3 Hollow Rd., pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of Wales the following parcels of land for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

Assessed to **GRISWOLD JOHN S** And **BUCKLEY LISA M**
 A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 37026 Square Feet located and known as 17 LYNCH RD shown on the Town of Wales Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 100.0-2180- 0017.0 and being the premises recorded in book 21014 on page 54 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
 2022 Tax \$55.13

Assessed To **LOVELL AMANDA**
 A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 16117 Square Feet located and known as 5 WALKER RD shown on the Town of Wales Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 100.0-3211- 0005.0 and being the premises recorded in book 19322 on page 145 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
 2022 Tax \$1,386.43
 11/21/2024

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Street Mythology an HCC theater production

HOLYOKE — "Polaroid Stories" written by Naomi Iizuka and directed by Rose Schietz Malla will be showing on Thursday, Nov. 21 at 7:30 p.m. at HCC's Leslie Phillips Theater. The Friday, Nov. 22, show will be ASL-interpreted.

Tickets are \$5 for HCC students, staff, and faculty; general admission is \$10 and Senior tickets cost \$8. Available one hour before each show at the Leslie Phillips Box Office or call 413-552-2528 to reserve.

For audiences 13 years and older "Polaroid Stories," a play by Naomi Iizuka, presents a series of linked vignettes, about homeless youth living on the streets of some unnamed, presumably American city.

Those snapshots capture their struggles, conflicts, hopes, and ambitions, but, like a Polaroid image, a full rendering only becomes clear over time.

But it's even more complicated than that. The play, while based on interviews with real street kids, is also an adaptation of the ancient, epic poem "Metamorphoses," written by the Roman poet Ovid in A.D. 8.

"What they experience in Polaroid Stories mirrors or somehow distorts the familiar tales we know from Greek mythology," says Rose Schietz Malla, guest-director of the Holyoke Community College Theater Department's fall 2024 production of the play. "Metamorphoses is a collection of stories about people and mythical figures experiencing change, transforming in some way, as do the characters in 'Polaroid Stories.'"

Schietz Malla, a graduate student in the University of Massachusetts Amherst theater program, said she selected Polaroid Stories in part because of the way it elevates marginalized young people to the status of mythological figures.

"It feels like being sunk into the world in which they live," says Schietz Malla. "Because it's a play about young people in the voices of young people, it felt like something really fitting for a college environment. There's a lot of anger in the play, a lot of passion and angst, and that's exciting for young actors to dig into."



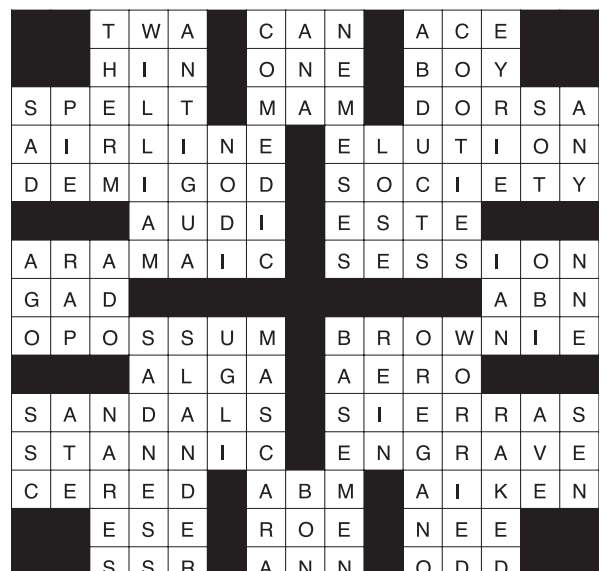
EARLY DEADLINES FOR PUBLIC NOTICES

Thanksgiving will bring early deadlines for all public notices to run in **TURLEY PUBLICATIONS** the week of November 25-29, 2024.

- Wednesday, Nov. 20 at 2 PM for November 27 issue**
 • Agawam Advertiser News • Sentinel • The Register • Wilbraham-Hampden Times
- Thursday, November 21 at 2 PM for November 28 Issue**
 • Barre Gazette • Country Journal
 • The Journal Register • Quaboag Current • Ware River News
- Friday, November 22 at 2 PM for November 29 Issue**
 • Town Reminder • The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register

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



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EV cars ride at Palmer Motorsports Park



A custom EV designed by students from Massachusetts Institute of Technology was on display.



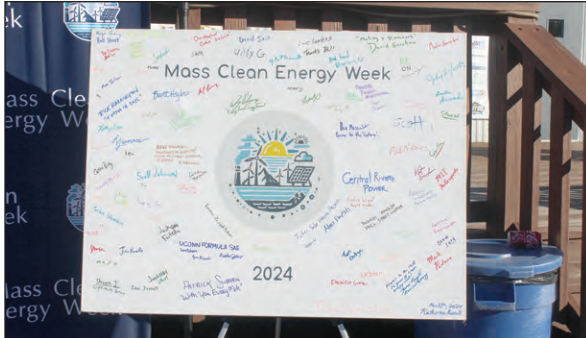
Energy Source had a booth during the showcase and had a custom-made EV on display.



The Subaru Solterra EV was one of the cars guests could test drive on the track. Turley Photos by Ryan Drago



A Lexus R2 450e was one of 18 electric vehicles to test drive on the Palmer Motorsports Park track.



This Mass Clean Energy Week 2024 poster was signed by all the guests and sponsors of the showcase.



Palmer Motorsports Park hosted the inaugural No Gas, All Glory Charge Ahead All Electric Showcase.



James Penfold of Revision Energy is shown alongside a charging station that is beneficial for owners of electric vehicles.

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

PALMER – Palmer Motorsports Park hosted the inaugural No Gas, All Glory Charge Ahead All-Electric Showcase. This event was made possible

thanks to the efforts of Mass Clean Energy Week. This organization showcases clean energy advancements with tours, talks and awards.

The industry leaders and innovators gathered to discuss sustainable solutions and promote greener futures.

This event is truly the first of its

kind with an event combining the racing circuit with a diverse range of electric vehicles. Guests have the opportunity to learn more about the benefits of switching to an EV car by testing out a diverse range of vehicles from multiple brands.

Aman Patel described this showcase as a promotion of the future of the automotive world. There was a total of 18 test drive EV cars to try out with an additional ten cars for display only.

Patel also described this inaugural showcase as a “celebration of new energy.”

“We’re here to bring life to all the technologies,” Patel said.

The test drives were

taken on the track of Palmer Motorsports Park, which is over two miles long with outstanding scenery.

There was a diverse lineup of EV cars to check out. There were sleek sports cars to family vehicles to try out and drive. The participation from top manufacturers, dealerships and private owners brought the EV cars for guests to test drive during the showcase.

There were also tents set up by industry experts who shared information on EV technology, charging infrastructure platforms and clean transportation. Several prestigious schools had their students present models of EV vehicles they designed themselves.

There was a vehicle from students from the University of Connecticut, Massachusetts Institute of

Technology and Tufts University.

One of the drivers and representatives of one of the EV cars available for test driving was Michelle Bourget. The EV Bourget had for test drives was the Subaru Solterra EV courtesy of Patrick Subara in Shrewsbury.

Bourget said she has been on a lot of test drives on the racetrack throughout the day and has had an exciting experience meeting new people in the industry and guests who might consider going electric with their automobiles. Bourget enjoyed the scenery of the track which is what many drivers and racers get to experience when visiting the Palmer Motorsports Park.

Other brands of cars that provided test drive vehicles for the showcase include Hummer, Toyota, Lexus, Honda, Tesla, Chevrolet and many more.

James Penfold, Director of E-Mobility Solutions at Revision Energy was excited to visit the Palmer Motorsports Park and talk about the company’s charging stations. According to Penfold, the EV car is the future of the automotive industry. When it comes to driving electric vehicles, the motors are more connected to the wheels.

Penfold had a model of Revision Energy’s charging station that would benefit owners of EVs. With this charging station, Penfold says an electric vehicle can be charged and get up to 200 miles in 20 minutes.

Palmer Motorsports Park was excited to be the host of this soon to be annual event in honor of Mass Clean Energy Week. Those who are interested can learn more at www.masscleanenergyweek.org.



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Palmer Motorsports Park was the home of the No Gas, All Glory Charge Ahead All Electric Showcase and is a place for people with a passion for automobiles.

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