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**COMMUNITY** Toy drives spreading cheer



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# The Journal Register

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### **MONSON**



Mrs. Claus and her husband were invited by the First Church to read and share a breakfast.

Families enjoy the holiday season at First Church

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON - This Saturday, local residents joined Santa Claus for breakfast at the First Church.

On the morning of Saturday, Dec. 7, Santa and Mrs. Claus took some time off from his work up north to take pictures with local families. The First Church served a continental breakfast and hosted storytime and arts and crafts in its community room, where even The Grinch made an appearance.

The event is made possible through a collaboration between the First Church, Monson Together, the schools, and town departments. It offered arts and crafts for the kids, and a storytime with Mr. and Mrs. Claus before breaking out into more arts and crafts.

Karen Davis said named a crew of volunteers from the First Church, including Lisa Borlen, Sarah Brown, Cynthia DeSellier, Bethany Mann, Janice Muldrew, and Erin Wallace.

"It's great, we have a great collaboration with the town, Davis said. "We do a few different things throughout the year. This makes it more of a community event."

"Admission is free with a toy, that goes to the town's Toy Drive," said Davis. "We do it through Monson Together. The school and the town all combine to do it."

Davis described receiving toy

SANTA | page 3

### COMMUNITY



PHCC Volunteers hold toy drive at annual Tree and Wreath Festival

> By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – This past weekend, the Historical and Cultural Center held its 12th annual Tree and Wreath Festival.

From Friday, Dec. 6 to Sunday, Dec. 8, Harmony Hall was fully decked out with over 35 trees and wreaths that were raffled off. Live entertainment through the festival included musical performances and kids activities offered in the lower level Villages Room.

The Cultural Center set up a collection box for the Toy Drive, set up by the Lions Club of Palmer. For each toy donated, residents received one raffle ticket to be spent on a tree or wreath of their choice.

David Golden of the Historical and Cultural Council said that he was "very happy and pleased with the way that it came out this year."

"We're very thankful to the downtown Palmer Business group," Golden said. "They are very helpful in getting the trees all put together and decorated."

The all-volunteer board of the Historical and Cultural Center

TREES | page 6



Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão Lincoln, age 8, admired the Three Rivers Chamber of Commerce tree with

his grandmother, Pearl Daley (not pictured).

### **SCHOOL**

# Monson School Committee discusses Therapy Dog policy

**Tessa Quinn** Correspondent

MONSON - The School Committee met on Dec. 4, discussing topics ranging from a therapy dog policy, transportation for non-resident Vocational School students, and the search for a new interim superintendent.

### Therapy dog

The Committee had previously approved the policy to allow a therapy dog in the school district. Despite this, there are now concerns about insurance and who is liable for the dog being in schools.

In the policy, the animal's owner must have its own insurance on the dog for it to be allowed in schools.

According to Committee Chair Alison Morgan, the dog's handler does have insurance on the animal currently approved.

However, Morgan said, "The town insurance will not provide any coverage to the town or the school regarding the dog.'

This means if someone were to sue over anything involving the dog, the school and town would be directly responsible for the cost of litigation and any potential damages. The handler's insurance on the dog does not protect Monson or the schools.

Morgan went on to say that because of the way the therapy dog policy was announced, making it seem like the dog belonged to the school district, liability could be placed with

"That was not the intent for us to make it sound that way, however that is the way some individuals are interpreting it," said Morgan.

The town insurance policy suggests creating a waiver for students' parents to sign to be allowed to interact with the dog. The therapy dog has not been working within the school system since these legal concerns were brought forward.

After discussing their options, the committee decided to reach out to other local school districts to see how they handle their therapy dog programs. An official decision regarding the dog will be made at a future school committee meeting. Until a decision is made, the dog will not be visiting schools.

### **Travel Club**

The school committee also heard about the high school's Travel Club's plans for their next trip for April 2026. Planning has begun now, to lock in quotes for the cost of visiting three cities in Spain.

As it stands now, the all inclusive trip will cost students about \$4,000 for 10 days. The trip will be open to grades nine through 12. The Committee voted to approve the quote so planning for the trip can begin.

The Committee also spoke about a letter they received from the town of Cummington asking for other

towns to join in on a letter they are sending to Governor Maura Healey regarding non-resident transportation tuition for vocational school students.

Director of Curriculum Katherine Watts, explained that if a student wants a vocation that their community does not offer, they can apply to attend a vocational school in another district. She says if they are accepted, the student's home district has to provide transportation for them to the

"This can become a very cost heavy laden issue for districts because they have no recourse, they have to provide the transportation legally," said Watts.

She went on to say that the town

could potentially be responsible for this kind of cost next year, depending on if the student goes to the other vocational school. The Committee voted to also send a letter to the governor in solidarity with Cummington regarding this issue.

### Superintendent

In the ongoing search for the district's interim superintendent, two applicants were brought in on Dec. 10 for an open meeting.

Morgan said they hope to have the new interim superintendent start on Jan. 6 once chosen. She said once an interim candidate is hired, the focus can then shift to finding a permanent superintendent.

### **COMMUNITY**

# Brimfield welcomes Christmas with annual tree lighting

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

BRIMFIELD — Towns across the world are lighting up with twinkling lights, wreaths of pine, and red ribbon bows as the holiday season arrives, and Christmas is swiftly

The town held its tree-lighting ceremony over the weekend, and it did not disappoint, bringing with it an array of new and fun opportunities to get together with friends.

The Boy Scouts Troop 7 has been the face of the tree lighting for the past five to six years, bringing with them holiday cheer and a chance for the community to meet

This year, they had their own mini Festival of Wreaths for the very first time, where for a \$20 do-

BRIMFIELD | page 11





### **SCHOOLS**

# Student Ambassadors guide visitors through Pathfinder Tech's Career Night

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER - Last week, Pathfinder Technical Vocational School held its annual Career Night, where it invited families from all over the region to learn about the different programs the school has to offer.

Principal Ryan Rege, attending his first Career Night since assuming the role of principal, said that this year's turnout was incred-

"It's fantastic to see so many people interested in career and technical education," Rege said, "we're happy to have our students in all the tech programs showing off their skills and knowledge and giving demonstrations and showing these families what we do here.

Caitlin Phelps, Pathfinder's Cooperative Education Coordinator and Grants Administrator, said that Career Night is one of her favorite events, "because the com-



Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão Student Ambassadors Cameron Delamere, Jason Benmahidi, and Evan Connon guided students through the Automotive Department.

munity gets a window into what we see happening here every day."

"We have over 150 student volunteers who come to share their excitement and passion about the awesome things they're doing in their tech programs, and the staff

has an opportunity to share their energy and joy about what we do here at Pathfinder Tech," Phelps

Superintendent Eric Duda

PATHFINDER | page 5



### MARSEILLE, PARIS, ZEUS, & SHELBY

This is Marseille, Paris, and Zeus, with Shelby in the back. They live together with Maryann Carter-Laventure in Palmer. 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.

# Candlelight Christmas Eve church service

PALMER—St. Paul's Church of Palmer warmly invites the community to a Christmas Eve by Candlelight Service on Saturday, Dec. 24, at 5:30 p.m. This meaningful and festive service will feature music, readings, poetry, prayers, and candle lighting.

Experience the joy of the Christmas story through beloved hymns and a retelling of the birth of Jesus. The service will also include a reading of The Night Before Christmas and other inspirational selections. The evening will conclude with the singing of Silent Night and a beautiful candlelight ceremony.

St. Paul's Music Director, Wes Hunter, a gifted tenor, pianist, and sought-after soloist and choral/ ensemble singer, will lead a joyful and inspiring hour of music and holiday cheer.

Reverend Steven Sousa, minister of St. Paul's, extends this heartfelt invitation: "We hope you and your family will join us as we joyfully celebrate the birth of Christ. Our 5:30 p.m. service provides a wonderful opportunity for the Palmer community to gather in celebration and still leaves plenty of time for family festivities in the evening.

The Christmas Eve by Candlelight Service will take place in the sanctuary of St. Paul's Church, located at the corner of Park and Central Streets from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

# Christmas carol performance

MONSON— The First Church of Monson choir will present a Christmas carol program, entitled Christmas Songs around the World, on Sunday, Dec. 15, from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Silver Street Chapel, 224 Silver St. The program includes choir numbers, background information on the music, and plenty of carols and popular Christmas songs for everyone to sing. The newly refurbished historic chapel, decorated for Christmas, will be worth the visit. Admission is free, and refreshments will be served. Donations for the upkeep of the chapel will be gratefully accepted.

# MassDot public meeting about Palmer rail station

PALMER— MassDOT in- asked to provide feedback on the vites the public to a public information meeting on the Palmer rail station planning and design project on Monday, Dec. 16, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Palmer Public Library, Community Room.

The project team will provide an overview of the study's background, the station site alternatives and evaluation, and design considerations for a potential future rail station in Palmer. Attendees will be site alternatives and design considerations. All comments will be taken into consideration as Mass-DOT and the Steering Committee move forward in the site selection process. For individuals who are unable to attend, comments and questions may be submitted electronically to andrew.m.koziol@ dot.state.ma.us . About the project As part of MassDOT's Compass Rail program to expand intercity

passenger rail in Massachusetts, MassDOT is conducting a study to identify a new passenger rail station along the proposed Compass Rail corridor serving the Town of Palmer and surrounding communities. The proposed new passenger rail station will enhance mobility and connectivity, support local planning goals, and drive economic development.

# Amvets supports Toys for Tots



**Members of Sons of AMVETS Post #74 in Three** Rivers prepared to deliver over 250 toys collected from the AMVets family and community to benefit the local Toys for Tots campaign.

Staff Photos

# Tables on the Farm honors local veterans



The team from ServPro of Belchertown attend the



Owner Tara Weigle and her staff at Tables on the Farm hosted the Pasta Dinner for Veteran event.

PALMER— Tara Weigle and her staff at Tables on the Farm hosted a benefit dinner for local veter-

"I have veterans in my family and many veterans patronize the business. It is my honor to support these five men and women who have done so much for our country" said Weigle.

A full pasta dinner, with choices of meats, followed by a large selection of desserts was on the menu for the evening. The restaurant was full as patrons attended the event.

"This is our favorite place to go" said Kevin Fall, owner of ServPro in Belchertown. "This was a wonderful event to enjoy with my ServPro family and it's for a terrific cause.'

"We are honored to have the passionate support of local businesses like Tara and Tables on the Farm and our member did our community" said Tina Broman, Town of Palmer Veteran Service Officer.

After the event, Weigle and her team presented the Veterans Service office a donation of \$700 to support local veterans.

"We do what we can and we are happy to be a part of supporting our veterans" said Weigle.



Patrons at the dinner enjoy a night for a good cause.

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# **Town Administrator** shares updates from department heads

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON – At last week's Select Board meeting, the Town Administrator shared updates on numerous town departments, as provided by their respective department heads.

At the Nov. 26 meeting, the Select Board heard the Town Administrator's Report. Town Administrator Jennifer Wolowicz said she received blurbs from the department heads describing what they had been working on.

From the Highway Department, Wolowicz said that Hubby Hill has had approximately 2,000 feet of paving done on the end closer to Route 20. About 400 tons of mix was used, and this was funded through the highway budget.

"They're in the process of picking up leaves to clear the basins and the waterways," Wolowicz said. "If residents see the Highway Department picking up leaves, that's not something they're doing for residents, they're doing it to make sure the basins stay clear." Wolowicz said that salt and maintenance on trucks

has begun in order to prepare for the winter weather. She also mentioned a road grant that Conservation Agent Toni Uliana has in the works

"Under the Finance umbrella, Free Cash was certified by Sept. 30," Wolowicz said. "We completed our workers' compensation audit, which is an annual audit."

Wolowicz announced that the Capital Planning Committee has started meeting, as is common practice for the town at the beginning of the budget season. From the Conservation Commission, Wolowicz

announced that the town has received two grants. Both will be used for culvert replacements in two separate amounts, totaling \$189,500.

"That's going to be working to protect the habitat area for rare species, because it is a cold-water fisheries source," Wolowicz said.

Wolowicz said that Uliana was able to secure another grant for data collection of the town's air quality.

'She has five purple air-monitoring sensors that we received through the Department of Environmental Protection," Wolowicz said. "Monson is the first municipality to do this in the grant round, so we're excited for that."

There is a link on the Conservation Commission's page on the town website for people to see what the quality of air is at the time.

Wolowicz then went over the documentation she received from Planning Board Member Craig Sweitzer, including the Water and Sewer Commission meeting, replacing curb boxes, and completing the hydrant leak detection process. The report included the 15 seasonal shut-offs the department has had to do.

Wolowicz reported that Treasurer/Collector Sherri Roberson sent in that the year-in cash report has been completed and submitted, as well as the statement of indebtedness and the collector's outstanding receivables.

"She also did a presentation at the third grade for Mrs. Prentice's class on how taxes are calculated, collected, and how those funds are used," Wolowicz said. "Jamie (Farnum) and Sherri both did that, and they said it was great to be up at the school and interact with the children and the staff there."

While reporting on the Cemetery Department, Wolowicz described the third annual Historic Cemetery Walk as "fabulous."

"My husband and I attended," Wolowicz said. "I nk next year I have to get more of my family to come

Wolowicz also mentioned a proposed Eagle Scout project to install a butterfly garden in the existing Memorial Bench section of Hillcrest Cemetery.

'That project overview is going to involve removing overgrown shrubs and planting perennial flowers that will be maintained by the Eagle Scouts in perpetuity," Wolowicz said. "This will be at no cost to the town or any labor from the Cemetery Department.'

Wolowicz finished with her own department, which has involved routine meetings with department heads and staff, as well as coordinating training for the Zoning Board of Appeals and Planning Board with the town's new counsel.

Wolowicz said she, too, had the opportunity to read for a third-grade class, which happened at Granite Valley School. She has also had meetings with the DEP and Environmental Protection Agency regarding the clean-up of the Omega site.

The town has been interviewing for a vacancy in the Water/Sewer Department, and reviewed the results of the Highway Department's hearing test results.

The Town Administrator's report is available for viewing on the town website.



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# Town fills a cruiser with toys in charity drive

PALMER - This past Saturday, a toy collection was held at the Palmer Police station to benefit local youth of Palmer.

Lori Chiacchia of the Santa's Elves of Palmer and the palmer lions club coordinated the event. "This is my 5th year doing the toy drive. All toys go to families in Palmer that reach out to me that are in need for the holiday" said Chiacchia.

"This is an impressive day" said Paul Burns, Palmer Police chief. "We have emptied the cruiser four times and it's only Noon.'

"The day went amazing as always. Demore's Automotive provides donuts and coffee, the Grinch handed out Grinch cookies to kids. Crafts were inside for kids to do. A huge thank you to the palmer police station. Pizza supplied for all the workers. The Palmer domestic task force have participated every year also and we give them some toys for the children they need it for. Palmer ambulance collected food for the palmer food pantry. Also, the Palmer Lions club has been a great partner every year" said Chiacchia.

"This is a multi organization event and the support from people local and beyond is very appreciated. I love doing what I do. Seeing families filled with happiness and joy of the Christmas spirit when they come pick up their items. Puts a huge smile on my face and warms my heart" said Chiacchia.



A team of volunteers were there to collect toys, local benefactors dropped off new, unwrapped toys for this weekends toy drive.

Owner Debbie Lawrence of Tee Jay's Tavern in Monson present the Marines with over 100 toys collected from the Tavern and the Purcell-LaBreque American Legion Post 241 of Monson community.

# Free meditative gatherings

PALMER— Wednesday's Child, an acoustic/ electric band, will be offering a free meditative gathering Dec. 15, at Second Congregational Church, 1080 Pleasant St., beginning at 3 p.m. This gathering will include music, poetry, silence and candlelight for those hurting during the holidays.

Some people are mourning the death of a loved one. Some are far from home. Some suffer from illness, addiction, or estrangement. Some are lonely, struggling financially or in conflict with another. And some feel the wounds and angst of a nation and world torn apart by fear, violence, and bigotry. The reasons to gather during this season are varied, including solace, sanctuary, and solidarity.

Committed to hosting small, informal gatherings for reflection and renewal since 2007, Wednesday's Child consists of Dave McDermott, John Haddad, Eva Perri Maaia, Dianne de Mott, Jon Grenoble and Rev. James Lumsden.

They have crafted periodic soul-care events in the Berkshires to encourage resistance to hate, hosted concerts celebrating "A Love Supreme" by John Coltrane and Paul Winter's "Missa Gaia" and shared their music and poetry collective to raise funds for friends relocating from Afghanistan, the work of BEAT(Berkshire Environmental Action Team) as well regional emergency heating and food assistance projects.

The gathering will be based upon the music of Josh Ritter, Joni Mitchell, Carrie Newcomer, Jackson Browne, Sarah McLachlan, Tom Waits, the Eels, the Stones and the Grateful Dead, as well as poetry of Naomi Shihab Nye, Wendell Berry and Jan Richardson, as a tender reprieve from the brutal banality of the blues some people experience during the so called "most wonderful time of the year." The combination of song, silence, poetry, and candle lighting, with a few inter-faith seasonal prayers will be followed by fellowship and refreshments. For more information, contact the church office at 413-283-6958.



The Grinch recounted how he stole Christmas to families and children who attended the event.



Santa Claus visited kids aged 1 to 92 at this weekend's Breakfast event.



Mrs. and Santa Claus visited with local families at this weekend's Breakfast event.

**SANTA** I from page 1

donations from a young girl who raised money to buy toys for needy families, and receiving a call from the Better Bean about five bags that had been donated by a customer. Davis described herself as "truly humbled and blessed."

The First Church of Monson is located at 5 High St. If you'd like to learn more about the church, you can call them at 413-267-3312, or visit their website at FirstChurchMonson.org.

If you'd like to get in contact with Monson Together, you can send an email to Admin@MonsonTogether.com.



Youth volunteers wore **Christmas hats and** antlers for a picturew with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

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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 journalregster@ turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our



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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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# Viewpoints



# Am I entitled to more Social Security from my ex-husbands?

**Dear Rusty:** 

I am 76 years old and a retired high school counselor/teacher. I was married to my first husband from 1968 until 1981. He is still living and he remarried two more times and, I believe, he is currently divorced. He is 77 years old. His income was always much higher than mine. I was married to my second husband from May 1989 until we divorced in April 2017. My second husband died in June 2023. What I wonder is if I am entitled to receive Social Security benefits based upon the income of either of my ex-husbands?

**Signed: Twice Divorced Spouse** 

### **Dear Twice Divorced:**

Divorced spouses are entitled to the same benefits as a current spouse if their marriage lasted at least 10 years which, in both cases, yours did. The other caveat is whether your own SS retirement benefit is less than you are entitled to from either of your ex-husbands. If your own SS retirement benefit is less, then you will get an incremental amount on top of your own SS retirement to bring your total monthly benefit up to your spousal or surviving spouse) entitlement.

Since your first husband is still living, it is likely that your best financial option is to claim a surviving ex-spouse benefit from your deceased second husband. The reason is that survivor benefits from husband # 2 are based on his actual benefit at his death, whereas benefits from a living ex-spouse, husband #1, are based upon his full retirement amount. In other words, it is likely that 100% of deceased husband #2's benefit at his death is more than 50%of living husband #1's current benefit at his Full Retirement Age.

It is, of course, possible that 50% of your first husband's FRA entitlement is more than 100% of your second husband's benefit at death, in which case your ex-spouse benefit from your first husband could be more. The only way to sort this out is to contact Social Security at -.800-772-1213 to make an appointment to apply for surviving ex-spouse benefits from your deceased second husband. Explain that your first ex-husband is still living and that you are unsure of what your benefits are as your first husband's ex-spouse.

Social Security will be able to determine om their records, which one provides you with a higher benefit amount, provide each husband's Social Security number when you call. As I said, your best financial option will likely be to take your survivor benefit from your deceased second ex-husband note, however, if your first ex-husband also dies before you, you can subsequently file for a survivor benefit from him, if that is more than you are getting from your second husband's record.

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

Tips for a health holiday

SPRINGFIELD— At a time when doctors' offices typically get flooded with patients, Dr. Andrew Koslow, associate medical director of American Family Care for Massachusetts, is offering tips to make sure people are spreading holiday cheer instead of viruses and illnesses. The advice is simple: Wash hands more frequently; Get plenty of rest; Stay hydrated; Eat well-balanced nutritious meals; Get flu, COVID, pneumonia and RSV vaccinations as

recommended; and avoid anyone who is sick. "People tend to run themselves down in the weeks and days leading up to holidays. It's easy to get caught up in the frenetic pace of parties, shopping and burning the candle at both ends," said Koslow. "Even if you're young and healthy, when visiting relatives who may be at risk, you could make them sick."

Koslow said it's also important for families to be aware of a recent spike in mycoplasma pneumonia infections across the country, also known as walking pneumonia. Symptoms can vary, ranging from cough to fever, shortness of breath, chest pain and nausea.

"Mycoplasma pneumonia is easily treated with antibiotics," said Koslow. "The important thing is to get lots of rest if you experience these symptoms. See a doctor and stay home."



# Live tabletop Christmas trees become year-round houseplants

Norfolk Island pines are nearly as popular as poinsettias this time of year, gracing chain store and supermarket shelves just after the Thanksgiving holiday, or perhaps soon after Halloween, these days!

Not sure exactly what they look like? Think mini Christmas tree.

These cute conifers come table top ready, predecorated with tiny little ornaments and a festive foil sleeve. Most stand less than a foot tall, yet the amount of holiday cheer the bring to someone who otherwise wouldn't have a Christmas tree is immeasurable.

Unlike cut Christmas trees, potted

Pines need not be discarded once the holidays have passed. Simply take their decorations off and they become an easy to maintain house-

Although they look as if they would be hardy to

our area, they are not, so don't plan on giving them a spot outdoors come springtime, or you'll lose them with the first hard frost of fall. Norfolk Island, from which the plant hails, is situated in the southern Pacific Ocean, northeast of Sydney, Australia a much warmer climate indeed!

The only locations within the United States that the Norfolk Island pine is hardy are Hawaii, and parts of Florida and California. Southern Florida is home to many commercial growers of the plant.

folk Island pine isn't a true pine at all. Rather it is an evergreen plant with nee-

Side branches rise from the main stem at wide angles, giving it a symmetrical, triangular outline, especially when young. In the wild, heights can top off around 200 feet, with diameters between 9 and 10 feet. As a houseplant, it is very slow growing.

To keep your Norfolk Island pine looking its best for seasons to come, provide it with good quality light- a few feet from a south or west facing window is ideal. Give it a quarter turn at each watering and you will be rewarded with a nice straight stem.

If window space is out of the question, it will do okay in a well-lit room as well, providing the lights are on for most of the day. Temperatures should range between 60-70 degrees during the day; slightly cooler at night.

It is important that the Norfolk Island pine be kept from temps below 50 degrees for any length of time or injury may occur. Therefore, be sure it is in a bag or protective sleeve when you bring it home from the store in chilly winter weather.

Keep its soil moist but not soaking

Sometimes lower limbs may brown and then drop. Age, as well as erratic watering can cause this problem. Repot and check watering practices.

Fertilize in the spring, once active growth resumes.

Perhaps the most cherished of all tender herbs is Rosemary (Rosemarinus officinalis), the herb of remembrance. Its needle like leaves and fragrant foliage make it a wonderful candidate for use as a table top Christmas tree!

One of the more common questions when people toured Old Sturbridge Vil-

lage's greenhouse in the off-season, "How do you manage to overwinter your rosemaries? They are some of the biggest I've ever seen!'

In a controlled setting such as a greenhouse, it's really

not that difficult. Tender plants can be given as much sun as Mother Nature provides, but with the use of thermostats and vents, temperatures can be kept to a minimum.

We set the thermostat at 55 degree night temperatures, and vents opened when daytime heat reaches seventy. Low temperatures like these won't push the plants into growth when winter day length and daylight can't support it. Because of this the plants are stocky, not lanky.

We watered when the soil is dry to the It is interesting to note that the Nor- touch – sometimes this might be as infrequently as twice a week during an overcast stretch, or as often as every day if the sun is out. For home culture, a sunny but cool locale is best.

For me, it's my "mudroom!"

One treat that many gardeners don't get to appreciate is the beautiful blue flowers that are borne on the plant in the short days of winter. Legend ties the plant to the Virgin Mary, saying that flowers that were originally white were turned to blue when she spread her cloak on its branches.

Yet another reason that makes it a great choice for a mini Christmas tree!

With any luck, a Norfolk Island pine and Rosemary can go from being great Christmas decorations to wonderful year round houseplants.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@ turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

## **Second Chance expands Project Keep Me**

EAST BROOKFIELD— Second Chance Animal Services is proud to announce the expansion of its groundbreaking Project Keep Me program to include services for veterans seeking in-patient treatment. Since its inception, Project Keep Me has provided temporary housing for the beloved pets of domestic violence survivors, allowing individuals to prioritize their safety while knowing their pets are well cared for. With this new addition, Project Keep Me will now support veterans undergoing in-patient care, offering a lifeline for those who may struggle to find accommodations for their pets during critical treatment periods.

"Project Keep Me has been a vital resource for survivors of domestic violence, and we're thrilled to now offer this support to veterans as well," said Sheryl Blancato, CEO and founder of Second Chance Animal Services. "Expanding the program to include veterans means we can help keep veterans and their pets together, allowing them to focus on healing and recovery."

For veterans facing the difficult decision to seek in-patient treatment, Project Keep Me provides a solution to ensure the safety and well-being of their pets, allowing them to focus fully on recovery. Pets enrolled in the program will receive temporary housing, food, and medical care as needed, with support extending up to 90 days. This temporary arrangement not only eases the burden on pet owners but also reinforces the importance of pets as a source of comfort and companionship during recovery.

"Veterans who need in-patient treatment are often unable to access the resources they need because they have no safe place to board their pets," said Blancato. "We're committed to making sure that neither survivors nor veterans have to choose between their own health and the safety of their beloved pets."

Since launching, Project Keep Me has served as a lifeline for domestic violence survivors, and with the addition of veteran support, Second Chance aims to extend this critical assistance to even more individuals in need. As demand for services grows, Second Chance is seeking support to help fund and expand the program further. Second Chance invites community members, businesses, and philanthropic partners to support Project Keep Me through donations. For more information about Project Keep Me or to support this initiative, visit www.secondchanceanimals.org/project-keep-me/.

## **Letters to the Editor**

### Thank you Palmer ambulance service

I would like to salute the Palmer ambulance service for the many years of service that they have provided to the citizens of this town. The dedication and compassion of the professional staff was second to none. Since we moved here from Springfield in 1989, we must have heard the siren 500 times, affirming to those in need, that help was on the way. I have literally seen the"Rig" in every driveway on my street; including my own. The dedicated staff were not only employees, they were also neighbors from our community who cared. "Smitty" the paramedic was also "Smitty' the barber, who cut my hair. My own grandson worked for them as a paramedic for several years.

Tucked away in an obscure building on Shearer Street, they seemed to have just closed the doors and passed silently into the night; unnoticed, as heroes often do. Well, as a resident of Palmer, I would like to stand up and say Thank You and Godspeed to the Palmer Ambulance Service and all the selfless staff for a job well

> Gratefully **Al Couture** Palmer Resident



### HAMILTON ON FOREIGN POLICY

# Most Americans aren't obsessed with politics

The 2024 election is over, but the arguments about what it means are continuing.

Did Donald Trump and the Republican Party win a mandate to govern as they wish? Did Democrats try too hard to appeal to their political base? Or not hard

But drawing conclusions about the meaning of an election, especially about what it says about the American people, is difficult. Most voters simply aren't that focused on politics. They aren't obsessed with the latest news from Washington or what the candidates are

As Kentucky Gov. Andy Beshear writes in a recent New York Times column, "When most Americans wake up in the morning, they are not thinking about politics." They are thinking about their jobs, their finances, their next doctor's appointment. They are thinking about feeding their families and getting their children off to school. They want to know their communities are safe.

"If you are staring at the cost of your child's precription and wondering how you are going to pay for both it and your family's dinner," Beshear writes, "the offense of the day in Washington, D.C. or the latest crazy thing a politician said just isn't as important."

I couldn't agree more. Those of us who write about government and public affairs often forget that we're in the minority. For most people, they may follow the news, and most of them will vote; but politics, especially national politics, isn't at the top of their daily con-

One of the first lessons I learned when I was in Congress was that people care deeply about local matters. They pay a lot less attention to national issues. They are even less worried about international affairs.

Their concerns are much closer to home. In my district, the experience was the same whether I was visiting with constituents in cafes, speaking to service clubs or meeting with reporters and editors at local newspapers. People, whether they were Democrats or Republicans, were focused on their communities. They wanted to talk about a new factory, a planned road project or the local school system.

People do pay attention to the national economy, because it affects their lives. They may not know the latest inflation or unemployment numbers, but they know when costs go up for gas, groceries and housing. They care about crime, but their focus is on community

It's true, of course, that Donald Trump has upended our politics, putting himself at the center of every issue.

The decline of local newspapers, coupled with the rise of talk radio, cable TV news and social media, has nationalized our politics. Tune in CNN or Fox News, and you might think every national issue is a matter of life and death.

Politicians often amplify this thinking as they compete to turn highly motivated voters in a tight election. But that's not most Americans. Most care deeply about their families, their neighbors and their communities. They want the government to share those concerns.

Beshear is a Democrat who has twice been elected governor of a state that just voted 65-35 for Trump. He recommends a focus on kitchen-table issues as a way forward for his party.

"The focus of the Democratic Party must return to creating better jobs, more affordable and accessible health care, safer roads and bridges, the best education for our children and communities where people aren't just safer but also feel safer," he writes.

In fact, that should be a good agenda for any politician, Democrat or Republican. Meeting the people where they live and trying to improve their day-to-day lives isn't just good politics. It's good governing. We'll all be better off if our elected officials remember that.

Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.



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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of

Please send opinions to: The Journal Register Letter to the Editor 24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069, or by e-mail to: journalregister@turley.com

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 on the ballot or discussing campaigr issues should be sent to The Journa 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 numbe for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that ters will be printed. No letters writter by candidates supporting their owr 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 ewspaper 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 at torney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election as well as a question-and-answe voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no politica press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or

fundraisers. Candidates who wish to furthe publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in



Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão Amber and Jayla Tower were able to tour the carpentry department on Career Night.

### **PATHFINDER** I from page 1

described Career Night as "an overwhelming success, drawing a record-breaking crowd of over 1,100 attendees; the largest turnout in the event's history."

"This was more than double the anticipated crowd size," Duda said. "The evening showcased the exceptional opportunities available through career and technical education at Pathfinder Tech, with more than 150 dedicated students volunteering their time to ensure the event ran smoothly."

Evan Connon, a student ambassador in Pathfinder's Automotive Department, said that the students receive no extra credit for volunteering, seeing it as an opportunity to represent their department.

"We kind of just give people a clear rundown, and explain the basics of what goes on and what we do," Connon said.

Another senior ambassador, Cooper Ferguson, described his experience leading families through his department.

"It's good to talk to people and answer questions, see what they're thinking about it, and get the next generation of people coming here," Ferguson said. "That's the cool part about it."

Eric Simard of the Electrical Department said that because of the work done by the student ambassadors, his role was primarily supervisory.

"We were thankful that we had 25 of our own students volunteer their time this evening to come here and help the program," Simard said. "All of these students, they organize and orchestrate all of this. They designed the different activities that they want to show the younger kids, and they're running the whole show. I'm just here to make sure nobody gets hurt."

In addition to trade skills like automotive, electrical, carpentry, and more, Career Night is also an opportunity for the cosmetology department to show off

"We do skincare, everything to do with hair, and nails," said Cosmetology Teacher Cindy Rubin. "Kids accumulate 1,000 hours in our program and take their license through the state board to become licensed cosmetologists.'

"It's really nice, it's a very flexible type of career," Rubin said. "It's got a lot of options, and now they have med spas. Everything to do with technology has grown so much, and there are all sorts of very expensive ma-

chines to slough dead skin off, so there is a lot of stuff." The teachers, students, and administration all described an enthusiasm about sharing the school's facilities with families and potential future students.

"It's awesome to see the younger kids come in and see the wheels turning in their brains about what school could be like for them and what kind of an experience they might enjoy as they look toward the future for themselves," said Phelps.

"I couldn't be more pleased with the professionalism displayed by both our students and staff," Duda said. "The response from the community was nothing short of incredible. Throughout the night, I had the privilege of speaking with parents and alumni who shared their positive experiences and expressed their intention to send their own children to Pathfinder Tech.'

"It was clear from the conversations I had that parents are eager for their children to gain a competitive edge through our unique educational model, which allows students to earn both a high school diploma and a technical certification," Duda said.

Duda said that a key element to the event's success is the enthusiasm and commitment of our student volunteers.



Student ambassadors and their teacher welcomed people into the Cosmetology Department, (from left) Gabby Webster, Sophia Cessarini, Cindy Rubin, and Osmarie Lopez.



Leeann Murdza showed Sarah Mosio and Garrett, age 11, around the Pre-Engineering CAD Department.



Philip Brault and Brady Noonan enjoyed Career Night and sharing the services the school offers.



Marina Gurynov and Mylee Croak served dinner to families and residents attending Career Night.



Travis Chartier and Landen Whalen were excited to tour Pathfinder Tech on Career Night.



Lindsey Tracy, Marina Latourelle, and Olivia Falcone joined Therapy Dog Scout (front) to greet families arriving for Career Night.





The cafeteria at Pathfinder Tech is always full when the Culinary Arts Department offers dinner on Career Night.



Johnathan Young and Jake Foss observed an engine in the Automotive Department.

"These students did not only represent their own technical programs, but also spoke passionately about the wide array of opportunities available at Pathfinder Tech," Duda said. "From advanced placement courses to the four foreign languages we offer, and the full complement of athletic programs, our student volunteers highlighted the diverse and enriching environment that sets Pathfinder Tech apart."

"This event could not have been possible without their support and dedication," Duda said. "I am incredibly proud of the entire Pathfinder Tech community for making this Career Night the most successful one yet."

To learn more about the different programs and events Pathfinder Tech has to offer, you can visit their website at PathfinderTech.org.

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Surrounded by donated and decorated trees, (from left) David Golden, Rachel McNally, and Bob Haveles.



The Palmer Public Library builds a book-tree for the Tree and Wreath Festival every year.



The Historical and Cultural Center was filled with Christmas Trees decorated by local businesses and organizations.



Tree and Wreath Festival by the Palmer Historical and **Cultural Center.** 



An associate of the company was pictured with the tree donated by New England Mechanical Services.

Various unique trees

decorated by local busi-

annual Tree and Wreath

nesses to support the

were designed and

Festival.



trees to the Historical and Cultural Center's Tree and Wreath Festival.



Various local businesses and organizations donated



Joy Trombley and Gloria Byrnes donated a blue-andwhite decorated tree in the name of the Police Depart-



Gloria Byrnes and Joy Trombley volunteered to help run this year's Tree and Wreath Festival.



The Historical and

decorated for the

Wreath Festival.

**Cultural Center was** 

12th annual Tree and





### TREES I from page 1

provides many of the events year round, including lectures, classes, workshops, plays, live music, and family entertainment.

Bob Haveles, President of the PHCC, said that events like this festival "would not even happen if it wasn't for volunteers."

Haveles made sure to praise Golden's work.

"Dave spearheads and orga-

USDA INSP. HATFIELD OLD TIME

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HAM PORTIONS BUTT & SHANI

USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS

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SKINLESS SHANKLESS

HARDWOOD SMOKED

USDA INSP. FROZEN COOK'S

they arrived at the festival. Gloria Byrnes and Joy Trombley said they enjoyed their work with the council. "It's very rewarding," said By-

all the trees. It's a great cause." Golden said that any additional fundraising from the festival goes

rnes. "We make it fun, decorating

toward the events held by the Cultural Society.

"The generosity every year

ming. We're an all volunteer organization, nobody's paid, so all the money goes to the activities go to the activities of the Culture Center."

A Loved Ones Tree was displayed for guests to purchase an ornament and write the name of a loved one they wish to remember. The Loved Ones Tree is set up each year with all the ornaments that have been purchased over the years.

the Historical and Cultural Council, visit their website at PalmerHCC.



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**FOOTBALL** 

# Rodriguez Rivera receives the 56th Leonard J. Bailey Award



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Guillermo Rodriguez Rivera was the recipient of this year's Bailey Award. Due to scheduling conflicts, the award was given during Palmer's matchup last month against Ware.

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

PALMER—For only the second time since 1969, the prestigious Leornard J. Bailey Award wasn't given to a member of the Palmer High School football team at halftime of the Thanksgiving Day game against Ludlow.

The two rivals didn't face each other on Thanksgiving morning in 2020 due to the Covid 19 Pandemic.

The members of the Leonard J. Bailey Memorial Committee decided to change the date of this year's award ceremony.

The 56th award recipient is senior Guillermo Rodriguez Rivera. He received the Bailey Award Trophy from Andrew Healey, who was the Bailey award winner as a senior a year ago, at halftime of the annual Ware and Palmer football game, which took place at historic Legion Field in Pamer on November 2.

"When Andrew Healey received the Bailey Award at halftime of last year's Thanksgiving Day game, I told him that I really wanted to win it next year," Rivera said. "He told me to always work and be a good teammate and have good grades. That's exactly what I did. Even though we lost to Ware (7-6) in today's game, I'm very excited about receiving this award."

Bailey was a football and base-



ball coach at Palmer High School for only a couple of years in the early 1960's, but he made a lifelong impact on his players. He passed away in 1968 at the age of 39. Bailey's daughter, Susan Avezzie, took part in this year's halftime ceremo-

The members of the Leonard J. Bailey Memorial Committee are David Russo, Ann Duke, Mrs. Rocky Blazejowski, Bob Chase, and James St. Amand.

"It's been an honor and privilege to present this award for the last 56 years in memory of a fine outstanding coach and super person," said St. Amand, who played both baseball and football for Bailey. "The 56 recipients have been a credit to their families, school, and

While a senior has normally received the Bailey Award in the past, the Palmer coaching staff can select any player listed on the football roster. The recipient must possess the qualities of sportsmanship, ability, team spirit, attitude, selflessness, and academic achievement.

The award winner receives a personal trophy, a gift certificate, and his name is inscribed in the school's Memorial Trophy Case.

"Even though I never met coach Bailey, I'm very glad that we still remember him by presenting a special award to a student-athlete, who gives the same amount of effort and commitment as he did," said Palmer varsity football coach and athletic director Matt Marciniec. "I'm planning on continuing this wonderful tradition as long as I'm associated with Palmer High School."

Healey and Rivera were teammates on the Panthers football team for a couple of years.

"Guillermo always gives 100 percent effort in every practice and game," said Healey, who wished that he was still on the field playing in the rivalry game against Ware

RIVERA | page 8

lead to more

compliance

of scheduling

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

Arbiter Live website to look at your favorite team's schedule, you will notice the end of every season

has anywhere from one to three

after their failure to comply with the rule resulted in forfeits being assigned to Monson, Minnechaug,

and Pathfinder for either Western

Mass. or nonplayoff games played

following the end of the regular

ful in terms of determining the

schools' power ranking for the

state tournament. Minnechaug and

The forfeits were meaning-

PALMER - If you go on the

These filler dates were the subject of lawsuits filed by Minnechaug and Monson High Schools

**HIGH SCHOOLS** 

Lawsuits

rule

"filler dates."

### **BASKETBALL**

# Ethan Ortyl to take helm of Pathfinder boys basketball

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

PALMER—Ethan Ortyl was hired as a history teacher at Pathfinder Tech prior to the start of the 2024-25 school year. He's also the first-year head coach of the Pioneers boys' varsity basketball

"I really wanted a teaching position where I could contribute to the culture of the school outside of the classroom," said Ortyl during a recent interview. "I really enjoy history, and basketball has always been one of my passions."

Ortyl graduated from South Hadley High School in 2019 and from UMass-Amherst in 2022. He replaced Zac Button as a history teacher and the boys' varsity basketball coach at Pathfinder Tech.

Ortyl did his student teaching last year at Putnam Vocational Technical Academy in Springfield.

"It was part of the Teach 180 days in Springfield program, which was an awesome experience for me," he said. "There was another teacher in the classroom with me for the first few months of the school year. I taught my own class during the second half of the school year. I was nervous at first,

but the kids at Putnam were great. indoor and outdoor track team at I also had a very good mentor. After teaching at Putnam, I knew that I wanted to work at a vocational school. I'm very thankful that the teaching and coaching position was open here at Pathfinder Tech. Everyone has been very helpful to me during the first few months of the school year."

Laura Asson is the head of the History Department at Pathfinder

"Laura has really helped me a lot so far this year," Ortyl added. "I teach a World History class to the freshmen and U.S. History to the sophomores. I also teach a History of War class to the juniors and seniors. I've really enjoyed teaching the three different history classes."

Another person who Ortyl is hoping to get some coaching advice from is Kevin Aldrich, who's the Pathfinder girls' varsity hoop

"Kevin has been coaching here for a very longtime and I'm looking forward to speaking with him during the course of the season," Ortyl said. "I want my players to support the girl's team at their games. I hope they come to our games."

Ortyl was a member of the

South Hadley High School. He attended all the other Tigers sporting events as a fan.

"I always used to sit in the front row of the bleachers and root for the South Hadley teams," he said. "My twin brother, Will, was a member of the hockey, baseball, and golf teams."

Even though Ethan Ortyl never played baseball in high school, one of his favorite coaches is Matt Foley, who's been coaching the Tigers varsity baseball team for

"I never played baseball for coach Foley, but I do have a ton of respect for him," Ortyl said. "I like how he runs his baseball program, and he really cares about his players. He also became a varsity coach at a very young age.'

Two of Ortyl's favorite teachers at South Hadley High School are Tim Bault and Madeline Wendt.

While he was a student at UMass, Ortyl was a manager for the Minutemen men's basketball

'I was a student manager for three years. Then I was the head manager for about eight months,"

PATHFINDER | page 8

### **BASKETBALL**



# **Pioneers** set for new season

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



Pathfinder girls basketball practices last Friday afternoon.

## **BASKETBALL**

# Blue Devils win at MJK tournament



Submitted photos

Palmer's sixth grade Suburban team, the Palmer Blue Devils went undefeated in the Play for MJK Turkey Day Jamboree Nov 29 to Dec 1. They finished with a 3-0 record defeating local competition from Chicopee, Lee and St. Pats. Town of Wilbraham hosted the tournament.

Pictured are: Back row: Levi Zajac, Jase Daley, Noel Mckee, Maxwell Wilkerson, Brennan Babinski, Mason Cowher. Front row: Seth Peets, Gunnar Paradiso, Dominick Venneri, Harry Musoke.

Monson were successful in secur-LAWSUITS | page 8

7 p.m.

7 p.m.

# **High School** Winter Varsity Schedule

Monday, Dec. 16

Thursday, Dec. 19 Home

# Palmer

**Boys Basketball** 

Friday, Dec. 13	Home	Southwick	7 p.m.	
Monday, Dec. 16	Away	Granby	7 p.m.	
Thursday, Dec. 19	Away	Monson	7 p.m.	
Monday, Dec. 23	Away	Renaissance	7 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Franklin Tech	7 p.m.	
Monday, Jan. 6	Away	Ware	7 p.m.	
Thursday, Jan. 9	Away	Southwick	7 p.m.	
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Home	Granby	7 p.m.	
Friday, Ĵan. 17	Home	Monson	7 p.m.	
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Home	Renaissance	7 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 24	Away	Belchertown	7 p.m.	
Wed. Jan. 29	Away	Smith Academy	7 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 31	Home	Ware	7 p.m.	
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	Athol	7 p.m.	
Wed. Feb. 5	Home	Pathfinder	7 p.m.	
Friday, Feb. 7	Home	Bay State Academy	7 p.m.	
Monday Feb. 10	Away	Bay State Academy	7 p.m.	
	Girls F	Basketball		
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Home	Southwick	7 p.m.	
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Wahconah	5 p.m.	
Monday, Dec. 30	Home	Sutton	6 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Greenfield	7 p.m.	
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Hopkins	7 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 10	Away	Mahar	7 p.m.	
Monday, Jan. 13	Away	Lenox	7 p.m.	
Wed., Jan. 15	Home	Easthampton	7 p.m.	
Monday, Jan. 20	Home	Frontier	7 p.m.	
Thursday, Jan. 23	Away	Belchertown	7 p.m.	
Monday, Jan. 27	Home	Greenfield	7 p.m.	
Thursday, Jan. 30	Away	Hopkins	7:30 p.m.	
Monday, Feb. 3	Home	Mahar	7 p.m.	
Tuesday, Feb. 4	Away	Frontier	7:30 p.m.	
Thursday, Feb. 6	Home	Lenox	6 p.m.	
Monday, Feb. 10	Away	Easthampton	7 p.m.	
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Home	Ware	7 p.m.	
Boy	s and G	irls Swimming		
Friday, Dec. 13	Away	Belchertown	4 p.m.	
Monday, Dec. 16	Home	Chicopee Comp.	4 p.m.	
Wed., Dec. 18	Away	Renaissance	4 p.m.	
Monday, Dec. 30	Home	Monson	4 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 3	Home	East Longmeadow	4 p.m.	
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Agawam	4 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 10	Away	West Springfield	4 p.m.	
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Home	Northampton	4 p.m.	
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Home	Amherst	4:30 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 24	Away	Central	4 p.m.	

Monday, Jan. 27

Wed. Jan. 29

Home

Home

Ludlow

Easthampton

4 p.m.

4 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 13

Monday, Dec. 16

	_	0 1					
Pa	ath	finder					
	Boys	Basketball					
Thursday, Dec. 12	Home	PV Christian	7 p.m.				
Monday, Dec. 16	Home	Mt. Everett	7 p.m.				
Monday, Dec. 23	Home	Ludlow	7 p.m.				
Monday, Dec. 30	Away	Gateway	6:30 p.m.				
Thusday, Jan. 2	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.				
Monday, Jan. 6	Away	Smith Vocational	6 p.m.				
Thursday, Jan. 9	Home	Hampden Charter	7 p.m.				
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Away	PVCIC	6:30 p.m.				
Friday, Jan. 17	Away	St. Mary's	7 p.m.				
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	PV Christian	6 p.m.				
Friday, Jan. 24	Home	Duggan	7 p.m.				
Tuesday, Jan. 28	Away	Monson	6:30 p.m.				
Friday, Jan. 31	Home	Gateway	7 p.m.				
Tuesday, Feb. 4	Away	Smith Vocational	6:30 p.m.				
Wednesday, Feb. 5		Hampden Charter	7 p.m.				
Friday, Feb. 7	Home	PVCIC	7 p.m.				
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Away	St. Mary's	6:30 p.m.				
	Girls	Basketbal					
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Home	PVCIC	6 p.m.				
Friday, Dec. 20	Away	Duggan	6 p.m.				
Friday, Dec. 27	Home	Smith Academy	6 p.m.				
Monday, Dec. 30	Home	Gateway	6 p.m.				
Friday, Jan. 3	Home	Baystate Academy	6 p.m.				
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	St. Mary's	6 p.m.				
Friday, Jan. 10	Away	Hampden Charter	6 p.m.				
Monday, Jan. 13	Home	Sci-Tech	6 p.m.				
Thursday, Jan. 16	Away	Westfield Tech	6 p.m.				
Monday, Jan. 20	Home	Duggan	6 p.m.				
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	McCann Tech	6 p.m.				
Thursday, Jan. 23	Away	Smith Academy	6 p.m.				
Monday, Jan. 27	Away	Gateway	6:30 p.m.				
Wednesday, Jan. 2	_	Away Mohawk	7 p.m.				
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	St. Mary's	6 p.m.				
Thursday, Feb. 6	Home	Hampden Charter	6:30 p.m.				
Friday, Feb. 7	Home	McCann Tech	5 p.m.				
Monday, Feb. 10	Away	Sci-Tech	6 p.m.				
Ice Ho	Ice Hockey (co-op with Amherst)						
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Home	Greenfield	8:15 p.m.				
Thursday, Dec. 19	Home	Chicopee	8 p.m.				
Monday, Dec. 23	Away	Longmeadow	10 a.m.				
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Minnechaug	2 p.m.				
Thursday, Jan. 2	Home	Agawam	6 p.m.				
Saturday, Jan. 4	Away	McCann Tech	6 p.m.				
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Ludlow	5:15 p.m.				
Thursday, Jan. 9	Home	Easthampton	6 p.m.				
Wed. Jan. 15	Away	Taconic	7:30 p.m.				
Wed., Jan. 22	Home	McCann Tech	5:15 p.m.				
Thursday Ian 22	Λινιαιν	Weetfield Tech	7 n m				

Westfield Tech

Easthampton

Southwick

Chicopee

Southwick

Smith Voke

Belchertown

**Taconic Duals** 

Wayland Duals

Frontier

Mohawk

Gateway

Monument Mtn.

Knight-Hawk Tourn. 10 a.m.

Agawam

Taconic

7 p.m.

7 p.m.

6 p.m.

4 p.m.

7 p.m.

8 a.m.

7 p.m.

7 p.m.

9 a.m.

7 p.m.

7 p.m.

10 a.m.

8:20 p.m.

8:40 p.m.

8:20 p.m.

Thursday, Jan. 23 Away

Thursday, Feb. 13 Home

Saturday, Dec. 14 Away

Away

Away

Away

Home

Away

Away

Away

Home

Away

Away

Home

Away

Wed., Jan. 29

Wed., Feb. 5

Saturday, Feb. 1

Monday, Feb. 10

Tuesday, Feb. 11

Wed., Dec. 18

Friday, Dec. 27

Wed. Jan. 8

Wed., Jan. 15

Wed., Jan. 29

Saturday, Feb. 1

Thursday, Jan. 2

Saturday, Jan. 11

# Monson

**Boys Basketball** 

Away

Renaissance

Palmer

Tiluisuay, Dec. 13	HOHIC	i aiiiidi	<i>i</i> p.iii
Friday, Dec. 20	Away	South Hadley	7 p.m
Monday, Dec. 23	Home	Southwick	7 p.m
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Ware	7 p.m
Monday, Jan. 6	Away	Granby	7 p.m
Thursday, Jan. 9	Home	Ware	7 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Home	Renaissance	7 p.m
Friday, Jan. 17	Away	Palmer	7 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	Southwick	7 p.m
Friday, Jan. 24	Away	Pathfinder	7 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 28	Away	Baystate Academy	7 p.m
Wed. Jan. 29	Home	Hampshire	7 p.m
Friday, Jan. 31	Home	Granby	7 p.m
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	North Brookfield	5:30 p.m
Wed. Feb. 5	Home	Lee	7 p.m
	Home		
Friday, Feb. 7		Easthampton Ludlow	7 p.m
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Away	Luulow	7 p.m
	Girle	Basketball	
Tuesday, Dec. 17	Home	Wahconah	6 p.m
Friday, Dec. 20	Away	Hoosac	6 p.m
Friday, Dec. 27	Home	Hampshire	_
	_	Wahconah	7 p.m
Friday, Jan. 3	Away		7 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Away	Granby	7 p.m
Friday, Jan. 10	Away	Hampshire	7 p.m
Monday, Jan. 13	Home	Taconic	7 p.m.
Wed., Jan. 15	Home	Chicopee Comp.	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17	Home	Baystate Acad.	6 p.m.
Wed. Jan. 22	Home	South Hadley	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	Away	Amherst	7 p.m
Monday, Jan. 27	Away	Agawam	7 p.m
Thursday, Jan. 30	Home	Hoosac	6 p.m
Saturday, Feb. 1	Away	SICS	2 p.m
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	Taconic	7 p.m
Thursday, Feb. 6	Away	South Hadley	7 p.m
Monday, Feb. 10	Home	Amherst	7 p.m
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Away	Westfield	7 p.m
	1.0		
		Girls Swimming	4.00 n m
Friday, Dec. 13	Away	Turners Falls	4:30 p.m
Monday, Dec. 16	Home	Hampden Charter	4 p.m
Wed., Dec. 18	Home	Chicopee	4 p.m
Monday, Dec. 23	Away	Central	4 p.m
Monday, Dec. 30	Away	Palmer	4 p.m
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Amherst	4:30 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Westfield	5 p.m
Friday, Jan. 10	Home	Holyoke	4:30 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Away	Renaissance	4 p.m
Friday, Jan. 17	Home	Turners Falls	4 p.m
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Home	Hampden Charter	4 p.m
Monday, Jan. 27	Away	Chicopee	4 p.m

# Tantasqua

**Boys Basketball** 

Away

Home

Doherty

Southbridge

6:30 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 20	Away	Leicester	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Home	David Prouty	12:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Shepherd Hill	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 30	Away	Minnechaug	12:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Millbury	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Home	Grafton	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 13	Home	Bartlett	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 16	Away	Northbridge	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 20	Home	Shrewsbury	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	Home	Uxbridge	6:45 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 27	Home	Nashoba	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 30	Away	Oxford	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 3	Home	South	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 6	Home	Auburn	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Away	Quaboag	6:30 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 12	Away	Holyoke	6:30 p.m.
		Basketball	
Monday, Dec. 16	Away	Holyoke	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19	Home	Auburn	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Away	South	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Millbury	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 30	Home	Chicopee Comp.	5:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Minnechaug	12:30 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Home	Grafton	6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 9	Home	Northbridge	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17	Away	Leicester	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Home	Leominster	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	Away	Auburn	6:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 28	Home	Millbury	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31	Away	Grafton	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	Notre Dame Acad.	6 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 5	Home	Longmeadow	6:30 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7	Away	Northbridge	6:30 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Home	Leicester	6:30 p.m.

### **Indoor Track (all meets at Tantasqua)**

Home

Home

Away

Wed., Feb. 15

Wed., Jan. 22

Friday, Jan. 24

Thursday, Jan. 30 Home

Shepherd Hill

5:30 p.m.

4 p.m.

7 p.m.

3:30 p.m.

	Indoor 1	racis (ar	i meets at Tamasqua)			
	Wednesday, Dec.	18	Home	Meet 1	5:30 p.m.	
Wednesday, Jan. 8		Home	Meet 2	5:30 p.m.		
	Wednesday, Jan.	15	Home	Meet 3	5:30 p.m.	
	Wednesday, Jan. 2	22	Home	Meet 4	5:30 p.m	
	Wednesday, Jan. 2	29	Home	Meet 5	5:30 p.m.	
	-				-	
		Sw	imming			
	Thursday, Dec. 12 Away		Westbor	Westborough		
	Saturday, Dec. 14 Away		Nashoba	Nashoba		
Wednesday, Dec. 18		Home	Bromfield	4 p.m.		
	Friday, Dec. 20	Away	Wachuse	ett	3:30 p.m.	
	Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Adv.Mat	h/Science	4 p.m.	
	Wed. Jan. 8	Home	Algonqu	in	4 p.m.	
	Friday, Jan. 10 Away		Doherty	Doherty		
	Wed., Jan. 15	,			4 p.m.	
Friday, Jan. 17 Away		Tyngsbo	Tyngsborough			
	1			-	•	

Shrewsbury

Gardner

Grafton

### **LAWSUITS** I from page 7

ing a court injunction and did not take the forfeits. Pathfinder did not attempt to use legal means to reverse the forfeits, and the boys soccer team made the Western Mass. finals, which means they won two games after the regular season that were changed to losses for

their MIAA ranking. More than a dozen other schools including Northampton also were affected by the issue. Many other schools that did not have playoff teams, found themselves unaffected by the issue. But now, nearly every school as of this week had placed filler games at the end of their regular season.

Agawam High School Athletic Director Karen Gomez said filler dates were also placed on many wrestling schedules to comply with the MIAA's rules on determining how many playable dates a team is having.

Though it is not strictly enforced as of yet, more enforcement of posting varsity rosters on the Arbiter site could be down the line.

"Rosters are supposed to be posted and updated," Gomez said. "They are used to determine rosters when it comes to the playoffs as well."

Gomez says she has to back on the site and make sure rosters are updated for the playoffs to ensure JV players added to rosters for tournament are included.

When looking at an individual team's schedules, most teams play 16 to 18 regular season contests. The filler dates are then replaced by Western Mass. playoff games or "nonplayoff" games. Some of those nonplayoff games are needed. however. A team that finishes the regular season with a 7-9 record can get into the state tournament with a .500 record. The nonplayoff games played by that team then mean something as they can use them to finish season 9-9 and qualify.

The Arbiter website is exclusively used now for schedules, rosters, and score postings. The results are used by the MIAA to quantify Power Rankings for tournament seeds.

# scebook.com/turleysports Guillermo Rodriguez Rivera Athlete of the Week **Rodriguez Rivera**

Guillermo Rodriguez Rivera was the recipient of this year's Bailey Award. The award is given yearly to a Palmer High School football player. Rivera is the center for Palmer football.

Palmer

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.





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# T-Birds stay on track with big OT win

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (12-9-1-0) clawed back from 1-0 down after 40 minutes and emerged with a 2-1 overtime victory over the Rockford IceHogs (8-10-3-0) before a sold-out crowd of 6,793 on Saturday night at the MassMutual

After the two clubs exchanged chances in the opening five minutes, the opening period brought very little in the way of offense against Springfield netminder Vadim Zherenko or Rockford goalie Mitchell Weeks. The T-Birds were uncharacteristi-

cally sloppy in the defensive zone, and a pivotal turnover at 2:59 of the second period resulted in Rockford's opening goal as Cole Guttman picked off a loose puck in the middle of the zone and slipped a five-hole shot through Zherenko to make it 1-0 IceHogs. It marked the first time in eight games that the T-Birds allowed the first goal of a game.

Offense did not come easily for

Springfield, as the home team was outshot 16-6 in the middle period. Zherenko was at his best, making a pair of other breakaway saves on Guttman among his 24 denials through 40 minutes of play.

Zherenko rose up to make a game-changing stop in the opening seconds of the third, as he stretched out with the left leg to stonewall Samuel Savoie on a breakaway bid to keep the score at 1-0.

Less than three minutes later, Tyler Tucker continued his torrid goal-scoring weekend, flipping a point shot over Weeks on the glove side, bringing about a Teddy Bear storm and equalizing the

It appeared as if the Thunderbirds had taken the lead just a few moments later when a Michael Buchinger shot bounded high in the air and into the blue paint. Matthew Peca jabbed the

T-BIRDS | page 9

### **RIVERA** I from page 7

instead of watching it from the sidelines. "He's a very good football player and I really enjoyed being teammates with him. He's a great kid."

Rivera had never played football prior to moving to Palmer from Springfield with his family three years ago.

"I only played baseball when I was living in Springfield," he said. "When my family moved to Palmer, coach Marciniec gave me an opportunity to join the football team, and I became a starter."

Rivera, who began his high school football career as receiver, was a starting center and a starting linebacker this fall.

"When coach Marciniec saw me snap the ball for the first time, it came out perfectly," Rivera said. "I also enjoy hitting my opponent as a linebacker.

Rivera was the captain of the Panthers football team, along with juniors Dylan Doherty, Gavin Smola and Matt Santos, who was the starting quarterback.

"Guillermo stepped up and became our starting center when we needed someone to fill that position a couple of years ago," Marciniec said. "He adapted to that position very quickly. He always wants to learn more about the game of football. He has become a very good football player, and he also does very well in the classroom. He's very deserving of receiving the Bailey Award this year."

The other seniors listed on the Panthers are Julien Valentin, and Luis Rivera Alicea.

Rivera, who's hoping to attend college next year, is looking forward to finishing his high school athletic career as a member of the Panthers varsity baseball team next spring.

The 2025 Bailey Award winner will most likely be announced at halftime of the Panthers Thanksgiving Day game against Ludlow. Next year's contest is scheduled to be held at Legion Field. Rivera is planning to be there to hand the trophy to one of his former high school teammates.

### **PATHFINDER** I from page 7

Ortyl said. "My goal at that time was to work for a professional or college basketball team. Even though it was a lot of hours, it was a great experience for me. I had an opportunity to visit some places that I've never been to before. One of the best places that I visited was Dayton. They always sell out their home games before the start of the season."

During Ortyl's first couple of years as the manager, the Minutemen men's basketball coach was Matt McCall. He also worked under current head coach Frank Martin.

While most high school basketball coaches begin at the junior varsity level, Ortyl is starting his coaching career at the

"It's definitely going to be challenging coaching at the varsity level, but it's something that I'm really excited about," Ortyl said. "I think I can be a very good leader and mentor for these kids. I wouldn't have applied for the coaching position if I didn't think I could handle it."

The first practice of the high school basketball season was held on December 2.

The Pioneers, who graduated seven players from last year's squad, don't have any seniors listed on this year's varsity roster.

"We're going to be a young team and we're going to mold together," Ortyl said. "I'm very excited about working with this group of players."

The only two returning varsity players are junior Matthew Vanasse and sophomore Cayden Bousquet.

The other juniors are Dustyn Cook, Aiden Girard, Jack Marceau, and Dayne Shanley. The foursome were members of the j.v. basketball team a year ago.

Sophomore's Ian Sauri Nieves and Cassian Kowalik are also making the step up to the varsity team from the junior varsity basketball team.

Rounding out the varsity squad are freshmen Jordan Mbi, Grayson Griswold, Maddox Baer, and Mason Baer.

Pathfinder Tech is scheduled to begin the 2024-25 regular season by hosting Duggan Academy in a non-league contest on December 12.

The Pioneers, who are members of the Tri-County South Division, finished the 2023-24 campaign with an 11-10 overall record. They lost to cross-town rival Palmer in the preliminary round of the Division 5 state tournament.

The Pioneers will be making the short trip down Main Street in Palmer to battle the Panthers in a non-league contest on February 5. A couple of other non-league games on the Pioneers schedule are at Ludlow (Jan 17) and at home against Monson (Jan.24).

# **DEATH NOTICES**

Robert "Birdie" W. Berthiaume

Died Nov. 26, 2024 Services Jan. 6, 2024 New England Funeral & Cremation Center

### 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.

### Robert "Birdie" W. Berthiaume

Robert "Birdie" W. Berthiaume, 82, died of heart failure at Baystate Wing Hospital with all his loved ones able to say a last goodbye on Nov. 26, 2024. Born on Jan. 20, 1942 in Palmer, Massachusetts, he was a lifelong Palmer resident, never living more than 1/4 mile from the fire station. He was the only child of the late Harold and Stephanie (Swist) Berthiaume. He began working as a firefighter in Palmer as a young boy with his father Harold Berthiaume. He dedicated his life to the Palmer Fire Department following in his father's footsteps. He saved many lives, the first from drowning when he was 18 years old, then many from fire and from car accidents, using the Jaws of Life. He retired as Deputy Fire Chief in 2004. After retiring, he golfed regularly and was a member of the Valhalla Country Club in Monson. He is survived by his daugh-

ters: Terry Couture and her husband Jeffrey of Suffield CT, and Pamela Beane and her husband Brian of Concord, NH. He also leaves three grandchildren: his namesake Robert Harold, Hannah, Kyle and Chief Bill Burnet and his entire fire department family. In addition to the Palm-



er Fire Department, Terry and Pam would like to extend heartfelt thanks to the nurses at Baystate Wing Hospital. On Monday, Jan. 6, 2025 at 11a.m., Deputy Chief Berthiaume will take his final ride on the fire truck to his graveside

service at Oak Knoll Cemetery, 1 Rathbone St., followed by a "Final Toast to Bob" at St. Joe's Club, 8 Commercial Street, Thorndike, MA. New England Funeral & Cremation Center, 25 Mill Street, Springfield, MA has been entrusted with the arrangements.

# **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

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

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.

# Wreaths Across American ceremony, wreath placement

MONSON - This weekend, Wreaths Across America will honor fallen veterans with a ceremony at each of the town's cemeteries.

Join us Saturday, Dec. 14 at any of the ceremonies that will be held throughout the morning. The same events will be held at each cemetery.

The first ceremony will take place at Hillcrest Cemetery at 9 a.m.

The second ceremony will take place at Hillside Cemetery at 10 a.m.

The third ceremony will take place at Bethany Cemetery at 11:30 a.m. Please note if you plan to attend and honor a family member, we will invite you to come forward

and receive a wreath first, prior to volunteers placing wreaths. We look forward to honoring our veterans with community. Whether you're attending for the first time or volunteered last year, your presence is

valued and appreciated as we Remember, Honor,

and Teach. Wreaths Across America extend our sincere gratitude to everyone who has supported our fundraising initiatives throughout the year, whether through donations or by participating in events. Your generosity is truly appreciated.

# Police/Fire

### **Police Logs**

### **Palmer**

The Palmer Police Department reported 427 incidents on its logs from Nov. 26 through Dec. 2.

### Nov. 26

At 10:30 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Church Street.

At 6:23 p.m. police responded to an accident with property on the corner of Ware Street and Breckenridge Street.

At 9:17 p.m. police gave summons to Santogarbriel Morales Rodriguez, 19, of 119 Stafford St., Springfield, for unregistered motor vehicle, uninsured motor vehicle and unlicensed operation of a motor

### Nov. 27

At 10:23 a.m. police received sex offender registration.

At 11:34 a.m. police arrested Joshua Smith, 25, of 4058 Church St., Thorndike, on a warrant.

At 12:03 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

At 12:59 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage and arrested Shanna Mary Toutant,

39, of 11 Cedar Hill St., Palmer, for OUI liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle and possession of a class C drug.

At 4:59 p.m. police gave summons to Leeroy J. Laracuente, 36, of 3117 Main St., Bondsville, for speeding and driving with a suspended license.

At 5:48 p.m. police arrested Theresea Amy Wyngowski, 40, unhoused, on a warrant.

At 8:04 p.m. police gave summons to John Saxon Benjamin, 34, of 27 Hillside Pl., New Britian, CT, for failure to yield and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

At 10:35 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

### Nov. 28

At 2:17 a.m. police gave summons to Hassan Aden, 38, of 25 Laurel Park, Enfield, CT, for failure to stop/yield and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

At 5:31 p.m. police responded to hit and run accident on Wilbraham Street

### Nov. 29

At 2:47 p.m. police responded to an accident with property dam-

At 4:15 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

Nov. 30

At 4:12 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on the corner on Pleasant Street and Central Street.

At 2:25 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

At 4:25 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

At 9:26 p.m. police arrested Matthew Thomas McSweeney, 38, of 10 Gold Street, Westfield, for OUI liquor third offense and possession of open container of alcohol in motor vehicle.

### Dec. 1

At 9:01 p.m. police arrested Ana B. Silvacota, 24, of 25 Kirk Dr., Springfield, on a warrant.

At 10:48 p.m. police arrested John Huertas Jr., 41, unhoused, on a warrant

### Dec. 2

At 1:18 p.m. police arrested Beth Anne Makara, 38, of 18 Parker St., Ware, for OUI liquor and marked lane violation.

# Fire Logs

### **MONSON**

The Monson Fire Department responded to 11 fire calls and 29 emergency medical calls for the week of Dec. 2-8.

On Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 9:34 a.m., the department responded with mutual aid to Bennett Road in Hampden to assist with a furnace malfunction, and returned to service

On Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 3:49 p.m., the department responded with mutual aid to Goodell Road in Stafford, CT to assist with a structure fire, and returned to service at 6:29 p.m.

On Thursday, Dec. 5 at 6:41 a.m., the department responded to the area of Stafford Road and Old Stafford Road for a tree on power lines, and returned to service at 7:05 On Thursday, Dec. 5 at 7:36

a.m., the department responded to the area of Brimfield Road for down power lines, and returned to service On Thursday, Dec. 5 at 7:59

a.m., the department responded to the area of Wales Road for down power lines, and returned to service at 9:27 a.m.

On Thursday, Dec. 5 at 8:47 a.m., the department responded to the area of East Hill Road for a tree on power lines, and returned to service at 9:08 a.m.

On Thursday, Dec. 5 at 6:52 p.m., the department responded to East Hill Road at Conant Brooke Dam North Entrance for the search and rescue of a mission person, and returned to service at 8:43 p.m.

On Thursday, Dec. 5 at 7:49 p.m., the Palmer Fire Department responded to Oak Street for a house lockout while the Monson Fire Department was on another fire call,

and returned to service at 8:49 p.m. On Friday, Dec. 6 at 4:56 p.m.,

the department responded to Margaret Street for a fire alarm sounding, and returned to service at 5:17

On Friday, Dec. 6 at 8:09 p.m., the department responded with mutual aid to Bridge Street in Palmer for a propane explosion, and returned to service at 9:16 p.m.

On Saturday, Dec. 7 at 7:57 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for a fire panel malfunction, and returned to service at 8:07 a.m.

### The Library Loft Schoolhouse Commons Historical Center • 1085 Park Street, Palmer

We are celebrating our

20th year at the Schoolhouse Commons. Thanks to our wonderful "friends." volunteers and patrons.

Hours:

Tues. 10am - 4pm • Wed. 10am - 4pm Thurs. 10am - 4pm • Fri. 10am-4pm • Sat. 10am-2pm HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

Book donations will be accepted at the Palmer Public Library or the Library Loft during open hours. Please, no magazines or Reader's Digest Condensed Books. We accept books only in good, clean condition.



### T-BIRDS I from page 8

loose puck across the goal line, seemingly making it a 2-1 Springfield lead. Despite being called a goal on the ice, the officials gathered and ultimately waved off the tally, and the 1-1 tie carried to the end of regulation.

The T-Birds rewarded their netminder in the extra session at 3:42 with their 19-year-old phenom stepping into the spotlight. After Aleksanteri Kaskimaki fed the puck through neutral ice to Dalibor Dvorsky, a 2-on-1 developed with Tucker joining the rush. Dvorsky patiently curled the puck to the middle of the ice around a sprawled defender before launching a perfect shot glove-side on Weeks to give Springfield its second overtime win in as many nights.

The rookie's team-leading 10th goal of the season also went down as his first overtime game-winner as a pro. Springfield has now won four straight games and is 8-1-1 in its last ten games, springboarding the team into third place in the Atlantic Division standings.

The T-Birds next embark on one of their longest road trips of the season, beginning with a Saturday contest in Wilkes-Barre against the Penguins on Dec. 14 at 6:05 p.m. at Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza.

Early Veadlines

for all LEGAL NOTICES...

# Shaun M. O'Brien

June 6, 1981 - December 9, 2009

### 15th Anniversary

In loving memory of Shaun, who was taken from us 15 years ago. Sadly missed and always remembered by your loving family and friends.

They say there is a reason, They say that time will heal, But neither time nor reason Will change the way we feel. Gone are the days we used to share But in our hearts you are always there. The gates of memories will never close We miss you more than anyone knows.

Love and miss you every day.





**All Papers** Will Deadline at Noon for **Publication** 

**All Papers** Will Deadline Friday, Dec. 27 at Noon for **Publication** Dec. 30 - Jan. 3





# **TUTORING AVAILABLE**

Meet Your Professional And Educational Goals

### Low cost tutoring & scholarships are available!

We're a private, non-profit organization at the Palmer Public Library, here to help you meet your educational and professional goals.

1455 N. Main St 3rd Floor **Palmer MA** 01069

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# **TUTORS** NEEDE

For English Language Learners, **HiSet Tutors: English, Writing & Math** 

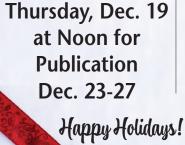
# Computer Security Class

- Basic Computer Use —
- Resumé Building & Updating
- English Language Learning • GED/HiSET Preparation
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**All Papers** 

Will Deadline

Happy New Year! **All Papers** 

Will Deadline Friday, Dec. 27 at Noon for **Publication** Dec. 30-Jan. 3

# **EARLY DEADLINE For All Advertising** & CLASSIFIEDS

Thursday, Dec. 19: Dec. 23 - 27

> 24 Water Street Palmer, MA 01069 413-283-8393

# Public notices

**Town of Wales** 

**Conservation Commission** In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **December** 19th, 2024, at the Wales Senior Center (Old Stafford Rd. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM, for a Notice of Intent filed by Mark Farrell from Green Hill Engineering, on behalf of Michael and Barbara Bowling. The project site is located at 44 Union Rd.in Wales, MA 01081. This Notice of Intent is for the repair of the existing septic system. Please check the town website to view the agenda for this hearing. conservation@townofwales.net. 12/12/2024

### **Town of Wales Conservation Commission**

In accordance with the Wetland Protection Act, Chapter 131, Section 40, a Public Hearing will be held by the Wales Conservation Commission on **December** 

19th, 2024, at the Wales Senior Center (Old Stafford Rd. Wales, MA) at 6:00 PM, for a Notice of Intent filed by Mark Farrell from Green Hill Engineering, on behalf of Lisa Ohr. The project site is located at 70 Union Rd.in Wales, MA 01081. This Notice of Intent is for the raze and rebuild of a single-family home with new well installation and T5 compliant septic system. Please check the town website to view the agenda for this hearing. conservation@ townofwales.net. 12/12/2024

### NOTICE OF **MORTGAGEE'S** SALE OF REAL ESTATE

Premises: 25 State Street, Monson, MA 01057

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Robert L. Meacham II to RBS Citizens, N.A., and now held by Citizens Bank, N.A. f/k/a RBS Citizens, N.A., said mortgage dated November

24, 2015 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 20967, Page 114, as affected by a Loan Modification dated April 19, 2023 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 25009, Page 341; for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on January 9, 2025 at 12:00 PM Local Time upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

a certain tract of land with the buildings thereon, situate on the southerly side of State Street in sad Monson, bounded and described as follows

BEGINNING at an iron pin in the ground at the northeast corner of land of Frederick J Sullivan thence EASTERLY along the southerly side of said State Street, eighty-two (82) feet to land of Alce E McCray; thence SOUTHERLY along last named land EIGHTY-EIGHT and ONE-HALF  $(88\frac{1}{2})$  feet to the northeast corner of land conveyed by Mary A North to Seraph North, November 4, 1941, now of Mabel North, see Probate Record Estate of Seraph North; thence WESTERLY along said last named land, SEVENTY-SEVEN (77) feet to a stone bound in line of land of sad Fredrick J Sullivan; thence N 1° W along last named land NINETY-SIX (96) feet to the place of beginning.

Said premises are conveyed SUBJECT to right of way, in favor of Seraph North, her heirs and assigns, ten (10) feet in width, running along the easterly line of the above described premises from property conveyed by Mary A North to Seraph North to said State Street.

BEING the same premises conveyed to the mortgagor herein by deed dated October 10. 2015 to be recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds simultaneously herewith.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated October 10, 2015 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 20967, Page 110.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described. FIVE THOUSAND

(\$5,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within thirty (30) days after the date

of sale. Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Brock & Scott, PLLC 23 Messenger Street 2nd Floor Plainville, MA 02762 Attorney for Citizens Bank, N.A. f/k/a RBS Citizens, Present Holder of the

Mortgage (401) 217-8701 12/12, 12/19, 12/26/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts **The Trial Court Probate and Family Court** Hampden Probate and **Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD24P2500GD In the matter of:

**Daniel Wexler** Of: Holland, MA RESPONDENT **Alleged Incapacitated** Person CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION

FOR APPOINTMENT OF

**GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED** PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Miki N. Fox of Holland, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Daniel Wexler is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Miki N. Fox of Holland, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 01/02/2025.

This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further

notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

expense. WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 04, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate

# Classifieds

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TIRES: BRIDGESTONE BLIZ-ZARD 225 65R17, 102H four tires, used only two winters. No defects. \$300/cash. Chris 413-539-4866.

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

### **ESTATE SALE**

ESTATE SALE hosted by Yellow Bear Market, December 9am-4pm; December 14 9am-5pm. Records, DVDs, CDs, kitchen tables and chairs bureaus collectibles, Hot Wheels, Star Wars, tools, electronics, household items, mountain bike, smoker, snowblowers and much more. Like us on Facebook for videos, sales and more @Vellow BearMarket. 184 Main Street,

### **FIREWOOD**

**FIREWOOD** Fresh cut & split \$200.00 Seasoned cut & split \$300.00

All hardwood. Tree length available \*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes guaranteed!! New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

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

### WANTED

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

### **ATTENTION** UNPUBLISHED AUTHORS.

I am starting a free library for unpublished authors. Please send your rejected manuscript with a one page summary. Any genre including history, fantasy, mystery, young adult, and poetry. Please mail to James Zlody, 25 Tinkham Glen, Wilbraham,

### **WANTED TO BUY**

### **ANTIQUES AND OLD** STUFF WANTED.

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

### **JUNK REMOVAL**

ARA JUNK FURNITURE **REMOVAL** Full house cleanouts, attics, base ments, garages, pools, hot tubs,

sheds, decks. Same day service 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted Free estimates on phone. Fully insured Call Pete 413-433-0356.

### **JUNK REMOVAL**

### A Call We Haul **FAST REMOVAL**

Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts We load it & take it.

# 413-531-1936

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

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

> JACKIE'S **BOOKKEEPING SERVICES**

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### gmail.com

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**NEED AN ELECTRICIAN?** 

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for your home or business. Call now for a FREE estimate (413) 366-1703

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

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

### **MASONRY**

### **REPUBLIC MASONRY SERVICES!**

Expert chimney, basement, interior/ exterior, repointing. Call Henry at 413-276-8322. Book today! Preserve your timeless estate. Insured.



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**ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT** WATERPROOFING

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

### **PAINTING**

**DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING** Interior only \$199.00 for average prompt service call (508)867-2550

### **PLUMBING**

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

### **SERVICES ROOFING**

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

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**SNOW PLOWING** ntial, commercial and business 413-388-5854

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AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Resestimates. Fully insured W/Workman's. Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call 413-283-6374.

### **SERVICES**

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

### **TUTORING**

TUTORING: Literacy, all ages. Math K-8, online, your home or library. Call 978-799-9096. petedon151@

### **STUMP GRINDING**

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

### **AUTO**

### **AUTO FOR SALE**

2010 HYUNDAI SONATA, well cared for and in good condtion. 138,000 miles. Reference Blue Book for fair price. Please call (541) 654-

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### HELP WANTED

**TOWN OF BLANDFORD HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT** 

The Town of Blandford is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Highway Superintendent. Salary range starting at \$75,000-\$80,000+ negotiable based on experience/skills. Please visit our website TownOfBlandford.com or Administrator@TownofBlandford.com for more information.



### **REAL ESTATE FOR RENT**

**PROFESSIONAL** OFFICE SPACE, shared with consultant. Artistically designed and decorated. Includes utilities, conference room, and kitchen. 3333 Boston Road, Wilbraham. **617-209-4882.** 



OPPORTUNITY

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

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

# **REAL ESTAE**

Call us at 413.283.8393



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

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising ir this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

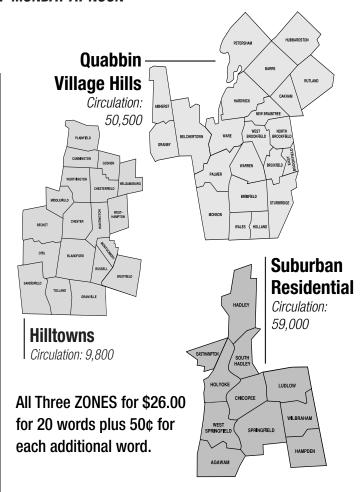


# FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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

**CATEGORY:** 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 Base Price \$28.00 25 Base Price \$28.50 26 27 Base Price \$29.50 28 Base Price \$30.00 Base Price \$29.00 29 Base Price \$30.50 30 Base Price \$31.00 31 Base Price \$31.50 Base Price \$32.00

33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00	35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00	39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00
						Zip:	
					X per wee	k rate = \$	
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# **GREAT VALUE!**

**ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR** THE PRICE OF ONE!

**OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!** 



Members of the Brimfield fire department who helped make sure Santa got here safely from the North Pole. More photos on page 12.

### **BRIMFIELD** I from page 1

nation, people could purchase a wreath, decorate it how they would like, and then give it back.

The five wreaths were up and people who came to the tree lighting got the opportunity to vote for their favorite wreath, and the winner was announced at the end of the night.

The first place winner was Wreath #3, decorated with an adorable set of gnomes by Karen and Nate Seybold of Monson, and in second place, Wreath #1 with a beautiful display of angels decorated by a Southbridge resident.

The winner of the First Annual Festival of Wreaths received a gift basket filled with several goodies donated by local businesses, including a bottle of wine from the Brimfield Winery, and gift certificates to the Mug n' Muffin and The Better Bean in Monson, and the Bird Store in Sturbridge.

As an added bonus, the winner received a "coupon" for two hours of "scout labor", where the boys can help with things like yard work.

"Thank you to everyone who participated and to all those that took the time to vote. Hope to see you all next year," said Scout Master Tara Gilman-Sheffield.

No winter event is complete without cocoa and cookies, and the people who came for the night got to enjoy some free hot chocolate donated by Sturbridge Coffee House, complete with a little toppings bar.

The cookies, some made by Assistant Scout Master Jason Seybold, and others donated by the Apple Barn and the First Congregational Church of Brimfield paired nicely with the sweet drinks.

"This is just awesome," said Gilman-Sheffield. "The kids got to interact with the public, and they got to see the troop.

"It's great to see that so many people want to help support Troop 7," said Seybold. "We really have a

wonderful community." The Parks and Rec Department, as well as the DPW and fire department worked alongside Troop 7 in

order to make the night a success. 'My favorite part is seeing the kids get excited and getting the community together," said Brendan Fullman, Chair of the Recreation Commission.

The tree light has been going on for decades, but with the Boy Scouts a part of the night, people can look

forward to seeing them at the gatherings and support them in their endeavors.

Santa Claus came at the end of the night on a fire truck, and kids lined up to see the truck with its lights to bring Santa to light up the tree, and afterwards, take a photo with him and tell him their wish list for Christ-

The tree lighting was a great success, and highlighted a time of community togetherness, and offered a time for friends and family to find warmth on a cold winter night.



Scoutmaster Tara Gilman-Sheffield, pictured with R.J. and Ashtin, both aged 12, sold all their trees and wreaths this weekend.



Steven, age 12, and Zack, age 15, spent their afternoon receiving votes for the Wreath Contest.

85" Samsung ..... \$1199.99 (Regularly \$1499.99)

**INSTANT FINANCING UP TO \$10,000** 

# Holiday fun at Hitchcock

Hitchcock returns on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 1 to 5 p.m. The popular all ages event will include live music, cookie decorating and crafting, games, face painting, and more. The event is free of charge and there is no registration required. Attendees should dress warmly as the event is held both indoors and outdoors.

Live music will be performed from the building's balcony by The Voice's Noah Lis and local Time Stretchers frontman Clark Howell. Listeners can keep warm sipping from free pours of delicious hot chocolate and coffee. Chesnuts and to share with attendees.

Ice carver Mike Rondeau will be doing a live ice carving during the event. 4-H will be bringing Phoenix the pony for attendees to greet and pet.

Inside, attendees can decorate cookies, make Christmas crafts, play "reindeer games", and visit with Santa who will arrive at 2 p.m.

"Christmas at Hitchcock feels like a family Christmas party combined with a larger scale holiday event," says Executive Director Cindy Skowyra. "Our space is so much like a home, yet we have all

BRIMFIELD— Christmas at marshmallows will also be roasted the trimmings and trappings of an event with all the activities going

> Attendees can also bring a donation to the organization's Toys for Tots collection, and donations to Hitchcock's annual Friends Campaign, which aims to raise \$15,000 toward operating expenses through individual donations, are also

> warmly welcomed. For complete details and schedule, visit www.hitchcockacademy. org. The event is generously sponsored by Hitchcock Pool Water.

AMPUS

O T E S

**Holyoke Community** 

**College recognizes** 

fall 2024 graduates

proud to recognize the following students who will

complete their requirements for graduation at the

ognized at HCC's second Fall Graduate Reception

on Monday, Dec. 2, in the college's Leslie Phillips

Theater and will also be invited to participate in

HCC's 78th Commencement exercises at the Mass-

Monson: Tyler Michael Edwards, Crystal

Palmer: Nicole Anderson, Jillian M. Doyle,

Mutual Center in Springfield on May 31, 2025.

end of the fall 2024 semester.

Holland: John Paul Nash

Kenyon, Jacob Rock.

Matthew Johnson.

HOLYOKE - Holyoke Community College is

These members of the Class of 2025 were rec-

# Wings of Song presents 'Peace and Joy' Dec. 14-15

STURBRIDGE - Wings of Song, a 45-voice community chorus, will perform "Peace and Joy" on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Anne's Church, 16 Church St., Fiskdale and Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. at Evangelical Covenant Church, 24 Child Hill Road, Woodstock, Connecticut.

"Peace and Joy" features pieces from the familiar Handel's Hallelujah Chorus to the original 1818 version of Silent Night that few will know. Composers as modern as Arvo Pärt, 1990 and Marc-Antoine Charpentier, about 1690.

As Director Nym Cooke said, "This music plunges deep and soars high! This will be a very special concert. I think – on the one hand, meditative, centering, and relaxing; on the other hand, uplifting, inspiring, and energizing. Just the right medicine for

There is no admission charged for the concerts. A freewill offering will be collected at intermission. Both venues are handicapped accessible and complimentary refreshments will be provided by the chorus members after the concerts.

Concertgoers are encouraged to arrive early to be sure of seating.

# **NOTICE**

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

# **Auxiliary Shop Dec. vendors** December 12

**Wing Memorial Hospital** 

Jewelry by Diane - some high end jewelry too December 17

Nails on You - holiday designs are special December 19 Sweets and Treats - some freeze dried - homemade

December 23 Wicked Good Treats - the best yummy selection

desserts Don't forget staff appreciation days, storewide

25% off on december 18, 19, and 20.



Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts Arthur "Skip" Gervais Shed, Pool &

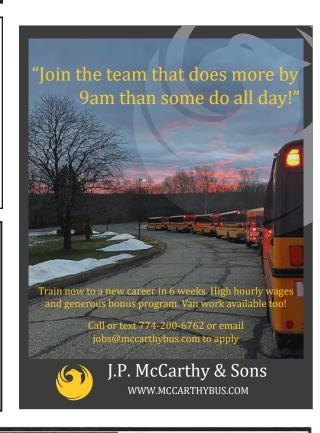
Hot Tub Removals (774)397-6500

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact Pat James 413-726-8661.



SPENCER, MA

508.885.9343

SEE WHITCOSALES.COM

# 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. HD24P2453EA Estate of: **Brandon Kent Bays** Date of Death: 12/17/2021 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 Katherine Hawthorne of Greenville, SC requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

Petitioner The requests that: Katherine Hawthorne of Greenville, SC 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 12/30/2024. 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 26, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 12/12/2024

### **LOCAL KETONE PROMOTER Call For Information**

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Store Hours: Mon. through Fri: 10am-8:30pm • Sat: 10am-8pm • Sun: 12pm-7pm FOR 100'S OF DEALS!



Santa raising his arms as the tree erupts with bright



Finn excited to see Santa, telling him he wants a new **Power Wheels.** 



Dave and Ellen enjoying their night with their furry





Parker Sheffield and Nathaniel Seybold with Troop 7 enjoying some hot chocolate and preparing to had out some delicious cookies.





Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas Gabby and Tyler Trainor with their furry friend Scout.



The gazebo in the Brimfield common was decorated for the tree-lighting that evening.



**Brittany Robbins and Amber Eggelston from Sturbridge** Coffee House with their hot cocoa bar set up and ready.



The Scouts made and sold "kissing balls" made of pine

Santa saying hello to the children, getting them ready

to see the tree light up.

# **GREEN GOLD**

GROUP

# Take a right off the ramp and we are "420" feet from you!

➤ Operations: Open 7 days a week 8AM - 9PM

> Address: 1140 Thorndike Street Palmer, Ma. 01069 next to Mass Pike exit 63

> Contact: 413-289-9503 Website: www.greengold.group

➤ Social:

Instagram: @greengoldgroup, @muncheascannabis, @liquidgoldcannabis

Facebook: @green gold group X: @greengoldgroup

➤ Menu:



# Green Gold Group Cannabis Dispensary **OPEN NOW FOR REC ~ Medical Coming Soon**



# **WE OFFER:**

**Pre-Packaged Flower Pre-Rolls Edibles Vapes Concentrates** 

**Tinctures Topicals Infused Pre-Rolls** Syrups **RSO** 



**Please Consume Responsibly** 

concentration, coordination, and judgment. Do not operate a vehicle or machinery under the influence of this drug

This product has not been analyzed or approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). There is limited information on the side effects of using this product, and there may be associated health risks. Marijuana use during pregnancy and breast-feeding may pose potential harms. It is against the law to drive or operate machinery when under the influence of this product. KEEP THIS PRODUCT AWAY FROM CHILDREN. There may be health risks associated with consumption of this product. Marijuana can impair concentration, coordination, and judgment. The impairment effects of edible marijuana may be delayed by two hours or more. In case of accidental ingestion, contact poison control hotline 1-800-222-1222 or 9-1-1. This product may be illegal outside of MA.