

PET OF THE WEEK Meet **Roxie & Bailey**



COMMUNITY Santa's **Breakfast**



SPORTS Panthers hope to contend for title

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SERVING PALMER. MONSON. BRIMFIELD. HOLLAND & WALES

The Journal Register

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MONSON

Select **Board** approves Fire Dept. use of Memorial Hall

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON - At last week's Select Board meeting, the town voted to allow the Fire Department to use Memorial Hall during upcoming construction.

The Fire Department approached the board to continue the discussion about using Memorial Hall while the station is being repaired and painted.

"This was added to the agenda to address too many interruptions during business meetings," Warren said.

Town Manager Jennifer Wolowicz explained that at the previous meeting, the department had discussed the possibility of using trailers for temporary housing, but that proved to be infeasible.

need two, we thought, but we actually need three trailers and we only had funds in the budget for two,' said Wolowicz. "So right there that was a financial consideration." Wolowicz asked if the board

"We originally were going to

members had a chance to tour the site, and Warren said that he had been in the building "quite a bit, re-

"I really wanted to do something down in the basement, but I was educated in that, by code, you can't do that," Warren said. "So I can't take a hard line on that anymore because I don't want to create

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WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



residents gathered at the town's cemeteries to commemorate Wreaths Across America, and participate in its mission to "remember, honor, and teach."

Wreaths Across America is a national event that holds an annual service to donate wreaths to cemeteries across over 4,800 locations across the country. These wreaths are donated via sponsorship, with

Abby and Gemma volunteered to help lay wreaths at Hillside Cemetery as part of Saturday's ceremony.

Davis read, "On behalf of Monson Together, the Patriotic Celebrations Committee, the Cemetery Department, Bethany Cemetery, and our veterans, we thank you for joining us today. Your generosity has helped to ensure that the memory of our veterans lives on."

Monson Together thanked Lissee Lombard, Kayla McLeod, and Mat Wawrzyk for their work, as well as the Patriotic Celebration Committee and the Select Board for their support.

'We hope that this is the first

WREATHS | page 8

PALMER

Town to pursue **Community** Dev. Block Grant

By Marcelo Gusmão Staff Writer mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER - At its meeting last week, Town Council voted to allow Community Development to pursue a grant of \$850,000 for infrastructure improvements.

John Latour, Director of Community Development, approached the Council to request permission to pursue a grant of \$850,000.

"The grant is due April 14, 2025, so we'll be working on it from this point on out," Latour said. "Part of the activities that we're requesting are for infrastructure, public social services, and planning, and general administra-

Latour said that the infrastructure portion would include improvements for sewer, water, sidewalks and sidewalk access, and drainage.

"It doesn't come out of your tax base or Capital Planning for this," Latour said. "It's a grant, and it doesn't impact your capital budget in that way - it actually helps with the cap-

Latour mentioned previous studies done over the last three years, and said that the area that the grant will improve has been in "critical" need.

"We have to do an income survey in the Three Rivers neighborhoods of Front Street, Park Avenue, Kelly Street, and High Street," Latour said. "We'll be asking for cooperation from the neighborhoods and the people in those areas, the residents.

Latour said that during previous surveys, the town was able to track the history of infrastructure repairs and installations from the 1850s to present day, and that work is definitely needed.

GRANT | page 11

SPORTS

Homemade for the Holidays at town's Craft Fairs



Turley photos by Patricia Sullivan

Palmer High School student council members Kaeclyn Gelinas, Lainey Babinski, Donovan Rayleonard, **Kenndyl-Faith Roberts and Dylan** Holbrook sold tickets for gift baskets and a 50/50 raffle.

By Patricia Sullivan Correspondent

PALMER— If you were looking for unique holiday gifts such as a crystal mermaid crown or a crocheted mug of cocoa, you could find them at the craft fairs held at Palmer High School and St. Paul the Apostle Church on Dec. 7.

The High School student council ran the craft fair and a pancake breakfast with Santa, also held on Dec. 7. Sophomore Neila Lachance started working in September to book the fair's 65 vendors and organize the popular day-long event.

"Neila did an amazing job," said student council advisor Erik Brennan, a seventh-grade social studies teacher. "This is a well-established craft fair and we had vendors knocking down our door in August wanting to be a part of

Vendors filled the school's large foyer and gym, selling clothing, home goods, jewelry, fine art, food, and more. Student groups held fundraisers, including face painting and a 50/50 raffle, while two food trucks served the event. Proceeds from the table rentals will benefit the student council.

"We've had a huge turnout—730 customers so far," said Lachance, as the fair drew to a close. "We had a great variety of vendors. I am so relieved!"

Many members of the school district's community set up booths or came to shop.

It was the debut craft fair for Brittany North, an eighth-grade math teacher at the school, who ran a booth with her fiancé, Rudy Marek. Through their business, Hidden Hollow Farm, they sell handmade goods such as cutting boards, unique tea light holders and other decor, and crocheted items made by Rudy's mother, Traci Marek. "It's a family affair," said North.

> North was impressed with the CRAFTS | page 7

Tree lighting

Photos by Abigail McCoy

A family took a picture with Santa and Mrs. Claus at last weekend's tree-lighting ceremony. More photos on page 6.





ROXIE & BAILEY

This is Roxie and Bailey, who live with Kelsi 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.



Boomer of the Thunderbirds poses with members of St. Stanislaus and the Scholarship Committee, which heads this event every year.



Santa Claus took pictures with children at the St. Stanislaus Polish Club last weekend.

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

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."

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.



Boomer posed with a young boy in front of the backdrop set up at St. Stan's.



A young girl with a candy cane is excited to get a picture with Santa Claus.



Boomer sat on Santa's lap and told him he wanted the Thunderbirds to win for Christmas.

Local musician hits the stage in Palmer

PALMER - Local to South Hadley, musician Kyle Ray will be performing for one night only at the

urday, December 28, 2024.

The concert will feature his brand new single, "Shoebox", a song about his life and story, will Palmer be performed live for the very first torical time on a stage, so be sure to mark Cultual your calendar.

Center You can find tickets by scanning the QR code for \$15 ahead of

time, or \$20 at the door. The address is 2072 Main Street, Three Rivers, MA 01080.

Don't miss this chance to welcome home a neighbor, and spend some time before the New Year listening to some good music, and hearing for the first time a new song that will end up in your saved play-



some new touches

Open extended hours Tues.-Sun. 7am-1pm Check our Facebook & Instagram pages for updates

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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.

Notch Visitor Center open for winter 2024-2025

AMHERST - Winter at the Mount Holyoke Range is a magical experience, and a visit to the Notch Visitor Center, 1500 West St., Route 116, is the perfect way to enjoy it.

The Department of Conservation and Recreation's Mount Holyoke Range State Park is ideal for hiking, snowshoeing, and cross-country skiing. The Notch Visitor Center enhances your park experience with engaging exhibits that highlight the unique features of the Mount Holyoke Range.

Special public programs provide a broader perspective of the park, and staff are on hand to offer trail information and hiking suggestions. There's something for everyone, from beginners to seasoned adventurers.

Free admission and parking. The center is open Tuesday through Sunday, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

For more information and upcoming programs, call 413-253-2883 or visit https://www.mass.gov/locations/mount-holyoke-range-state-park.

QUABBIN HISTORY CALENDAR by J.R. Greene Great Gifts!

ON SALE AT: THORNDIKE: **Junction Variety**

2025

email: jrg01331@webtv.net

Corrections

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



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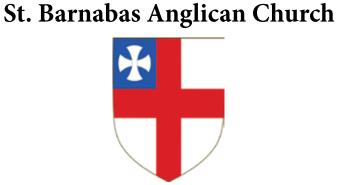
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Christmas Eve Mass of Lessons & Carols

Tuesday, December 24 at 10 p.m.

18 Park Street (on the Common) Belchertown Rev. Thomas T. Stockton • Rt. Rev. Brian R. Marsh

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MassDEP Awards **Monson Grant** funding

MONSON-State Representative Brian Ashe (D-Longmeadow) is pleased to announce the awarding of grant funds from MassDEP for the Sustainable Materials Recovery Program to Monson. Funding will be allocated for recycling, composting, reuse, and source reduction activities that will reduce the amount of waste disposed of in landfills and incinerators. Monson will receive \$2,100.00 toward this project.



Palmer Senior Center

PALMER— The Palmer Senior Center, 1029 Central St., has many activities for seniors Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information or to reserve a meal please call 413-283-

December events always on Mondays- Zumba at 8:30 a.m., Chair Yoga at 10 a.m., Lunch 11:30 and Pool table at 12:15 p.m. Always on Tuesdays- Knit/ crochet group at 9 a.m., walking group at 9 a.m., Breakfast at 9:30 a.m. Arthritis/ROM at 10 a.m. and painting group at 1 p.m. Always on Wednesdays-Strength training at 10 a.m., Reiki by appt. is canceled and 11:30 a.m. Lunch. Always on Thursdays-Walking group at 9 a.m., breakfast at 9:30 a.m., Tai Chi at 10 a.m., pool table at 12:15 p.m. and Big Y at 1 p.m. Always on Fridays - Gentle stretch at 10 a.m., Dancing mind body and soul at 10 a.m. and Lunch

Special events December:

Thursday, Dec. 19- 10 a.m. Tai Chi, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. memory café

Friday, Dec. 20- 12:30 p.m. showing movie "Christmas Vacation"

Tuesday, Dec. 24- closing at noon

Wednesday, Dec. 25- closed for Christmas Thursday, Dec. 26- 10 a.m. Tai Chi, 1 p.m. Sunshine Village paint.

Wednesday, Jan. 1- closed for New Year's eve.

Breakfast is served every Tuesday and Thursday at 9:15 a.m. and is \$3. Lunch is served every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 11 a.m. to noon and a suggested donation is \$2. Please call before 10 a.m. the day before to reserve a meal at 413-283-2670. Individuals must sign up for breakfast, otherwise a meal will not be ordered for them.

Thursday, Dec. 19- Waffle and sausage. Friday, Dec. 20- Pierogis, sauteed cabbage parslied carrots, 12 Grain bread and chilled apple-

Monday, Dec. 23- Turkey with Dijon sauce, steamed peas, rice pilaf, WW bread and fresh fruit. Tuesday, Dec. 24- Chef's choice

Wednesday, Dec. 25- closed for Christmas.

Thursday, Dec. 26- Chef's choice Friday, Dec. 27- Turkey Chili, sour cream,

teamed broccoli, white rice, Italian bread and chilled applesauce.

Monday, Dec. 30- Creamy roasted red pepper pasta, with chicken,

Tuesday, Dec. 31- Chef's choice.

DEADLINE

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

History of Holland's 18th century pottery kiln explored

By Paula Ouimette pouimette@turley.com

STURBRIDGE - At its final meeting of the year last month, the Sturbridge Historical Society presented a program about the John Hinds pottery kiln site, led by Doug Lyon and Mike Forand.

Lyon said Hinds was a previously unknown potter in the town of Holland, whose kiln site was discovered in the 1980s by himself and Forand.

"We came across his site looking for bottles in the woods," he said.

While searching through a cellar hole, they discovered pottery, including flat pieces of fired clay which he said were a bit of a mystery. Lyon brought these pieces to his friend, a curator at Old Sturbridge Village, who had them identified by the late John Worrell, the archeologist at the museum.

Worrell had identified the pieces as kiln furniture, which is only found in kilns. Kiln furniture is also known as saggars, supports or shelves, and was used to stack pottery inside the kiln to keep the pieces from sticking together.

In an article Worrell printed in the Society for Industrial Archeology, New England Chapters, he described the findings: Thousands of artifacts were excavated and recorded stratigraphically from the Hinds site, the bulk of them being vessel sherds and stacking furniture...Hinds' vessels display some variation, especially in decoration, than do the other potters whose sites have been thus far investigated...In addition to the usual undecorated utilitarian wares, Hinds was producing various slipped wares (painted, trailed, dipped), and some very thin-walled, etched hollowware having metallic black glaze."

"It's just pieces of clay shaped differently to allow the heat to get between the pieces as being fired," Forand said. "Different types of kiln furniture worked for different vessels."

Lyon said anything could be used as kiln furniture, and Hinds used pressed clay which contained his fingerprints.

"It doesn't look like much," Lyon said of a piece he held up. "And yet I think it's one of the more important pieces that we found because it identified the site as a kiln

Lyon said according to records, Hinds was born in 1714 and was originally from Cambridge. In 1750, he held his first deed in Holland (known at the time as South Brimfield) where he is listed as a potter from 1750-1793.

"Now that's significant because John Worrell said that we would probably never see him listed on paper as a potter because people of the time, they were farmers," Lyon said. "Everybody was a farmer... if they did something on the side (like a sawmill, or potting or blacksmithing) you would still see them listed as a farmer."

In 1754-1763 Hinds served in the French and Indian War with his oldest son, and there are several mentions of Hinds in Martin Lovering's book, "History of the Town of Holland Massachusetts".

Until recently, Lyon believed that Hinds had died in 1793 due to a deed which mentioned him as "recently deceased" and his wife, Judith, as a widow. He said Holland's online town records list Hinds. Judith and one daughter as "paupers" as late as 1815, which places his death much later.

Hinds' kiln site was located close to Sturbridge, along the Connecticut border. Now, the kiln site is part of the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary.

While excavating the kiln site, Forand said they discovered countless pieces of pottery shards, which have been stored at Old Sturbridge Village.

Lyon said they never discovered any intact pottery pieces, as most of them were discarded or broken. Beside the kiln furtableware.

'We try to guess what it was," he said

A special type of pottery they found at the site was black incised, which they believe could have been Hinds' experimental attempts to create something similar to stoneware or porcelain. This pottery was black, like it had been overfired (intentional or not), thin and carved into.

"It's thin, it's tea cup-like...we only found a few pieces. We've not found it anywhere else other than John Hinds," Lyon

He said some of the common pottery items they didn't find at the site included tiles, bedpans, flowerpots and tobacco pipes. He said the lack of tobacco pipes led them to believe that Hinds was probably not a smoker. Lyon said they also discovered the

fieldstone base of the kiln, and were able to determine the kiln's wall by the way the heat altered the rocks, as well as where the fire box and loading door were located.

'Heat would, like it does with clay, it would turn it red," he said.

The kiln itself was more than likely made from brick and Forand said there were many bricks found at the site.

Lyon described Hinds' pottery style as 'simple and modest" in decoration, which would have been used for everyday use. His pottery ranged in color from brown to black to yellow and red.

Hinds also used slip to decorate his pieces, which is a white "watery" clay that turned yellow when fired. He would embellish the pieces with loops and dots.

'His slipware is simple and two-color," Lyon said. "Decorative, but simple." Forand said the kiln site hasn't been fully explored yet, but there have been two separate excavations including the origi-

nal one in the 1980s with Old Sturbridge

niture, they discovered kitchenware and Village, and a more recent one with the permission of the Norcross Wildlife Sanc-

"There's a lot more there that could be explored and a lot of questions still to be answered," Forand said.

Forand asked the audience to check their records of general store purchases from this time period, to see if there is any reference to Hinds selling his pottery. Forand and Lyon have not found any record of Hinds selling or distributing his

For more information about the Hinds kiln site, people may visit the Hinds Site Facebook group or read Worrell's article "John Hinds Pottery Kiln" in the Society for Industrial Archaeology, New England Chapters, Volume 7, Number 3 from 1987 at https://nec-sia.org/ne. Information can also be found on Old Sturbridge Village's website, www.osv.org.

Upcoming programs

The Sturbridge Historical Society will continue its monthly programs in 2025 at the Publick House on the third Thursday of each month, starting at 7 p.m. All programs are free to attend, and the meeting room and refreshments are provided courtesy of the Publick House.

On Jan. 23, Bob Arnold will present about a trip his grandparents took in 1927 in a Model A across the country; on Feb. 27, Rich Paradise will present about covered bridges in New England; on March 27, Bill Reid will present "Notables and Notorious" depicting characters from the Last Green Valley; April 24, Doug Quigley will present on the Revolutionary War; and May 22, Walter Hersee will present on Sturbridge's 1938 celebration of its 200th

For more information about Sturbridge Historical Society and its programs, people may join its group on Facebook.

BOARD I from page 1

a violation."

Select Board member Pat Oney made two observations based on her tour of the

"First of all, it's totally gutted," Oney said. "I think it would be very expensive for us to do whatever would need to happen to put the Fire Department in there."

Oney added, "I'm told by the Building Inspector that we can't do it anyway, because it's not accessible."

The current proposal would be to use the changing rooms in Memorial Hall rather than the basement.

'The minor things they're going to be doing there is not changing the Hall," said Building Commissioner Justin Larivee. "The dressing rooms are going to be able to put carpet in them, and the carpet will stay after the fact, which will be better for the plays anyway. The one outlet we're going to run for the stove is going to go through an existing hole already from the basement up to the room, and then after that will be removed, so there will be no change at Memorial Hall after that."

Larivee added that blinds may be re-installed in the front room. Warren said that he didn't want to miss out on any events scheduled, including the construction.

"I know that we talked about two plays that could possibly be missed and I'd like to take a hard line on that and say we can't do that," Warren said, "however, they haven't scheduled that with us, either, so there's that

Larivee said that everything scheduled through 2025 to spring of 2026 would still be able to happen at Memorial Hall. Harris recommended using the stage at Granite Valley Middle School, "as long as the school's okay with it."

"What comes along with the plays is the months of practicing and using the stage for rehearsals," Harris said. "There are a lot of moving parts to our operation as well, including confidential information."

"To try to limit the amount of exposure

to stuff like that, I would request that the plays be moved to the school for one year,"

Oney took a moment during the meeting to praise the Fire Chief and Building Commissioner for their work.

"I think (Harris) is doing what he can to be really reasonable," Oney said, "not only about accepting accommodations that are less than optimal, but also trying to save us perhaps somewhere in the nature of \$100,000 by not having us need to rent those three

Wolowicz said that Select Board Chair John Morrell, who could not attend the meeting, had spoken with her to say Harris and Larivee had satisfied his concerns that nothing would be done to change the historic nature of the building.

Larivee said that town elections held at Memorial Hall will not be affected.

"During the elections, when (Town Clerk Mary Watson) needs, they can use the Day Room, which is going to have a table, chairs, they'll have places to be able to eat," Larivee said. "It's not going to really affect anybody, except for the two plays."

Warren asked if a fundraiser for Memorial Hall could still be held in the building while the fire department is occupying it.

"I don't see any reason why not," Harris said, though he warned against scheduling too many events at the building.

'It's money for Memorial Hall," Warren said. "We are far from having all the money that we need, and I started feeling the angst

"If you're talking about a fundraiser to benefit Memorial Hall, I think that's definitely a worthwile cause to work around," Harris

The board voted unanimously to allow the Fire Department use of Memorial Hall for the duration of the construction.

St. Anne St. Patrick upcoming events

FISKDALE—St. Anne St. Pat- Hope, Thursday, Dec. 12, from 7 rick Parish is pleased to announce the availability of its new reception space and exciting upcoming events. The welcoming reception space, called The Rendezvous, is designed to host post-funeral receptions. It provides a comforting environment, that offers connection and support during life's important moments. "This space offers a much-need-

ed service to families and parishioners so they can use it to gather and have peace," said Fr. Luc Martel, St. Anne St. Patrick Parish Pastor. "Our vision was to create an area that reflects our commitment to hospitality and care. We hosted our first post-funeral reception in late November."

space features a fully equipped kitchen, a dining room seating 50 people, and catering options through Hearthstone Market and Catering, located in Sturbridge. Reception staff are all St. Anne St. Patrick Parish volunteers. Reservations and inquiries can be made by calling the parish at 508-347-7338.

"We're also excited to share our upcoming events," said Luc Martel. "The events are designed to bring the community together for faith, fellowship, and celebration. There is something for everyone to enjoy."

Aspiring to be Pilgrims of

to 8:30 p.m. Join for a special public lecture and discussion to begin the new liturgical year, the Jubilee Year of Hope, by Monsignor James Moroney from St. Cecilia Church in Leominster. Call to reserve a spot by emailing stannestpatoffice@gmail. com or by calling 508-347-7338.

Peace & Joy Concert, Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. Join for an immersion Christmas music concert provided by the 45-member community chorus Wings of Song out of West Brookfield, offering classical compositions, folk-based carols and some early American tunes to celebrate the season.

Lessons and Carols, Dec. 15, The Rendezvous reception at 3 p.m. Join for a tradition dating back to the late 19th century where each reading is followed by an accompanying song to reflect on the message.

St. Anne St. Patrick Parish also operates a gift shop with a large selection of items. Whether seeking inspiring books, heartfelt cards, jewelry, or other meaningful gifts, there is something for everyone. The gift shop is open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

To learn more about St. Anne St. Patrick Parish, please visit https:// stannestpatrickparish.com/.





Viewpoints



Was your IRMAA article incorrect?

Dear Rusty:

In a recent article about Medicare's "Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount" and how IRMAA affects Social Security taxes, you described which income gets included in the IRMAA calculation. You said it is "your combined income from all sources, including 50 % of the SS benefits you receive." That 50% number might be true in some cases, but I think a more accurate, general answer is that "your taxable SS benefit is what gets added to IRMAA." For example, we have enough income every year that we are always taxed at 85% of our SS benefit, so 85% of our SS values get added to our IRMAA. The way your answer reads, a reader of the article might think everyone has 50% of their SS benefit added to IRMAA.

Signed: IRMAA Victim

Dear IRMAA Victim:

I think you may have confused two terms I used when describing Medicare's "Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount" or "IRMAA." I also used the term "MAGI" (Modified Adjusted Gross Income), and it's important to distinguish between those two terms.

MAGI is what determines if the IR-MAA provision applies, and IRMAA will affect how much your Medicare premium is. But MAGI is also used for another purpose - to see if your SS benefits are taxable. Your MAGI consists of your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) from your income tax return, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year

IRMAA is a factor which will increase your monthly Medicare premium if your MAGI is over certain thresholds for your tax filing status. MAGI is used to determine if a higher Medicare premium applies, and it is also used to see if your SS benefits are subject to income tax.

Your MAGI does, indeed, always use only 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year (not 85% in some cases). That's because the SS contributions included in MAGI relate to SS contributions your employer paid on your behalf. Only half of your received SS benefits are used to determine MAGI because that's the amount of your SS benefits attributable to your employer's contributions. Said another way, the SS payroll tax you personally paid while working was from your taxable income, so it is not included in MAGI. But the amount your employer contributed was not taxable by the IRS and, thus, is included in MAGI. So, it's the portion of your SS benefits attributable to your employer which is included in MAGI. Thus, the terminology that MAGI is "your combined income from all sources, including 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax vear" is correct. MAGI is what determines how much of your SS benefits are taxable. but your MAGI also determines if IRMAA applies to your Medicare premiums.

Your benefits are taxable if, as a married couple filing jointly, your total MAGI exceeds \$32,000. If your MAGI is over the first threshold but less than the 2nd threshold (\$44,000 for married filers) then 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year are included as part of your income taxable by the IRS. But if your MAGI goes over the 2nd threshold (\$44,000 for married filers) then up to 85% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year will be included as part of your income taxable by the IRS.

In short, MAGI determines how much of your income is subject to taxation. But MAGI is also used to determine if IRMAA applies. And how much your MAGI exceeds the separate IRMAA thresholds determines what your Medicare premium will be.

So, the article correctly states that IR-MAA only counts 50% of the SS benefits received because that is what is included in MAGI (which is what determines if IRMAA applies). But the amount of SS which may be taxable income by the IRS could be up to 85% of benefits received during the tax year if your MAGI is high enough.

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.



Kissing balls for a new porch

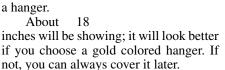
t's really funny that sometimes I have to consult my own columns to remember how to do something.

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

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

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

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



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

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

Styrofoam is very durable – great

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

Make small bunches of greenery

about four inches long, holding their stems next to the pick and wrapping the attached wire to it. One by one insert

these bunches into the styrofoam.

It is best to work randomly around

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

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

Rose hips or winterberry, or even artificial berries will surely brighten it up, as will strands of ribbon wired to a wooden pick and inserted into the bottom.

since it has a little shape; less droopy so to speak. It will be surprising just how much

Wired ribbon is

a good choice

surprising just how much greenery it takes to make a kissing ball. When I am making wreaths or deco-

rations of any sort I always continue harvesting even after I think I have enough, just as a bit of insurance. It's always better to have extra than have to stop everything and go picking again.

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

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

Letters to the Editor

Monson Summerfest's future is up to you

Letter to the Editor

MONSON— The purpose of Monson Summerfest, Inc. is to foster civic pride and participation in an annual Fourth of July celebration.

Monson Summerfest's roots date back to 1978 when the Monson Methodist Church conceived the idea of a fun-filled day for friends and families to celebrate our nation's birth and one another. Who would have dreamed that Monson Summerfest would have grown to be a part of Monson's culture?

Certainly, sincere thanks are due all of the past and current members of the Monson Summerfest Committee. A core group of civic minded individuals who spearhead the effort, give of themselves, investigate possible improvements, plan future events, and address concerns throughout the year.

The Monson Summerfest Committee salutes the efforts the Select Board; the Police, Fire, Highway, Park & Recreation, and School Departments; and promotes church groups, local businesses, civic organizations, and citizens who support all of our activities.

It is doubtful that any member of the Monson Summerfest Committee would want a pat on the back or a medal on their chest, we'd rather see the childlike twinkling eyes of all who attend watching the parade or fireworks.

Like many non-profit organizations, Monson Summerfest, Inc.'s small core group is dwindling and aging out. We are in need of new members with refreshing ideas. If our annual celebration is to continue, we must have your help. Please consider joining this volunteer organization. Contact us by mail at PO Box 113, Monson, MA 01057, at https://monsonsummerfestinc.com/get-involved, or speak with any member whom you might know.

The Monson Summerfest, Inc. Committee



Around and round the Christmas table, Seated in every chair – There to eat and eat as much As, oh' we aching dare.

And soon we'll dance by the yuletide tree; Around and round we'll go – Carols sing throughout the night, That warm while the north wind blows.

Will you come and sit with us? Prepared for pauper and king – Table and table and all the parts Of blessings there to bring.

Deep is the snow, and far we'll go – Following the Christmas path, On to the door, still hoping there To see you again at last.

Letters to the editor policy

The Journal Register

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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 be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character

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.



nowy owls have already been spotted in Massachusetts this year.

They come from the tundra area of Canada into the United States during the winter. Usually, the snowy owls that head to this area are immature. This irruptive behavior may or may not be coordinated with the lemming cycle, one of their primary foods especially during their breeding cycle.

The snowy owl is about 24 inches long and primarily white, yellow eyes and variable amounts of black spots and barring. Immatures are darker than adults and females darker than males.

Snowy owls frequently hunt during the day. Their diet is mainly rodents, Arctic and snowshoe hares, fish, birds including waterfowl and carrion.

They nest on the tundra in a shallow depression on a mound on top or on a gravel mound. They line the nest with feathers and bits of moss. The female lays three to ten white eggs. When prey is abundant the clutch size is larger. They make barking noises during breeding, but are quiet in winter.

They inhabit the open tundra and when they move south, they inhabit airports, beaches, marshes and open fields.

Many years ago, a snowy owl appeared in Oakham during the winter. I was lucky to see



it perched on a fence post near an

open field in the daytime. People

came from all over to see this rare

visitor. Logan Airport is a popular

Bald eagle sighting

from a Brimfield resident. He

said, "I've been checking the lo-

cal ponds but not a lot happening.

On Dec. 2 I received an email

winter stop over.

Snowy owl

However, I have seen a bald eagle or two at the pond on New Reed Street four time in the last two weeks and another birder I met there reported seeing eagles there that I missed. On one visit two adult bald eagles were sitting in the same dead tree about fifteen feet apart."

Christmas Bird Count

He plans to participate in the Allen's Bird Count Christmas Bird Count on Saturday, Dec. 14. National Audubon Society 125th Christmas Bird Counts take place Saturday, Dec. 14 through Sunday, Jan. 5, 2025. This is one of the most popular birding events of the year. It is rarely held on the actual designated holiday itself, counts are scheduled to take

place on various days surrounding Dec. 25 within the official count period noted above. Counting takes place anytime during the 24 hours, midnight-to-midnight.

The goal is to find, identify and count all birds within a 15-mile diameter "count circle." All are welcome. Compilers do their best to make sure that beginners join a group with at least

one experienced birder. Locations in late December include: Quabbin on Saturday, Dec. 28 compiler Scott Surner at ssurner@aol.com and Westminster on Wednesday, Jan. 1, 2025 compiler Charles Caron at 978-874-5649 or caronev@aol.com.

People may visit https://www.audubon. org/community-science/christmas-bird-count to read about CBC history, science and data. Juncos and snow

The Brimfield resident noted a large flock of juncos about 40 the day before the Dec. 5 snow storm. He said, "Storms a commin' I looked out near where the feeding stations are located and where I spread mixed seed on the ground and a quick count resulted in 40 junco. And chickadees and titmice were constantly back and forth to the black oil sunflower seed feeder." I also saw a large flock of juncos on my daughter's lawn in Barre on that Wednes-

Pond visits

The Brimfield resident makes frequent trips to ponds in his area. He found most of them frozen over on Dec. 4. He did count 12 hooded mergansers at Holland Pond, a large group of mallards over 200 and three black ducks at Sherman Pond.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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 own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

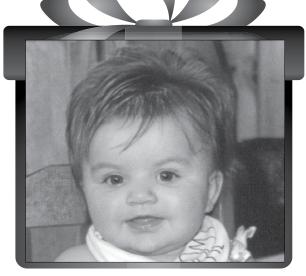
For more information, call the editor at 413-283-8393.

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

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



aby's First Christmas



Ariella Martins

January 15, 2024

Parents: Aaron Martins & Bryanna Lapointe, Monson **Grandparents:** Mark & Jane Martins, Ludlow Bill Lapointe & Tracy Halgas, Springfield



Violet Cormier

August 14, 2024

Parents: Geoff & Ellen Cormier, Worcester **Grandparents:** Tony & Krista Silva, Palmer Mark & Deb Cormier, Worcester



Logan Distler

September 22, 2024

Parents: Daniel & Lisa Distler, Brimfield **Grandparents:** Christopher & Michele Mues, Warren Carole & (the late) Bruce Distler, Rocky Point, NY



Walker James DiPietro

Sept. 11, 2024

Parents: Ashley Messina & Phil DiPietro, Monson, MA/Berlin, CT **Grandparents:** Debbie Messina, Monson James Messina Philip DiPietro & Judy Lashua



Elliot Peter Trainor

September 11, 2024

Parents: Ben & Jess Trainor, Spencer **Grandparents:** Paul & Joanne Wyman, Ware Peter & Christine Trainor, Spencer



Felix Ravasio

November 28, 2024

Parents: Amanda Mack & Marco Ravasio, Buonconvento, Italy Grandparents: Mr & Mrs. Karl Benware, Palmer Mr. & Mrs George Mack, Monson



Greta Nichols

February 13, 2024 Parents: Mike & Aimee Nichols, Palmer **Grandparents:** Jerry & Sue Nichols, Palmer

Brian & MaryLynn Pelletier, Bristol, CT



Henry Thomas Noel

September 9, 2024

Parents: Dalton & Lauren Noel, Cummington **Grandparents:** Lori Wawro, Belchertown Mike Skowronek, Palmer Karen Landry, Worthington Frank Noel, Cummington



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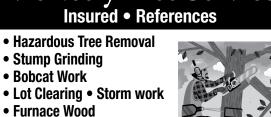


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Thanks to all of our readers and advertisers for supporting our publication and the future of local community journalism. We value our role in this community, and we're committed to keeping you current in 2025 and beyond with a focus on the local news and events that matter most to you.

We wish you an informed and fabulous new year!

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Santa and Mrs. Claus sat in the gazebo to enjoy the festivities before the sun set.



Santa and Mrs. Claus took pictures with local children and families from their seats in the gazebo.



children in front of the tree.



Rondeau's Homemade Ice Cream had a booth where they sold warm drinks.



The Three Rivers Fire Department's Ladies Auxiliary had a table set up to collect donations for the Keep Warm Drive.



Photos by Abigail McCov Local residents gathered around to socialize at Hryniewicz Park.





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KENO



A nativity scene depicting the birth of Jesus Christ was lit up for the event at the

Music Bingo

6:30 p.m.



A local youngster built a snowman that was taller than



The ice sculpture was highly detailed, with decorations on the tree and "Three Rivers" written on the side of the truck.



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Members of the Palmer student council, Nico Caci and Rylee Santiago, raised money for their upcoming eighth-grade class trip to Washington, D.C.



Boy Scouts from Palmer Troop 64, Spencer Skowyra, Devin Chevalier and Carl Wright, sold holiday wreaths made of grapevine, pine cones and other natural materials that they foraged themselves.



May-Ling Mendrala and Carolyn Gibbs shared a craft table at St. Thomas the Apostle church in Palmer.



Palmer High School sophomore Neila Lachance ran the craft fair for the student council.





Classmates Lucy G. and Rylee L. model the friendship bracelets they made to sell at the St. Thomas the Apostle church craft fair.



Bill Partelo and Maya Cushing at the Wicked Woodworking booth at Palmer High.



It was the first time at the Palmer High Craft Fair for sisters Kathy Lloyd and Susan Clawson. They sold crocheted goods, including beanies with removable



Marissa Clark did a brisk business selling goods from her body care collection, Marissa Gifted Creations, at the Palmer High School Craft Fair.



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CRAFTS I from page 1

student council's management of the event. "It's been a great day," she said. "It's about community. I've had so many students and their parents come by to our booth."

Bill Partelo, a graduate of the class of 2024, sold wooden cutting boards made of local cherry, maple, and walnut at the fair. Partelo, who now studies finance at Western New England University, began selling his woodworking six years ago. He learned his craft from his father and grandfather and further developed his skills through YouTube videos and trial and error.

As a student of the district, he ran the holiday craft fair for three years. At this year's event, he enjoyed being a vendor rather than an organizer. "It's not stressful at all on this side of the table," he said.

It was also the first year at the fair for Lisa Newton, a teacher at Old Mill Pond Elementary School. Newton sold goods from her business, Earth Affirmations, including mermaid-themed wares, such as crystal crowns, crocheted mermaids tails, and stuffed whales made of upcycled curtain fabric.

"It's been such fun seeing the community come out today," Newton said. "I've seen students, elementary and high school teachers. And the homemade empanadas were delicious!"

Across town, at St. Paul the Apostle Church, Melissa Boyer pulled together the church's craft fair in only a month. Proceeds from table rentals benefited the parish's charitable programs. Several of the nine vendors were church parishioners.

Boyer sold her own sparkling diamond paintings and diamond art kits at the fair and demonstrated diamond painting. The craft is similar to paint-by-number. Using a special tool, crafters apply tiny colored crystals to pre-numbered adhesive-covered canvases.

St. Paul parishioners Carolyn Gibbs and May-Ling Mendrala shared a table. Mendrala sold her crocheted goods, including an unusual crocheted cup of cocoa.



Turley photos by Patricia Sullivan Lisa Newton, a teacher at Old Mill Pond elementary school in Palmer, wears a crystal crown she crafted for

Gibbs sold her paintings and novels.

her business, Earth Affirmations.

Although the St. Paul the Apostle holiday craft fair was small this year, Boyer said the church's first fair will not be its last. "We'll definitely do this again," she

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WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



Karen Davis laid down a wreath, along with countless volunteers from the community.

AMVETS

PALMER HIGH 8TH GRADE

PASTA DINNER NIGHT

WREATHS I from page 1

of many successful Wreaths Across America days in town, and that this tradition will continue for years to come," the statement continued. "Thank you for helping us remember, honor, and teach on National

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Wreaths Across America Day."

To learn more about the organization that collects for and arranges this ceremony every year, visit their website at WreathsAcrossAmerica.



for each branch of the military, with help from a young volunteer.



Father Jack Brennan led the benediction for the Dec. 14 ceremony at Hillside Cemetery.



Glenn Perry talked about the sacrifices made by military service members and the importance of honoring their memory.



Chris Gatcomb, representing the U.S. Navy, laid wreaths on vets' graves at Hillside Cemetery.



Glenn Perry spoke from a podium set up near the entrance of Hillside



Jason and Otto were seen playing with the volunteers as they decorated Hillside Cemetery.



The American flag hung over the ceremony as speakers reminded the crowd to remember, honor, and teach about veterans.



Heather Wilson and Cemetery Foreman Mat Wawrzyk laid wreaths together this weekend.



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Hillside Cemetery was full of residents and volunteers who wanted to support the Wreaths Across America program.



Kayla McLeod spoke in front of the gathered residents for this Saturday's ceremony.

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BASKETBALL

Panthers get win, hope to contend for league title

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

PALMER—There are three things that Missy Rocker, the second-year boys' varsity basketball coach at Palmer High School, would like to see her team accomplish this winter.

The first item on Rocker's wish list is to contend for the Bi-County West League title. She would also like to see her players capture the Western Mass. Class C. championship title and make a run in the Division 5 state tournament.

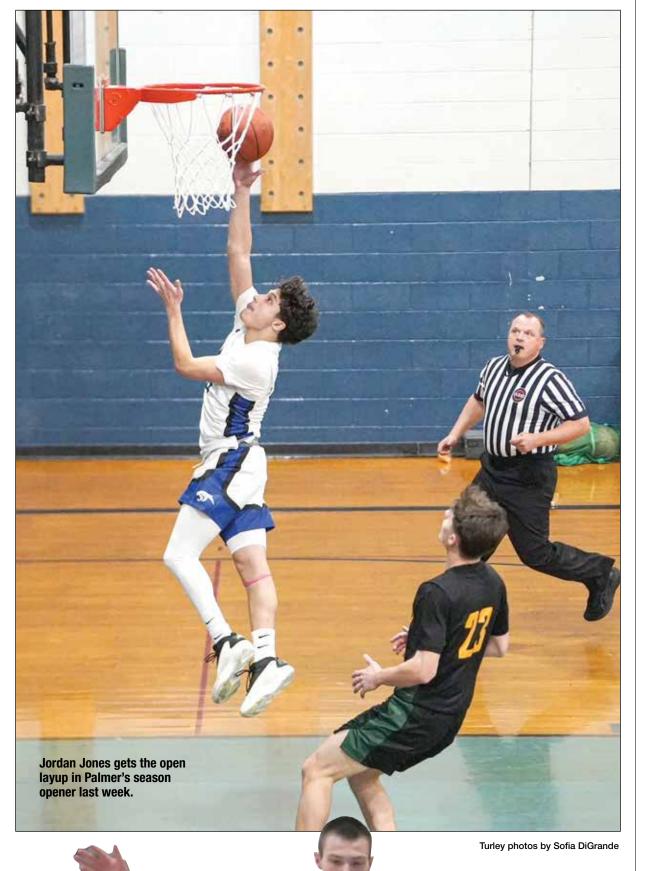
"I think everybody is on the same page on what we would like to accomplish this season," said Rocker following the Panthers home scrimmage versus Quaboag Regional on Dec. 9. "I believe we're capable of competing against any team on our schedule.

The Palmer boys' basketball team hasn't finished in first place in the league standings since the memorable 2016-17 season, which concluded with a trip to the Division 3 state finals at the MassMutual Center in Springfield.

The Panthers finished the 2023-24 campaign with an 11-10 overall record and a 5-5 league record.

The Granby Rams, who are the defending league champions, defeated the Panthers twice during the regular season a year ago. The rivals also met for the third time in the quarterfinals of the Western Mass

PALMER BOYS | page 10



BASKETBALL



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Palmer girls basketball scrimmages Quabbin last week.

Palmer girls hope to reach state tournament again

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

PALMER—A lot changed since the Palmer Lady Panthers lost to West Boylston in the Division 5 state basketball semifinal game at Worcester State University last March.

joined her older sister, Maddy, as a who has coached at both the collemember of the elite 1,000th point club last February, transferred to

Suffield Academy before the start of the school year.

Charlotte's mother, Amanda, and Denise Levasseur, who had been the Lady Panthers co-varsity coaches during the past couple of years, also decided not to return to the sidelines this season.

The Lady Panthers new var-Charlotte Theriault, who sity basketball coach is Jill Shaw, giate and high school levels.

PALMER GIRLS | page 10

BASKETBALL

Pioneers don't have answer for Duggan

By Tim Peterson Sports Correspondent

PALMER— First-year Pathfinder Tech boys' varsity basketball coach Ethan Ortyl is hoping to win a lot of games during his coaching career. He had to wait a little bit longer before celebrating his first career victory.

The Pioneers suffered an 80-18 non-league home loss to powerhouse Duggan Academy in the season opening game, last Thursday night.

"This game was a good test for us against one of the best teams that we're going to play all season," said Ortyl, who replaced Zac Button as the Pioneers varsity coach. "The players continued to play hard in tonight's game, and they care about each other. We're going to bounce back and keep battling in every game that we play this season. I just

love this group of players." It was also the first varsity start for all five of the Pioneers starters. Those five players are junior Dustyn Cook, junior Dayne Shanley, junior Aiden Girard, sophomore Cayden Bousquet, and freshman Cassian Kowalik

"We've only had four practices, which doesn't include tryouts, before tonight's game. The players are still learning a new system and I'm still learning what they're capable of doing," Ortyl added. "We're going to work hard at practice be-

game Pioneer Valley Chris-

fore our

tian Academy on Monday night. There are a lot of things that we need to work on. Everyone just needs to keep improving, including myself.'

Girard (3 points) and senior Matthew Vanasse (2 points) are the Pioneers co-captains.

Duggan, who posted an 18-2 regular season record a year ago, also didn't have very much trouble dispatching the Pioneers in their previous two meetings on the hardwood.

Turley photos by Sofia DiGrande

With the help of several turnovers, the Jayhawks were the opening quarter in last Thursday's game, and

Dominic Jarry looks to avoid a takedown.

able to build a 27-0 lead at the end of they never looked back.

Junior Isaiah Rodriguez scored 19 of his game-high 23 points for the visitors from Springfield during the first eight minutes of the con-

Duggan's other two double digit scorers were junior Allen Miranda, who scored 11 of his 21 points in the third quarter, and senior Kyle Combs (12 points).

The Pioneers, who beat Duggan by 14 points during the 2022 regular season, finally broke the ice with six minutes left in the first half when a steal by freshman Grayson Griswold led to a Bousquet lay-up

Bousquet, who was the Pioneers leading scorer with four points, also made another lay-up a minute later following another steal from Griswold.

In the middle of the second quarter, Griswold scored his first career varsity points on a lay-up.

PIONEERS | page 10

BASKETBALL

Mustangs defeat Renaissance in opener

MONSON - On Monday, Dec. 16, Monson High School boys basketball got its season off to a good start with a win over Renaissance School 62-53. The Mustangs were steady on offense throughout the night, working through Trey Dillahunt and Austin Meacham. Dillahunt led the Mustangs with 24 points while Meacham added 21 points. Jake Beaupre came in with nine points scored. The Mustangs sank six treys in the game. Monson faces rival Palmer on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 7 p.m.

WRESTLING



Gustavo Vega locks up in an early round match.



Dustyn Cook goes

low to avoid a

defender.

Jake Parker-Gregory looks for a takedown in a 215-pound match.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Pioneers wrestle at Knight-Hawk

HOLYOKE - Last Saturday, the Pathfinder wrestling team opened the season by participating in the Knight-Hawk Classic hosted by Holyoke High School. The Pioneers scored 49 points and placed 17th out of 19 teams that were at the event. Dominic Jarry was Pathfinder's top finisher, placing third in the 175-pound bracket.



Grayson Griswold sends up a three-point attempt.



Aiden Girard heads down the court.



Cayden Bousquet keeps the ball away from his oppo-

Dayne Shanley takes a mid-range

shot.



Cassian Kowalik tries to avoid having his shot blocked.

PIONEERS I from page 9

The home team was trailing, 40-6 at halftime.

Pathfinder Tech's only made baskets of the third quarter were from Vanasse and

The Jayhawks only outscored the Pioneers, 10-7, during the final eight minutes

Pathfinder freshman Jordan Mbi made an old fashion three point play with 5:47 remaining in regulation, which gave the home

fans something to cheer about. Kowalik also hit a runner in the lane. Girard and Shanley each made a free throw.

The Pioneers players and supporters were looking to celebrate a win at home against PVCA on Monday night.



Turley photos by Sofia DiGrande Matthew Santos looks to pass into the paint.



Stephen Fredette goes for the long three-point attempt.



Dylan Doherty gets ready to defend.



Taydem Haley looks to drive to the hoop.



for us to play against last year. We're hoping to be able to beat them this year," Rocker said. "Our league is very difficult with some other good teams like Southwick, Monson, and Ware."

The Panthers defeated crosstown rival Pathfinder Tech, 79-51, at home in a preliminary game of the Division 5 state tournament. Their season came to an end following a road loss to Douglas High School in the Round of 32.

This year's preseason practices went very smoothly for Rocker and her players.

"It has been a lot easier this year because I already know what to expect from these guys. The players have been very focused at practice," said Rocker, who's a Student Adjustment Counselor at Palmer High School. "I really didn't know them very well at the start of last season."

After hosting Southwick in the season opener on December 13, the Panthers will be playing six consecutive road games before returning home to battle Granby on January

"We must stay strong mentally during our six-game road trip. I think these guys can handle it," Rocker said. "We did have a better record on the road than we did at home last year. I'm hoping that we play very well both on the road and at home this season."

While there aren't any seniors listed on the varsity roster, the Panthers are an experienced basketball team with seven returning varsity players.

Rocker, who has also been the varsity softball coach at Ludlow High School since 2019, is coaching a team without any seniors for



Gavin Smola takes a free throw.

the first time.

"I'm just going to coach the players who are here," she said. We do have a bunch of juniors and sophomores, along with a freshman and a seventh grader on the varsity team."

The Palmer tri-captains are junior Dylan Doherty, junior Matt Santos, and sophomore Taydem Haley, who are guards.

"The three captains are very good leaders," Rocker added. They lead by example on and off the court."

Haley finished his freshman season with 245 points and was the Panthers leading scorer. He made 19 3-pointers.

The trio were also key members of the football team this past

Santos was the starting quarterback, while Doherty and Haley are both running backs.

Doherty rushed for more than 1,000 yards this past season.

"Pretty much what you see on the football field is what kind of a player Dylan is on the basketball

court," Rocker said. "He's a workhorse and he'll always gives you 110 percent in every game.

The junior duo of Stephen Fredette and Gavin Smola, who also played football, are returning centers.

Adonis Dupre, who's a guard, and Jordan Jones, who's a forward, are also members of the junior class. Jones transferred to Palmer from Oxford High School before

the start of the school year. The Panther's other four sophomores are Hunter Baird (forward), Dylan Holbrook (forward), Griffin Nawrocki (guard), and Joziah Martinez (guard), who didn't play bas-

ketball a year ago." Rounding out the varsity boys' basketball roster are freshman guard Liam McKee, and seventh grade TJ Smola, who's also a guard. The duo will be splitting time between the junior varsity and varsity squads.

Palmer opened the season with a 52-24 win over Southwick. Santos and Smola had 13 points each in the win.



The Panthers were scheduled to face Southwick in its season opener.



Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli Palmer reached the tournament last year and made it

to the state semifinals.



The girls will have competition this week before



some time off for the holidays.



PALMER GIRLS

I from page 9

Shaw was the head coach of the women's basketball team at Bay Path University in Longmeadow. She also coached the girls' varsity basketball teams at Windsor High School in Connecticut, and at West Springfield High School.

'The girls basketball program here at Palmer High School has been very successful during the past few years. I'm very excited to be the new varsity coach," said Shaw, who played college basketball at Assumption University in Worcester. "The girls have been working very hard so far at prac-

While Shaw was coaching at West Springfield, the assistant varsity coach was Missy Rocker, who's currently the boys' varsity

basketball coach at Palmer High School. "I took a year off from coaching basketball and Missy told me that this coaching position was open," Shaw said. "I really enjoy coaching because you're able to teach the players about the game

of basketball and about life les-

sons.'

During the three seasons that Charlotte Theriault was a member of the Lady Panthers varsity basketball team, she scored a total of 1,164 career points. She led the way offensively last season with 570 points. Theriault was also a member of the Lady Panthers soc-

In her final basketball game wearing a Palmer uniform, Theriault scored 31 points in a heartbreaking 58-57 overtime loss against the West Boylston Lions in the Division 5 semifinals. The only other Palmer players

to score in that contest were Vanessa Baer and Jordan Bigda, who each scored 13 points. Baer and Bigda were the only seniors on last year's team.

The Lady Panthers did return several players, and they added a couple newcomers to their varsity roster this season.

"We have an array of players from seniors straight on down to seventh graders," Shaw said. "We have a variety of experienced play-

ers and newcomers.' The four Lady Panthers seniors are Madison Rathbone, Loretta Petrashewicz, Jayda Pardo,

and Nevaeh Solis. "I'm hoping the four seniors will be our leaders this year," Shaw said. "They're very good basket-

ball players." Pardo scored 125 points as a junior and which is the most points scored by a returning player.

Rathbone and Petrashewicz are also returning varsity players, while Solis is a newcomer.

There isn't any juniors listed on the varsity roster and the only two sophomores are Addyson Petrashewicz, who's a returning varsity player, and Rylee Ostiguy, who's a first-year varsity player.

The only freshman is Lilian Pronovost.

Rounding out the girls' varsity basketball roster are eighth graders Anabelle and Evelynn Ladue, along with seventh graders Harper Brouilette, Anna King, Aria Normpleggi, and Maya Rodriguez.

Jack Letendre, who's the last member of the Panthers boys' basketball team to score 1,000 career points, will be coaching the Lady Panthers junior varsity team.

The Lady Panthers, who are members of the Franklin North League, were scheduled to begin the regular season on Tuesday night by hosting Southwick in a non-league contest.

acebook.com/turleysports Turleysports Dominic Jarry Athlete of the Week

Dominic Jarry

Pathfinder

At Pathfinder wrestling's first competition of the year, Jarry finished third at 175 pounds at the Knight-Hawk Classic in Holyoke.

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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ARBELLA

Coaching classes available

Coaches hired after Aug. 1, 1998 are required to take a coaching course to be eligible to coach high school sports in Massachusetts.

According the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Association, all coaches hired prior to Aug. 1, 1998 are exempt from taking the Fundamentals of Coaching Course. Coaches hired after that and before July 1, 2005 must have completed the NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course with the exception of Certified MA teachers.

All coaches (stipend or volunteer) first serving as an interscholastic coach after July 1, 2005 must complete the start of their season. Rugby Coachthe NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course, and an approved Sports First Aid course.

The NFHS Fundamentals of Coaching Course requirement must be met through attending an MIAA sponsored Fundamentals of Coaching Class with MIAA Certified Instructors. Must be completed and passed prior to coaching a second year.

The NFHS Sports First Aid may be met by completing on-line courses with the NFHS www.nfhslearn.com. Must be passed prior to coaching a

Additional requirements for all coaches:

Massachusetts requires coaches to be certified in CPR per Section 1. Section 47A of chapter 71 of the General Laws. Additionally, AED training is required and will most likely be done in conjunction with the existing mandated CPR training.

All MIAA member school coaches (stipend or volunteer) are required to take annually the on-line National Federation Concussion Course, or other MA Department of Public Health recognized education program, prior to es must see Rule 76.2 for additional coaches' education information.

Any questions, please call Don-Harrington at 508-541-9804 or email dharrington@miaa.net.

Fundamentals of coaching classes are being offered on Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2025 from 4 to 8 p.m. and Saturday, Feb. 8, 2025 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Classes are open until capacity is reached and then a waiting list is established. There are online components to the course once the classroom portion is completed

Railers get point, fall in shootout

WORCESTER - It has been one of those weekends that seem like a month for the Railers. They have battled one of the ECHL's best teams in the Trois-Rivieres Lions and changed a coach all at the same time.

Worcester lost its final game under Bob Deraney, 5-3, Friday night. They lost their first game under Nick Tuzzolino, 3-2, Saturday night but it was one of those half-a-loaf deals. The Railers earned a point with a shootout

It says something about the Lions that Worcester played one of its best games in recent weeks and still could not get two points. Trois-Rivieres is loaded with offensive opportunists and flawless goaltending.

The Railers out shot the visitors. 41-26, but still could not outscore them.

It was, however, an encouraging start to Tuzzolino's head coaching career and in general he liked what he

"I don't want to say that I was excited about how we played," he said, "because the result wasn't there, but we made a few minor adjustments in clogging up the neutral zone and our forecheck, and I thought they were really good."

The goal scorers were Justin Kaplan and Matthew Kopperud for Worcester while the Lions got two goals from Cormier. The first was from

Xavier Cormier, the second from Tommy Cormier. Alex Beaucage had the only shootout goal.

It was a good goaltending night both ways. Zachary Emond made 39 saves for the Lions. Michael Bullion, who had been in a slump, stopped 23 and made the save of the night early in the third period.

He stopped Logan Nijhoff on a penalty shot at 2:31. The period was Bullion's best as he also made some big saves late to keep the score at 2-2.

Xavier Cormier put Trois-Rivieres ahead at 4:29 of the first period. It was a tap-in goal with the Lions on a power play. Kaplan tied it at 8:45, also on a power play. He beat Emond with a rebound backhander.

Kopperud scored from the right circle at 14:26 to give Worcester a 2-1 lead, then Tommy Cormier converted a long breakaway at 18:01.

"If we can carbon-copy what we did tonight," Tuzzolino said, "I don't see us losing more than a couple games here and there. It's one of those things where that type of system can plug in play some players and drive some teams wild up front.

"I guess my overall goal is to work on the consistency of that this week because we'll have a good stretch and really have all things firing for Maine. It's a very big weekend for us.'

Candlepin League News

By Ryan Drago Staff Writer rdrago@turley.com

WNECA Doubles at Bogey Lanes

EAST BROOKFIELD - Bogey Lanes in East Brookfield was the host of the most recent Western New England Candlepin Assciation doubles tournament this past weekend.

WNECA is dedicated to promoting the game of candlepin bowling throughout western Massachusetts. For years, Bogey Lanes has been a gracious host for tournaments and continues to support tournaments through the

The doubles tournament this past weekend was a great success with over 30 teams showing up over the course of four shifts. The results are in, and the winning

team was Brandon Martins and Rob Poirier.

Both bowlers regularly bowl out of Agawam Bowl in Agawam, and bowled excellently during day one of the tournament. Along with their handicap and scratch totals the team of Martins and Poirier combined for a score of 893 to win the doubles at Bogey

It was a good day on the lanes for Martins as he bowled a series of 409. This was the second time Brandon Martins bowled a 400 series during the WNECA tournament series.

The team who finished in second place were Jason Gauthier Sr. and Tiffany Gauthier with a combined score of 850. In third place, the team of Erica and Craig Beaudry scored an 839.

A total of nine teams placed in the doubles tournament at Bogey Lanes. The teams who finished fourth through ninth were within fifteen points of each other. Chris and Laurie Lafreniere finished in fourth with an 830, Robby Wood and Nick Brown with a 826, Stacy Bloomberg and Steve Champagne with a 823, Tharen Ring and Chris Cincotta with 820 and the team of Cody Brunelle and Kyle Wilder tied at 815 with Trever Kenneson and

The point standings for the tournament series have been posted on the WNECA Facebook page. After the doubles event at Bogey, Brandon Martins is leading in points as the #1 seed. His teammate from the doubles Rob Poirier is currently in third place.

Sophia Hearnlaye.

The WNECA will host a championship bracket tournament featuring the top 24 bowlers after the conclusion of the tournament series. After a successful doubles tournament, Martins and Poirier are in good shape to compete in the championship tourna-

ment at the end of the year. The next WNECA tournament will be in January at the Turn Hall in Adams and the event will be singles.

Commercial Elks League

PALMER - Compression bowled against Last in Line this past Tuesday night in the Commercial Elks League.

In game one, Last in Line defeated Compression by a score of 362-318. In game two, Compression bounced back with a win of their own, 409-342. In game three, Last in Line took the final game 396-350. Vinny Navarro of Last in Line finished with a 117 and his teammate Jeremy Laduke finished with a 114.

The final score was 1100-1077 in favor of Last in Line and the team received three points.

T-Birds grab point in Wilkes-Barre

SPRINGFIELD Springfield Thunderbirds (12-9-2-0) dispatched a 4-1 second intermission deficit to earn a standings point before ultimately falling in overtime, 5-4, to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins (14-7-1-0) on Saturday night at Mohegan Arena at Casey Plaza.

Upstart rookie Rutger Mc-Groarty quickly got the Penguins on the board on their Teddy Bear Toss night as he took a delicate saucer pass from Joona Koppanen and deked to the forehand to tuck it behind Vadim Zherenko just 1:53 into the opening period.

The T-Birds were able to draw two power play opportunities while trailing 1-0, but the Penguins' penalty kill dispatched both of the Springfield man-up situations. Special teams continued to trend in the home team's direction as the Penguins cashed in on their first power play on a goal by Emil Bemstrom at 16:06

Scranton a 2-0 lead into the intermission.

Filip Larsson was not heavily taxed in Penguins crease in the first, but he came up with the nine saves asked of him to start the

Thanks to their top offensive unit, the T-Birds quelled some of the Penguins' momentum at 5:17 of the second. Aleksanteri Kaskimaki took a drop feed from Leo Loof and whipped it in the low slot to Dalibor Dvorsky. While Larsson slid across to deny the T-Birds' star rookie, the rebound trickled behind the netminder, allowing Marcus Sylvegard to backhand it into the yawning net to cut the deficit to 2-1.

Special teams, though, proved to be Springfield's undoing once again just 3:16 later as Valtteri Puustinen slipped behind the defense on a power play and chipped a backhander past Zhe-

The of the frame to give Wilkes-Barre/ renko to make it a 3-1 Penguins lead.

Late in the period, the Thunderbirds thought they had solved Larsson on a power play scramble in the crease, but after a review, the goal was washed out, and Bemstrom took advantage with just 18 seconds left in the frame, snapping a wrist shot under the crossbar, extending the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton lead to 4-1 after 40 minutes.

The T-Birds' leaders rapidly turned the game around as the final period began. Captain Matthew Peca flung a wrister over Larsson's glove just 17 seconds into the period to make it a 4-2 contest. Less than four minutes later, crashing in for a rebound in the slot area, former Penguin Scott Harrington notched his first as a Thunderbird at 4:08 to cut the margin to 4-3.

Larsson and the Penguins tightened to hold the fort into

the game's final two minutes, but a penalty with 2:09 on the clock handed Springfield another power play and a chance to get an equalizer. With Zherenko at the bench for an extra skater, the T-Birds seized the moment as Matt Luff found Kaskimaki in the slot, and the rookie's snapper eluded Larsson to tie the game with 1:56 left.

The Thunderbirds had another power play chance to close out regulation, but the Wilkes-Barre/ Scranton penalty kill shut it down to get the game into the extra pe-

Unfortunately, the T-Birds' magic ran out in the extra session as a penalty gave the Penguins a 4-on-3 power play, and Bemstrom completed his hat trick with a spinning jam shot at 4:27 of the overtime to snap the T-Birds winning streak. Despite coming short of victory, Springfield earned standings points for the 11th time in its last 13 games.

Administration Awards \$9.9 Million to **Expand Individual Homelessness Winter Capacity**

Municipalities, Shelter Providers, and Community-Based Organizations to Receive Supplemental Grants

BOSTON- In anticipation of increased wintertime shelter needs for individuals experiencing homelessness, the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities has awarded \$9.9 million in supplemental grants for shelter providers, municipalities, and community-based organizations to open or expand seasonal shelter bed capacity.

Through EOHLC's Division of Housing Stabilization's One Time Grants to Expand Capacity, Clinical Support Options has been awarded \$1,053,449 to add an additional 22 beds and capaci-

Pioneer Valley will face harsh weather conditions", said Senator Adam Gomez. "I'm thankful to Secretary Augustus and the Healey-Driscoll administration for ensuring our most vulnerable men, women and children have access to robust wrap-around services intended to establish stability in their lives."

"This funding comes at a typartners provide a lifeline to winter beds for individuals expecritical time when residents ex- individuals who are struggling riencing homelessness. The fundperiencing homelessness in the with the very basic need of a safe ing will support 595 additional Hampden district and across the place to lay their head at night," said Housing and Livable Communities Secretary Ed Augustus. "In addition, these organizations are well-equipped to connect individuals with other important services ranging from behavioral health to the search for permanent housing, which helps lift people out of homelessness."

Annually, EOHLC supports

"Our nonprofit communi- 2,514 year-round beds and 363 winter beds and will expand daytime warming centers to prevent unsheltered homelessness during the cold winter months. Shelters are run by nonprofit organizations that receive funding from the state.

For more information, please contact Senator Gomez's office at Adam.Gomez@MASenate.gov.

ty to serve 100 people in warming centers in Springfield, Greenfield **GRANT** I from page 1

Councillor Mark Caci asked how long the process would be to submit the grant and to hear back. "We won't know until prob-

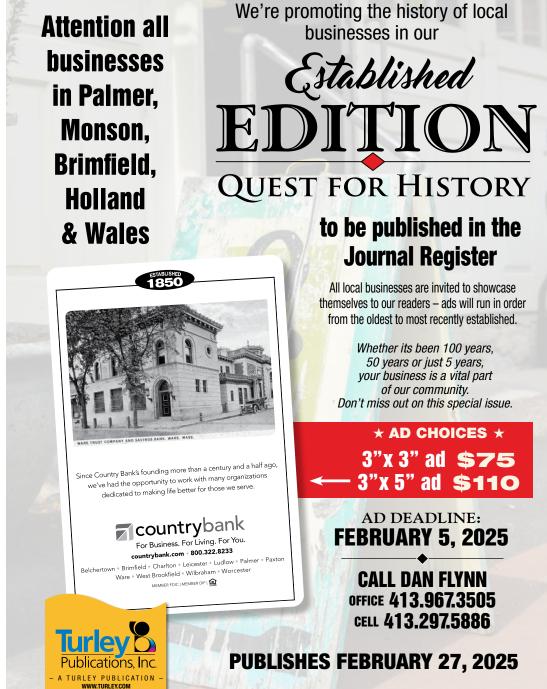
ably after July 1," Latour said. "I think it was September, when they announced the awards." Councillor Phil Herbert confirmed that there would be public hearings during the process of pur-

suing the grant. 'Participation of people going to those and signing their name is a big part of the town getting a grant," Herbert said. "From what I remember from ALICE and stuff, a big part of getting that grant is

public participation. The council voted to approve Community Development's request to the grant for \$850,000.

Community Development's mission statement is listed on the town's website as "meeting the housing and service needs of the low- and moderate-income population, building and repairing infrastructure vital to the health and safety of the residents, and supporting business development and retention."

To get in touch with Community Development, call 413-283-2614, or send an email to CommunityDevelopment@Town-OfPalmer.com.



Police/Fire

Police Logs

Palmer

The Palmer Police Department reported 442 incidents on its logs from Dec. 3 through Dec. 9.

Dec. 3

At 3:21 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on the corner of Park Street and Central Street.

At 5:31 p.m. police responded to a hit and run accident on Thorndike Street. At 7 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on High

Street. At 9:59 p.m. police gave summons to Michael Lawrence Peterson, 56, of 3105 Main St., Bondsville, for no inspection sticker and operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license.

Dec. 4

At 9:19 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Park

At 9:33 a.m. police gave summons to James E. Yazbek, 44, of 54 Grover St., Everett, for operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration, uninsured motor vehicle and unlicensed operation of a motor vehicle.

At 2:08 p.m. police responded to an accident on property damage on Shearer

accident with property damage on Old Warren Road.

At 11:47 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Pine Street.

Dec. 5

At 12:15 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on

At 7:07 a.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on S. Main

At 7:17 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Bos-

At 7:17 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Ware Street.

At 7:38 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Old Warren Road. At 7:39 a.m. police responded to an

At 1:09 p.m. police arrested Wesson At 6:48 p.m. police responded to an G. Lussier Jr., 61, unhoused on two war-

> At 9:04 p.m. police arrested John Joseph Lewinski, 68, of 25 Warebrook Dr., Ware, for obstructing an emergency vehicle, OUI liquor and negligent operation of a motor vehicle.

Dec. 6

At 2:28 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage and gave summons to Nicholas Daniel Dion, 28, of 580 Keys Road, Warren, for leaving the scene of property damage and improper operation of a motor vehicle.

At 10:36 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Thorndike Street.

Dec. 7

At 11:57 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Thorndike Street.

At 12 p.m. police arrested Todd N. Sheldon, 59, of 1007 Baptist Hill St.,

At 1:27 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Ware

Dec. 8

Lawrence Street.

At 2:09 p.m. police gave summons to Caitlin Joanne Goodale, 24, of 104 Gilbert Road, Southampton, for speeding at a rate that exceeds posted speed limit, operating a motor vehicle with registration revoked, uninsured motor vehicle and not in possession of registration.

At 6:30 p.m. police gave summons to John Phillip Pierce, 44, of 454 State St., Belchertown, for defrauding a

At 7:04 p.m. police responded to an hit and run accident on the corner of Shearer Street and Thorndike Street.

Dec. 9

At 11:29 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Park Street.

fender registration.

fender registration.

At 9:02 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

accident with property damage on Park Palmer, on a warrant. At 8:35 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on the corner of Palmer Street and Fuller Road. At 9:24 a.m. police responded to an

accident with property on Ware Street.

At 10:03 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on

At 5:36 p.m. police received sex ofand blessed a classroom at the Prince of Peace School in the City of Beni. It was dedicated to Fa-At 5:39 p.m. police received sex ofther Oliver Blanchette, a Catholic priest, who championed the Prince of Peace Beni School from its first At 5:42 p.m. police received sex ofgroundbreaking. Construction costs totaled \$13,000 fender registration. but do not include the costs for furniture and school At 5:44 p.m. police received sex offender registration.

Kids in the Congo is building a groundwater well in the Village of Bibwa, which has no access to clean water. Having the well means that people won't have to walk over a mile to a dirty river for water, which is what they do now. The well will cost just over \$12,000.

Local non-profit

announces three

FISKDALE— Kids in the Congo, a local

non-profit started by St. Anne St. Patrick Parish

members in 2008, is announcing three projects to

help children in the Democratic Republic of Con-

go, a country in central Africa. The projects include

furnishing a classroom, building a well, and creating

a farm - all to make a difference in the lives of the

world's poorest. Kids in the Congo is also looking

world, with most people living on less than \$2 a day,"

said Lynne Brouillette, St. Anne St. Patrick Parish

member and Kids in the Congo founding organizer.

"Political instability, weak infrastructure, violence,

health crises, and poor education, all contribute to

these people remaining some of the poorest on earth,

and these three projects will make a difference to

many children and their families, for generations to

This past November Kids in the Congo opened

come. The world's poorest need our help."

"The Congo is one of the poorest nations in the

for a volunteer to help with fundraising efforts.

projects

The local non-profit is also working to provide farmland for an animal co-op project. The project will be managed by a high school graduate whose education was sponsored by Kids in the Congo. The farm will provide fresh produce and animals, such as goats, chickens, rabbits, and pigs. People can work in return for a share of the produce and livestock. The farm will be a first of its kind in the region. The project will cost a little over \$13,000.

"Kids in the Congo is making a difference one educated kid and one funded project at a time, but we need a dedicated fundraising volunteer to help support our mission," continued Brouillette. "If you're passionate about connecting with others and helping to raise essential funds, we would love to have you join us, but at least donate your cans and bottles!"

To help Kids in the Congo, donations can be made through the website: www.kidsinthecongo. org. Or bring redeemable cans and bottles, and even water bottles, to the drop-off location in the St. Anne St. Patrick Parish gift shop parking lot at 16 Church Street, Fiskdale. To volunteer to help or have questions, please contact Lynne Brouillette, by emailing kidsinthecongo@gmail.com or calling 413-209-

Since 2008, Kids in the Congo has helped over 200 children attend school, get an education, and graduate high school. Over 20 kids have continued on to universities and are now employed in agriculture, business, and non-government organizations, working to help people out of poverty.

To learn more about the Prince of Peace School, please visit https://assumption.us/aa-news/princeof-peace-beni-school-congo/. To learn more about the Kids in the Congo, please visit www.kidsinthe-

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Education and Experience:

High school education or further with a minimum of 3-5 years administrative work experience preferably in municipal government and dealing with the public and the required knowledge, ability and skill to perform the essential functions of the position in an effective manner.

Thorough knowledge of office practices and procedures; working knowledge of department operations and functions. Working knowledge of the Uniform Procurement Act, M.G.L. Chapter 30B; M.G.L. Chapter 4 and Chapter 66 (Public Records Law); M.G.L. Chapter 268A (Conflict of Interest Law); and Town Bylaws and State Statutes relevant to matters of the office and position.

A full job description can be found at www.brimfieldma.org on the Employment Opportunities section located on the Select Board page. Interested individuals are asked to apply by sending a letter of interest and resume to the Select Board, 23 Main Street, Brimfield, MA 01010, or to selectboard@brimfieldma.org.

The position will remain open until a qualified candidate is chosen. The Town of Brimfield is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

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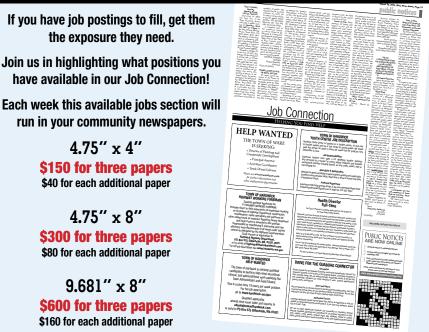
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DEATH NOTICES

Stanley Joseph Lisiewicz Died Dec. 5, 2024 Services Dec. 11, 2024 Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home

Kathleen Nelick Died Dec. 11, 2024 Services Dec. 17, 2024 **Barbara Roberts Rondeau** Roger Rondeau

Services private Beers & Story Funeral Home

Stanley Joseph Lisiewicz

Stanley Joseph Lisiewicz, 92, passed away on Dec. 5, 2024, surrounded by his family.

He was born in Belchertown on May 3, 1932, son of Joseph Lisiewicz and Mary (Zaklinska) Lisiewicz. His family emigrated from Austria to eventually settle on land in central Massachusetts. They were forced to move from that area, as the Swift River was flooded to create the Quabbin Reservoir. They then settled on a farm on South Street in Belchertown. Stanley was the youngest of seven children and survived all of them and their spouses: John and his wife Kazmiara, Anne and her husband Harold, Mildred and her husband Stanley, Helen, who passed at age 8, Rose and her husband Steve, and Sophie and husband Eddie.

Stanley was also preceded in death by his wife of 32 years, and our beloved mother, Virginia (Gondek) Lisiewicz. He leaves behind two sons and one daughter: John Lisiewicz and his wife Pamela Lisiewicz, Donna (Lisiewicz) Longtin and her husband Joseph Longtin, and Dean Lisiewicz. He has two grandchildren, Mary (Lisiewicz) Mastrogiovanni and Molly (Lisiewicz) Lauzon. He has two great-grandchildren, Wesley and Mia Mastrogiovanni. He also is survived by many nieces and nephews. He was especially close to his niece,

Stanley had a strong work

ethic. For most of his early life, he worked on his parent's farm with his siblings, and developed a skill for gardening that later fed his family well for many years. He could often be found in various locations around Palmer selling his

prized tomatoes from his amazing garden! He worked on the family farm, then worked several jobs along the way, including managing his own tree business. He worked for many years at the Town of Palmer Highway Divi-

until he retired. He used his income to provide a good life and home for his wife and three children.

Stanley was a beloved son, husband, father, father-in-law, grandfather, uncle, brother, and friend. He lived to make people laugh and even in his last few days, he was making the nurses smile and laugh with his jokes. He brought joy to so many of us and made many new friends along the way with his humor.

We will treasure his memory, joke books and his numerous joke "cheat sheets" we are finding everywhere. He was a true, New England sports fan, and watched almost every Red Sox game that he could. Stanley was an avid fan of the Boston Red Sox. One of his lifelong dreams



was fulfilled when the Red Sox finally won their first world series in 86 years, and first in his lifetime, in 2004. We were able to celebrate his 80th birthday with him at Fenway Park, where they honored him on the giant scoreboard. It was a

wonderful day and a cherished memory for us all. He leaves a legacy of a loving, close-knit family, and a legacy of bringing laughter and fun to so many. He will be deeply

missed!

A private service was held at Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home on Dec. 11. In place of flowers, please consider a donation to Palmer Baseball (palmerbaseball.org) or the Palmer Senior Center (https:// www.townofpalmer.com/index. asp?SEC=FB0E60B3-7439-

Our family would like to express our gratitude to everyone who helped our Dad over the years: Palmer Police, Fire & EMS, Palmer & Greater Springfield Senior Services staff and volunteers, Professional Medical Services, Caretenders Visiting Nurses, and the many families who would buy Stanley lunch after he entertained them with his many jokes! Dinner and a show! We thank you all!

Kathleen Nelick

Kathleen Xoa Merritt Nelick of Washington, DC, passed away on Dec. 11, 2024. She was 79 years old.

Kathleen was born to Mary and Arthur Merritt on March 11. 1945, in Scituate, Massachusetts. Kathy spent her formative years in New England, growing up in the coastal town of Scituate, vacationing in Cape Cod, and attending University of Massachusetts Amherst, where she earned a bachelor's in mathematics.

Soon after graduating college, she met her lifelong love Stephen Nelick while working at Eastman Kodak in Rochester, New York. Kathy and Steve moved to the Washington, DC, area, where they were married in 1969. Their family became three when son Adam was born in 1981. Kathy worked at the Library of Congress and then the International Monetary Fund before enjoying an early retire-

Ice skating kept her busy in her early family life, then Kathy enjoyed her retirement years with activities like painting, gardening, and traveling, including regular trips back to Cape Cod with extended family.

She and Steve enjoyed exploring their home city of 45 years by biking and walking in their neighborhood and the surrounding area. Kathy also believed in the importance of giving back to her community, volunteering at schools, serving on the Friends of the Palisades Library, and supporting a variety of Washington, DC, organizations that work to improve the lives of women and children in the area.

In retirement, Kathy embraced her passion for art, taking painting classes at Glen Echo

Barbara Roberts Rondeau & Roger Rondeau



Park and exhibiting her work in art shows. Her beautiful paintings hang in places of pride in the homes of her loved ones, who will remember her zest for life as they gaze upon her work for years to come.

Kathleen is preceded in death by her husband Stephen Nelick, mother Mary Merritt, father Arthur Merritt, and brother-in-law Jeffrey Fair. She is survived by son Adam (Katherine) Nelick, grandchildren Samuel and Charlotte, sister Barbara Fair, brothers Stephen (Pamela) Merritt and John (Han) Merritt, and niece and nephew Alexis Fair and Drew Merritt.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, Dec. 17, at St. Peter's Episcopal Church in Poolesville, Maryland.

brother Paul Rondeau. He joins his predeceased siblings, David

With great respect and enduring love, we acknowledge the passing of Roger and Barbara Rondeau, lifelong residents of Palmer, Massachusetts. They leave behind a legacy of dedication, love, and commitment to family and community, having spent 55 years of their lives united in marriage.

Barbara Roberts Rondeau, born on Aug. 14, 1950, was the daughter of Wallace and Doris (Keith) Roberts. With a gentle soul and a heart full of kindness, Barbara devoted over 30 years of her life to Polymer Corporation in Bondsville. Known for her passion for gardening and cooking, she was a nurturing presence to all around her, dedicating much of her life to animal welfare and charitable endeavors. Barbara's memory is cherished and carried forward by her sisters Norma Roberts and Cheryl Rovelli. She was preceded in death by her brother, Wallace



evident in his lifelong pursuits as a self-employed contractor, running R&R Landscaping, R&L Paving, and an independent truck driver for Gagliarducci Construction. Known for his love of wood splitting and competitive spirit in the TriTown Horseshoe League, Roger also enjoyed spending time with his

Together, Roger and Barbara found joy in the simple pleasures of life, investing time in shared pastimes such as playing cards and darts. Their lives and love enriched their family immeasurably.

three children—Cynthia Rondeau (Justin), Stephen Rondeau (Mellissa), and Jason Rondeau (Nikki)—who will continue to honor their parents' loving spirit. They were grandparents to many grandchildren and great grandparents to 3 triplets and many

nieces and nephews. In honoring their wishes, all services for Roger and Barbara Rondeau will be conducted privately. Beers & Story Funeral Home was entrusted with the arrangments. May their souls rest

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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

INTERESTS

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

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

The guild has donated quilts, baby bibs, cardiac pillows, and Christmas stockings for veterans to a variety of community agencies, including but not limited to the Springfield Rescue Mission and the Gray House.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Baystate and Wellpoint reach agreement

New multi-year contract protects patients' access to affordable, highquality care

SPRINGFIELD - Baystate Health and Wellpoint have reached a new multi-year contract that maintains patients' access to the doctors and nurses they know and trust. This means that Wellpoint members will continue to have access to all Baystate Health hospitals, facilities, doctor offices, convenient care, and

ancillary service centers as well as its affiliated physicians through Baycare Health Partners on January 1, 2025 and beyond.

"We are extremely pleased to have reached a new agreement with Wellpoint and ensure continued access for health plan members to the care they receive at Baystate Health and our affiliated physicians through Baycare Health Partners," said Peter D. Banko, President & CEO of Baystate Health. "From the beginning, our mutual goal was to ensure we continue to meet the needs of our patients today and in the future and protect their access to

essential services in Western Massachusetts.'

We worked tirelessly to come to an agreement that preserves access to high-quality, affordable care at Baystate Health for Wellpoint members," said David Morales, general manager of Wellpoint. "We are pleased that our longstanding partnership with Baystate Health will continue promoting preventive care and supporting the whole health of the individuals our organizations serve across the Springfield region."

Virtual support groups for those with cancer

journey patients and their families often benefit from the support of others. Virtual support groups are being held now and through 2025, by Camille St.Onge, LICSW and oncology social worker.

For many years, people had to travel to a predetermined location to attend cancer support group meetings. As a result of restrictions during the COVID-19 pandemic virtual support groups began meeting entirely online, with participants joining through video conferencing

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.

forms like Zoom. Today, many people

flexibility, and convenience, and allows them to access support from where they are without needing to physically travel to a meeting loca-

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

The support groups are designed to help patients, their fam-

PALMER— During a cancer prefer this method because it offers ilies and caregivers cope with the challenges of a cancer diagnosis.

Virtual Support Group offered include: General Cancer Support Group: first Wednesday of each month, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; Partners in Caregiving: second Wednesday of each month, 5 to 6:30 p.m.; Expressive Writing through Cancer, third Wednesday of each month, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Breast Cancer Support Group, fourth Wednesday of each month, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

All meetings are currently held virtually and are made possible by funds raised by the Walk of Champions. For more information contact Camille St.Onge, LICSW, Oncology Social Worker by calling 413-239-7239 or by email at cstomagin@gmail.com.

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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.



Roger Rondeau was born on Feb.4, 1946, to Arthur and Irene (Kwalek) Rondeau. A man of the land, Roger had a deep admiration for the outdoors which was

and Pauline, in eternal rest.

They are survived by their

in eternal peace.

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.



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RAY HALUCH INC. 1014 Center St ∥ Ludlow, MA ∥ 583-6508 C. After the project scope

and cost estimate has been

agreed to by the Applicant,

the Department of Public

Works shall send a break-

down of the estimated costs

and apportioned share of the

betterments to each abutting

property owner. Estimated

costs shall include a contin-

gency to address potential

cost increases and abate-

ments as permitted by law.

Upon receiving (i) a signed

form agreeing to repay the

cost of the apportioned share

from the required percentage

of abutting property owners

set forth in § 123-2.B and

(ii) rights of entry or other

forms of authorization to

enter the affected ways or

other properties as needed,

the Department of Public

Works shall issue a report to

the Town Council for review,

at which time the fee paid

under \$123-2.D shall become

non-refundable. Should the

Department of Public Works

not receive the submissions

required by the preceding

sentence, the project will be

canceled. In such instance, a

new application must be sub-

mitted pursuant to Section 2

ing, the Town Council shall

review the repair request

and cost estimates and vote

whether to approve a final

list of abutting property

owners and adopt an Order

of Assessment together with

an Estimate of Betterments,

as provided under Chapter

80, Section 2, of the General

Laws, for selected projects.

The Council may elect to

postpone any repair requests

or to cancel a project indef-

al, the Order of Assessment

and Estimate of Betterments

shall be recorded within 90

days from the adoption of

the Order with the Hampden

§123- 4 Town Funding

Any project or subse-

quent work pursuant to

this Chapter may, with

the approval of the Town

Manager, be funded through

the temporary or perma-

nent borrowing of funds or

through the use of any avail-

able Town funds, with any

costs (which may include

construction costs, engi-

neering costs, administrative

costs, and legal costs) and/or

interest related thereto to be a

part of the overall total proj-

ect costs. Any borrowing and

shall be subject to applicable

Massachusetts General Laws.

Betterments and Method of

completion of the repairs,

the Department of Public

Works shall calculate the

actual cost of the repair and

send a list of the final appor-

tioned shares for each abut-

ting property owners to the

Board of Assessors. Shares

will be apportioned among

the abutting property owners

Assessors shall, with the con-

sent of the owner of the land

assessed, apportion assess-

ments for the improvements and/or repairs as allowed by

law, with any apportionment

not to exceed 20 years. By

law, owners shall have the

option of paying off appor-

tioned assessments before

Any private way improved in accordance

with this Chapter may not

be closed to public use for

the duration of the maximum

apportionment of any better-

ment assessed in accordance

§123 - 6 Miscellaneous

A. Commencement

of any work pursuant to this Chapter is subject to

Department of Public Works

ments are a lien on the prop-

erty and assessed in accordance with Chapter 80 of the

B. Betterment assess-

C. Any maintenance

of the completed work and future repairs of any work

performed under this Chapter

shall be the sole responsibil-

ity of the abutting property

owners and not the Town of

Palmer. Any future improve-

ments would require a new

petition pursuant to Section 2

ments from abutting proper-

ty owners (unless in writing)

shall be made through the

Applicant and not directly

D. Inquiries and com-

with this Chapter.

<u>Information.</u>

scheduling.

General Laws.

of this Chapter.

§123 - 6 Public Use.

they are due.

B. The Board of

as allowed by law.

Payment.

§123 - 5 Assessment of

A. Within six months of

County Registry of Deeds.

Following approv-

initely.

E.

Options

D. At a public hear-

of this Chapter.

PALMER PLANNING BOARD **PUBLIC HEARING** NOTICE

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 11 M.G.L., the Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Monday, January 6th, 2025 at 7:15 PM in the Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA.

The applicant, Ramin Piri Alamdari, is seeking Site Plan Approval as allowed under section 171.29 to convert the existing building to a two-family dwelling and construct a gravel parking area on the property located at 25 Bourne Street, Palmer. This parcel is also known as Assessor's Map 71, Lot 91.

A copy of the application may be inspected at the Planning Department office in the Town Administration Building from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Thursday.

Anyone interested in more information or wishing to be heard on the application can contact the Planning Department at 413-283-2605 or appear at the time and place designated above.

This notice shall also be posted on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website (http://masspublicnotices.org).

Michael Marciniec, Chairman 12/19, 12/26/2024

Town of Palmer Town Council Notice of Passage Effective January 1, 2025 On Dember 9th, 2024 the Palmer Town Council voted

to amend the **Code of Ordinances** by adding Chapter 123: **Betterments to Improve Private Ways**

§123-1 Purpose. This Chapter sets forth the Town of Palmer's requirements for multiple property owners to petition the Town Council to assess betterments to fund improvements to private ways open to public use. Public funds may not be used to make improvements to private ways. The assessment of betterments may allow multiple property owners to ensure that all properties benefited by improvements the term of such borrowing to a private way pay a fair, proportionate share of the costs of the improvements, and allows the Town to carry out the improvements without spending public funds. This Chapter is not intended to provide assistance to those wishing to build new roads or to effect repairs to private ways closed to public use.

§123- 2 Acceptance of Petitions.

A. Petitions shall be submitted to the Department of Public Works using a petition form provided by the Department of Public Works.

B. The petition shall be signed by at least two-thirds (2/3rds) of the abutters of the road to whom betterments are to be assessed.

C. Each petition shall identify, by the use of Assessors maps or written explanation, the abutting properties of the road to whom betterments are to be assessed.

D. Each petition shall identify a person as the "Applicant". A fee of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500) shall accompany each petition. This fee will be included in the cost of the requested repairs and will be credited against the assessment of betterments when the work is completed.

§123- 3 Project Scope.

A. Upon receipt of a petition, the Department of Public Works shall perform an on-site inspection of the repair request and develop an initial scope of work. Where required, the on-site inspection of the road will be conducted in the presence of the Applicant.

B. The Department of Public Works shall meet with the Applicant to review its findings and determine the final scope of work and cost estimate. The cost of any surveying and/or engineering tasks by outside firms deemed necessary for the scope of work by the Department of Public Works, in its sole and absolute discretion, shall be paid by the petitioner.

to the Department of Public Works.

§123-7 Liability.

The Town shall not be liable on account of any damages caused by repairs made under this Chapter and Chapter 84, Section 25, of the General Laws shall not apply to such repairs. Any requests for subsequent work related to the initial work shall be deemed to be a new request and subject to the provisions of this Chapter. 12/19/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court** 50 State Street Springfield MA, 01103 Docket No. HD24P2593PM In the matter of: **Henry Lomba** Of: Palmer, MA RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/Minor) **CITATION GIVING** NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR

G.L. c. 190B, **§5-304 & §5-405** To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Joseph Lomba of Palmer, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Henry Lomba is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Joseph Lomba of of Palmer, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve

OTHER PROTECTIVE

ORDER PURSUANT TO

Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed Conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 01/20/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadllne 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 dat. **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 16, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 12/19/2024

> More notices on page 15

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

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

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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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TUTORING: Literacy, all ages, Math Call 978-799-9096. petedon151@live.com

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

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2009 NISSAN VERSA. 4-door, blue, all-wheel drive. Runs and looks new. One owner, 90,000 miles, \$6500. 413-466-4426.



HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF OAKHAM is seeking an experienced municipal Treasurer/Collector. 15 hours a week, negotiable pay based on experience Please send resumes to admin@ oakham-ma.gov.

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 email Administrator@TownofBlandford.com for more

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM ASST. ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN - P/T HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR I **PUBLIC WORKS SKILLED WORKER**

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill several vacancies. For application, and more information please visit www. wilbraham-ma.gov. Application deadlines vary. EOE



HELP WANTED

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON Highway Position Opening

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest from qualified candidates to fill a part-time (six hours a week) Administrative Assistant

Duties include providing customer service, handling department's incoming and outgoing correspondence, processing payroll and maintaining

The pay rate range for this position is \$18.16/hour to \$26.26/hour

A more in-depth job description can be found on the Town's website: www

worthington-ma.us Questions will be answered by Highway Superintendent Devon Wolf - telephone number 413-685-5949. Please send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact infor mation to: worthingtonhighway@ gmail.com or to Worthington Highway Department, PO Box 643, Worthington, MA, 01098. This posting will remain pertinent unti

the position is filled. The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not 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.

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		or our	. +10 200 (5000		_		
CATE	GORY:							Quabbin
1		2		3		4		Village Hills Circulation:
5		6		7		8		50,500 SELECTION WAS BELOESTON
9		10		11		12		COMPACTOR COMPANY OCCUPANY ALMOSTER PROVIDED TO SERVICE STATE OF SERVICE S
13		14		15		16		MONEY OFFITH BY WALES NOLAND WALES NOLAND WALES NOLAND
17		18		19		20	Base Price \$26.00	Suburban Registration
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00	23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00	Residential Circulation: 59,000
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00	27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00	Hilltowns Circulation: 9,800
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00	31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00	All Three ZONES for \$26.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00	35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00	for 20 words plus 50¢ for
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00	39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00	AGAMANI RAMPOEN
						I		

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Public Notices

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 (881/2) 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 Division
Docket No. HD24P2450EA
Estate of:
Richard Jerome O'Connor
Date of Death:
August 20, 2024

INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner Jesse O'Connor of Monson, MA.

Jesse O'Connor of Monson, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond. The estate is being

administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner 12/19/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24P2556EA Estate of: Donna M Regan Also known as: Donna Marie Regan Date of Death: 09/04/2024 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal
Probate of Will with
Appointment of Personal
Representative has been
filed by Thomas Apuzzo
of Armonk, NY requesting
that the Court enter a formal
Decree and Order and for
such other relief as requested
in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Thomas Apuzzo of Armonk, NY be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

tration.
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 01/07/2025. 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: December 10, 2024
Rosemary A Saccomani,

Register of Probate

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. HD15P1865EA
Estate of:

Katherine J Shea
Date of Death: 05/26/2010
CITATION ON
PETITION
FOR FORMAL
APPOINTMENT
OF SUCCESSOR
PERSONAL
REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed
by: City of Holyoke of
Holyoke, MA requesting
that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order that
John J. Ferriter, Esq. of
Holyoke, MA be appointed as Successor Personal
Representative(s) of said
estate to serve With
Personal Surety on the
bond and for such other
relief as requested in the

Petition.
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 01/08/2025.

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 date, action may be taken without further notice to

The estate is being

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

of administration.
WITNESS, Hon.
Barbara M. Hyland, First
Justice of this Court.
Date: December 11, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
12/19/2024

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P2570EA
Estate of:

Eugene C Vandall Also known as: Eugene Clifford Vandall Date of Death: 09/30/2024 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL

ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal
Probate of Will with
Appointment of Personal
Representative has been
filed by Doreen J Stanuch
of Belchertown, MA
requesting that the Court

enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Doreen J Stanuch of Belchertown, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/08/2025. 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

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NOTICE UNSUPERVISED
ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE
MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE
CODE (MUPC)
A Personal Representation

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this Court
a.m. on the
f 01/08/2025.
hearing date,

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

expenses of administration WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: December 11, 2024

12/19/2024 **More notices on page 14**

Rosemary A Saccomani,

Register of Probate





All Papers
Will Deadline
Thursday, Dec. 19
at Noon for
Publication
Dec. 23-27

Happy Holidays!

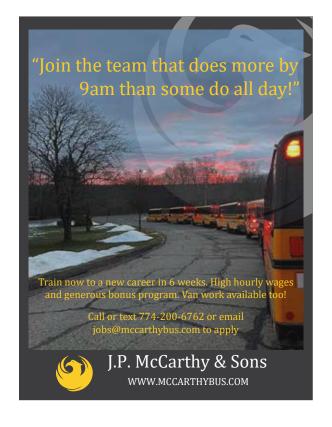


All Papers
Will Deadline
Friday, Dec. 27
at Noon for
Publication
Dec. 30-Jan. 3





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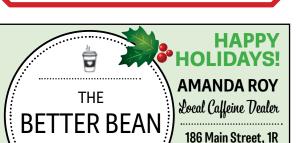
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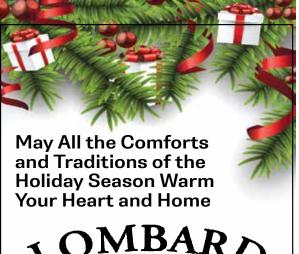
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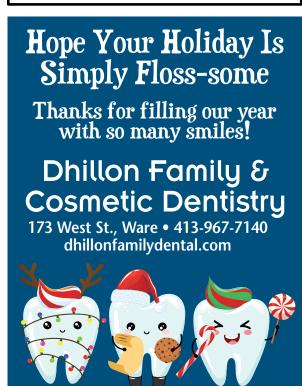
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