

WORTHINGTON

Worthington Fire and Rescue receives grant

WORTHINGTON – The Worthington Fire and Rescue Department received the award of a grant of \$10,467.94.

On behalf of the Healey-Driscoll administration and the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security The Worthington Fire and Rescue department announces the Department of Fire Services grant awards for the FY25 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant program. This program provides reimbursement to fire departments for the purchase of essential firefighter turnout gear, hoses, nozzles, communications equipment, hand tools and more.

A total of 273 local fire departments will share in more than \$4.5 million in funding, with awards ranging from \$4,502.88 to \$50,000.00. Over 100 types of equipment were eligible for reimbursement, with scoring focused on those items that help depart-

ments meet current National Fire Protection Association and Occupational Safety and Health Administration standards.

This grant will enable the Worthington Fire and Rescue to purchase two new sets of structural firefighter Personal Protective Equipment, which is two sets of helmets, coats, pants, boots, hood and gloves compliant to current NFPA standards.

This will be for two newest Fire Department members, Hayden Cleveland and Evan Graham, who joined in the last year and have recently completed the Hampshire County Basic 6 FF course. Congratulations to them as well!

Nancy Brown, the Fire Department grant writer, also contributed significantly to working the grant process, grant application and quotes, communicating with State grant officials and now helping to implement.

CHESTERFIELD

Church holds pie contest

CHESTERFIELD – The Chesterfield Church at 404 Main Road, will hold their annual pie contest on Sunday, Feb. 16.

The contest follows the annual meeting and pot luck lunch and should start around 12:45 p.m. To enter the contest, participants should bake two identical pies and bring to the church before 10:30 a.m. or after 12:30 p.m. They should make sure their name is on the bottom of their pie pan.

To vote, people bring money. People follow the time honored tradition of voting with dollars. They sample all the pies, put their money in the container in front of the pies they like. The money is counted to determine the winners. The uncut pies are auctioned. Any kind of pie may be baked. If the baker thinks it's a pie, it's a pie. People are welcome to join this fun event.



PITTSFIELD

1Berkshire lists newly elected Board Members and Officers

PITTSFIELD – 1Berkshire announces their 2025 slate of newly reelected board members and officers, as well as the addition of new board members.

These individuals will each help support the work of 1Berkshire as the marketing and economic development organization for the region. All these officers and board members were voted in and welcomed at 1Berkshire's Annual Meeting on Dec. 12, 2024.

"I am delighted to welcome such a strong group of new and returning board members and I'm also very pleased that Lori Gazzillo Kiely will continue to lead the board as our

board chair for 2025," said Jonathan Butler, President and CEO of 1Berkshire. "The Board's extensive knowledge and leadership experience will add tremendous value to the organization, and I am excited about the path ahead. I look forward to working with each of them in the coming year."

Officers are: Chair Lori Gazzillo Kiely - Sr. VP and Director of Berkshire Bank Foundation; President Jonathan Butler - President and CEO of 1Berkshire; Vice Chair Colleen Taylor - Partner, Bay State Hospitality Group;

Vice Chair Peter Stasiowski - Director of

Communications, Interprint, Inc.; Treasurer Margaret Keller - Executive Director, Community Access to the Arts and

Clerk Jesse Cook-Dubin - Partner, Cohen Kinne Valicenti & Cook

New Board of Directors Members are Jesse Cook-Dubin, Partner, Cohen Kinne Valicenti & Cook; Ellen Kennedy, President Berkshire Community College; Harry Monti, PresidentBerkshire Life Insurance Company (Guardian);

Yina Moore, Founder and Artistic Director, Adams Theater LLC and

Gina Puc, Special Assistant to the

President Williams College

1Berkshire is a county-wide marketing and economic development organization that works to simultaneously preserve, position, and promote Berkshire County's profound sense of place. Its mission is to advance Berkshire County's economy by advocating for the business community and attracting visitors. Powered by membership, 1Berkshire provides programs that connect businesses with resources and potential customers, as well as develop future leaders and support entrepreneurs. For more information, people may visit 1Berkshire.com.

PLAINFIELD

Director of Operations appointed

PITTSFIELD – KB Accounting announces the appointment of Timothy "Tim" Brelsford as the new Director of Operations.

With an extensive background in financial management and operational strategy, Brelsford is set to play a pivotal role in driving the company's growth and innovation in the accounting industry.

"As we continue to expand our services and enhance our operational efficiency, the addition of Tim to our leadership team is a significant milestone for KB Accounting," said Katie Brelsford,

CEO of KB Accounting. "His proven track record in operational excellence and strategic planning will undoubtedly strengthen our ability to deliver exceptional value to our clients."

Tim Brelsford brings over 30 years of experience in the human services and operations sectors. His expertise in streamlining processes and implementing forward-thinking solutions aligns perfectly with KB

Accounting's commitment to excellence and client satisfaction. In his new role, Brelsford will oversee daily operational activities, spearhead process improvement initiatives, and collaborate with other department heads to ensure the company continues to meet the evolving needs of its diverse clientele.

"I am honored to join KB Accounting at such an exciting time in the company's evolution," said Timothy Brelsford. "I look forward to leveraging my experience to optimize our operations and contribute to the long-term success of the organization, while upholding our commitment to integrity and excellence."

KB Accounting has established itself as a trusted partner in the bookkeeping industry, known for its personalized service and innovative solutions tailored to meet the unique needs of businesses, for-profit and not-for-profit alike. The appointment of Brelsford underscores the company's ongoing dedication to operational excellence and strategic growth.

CUMMINGTON

Contra Dance to be held March 29

CUMMINGTON – A Community Contra Dance will take place in the Cummington Community House, 33 Main St., on Saturday, March 29 from 7-9 p.m.

All are welcome to attend. Admission is free. Donations are accepted, but are optional.

Contra Dance is fun and appropriate for all ages. No special skills or dance experi-

ence is necessary. Caller is Steve Howland. George Wilson, fiddle; Annika Amstutz, fiddle; Becky Hollingsworth, piano and friends will provide music.

This event is supported by grants from the Goshen and Worthington Cultural Councils, local agencies which are supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

WESTFIELD

Athenaeum hosts Shawn Farley

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Athenaeum, 6 Elm St., announces the next exhibit, the art of Shawn Farley, one of the most important artists working in Western Massachusetts today.

The show opened on Tuesday, Jan. 14 and will remain on display until Saturday, March 1. The event is free and open to the public.

Shawn Farley earned her Bachelors in Fine Arts at the University of Nebraska with a double major in dance and sculpture. Farley went on to obtain her Masters in Arts Administration from the University of Iowa. After moving to Massachusetts in 1984, she became active in artmaking while continuing to study the Surrealists, Constructivists, Suprematists and the Russian Avant-garde.

Her artmaking has involved gathering found objects from parking lots, streets, nature, flea markets and tag sales, and has evolved from assemblage work with little painting to figurative sculptures fully painted. As an older artist, with the freedom to work full-time on her artwork, she feels she has come into her "creative time" and finds age means nothing.

In this current exhibit Farley employs foundry molds, discarded hardware and

other found objects as the building blocks for sculptures. Foundry molds are wooden forms, carved out or built up to create negative space, which in turn is used to make the inverse form or shape to be used for the casting of metal. The molds were primarily used during the last two centuries to create everything from parts for the Hoover Dam to sewing machines and automotive parts. Sometimes these works come together by intention, but more often than not, by chance placement of objects. I find these objects in the streets, but also from people who rescue them from the trash or abandoned factory buildings.

Influenced by the early 20th century art movements known as Suprematism, Constructivism, and Surrealism, her process employs automatism, allowing her to be guided by subconscious associations between fundamental forms and colors. The composition comes first, but with constant editing, a theme emerges. It might be women's rights, climate change, or more personal themes such as aging, spirituality, or dreams. By embracing chance, welcoming play, and trusting her instincts, these compositions inevitably take on human qualities.

EASTHAMPTON

bankESB promotes Gerardo Sanchez

EASTHAMPTON – bankESB recently promoted Gerardo Sanchez to digital banking product officer, based at its 241 Northampton St., Easthampton office.

Sanchez of Holyoke, has 26 years of banking experience. He joined bankESB in 2021 as an electronic banking systems manager. Previously, he was the financial center operations manager at Bank of America and before that, eBanking manager at



Gerardo Sanchez

Florence Bank. In this new role, he will focus on the bank's digital banking roadmap, initiatives and upgrades.

Sanchez earned an associate degree in business studies from Holyoke Community College and a bachelor's degree in both business management and human resources from Bridgewater State University. He also earned a certificate from the Mass Bankers Association's New England School for Financial Studies.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Senior Center Crawspace Structural Repairs and Renovations Invitation to Bid

The Town of Middlefield is accepting Bids from state certified general contractors to make repairs and renovations to the crawspace area in the Town Senior Center located at 169 Skyline Trail in Middlefield, MA 01243. Work will include selective removal of existing debris, stones, rocks and insulation in the building crawspace, repairs to beams, floor joists, and related work. Bid documents may be requested online at middlefield.assistant@gmail.com. Bids can also be picked up at the Select Board

Office from the Middlefield Administrative Assistant on Mondays from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. and Fridays from 9:00A.M. to 11:00AM. The Select Board Office is located in the Town Hall 188 Skyline Trail Middlefield MA 01243. There is no cost for Bid Documents. A Pre-bid Site Visit will be held for all interest ed parties on February 12, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. at the front entrance to the Senior Center, 169 Skyline Trail Middlefield, MA 01243. **The Bid deadline is March 3, 2025, at 2:00P.M.** The project will start immediately after award (approximately March 17, 2025) and shall be completed no later than November

21, 2025. Note: Massachusetts Prevailing Rates are required to be paid on this project. Questions can be directed to Curt Robie, Member, Select Board by calling 413-623-2079, 413-374-2082, or by email: middlefield.CDR@gmailcom 02/06, 02/13/2025

Public Notice
The Chester Water Commission will hold a Public Hearing on March 11, 2025 at Chester Town Hall, 15 Middlefield St., Chester, MA at 6:30 p.m.,

for discussion of a proposed FY'26 Water Rate increase 02/13/2025

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.

Public Notice CHANGES

Deadline has changed to **FRIDAY at 3 p.m.**

