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AGAWAM

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State extends cemetery hours following Velis complaint

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – After expressing a great deal of frustration, State Sen. John Velis, D-Westfield, has gotten the desired result, announcing last week visiting hours at the Agawam Veterans' Memorial Cemetery had been extended.

The hours, made effective last Thursday, are now 7 a.m. to dusk. According to Velis' office, the new hours put the cemetery in line with the current hours at the other veterans' cemetery in Winchendon, which are 7 a.m. to dusk.

The administrative officers of the Agawam cemetery will remain with the same hours, which are 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

"As soon as this issue was brought to my attention, I immediately contacted the Executive Office of Veterans' Services to advocate on behalf of these families, and I am grateful that we were able to achieve this fast resolution," said Velis, who is Chairman of the Legislature's Veterans' Committee and a Veteran

himself. "I think it's important to remember that less than one-half of one percent of our population serves in our military today, we must always make clear that our Commonwealth honors and recognizes our service members. The men and women who reside

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Mayor presents capital plan

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Town's Charter requires the mayor to present an ongoing five-year plan for potential and probably capital improvement projects.

Mayor William Sapelli recently submitted his five-year Capital Improvement Program, which he and the Agawam City Council use as more of a guide. The plan itself does not formally dictate what projects Sapelli must pursue, and the projects he presents in the plan are still subject to funding and in some cases, city council approval as it relates to borrowing.

The plan contains many likely

capital purchases, usually one-time items like equipment. In many cases, Sapelli will submit the fiscal 2024 list as part of his budget.

According to Sapelli's proposal, he is seeking to about \$3 million in general fund appropriations for capital items.

The higher items include \$608,000 in new DPW equipment, \$650,000 for paving on Springfield St., \$500,000 for the street/infrastructure improvement program, and \$500,000 for the high school MBSA design and study. The state is picking up part of the cost of the study.

Sapelli is also seeking to use

PLAN | page 5

Former Agawam Firefighter Dickie Fearn honored with new plaque at FD



Betty Fearn, the wife of former Agawam Firefighter Dickie Fearn, stands with a plaque dedicated in his honor.

AGAWAM – Following his passing, the family of Dickie Fearn generously donated funds to the Agawam Fire Department for the purchase of equipment. In return, the town has placed a new plaque remembering the longtime fire mechanic. The plaque was dedicated at a ceremony held on April 7. Fearn was a firefighter and maintained much of the fire department equipment for 30 years.



Fire Chief Alan Sirosis and Mayor William Sapelli make the plaque presentation.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



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Autumn Mist brings fresh options to community

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Now, more than ever, many people are becoming more conscious about what goes into the food they consume, where the food comes from, and how it is processed.

At Autumn Mist Farm, which opened up last year, owner Derek Turnbull knows the importance of producing meat and other products that both good for you, and are a clean product.

“We raise beef cattle that his hormone free, antibiotic free, and with no steroids,” Turnbull said. “It’s a little bit more expensive, but it is much better for you. And we can tell you what is behind the food and that it is clean. And you can trust that.”

He explained the hormones are used to accelerate the growth of cattle so it can produce more meat and dairy at an accelerated rate.

Turnbull said at his farm, which is located on North West St., that does not happen, and while the cattle needs more months to grow full size, the meat and dairy products coming from it are a lot cleaner.



Autumn Mist Farm opened a restaurant and small store at 1157 N. Westfield St.

PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

“Not a lot of places can say they do that,” Turnbull said. “We also have natural ice cream and breads as well.”

Turnbull took over the former 911 Burgers & Dogs location on North Westfield St. He said the location allowed him to open up his own store as well as a small farm-

to-table restaurant where visitors can get an idea of how good the meats and other products his farm produces are.

Specials and advertisements for products are regularly on social media, as the business looks to connect with more people every day.

“We are looking to educate people about what is in their food,” Turnbull said.

In addition to using the small restaurant space, Turnbull expanded the small building to include a small freezer section for his many products, which includes meats, some soups and other homemade prepared foods.

Turnbull’s products from Autumn Mist is already in many Big Y stores, but the opportunity to his own store and restaurant a close distance from his farm presented a great opportunity to share what Autumn Mist Farm is doing with the community.

He said while some of his products have cost a little more from the start, he has resisted further raising his prices as other food products have skyrocketed during the past year. He is hoping his restaurant business will grow over time and that he will be able to further educate his customers about the food they are putting in their body.

Autumn Mist Farm is open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Sundays. You can learn more about the farm at www.autumnmistfarm.com.



There are daily specials using many fresh products produced at Autumn Mist’s North West St. farm nearby.



An expansion to the building includes a freezer section with many fresh products for sale.

Garden Club welcomes Gegear to next meeting

AGAWAM – The Agawam Garden Club will meet on Tuesday, May 9 at 6:30 p.m. in the Judy Clini Conference Room at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam. Refreshments will be served.

After a short business meeting the speaker will be Dr. Robert Gegear, an Associate Professor of Biology at UMASS Dartmouth.

Dr. Gegear has done post doctorate work at the University of MA Medical School, 2010, University of Toronto, 2006, and received his PhD. From Western University, 2002. His research interests include the conservation of native



Dr. Robert Gegear

pollination systems, neuroecology of plant-pollinator interactions, multi-modal sensory integration, floral evolution, and bumblebee ecology. Originally the brain-child of Dr. Robert Gegear, the Beecology Project (<https://beecology.wpi.edu>) has expanded to include a diverse group of students, faculty, and citizens.

Dr. Gegear has organized many workshops to educate and recruit beecologists, beginning at Breakneck Hill (Southborough, MA) and expanding to involve community organizations across the state.

Friends of library holding Flower Power Fundraiser

AGAWAM – There is still time to support The Friends of the Agawam Public Library in the Flower Power Fundraiser. They offer a gorgeous assortment of flowers, bulbs, seeds, and seed mats. For every dollar spent, the Friends will receive half. The proceeds will be used to help support the Agawam Public Library by providing them with funds for things not in their general budget.

Visit the personalized website at FriendsOfAgawamLibrary.fpfundraising.com.

You do not need to login. Just make your selections and at checkout you fill out the necessary information. There is a \$6.99 flat rate shipping charge and any appropriate taxes will be added. Online orders begin to ship on April 1. Flower Power starts shipping to the warmer states first.

You can enhance your garden and at the same time help support the library. Act soon as this fabulous opportunity ends May 15.

For more information contact: friend-sapl@yahoo.com.

Fourth quarter property tax bills due

AGAWAM – The fourth quarter actual real estate and personal property tax bills for fiscal year 2023 are due in the Town of Agawam Collector’s office by 4:30 p.m. on Monday, May 1. Bills may be paid online at www.agawam.ma.us, by mail in the envelope provided or you may utilize the drop box that is provided outside the town hall for your convenience.

Fourth quarter payment notices were mailed March 31. By law, bills were mailed to owners of record as of January 1, 2022. Any new homeowner or anyone who has not received their real estate or personal property tax bill should contact the Collector’s office immediately to obtain the bill amount. The telephone number is 786-0400 extension 8218.

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Senior Center hosting walking seminar

AGAWAM – The Agawam Senior Center will hold a seminar called “Walk your way to better health” on April 25 at 1 p.m.

Your speaker, Raymond Rose, will discuss:

- important health benefits
- the ease of walking

- scenic nearby walking locations
- tracking steps using your device

If you’re not able to attend the seminar, visit RaymondRoseMedia.com now and listen to all the info contained in the seminar. You’ll be impressed. “Walk In’s” are welcome. Tell your friends.

Senior center to offer memory screenings

AGAWAM – Alzheimer’s disease and dementia effects nearly 350,000 people in Massachusetts and numbers continue to grow. This spring, The Atrium at Cardinal Drive, a Benchmark Mind & Memory Care community, and Orchard Valley at Wilbraham, a Benchmark assisted living and Mind & Memory Care community, are hosting a series of memory screenings at area senior centers.

Memory screenings are appropriate for anyone concerned about memory loss or experiencing symptoms of dementia or who believes they are at risk due to a family history. They provide a safe and simple face-to-face way to check a person’s memory, language, intellectual functions and other thinking skills using a series of questions and/or tasks.

It can indicate if they should consult with a medical provider in order to identify what is causing memory loss. If dementia is the cause, early diagnosis can help both individuals and their family members learn about the disease, set realistic expectations and plan for their future together.



Agawam Senior Center is among four communities offering memory screenings for resident.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

“Like any disease, early detection is key,” said Cheryl Moran, executive director of The Atrium. “Over the past 25 plus years, we’ve seen that people and families affected by dementia often delay planning, which makes for a much more challenging situation later. By offering this to the community, we want to help ease the burden.”

Screenings will be offered on the following dates and times.

Wilbraham Senior Center (45B Post Office Park) – Monday, April 10, 10AM – Noon

West Springfield Senior Center (128 Park Street) – Monday, April 24, 9:30AM – 12:30PM

Agawam Senior Center (954 Main Street) – Wednesday, May 17, 10AM – Noon

Palmer Senior Center (1029 Central Street, Palmer) - Wednesday, May 31, Noon – 2PM

Attendees can register for the date/time that works for them, by contacting the senior center hosting the event at 413.596.8379 (Wilbraham), 413.263.3264 (West Springfield), 413.821.0605 (Agawam) and 413.283.2670 (Palmer).

Agawam Public Library recognizes National Library Week

AGAWAM – The Agawam Library encourages all community members to visit the library during National Library Week, April 23 to 29, to explore all we have to offer. This year’s theme is “There’s More to the Story”. Throughout the week, patrons will have the opportunity to submit their guesses as to the number of books inside the library. Submit a guess and select a treat. The closest guess to the total number of books in the Agawam Library will receive a Barnes & Noble Gift Card. Patrons are also invited to join us for a unique

presentation called “The Life Cycle of a Library Book: From the Warehouse to Your House”. On Thursday, April 27 at 4 p.m., Librarians Pamela Weingart and Cher Collins will host a program detailing the steps we take in selecting, ordering, preparing and circulating the thousands of books that we add to our collections each year. This presentation will take place in the Peirce Conference Room. Please register online www.agawamlibrary.org Our Children’s Department will feature a Scavenger Hunt throughout the week and

there will also be library-themed coloring pages for all ages.

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries of all types across the country each April. Most people know about the wealth of stories available at the library, from picture books and large print to audiobooks and ebooks. But there’s so much more to the story of libraries.

The Agawam Library is a welcoming

space that brings our community together for entertainment, education, and connection through book clubs, storytimes, crafting nights, technology lessons, lectures, and more. If you haven’t checked out the Agawam Library lately, you’re missing the full story. Stop by for a visit help us celebrate National Library Week.

For more information, visit the library’s website at www.agawamlibrary.org. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram and the hashtag #NationalLibraryWeek to join the online celebration.

AHS group among seven finalists in road safety PSA contest

AGAWAM – Students from seven Massachusetts high schools were chosen as finalists last week in the Look Both Ways Road Safety PSA Contest sponsored by Fundación MAPFRE and Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT).

High school students statewide were invited to write scripts for a public service announcement aimed at capturing the attention of other teens with important road safety messages. The winning students will work with Boston creative communications agency CTP to produce the spot, and the winning students’ school will receive \$3,000 for road safety education, awarded by Fundación MAPFRE.

The PSA from the winning high school

team will be broadcast in May, as students prepare for prom and graduation season.

Agawam High School is among the seven finalists.

“Sharing a message on the vital importance of road safety in a way that will resonate with teen drivers can be challenging” said Jaime Tamayo, Chief Representative of Fundación MAPFRE in the United States and Chief Executive Officer of MAPFRE USA. “The creativity exhibited by students across the state is truly impressive. I am excited to showcase the winning entry and see its impact play out in the form of safer roads for all.”

“We are grateful to all the students across the Commonwealth who participated in the public service announce-

ment contest and for submitting so many creative and impactful entries,” said Massachusetts Department of Transportation Secretary and CEO Gina Fiandaca. “MassDOT is working with many partners, including young people, to reduce the number of crashes and we are always proud to partner with MAPFRE on campaigns such as, ‘Look Both Ways,’ so we can expand public education on how each of us has a role to play when it comes to road safety.”

Look Both Ways aims to eliminate road-related fatalities and serious injury, connecting high schools and colleges with the program’s “React Challenge.” The mobile interactive virtual reality station tests students’ safe driving ability when

faced with distractions behind the wheel.

According to the Massachusetts Strategic Highway Safety Plan, roadway deaths in Massachusetts reached a 14-year high in 2021, increasing year-over-year since 2019, with 2022 trending higher. The state experienced 418 traffic fatalities in 2021, compared to 343 in 2020 and 336 in 2019. Nationally, nearly 43,000 people died in traffic crashes in 2021. From 2019 to 2021, the number of U.S. pedestrians killed increased by 18% (7,342 deaths) and the number of bicyclists killed increased by 16% (985 deaths), accounting for 19% of all U.S. traffic fatalities in 2021. In Massachusetts, in the last five years, people walking and biking accounted for almost 22% of deaths on the roadways.

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Opinion

Guest Column



Asparagus, a perennial favorite

In order to thrive, asparagus plants require full sun, fertile soil, a neutral pH, and a weed-free bed. If time allows, prepare the site in the fall prior to spring planting by removing the sod from grassy areas and by making the necessary adjustments to the soil with the addition of lime and balanced organic fertilizers.

A soil test will determine accurate amounts for your site.

Once asparagus crowns have been purchased you shouldn't wait too long to plant them, or they will dry out. At first look, the roots look like fleshy white tentacles of an octopus radiating out from its head!

If planting ASAP is unlikely store them in moist sphagnum moss until you are able to get them in the ground. New advice recommends planting the crowns in trenches 8- 10" deep.

It is helpful to incorporate additional lime and bone meal thoroughly into the bottom of the planting furrow. Set plants on small mounds of soil 12-18" apart in the row and cover with 2" of soil.

As the spears poke through this first layer of soil and begin to fern out, gradually fill in the trench with a mixture of soil and finished compost. It should take six weeks for the furrow to be completely filled in.

Water regularly and top-dress with fertilizer in August of the first year and every

spring thereafter. A thick application of compost at this time will also enhance fertility, while liming annually will help keep the pH neutral.

New studies indicate that spears can be harvested for a week-long period the year after planting. Simply cut with a sharp knife at the soil surface.

The following year expand your harvest to four weeks; by year three a full harvest season of eight weeks is possible.

After harvest let the foliage grow, once winter killed it can be cut back and removed from the garden site in case it harbors insect eggs. Good hygiene and hand picking will reduce populations of the asparagus beetle and other culprits of the asparagus patch.

What was I doing out in the asparagus patch today, you ask?

Besides thinking about flowers, I was weeding, and prepping the beds for their annual application of lime and compost. It's a fair trade-off for two months of harvesting one of my favorite vegetables!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

When I was a kid, we had a big flower garden that ran the length of the gable end of our ranch house.

It was tremendous fun for mom and me each spring to mark the rows and sow the seeds of calendula, cleome, balsam and so many other interesting annual flowers.

Sometime in the mid to late 1980s, it became trendy to install perennial flower gardens. Under the guise of "less work," lots of folks traded in their marigolds and zinnias in place of daylilies and summer phlox.

Where am I going with this, you ask? Straight to an article about asparagus.

Yes, asparagus. My favorite perennial vegetable.

The correlation came when I was working in my asparagus patch earlier today and I thought about just how much bang for the buck you get from established asparagus for such little annual labor.

Why trustworthiness matters in our democracy



Early this year, the Gallup organization came out with a survey of Americans on how they view the ethics of various professions. Nurses ranked at the top. Doctors, pharmacists, and high school teachers did well, too.

Real estate agents and bankers were considered about average. Down at the bottom? Tele-marketers. And, members of Congress.

So you can imagine how our representatives in Washington feel, knowing that a proven liar in their midst, George Santos, continues to garner headlines and public attention.

He casts a shadow over the entire body. The

GOP House leadership seems reluctant to take any steps to expel him. Members of the New York Republican delegation, concerned about how he reflects on them, are agitating for his ouster.

And his constituents? They're the people who should be most concerned.

This isn't just because Santos won office by misrepresenting pretty much everything about himself. It's also because as voters, we depend on our representatives to speak and act effectively on our behalf. With a reputation for untrustworthiness, Santos will struggle to do that.

Over the course of my career in Congress, I dealt with hundreds of legislators over many decades and found the vast majority to be honest and ethical. Most understood that in Congress and other legislative bodies in this country, trust is the coin of the realm. One of the worst things that can happen to a legislator is to have word get around that he or she is not trustworthy.

This is because you're constantly making deals – hammering out the details of a bill, striving to get funding for a key infrastructure project

at home, working with the leadership or other members of your state delegation or even legislators from the other party to craft language that can command a majority on the floor. And as part of that process, you have to make commitments. If you don't follow through or you shade your language or you misrepresent your intentions, word gets around.

So why do so many people hold the ethics of members of Congress in such low esteem and often tell pollsters that you can't trust what they say? I think in part it's because many politicians learn quickly to be very careful about how they use language in public – not for nefarious purposes, but because it's natural to want an audience's support even though, quite often, the issue in question is far more complicated than it's possible to convey in a few words.

Or, especially these days, a politician may be entirely sincere in expressing a point of view, but it's based on misinformation or information that comes from what proves to be an untrustworthy source.

At the same time, issues evolve.

Policy is a dynamic process and circumstances and legislation change: What you said a year ago might no longer be relevant or even useful today. In fact, as a member of Congress, I became very cautious in answering when a constituent or lobbyist asked me whether I would support a particular bill because, by the time it reached the floor, it might have gone through so many changes that it was unrecognizable.

The problem is, as a legislator you don't get to vote "Maybe." A vote is a blunt response to a difficult issue; "yes" or "no" rarely reflects a member's complete thoughts because of the complexities inherent in legislation.

Intriguingly, it's that changeability – in how legislation evolves, politics unfolds, and politicians think – that makes trustworthiness so important. If other legislators conclude they can't take you at your word, then you're sidelined. As deals get struck and the details change, you have no influence. In the end, you're just occupying a seat.

As Santos has found, you may have a megaphone in the press, but when it comes to affecting public policy or the course of legislative events, you're frozen out. And the losers are your constituents.

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



PHONE

413.283.8393
Fax: 413.283.7107
Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

EMAIL

Advertising Sales
Theresa Wegiel
twegiel@turley.com

Editor
Gregory Scibelli
aan@turley.com

Subscriptions
cgriswold@turley.com

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AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS TEAM



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



ADVERTISING SALES
Theresa Wegiel
twegiel@turley.com

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Opinion



Great blue herons are back. After writing in the previous column about an email from a Hardwick resident about a heron rookery, I received two other emails about rookeries in their area. A couple who read the Journal Register enjoy watching the rookery at Conant Brook Dam in Monson. They said there were about four or five nests being used.

A Brimfield resident also sent an email about the Conant Brook Dam in Monson. He said there are about six nests. Last year all of the nests fledged young.

He said the rookery is easy to find and it is accessible from the a parking lot off of Munn Road in Monson. On Google maps it is listed at the Conant Brook Dam/Munn Dike Trailhead. From the parking lot walk about a quarter mile through the field and then take a right to the water.

He said, "The nest are spread out and sometimes it takes a bit to find all six because of all of the dead tree trunks standing



Great blue heron

in the water."

I have a pair of great blue herons nesting in the beaver pond, which borders my hayfield. They nested there last year for the first time. For many years before nesting, the great blue herons frequented the pond. I even saw a green heron once.

Sparrows and purple finches

The Brimfield resident said he has not seen many migrants yet, but he had fox sparrows, which were around for a few days. He also saw his first of the year chipping sparrow and a bright male purple finch. An Oakham couple also have a purple finches coming to their feeders. I keep looking, but I have not seen any yet. I only put a small amount of seed out in the morning because of the many bears in my area.

Displaying Tom turkeys

On April Fools Day, three of my grandchildren and I saw a Tom turkey displaying in front of a hen turkey in a field in Barre. It was a quiet country road so we stopped and watched for awhile. My granddaughter, Lizzie, even took a photo, but it did not come out well as they were a distance away.

The Tom would display his tail feathers in a fan and strut about. Then he would lower them to the normal position and start the mating ritual all over again.

Loon mating behavior

The Loon Preservation Committee in Moultonborough, New Hampshire said in a newsletter, "Courtship is much more subtle in loons than it is in some other bird species. Loons do not perform mating dance, if you see some flashy, splashy behavior going on between two loons, you are likely wit-



Loon

nessing a territorial interaction between rivals rather than an interaction between pair members. Instead, loon courtship often looks like peaceful coexistence, they strengthen their bond by doing things together, from preening to foraging to patrolling their territory. You may also hear them hooting softly to one another."

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 edownner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

CEMETERY ■ from page 1

in the Agawam cemetery selflessly served and sacrificed for our nation and their families and friends should be provided every opportunity to visit them and pay their respects.

Prior to this extension, visiting hours at the Agawam Veterans' Cemetery were from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Velis noted that he heard from many constituents about how difficult it was to plan a visit within those limited hours.

"People from all over Massachusetts come to visit their loved ones at the Agawam Veterans' Cemetery and these extended hours will ensure that folks who live far away or have 9-to-5 work schedules actually have the time to make that visit," Velis said.

When Velis had first made his displeasure known, he had believed the Winchen-

don location was open to the public 24/7. But Velis said the state's Executive Office of Veterans Services informed him the hours were now the same once Agawam had made the change.

"I agree this is a reasonable, and much-needed improvement," Velis said.

The changing of the hours did not have to be done through any type of legislation. Velis worked with the veterans services office to help facilitate the change.

The Agawam Veterans' Cemetery is the only cemetery dedicated to those who served the country in the entire region. Veterans from all over Western Massachusetts and their spouses are buried at the location, which is on Main St. down the street from Six Flags New England.

Velis was recently re-elected to his second full term as state senator, representing Agawam and eight other communities.

PLAN ■ from page 1

\$250,000 for the sidewalk rehabilitation and extension work. The town has been steadily addressing sidewalks each year. Springfield St. has seen a lot of the work, as has Suffield St.

There is also \$191,000 earmarked for new police vehicles.

In future years, big ticket items include the replacement of an aerial truck for \$2.1 million, a new roof for Phelps Elementary School for \$660,000, and \$385,000 for a new ambulance vehicle in 2025.

The 2026 plan includes a new roof for Granger School for \$810,000, and a new roof for Robinson Park School for \$678,000. The fiscal 2027 proposal includes a new roof at the fire department and \$1.75 million in fire facility expansions and upgrades.

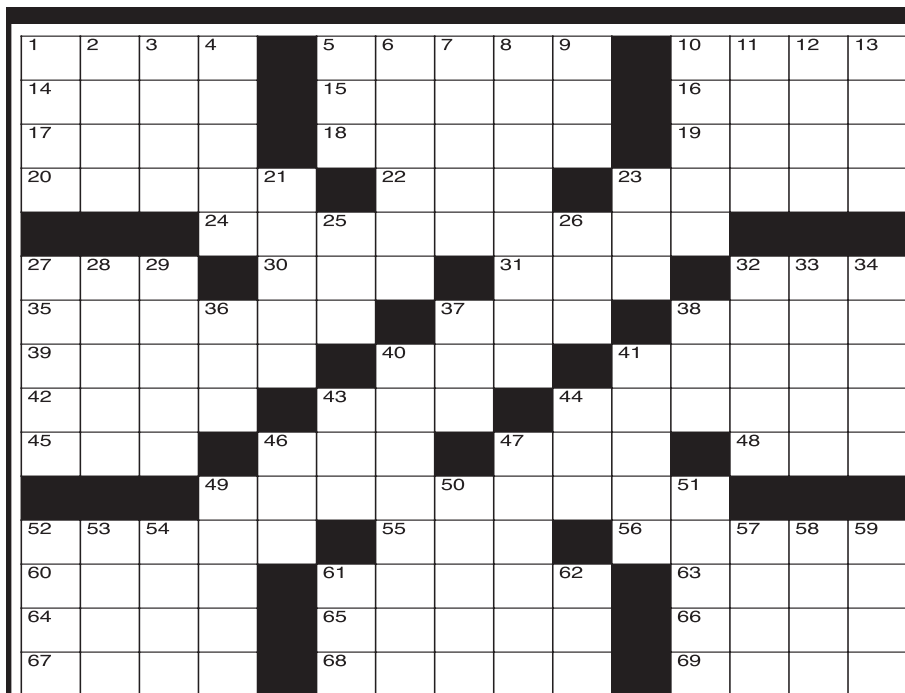
The bonding proposal list including the first year of debt service on the new library roof. The library repairs were finished in the spring last year. The first year of debt

service on the \$11.68 million borrowing for the Agawam Police Department is scheduled for fiscal 2025, which is being constructed on Suffield St. The first payment is projected at about \$1.2 million. Debt service on the Tuckahoe Dam project is projected to begin in fiscal 2026.

Finally, debt service on a potential project at Agawam High School is projected to start in fiscal 2027. The town's share is projected on the plan at \$75 million with debt service of \$4.2 million in the first year.

Sapelli's plan also include capital items for the water, wastewater, and golf departments. All of those projects are funded through the enterprise funds in those accounts. The town raised water and sewer rates to help with upcoming capital needs in those department. The golf enterprise fund, after years of struggles, is very healthy over the past five years thanks to great management from Tom DiRicco.

The city council will vote on whether or not they support the plan at an upcoming meeting.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Dylan and Marley are two
- 5. Makes healthy
- 10 The Who's "O'Riley"
- 14. Side sheltered from wind
- 15. Flat-bottomed sailboats
- 16. Egyptian supreme god
- 17. Advice
- 18. Mass of small, loose stones
- 19. Online learning services provider
- 20. "Lords" in Northwest Semitic languages
- 22. Of she
- 23. A place to relax
- 24. Critical and mocking
- 27. Consumed
- 30. You get one in summer
- 31. Bath
- 32. Luxury automaker
- 35. Spiders spin one
- 37. Guy (slang)
- 38. Greek personification of Earth
- 39. Large instruments
- 40. Domestic cattle genus
- 41. Appetizer
- 42. Oil group
- 43. Where to put groceries
- 44. Speak incessantly
- 45. Popular color
- 46. A place to sleep
- 47. Make fun of
- 48. Former CIA
- 49. Salts
- 52. Bleated
- 55. Never sleeps
- 56. Sword
- 60. Water (Spanish)
- 61. Cyprinids
- 63. "Dark Knight" actor
- 64. Fictional demon
- 65. Old World lizard
- 66. The content of cognition
- 67. Makes a mistake

- 68. A way to make wet
- 69. Tide

CLUES DOWN

- 1. One-liner
- 2. Evergreen genus
- 3. College in Rome
- 4. Prevents from seeing
- 5. Cycles/second
- 6. Mischievous child
- 7. Less common
- 8. Honorably retired
- 9. Midway between south and southeast
- 10. A confusion of voices and other sounds
- 11. Bony fish genus
- 12. Type of pear
- 13. Egyptian cross
- 21. Satisfies
- 23. Founder of Babism
- 25. Bar bill
- 26. Chicago ballplayer
- 27. Performer
- 28. Hairpiece
- 29. Partner to flowed
- 32. Aircraft formation
- 33. You have 3 per day
- 34. Goes into
- 36. College athletic organization
- 37. Wet, muddy ground
- 38. Talk
- 40. Witty conversation
- 41. Gurus
- 43. "French Price of Air"
- 44. Sports equipment
- 46. Try to get
- 47. Flower cluster
- 49. Sea dwellers
- 50. Palmlike subtropical plant
- 51. Polio vaccine developer
- 52. Baseball's Ruth
- 53. Gelatinous substance
- 54. Hungarian violinist
- 57. Offered
- 58. Ancient Greek City
- 59. A way to derive
- 61. Touch lightly
- 62. Witnessed

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 9

This paper publishes birth, engagement, wedding and significant anniversary announcements free of charge. Simply log on to our web site, choose the paper you want the announcement to appear in, then use our SUBMISSION link to email your information.



www.turley.com

More participants wanted for CROP Walk to fight hunger, build global resilience

AGAWAM – As an organization rooted in faith, Church World Service believes that all people deserve to lead lives of dignity, wherever they find themselves. Weather-related disasters displace over 20 million people globally each year. Of great concern are “slow-onset” impacts, changes people feel every day, but that don’t always get the press that massive storms and wildfires do. Examples include temperature increase; changes in rainfall patterns; and saltwater intrusion of farmland or drinking water. Science and human experience show that slow-onset climate change will affect

and in some cases devastate vulnerable communities in the future.

That is why this year’s Agawam/West Springfield CROP Hunger Walk is so important! Walkers and sponsors will help Church World Service address climate change impacts by helping farmers access seeds and learn new techniques for growing food in changing soil; by teaching building techniques so schools and homes can be built differently to withstand future natural disasters; and through assisting communities in learning new income generating skills like beekeeping to adapt

and build resilience.

The Agawam/West Springfield CROP Hunger Walk will be held on Sunday, April 30, beginning with a 1 p.m. Registration Rally at First Congregational Church, 108 Park Street, in West Springfield. Church teams, civic groups, and individuals are invited to walk to help families around the world. One quarter of funds raised will remain in the community, supporting the Parish Cupboard. For more information or to register online, please go to www.crophungerwalk.org and search for “Agawam/West Springfield CROP Hunger Walk.”

Volunteers needed for flagging

AGAWAM – The Agawam Veterans’ Council is seeking volunteers to flag veterans’ graves on Saturday, April 22 with a rain date of April 29. Anyone interested in participating meet at 8 a.m. at the Springfield Street Cemetery (across from Sacred Heart Church), Feeding Hills.



Lions Club comedy show April 28

AGAWAM – Agawam Lions Club will be holding a comedy show on April 28 at 8 p.m. Laughing for the Lions is going to be a great event held at the Agawam Polish club, doors open at 7 p.m. show starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$30 and can be purchased at www.funny4funds.com/events/laughing-for-the-lions/1079 or contact Mel at (413)530-8529 to purchase tickets. We are still looking for sponsors and raffle donations for this event.

Your support helps the Lions with different events and projects throughout our community. Hope to see you there.

St. Martha’s to hold Mother’s Day tag, plant and bake sale

AGAWAM – St. Martha’s Guild of the Sacred Heart Parish in Feeding Hills will be having its annual Mother’s Day Tag, Plant and Bake Sale on Saturday, May 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a large selection of hanging, in-ground, and container plants for sale; tag sale finds and delicious baked goods. The event will be

held at the Sacred Heart Parish Center located at 1061 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills.

A limited amount of tables will be available to rent for tag sale items at the cost of \$25. Please contact Dee Ziegert at 413-244-4015 or Dziegert1@aol.com for more information.

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Catholic Women’s Club annual banquet set for May 16

AGAWAM – The annual banquet of The Catholic Women’s Club of Agawam will take place at Oak Ridge Country Club, 850 South Westfield St., Feeding Hills, on Tuesday, May 16. The evening will begin at 6 p.m. with cheese and crackers, followed by a buffet at 6:45 p.m. The menu includes fresh fruit supreme, roast pork, chicken francaise, baked scrod, mashed potatoes, vegetables in season with ice

cream parfait for dessert.

Price is \$30 and checks are to be made out to the Catholic Women’s Club (C.W.C.) and are to be sent to Betty Chapman, 70 Tracy Drive, Agawam, MA 01001 to arrive by May 8. No Refunds will be made. Include who you wish to be seated with and requests will be honored, if possible. If any questions, please contact Katie at 413-786-1287.

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SPORTS

Circosta strikes out 13 in win over Minnechaug

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM – According to Agawam varsity softball coach Kathy Georgina, senior pitcher Kylie Circosta was one of the 15 softball players nominated for the National Player of the Week award by SB live.

Circosta helped her cause after posting a 10-7 road victory against Valley League rival Minnechaug, last Tuesday afternoon.

“Kylie pitched in a couple of games for the varsity team last year, but she’s been doing great so far this season,” Georgina said. “She has been nominated for this week’s National Player of the Week award. She’s in third place right now. It’s the first time that I’ve had a player nominated for that award.”

Circosta allowed seven runs (five earned) on 11 base hits in the Brownies (2-3, 1-2) first league victory of the 2023 campaign. She struck out 13 batters, which wasn’t her season high and issued only two walks. In the Brownies 7-6 season opening loss at East Longmeadow, Circosta recorded 16 strikeouts.

“Kylie throws several different pitches,” Georgina said. “She has a very good fastball and is able to move the ball around.”

Circosta, who was the starting second baseman a year ago, took over the starting pitching duties from senior McKenna Wheeler,

who’ll miss the entire softball season with an ACL injury. Wheeler’s twin sister, Samantha, will also miss the season after suffering the same injury.

“Losing both McKenna and Sam were huge for us,” Georgina added. “McKenna has the potential to play college softball. She pitched in the Western Mass. finals against Westfield last year.”

Senior Kayla Santucci is also out of action with an injury.

The Lady Falcons (0-4, 0-3) were looking to celebrate a win in the rivalry series for the first time since an 8-3 win in the first meeting of the 2019 regular season.

“When I was in high school, it was always a battle whenever we played Agawam,” said Lady Falcons first year head coach Molly Cole, who was a pitcher at Minnechaug Regional. “This has always been a big rivalry game for us.”

Both teams scored a pair of runs in the opening frame.

The Brownies began the game with back-to-back walks by freshman shortstop Payton Malanson and freshman second baseman Mia Laudato. Both baserunners crossed the plate on groundball outs by freshman third baseman Toni Vassallo and senior first baseman Madison Pajak.

The home team tied the score with one-out in the bottom half of the frame following a pair of RBI



Lynn Jang slides safely into third.

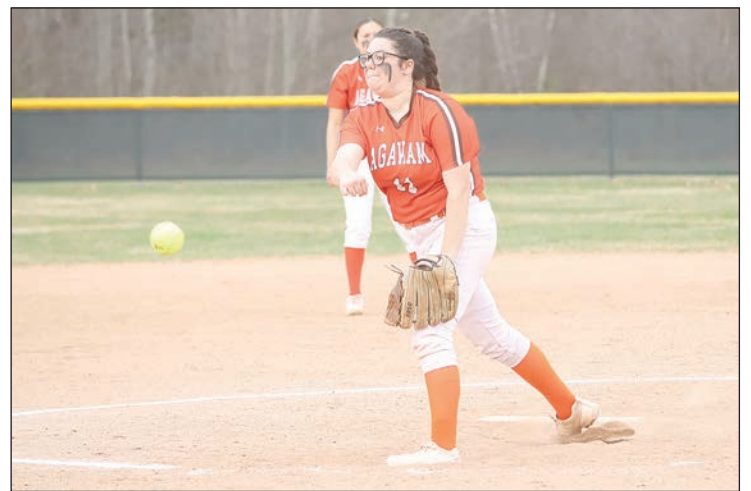


Madison Pajak makes a throw home.

PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Mia Laudato fields a ground to second.



Pitcher Kylie Circosta delivers to the plate.

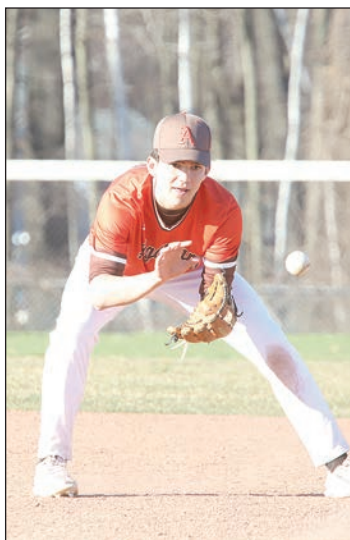
SOFTBALL | page 8

Early offense leads Rams to win

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School baseball team scored early and often as the Brownies led 10-0 after just two innings en route to a 15-3 rout of Holyoke. Nick Fitzgerald had a big day with three hits and four RBI while Matt Cleavall, Thomas Plakias, and Joe Szemela had two hits each. Gavin Shlosser allowed three runs on two hits, while walking six and striking out seven for the win in five innings. Agawam is 4-2 so far this season.



Thomas Plakias makes a throw to first.



Vincent Catelotti fields a bouncer.



Joseph Szemela leads off third.

PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Falcons shut down Brownie offense

AGAWAM – Usually known for their scoring prowess, Agawam struggled last Monday afternoon against Minnechaug, falling 15-5. Agawam had five different players registering goals while Marisa Larocque had 11 saves in net. The Brownies are 3-3 to start the 2023 season.



Isabel Lalancette rushes up the field.
PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Angelina Kozhenevsky attempts to grab a loose ball



Isabella Castro makes a recovery in the defensive end.



Isabella Ugolini tries to dodge the Minnechaug defense.



Elizabeth Santore tries to get a hold of the draw.

Sports

Worcester Railers win to get last chance at playoffs

GLENS FALLS, N.Y. – Worcester has taken things down to the absolute wire after losing to the Adirondack Thunder Saturday night, 5-1, at Cool Insuring Arena.

With the victory, the Thunder jumped over the Railers into the fourth and final spot in the North Division. Adirondack has 73 points, Worcester 72 with one game left in the regular season. That will be here Sunday afternoon and in order to qualify for post-season play the Railers have to win in regulation time since Adirondack gets the tie-breaker.

“(Sunday) is a Game 7,” coach Jordan Smotherman said. “That’s what it comes down to. There is no carryover. It’s a fresh day.”

It won’t be easy. The Thunder is one of the best home ice teams in the league. Adirondack has won six straight home games overall and is 20-10-4 here for the

season. The Thunder has beaten the Railers five straight times here and outscored them, 22-6, in those games.

Adirondack scored twice in the first period and three times in the second. The Thunder had a 5-0 lead before the game was half over. Brent Beaudoin scored the only Worcester goal in the first minute of the third period, converting a great pass from Andrei Bakanov, but the game was out of reach by then.

That was the one pleasant note for the Railers on the night. It was the 20th goal of the season for Beaudoin, one of the ECHL’s most under-appreciated players.

Patrick Grasso scored twice for the Thunder. Sebastian Vidmar, Dajon Mingo and Shawn Weller had the other Adirondack goals. Mike Robinson stopped 22 of 23 Worcester shots. Robinson had surrendered 16 goals in three previous games prior to this one.

“We didn’t attack. That was the problem,” Smotherman said.

The first four Thunder goals were against Henrik Tikkanen, the last against Ken Appleby. Smotherman changed goaltenders after Grasso made it 4-0 at 5:20 of the second period, although he did not blame Tikkanen for the Railers’ early problems.

“I just wanted to change the whole thing,” Smotherman, “and get a free timeout just in case we were gonna climb back into that game.”

Vidmar gave the Thunder a 1-0 lead at 8:31 of the first period as he converted a pass from Ryan Smith. Vidmar had time and space from the right circle and put a snap shot inside the near post before Tikkanen could get over.

It could easily have been 2-0 three minutes later but Tikkanen made a big stop on Mingo’s re-direct from about 10

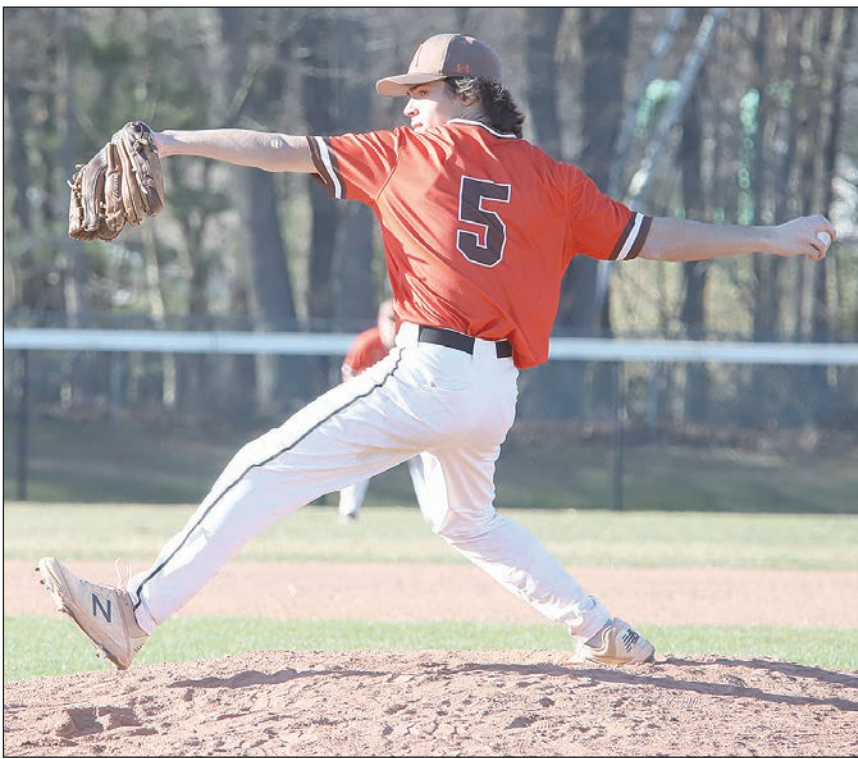
feet in front. He was not to be denied on his next good chance, though, which came at 15:58. He took a feed in the left circle, closed on Tikkanen a bit, and beat him with a wrist shot to the far post.

The period also featured a fight at 15:07 although it was not ruled one, apparently since neither combatant required CPR. Railers rookie defenseman Artyom Kulakov battled Matt Jennings. Punches were thrown and landed but both players wound up with simple roughing minors.

Worcester came out with some energy to start the second 20 minutes. It evaporated quickly and the game was essentially over before 30 minutes had elapsed.

Grasso scored at 4:49 and again at 5:20. Weller made it a 5-0 game with a power play goal at 9:20 and the only question left was if Worcester could bounce back on Sunday.

Brownies get home win



Pitcher Gavin Shlosser fires a pitch home.

PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Michael Plakias fouls off a pitch.

Thunderbirds fall in finale

PROVIDENCE, R.I. – The Springfield Thunderbirds (38-26-3-5, 84 points) fell to the Providence Bruins (44-18-8-2, 98 points) in their regular season finale on Sunday afternoon by a final score of 7-3 inside Amica Mutual Pavilion.

Providence’s win sealed an Atlantic Division championship; the T-Birds will be the 4-seed when they open the First Round of the Calder Cup Playoffs on Wednesday night against the 5-seed Hartford Wolf Pack.

It looked like the Bruins would run away with the game in the opening minutes, as back-to-back goals 43 seconds apart from Chris Wagner and Eduards Tralmaks staked Providence to a 2-0 lead less than eight minutes into game action.

However, the T-Birds showed their comeback fight, along with a stroke of luck, to turn the first period around. A dump-in attempt came bouncing near the back of Kyle Keyser’s net. The Bruins goalie bobbled the puck, and it skittered right into the slot to Mikhail Abramov, who had

a wide-open net to make it a 2-1 game at 13:58.

Just 4:04 later, and after the Bruins committed a pair of minor penalties, Will Blitten cashed in his career-high 22nd goal in the paint to tie the score, 2-2, with 1:58 to go in the frame.

Vadim Zherenko stabilized after allowing the two early goals to keep the 2-2 game heading into the second, but Providence’s power play restored the lead as Vinni Lettieri wired a slapper into the top shelf at 7:56 of the period, making it 3-2.

Once again, the T-Birds had a reply as Greg Printz whistled home a centering pass from Dylan McLaughlin with 3:23 left in the second to send a 3-3 tie into the final period.

The Bruins’ offense proved to be too much in the final 20 minutes. Jack Ahcan netted a shorthanded goal off a rush at 3:16, and tallies from Joonas Koppanen, Marc McLaughlin, and a second goal of the afternoon from Wagner helped secure the division title for Providence.

SOFTBALL ■ from page 7

doubles by junior Mackenzie Blair (2-for-3), who was Minnechaug’s starting pitcher, and sophomore first baseman Abby Peyman (2-for-4).

Blair allowed ten runs on ten base hits. She struck out 11 batters. She wasn’t helped out by her defense, who committed five errors.

“It’s always difficult when your pitcher has to throw more pitches than they have to in a game,” Cole said. “Mackenzie pitched a good game. We really want to win a game sooner rather than later, but every team that we’ve faced so far this season is top notch.”

Agawam retook the lead in the second inning and a two-run single by senior first baseman Madison Pajak gave them a 5-2 advantage with one-out in the top of the third inning.

Minnechaug answered right back with back-to-back RBI singles by Peyman, and freshman designated player Alexis Adomo.

The Brownies took control of the game by putting four runs on the centerfield scoreboard in the fourth inning.

“We’re an inexperienced team with four freshmen starters. The four run inning was very big for us,” Georgina said. “We were

also aggressive on the bases in today’s game.

Freshman designated player Alexina Lentos knocked home two of the runs in that frame with a double to center. She also scored on a throwing error. Their other run crossed the plate following a wild pitch.

A sacrifice fly by Blair in the bottom of the fourth sliced Minnechaug’s deficit to 9-5.

The Brownies got that run right back in their next at-bats.

The Lady Falcons scored two unearned runs, which closed the gap to 10-7, in the sixth inning.

“We were only trailing by a couple of runs and I was hoping that we could make a comeback in our final at-bats of the game,” Cole said. “It just didn’t happen today.”

Minnechaug senior right fielder Kaitlyn Radway (2-for-4) singled with one-out in the seventh, but Circosta struck out the next two batters, as the Brownies won their seventh straight game against the Lady Falcons.

Minnechaug junior shortstop Amy Dunklee also finished the game with two hits, and she scored a pair of runs.

The Lady Falcons will be looking to split the season series in the second meeting between the two teams on April 27.

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Public Notices

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, April 27, 2023 at 6:00PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St, Agawam, Ma. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Ruhland on property at 27 Mark Dr.

By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION
04/20/2023

MORTGAGEE'S NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Robert J. Bartnik to Bank of America, N.A., dated September 18, 2009, recorded with Hampden Registry of Deeds in Book 17996, Page 307; which mortgage was assigned to Champion Mortgage Company by Assignment dated September 18, 2012, recorded in Book 19452, Page 591; further assigned to Bank of America, N.A. by Assignment dated February 4, 2016, recorded in Book 21063, Page 374; further assigned to Secretary of Housing and Urban Development by Assignment dated April 21, 2016, recorded in Book 21187, Page 45; further assigned to Home Preservation Partnership, LLC by Assignment dated September 26, 2022, recorded in Book 24780, Page 112; and further assigned to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, as Owner Trustee of the Residential Credit Opportunities Trust VI-B by Assignment of Mortgage dated September 29, 2022, recorded in Book 24780, Page 115, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 a.m. on the 8th day of May 2023** at the mortgaged premises described below, being known as 63 Coronet Circle, Agawam, MA all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Certain real estate situated in Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts being known and described as Lot #17 as shown on a Plan of Lots recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds Book of Plans 77, Page 47, to which plan reference is hereby made for a particular description.

Subject to restrictions of record.

Subject to rights of American Telephone and Telegraph Company dated July 6, 1922, and recorded in said Registry in Book 1141, Page 489, if applicable.

Subject to rights of Western Massachusetts Electric Company and New England Telephone and Telegraph Company, dated January 27, 1959, and recorded in said Registry in Book 2657, Page 141.

Together with rights in common with others lawfully entitled thereto to use Coronet Circle for all purposes of a public way.

The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time

and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone at any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date. The Mortgagee further reserves the right to open the bidding at the time, date and place appointed for sale, and if no bids are received, or the bids received are deemed unacceptable to Mortgagee, to postpone the sale to a later date by public proclamation.

Said premises will be sold subject to and with the benefit of all restrictions, easements, improvements, outstanding tax titles, mortgages, liens, rights of tenants and parties in possession, unpaid taxes, municipal liens and other public taxes, assessments or liens, having priority over the mortgage described herein, if any.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale shall default in purchasing the within described property according to the terms of this Notice of Sale and/or the terms of the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of the foreclosure, the Mortgagee reserves the right to sell the property by Foreclosure Deed to the second highest bidder provided that the second highest bidder shall deposit with Mortgagee's attorneys the amount of the required deposit as set forth herein within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder and title shall be conveyed to said second highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice.

TERMS OF SALE: Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) will be required to bid and be paid in cash or by certified check at the time and place of sale as earnest money. The balance is to be paid in cash or by certified check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale at the offices of Murphy & Lupan, P.A., 5 Commonwealth Road, Natick, Massachusetts 01760. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of any typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the time and place of sale.

WILMINGTON SAVINGS FUND SOCIETY, FSB, AS OWNER TRUSTEE OF THE RESIDENTIAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITIES TRUST VI-B

Present holder of said mortgage,

By its attorney,
Michael J. Murphy
Murphy & Lupan, P.A.
5 Commonwealth Road
Natick, MA 01760
Tel: (508) 650-9252
04/06, 04/13, 04/20/2023

TOWN OF AGAWAM REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Town of Agawam is requesting sealed bids the Granger School Boiler #1 Replacement. The Contract is estimated to be \$155,000.00. Plans will be digital ONLY, and made available beg. 3/22/23 from the Chief Procurement Officer, Jennifer Bonfiglio via email at: JBonfiglio@Agawam.ma.us.

Sealed Bids shall be received by **11:00 AM on 5/4/23** at the office of the Chief Procurement Officer, within the Town Hall at 36 Main Street Agawam, MA 01001. Each bid shall be accompanied by a bid depos-

it in the amount of five percent (5%). A non-mandatory Pre Bid Conference shall be held at **11:00 AM 4/25/23** at the site 31 Westfield Street Feeding Hills, MA. Please assemble outside in the front (horse-shoe shaped driveway) parking area, on the west side of the building. The General Bidder must be certified eligible in the DCAMM HVAC category. Prevailing Wage Rates apply.
04/20/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P0770EA Estate of: Brenda Lee Larsen Also known as: Brenda L Larsen Date of Death: 01/21/2023 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 **Mary Lou Elliott of Alburg VT** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Mary Lou Elliott of Alburg VT** 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 05/09/2023.

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: April 11, 2023
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/20/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts Probate and Family Court

Department Hampden SS Docket No. HD22P2385PM

To all persons interested in the estate of **Nicholas J. Scafuri of Agawam** in said County, person under conservatorship.

A petition has been presented to said Court for license to sell at private sale certain real estate of said Nicholas J. Scafuri for his maintenance.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at 50 State Street, Springfield, MA before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the 3rd day of May 2023, the return day of this citation.

Witness, BARBARA M. HYLAND, Esquire, First Judge of said Court this 28th day of March 2023.

Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/13, 04/20, 04/27/2023

AGAWAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS FY'24 SCHOOL BUDGET

According to the provisions of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 71, section 38N, copies of the proposed school department budget shall be available to the public 48 hours prior to the posted public hearing, which is scheduled for **April 25, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Agawam Junior High auditorium.

Copies of the proposed budget will be available in the Superintendent's office located at the Agawam Junior High School, at the Town Clerk's office in the Agawam Town Hall located at 68 Main Street, and at the Agawam Public Library which is located at 750 Cooper Street.
04/13, 4/20/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P0708EA Estate of: Gregory Lee Ward Also known as: Gregory L Ward Date of Death: 12/12/2022 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 **Austin G Ward of Feeding Hills 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: **Austin G Ward of Feeding Hills 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 05/01/2023.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objec-

tion 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: April 03, 2023
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/20/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P0737EA Estate of: Gertrude Carolyn Westfort Date of Death: 02/13/2023 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 **Betsy E Misialek of Chicopee MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for

such other relief as requested in the Petition.

Agawam Advertiser News
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, 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.

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Filmmaker Geno McGahee takes on La La Land

By Richard Murphy
Correspondent

Geno McGahee has been making movies in the Western Central Massachusetts region for many years.

His work has consisted mostly of horror films, and he has a rep in the genre.

Of late, he has branched out in what can be called a departure. The term departure could be considered an understatement.

With his wife, he was watching a Hallmark Channel movie. Now, in what also might be called an understatement, roughly 99% of "guys" are not fans of such entertainment (though, oddly enough, they know of its existence).

Nevertheless, he found himself a bit intrigued, maybe it was because the filmmaker in him thought he could do better.

The result of his self-challenge was premiered at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield last October.

The movie, "A Christmas Invitation", was covered by Turley Publications. It is the story of a dysfunctional family who's dying matriarch sends out deathbed invitations for the members to do Christmas together.

It looks to be a disaster, but fate intervened.

"A Christmas Invitation" did well enough that it was Cinema Epoch's best performer for a time and the movie is available on streaming services.

Cinema Epoch is the movie company McGahee works for.

For his next assignment he was to go on location. Oddly enough he was to go on location where people usually go on location from.

Hooray for Hollywood!

This was the idea of Gregory Hatanaka, owner of Cinema Epoch, the company that distributes McGahee's movies. Hatanaka flew McGahee and his team out to the City of Angels to make a couple of films and have a great time which was obvious as he described the adventure beginning with flying over the iconic Hollywood sign.



Local filmmaker Geno McGahee is shown with the cast and crew on the set of "Deadly Western." COURTESY PHOTOS



The cast of "Fatal Justice."

It was work, of course, as McGahee spoke about the two films that were produced.

"Fatal Justice" is the story of Dennis, played by Eric Michaelian, an accused killer who is released from prison due to police misconduct. A young college girl murdered, it's not over. "The family of the victim comes

face to face with Dennis and hold their own trial to decide his fate. When the system fails, family justice is the only way and FATAL JUSTICE will be executed."

There is a reason why McGahee wanted to make this movie. His favorite film is "Twelve Angry Men".

"Twelve Angry Men" has tugged at the heart strings of many for decades, and has been done in several versions, including the most famous, as well as a number of foreign language incarnations.

"Fatal Justice" is a courtroom drama, but not in a courtroom?

"Deadly Western" is a unique take on the horse opera theme. Of course, there is the sheriff who will defend the town, but has to ask why?

"Deadly Western" is where Science Fiction meets the Western.

It is the story of "a Sheriff that awakens with amnesia and the imminent threat of a deadly group coming to take over the town. Struggling to find out who he is and how to defend the town lead to secrets being exposed and not everything being what it seemed."

Gary Cooper never faced that dilemma in "High Noon".

McGahee is a Twilight Zone guy so you can expect even more surprises at the end.

Your man has high hopes for "Deadly Western". He wants people to come out of the theater saying to friends, "ya gotta see it"

So it was a great week out on set. What's up back here in the Bay State?

We can look forward to the eventual premiere again at the Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield.

In June he will be filming "Scary Tales 3". Did we mention McGahee does horror?

But, again, a twist.

It will be a comedy. It does fit, as what I've seen of his oeuvre, there is usually at least a tinge of humor.

It will be more than a tinge this time.

The man's heart is in comedy, and he wants to prove that comedy works on a budget.

McGahee described himself as a natural goofball, and if you follow the man on social media, there is that in him.

So, watch out for the announcement of the premiere of his Hollywood flicks and then watch out for comedy/horror made in New England. One could die laughing.

Send Us Your Summer Event Information

Turley Publications will print your summer calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our SUMMERFEST Supplement which publishes early June.

Deadline for submissions is April 28.

Community Summer Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

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Description _____

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Contact name & phone number for more information _____

Please specify if you would like your name and number printed in the paper.

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Jazz Trombone Ensemble to perform at Applause Series

AGAWAM – The Agawam Cultural Council's Applause Series continues its 19th season when The Jazz Bones perform at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam on May 5. Showtime is 7 p.m.; doors open at 6:15 p.m. This performance will also be livestreamed on Agawam Comcast channels 1074 (HD) and 15 (SD).

New England's only jazz trombone ensemble, The Jazz Bones are a dynamic group of eight performers who deliver a program of music spanning seven decades. Organized in 1985 by David Neill as a performing group of the Western Massachusetts Trombone Association, this unique ensemble has arrangements written for five part harmony, whether playing hard swing, fast jazz or a sweet ballad, backed by a first class rhythm. The Jazz Bones' repertoire consists of swing, jazz standards, blues, rock, Latin, and funk within a library consisting of more than 300 songs that appeals to every age group. Eleanor Rigby, All



The Agawam Cultural Council's Applause Series continues its nineteenth season with a concert by New England's only jazz trombone ensemble on May 5 at 7 p.m., when The Jazz Bones take the stage at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam. SUBMITTED PHOTO

of Me, Jeff's Trombone Mambo, Bad Bad Leroy Brown, Bye Bye Blackbird, Fly Me to the Moon, Vine Street Rumble, Old Devil

Moon, Malaguena, and Bye Bye Blues are just a few of the songs you may hear.

Production sponsors of The Jazz Bones

are Kyle and Roberta Miller. The Agawam Cultural Council would also like to thank bankESB, Elaine Carlson, E. Cecchi Farms, OMG, Inc., PeoplesBank, Howie and Mary Jo Safford, Anthony Suffriti, TD Bank, Westfield Bank, and the Westfield Cultural Council for their generous support as Applause Series season sponsors.

This concert is free and open to the public. Please consider calling (413) 821-0604 to let us know you'll be attending.

For more information on the activities and virtual offerings of the Agawam Cultural Council, please visit their web site, www.agawamcc.org. The Agawam Cultural Council is an all-volunteer local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and is funded, in part, by the MCC. The ACC is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

Agawam Cultural Council plans New York City bus trip on May 20

AGAWAM – Now that pandemic conditions have eased, the Agawam Cultural Council is once again sponsoring a "Plan Your Own Day" Bus Trip to New York City, scheduled for Saturday, May 20. While proof of vaccination is not required and masks are optional, the Council recommends the continued wearing of masks while on board the bus.

From the CDC: "Travel contributes to interstate and international spread of COVID-19. Wearing masks that completely cover the mouth and nose reduces the spread of COVID-19. People who never develop symptoms (asymptomatic) or are not yet showing symp-

toms (pre-symptomatic) might not know that they are infected but can still spread COVID-19 to others. Masks also offer protection to the wearer from exhaled virus in the environment."

Traditionally, New York activities such as museum and gallery exhibits, theatre and music performances, street festivals and shopping are available to those going on the trip. On the bus, a member of the Council will be available to help with information and suggestions along the way. We will attempt to make five stops in Manhattan: The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Rockefeller Center/Radio City, Times Square/TKTS, 34th Street (Macy's), and the South Street

Seaport. Riders may elect to get off at any of these scheduled stops. The bus departs the Roberta G. Doering School (Middle School), 68 Main St, Agawam, rear parking lot at 7 a.m. sharp. The return trip will leave New York City at 6:30 p.m. and be back in Agawam by about 9:30 p.m.

Further details, a map to the departure point, plus a wealth of useful NYC links, can be found at www.agawamcc.org (click on "Bus Trips" or "Our Favorite Links").

Tickets will become available mid-March, 2023. The price is \$50 per person for both residents and non-residents alike. Seating is unreserved, and limited to 54 passengers, on a first come / first served basis. Please note

that seats cannot be reserved by phone.

To reserve your seat(s), please send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with a check made out to "Agawam Cultural Council" to:

Agawam Cultural Council, 153 Anthony Street, Agawam, MA 01001.

Important: a phone number or e-mail address must be included with the check, only so that we can reply to confirm receipt, or to notify if the trip is cancelled.

Current ticket availability, updated as requests are processed, plus contact info for the Bus Trip Coordinators can be found on the Cultural Council's "Bus Trips" page at www.agawamcc.org.

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