



LOCAL
Fire safety
PAGE 2



SENIORS
New activities
PAGE 3



SPORTS
Softball gets win
PAGE 6

AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

May 15, 2025 | Vol. 47, No. 11 | \$1.00

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

Residents take aim at condition of athletic fields

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – An Agawam resident is looking for the town to change its approach to care for fields throughout the community.

He appeared in front of the Agawam City Council on May 5 to complain about what he is calling the poor condition of the town's baseball and other athletic fields.

The complaint was led by resident Dom Pisano, a fourth-generation member of the community who stated he believed the athletic fields were being cosmetic repair and were a hazard.

Pisano said he was not looking to point fingers at anyone in town, and he was not disparaging anyone in the Department of Public Works.

"I know they work very

good," said Pisano. "They have been deteriorating for quite some time."

He said he has met with several councilors on the issues."

Pisano said he had worked previously with the DPW to formulate a plan to work on one field at a time to counteract what he is describing as deteriorating conditions. He said that plan was supposed to take place a few years ago.

"Now I am being told there is a plan in place to start this fall," Pisano said. "I'm not sure why it has not happened in the fall before this, or two years ago."

Parks and Recreation Director Christopher Sparks confirmed earlier this spring that Shea Park will be among parks closed this fall for

FIELDS | page 10

Relay team sets school record



Congratulations to Julien Gebo, Dominic Rodriguez, Chris Bates and Marcus Stallworth of the Agawam High School boys track team. These young men set a school record in the 4x100 relay running a time of 43.8 seconds.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Diversity Club holds event



On Friday, May 2, the Agawam High School Diversity Club held its third Culture Jam. Each year the Jam gets better and better as our students celebrate and honor their cultures. Students wore traditional dress, performed song and dance, and information about their home countries. There was also delicious food from across the world. Our AHS students speak over 34 different languages, and are very proud of their heritage. It was a great day for AHS, said Principal James Blain.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Mayor reviews capital program

Amanda Munson
amunson@turley.com

AGAWAM - Mayor Christopher Johnson and the city council met on May 5 to review the capital improvement program of FY26 in a PowerPoint presentation, with the main purpose of the program stating the following: developing and prioritizing needed capital improvement projects, research and estimate the revenue necessary to fund capital improvement projects, set parameters on the revenue dedicated to fund projects, and forecast principal and interest expenditures. Stated on the presentation by Mayor Johnson, "The program represents a realistic financially feasible long-term program to undertake the capital projects needed by the city. Through this cooperative effort, I am confident the Capital Improvement Program will meet the needs of the city."

Continued by Johnson in person, "My goal is to get

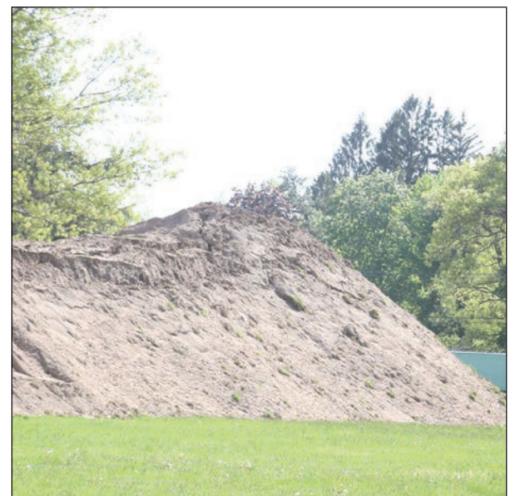
PROGRAM | page 10

Early high school construction continues



A perimeter is set up outside of the current Agawam High School building.

TURLEY PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



The ground has certainly been broken on the new construction at Agawam High School as mounds of dirt pile behind what was the AHS varsity softball field.



Phone: 413.283.8393 • Facebook: @AgawamAdvertiserNews • Email: aan@turley.com



ARRESTED? CHARGED?
Call Attorney Anthony C. Bonavita, Esquire
FOR JUSTICE
413-537-4168

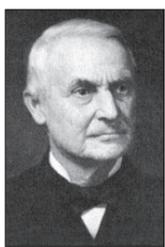


The Horace Smith Fund awards \$310,000

On Thursday, June 19, at 6 p.m. The Horace Smith Fund will hold its 126th Annual Corporators' Meeting and scholarship awards ceremony at the Carriage House of Storrowton Tavern for recipients, their parents, school counselors, and Corporators. This year's Keynote Speaker will be Congressman Richard Neal.

Wayne Webster, Chair of the Board of Trustees, announced that this year 20 Walter S. Barr Scholarship awards will be given to 18 graduating high school seniors and two students currently attending college. One additional student currently attending college

will receive the Sidney S. Letter Award, which is named after a recent benefactor. The William R. Rooney Award will be granted to a high school senior who has received special education services, and three Walter S. Barr Fellowships will be given to students pursuing a full-time graduate degree. Providing that students maintain at least a B average, each scholarship provides a total of up to \$12,000 over four years and each fellowship



Horace Smith

provides up to \$15,000 over two years. Therefore, The Horace Smith Fund is happy to be able to grant a total award of \$310,000 to area students this year.

The Horace Smith Fund was established in 1899 by the successful and generous philanthropist named Horace Smith. He and Daniel Wesson were the founders of Smith & Wesson, located in Springfield. Mr. Smith's will provided that the residual of his estate, after several bequests to relatives and institutions,

was to be used for public purposes at the discretion of his executors. They decided that it should be used to help deserving students finance their education.

The Walter S. Barr Scholarships and Fellowships are named for a West Springfield businessman, whose widow left the bulk of the family estate to The Horace Smith Fund in 1950. The William R. Rooney Award is named for a past Executive Director with a desire to assist special needs students. All recipients must be residents of Hampden County.

This year's scholarship recipients who are graduating seniors are from the

following high schools:

Agawam High School: Isabella M. Oliveira, Hannah M. Parker

The three fellowship recipients are graduates from the following colleges and high schools:

Students were selected on a variety of criteria, including their test scores, class rank, extra-curricular activities, and a personal written account of why the student feels deserving of financial assistance. Applications for next year's awards will be available September 15th on-line at www.HoraceSmithFund.org or by calling (413) 739-4222.

Veterans' announce Memorial Day parade ceremony

AGAWAM - The Agawam Veterans' Council is having their annual Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony on Monday, May 26.

The parade will take place along Main St. between Town Hall and the Veterans' Green.

The ceremony will take place following the parade at the Veterans' Green.

Church opens food bank

AGAWAM - Feeding Hills Congregational Church has taken on a new endeavor. They will be opening a Church Cupboard, a community food bank on May 17.

Grand Opening is scheduled for May 17 from 9 to 11 a.m. The Church Cupboard will be open to anyone experiencing any food insecurities on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month from 9 to 11 a.m.

Individuals/families are eligible to receive a grocery supplement only once a month.

For questions call the church office at 786-5061.

Lions Club to host breakfast

AGAWAM - The Agawam Lions Club will hold its spring breakfast event on Saturday, May 18 from 8 to 11 a.m. The event will be held at the Agawam Lions Den located on the grounds of the Big E. For free parking, use Gate 1. You can buy tickets at the event or from any Agawam Lions Club member. Tickets \$7 for adults, and \$5 for children 10 and under.

Fire Department conducting safety campaign

AGAWAM - The Agawam Fire Department, in cooperation with The American Red Cross, is conducting a home fire preparedness and safety campaign. Those who sign up and participate in the program will be visited by Agawam Firefighters

who will install new smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detectors in the home free of charge. To be eligible, participants must meet the following criteria:

- Must own your home.
- Existing smoke detectors must be battery oper-

ated. Hardwired detectors not eligible.

• Current smoke alarms more than 10 years old or not present.

To participate, interested parties should sign up by going to <https://agawam.ma.us/smokedetectorsig->

nup or calling 413-726-2885.

The goal of the program is to increase fire safety awareness and improve fire detection capabilities. "Early detection is critical in a fire emergency, giving people the time they need

to escape safely. Smoke detectors are proven lifesavers.

Through this program, we hope to strengthen the safety of our community and help prevent future tragedies," said Agawam Fire Chief Alan Sirois.

NAMI announces Walk-a-thon

WESTFIELD - NAMI Western Massachusetts (The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Western Mass) will be holding its 25th Annual Walkathon Anniversary Celebration, 'A Journey of Hope and Recovery' on Sunday, May 18 at Stanley Park's Beveridge Pavilion Annex in Westfield, beginning at 11 a.m. with registration starting at 10 a.m.

The event is suitable for all ages and abilities and will directly benefit NAMI Western Massachu-

setts' continuing efforts to help improve the lives of all those affected by mental health conditions and their families.

Join us while having a fun time and supporting a great cause! Among the festivities will be guest speakers, including Ms. US 2025; activities, face painting, raffles and much more! Please help NAMI-WM continue their mission by participating in this Walkathon or by donating to the event easily on our website.

NAMI is the National

Alliance on Mental Illness, the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization. NAMI provides advocacy, education, support and public awareness so that all individuals and families affected by mental health conditions can Build Better Lives.

For further information please contact our office at 413-786-9139 or visit us at www.namiwm.org/walkathon for the entry/pledge form. Volunteers are needed. Thank you for supporting your community.

Garden Club plans annual plant sale

AGAWAM - Agawam Garden Club is planning its annual plant sale for Saturday, May 31.

This year's event will be held at the Historical Thomas Smith House, 251 North West Street, Feeding Hills and will run from 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

The sale will include many perennials and shrubs all from members

gardens and all a bargain. Because the plants are all grown locally in members gardens they are well acclimated to the area.

Proceeds from the sale go towards funding the club's scholarship and providing educational programs for the year. Please check the club's website for further information. agawamgardenclub.com

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Yoga classes offered at Stanley Park Thursday evenings

WESTFIELD - Yoga will be starting for the 2025 season on Thursday evenings beginning May 8 through Aug. 21 from 6 to 7 p.m., on the Acre Lawn next to the Pavilion Annex. Please join certified instructor Michelle Gagnon, as she leads

the yoga classes. This class is for all levels of yoga practitioners, and all abilities are welcome. The poses are foundational, and modifications are always available. As a class we will harness the power of our breath in alignment with the move-

ment of our bodies.

Children 10 and up are welcome accompanied by an adult. Please bring your own mat and any props as needed, wear comfortable and stretchy clothes. Prepare to strengthen, stretch your body, and open your

minds. Bring lots of water (you might also want a small towel). Pre-registration is strongly encouraged.

Donations to the Park are welcome, with a suggested donation of \$5 per person per class.

Registration forms are

available on our website at www.stanleypark.org and will also be available at class. You may sign up on our website, by e-mailing us for the registration form at development@stanleypark.org, or register at the Park at your first class.



FIVE ISLANDS

Georgetown, Maine

2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathroom
Washer/Dryer, Fully Equipped

- Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach
- Close to Reid State Park

\$1200/week

207-607-9333



It's Celebration Time!

TENTS, TABLES, CHAIRS,
LUXURY RESTROOM RENTALS,
AND MUCH MORE!

For All Your Indoor & Outdoor
Event Rental Needs



197 Main Street
Unit Rear
Agawam

www.tntrentals.net
413-896-8297

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.

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!

INFLATION

PRICE BUSTERS

PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORKLOIN RIBEND or LOINEND ROAST..... \$1.88 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF RIBEYE CUT FREE \$10.29 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN THIGHS 10 LB BAG..... \$1.35 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN WHOLE DUCKS..... \$3.99 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORKLOIN CHOPS or ROAST..... \$2.77 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER LONDON BROIL \$4.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN HASH BROWN PATTIES 15 CT..... \$3.99 ea	USDA INSP. SUPERIOR ON MAIN MINI ECLAIRS JUMBO PAK 15 CT.... \$9.99 ea
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS..... \$2.99 lb	USDA INSP. SLICED IN OUR DELI DOMESTIC HAM..... \$3.99 lb	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 21/25 COUNT 2 LB BAG..... \$15.99 ea	
USDA INSP. SLICED IN OUR DELI SWISS CHEESE..... \$4.99 lb	USDA INSP. STOREMADE BONELESS CAROLINA GOLD MARINATED CHICKEN THIGHS..... \$3.69 lb	USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF \$4.99 5 LB BAG	

GREAT ON THE GRILL

90 Meat Outlet

90 Avocado St. Springfield
413-737-1288
www.90meat.com

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4
Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

SALE DATES: 5/15/25-5/21/25

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

Go Ductless!

Let us design a system that works for your environment.



Looking for an AC solution for your home or office?

Turn to the experts

STATE LINE

OIL • HVAC
413-998-0090

PROPANE
413-998-0080

500•514 Salmon Brook St.
Granby, CT

AC Tune-Ups & New Installations

STATE LINE

PROPANE • OIL
SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATIONS

StateLinePropaneOil.com
Lic. S1: 303179 • P1: 204150 • HD: 737 • 478

Senior Center announces upcoming news and activities

AGAWAM – The Agawam Senior Center will be holding the following activities and events in the coming weeks:

What is a Long Term Care Ombudsman? Long Term Care Ombudsman Seminar
Thursday, May 15 at 1:30 p.m. in the Seminar Room

A Long-Term Care Ombudsman is certified to investigate any issues that arise in nursing homes, rest homes, or assisted living facilities, so the residents who live there can do so with dignity and respect.

As an advocate, a Long-Term Care Ombudsman works to resolve problems between residents and nursing homes, rest homes, or assisted living facilities, as they relate to the health, welfare, and rights of those they serve. Long-Term Care Ombudsman often act as mediators, visiting facilities on a regular basis and allowing residents to voice their complaints and work toward resolution with staff before issues can escalate. Anyone can bring a complaint before the ombudsman, and the complaint can be on be-

half of a specific resident or on behalf of residents as a group.

Jewelry Making with Sandy

Tuesday, May 27
from 5:30 to 7:15 p.m.
in the Garden Room

We here at the Agawam Senior Center are so excited to offer Jewelry Making with Sandy. Sandy will bring all the materials you need and you bring your creativity. Cost for the class is \$3 per person plus the cost of your supplies. Call Kristina at 413.726.2836.

Feline Friends Cat Sanctuary announce next fundraiser

AGAWAM – Feline Friends will be holding its monthly donation drives at Smithland Pet & Garden Center on Saturday, June 7 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers will be collecting food, litter & monetary donations for our kitties. Opened bags/boxes will be accepted.

Smithland, a valued sponsor, is stocked with Friskies Pate or Shreds canned food (single flavor cases are preferred), many Fancy Feast varieties and unscented, clumping cat litter.

We would also appreciate jars of baby food (meat/

poultry varieties), paper towels, puppy peepads and gift cards to Smithland or Costco. Checks or cash are always gratefully accepted at Feline Friends, PO Box 174, Feeding Hills, MA 01030.

Just a reminder that we have donation bins at Smithland near the registers and at the Agawam Public Library. Please include contact information with donations if you would like an acknowledgement. We are grateful for every donation.

We are thrilled to announce that we have been chosen by E.B.'s Restaurant

for their Give Back Wednesday Program on June 18. Looking forward to seeing our friends there.

Feline Friends Inc. is a community-based, non-profit sanctuary that does not discriminate against any cat based on age, gender or disability.

More information about our sanctuary may be found on our website at felinefriendsinc.org or our Facebook page at Feline Friends Cat Sanctuary. Contact us with questions at info@felinefriendsinc.org or by phone at 413-786-5019.



Garden Club members David Witkins and Myron Marshaus offer colorful flowers and crafts for May Market shoppers.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Garden Club holding May Market

SUFFIELD – Looking for a gift for the garden enthusiast in your life? Or maybe a little something for yourself? Then mark your calendar for this year's May Market coming on Saturday, May 17.

Choose your gifts from a huge selection of flowers, shrubs, herbs, garden sculptures, terrariums, birdbaths, and nature photography, as well as local

honey, jams, jellies and fragrant soaps and candles. Are you more of an indoor cat? Look for handwoven baskets, blankets, jewelry, tableware and refinished furniture.

Visitors are encouraged to bring their own reusable shopping bags, as well as a wagon or cart for transporting their treasures back to their cars. Admission is free, but

don't forget to bring cash or your checkbook since not all vendors take credit cards.

The Suffield Garden Club, organized in 1934, is a non-profit organization dedicated to the beautification of Suffield.

Proceeds from this event support civic beautification, agriscience scholarships, conservation, and horticulture education.

Turn back the clock

WEST SPRINGFIELD – The West of the River Chamber of Commerce invites you to participate in Chamber Trivia Night at the 99 Restaurant & Pub on Riverdale St. in West Springfield on Wednesday, May 28 from 5 to 7 p.m. Join the chamber for a fun night of trivia and networking. To register for the event, go to www.ourwrc.com

NextLevel opens new coworking community space

AGAWAM – NextLevel Cowork, a cutting-edge coworking space, announces the opening of its new coworking community.

Located in the Industrial Park in Agawam, NextLevel Cowork offers a range of flexible workspaces designed to foster creativity, collaboration, and growth for freelancers, entrepreneurs, startups, and remote teams interested in

elevating their work experience.

In an era where flexibility, innovation, and work-life balance are paramount, NextLevel Cowork stands out as the premier coworking space for individuals and businesses seeking more than just a desk.

The space offers a variety of membership options, from open desks to private offices, each thoughtfully

designed to create an optimal work environment that nurtures productivity and well-being.

Key Features of NextLevel Cowork:

- State-of-the-Art Workspaces: High-speed internet, ergonomic furniture, modern meeting rooms, and fully equipped conference areas and training rooms.
- Community Engage-

ment: Member networking events, workshops, and seminars designed to create opportunities for connection and professional growth.

• Flexible Membership Plans: Tailored to meet the needs of both individuals and teams, with no long-term commitment required.

"Our mission at NextLevel Cowork is to create

a space that not only supports the day-to-day work needs of our members but also fosters a sense of community and growth," said Steve Rovithis, founder of NextLevel Cowork. "We believe that by bringing together like-minded professionals in an inspiring environment, we can help them take their businesses and careers to the next level."



Upcoming story times announced for APL

AGAWAM – The Agawam Public Library Children's Department announced the following story time events upcoming for the month. Baby Story Time for ages birth through 18 months along with their caregivers will be offered Thursday, May 15 and May 29 at 10 a.m.

Toddler time, for children age 19 months to three-years-old on Monday, May 12 at 10 a.m. Art & Stories for children ages three to five are scheduled for Tuesday, May 13 and May 27 at 10 a.m.

For more information, contact the library.

Volunteers needed for Summer Reading program

AGAWAM – Volunteer on Fridays during the Summer Reading Program. Teens entering 7th grade and up: volunteer at the Agawam Public Library during our Summer Reading Program! Volunteer for one hour every Friday from June 27 to Aug. 8 (with the exception of July 4th). Help us run activities for children, prepare kids' crafts, give out prizes, and more! Fill out the interest form at bit.ly/aplsummervolunteers

All events are free and open to the public. Some programs require registration. To register, go to our website: agawamlibrary.org or call 413-789-1550 ext. 3. We hope to see you soon!

Thursday, May 1 – Teen Take & Make Craft for Grades

7-12 Stop by the Teen Space to pick up a Take & Make Craft kit! They'll be available until we run out of supplies. No registration necessary.

Every Tuesday in May from 2 to 3 p.m. After School Drop-in for grades 9-12. Play our Nintendo Switch, try out the button maker, eat snacks, or just hang out! No registration necessary.

Every Thursday in May from 2 to 3:30 p.m. Trivia Thursday for grades 7-12. Visit the Teen Space and answer a trivia question to get a small prize!

Wednesday, May 14 from 6 to 7 p.m. Teen Advisory Board for grades 7-12. Make plans for teen library programs and the Teen Space, and eat pizza!

Members of the Teen Advisory Board can earn community service hours for their participation. If you'd like to join, contact Evan at edelano@agawamlibrary.org or 413-789-1550 extension 3.

Wednesday, May 21 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Chess Tournament for grades 7-12. Compete with your peers for the title of Chess Champion. Snacks will be provided. Registration required. Please register at agawamlibrary.org.

Thursday, May 29 from

6 to 7 p.m. Teen Book Club (Bring Your Own Book) for grades 7-12. Come eat snacks and discuss books. Bring a book you love (or a few) and tell some fellow book lovers all about why you love it and why they should read it, too. Registration required. Please register at agawamlibrary.org.

If you have any questions, or would like more information please visit our website at agawamlibrary.org or call 413-789-1550 ext. 3.

EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Memorial Day, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE** To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, May 22**

– Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

JOB OPPORTUNITY

newspaper correspondent

Agawam Advertiser News seeks **Experienced Writers/Journalists** to produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.

- *Must be dependable, professional and able to meet strict deadlines*
- *Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo*

Send writing samples with resume to

www.turley.com

Editor, Greg Scibelli
24 Water St.
Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to
gscibelli@turley.com

**ALL SIZE TEMPORARY CONTAINERS
BULK PICK UP OR COMPLETE CLEAN-OUT
DEMOLITION SERVICE AVAILABLE**

28 Moylan Lane, Agawam, MA 01001
Phone 413-786-2449 • Fax 413-789-3738
www.jrsweeping.com
"No Haul is Too Big or Too Small"

CALABRESE FARMS

OUR OWN RHUBARB & ASPARAGUS

Annuals, Vegetable Plants, Pansies, Perennials, Herbs, Strawberry Plants, Clematis Vines, Geraniums, Tomato Plants, Roses

Water Garden Plants

Hanging Baskets & Mixed Containers
~ We Accept SNAP and HIP Benefits ~

257 Feeding Hills Rd., (Rt. 57)
Southwick, MA • (413) 569-6417
(ACROSS FROM MOOLICIOUS ICE CREAM)

Opinion

Guest Column

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters
By Russell Gloor



Must I take Medicare Part A even if I have VA or Medicaid coverage?

Dear Rusty:

Does everyone need to sign up for Medicare part A, even if you are ex-military? Or only on Medicaid, regardless of whether you are eligible for Social Security or not? Also is there a cost for just part A?

Signed: Confused Senior

Dear Confused:

For Your Information, there is no cost for Medicare Part A inpatient hospitalization coverage for those who are also eligible for Social Security benefits. And it is mandatory to enroll in Medicare Part A if you are age 65 or over and are collecting Social Security benefits. If you are ex-military and get all your healthcare services from the VA, you must still enroll in Medicare Part A, which is free, to collect Social Security benefits after age 65.

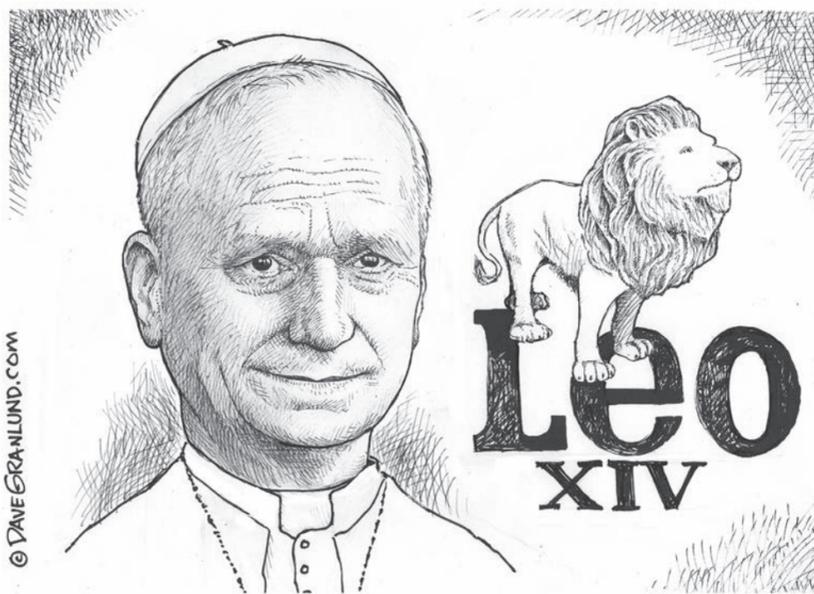
Enrollment in Medicare Part B, which is healthcare coverage for outpatient services, is always optional because there is a premium associated with Part B. But if you receive all of your healthcare services from the VA, you can, if you wish, decline Medicare Part B and, thus, save the monthly Part B premium. Enrolling in Medicare Part B when you get all your healthcare services from the VA is a matter of having the convenience to choose any healthcare provider you wish versus using only VA healthcare services.

If you receive Medicaid benefits and are also eligible for Medicare, you should probably enroll in both Medicare Part A and Part B (Medicare would be primary payor and Medic-

aid the secondary payor). You would be considered "dually eligible" and likely exempt from most healthcare costs with coverage from both programs. That said, it is sometimes not mandatory to enroll in Medicare Part B to get Medicaid benefits, but each state has separate Medicaid eligibility rules. Thus, you should check with your state's Medicaid office to see if it is mandatory to take Medicare Part B to keep your Medicaid benefits. FYI, in most instances, Medicaid will pay your Medicare Part B costs, so there is little reason not to enroll in Medicare Part B while on Medicaid. Regardless, enrollment in Medicare Part A is required to collect Social Security benefits after age 65.

I would like to thank you for your service to our country and also assure you that we are always here for you if you have any further questions.

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



Guest Column

A little of this and a little of that

I went outside yesterday to assess the damage after nearly five inches of rain fell from last Thursday night through Saturday mid day.

To say that I was mortified was an understatement. My pea seedlings were underwater, there was a river flowing into the trenches that my newly planted potatoes were in, and the floor of my greenhouse literally had an empty bucket floating in it.

Although the water table has fallen in the last 24 hours, I still wonder when, if ever, I will be able to plant the parts of my garden still covered in winter rye, as tilling it in might not happen until July, and that's if we don't get anymore rain. I was mad about it all day, because this was the year I was going to have the best garden ever.

My transplants look fantastic, and I have all sorts of seedlings going in succession, so that, for example, my broccoli and cauliflower don't ripen all at once. How will I ever plant them, I thought?

The day ended and a new day came, and with it joy in the morning. The standing water was gone, at least, and so was my desire to pack it all up and move to a condominium. Maybe there is hope.

I spent Mother's Day gardening after all, in higher parts of the yard, and it was a good day.

While I was working among the plants I made note that the lily leaf beetle has arrived. Handpicking and destroying the bright red insects over the last couple of years has thankfully inspired a resurgence in my patch of

tiger lilies. It can in yours too! Search out adults early in the season, beginning in mid April, when they are hanging around looking for a mate or in the process of mating. Pick them up and drop them into soapy water.

Well seasoned and especially fed-up gardeners can simply squish the bug. That's me. Chances are you won't be able to get every adult before some eggs are laid. Find them on the undersides of the leaves; they are brownish-red in color, and are easily "done in" by running your thumb along the vein of the leaf.

If you miss some eggs, dealing with the larva is your final option before real damage ensues. Squishing the slug-like, poop-covered larvae deserves a "bravest gardener of the year" award- hard to do even by this "well-seasoned and especially fed-up" gardener's standards! If you just can't bring yourself to handle the bug-gers, try an insecticide made from neem extract.

tract. Although neem is a botanical, it is not to be sprayed when bees are out. Using it in the evening is a good option.

My peony plants have put on some nice buds. All but one of my plants had already been staked, and the one that wasn't is on the small side, perfect to be put in one of those circular tomato cages.

I was sprinkling fertilizers as I weeded and groomed, but I left the fertilizer out when I came to these old-timers. Too much nitrogen for peonies can be a no-no; instead of making more flowers, it can actually cause them to abort, or just develop lots of leaves at the expense of flowers.

I just got word from a friend that there is a frost warning for tonight. Although I didn't see frost in my area, I did see that temperatures may fall to around 37 degrees.

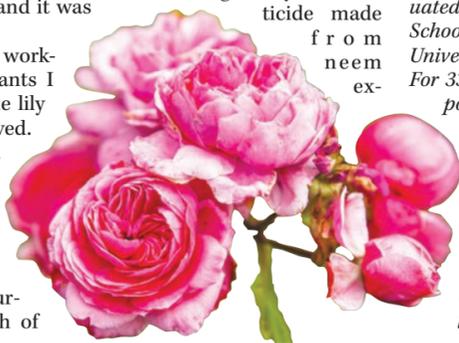
Alas, peppers and tomato transplants would revolt in an unheated greenhouse at those temperatures. Out I go, trucking them in to the kitchen, tray by tray. At least I am not up to my ankles in water tonight.

I guess it is all part of the wonderful ups and downs of gardening in New England, or anywhere else for that matter!

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.



by Roberta McQuaid



PHONE

413.283.8393
Fax: 413.283.7107
Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

EMAIL

Advertising Sales
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

Editor

Gregory Scibelli
aan@turley.com

Subscriptions
www.turley.com

\$35 per year pre-paid (\$40 out of state)
Newsstand \$1.00

WEB

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

@AgawamAdvertiserNews

The Agawam Advertiser News is published by Turley Publications, Inc. • www.turley.com

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters.

All letters are subject to editing for content and length. The deadline is Monday at noon. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, care of Turley Publications Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, or e-mail aan@turley.com.

\$12.50 Each



Digital Photos

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications. Go to newspapers.turley.com/photo-request

AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS TEAM

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

ADVERTISING SALES
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

The Agawam Advertiser News (USPS 001-170) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.



@AgawamAdvertiserNews

WEB

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager



www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

Find your MARKET IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!



413.283.8393 • classifieds@turley.com
24 Water St., Palmer • 80 Main St., Ware

Agawam Advertiser News welcomes letters to the editor

The Agawam Advertiser News welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to the Agawam Advertiser News, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to aan@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that

Friday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call 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 Agawam Advertiser News.

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

STCC receives \$137,966 state grant to expand CNA training

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Technical Community College has received a \$137,966 grant from the Healey-Driscoll Administration to support and expand its Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) training program.

The funding, part of the state's \$1.5 million Training Resources and Internships Network (TRAIN) grant initiative, is aimed at preparing more than 500 unemployed and under-employed Massachusetts residents for careers in high-demand industries.

The TRAIN grant supports community colleges across the Commonwealth

in offering skills-based training and wraparound services to help adult learners successfully transition into the workforce. STCC's award will enable the college to provide CNA training to more participants, bolstering the pipeline of skilled professionals entering the health care field.

The CNA program at STCC has experienced steady growth in recent years. In fiscal year 2022, 39 students completed the program. That number nearly doubled in fiscal year 2023 with 72 completers, and rose to 131 in fiscal year 2024 – re-

fecting increasing demand for training and a growing interest in health care careers among adult learners.

"This investment allows us to expand our workforce training programs and offer vital opportunities to adult learners in our community," Assistant Vice President of Workforce Development Gladys Franco. "Certified Nursing Assistants are essential in the health care system, and this funding helps ensure that more individuals can access training for a stable, meaningful career path."

Franco expressed gratitude to the Healey-Driscoll

Administration for supporting the CNA program at STCC.

"With this funding, STCC is poised to continue delivering on its mission to provide affordable, high-quality education and workforce development that supports both students and the broader regional economy," Franco said.

The CNA program at STCC prepares students for entry-level roles in hospitals, long-term care facilities and home health settings. In addition to technical instruction, the program incorporates career readiness and

support services that help students persist through training and transition into employment.

The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced the TRAIN grants during a statewide rollout that highlighted community colleges' vital role in workforce development. The CNA program is one of several health care-focused training opportunities being funded, as the state works to meet growing demand in the sector.

"Community colleges are at the heart of workforce development in Massachusetts," said Education Sec-

retary Dr. Patrick Tutwiler. "Through this investment, we are creating pathways for adult learners to thrive – both in the classroom and in high-demand careers."

Gov. Maura Healey echoed the importance of accessible training, stating, "These TRAIN grants will connect hundreds of community college students to the skills, support, and opportunities they need to succeed in growing industries and help ensure our economy works for everyone."

For more information on CNA training at STCC, visit www.stcc.edu/wdc.

Arts League to host new exhibition

HOLYOKE – During the month of June, the Wistariahurst Museum at 238 Cabot St. in Holyoke will host an exhibition of artwork by members of the Holyoke Arts League (HAL). The museum and gardens are the historic home of the Skinner Family that owned and operated the Skinner Silk Mill, the world's premier silk fabric production facility in the city's Canal District.

We hope you will attend our opening reception and meet the artists who live in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut on Monday, June 2, from 5 to 7 p.m. This event is free and

open to the public. Throughout the month of June, the exhibition may be viewed free of charge during the museum's open hours, Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Tuesdays from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

This juried show will include entries in oil and pastel, watercolor, acrylic, tempera, gouache and other non-oil wet media, graphite, charcoal, printmaking and other graphic media, sculpture and ceramics. Light refreshments will be served.

The arts league was founded in 1923 and is now celebrating its 102nd year in Holyoke. The League holds

artist demonstrations and weekly adult figure drawing sessions. For more information about HAL, visit <https://www.holyoke-arts-league.org> online. You may also address inquiries to holyokeartsleague@gmail.com

For more information about Wistariahurst, call (413) 322-5660 or online at info@wistariahurst.org. You may direct inquiries about Wistariahurst by emailing munselle@holyoke.org.

This program is funded in part by a grant from the Holyoke Local Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass. Cultural Council, a state agency.

VOC to cut ribbon on new location

CHICOPEE – Valley Opportunity Council (VOC) will host a Ribbon Cutting event at its new Chicopee Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program location at 254 McKinstry Avenue on Tuesday, May 20 at 9 a.m. Light refreshments will be served.

The new WIC location is an accessible storefront with first floor space, in a plaza with a Dunkin Donuts and a laundromat. The Chicopee WIC program was previously located on the second floor of VOC's Mt. Carmel Avenue building that houses many of its other programs.

The VOC WIC Program provides healthy foods, nutrition education, breastfeeding support and referrals to health-care and other services free of charge to qualified Massachusetts families. WIC serves low- to moderate-income people in critical stages of growth and development.

VOC has four WIC locations, in Chicopee at 254 McKinstry Avenue; in Ludlow at Mid America Properties, 14 Chestnut Place; in Holyoke, 300 High Street, 1st Floor; and in Westfield, 94 N. Elm Street, Suite 207.

The Valley Opportunity Council is the largest and most diverse Community Action Agency in Western Massachusetts with an annual budget of \$45 million.

With this Federal designation, the VOC has established a powerful network of support and collaborative services intended to encourage community members to actively achieve self-sufficiency for themselves and their families.

VOC employs over 250 staff members and has 150 local vendors, providing a significant economic investment in the community.

Holyoke Community College to celebrate 78th Commencement May 31

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will celebrate its 78th Commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 31, at the MassMutual Center in Springfield.

The ceremony begins at 10 a.m.

This year, HCC will confer associate degrees and certificates to about 700 graduates from the class of 2025.

The procession of grad-

uates into the arena and the keynote address will be delivered by the yet-to-be named recipient of the Marieb Award of Teaching Excellence, HCC's highest faculty award.

A handful of students from this year's class will also be featured on the Commencement stage.

Human services major IsaRose Ramos '24 of West-

field will deliver the student address to her classmates. Alexandria Casavant '25 of Northampton, a fall graduate now studying music at the University of Massachusetts, will present the class gift. Liberal arts and music major Makayla Nelson '25 of Ludlow, the student performer, will sing "This is Me," by Keala Settle.

HCC President George

Timmons will present Distinguished Service Awards to four individuals for their work on behalf of the college:

Auto dealer Gary Rome, an HCC Foundation Board Member, passionate advocate for HCC, donor, and a driving force behind HCC's annual Together HCC fundraising campaign; Susanne Campagna, education director for the Hampden County

Sheriff's Department and chief facilitator of the department's culinary arts training program at HCC; David Gadaire (posthumous), the late, long-time leader of MassHire Holyoke (formerly Holyoke Works); and Trudy Monson '97, a long-time volunteer and current president of the HCC Alumni Association.

For those who cannot

attend in person, HCC will stream the Commencement ceremony live over the Internet. The live stream will be available through a link on the main page of the college website, www.hcc.edu, where other details about this year's Commencement can also be found.

The ceremony will be American Sign Language interpreted.

Habitat for Humanity to hold encore session on building credit

WEST SPRINGFIELD – Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH)'s Habitat Home School program is excited to host an encore session of "Building Strong Credit." Habitat Home School is an interactive online class that teaches its participants how to become financially ready to apply for Greater Springfield Habitat's homeownership program.

"Building Strong Credit" will be taught by Operation HOPE representatives. Operation HOPE is a nonprofit that offers financial literacy, coaching, and advocacy for low and moderate-income individuals and communities. Attendees should expect to participate in engaging activities and ask questions.

"I would like this series to be a pre-application course

so people are more prepared from the financial review aspect of the application process," said Olga Callirgos, GSHFH Homeowner Programs coordinator and the creator of this project. "It's not mandatory, but highly recommended as it's a positive stepping stone for anyone interested in homeownership and it's definitely a good idea to attend all of them so there is no missed information."

"Building Strong Credit" will be held in English on Thursday, May 29, at 5 p.m. for Spanish speakers. There is no cost to attend, but registrations are required. To sign up, visit our website at habitatspringfield.org/financial-seminar

GSHFH is a housing ministry dedicated to strengthening communities by empowering low-income

families to change their lives and the lives of future generations through homeownership and home repair opportunities. This is accomplished by working in partnership with diverse people, from all walks of life, to build and repair simple, decent, affordable housing. Habitat's mission to provide homeownership opportunities to low-income families is unique as we offer a hand up not a hand out, requiring partner families to work alongside the community they will live in. GSHFH has helped roughly 100 local families realize their dream of homeownership over the last 38 years.

For more information, contact Olga Callirgos, Homeowner Programs coordinator, at callirgos@habitatspringfield.org or (413) 739-5503 x1003.

Paper Festival to take place June 7

HOLYOKE – The inaugural Holyoke Paper Festival is set to bring a one-day celebration of art, paper, and place to downtown Holyoke on Saturday, June 7 at the De La Luz Soundstage, 114 Race Street.

This new event celebrates Holyoke's unique identity as The Paper City, once producing an estimated 80% of the writing paper used in the U.S. during the late 1800s. Today, artists and community members continue to be inspired by Holyoke's history of inno-

vation, its vibrant arts scene, and its powerful connection to the Connecticut River and the land of the Pocumtuc, Agawam, and Nonotuck peoples.

Festival attendees can look forward to a full day of programming including a fine art exhibition, interactive workshops, guest speakers, local tours, and more—all highlighting the legacy and future of paper as a creative medium. Entries to the art exhibition have been received from artists across the

country, underscoring Holyoke's national significance in paper and printmaking culture.

The Holyoke Paper Festival is made possible by support from MassDevelopment, the Holyoke Local Cultural Council, Holyoke Community College, and local business and property owners.

To learn more about the festival or to get involved as a sponsor, volunteer, or donor, visit www.holyokepaperfestival.com for the latest updates and details.

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8		9	10	11	12
13						14				15			
16						17				18			
19					20					21			
				22					23			24	
25	26	27		28				29			30		
31			32		33		34					35	
36				37		38				39			40
	41					42			43		44		
			45					46		47		48	
49	50		51				52				53		
54		55				56					57	58	59
60						61					62		
63						64				65			
66						67				68			

CLUES ACROSS

- Two-person German submarine
- 60-minute intervals (abbr.)
- Database management system
- Vertical position
- American jazz singer Irene
- Ancient Greek City
- Former Senate Majority Leader Harry
- Japanese seaport
- Self-immolation by fire ritual
- Assigns tasks
- Beloved type of cigar
- Discounts
- Cambodian communist leader Pot
- Important football position
- Kilometers per hour
- Lentil
- Extremely angry
- Yellow-flowered

CLUES DOWN

- Not soft
- Sharp-pointed dueling sword
- Line a roof
- Greek god of the underworld
- Software
- Large-headed elongated fishes
- Shag rugs
- Type of whale
- Lacking a plan
- Spill the beans
- Some is "heavy"
- One who has been canonized
- Indicate times
- Greeting
- Broadway actor Josh
- Seashore
- Indicates before

- Electrical power unit
- Destitute
- Drags forcibly
- Impropriety
- Word forms
- Equal to 10 meters
- Neither
- Computer language
- Practice of aging film or TV characters (abbr.)
- A woolen cap of Scottish origin
- A promise
- Challenges
- Official
- People living in Myanmar
- Notable tower
- Type of sword
- Vaccine developer
- Listing
- Summertime insects
- Concluding passage
- Guitarist Clapton
- Damp and musty
- Central nervous system
- Against



@turleysports

www.turleysports.com



facebook.com/turleysports

SPORTS

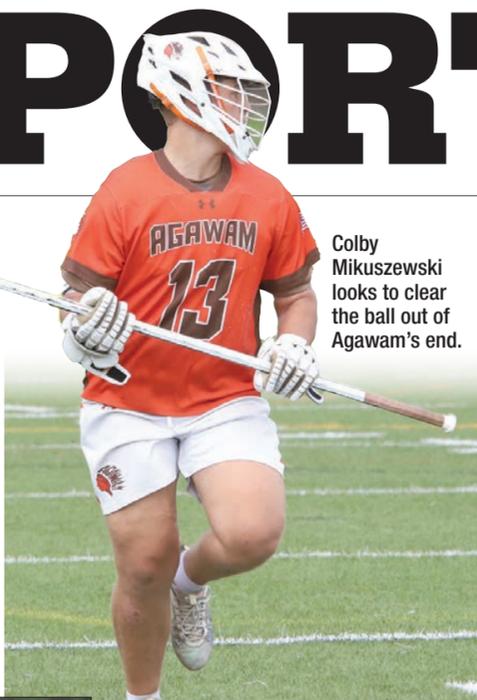
Brownies score second win over Tigers

SOUTH HADLEY – Last Thursday afternoon, the Agawam High School boys lacrosse team scored a 13-4 win over host South Hadley.

It was the second time this season the Brownies de-

feated the Tigers.

Agawam won 13-3 in the previous meeting. Agawam is now an impressive 11-2 this season. They will face Minnechaug on Thursday, May 15 at 6:30 p.m.



Colby Mikuszewski looks to clear the ball out of Agawam's end.



Jaden Holloway hustles up the right side.



Brayden Federico keeps moving passes around the offensive end.



Noah Manele is pressured by a South Hadley player.



Goalie Douglas MacKinnon looks to pass out of his circle.



Riley Jorgensen tries to get around a South Hadley defender.



Madelyn Pajer tries to make a play at home.



Mia Canavan attempts to get a tag out at third.



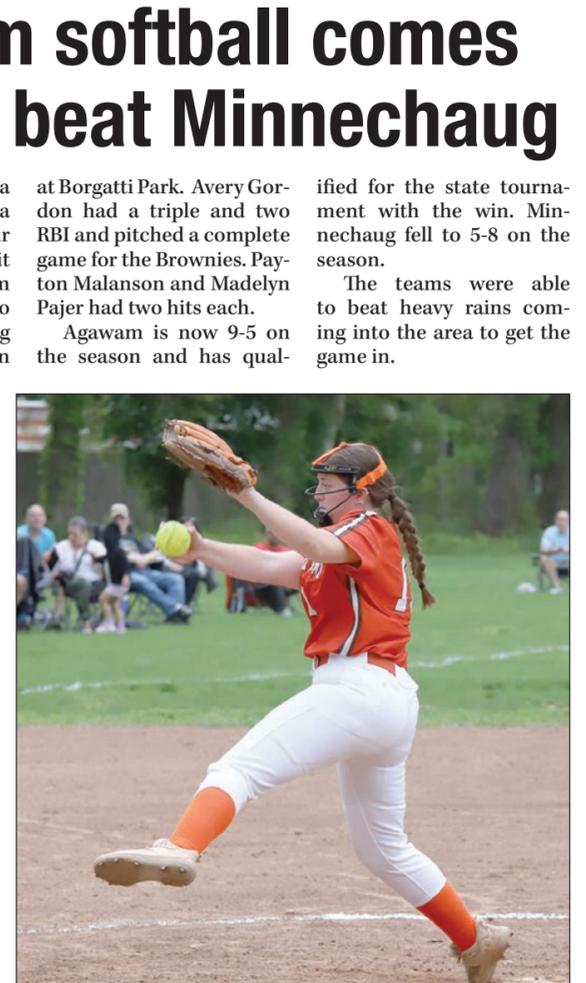
Toni Vassallo makes a catch in right.



Payton Malanson makes a catch in centerfield.



Taylor Stairs fires a pitch back to the infield.



Avery Gordon fires a pitch to the plate.

Agawam softball comes back to beat Minnechaug

AGAWAM – Veronica Ouimet had a triple and a home run and drove in four runs for the Falcons, but it was not enough as Agawam came back from down two runs to defeat Minnechaug 6-5 last Thursday afternoon

at Borgatti Park. Avery Gordon had a triple and two RBI and pitched a complete game for the Brownies. Payton Malanson and Madelyn Pajer had two hits each.

Agawam is now 9-5 on the season and has qual-

ified for the state tournament with the win. Minnechaug fell to 5-8 on the season.

The teams were able to beat heavy rains coming into the area to get the game in.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Rain hampers schedule, leads to extension of cutoff date for playoffs

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Rainouts are a part of every spring, especially for baseball and softball. But some seasons are more excessive than others.

As it stands, the spring season is the shortest regular season during the school year, starting in the first week of April and only last until the third or fourth week of May. The new state playoff system implemented in 2021 further shortened the spring season, as the sectional playoffs now take place a week earlier.

While there has already been a lot of rain this spring, this past week has been the worst of it, with some areas of Western and Central Mass. getting between four and six inches of rain combined throughout the week.

While sports like lacrosse, which is played

on artificial turf in many places, and boys volleyball which is played indoors, have been largely unaffected, other sports have not been so lucky. Baseball, softball, tennis, and track have taken big hits, with lots of games, meets, and matches needing to be rescheduled. And time is running out.

Andy Rogers, who has the tall task of scheduling umpires for high school baseball in Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties, said while he has a lot of games to get rescheduled, experience matters, and he is ready to through the task of getting umpires to all the needed games.

“There are a lot of moving pieces with umpires. One of the big challenges is I have over 10 college umpires on staff, and they are in their playoffs now,” Rogers said. “They get their games the day before for college, and

come off of high school games and they are working very competitive games for me. Youth leagues are also fully going, so when I take an umpire to work a high school game, the youth assignors then struggle to cover their games. It’s all connected. Same with the adult leagues that are out there. With the rain, I just continue to adjust and do the best I can. I want to credit our umpire staff for staying on top of so many changes. With the geography that I cover (Hampden, Hampshire and Franklin), I have to look at how far I send umpires, how many times they see the same teams, etc.”

The state tournament has had a minimal impact on Rogers’ ability to schedule, but said there have had to be some adjustments.

“The state tournament really hasn’t impacted me that

much,” Rogers said. “What is tough is the Western Mass tournament week, you have a lot of games scheduled the day before that I have to cover including the non-playoff matchups which can still be important for teams trying to get into the state playoffs. Two years ago, I had a Palmer/Smith Academy game with 3-16 Palmer Playing 9-10 Smith Academy and Smith needed that game to get into the states. It was the same day as the high school semifinals. Knowing the matchups is very important during those times.”

One help for the tournament is that the cutoff date for baseball and softball has been moved from May 15 to May 19, which will give teams more time to make up games. Several teams were preparing to play 4-5 games this week and next in order to catch up with their schedule.



While this week was likely the worse, rain has been an issue all spring. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Pioneers test team in ‘Friendly’ game, look forward to season opener

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Even though there are a bunch of first-year players listed on the Western Mass. Pioneers roster, the main objective remains the same.

The Pioneers will be looking to qualify for the USL League Two playoffs for the sixth time since 2019.

“We do have a lot of new players this year,” said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari following his team’s 8-0 victory in a friendly against Southwest FC at Lusitano Stadium last Saturday night. “We’re going to try our best to compete during the regular season and we’re hoping to make the playoffs again. Six or seven more players will be arriving next week.”

Molinari, who has been coaching the Pioneers since 2012, will be coaching the New England Mutiny once again this year. He’s also the Director of Coaching for the Western United Pioneers.

“Federico is one of the best soccer coaches that I’ve been around,” said Pioneers General Manager Joe Ferrara. “He does an outstanding job of making adjustments during each match. He also communicates very well with the players.”

The Pioneers, who were founded in 1998, finished in second place in the Northeast Division a year ago with an 11-1-2 regular season record. After defeating FC Motown STA, 3-1, in extra time in an Eastern Conference qualifying round match, they lost to Lionsbridge FC, 2-1, in the conference quarterfinals.

“We’ve made the playoffs during the past six years, but we haven’t won the championship title yet,” Ferrara said. “We do have one of the toughest schedules in our

conference this year.”

The Pioneers are scheduled to open the 2025 campaign with a pair of road matches against Boston City and the Albany Rush before hosting league rival the Seacoast United Phantoms in the home opener at 7:30 p.m. on May 23. The Phantoms are the defending USL-Two champions. They defeated Peoria City, 3-2, in extra time in the championship match.

“Vermont and Seacoast always have very good players,” Molinari said. “I also think NEFC, who’s a new team in our division, has signed some very good players.”

Two of the players who didn’t return this season are Alec Hughes and Scott Testori, who combined for a total of 28 goals last summer.

Hughes, who scored a team-leading 17 goals, was selected by LAFC with the 22nd overall pick in the 2025 MLS Super Draft.

Testori (11 goals) also had a try-out with a West Coast MLS team. He was the leading goal scorer on the 2023 UConn men’s soccer team.

Oskar Kaufmann, who’s a newcomer from Sweden, scored the first two goals of the second half in last Saturday’s match. He’s expected to be one of the Pioneers leading goal scorers this season.

Last fall, Kaufmann scored 12 goals for Coker University, which is a Division 2 school in South Carolina. He’ll be transferring to South Carolina Upstate, which is a Division 1 school.

The Pioneers other goal scorers in the Friendly were Luke Hanchar, Austin Bush, Matt Cence, Robbie Lyons, Aidan Kelly, and Austin Murawski.

Kelly, who’s a defender from UMass-Amherst, replaced Nicholas Oberrauch as the team captain.

“Aidan is a second-year



Kawame Adu-Gyamfi is among the returning players for the Pioneers this season.



Jared Smith returns to Western Mass. this season.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Mamadi Jiana, of Chicopee, will be a Pioneers again this season.



Aiden Kelly was among those who played in the game.

player for us,” Molinari said. “He was one of the leaders on last year’s team.”

A couple of other returning players are Austin Roche, Jared Smith, Augustine Boadi, Ali Taleb, Kwame Adu-Gyamfi, and Mamadi Ji-

ana. The Pioneers starting goalie was Cam Hall, who’s another newcomer from Bentley University.

Thomas Wadas, who’s a senior at Ludlow High School, saw some playing

time in the second half. He will be practicing with the Pioneers and will be playing for the Academy team.

Dennis Gomes and Jay Willis are returning as the Pioneers assistant coaches. The tickets prices for all

the Pioneers regular season home matches are \$10.

Children 6 years old and younger are free.

It should be another exciting season at the 107-year-old soccer stadium located on Winsor Street in Ludlow.

Massachusetts Pirates fall in Tucson despite Williams 145 yards

TUCSON, AZ – In a battle of ball carriers named Williams, Pirates running back Pooka Williams Jr. rushed for a career high 145 yards on 15 carries with two touchdowns, but it was not enough as the Tucson Sugar Skulls (3-3) defeated Massachusetts 47-26 at the Tucson Convention Center. Sugar Skulls running back Jamyest Williams rushed for 121 yards with three touchdowns on 12 carries for the victors. The Pirates fall to 2-4 on the season as new Head Coach Tom Menas sees a setback in his first game.

Defense ruled from the outset as neither offense would score on the first five possessions. Pirates’ defen-

sive backs Matt Elam and Destin Mack intercepted Sugar Skulls quarterback Jorge Reyna on Tucson’s first two drives. Yet, the Skulls took the lead as Ahmad Lyons intercepted a Kenji Bahar pass and returned it six yards for a touchdown. Kevin Macias added the point after, and with 3:42 remaining in the opening quarter, Tucson led 7-0.

The Pirates answered with a five-play, 42-yard drive with Pooka Williams Jr. capping it off with a 15-yard touchdown run. Josh Gable’s extra point closed the scoring with the first quarter tied at seven.

The second quarter saw both teams finding their

rhythm offensively. Tucson took a 13-7 lead as Jamyest Williams scored on an eight-yard run. Massachusetts then took its first lead of the game as Bahar finished a six-play, 30-yard march with a six-yard touchdown run. Gable added the PAT for a 14-13 advantage.

Tucson regained the lead with 54 seconds to play in the half as Williams scored his second rushing touchdown from 14 yards out, and the Sugar Skulls had a 19-14 halftime advantage.

The lead expanded to 26-14 as Jerome Buckner took the second-half kickoff 48 yards to the house for a touchdown. The Tucson defense then stopped the Pi-

rates inside the ten-yard line for the second time in the game and took over at their own seven. Six plays and 47 yards later, it was Williams scoring on a five-yard run as his third rushing touchdown gave the Skulls a 19-point, 33-14 lead with 5:34 remaining in the third quarter.

Williams Jr. brought the Pirates back with a 16-yard touchdown run, and with 16 seconds left in the third, Massachusetts trailed 33-20. In the final quarter, the Sugar Skulls got their first passing touchdown of the game as Reyna found Larry Harrington on a four-yard route, pushing the lead to 40-20. Bahar notched his second rushing touchdown with

6:47 remaining. His five-yard run put the Pirates down by 14, 40-26.

Drew Dixon caught a 19-yard touchdown pass with 60 seconds to play to give the Skulls their largest lead and their final points of the night, 47-26.

For the Pirates, Bahar was 7 of 27 passing for 107 yards and an interception. He ran three times for 49 yards and two scores. Williams Jr. was the game’s leading rusher with 145 yards on 15 carries with two touchdowns. He also had two receptions for six yards. Teo Redding led Massachusetts with 39 yards on two receptions. The defense was led by Marquis Walters, who had five and a half

tackles with three sacks for 18 yards. Matt Elam and Tye Smith each had five tackles. Elam added an interception.

For the Sugar Skulls, Reyna was 9 of 16 passing for 130 yards with two touchdowns and an interception. His top target was Harrington with four receptions for 67 yards and a touchdown. Williams had three rushing touchdowns and 121 yards on 12 attempts. Defensively, Jalen Perkins had five and a half tackles, and Lyons added a “pick-six” and a fumble recovery.

The Pirates will continue their road trip playing on Sunday, May 18, in Prescott Valley against the Northern Arizona Wranglers.

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$200.00
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!** New England Forest Products
(413)477-0083

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

TAG SALE

LARGE INDOOR TAG SALE. Apple Storage, 1207 So. Main St., Palmer. **Saturday, May 17 & Sunday, May 18; 8 a.m.-3 p.m.** Vintage furniture, antiques, decorations, home goods! All proceeds donated.

MOVING SALE: May 25 & 26, 9am-3pm. Everything must go. Dishes, furniture, small appliances. **134 Rutland Road, Oakham.**

WANTED

OLD CARPENTER TOOLS wanted. Planes, chisels, axes, etc. Vintage hunting, camping, cast iron cookware, advertising, motorcycles, clothing. Call Ken (413)433-2195.

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.

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

Donald Roy (860) 874-8396

JUNK REMOVAL

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone.
Fully insured.
Call Pete 413-433-0356.

JUNK REMOVAL

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

SERVICES



2***A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*******
Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. (413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.

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

ELECTRICIAN

NEED AN ELECTRICIAN?
Look no further!
PJ's Electrical offers fast and reliable electrical services for your home or business. Call now for a FREE estimate!
(413) 366-1703
LICENSED & INSURED

ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC
Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1. Call John at (413)206-6509

EXCAVATING

ELIOT STARBARD EXCAVATION
35+ yrs of happy customers.
508-882-0140

HOME IMPROVEMENT

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

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

SERVICES

WALKER HOME IMPROVEMENT INTERIOR AND EXTERIOR
Finish carpentry, framing, window & door replacement, drywall, painting and decks. Competitive pricing. Insured.
Call Brendan at 413-687-5552.

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE
Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvite Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

****ALL SEASON**** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789, (413)538-7954.

MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING
Weekly Mowing
Landscape design and installation
Paver Patios, Walkways
For more services visit mattguertinlandscaping.com
Call or text 413-266-9975
Insured - Commercial - Residential

T & S LANDSCAPING Highest quality, lowest price. Serving the Pioneer Valley. Weekly, bi-weekly mowing, Spring, Fall and Gutter clean-ups. (413)330-3917

LAWN & GARDEN

A.A.A. ROTOTILLING Yes time to till gardens and flower beds too. Be safe grow your own. Call for appointment, fair and reasonable rates. Suburban residential only. 413-626-1927.

***COMPOSTED LOAM* 3/8"** screened, \$40/yd. deliv., 10 yd min.; No additives, fillers or by-products. Local deliv. to Oakham and surrounding towns only. Eliot Starbard 508-882-0140.

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS

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

SERVICES

PAINTING

DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING
Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service. Call (508)867-2550.

PLUMBING

GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505.

PRESSURE WASHING

HOT WATER PRESSURE WASHING. We use brushes and state of the art equipment. We remove grime and mold from homes, patios, fences, walkways, all decks, concrete & driveways. Senior Discounts. For free estimates call Bill (413)519-9800.

RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

TREE WORK

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

AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994

DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212.

TUNE-UPS

LAWN TRACTOR & MOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR

A&M TUNE-UPS
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.
STUMP GRINDING
FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

SERVICES

STUMP GRINDING

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



SAW Stump Grinding
Call for a Free Estimate,
Veteran Owned, Fully Insured
WWW.SAWSTUMPGRINDING.COM
413-213-5470

AUTO

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS
FREE TOWING
FAST SERVICE
CASH PAID AS IS
CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

4 ROOMS, 2 BEDROOMS, 1.5/baths, appliances included. \$1500/mo. No utilities. 1st/last/security. References and proof of income required. Call 413-589-0401.



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 knowingly 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.

COZY QUIET 1 BEDROOM \$990/MONTH. 2ND FLOOR UNIT, EFFICIENCY KITCHEN. NEAR MASS PIKE. PARKING, LAUNDRY ON SITE. NO SMOKING, NO PETS. GOOD CREDIT. 413-543-3062

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



Post your job openings in our classifieds. **WE GET RESULTS!**
Call 1-413-283-8393

TARGETED MARKETING LOCAL RESULTS



- AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS
- BARRE GAZETTE
- COUNTRY JOURNAL
- CHICOPEE REGISTER
- THE JOURNAL REGISTER
- THE LUDLOW REGISTER
- QUABOAG CURRENT
- THE SENTINEL
- THE SUN
- WILBRAHAM-HAMPDEN TIMES
- TOWN REMINDER
- WARE RIVER NEWS

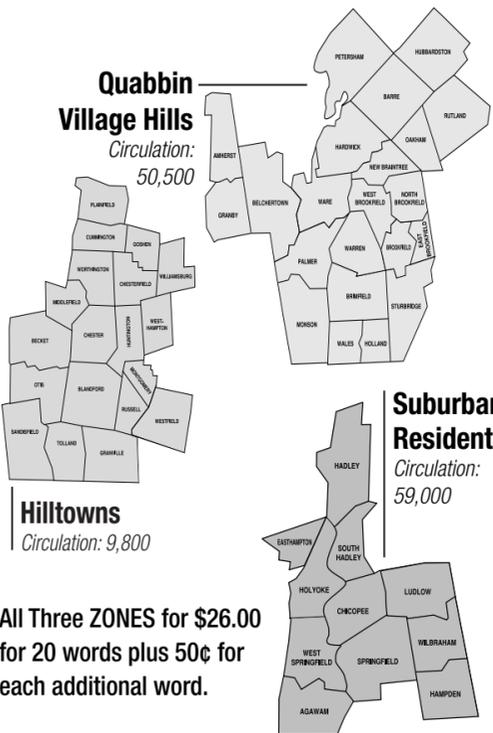


FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Base Price \$26.00
21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
33 Base Price \$32.50	34 Base Price \$33.00	35 Base Price \$33.50	36 Base Price \$34.00
37 Base Price \$34.50	38 Base Price \$35.00	39 Base Price \$35.50	40 Base Price \$36.00

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____



All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

The Agawam City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on **Monday, June 2, 2025 at 7:00pm**, at a Regular Meeting of the Agawam City Council to be held at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA on the proposed Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026, as submitted to the City Council by Mayor Christopher Johnson on May 9, 2025. The Annual Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026 is available for public inspection at the City Clerk's Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA between the hours of 8:30am to 4:30pm, Monday through Friday. It is also available at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA and the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA. For an online version, please visit the town website at www.agawam.ma.us or contact the Clerk's Office.

BY ORDER OF:
Rosemary Sandlin
City Council President

TOWN OF AGAWAM FISCAL YEAR 2026 ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET

Council	\$138,700
Mayor	\$250,701
Procurement	\$105,527
Human Resources	\$186,534
Law Department	\$220,878
Auditor	\$182,337
Clerk/Elections	\$286,717
Assessor	\$287,370
IT Department	\$564,459
Treasurer-Collector	\$336,897
Police Department	\$7,330,994
Fire Department	\$4,923,114
Building & Planning	\$518,070
Health Department	\$974,539
Agawam Public Library	\$1,280,958
Parks & Recreation	\$287,804
Council on Aging	\$418,307
Public Works Administration	\$155,700
Highway & Grounds	\$2,796,918
Motor Vehicle Maintenance	\$704,937
Engineering	\$196,559
Stormwater Department.....	\$986,800
Building Maintenance	\$6,300,347
Agawam Public Schools	\$53,562,979
Emergency Management	\$44,880
Line Items.....	\$33,586,086
TOTAL - GENERAL FUND OPERATING BUDGET	\$116,629,112
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET	\$2,647,000
TOTAL GENERAL FUND BUDGET	\$119,276,112
Wastewater Department	\$ 5,320,432
Water Department	\$ 7,998,704
Municipal Golf Course	\$ 1,174,262
TOTAL - SELF-SUSTAINING DEPARTMENTS	\$ 14,493,398
TOTAL - ALL DEPARTMENTS	\$ 133,769,510

05/15, 05/22/2025

**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.
HD25C0141CA
In the matter of:
Malika Connors**

CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Malika Connors of Agawam, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Sabrina Connors
IMPORTANT NOTICE**
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/29/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: May 01, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/15/2025

**PUBLIC NOTICE
DESTRUCTION OF STUDENT
SPECIAL EDUCATION RECORDS**

Changes made to record retention laws now require Agawam Public Schools Special Education Records to be retained for five years rather than seven years after the student has either graduated, aged out, moved out of Agawam or has been dismissed from Special Education Services.

Agawam Public Schools Special Education records from the 2019-2020 school year will be destroyed after July 7, 2025. Any person(s) who have graduated, aged out, moved out of Agawam or has been dismissed from Special

Education Services during the **2019-2020** school year may sign a release and pick up their special education file at the Agawam Special Education Department, 760 Cooper Street Agawam, 8:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. before July 7th. If you have any questions please call Jennifer Roberts at 413-726-1658 or email Jroberts@agawamed.org.
05/08, 05/15/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD25P0670EA
Estate of:
Brenda Lee Dunley
Date of Death:
January 30, 2025**

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE
To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Kaitlin A Dunley of Bend, OR.**

Kaitlin A Dunley of Bend, OR 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.
05/15/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.
HD25P0877GD
In the interests of
Jemma Rose Farmer of Agawam, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**
1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **04/25/2025** by **Cynthia L Farmer** of Agawam, MA

Kevin A Farmer of Agawam, MA will be held **06/04/2025 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing.** Located: **50 State St, 4th Floor, Springfield, MA 01103.**

2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14

has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: April 25, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/15/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.
HD25P0875GD
In the interests of
Josie Haze Farmer of Agawam, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**
1. **Hearing Date/Time:**

A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **04/25/2025** by **Cynthia L Farmer** of Agawam, MA

Kevin A Farmer of Agawam, MA will be held **06/04/2025 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing.** Located: **50 State St, 4th Floor, Springfield, MA 01103.**

2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: April 25, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/15/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court**

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 \$275, 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.

**Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103**

**Docket No.
HD25P0741GD
In the interests of
Logan Preston of Feeding Hills, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER: Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **04/09/2025** by

Vanessa M Fusco of Feeding Hills, MA

Salvatore Fusco of Feeding Hills, MA will be held **05/22/2025 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing.** Located: **Hampden Probate & Family Court, 50 State Street 4th Floor, Springfield MA 01103.**

2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to: File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: April 18, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/15/2025

**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.
HD25P0982EA
Estate of:
Debra A Tino
Date of Death: 10/13/2022**

CITATION ON PETITION

FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for xFormal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Brittany Tino of Salem, CT** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Brittany Tino of Salem, CT** 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 06/04/2025.** 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: May 07, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
05/15/2025

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, May 22, 2025 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 Dikan & Ashlaban for property located at 515 & 533 Mill Street.

By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
Agawam Conservation Commission
05/15/2025

EARLY DEADLINES
In observance of Memorial Day, Classifieds and Public Notices have an **EARLY AD DEADLINE.**
To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, May 22**
Thank you!
A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

H	E	C	H	T		H	R	S		D	B	M	S					
A	P	E	A	K		D	A	Y	E		E	L	E	A				
R	E	I	D		S	A	K	A	I		S	A	T	I				
D	E	L	E	G	A	T	E	S		C	U	B	A	N				
					S	A	L	E	S		P	O	L	L	T			
K	P	H		D	A	L		I	R	A	T	E						
W	O	A	D		M	I	N	N	E	S	O	T	A					
H	O	L	E	S		N	O	D		T	R	Y	S	T				
					R	E	C	O	V	E	R	E	D		Y	M	C	A
					S	A	R	O	S		C	A	R		A	I	M	
S	B				M	A	W		S	O	R	E	S					
H	A	M	E	S		B	A	R	E	F	A	C	E	D				
A	B	E	T		C	E	B	U	S		B	O	R	A				
N	E	N	E		N	E	E	M		V	I	D	I	N				
S	L	U	R		S	S	R			S	N	A	C	K				

Robert E. Barrett Fishway fish lift now open for season for viewing

HOLYOKE – The first and most successful fish lift on the Atlantic Coast, the Robert E. Barrett Fishway at the Holyoke Dam, opens for its annual viewing season on Wednesday, May 7, with special Mother's Day activities on Sunday, May 11. The Fishway is fun for all ages and admission is free.

The Barrett Fishway, owned and operated by Holy-

oke Gas & Electric (HG&E), consists of two elevators or "lifts" which carry migrating fish up and over the Holyoke Dam. Visitors can watch the lifts in action from an observation deck overlooking the Connecticut River.

The fishway is open for self-guided tours during regular business hours. In addition, HG&E will provide a

guided tour each Saturday and Sunday throughout the season at 1:30 pm. This tour is free and open to the public. A knowledgeable and friendly guide will take guests on a forty-five-minute tour of the facility and share information about fish species of the Connecticut River. Additionally, The Barrett Fishway offers free educational programs

for schools. Reservations for school groups are required, please visit www.hged.com/ for details.

Continuing a decade-old tradition, all mothers visiting the Fishway on Sunday, May 11 from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., will receive a free carnation to commemorate Mother's Day and the spirit of re-birth on the Connecticut River.

In addition, the 58th Annual HG&E Shad Derby will be held on May 10, 11, 17, and 18 with a grand prize of \$1,000 in cash for the first-place winner in the senior division (www.hged.com/shadderby).

Located off Bridge Street (Route 116) in Holyoke, just west of the South Hadley-Holyoke Bridge, the Holyoke Fishway's 2023 season

runs from May 7 through June 15, hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Sunday. The facility is closed on Monday and Tuesday, with the exception of Monday, May 26 (Memorial Day) from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

For further information on the Barrett Fishway, visit www.hged.com/fishway or call (413) 536-9460.

PROGRAM ■ from page 1

something reasonable and realistic and hopefully can be implemented. There's some potential impact relative to all capital improvements based on what's going on at the federal level."

On the presentation slide, Johnson reviewed 3 potential impacts of Federal changes which may dramatically affect the Capital Improvement Program. First is the current 'tariff of the day' atmosphere in Washington that will "likely raise the cost of several raw materials utilized in the construction industry. These new tariffs will cause the cost to construct the new high school to rise." Second is the elimination of tax-exempt municipal financing, "most experts in-

dicating the additional cost for municipalities will be at least 40%." The third is Medicaid costs, "the House budget proposal passed in February contains massive cuts to the Medicaid program budget. The single largest program operated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts is MassHealth, Agawam's Medicaid program, which represents over 30% of state gross spending. The reduction in Federal Medicaid funds to Massachusetts will likely result in the state being forced to reduce its fund-

ing to cities and towns."

Mayor Johnson reviewed the town's recurring capital needs, like the street and infrastructure improvement program, which is funding that is required for the improvement and maintenance of Agawam's streets. "There's also Department of Public Works vehicles and equipment, fire department motor vehicles and equipment, building maintenance department vehicles and equipment, and police department vehicles." Small Capital Projects

include: The final year for funding of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge project, a bridge that connects Agawam and West Springfield that both communities are covering the costs equally. The next project is the intersection improvements of Suffield, Cooper, and Rowley Streets where the funds go towards traffic improvements. In the Fiscal Year 2027 budget, proposed feasibility study for a recreation center at Perry Lane Park and an update and improvement of the fire department dispatch operations.

Mayor Johnson continued large capital projects such as the elementary school roof replacements in FY26 and the existing approved projects that are nearing completion.

"There's some potential impact relative to all capital improvements based on what's going on at the federal level."

– Mayor Christopher Johnson

Human Trafficking, it can and does happen

BELCHERTOWN – You are invited to attend an informative talk given by Mary Ann Dietschler (www.wreathswithareason.com), who is involved in raising awareness and money to support organizations that rescue those trapped in a life of bondage, intimidation and suffering.

Learn the warning signs and how you may be able to protect your loved ones. Come and hear how easily and quickly this happens.

Open to high school students, parents, grandpar-

ents, and all people interested in this very serious topic

A local police officer will also be available to answer questions.

The talk will take place on Sunday, June 8 at 2 p.m. in the St. Francis Parish Center at 12 Park Street, Belchertown, downstairs in the Pine Room.

Light refreshments will be served and wreaths will be available for purchase with proceeds going to rescue organizations.

This talk is sponsored by the Respect for Life Committee, St. Francis Parish.

FIELDS ■ from page 1

overseeding. Shea Park does have some grass issues in the outfield at the park, though new dirt was brought in to the infield earlier this spring and a new home plate was installed as well. There is a youth field opposite the 90-foot diamond at the park as well.

Pisano suggested a committee be formed in order to address the approach to maintaining fields and other landscaping in town.

"I want to be part of the solution," he said. "Let's go walk the fields together."

In concluding his comments, Pisano stated the fields are "not safe for kids," but did elaborate on what specifically about their condition makes them unsafe to play on.

On Monday, May 12, a few days after a week that was full of rain, ranging from four

to six inches in some areas of the region, the Department of Public Works was able to get back out on fields and groom them and mow them.

Agawam High School baseball, which hosted its Senior Day game, looked to be in good playing condition from the infield dirt to the outfield grass, contrary to the comments made by Pisano.

After the week of excessive rain, Shea Park and School Street Park were shut down by Parks and Recreation over last weekend to allow the fields to have a full chance to dry out properly.

The weather has been a major factor in the issues some fields have had in recent years. There have been instances in the region of fungi that has chewed up grass in fields such as Szot Park in Chicopee.

Former Athletic Director Lou Conte also spoke



The varsity baseball field at Agawam High School at Monday was ready for play after a week full of rainy conditions. But some residents are taking issue with the current condition of many of Agawam's fields, bringing their comments to the Agawam City Council last week.

TURLEY PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

about the fields at the May 5 meeting. He said he travels through the state as part of his role with the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Ath-

letic Conference. He said the town overall does a great job maintaining its facilities, but needs to take more pride in the fields.

"Someone needs to guide the people working on the fields," Conte said. "We just need some guidance with the folks that are there."

Some criticisms expressed by another speaker are unlevel playing surfaces and divots, and holes on the playing fields.

Parents, Grandparents & Friends

SPECIAL!

Honor Your Graduate

Class of 2025

We are offering a great deal for you to CELEBRATE YOUR GRADUATE in your community graduation issue. Submit a photo and a brief message.

2 x 3 Black & White Graduation Ad

~~Regular Price \$76.00~~

SPECIAL \$55.00

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION MAY 28th

EMAIL YOUR AD TO:
wdelcamp@turley.com

MAIL YOUR AD WITH PAYMENT TO:
Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
Pay by check or credit card: Checks Payable to Turley Publications. Credit Cards be sure to include: Paper, Name, Address, Phone, Credit Card Number, Exp. Date & CVV

2 x 3 Advertisement

Congratulations Karly Smith! We are so very proud of you and your accomplishments. Good luck at Springfield College!

Love Dad, Mom & John

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS • 24 WATER STREET, PALMER, MA 01069 • 413.283.8393