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# AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS



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## Diverse wilderness, fun activities draw crowd to Robinson State Park

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – Members of the Agawam community all gathered on last Saturday to celebrate and learn about Robinson State Park.

This park is the most ecologically diverse in New England, it truly is a natural wonder.

“I call it the Yellowstone of the East,” Matthew Largess, an arborist, said.

Largess, Lucy Gionfriddo, Kathie Breuninger, and many more have all put a lot of work into keeping the park safe.

In 2006, loggers threatened to begin logging the park, but this group pulled together and managed to preserve the park. Now, they hold the Robinson State Park Day in order to keep teaching others about the importance of the park and the nature within it.

“This is one of the rarest forests in all of New England,” Nancy Bobskill, an environmental activist, said. “Because this has so many different tree species

and because it has different types of land here, like vernal pools—which are only wet certain times of year, that are a nursery for all sorts of amphibians—there’s all sorts of different streams in here. This is really considered a rare forest. Also, all the different wildlife here.”

Throughout the day there were many different activities for visitors to do. There was a bird identification walk, led by John Hutchinson of the Allen Bird Club and Steve Svec, another local birder. There were also “Big Tree” walks, led by Matt Largess, building mason bee nests with Maryanne Pacetti from the Scattered Seeds Foundation and rapid stream assessments led by Rod Parlee of the Bolton, Connecticut Conservation Commission.

Each of these activities was geared to teach attendees more about the park and nature, while also allowing them to have some fun.



Thalia Cuevas, Olivia Costa, Jiuliana Moreno, Stella Bermanni and Matt Largess measure and hug a tree.

TURLEY PHOTO BY QUINN SUOMALA

PARK | page 6

## Turkish Festival provides great food, culture

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The Peace Valley Foundation held a Turkish Food and Cultural Festival on June 10 and 11 to celebrate Turkish residents.

This was the second time this foundation put on this event and they were quite excited to be holding it again.

“The interest in this event was amazing last year, so this year I am looking forward to it being even better,” outreach coordina-



Handcrafted Turkish dolls are displayed.

TURLEY PHOTO BY QUINN SUOMALA

FESTIVAL | page 12

## Firefighters union finally agrees to new contract

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The firefighter union and the mayor have reached an agreement on the firefighter union contract.

Their wages will increase by 2.0% on July 1 of this year, and then by 3.0% on July 1, 2024. They will also receive a retroactive pay increase of 2.0% for the first year of the contract, which technically begins on July 1 of last year.

This agreement came after many months of negotiation, with the previous contract ending on June 30, 2022.

The sides had to go to mediation and the firefighters’ con-

tract was the last one left to be negotiated, nearly a year after the previous contract had expired.

The school teachers’ union and DPW workers also went an extended period of time without a contract. Those contracts were resolved in the past two months. Most of the union contracts expire on June 30, 2025.

The next step is for the city council to approve the necessary appropriation of funds for the AFL-CIO, Local 1973, Firefighters Association Agreement with the Town of Agawam.

as well as the needed budgetary transfer of \$106,961.47 to the

CONTRACT | page 5



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# June activities announced at the Agawam Senior Center

AGAWAM – The Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., is having multiple events this June. For more information or to register call Kristina at (413)-726-2836.

## Dr. Katrina Banks from Neurologic Optimal Wellness Physical Therapy

Wed., June 21 10 to 11:30 a.m.  
Neurologic Optimal Wellness Physical Therapy is a patient focused outpatient clinic. They specialize in movement

disorders of stroke, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, and balance disorders. If you or anyone you know has had a fall, a car accident, suffer from back pain, have muscle weakness, a movement disorder that has changed your life, or are dealing with long Covid symptoms, they offer clinic services. These classes teach you how to move safely, efficiently, and confidently.

## How to avoid being a victim of fraud

Wednesday, June 28, 10 to 11:30 a.m.  
Join Michelle Caron and Lisa Pandolfi from Freedom Credit Union in Feeding Hills as we discuss the most recent fraud activities, we have seen in Feeding Hills, Agawam and surrounding areas. The discussion will range from how to protect yourself on social media, online and your bank accounts.

## Join the Walkie Talkies Agawam Senior Center Walking Group

Tues. and Thurs. at 10 a.m.  
Outreach Worker Lori Arsenault and Assistant Director Kristina Lynch would like to invite to become a member of the Walkie Talkies. They are a walking group that will meet at the Senior Center. Enjoy the health benefits of walking and chatting with friends. Bring a hat for the sun, a water bottle, and your comfy walking shoes.

# Lawmakers see FAA bill as an opportunity to support families

WASHINGTON – Sen. Edward J. Markey and Sen. JD Vance members of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, sent a letter to Sen. Maria Cantwell, chair of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, and Sen. Ted Cruz, ranking member of the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee.

The letter urged them to include a provision in the reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration to prohibit family seating fees. In their letter, the senators included legislative language which would prohibit airlines from charging monetary fees for parents to sit with their children during a flight.

In their letter, the senators wrote, "Airlines should never be allowed to force parents to choose between paying more

and being separated from their kids. In extreme circumstances, parents have found themselves assigned seats many rows away from their very young children - a serious safety risk for those kids and an injustice to those families. This practice must end. The 2023 reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration provides an important opportunity to support families by banning these fees."

Markey is a staunch advocate for consumers, from the streets to the sky. In January, he reintroduced the FAIR Fees Act, which would prohibit airlines from charging fees disproportionate to the cost of the service. In February, Markey introduced the Families Fly Together Act, which would prohibit airlines from charging a fee for families to sit together on a flight.

# Education seminar on tardive dyskinesia for families

AGAWAM – The National Alliance on Mental Illness MetroWest will conduct a virtual education seminar on tardive dyskinesia, June 21, starting at 7 p.m. If you have an SMI diagnosis or have a family member with an SMI diagnosis this seminar will be valuable.

Some people living with a mental health condition may experience tardive dyskinesia, an involuntary movement disorder associated with prolonged use of certain mental health medicines that are used to treat bipolar disorder, clinical depression, schizophrenia, and schizoaffective disorder. Other prescription medicines used to treat upset stomach, nausea and vomiting may also cause TD. TD can impact patients socially, emotionally, and physically.

At the seminar, Dr. Robert Karr, M.D., will present an overview of TD and conduct

a Q&A session. Dr. Karr is currently the associate medical director of Advocates, Inc. Karr graduated from the Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University in 1981. Karr practices both forensic psychiatry and general psychiatry. He has over 34 years of experience. Approximately 600,000 people in the U.S. may be affected by TD. Nearly 70% of Americans with TD are undiagnosed. In general, 80% of people taking antipsychotics are at low risk, and 20% are at high risk. 60-70% of cases are mild, 20-30% of cases are moderate, and 3% are severe. TD can be treated and managed.

The seminar is free. You will need a computer or smartphone and an internet connection to participate in the seminar. Registration is required. To register please go to <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/>.

## POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 1,415 calls for service from June 5 to June 11 and recorded the following arrests. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

### Wednesday, June 7

Gaviota Yesenia Perez-Andujar, 25, of 233 Ellington Rd., East Hartford, CT, was arrested at 4:46 p.m. for identity fraud and larceny over \$1,200 by false pretense.

Gualberto Cruz, Jr., 26, of 50 Sexton St., New Britain, CT, was arrested 7:05 p.m. on a straight warrant.

### Thursday, June 8

Joshua Miranda, 34, of no known

address, was arrested at 5:49 a.m. for assault and battery, larceny under \$1,200, witness intimidation, violation of an abuse prevention order, and assault and battery while violating an abuse prevention order.

Joseph LaFleur, 42, of 44 Pheasant Hill Dr., Agawam, was arrested at 11:59 a.m. for two counts of assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, threatening to commit a crime, and domestic assault and battery.

### Sunday, June 11

Drew Theodore Stupski, 18, of 2 Norman Ave., Worcester, was arrested at 8:42 p.m. for violation of an abuse prevention order.

# Registration open for St. John's religious education program

AGAWAM – Families are welcome to register for the 2023-2024 religious education program for youth at St. John the Evangelist Church, located at 833 Main Street in Agawam. A \$10 discount will be applied for families who register by June 30, 2023.

The youth program begins Sunday, Sept. 17, 9 to 10:15 a.m. for pre-K through seventh grades. A Confirmation preparation class will take place Sundays at 6 p.m. for grades 8-12.

The registration fee is \$55 per student, or \$100 for a family with two or more registered children. For Sacramental Years (First Communion, Confirmation), there is an additional \$50 fee.

For more information, visit [stjohnagawam.com](http://stjohnagawam.com), or contact Roxanne Casiello, Director of Religious Education, 413-786-8105, extension 103, or [sje.religiouseducation@gmail.com](mailto:sje.religiouseducation@gmail.com).

# Tag sale next weekend at ACC

AGAWAM – On Friday, June 16 and Saturday, June 17, Agawam Congregations Church, located at 745 Main St. in Agawam, is having a huge tag sale on from 9 a.m. to

12 noon. Toys, books, household items, seasonal décor, clothing, shoes, bags and much more. There will be something for everyone.



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# AHS Class of '68 celebrating reunion

AGAWAM- On July 8, Joanne (Demont) and husband Frank Locke will be hosting the event at Deli Agawam, 141 Main St. Tickets will be \$20 per person.

This will be a casual summer affair, held outdoors rain or shine, between the hours of 4 to 9 p. m. Food, beer, and wine will be available. To learn more, please visit the Deli's website where you can view the buffet menu and pricing. Tickets must be purchased in advance; the deadline to purchase is June 30. Tickets can be bought online through the website or by calling (413) 821-9881.

Anyone with questions should contact [jlocke1020@comcast.net](mailto:jlocke1020@comcast.net) or [Janice DeFilipi @ jdefilipi@gmail.com](mailto:JaniceDeFilipi@gmail.com)

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# New England Mosaic July 6 at Crestview Country Club

AGAWAM – The Agawam Community Artists and Artisans invite the community to the unveiling of the New England Mosaic on July 6, from 5-7 p.m. at Crestview Country Club, 281 Shoemaker Lane.

The New England Mosaic is a 24-foot fine art wall made up of 240 individual canvas tiles that captures the beauty and diversity of New England life. The tiles range from fine art paintings to fabric art to metal art to multimedia expressions of the artist's love of New England.

Free canvases were supplied to community members by ACAA and Scantic River Artisans through a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Local libraries in Agawam, Southwick, West Springfield, Springfield, and Westfield distributed them to the community to create original art.

Returned canvas tiles now comprise the New England Mosaic wall of art. To-



Ceil Rossi, Agawam Community Artists and Artisans President proudly unveiled the 2022 New England Mosaic in August 2022 at the Crestview Country Club. SUBMITTED PHOTO

gether community artists have created this diverse and unique piece of composite art every bit as beautiful as New England.

Following the Crestview event, the mosaic will be on display at the West Springfield Public Library featuring a reception for artists on July 19 at 6 p.m. The mosaic will also be displayed at the Agawam Public Library on July 24.

The mosaic will finish being displayed at the Pioneer Valley Art Festival, ACAA's fourth annual arts and fine crafts festival, Aug. 26 - 27, at the Polish American Club in Agawam.

Individual canvas tiles will be sold at the unveiling and at the Pioneer Valley Art Festival with net proceeds going to fund local art scholarships. Community members throughout the Pioneer Valley, both professional artists and amateurs, have donated their time and talent to create this art wall.

## Cooper's presents scholarship, plans anniversary celebration

AGAWAM – Cooper's Gifts has presented the Arthur J. Leary Jr. Memorial Scholarship to Hope Christian Clark, an Agawam resident and 2023 graduate of Suffield Academy.

Clark is the fifteenth annual scholarship recipient. "Hope is a bright, articulate, and talented young woman. She is an outstanding student and has been recognized for her academic achievements. On a personal level, Hope is a genuine-

ly kind individual. Her commitment to community service and nonprofits resonates with me as a business owner that has sought innovative ways to give back," Kate Gourde, daughter of Mr. Leary and current owner of Cooper's Gifts Apparel Home.

The scholarship was created to honor the memory of Mr. Arthur J. Leary Jr., an Agawam resident and the proud owner of the Country Squire Furniture Shop and

Cooper's Gift Shop. The recipient of this scholarship must be an Agawam resident who will be pursuing a degree in Business Management beginning the September after high school graduation. "My father was a pillar in Agawam and took great pride in what he had built here on Main Street. He understood that small businesses are the backbone of the local economy and the heartbeat of the community," said Gourde.

"We are planning a summer kickoff party at the shop on June 16 and 17, and we invite the whole community to come out for some fun and good cheer. Besides our great selection of summer products, we will have prizes, gifts with purchase, and light refreshments, too," Gourde said. The celebration of 50 years of Cooper's will continue for the rest of this year.

More information visit [www.coopers-gifts.com/round-up](http://www.coopers-gifts.com/round-up).

## ACAA accepting applications for Pioneer Valley Art Festival

AGAWAM – The Agawam Community Artists and Artisans are accepting applications for the Pioneer Valley Art Festival that is being held at the Agawam Polish American Club, 139 Southwick Street, Feeding Hills. The Art Festival is Saturday, August 26 and Sunday, Aug. 27 from 10 a.m. to 4

p.m. Set up is Friday, Aug. 25 beginning at 8 a.m.

For General Information and the Registration form please contact Ceil Rossi, President ACAA, at email [tocarefree2@hotmail.com](mailto:tocarefree2@hotmail.com) or call 413 207-1247. Deadline is Saturday, July 1.

## Community Grange hosting strawberry shortcake lunch

AGAWAM – Community Grange #382 of Feeding Hills will hold a Strawberry Shortcake Luncheon "to-go" on Saturday, June 24. The Grange Hall is located at 47 North West Street in Feeding Hills. Pick-up hours will be 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The menu will consist of a hearty sandwich served with homemade maca-

roni salad and baked beans. Dessert will be a fresh strawberry shortcake. Also included will be a cold beverage.

Donation is \$10.

Please pre-order your meals by calling 413-789-2061. The public is invited to attend. Proceeds will benefit Grange activities.

## Women's Catholic Club holding rehearsals for entertainment

AGAWAM – The first rehearsal for the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam's entertainment will be held on June 22, in the St. John the Evangelist parish center gymnasium located at 833 Main St., Agawam, at

7 p.m. All members are invited to be cast members and share their talent. Rehearsals will continue throughout July and August. Come with ideas for skits, songs or something you might want to present.

## Brochures available for summer programs now online

AGAWAM – The Parks and Recreation Department announced this week the 2023 Parks and Recreation Summer Brochure is now available online. Go to [www.agawam.ma.us](http://www.agawam.ma.us) and visit the Parks and

Rec page to view the brochure and get information and sign-up for camps, clinics, and many other summer programs including the Perry Lane Summer Camp and the Agawam Piranhas.



## Classic Car Show to be held at Heritage Woods Senior Living

AGAWAM – Heritage Woods Senior Living, along with MBS Productions, is thrilled to bring a Classic Car Show to Agawam, MA on Saturday, June 17 from 12 to 4 p.m. at 462 Main Street. Check out classic cars,

food trucks, and enjoy music from the 50s, 60s and 70s. A 50/50 raffle will be held to benefit the Alzheimer's Association. The event is free and open to the public. Rain date will be June 18 from 12 to 4 p.m.

## Quilt show June 24

AGAWAM – The public is invited to an open house and quilt show at the Agawam Historical Association's c. 1757 Thomas Smith House, located at 251 North West Street in Feeding Hills, from 1 to 4 p.m. on Saturday afternoon, June 24. For additional information regarding the Agawam Historical Association, please visit [agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com/](http://agawamhistoricalassoc.webs.com/)

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# Opinion

## Guest Column



### How will working affect my first year's benefits?

**Dear Rusty:**

I retired from working in January of this year and have since claimed Social Security. I didn't work at all in February or March, but I began a part time job in April. I'm very confused about how Social Security counts earnings for the first year. I don't know if I need to keep each month's earnings under \$1,770 or if they average it. Some of the literature I've found says each month must remain under \$1,770 or no benefit will be paid that month. Two people at the Social Security office told me that they'll just dock me \$1 for every \$2 I am over that, even in my first year. I also cannot find anything about when they count your income. Is it when it's earned or when it's paid? If I go over in a month because there are three pay periods, can they withhold the benefit for that month? I'm just so confused!

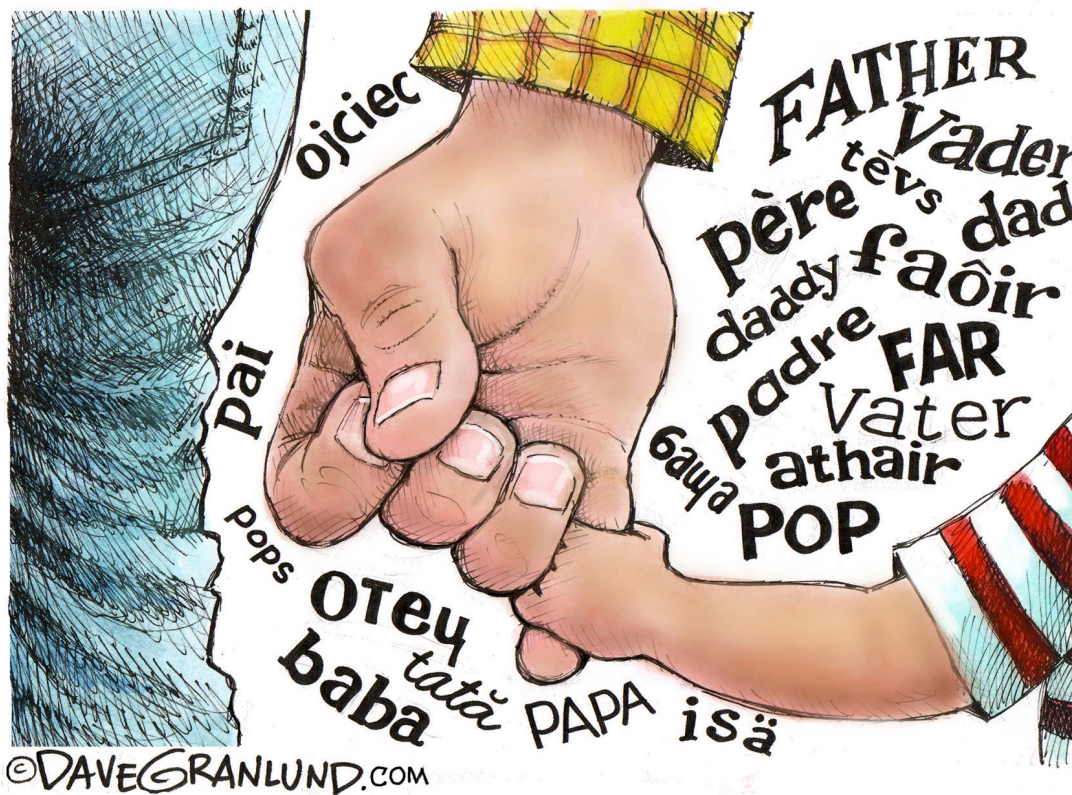
**Signed: Part Time Worker**

**Dear Part Time Worker:**

The Social Security earnings test during your first year collecting benefits before full retirement age is, indeed, somewhat confusing. The reason is because there are two methods, which Social Security may use during your first calendar year collecting early benefits, and they will use the one which results in the least financial impact to you.

If you claim benefits mid-year before your full retirement age, for the remainder of that first year (starting in the month benefits begin and ending in December) you'll be subject to a monthly earnings limit (\$1,770 for 2023). If you exceed the monthly limit in any remaining month of that first calendar year, you won't be entitled to benefits for that month, so Social Security would (eventually) take back that month's benefit. That is, unless using the annual limit (\$21,240 for 2023) instead will result in a smaller penalty. If your total earnings for your first year collecting are over the annual limit (e.g., \$21,240 for 2023), the penalty would be \$1 for every \$2 over the annual limit and, if that is less than the penalty from using the monthly limit, they will assess the smaller penalty. In other words, Social Security will use the method, which is most beneficial to you when assessing a penalty for exceeding the earnings limit during your first calendar year collecting benefits. And just for clarity, the earnings limits are much higher and the penalty less during the year you attain Full Retirement Age.

Something else to be aware of: if you know in advance you will exceed the annual limit it would be best to inform Social Security in order to avoid an Overpayment Notice next year. If you don't, Social Security won't know about your 2023 earnings until you file your 2023 income taxes, so you'll get your 2023 monthly payments as usual. But when the IRS informs Social Security of your 2023 earnings later next year, Social Security will ask you to detail your monthly work earnings for 2023. If you have exceeded the limits, they will determine an overpayment amount and will ask you to either pay back what is owed in a lump sum or will withhold your benefits for enough months to recover what you owe for exceeding the 2023 earnings limit. Then, after you FRA, you'll get time credit for all months in which benefits were withheld, thus slightly increasing your monthly payment after your FRA.



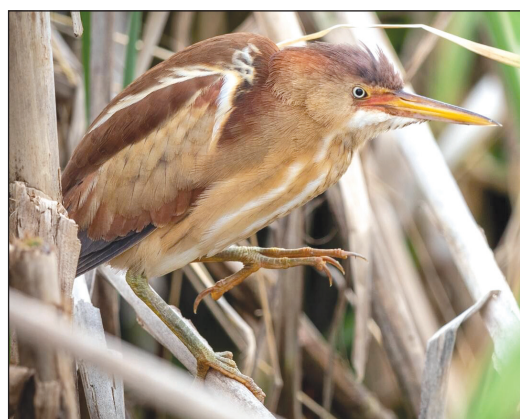
## Guest Column



Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the sightings of a least bittern at Richmond marsh in Berkshire Count, one at Great Pond in Hatfield in Hampshire County, two at High Head in Truro and one at Bell's Neck in Harwich, both on Cape Cod.

The least bittern is the smallest of the herons at only 13 inches tall. The male has a black crown and back and the female has a rich brown crown and back. Its chest is white with brown streaking. In flight, the buffy, inner wing patches are visible.

Least bitterns fly weakly with quick wingbeats. They inhabit marshes with dense vegetation. Least bitterns stalk through reeds in a crouched posture or stand in place. They eat small fish, frogs, insects, small mammals and sometimes bird eggs and chicks.



Least bittern

They nest in a small platform of sticks lined with live or dead vegetation placed in cattails, bulrushes or bushes above the water. The female lays two to seven pale blue or greenish, white eggs. In courtship, males make cooing sounds. The male also makes a guttural "uh-uh-uh-oo-oo-oo-ooah" while the female makes ticking sounds. Both give a "tut-tut" sound.

The least bittern is a secretive bird. It will run through reeds in water and flutter briefly above the reeds. It has the same alarm posture as American bitterns of pointing its head skyward.

BACKYARD | page 12

### Lots o' lettuce



The weather has been nothing less than unpredictable these last few weeks. While there has been next to no rain at my locale, friends and family have talked about deluges and even quarter-sized hail blanketing their deck space. Temperatures for June seem bizarre, too.

If cold night temperatures weren't enough, a day of mercury bursting into the 80's will shock even well-watered plants. Before heat-lovers can adjust, it's back into the 50's and low 60's.

Strange indeed. While it's too soon to say whether this year will be a bust or boom, I can say that my lettuce is doing wonderfully!

I started my lettuce indoors the first week of April, at the same time I sowed broccoli and kale seed. I saved little "plug" trays from a prior plant purchase and filled the tray with moist seed starting mix.

Lettuce seed needs light to germinate, so I pushed two or three seeds per cell into the soil to make contact but not so far as to have them get covered up. To keep the soil surface moist, I slid the whole tray into a clear plastic bag.

I left it in my laundry room in front of a window where it would get some afternoon sun and checked on it periodically, misting it a couple times a day. After about five days the seeds had sprouted.

It was a little challenging to keep them growing well indoors, but I did, and was able to move the tray outside on nice days where it could get some filtered sunlight.

On one such occasion I hit the end of the doorway with the tray, knocking a number of the cells loose! I re-filled the cells and transplanted what I could salvage and they adjusted fine.

About a month later, in early May, I planted the lettuce seedlings into the garden. Since I planned to grow the lettuce for leaves and not heads, I planted them fairly close to one another, just about six inches apart in a wide block about four feet long by two feet deep.

Every foot or so I interplanted a leek plant; leeks require a long growing season and will outlive the lettuce, but for now they make good companions.

I began harvesting the third week of May, and now, I can make a salad to feed an army. The bed is a beautiful blend of colors, textures and flavors.

Typically, I pick it right before I want to eat it, rinsing it in a sink of cool water before sending it through the salad spinner or blotting it dry with a paper towel.

Lettuce is undemanding in the garden as long as you provide it with rich soil and a daily watering if nature does not provide. Some compost mixed into the top couple inches of soil will keep it well fed.

When temperatures rise, lettuce will bolt. Bolt-



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# Schools & Youth

## Horace Smith Fund awards scholarships

WESTFIELD – The Horace Smith Fund Awards \$316,000 to Area Students

On Thursday, June 15, The Horace Smith Fund will hold its 124th fund corporators' Meeting and scholarship awards ceremony at the Carriage House of Storowton Tavern for recipients, their parents, school counselors and corporators.

Wayne Webster, Chair of the Board of Trustees, announced that this year there will be 25 Walter S. Barr Scholarships awards, with 22 going to graduating high school seniors and three to recipients currently attending college. The William R. Rooney Award will be granted to one high school candidate who has received special education services.

There are also five Walter S. Barr Fellowship recipients. Providing that students maintain at least a B average in college, each scholarship provides a total of up to \$12,000 over four years and each fellowship provides up to \$15,000 over three years. Therefore, The Horace Smith Fund is happy to be able to grant a total award of \$316,000 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. 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 spe-

cial needs students. All recipients must be residents of Hampden County.

This year's scholarship recipients who are graduating seniors are: Lynn S. Jang and Christopher A. Rondinelli, Agawam High School; Nancy E. Mueller of Gateway Regional High School; Aleishmarie Fuentes of High School of Science & Technology; Jibin Lim and Meadow M. Perez of Longmeadow; Aaron J. Little, Riley E. Londrville, Matthew Mendez and Fatuma M. Mire of Ludlow High School; Sydney S. Dodds, Raman Khanal and Matthew Worthy of Springfield Central High School; Ghena H. Al Nuwab, Haya H. Al Nuwab, Paige M. Davis, Emily N. Garipey, Madison H. Kelly and Sara E. Woytowicz of West Springfield High School and Kathryn J. Breck of Westfield High School.

This year's scholarship recipients already attending college are: Emma A. Sawtelle (Washington Academy) Elms College; Natalie A. Velez (Smith Vocational High School) Tufts University and Christopher A. Cummings (Longmeadow High School) Westfield State University.

The five fellowship recipients are: Roaa M. Abdelmagid (High School of Commerce) New England College of Optometry; Madison Dover (West Springfield High School) UMass Amherst, Kylie A. Montemagni (Ludlow High School) UMass Amherst, Maherah Z. Shaikh (Chicopee Comprehensive High School) Western New England University and Aimee Ludwin (Northampton High School) of Westfield State University.

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 Sept. 15 by visiting [www.HoraceSmithFund.org](http://www.HoraceSmithFund.org) or by calling 413-739-4222.

### Award winner



Pediatric & Adolescent Medicine awards The George F. Vitek Scholarship to a deserving high school senior with excellent academic achievement, dedication to their community, and a plan to study in the field of science or medicine. This year we were able to award the scholarship to three deserving students. Dr. Kasper presented the 2023 The George F. Vitek Scholarship to Gabrielle Zollo from Agawam. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Herlihy graduates from the University of New Haven

WEST HAVEN, CT – Kayla M. Herlihy of Feeding Hills, MA has received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of New Haven.

### CONTRACT ■ from page 1

regular fire department funds.

During negotiations, firefighters were pushing for a wage increase, which they received. They have also received the Juneteenth holiday.

"I am very pleased that an agreement has been reached and look forward to continuing work with union firefighters to improve public safety in the community," Fire Chief Alan Sirois said.

The funding could be approved at the June 20 city council meeting.

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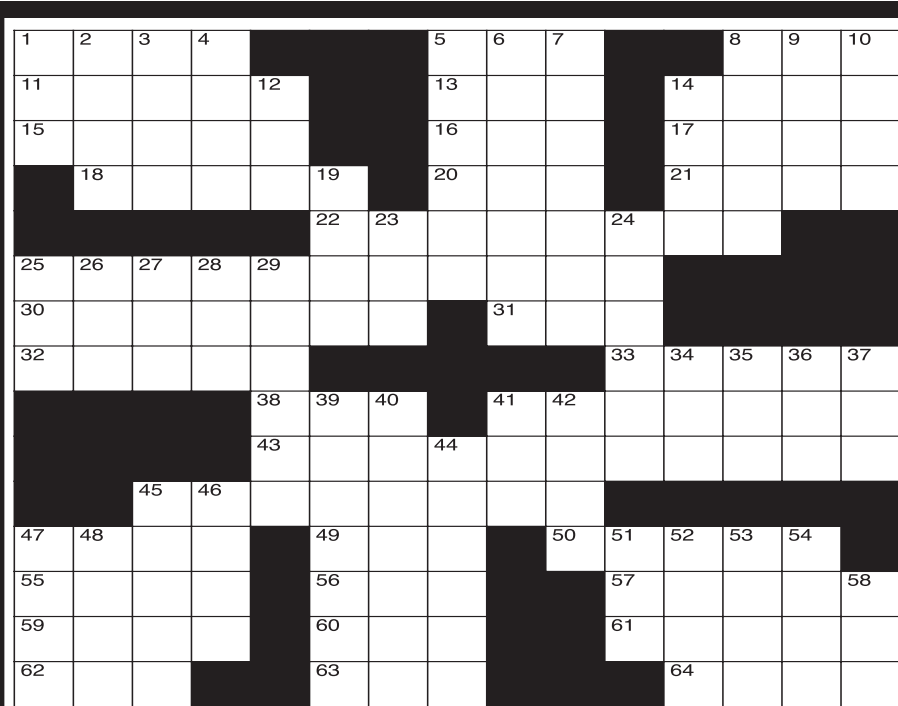
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#### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. In a place to sleep
- 5. Chemical compound (abbr.)
- 8. A way to fish
- 11. Classic Linklater film "\_\_\_ and Confused"
- 13. Legume
- 14. Indonesian island
- 15. Smooth, creamy substance
- 16. Arctic
- 17. Wood sorrels
- 18. Defied
- 20. Cattle
- 21. Tableland
- 22. Honorably retired and retaining one's title
- 25. Repossession
- 30. Danced
- 31. Adult males
- 32. A type of section
- 33. Type of Japanese animation
- 38. Satisfaction
- 41. Fit
- 43. "Ain't No Sunshine" singer
- 45. Failure
- 47. Israeli city
- 49. French river
- 50. Cavalry-sword
- 55. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 56. Liquefied natural gas
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. Electronic counter-countermeasures
- 60. Popular HBO fantasy series (abbr.)
- 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 62. Large body of water
- 63. \_\_\_kosh, near Lake Winnebago
- 64. Impudence
- 3. Rockers Better Than \_\_\_
- 4. Bambi is one something
- 5. Highest parts of something
- 6. Correct behavior
- 7. Batty
- 8. Cyprinid fishes
- 9. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 10. Site of the famous Leaning Tower
- 12. American rocker Snider
- 14. W. African language series (abbr.)
- 19. Symbol to mark for removal
- 23. \_\_\_ Squad
- 24. Resident
- 25. Federal savings bank
- 26. Paddle
- 27. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 28. One point south of due east
- 29. Winter melon
- 34. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
- 35. Anger
- 36. Central European river
- 37. First responders
- 39. Spanish noble
- 40. Persons with absence of skin pigment
- 41. Defunct airline
- 42. Small island (British)
- 44. The extent of something from beginning to end
- 45. Capital of Bangladesh
- 46. Dutch cheese
- 47. Imitates
- 48. A contest of speed
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. UNLV's are Runnin'
- 58. Criticize

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 10



Steve Svek showing walkers images of birds to look for.



Matt Largess leads a "Big Tree" walk.



Stella Bermani, Thalia Cuevas, Matt Largess, Olivia Costa and Juliana Moreno examine pine needles.



A poster shows all there is to enjoy at Robinson State Park.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA

**PARK** ■ from page 1

During Largess' "Big Tree" walks, he showed many of the different old trees of the park, and even had participants help him to measure the different large trees.

"This tree is 15 feet, 2 inches," Largess said, after measuring a red oak tree. "Anything over 12 feet in New England is champion status for trees. This is one of many trees in this park that are huge, enormous, champion trees. It is a hall of fame for forests."

Pacetti engaged children and adults alike by showing them how to build mason bee nests using cut up pieces of paper and old cartons. She explained that it was key to protect mason bees, as they are crucial pollinators.

"Mason bees are like super bees," Pacetti said. "250 mason bees can pollinate an acre of fruit trees, but honey bees, it takes 40,000 of them."

Parlee took the day to educate attendees about proforestation, a practice of allowing forests to grow into mature growth on their own.

"Proforestation is allowing our forests, our core forests, to mature to the point where someday they can become core



Maryanne Pacetti's table to raise awareness about the importance of mason bees.

growth," Parlee explained. "We only have one half of 1% of our old growth forests left. That's it. And out of that, what is protected? Hardly any. So, we need to protect what little remaining old growth forest there is. And we need to put aside future forests to become old growth."

Overall, this was an educational and fun day for all in attendance and many look forward to returning to the park to enjoy it for years to come.

**SECURITY** ■ from page 4

Finally, it is when your income is earned that counts, not when it is paid. So, for example, if you worked in January 2023 and were paid for that work in February 2023,

that is considered January income, which wouldn't count toward the February earnings limit.

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions*

*and interpretations of the Association Mature American Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration*

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*Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

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USDA INSP. SLICED IN DELI <b>TURKEY BREAST</b> ..... <b>\$3.99</b> lb	<b>GREAT ON THE GRILL</b>	USDA INSP. SMOKED <b>BUGNACKI'S POLISH KIELBASA</b> ..... <b>\$3.99</b> lb
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# SPORTS



Mia Laudato fires over to first.

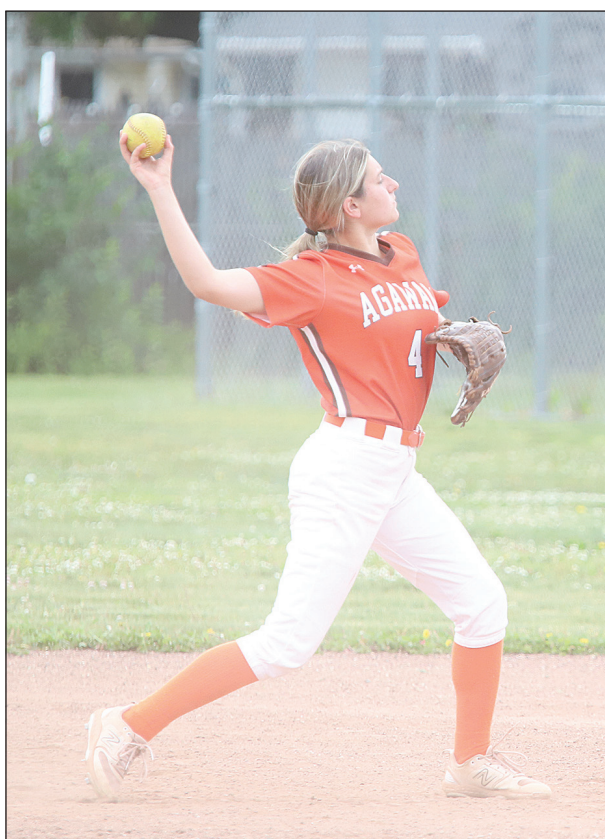


Pitcher Kylie Circosta goes to the plate in the third.

## Brownies fall in first round of tourney

AGAWAM – Last Monday afternoon, Agawam High School was defeated 8-5 in the Round of 32 of the Division 2 state tournament. The Brownies drew Shepherd Hill for their opening game, and found themselves behind early as the visitors got two runs in the first. In the fourth and fifth, Shepherd Hill added five more and had a 7-2 lead. Despite a rally in the final inning, Agawam came up short as their season ended at 11-11. Payton Malanson and Alexina Lentas had two hits each. Toni Vassallo had a hit and three RBI.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Lauren Champigny makes a running catch in center.



Madison Pajak catches an out at first.



Lynn Jang swings and connect for Agawam.

## Boys volleyball moves forward in state tournament

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

AGAWAM – The Agawam boys volleyball team squeaked out a 3-2 victory over Needham High School in a state semifinal match played at Hudson High School on June 7, 2013. Five days later, the Brownies captured the state championship title for the first time in school history after defeating Milford High School, 3-1, at Babson College.

Kevin Pender, whose birthday is on June 7th, was an assistant volleyball coach in 2013. He's currently the Brownies head coach.

Just like he did ten years ago, Pender celebrated a postseason victory on his birthday.

The second seeded Brownies defeated North Division rival and 15th-seeded Ludlow, 3-0 (25-19, 25-17, 25-16) in a Division 2 round of 16 match held at Cliff Kibbe Gymnasium, last Wednesday afternoon.

"This is a very nice way to celebrate my birthday," Pender said. "My players have worked very hard this year and to be a part of their journey has been awesome."

The round of 16 match was the fourth meeting of the 2023 campaign between the North Division rivals. The Brownies (20-2) also won the other three matches in three sets.

"Beating the same team four times in one season is a very difficult thing to do," Pender added.

"Ludlow is a very good volleyball team. We weren't really looking forward to playing them again in the state tournament."

Ludlow, who beat Agawam in last year's Western Mass. Class B finals, finished the 2023 season with a 12-10 overall record. The Lions had a 6-1 record following a 3-1 home win against Chicopee Comp on April 17. They went 6-9 in their final 15 matches.

"We've dealt with a couple of injuries this year, but it was still a very good season for us," said first-year Ludlow head coach Nicole Kane "You just need to play your best to beat a very good team like Agawam. We made some costly mistakes in today's match. We're only losing one senior and I'm

already very excited about next year. I'm looking forward to working with these same kids again."

Braeden Schwartz is the only senior listed on the Lions roster. He didn't play in the round of 16 match.

After sweeping the two regular season matchups, Agawam advanced into the Western Mass. Class B finals with another 3-0 win over the Lions in the semifinals. The Brownies then captured the Western Mass. title for the seventh time since 2002 by defeating Minnechaug, 3-0, who's also a league rival.

Agawam and Westfield, who's the top-seeded team in the Division 2 state tournament, were co-champions of the North Divi-

sion this spring. They split their regular season meetings. Agawam also lost a non-league contest, 3-1, to St. John's of Shrewsbury.

"All of the teams in our league qualified for this year's state tournament," Pender said. "It shows that we're putting our leagues together with the right teams. We're hoping to meet Westfield in the state finals."

The Brownies advanced into this year's state semifinal contest following a 3-0 home victory over seventh-seeded Greater New Bedford, last Friday.

The seniors listed on the Agawam boys' volleyball roster are Carson Asselin, Colin Jorgensen,

# Sports

## Rollins takes win in Late Model race

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Veteran wheelsman Geoff Rollins rocketed to victory Saturday at Monadnock Speedway, gobbling up the competition as he won the first round of the 2023 Teddy Bear Pools NHSTRA Late Model Triple Crown series at the storied high-banked speedplant.

The Bay State hot shoe was one of four drivers scoring his first win of the year Saturday on the high banks. Nate Wenzel, NHSTRA Modifieds, Louie Maher, Mini Stocks, and Michael Yeaton, Six Shooters, each earned his first victory lap of the summer, while Pure Stocker Chris Davis and Young Gun Adrian Smith both won for the second time.

Starting up front in the 50-lap main event after dominating his heat race, Rollins never looked back en route to running away with the \$1,000 top prize. Strongman Chris Buffone stayed with him the first ten laps but when Buffone suddenly dropped out on lap 11, it was all Rollins. Behind him, though, the competition was fierce for spots two through five.

With only one caution, on lap 47, slowing the rapid-fire event, gains were hard to come by as the sizzling field blasted through the fog. Kenny Thompson claimed the duce at Buffone's demise, but had Tim Wenzel glued to his bumper.

Matt Sonnhalter, charging from row four, took second on lap 35, but Wenzel stayed just inches behind. With three to go, Rollins lost his half-lap lead, while the two top contenders set up for a furious finish. Sonnhalter's last-lap backchute dive netted him second, with Wenzel, Thompson, and Hillary Renaud rounding out the potent top five.

Sophomore speedster Nate Wenzel



Geoff Rollins got a victory at Monadnock Speedway last Saturday evening.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

led all the way in the NHSTRA Modified 40-lapper, keeping defending track champ Tyler Leary in his shadow to score his first victory of the summer. Brian Chapin edged Aaron Fellows for third, while JT Cloutier, spun on lap five, stormed back through the field to come home fifth.

The crowd held its breath in this one, as the red waved on lap five when Kimmy Rivet's open-wheeler took a wild ride in turn two, landing on top of the backstretch wall. Something appeared to have broken in Cole Littlewood's car, sending him into Rivet and then into the wall, but both drivers fortunately walked away from the carnage.

Louie Maher made the move of the night on lap three of the Mini Stock feature to take the lead from Skyler Shippee and then hold strong to score his first win of

the season in the caution-free 25-lapper. Shippee finished at his bumper, with Kevin Clayton strong in third.

Chris Davis held second-generation pilot Nolan McClay in his shadow for all 25 laps to win his second Pure Stock feature in a row. Reigning Claremont champ Chris Chambers was third, taking the checkers just ahead of Kodi Sabins and CJ Johnson.

Week one winner Steve Miller and son Steve Jr. brought the Six Shooters to the green but, if this one was supposed to be a Marvelous Millers show, Michael Yeaton hadn't read the script. Yeaton took over on lap three and never looked back. Miller Jr. was strong in second, with Renegade Robert Shaw coming home third.

Markus O'Neil led the first eight laps of the Young Guns feature before giving way to event winner Adrian Smith. Owen

Zilinski got up for second on lap 11 but couldn't reel in the speedy Smith, while O'Neil stayed strong to earn the third podium spot.

After a weekend off, Monadnock Speedway will return to action on Saturday, June 24, when it hosts the 50-lap Pure Stock Shoot Out. The NHSTRA Modifieds, Pro 4 Modifieds, Mini Stocks, and Young Guns, along with the NELCAR Legends and Bandaleros, will all be in action too.

Monadnock Speedway June 10 Unofficial Top Tens:

**TEDDY BEAR POOLS TRIPLE CROWN LATE MODEL 50:** Geoff Rollins, Matt Sonnhalter, Tim Wenzel, Rupert Thompson, Hillary Renaud, JD Stockwell, Erik Smith, Isabella Minchella, Gordon Farnum, Chris Castor.

**NHSTRA MODIFIED:** Nate Wenzel, Tyler Leary, Brian Chapin, Aaron Fellows, JT Cloutier, Cory Plummer, Joel Belanger, Eric Leclair, Adam LaPoint, Kevin Pittsinger.

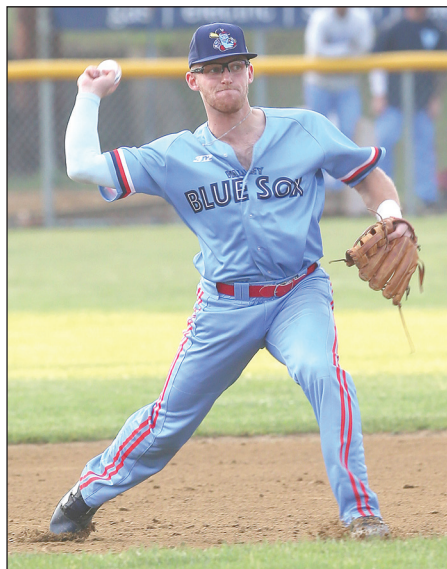
**MINI STOCK:** Louie Maher, Skyler Shippee, Kevin Clayton, Cam Sontag, Erin Aiken, Jon Fultz, Chris Sontag, Robert Williams, Jake Puchalski, Pat Houle.

**PURE STOCK:** Chris Davis, Nolan McClay, Chris Chambers, Kodi Sabins, CJ Johnson, Colton Martin, Jimmy Zellman, Andrea St. Amour, Colton Hull, Ricky Melcher.

**SIX SHOOTER:** Mike Yeaton, Steve Miller Jr., Robert Shaw, Steve Miller Sr., Andrew Scott, Ethan Meyeette, Mike Comtois, Zach Zilinski, Jacob Scott, Russell Mason.

**YOUNG GUN:** Adrian Smith, Owen Zilinski, Markus O'Neil, Madison Cousino, Addison Brooks, Cambri Hubbard, Kailyn Hubbard, Sofia Rego, Jordan Higbee.

## Valley Blue Sox open regular season



Eliot Dix makes a play.



Miachel Zarrillo fires to first.

HOLYOKE – The Blue Sox dropped their final game of their four game homestand, losing to the Martha's Vineyard Sharks by a score of 11-4 on Sunday afternoon. The

Blue Sox tallied three hits on the day, and all their runs came in the third inning. The team fell to 2-3 on the season.

The Sharks scored 11 runs off of nine

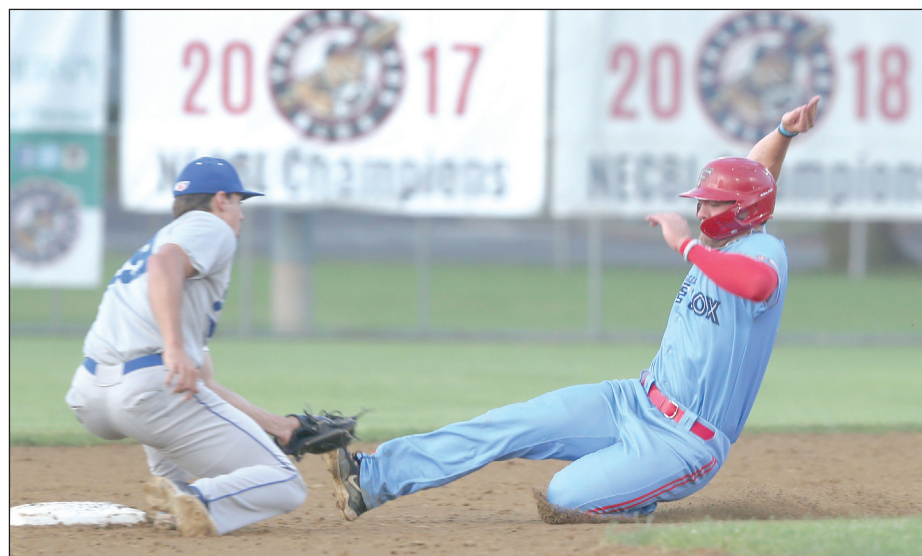
hits, with Clemson's Nathan Hall going 3-5 on the day with two triples. The Blue Sox allowed nine stolen bases and seven advancements on wild pitches or passed balls, and will hope to limit the traffic as they head on the road for their next game.

In one of the most peculiar innings of play so far this season, the Blue Sox were able to score four runs while not tallying a hit the entire inning. The runs all came from walks and hit batters, allowing four runners to score thanks to the Blue Sox excellent plate discipline. Martha's Vineyard walked eight batters today and hit two.

Matt Bergevin was able to produce quality at-bats in each of his plate appearances today, going 1-3 with two walks. With strong plate discipline Bergevin worked three consecutive at-bats to a full count.

EJ Kreutzmann stayed hot at the plate, going 1-5 with an RBI.

The Blue Sox opened the regular season on the road, then had four-games from Thursday to Sunday.

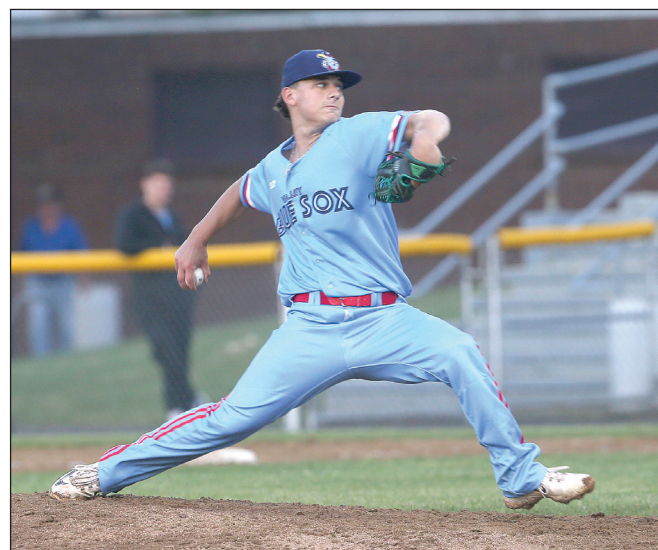


Matthew Bergevin slides safely into second.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Matthew Garcia ranges to pick up the grounder.



Nick Callano winds and fires.



# Sports

## Western Mass. Pioneers get another draw

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – The last two Western Mass. Pioneers home matches have ended in draws. It's something that hasn't taken place at historic Lusitano Stadium since 2018.

Four days after playing a scoreless draw against Black Rock FC, the Pioneers had to settle for a 1-1 home tie versus the Boston Bolts, last Wednesday night.

"Another tie really doesn't help us very much," said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. "We've been having trouble putting the ball into the net during the past couple of games."

At the beginning of the 2018 regular season, the Pioneers posted back-to-back 1-1 home draws against the Boston Bolts and the GPS Portland Phoenix.

The Pioneers also played a road tie against the Seacoast United Phantoms and a home tie against the Westchester Flames in back-to-back matches at the end of the 2018 regular season.

The good news is the Pioneers haven't lost a regular season match at Lusitano Stadium since June 22, 2018, when they suffered a 2-1 setback to Black Rock FC.

The Western Mass. squad had a 3-0-3 overall record after their first six matches of this season. Their other tie came in the first meeting of the regular season with the Phantoms, which took place away from the friendly confines of Lusitano Stadium on May 25.

The Pioneers posted a 3-0 road victory over the Bolts in the season opener on May 16.

Western Mass. was trailing 1-0 at half-time of last Wednesday's home contest.

The Bolts (0-3-3) took a 1-0 lead following a header by Harry Sankey, which was assisted by Tanner Barry, during the 21st minute.

The home team, who played much better during the second half, had several very good chances to put the ball into the net past Bolts goalie Nikola Antich.

Alec Hughes, Jared Smith, Lucio Berron, and Khalid Rose had shots on goals for the home team.

Augustine Boadi, who's a first-year member of the Western Mass. Pioneers squad, finally got the job done during the 84th minute.

Boadi, who'll be entering his sophomore season as a member of the Boston College men's soccer team in the fall, received a pass from Hughes before firing a shot off the post into the right corner of the net for the game tying the goal.

"It was the third goal that I've scored as



Lucio Berron dribbles up the field.  
PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

a member of the Western Mass. Pioneers," said Boadi, who was born in Accra, Ghana. "I scored my first goal of the season in a home match against Pathfinder. The second one came at Boston City, which was a 10-1 win. Another tie wasn't the result that we really wanted in tonight's match, but it's one of those games we need to learn from."

Boadi also does a very good job in the classroom at Boston College. He was recently selected to the ACC All-Academic Team.

Prior to playing soccer for Boston College, Boadi attended Northfield Mount Hermon where he was named as the Massachusetts Gatorade Player of the Year as a senior.

Frankie D'Agostino, who's a former Pioneers player and is currently the associate head coach of the B.C. men's soccer team, recommended Boadi to Molinari.

"Frankie played a key role in getting me to play for the Pioneers this year," Boadi said. "Vermont and the Bolts also wanted me for them. Frankie told me about this team and stadium, so I decided to come here. It has been a lot of fun so far. This is a very special place and I'm hoping to come back here next year."

D'Agostino, who grew up in Longmeadow, had the chance to watch Boadi play a soccer match at Lusitano Stadium for the first time last Wednesday night.

It looked like the Pioneers would take a 2-1 lead with a stoppage time goal, but the referee never called it a goal.

"From my point of view, I thought the shot by Andrew Serafino did go into the net," Boadi said. "It was either a goal or we should've been given a penalty kick because of a hand ball."

Molinari gave his thoughts about the no



Tomas Duben socks a corner kick away.



Connor Hicks makes a throw-in.

goal call.

"All of the players told me it was a goal," he said. "If it was a goal, it's disappointing that the referee didn't allow it, but there isn't anything we can do about it now. We now must win the rest of our games if we want the chance to make the playoffs."

Nicholas Oberrauch, who's the Pioneers captain, didn't play in the Pioneers home



Augustine Boadi dribbles toward the goal.



Lawrence Goddard gets the header in traffic.

match against the Bolts because of an injury.

After playing a couple of road matches, the Pioneers will be returning home to battle rival Seacoast United at 7 p.m. on June 23.

### VOLLEYBALL | from page 7

Niko Nuzzolilli, Dan Fronchkevich, Nick Uschmann, Daniel Yovenko, and Colin La.

A kill by junior Anthony Shea gave the Lions a 1-0 advantage in the opening set. It was the only time that the visitors held the lead in the entire match.

Back-to-back kills by Yovenko gave the home team a 2-1 lead.

Then Agawam built a 9-5 lead with the help of a 7-4 spurt.

Ludlow closed the gap to one point (9-8) with junior Austin Moorehouse handling the serving duties.

The Lions managed to stay within striking distance in the opening set, but another Yovenko kill sealed the deal for the home team.

Yovenko finished the round of 16 match with a game-high 19 kills.

A block early in the second set by junior Thomas Deroin cut the Lions deficit to 10-9.

The Brownies responded with a 10-3 run with sophomore Joe Culhane and ju-

nior Ezekiel Nuguessan handling the serving duties for the home team.

A block by Yovenko gave his team a commanding 2-0 lead in the overall match.

The Brownies led the third set from start to finish.

"We just played Agawam volleyball in today's match," said Nuguessan, who only plays volleyball. "It was very important not to lose one set against them. Our main goal is to play Westfield in the state finals."

Late in the final set, Agawam junior Emil Zhmaidziak suffered a right knee injury and had to be helped off the court. He didn't play in last Friday's round of eight home match against Greater New Bedford. Pender will not be returning as the Agawam boys' and girls' volleyball coach next year.

On his birthday, he was named as the new women's volleyball coach at Anna Maria College in Paxton.

Before heading to Central Mass., Pender is hoping to guide the Brownies boys' volleyball team to another state championship title.

## Young athletes invited to participate in sports clinics

LUDLOW – Lions Pride Sports Clinics are back. Young inspiring athletes have the opportunity to participate in one or all of our exciting clinics. The 2023 lineup consists of, Soccer session 1 from June 26 to 30, Soccer Session 2 from July 17 to July 21.

Athlete Prep strength and conditioning program from June 27 to Aug. 10, Basketball from July 10 to 14, High School and Beach Volleyball June 20 to Aug.

15, Volleyball Basics July to Aug. 16, and Wrestling July 10 to Aug. 16. All clinics are held on the campus of Ludlow High School and are geared toward the development of fundamental skills. For more information log on to lionspridesc.wix.com/lpsc or contact Tim Brillo TBrillo1723@gmail.com.

Registration is now online at <https://www.familyid.com/organizations/lionsden-sports-clinics>

## Registration open for Bay State Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 41st annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2023 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from June 3 to July 29 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating,

pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, archery, judo, badminton, and more.

For more information on all sports in the 2023 Summer Games, links to online registration, and information on other programs, go to [www.baystategames.org](http://www.baystategames.org).

For questions, email [info@baystategames.org](mailto:info@baystategames.org) or call 781-932-6555.

Find us online: [www.sports.turley.com](http://www.sports.turley.com)

# EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th,  
**PUBLIC NOTICES**  
EARLY AD DEADLINE  
Place your public notice  
no later than **NOON**  
**Thursday, June 29**  
- Thank you!

## JOB OPENING

# STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

**Qualifications should include:**

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to  
**Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor**  
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or email directly to [ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)



[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

# EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th,  
the Classifieds have an  
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To advertise,  
place your ad no later than **NOON**  
**Thursday, June 29**  
Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

*Agawam Advertiser News*

## OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$100, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

*Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.*

# Public Notices

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given by Langonet Towing pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A, that on July 3, 2023 at 63 Ramah Cir S, Agawam the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy the garagekeeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle.  
**2015 Hyundai Sonata**  
VIN: 5NPE24AF0FH043257  
Michael Montel  
273 Orange Street  
Springfield, MA 01108  
06/15, 06/22, 06/29/2023

**LEGAL NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given by Langonet Towing pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c.255, Section 39A, that on July 5, 2023 at 63 Ramah Cir S, Agawam the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy the garagekeeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle.  
**2020 Thumpstar Dirtbike**  
VIN: None  
Kevin Torres-Serrano  
23 Alonquin Place  
Springfield, MA 01104  
06/15, 06/22, 06/29/2023

**AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD**

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 6:05PM** 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 Samantha Dwyer on property at 80 Burlington Drive  
By Order of  
Henry A. Kozloski,  
Chairman  
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
06/15/2023

**AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD**

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 6:00PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St, Agawam, Ma. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of the Town of Agawam on property at 1305 Springfield Street  
By Order of  
Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
06/15/2023

**ADVERTISEMENT**  
The Agawam Housing

Authority, the Awarding Authority, invites sealed bids from **Contractors** for the **667-1 & 667-3 Bathroom Fans, Kitchen Exhaust Hoods & Electrical Panels** project, #005134 in Agawam, Massachusetts, in accordance with the documents prepared by **Hesnor Engineering Associates, PLLC**.

The Project consists of: **Installation of bathroom exhaust fans, replacement of select kitchen hoods, replacement of apartment unit load centers, installation of GFCI outlets in bathrooms and kitchens in select apartments, and replacement of Community Building panelboards at Countryview Estates (667-1). Replacement of apartment unit load centers and building main distribution panelboards, and replacement of Community Building panelboards at Meadowbrook Manor (667-3).**

The work is estimated to cost **\$858,922**. Bids are subject to M.G.L. c.149 §44A-J and to minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. c.149 §26 to 27H inclusive.

**THIS PROJECT IS BEING ELECTRONICALLY BID AND HARD COPY BIDS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.** Please review the instructions in the bid documents on how to register as an electronic bidder. The bids are to be prepared and submitted at [www.bidocsonline.com](http://www.bidocsonline.com). Tutorials and instructions on how to complete the electronic bid documents are available online (click on the "Tutorial" tab at the bottom footer).

General bidders must be certified by the Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) in the following category of work, **Electrical**, and must submit a current DCAMM Certificate of Eligibility and signed DCAMM Prime/General Contractor Update Statement.

General Bids will be received until **12:00 PM on Friday, July 21, 2023** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

Filed Sub-bids for the trades listed below will be received until **12:00 PM on Friday, July 7, 2023** and publicly opened online, forthwith.

Filed sub-bidders must be DCAMM certified for the trades listed below and bidders must include a current DCAMM Sub-Bidder Certificate of Eligibility and a signed DCAMM Sub Bidder's Update Statement.

**SUBTRADES:**  
Section 23 00 00 – HVAC  
All Bids should be sub-

mitted online at [www.bidocsonline.com](http://www.bidocsonline.com) and received no later than the date and time specified above.

General bids shall be accompanied by a bid deposit that is not less than five (5%) of the greatest possible bid amount (considering all alternates), and made payable to the **Agawam Housing Authority**.

Bid Forms and Contract Documents will be available on **Wednesday, June 21, 2023** online at [www.bidocsonline.com](http://www.bidocsonline.com) (may be viewed electronically and hardcopy requested) or at Nashoba Blue, Inc. at 433 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749 (978-568-1167).

There is a plan deposit of **\$50.00** per set (maximum of 2 sets) payable to **BidDocs Online Inc.**

Plan deposits may be electronically paid or by check. This deposit will be refunded for up to two sets for general bidders upon return of the sets in good condition within thirty (30) days of receipt of general bids. Otherwise, the deposit shall be the property of the Awarding Authority. Additional sets may be purchased for **\$50.00**.

Bidders requesting Contract Documents to be mailed to them shall include a separate check for \$40.00 per set for UPS Ground (or \$65.00 per set for UPS overnight), non-refundable, payable to BidDocs ONLINE, Inc., to cover mail handling costs.

A pre-bid walkthrough is scheduled for **Thursday, June 29, 2023 at 11:00 AM**. The walkthrough will begin at the Meadowbrook Manor Community Building, **66 Meadowbrook Manor, Agawam, MA 01001**.

The Contract Documents may be seen, but not removed at:

- Agawam Housing Authority  
66 Meadowbrook Manor  
Agawam, MA 01001  
413-786-1297
- Nashoba Blue Inc.  
433 Main Street  
Hudson, MA 01749  
978-568-1167

06/15/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P1106EA  
Estate of:  
Annette M. Arsenault  
Date of Death: 06/10/2011  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**  
To all interested persons:

A Petition for S/A - **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Brian D Arsenault of Feeding Hills, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Brian D Arsenault of Feeding Hills, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/05/2023**.

This is **NOT** a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration.

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

Date: June 06, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
06/15/2023

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

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

*Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.*

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## TAG SALE

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**MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE**  
Saturday, June 17 and  
Sunday, June 18  
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## HELP WANTED

**FIRE DEPARTMENT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT** The Town of Hampden seeks qualified applicants for the position of Administrative Assistant providing support to the Hampden Fire Department. The successful candidate will perform diversified duties in support of the Department; effective communication skills, computer literacy and the ability to operate office equipment are required. Standard job requirements and a job description may be found online at **hampden-ma.gov**. Send resumes to **Robert Markel at 625 Main Street, Hampden 01036** or email (preferred) at **townadmin@hampden-ma.gov** by June 21.

**PART TIME SECRETARY FOR SMALL AGAWAM OFFICE** need to be organized with attention to detail. Reply to **babco321@comcast.net**

### TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

**POLICE OFFICER (2)** The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill two vacancies for Police Officer. For application and more information please visit **www.wilbraham-ma.gov**. Review of applications begins immediately. Open until filled. EOE

## REAL ESTATE FOR RENT



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

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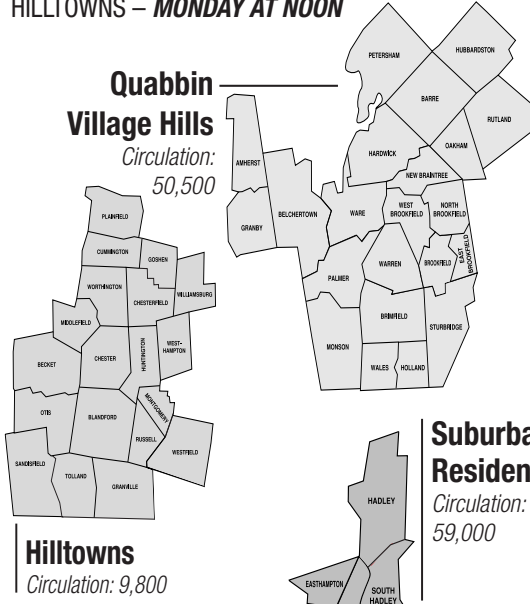
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25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00	27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00	31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00	35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
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**FESTIVAL** ■ from page 1

tor Halil Kuzn said. “We are having more events, I can tell it is just getting better. We are looking forward to seeing and meeting as many people as possible.”

At the festival there was a wide variety of handmade traditional Turkish food, wear, and other crafts. Some of the food were baklavas, rolling cheese, lokma and sarma. Many of what was offered cannot be found in the U.S., giving Agawam residents a wonderful opportunity to try something new.

“There will be, of course, traditional Turkish food. Chocolate cake, some other baked goods, and some food that will be prepared on the side,” Kuzn said. “Also, we have traditional Turkish coffee and a traditional Turkish music concert.”

There was also calligraphy at the festival. Said Nurbaki Yilmaz came from New Jersey in order to sell some of his calligraphy work.

“I volunteer in a Turkish Culture Center in New Jersey, and they are working togeth-



The event featured many people in traditional Turkish wear.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA

er with the Peace Valley Foundation. The United States doesn't have many artists for this calligraphy art and so they called me in for this event,” Yilmaz said.

This event presented a great opportunity for the Turkish members of the Agawam community to get to show off their culture, and for other community members to come and learn.

“We would love to be engaging our community in Agawam,” Kuzn said. “Our cultures, our food, our tradition, we came from Turkey, we are Turkish. We believe our culture is a very rich culture. We like to share these with our community.”

The environment of the festival was open and welcoming, everyone there was willing to lend a hand and share about the different items they were selling.

“As Turkish people we are so welcoming, our hospitality is amazing. People were so amazed,” Kuzn said.

The goal of the festival was to try to bring together different cultures and religions. Those who attended would agree that this goal was more than reached.



Said Nurbaki Yilmaz writes calligraphy.



A Turkish coffee and tea set up.

**GARDEN** ■ from page 4

ing simply means that the lettuce is going to seed. It will send up a main stalk that has little leaves on it, inevitably flowering at the end of the stalk.

The flowers are yellow, with seeds forming at the end of little pieces of fluff that help them to disperse in the breeze.

Sometimes lettuce will even self sow. I had a beauty come up in the middle of my mulched path this year and moved it to the wide bed.

To keep lettuce growing during the heat of summer gardeners get creative, often planting heat tolerant varieties and/or planting it in the shade of trellises of vines or under shade cloth.

I am planning on planting a succession crop soon so that I'll have replacement plants on standby to tuck into the bed that my garlic will be harvested from. My husband enjoys a big salad every night and this will surely help our grocery bill.

If you have never tried growing lettuce, I encourage you to give it a whirl!

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

*For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village.*

*She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*



**BACKYARD** ■ from page 4

**Other Audubon sightings**

Other sightings included common ringed plover in Fairhaven; four sandhill cranes in Worthington and three in Plymouth County and four in Ashfield in Franklin County; worm eating warblers in North Brookfield; an Acadian flycatcher at gate 8 at Quabbin Reservoir in Pelham and two in Granville and an out of place pileated woodpecker in Provincetown on Cape Cod.

Other sightings included a gray-cheeked thrush in Northampton, a blue grosbeak at the Honey Pot in Hadley, a hooded warbler at the Grace Robson Wildlife Sanctuary in Westfield and a northern goshawk at gate 43 of the Quabbin Reservoir in Hardwick.

**Turtle**

Although a turtle is not a bird, I did see one before Memorial Day laying eggs in the small cemetery on Lincoln Road. I was planting flowers on my late husband's parents and grandparents graves. After planting the flowers, I walked by a smooth shelled turtle about seven to eight inches in size laying eggs. Water is nearby as there is a beaver pond across the street and another located behind the cemetery.

Several days later while driving past the cemetery, I saw two turtles, at different times, crossing the road in the general area of the cemetery. One was a large snapping turtle and the other much smaller, most likely a spotted turtle.



Common ringed plover



Acadian flycatcher

**Other wildlife**

An Oakham resident said she saw a large coyote and also heard of someone seeing one at Crocker Nye Spring in town.

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

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