



**LOCAL**  
Scholarships  
award  
PAGE 2



**REGION**  
Community  
Day  
PAGE 3



**SPORTS**  
Summer  
soccer  
PAGE 7

# AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS



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## Clerk, solicitor clarify election eligibility

By Quinn Suomala and  
Gregory A. Scibelli  
aan@turley.com

AGAWAM – As the municipal election cycle begins to heat up, there is more clarity on at least on occasion of a person taking out papers to run for more than one office.

Rosemary Sandlin, a current city councilor, took out nomination papers for both city council and then for mayor following Mayor William Sapelli's announcement he is not seeking re-election.

As of press time, she is the only person with papers out for more than one elected position.

Sandlin has not returned either of her nomination papers, as of press time, and a published report suggested Sandlin or any other candidate could run for two offices if they so choose.

That published report included Town Clerk Vincent Gioscia saying it was okay for a candidate to run for two offices, but can serve one in the even they were elected to both.

City solicitor Stephen Bouniconti, and City Council President Christopher Johnson, who is also an attorney, have made it clear that it is not possible.

Gioscia was originally cited saying that it was possible for a person to take out papers and run for multiple positions, and then, if elected for both, choose which one they wanted to have. He has since revoked that statement.

"In further conversation with the law department, the law department has revised its decision on the matter," he said. "Right now, the policy is that you can take out papers for two offices but you need to decide which office you want to run for when you turn your papers in."

Johnson agreed with Gioscia's statement.

"You can take out nomination papers for as many positions as you want, but you can only run for one position," Johnson said.

ELECTION | page 5

## Johnson formally announces run for mayor

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – City council president Christopher Johnson made his official announcement that he intends to run for mayor of Agawam on Wednesday, June 28.

Johnson was the first mayor of Agawam, serving from 1989-2000 and has since served on the city council as president, on the board of directors at the Massachusetts House and Finance Agency and on the board of trustees at Springfield Technical Community College. Those experiences have been beyond valuable to Johnson.

"I bring a collaborative approach," he said. "Probably what I've learned the most since I've left are leadership skills...I learned a lot in those capacities about leadership, about bringing people together towards a common goal."

Johnson believes his experience is one of his greatest assets as a candidate. He intends to use the skills he has learned in his work as mayor, should he be elected.

"I've got experience balancing the budget, putting the budget together," Johnson said. "I've got experience dealing with the collective bargaining agreements in all the unions."

If elected as mayor, Johnson hopes to focus on the capital needs of Agawam. His main focus will be in ensuring that Agawam High School either receives upgrades, or is rebuilt entirely.

"I think the number one priority is the high school project," Johnson said. "That is going to be the most significant financial decision that Agawam has faced in 50 years."

On top of the high school project, Johnson hopes to improve the conditions of buildings around town, including town hall and the early childhood center. He also hopes to work on the stormwater repairs. Many of these projects have been started by Mayor William Sapelli, and Johnson hopes to continue his work, and start new projects of his own.

"All of these things take leadership," Johnson said. "I have tremendous experience, over a decade as mayor, came and worked for a few years as



City Council President Christopher Johnson, Mayor William Sapelli and attorney Tanya Moriarty welcome attendees to Johnson's announcement to run for mayor.



City Council President Christopher Johnson announces his intent to run for mayor.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA

city solicitor, been back on the council now for about a decade. Once it's in your blood, it's in your blood."

If chosen as mayor Johnson promises to keep the open policy that Sapelli before him has demonstrated.

"If I'm successful I want to have the same kind of relationship with the council that he has had with us," Johnson said. "Which is, he hasn't tried to hide anything from us, he's open, he's honest, he communicates with us, he works with us to build consensus and that's why we're able to get things done."

Sapelli himself came to Johnson's announcement to show his support. He made it clear that he believes Johnson would be a great candidate to continue Sapelli's work as mayor.

"You care about who's going



Mayor William Sapelli endorses City Council President Christopher Johnson's announcement of his mayoral run.

to follow you and you hope it's somebody who is going to continue those same view points, those same philosophies and I can't think about anybody better than Chirs Johnson," Sapelli said.

Johnson made it clear that, should he be elected, he will work hard to do what he believes is best for Agawam, even if it isn't always easy.

"I never take the easiest path, I take the right path," he said. "I care about Agawam, I do what I think is best for Agawam. I try to convince those that I work with that the path that we have to stay on is not always easy but at the end of the day, it's going to be the right path. That's why I chose to run. We need a strong leader in the mayor's office as we face these major decisions over the next several years."

## Busy summer of work for DPW

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The Department of Public Works has many upcoming projects that will be in the works throughout the summer.

Currently, the DPW is installing a new water main on Meadow St. Caracas Construction is about 40% done with this project, according to DPW superintendent Mario Mazza.

"When they're done with the water work, we have a huge drainage problem, so they are going to upgrade the drain pipes in the ground," Mazza said. "That will probably take us right through the construction season, so I think they will be wrapping up in November, hopefully, or maybe even December. Then we'll come back in the spring and pave that."

On top of the Meadow Street project, the plan is to repave several different roads throughout town, replace sidewalks and upgrade ADA ramps.

Roads to be repaved include Springfield St., from Poplar St. to the Junior High as well as from O'Brien's corner project to Poplar St., Branford Dr., Meyers Dr., Tannery Rd., Stonehill Rd. and Tanglewood Ln. These roads will be going through the repaving process throughout the summer.

"We try to break up our money, we usually try to spend some on residential roads and some on main roads, like Springfield St.," Mazza said.

There is a similar process for sidewalks, as Mazza said.

"We try to look for the ones that are close to schools, heavily used and in the worst condition and then we try to do those first," he said.

The sidewalk project will be beginning in September. The sidewalk being updated is the one on Springfield St. between Line St. and Harding St., only on the north side of Springfield St..

There will also be work done to upgrade ADA ramps where they are either lacking or in poor condition.

The O'Brien's corner project is also doing well. The main work

DPW | page 5



# Horace Smith Fund awards \$316,000 to area students

AGAWAM – On Thursday, June 15, The Horace Smith Fund held its 124th Annual Corporators' Meeting and scholarship awards ceremony at the Carriage House at Storrowton Tavern for recipients, their parents, school counselors, and Corporators. This event was funded, in part, by a Community Cares grant from PeoplesBank.

Wayne Webster, Chair of the Board of Trustees, announced that this year there were 25 Walter S. Barr Scholarships awards, with 22 going to graduating high school seniors and three to students already attending college. The William R. Rooney Award was granted to one high school candidate who has received special education services. Additionally, five Walter S. Barr Fellowships were given to students pursuing graduate education.

The Keynote Speaker, Jordan A. Keirahn, was a 2017 graduate of Longmeadow High School and Walter S. Barr Scholarship recipient, a 2021 graduate of Brown University, a current Yale University law school student and recipient of a Walter S. Barr Fellowship.

Entertainment was provided by the Wolf Pit Jazz Duo, Edward Orgill and Scott Sasanecki.

The 2023 scholarship recipients in attendance from the Agawam/Feeding Hills area and who graduated from Agawam

High School were: Lynn S. Jang and Christopher A. Rondinelli

Providing that students maintain at least a B average in college, each scholarship provides a total of \$12,000 over four years and each fellowship provides \$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. 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.

Students were selected on a variety of



Christopher A. Rondinelli receives his scholarship from the Horace Smith Fund.



Lynn Jang receives her award from Jim Broderick, Jr. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

criteria, including their test scores, class rank, extra-curricular activities, and a personal written account of why the student feels deserving of financial assistance. Ap-

plications for next year's awards will be available September 15 on-line at [www.HoraceSmithFund.org](http://www.HoraceSmithFund.org) or by calling (413) 739-4222.



## Feline Friends to hold food, supply drive Saturday

FEEDING HILLS – Feline Friends Inc. Cat Sanctuary will be holding a food, supply drive at Smithland Pet & Garden Center on Saturday, July 8 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers will be accepting food, litter, treats & monetary donations for the kitties. Opened bags/boxes will also be accepted. Gift cards from various pet stores or Costco would be much appreciated.

Smithland, a valued sponsor, is stocked with Friskies Pate or Shreds canned food (single flavored cases preferred), unscent-

ed cat litter and Temptations cat treats. All donations will be accepted. The donation bin is located near the cash registers.

Other items on the wish list include; disinfecting wipes, paper towels, puppy pee pads, dry cat food for strays & colonies.

More information about our sanctuary may be found on our website at [felinefriendsinc.org](http://felinefriendsinc.org). Contact Feline Friends with questions at [info@felinefriendsinc.org](mailto:info@felinefriendsinc.org) or by phone at 413-786-5019.

## UMassFive joins Mass. LGBT Chamber of Commerce

HADLEY – To help conclude the celebration of Pride Month, UMassFive College Federal Credit Union (UMassFive) is pleased to announce the organization has joined the Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

A longstanding supporter of the LGBT community, this new partnership will allow the local credit union to further extend its reach, particularly with local LGBT businesses.

"This partnership is a natural fit for UMassFive," stated Lauren Duffy, UMassFive's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. "The Credit Union has always been committed to putting the best interests of our members and local businesses first, and one of the ways to do that is by assuring that diversity, equity, and inclusion are in the fabric of our organizational culture.

Joining forces with the MA LGBT Chamber allows us to further this mission".

"Our Chamber is proud to add UMassFive as a partner," said Grace Moreno, Executive Director of the MA LGBT Chamber of Commerce. "Ensuring that we have strong institutional partners across the state, especially in western Massachusetts, will benefit LGBTQ-owned and operated businesses of all sizes and bring more economic prosperity to our communities."

Collaborating with the MA LGBT Chamber opens the door for UMassFive to sponsor the Western Mass branch of the LGBT Chamber of Commerce networking events, participate in additional volunteer opportunities, host educational financial workshops, participate in job fairs, and much more.



## UMass study impact of air pollution on women's reproductive health

AMHERST – Funded by a new grant from the National Institutes of Health, a University of Massachusetts Amherst environmental and reproductive epidemiologist is trying to develop a better understanding of the effects of ambient air pollution on women's reproductive health.

Carrie Nobles, assistant professor in the School of Public Health and Health Sciences, will use the two-year, \$650,000 exploratory/developmental research grant from the NIH's National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences to identify mechanisms and susceptible reproductive processes across the menstrual cycle and early pregnancy.

Previous, smaller studies by Nobles and colleagues have linked air pollution to fertility at the broad population level, "but we don't understand exactly how and who is most affected," says Nobles, who is also analyzing the impact of air pollution and other environmental factors on men's fertility in another NIH-funded study.

"Around the time of ovulation and also around the time of implantation of the



Carrie Nobles

embryo, exposure during those points to higher levels of air pollution does seem to relate to a lower probability of getting pregnant and also a higher risk of pregnancy loss," says Nobles about findings from studies involving couples seeking infertility treatment. "But there are very few studies that have this fine detailed information on the timing of things like ovulation, the earliest possible detection

of pregnancy and, potentially, a pregnancy loss. So, we will be able to look at these acute exposures that are hard to detect."

Nobles will estimate participants' exposure to ambient air pollution during biologically informed windows of the menstrual cycle and early pregnancy by looking at the EPA's Community Multiscale Air Quality models where they live.

Nobles hypothesizes that air pollution exposure around ovulation and implantation will change reproductive hormones and reduce fertility. Pollution exposure during critical windows in early pregnancy is also expected to increase risk of pregnancy loss.



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# State Police to host Community Day July 12

By Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

NEW BRAINTREE – The Massachusetts State Police Academy is offering people the unique opportunity to visit the campus and meet with Troopers, specialty units, as well as members of the 88th Recruit Training Troop.

On Wednesday, July 12 from 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Community Day will be held at the State Police Academy located at 340 West Brookfield Road. The free event will be held rain or shine.

“We look forward to seeing everybody... anyone interested can come,” Captain Jon Provost, Commandant of the State Police Academy said. “Hopefully we’ll make it a regular event.”

The public is invited to meet Troopers assigned to a variety of roles within the department and get a close-up look at special equipment.

Specialty units such as the K-9 Section, Mounted Unit, Drone Unit, Air Wing, Marine Unit, Bomb Squad, Special Tactical Operations Team, Recruitment and Diversity Unit are expected to be in attendance.

“People like to see our specialty units,” Provost said.

Complimentary light refreshments will be provided by the State Police Academy’s third-party catering service, Eurest. The catering service provides all meals to recruits in the training program.

“They’re ready to feed an army three times a day,” Provost.

Farmer Matt will also be there serving up some of his signature dishes at no cost. Farmer Matt is located just down the road from the State Police Academy, at 860 West Brookfield Road.

Located on the grounds of the former Pioneer Valley Academy, the State Police Academy covers just under 780 acres in

the rural town.

Pioneer Valley Academy was a co-ed boarding school operated by the Southern New England Conference of Seventh-day Adventists that provided high school education to hundreds of students from 1965-1983.

After the school closed and was unused for a number of years, construction began in the late 1980s to turn it into a state prison. Facing fierce opposition from residents and people from surrounding towns, the plan was eventually abandoned.

The State Police relocated their training academy to the site, and in 1992 graduated their first class of recruits, the 70th RTT.

Provost was a member of the second class to graduate from the New Braintree campus, the 71st RTT, and stepped into his role as Commandant last year.

Since he arrived in New Braintree, he has talked with Deputy Division Commander of Training Major Steven McCarthy about hosting a Community Day to engage the public.

Not much has changed since it’s days as a school, with the buildings repurposed to suit the State Police’s training needs.

The B building of the former school is now the main building of the State Police Academy, and A and C, the former men’s and women’s dormitories, still serve the same purpose.

Both A and C had chapels when it was a school, and they have since been converted into large classrooms capable of seating 100 recruits.

The State Police Academy campus is also home to the State Police Regional

Dispatch center, which provides services to close to a dozen towns, including New Braintree, Hardwick, Brimfield, Brookfield, East Brookfield, North Brookfield, West Brookfield, Holland, Petersham and Wales.

The cafeteria is still that, but now has a wall lined with navy blue hats, or covers.

“It’s our version of ‘ringing the bell,’” Provost said, referring to when candidates “volunteer out” of Navy SEAL training.

Each hat represents a recruit that has left the State Police Academy before finishing training. The 88th RTT started with 249 recruits and there are now 167 remaining.

Only about one out of every three recruits make it to the end and

graduates.

Training at the State Police Academy is intense, with 16-hour days Monday through Friday for about 23 weeks.

As a paramilitary organization, training at the State Police Academy is both physically and mentally demanding, and broken into three phases. It ranges from classroom training to hands-on, giving recruits confidence in the field.

The first phase demonstrates and teaches the necessary skills and techniques needed by recruits, and in the final phase, the recruits are trained to be autonomous.

“They are working to be independent,” McCarthy said.

The grounds of the State Police Academy are also home to a firearms range, a ropes confidence course, a gym and more. The State Police Academy works with municipal police departments from across

the state, offering the use of its state-of-the-art training facility.

The State Police Academy’s wells also provide water to the town’s grade school and Town Hall.

Local farmers lease the fields for haying, and hunters utilize the grounds during hunting seasons, Provost said. The gym is also open for public use, available around training schedules.

Sunsets and sunrises up on the hill are the most breathtaking he’s ever seen, Provost said.

The Community Day event is really just that; a celebration of the community and its role in supporting the State Police Academy.

“We appreciate New Braintree very much,” Provost said.

People are also encouraged to join in the ongoing food drive at the State Police Academy during Community Day, to benefit the Worcester County Food Bank.

Requested donations include non-perishable gluten-free food, spices and condiments, healthy snacks (such as nuts, granola bars, canned and dried fruits), cereals, rice, pasta, canned pasta sauce, dry beans (all varieties), low-sodium broths/soups/stews/chili and 100% fruit and vegetable juices.

All items must have a clear expiration date and ingredient list. Try to avoid sugar-sweetened beverages such as soda and non-fruit juice, candy products and energy drinks.

Menstrual care products and hygiene items are also needed.

Please do not donate alcohol or mixers intended to be used with alcohol, over the counter oral medications, flammable products (such as lighter, matches or charcoal), products in glass containers, perishable products, opened products or expired products.

*“We look forward to seeing everybody. Hopefully we’ll make it a regular event.”*

– Captain Jon Provost

## Class of 1968 reunion to be celebrated this Saturday

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 De-

li’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 or Janice DeFilipi @ jdefilipi@gmail.com.



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# Opinion

## Guest Column

### Random Acts of Kindness

Patricia Drewniak

By Barb Turcotte

Special to the Agawam Advertiser News

Patricia Drewniak and her husband have been residents of Agawam for forty-five years, have been married just shy of 46 years and together they have two very successful sons. One resides in New Jersey with his wife and their four-year-old son who is already an international traveler. He's just returned from visiting his other set of grandparents in the Philippines. Their second son, who currently resides in Northern California with his wife and two daughters, followed his mother's path of science and is now an accomplished Doctor of Pharmacy.

Drewniak spent 11 years as a Medical Technologist before becoming a secretary at a nursery school which led to her teaching career when they asked her to substitute. She fell in love with teaching and went on to become a certified High School teacher, followed by becoming a director of Biology laboratories at AIC. She didn't stop there; she has been at Bay Path University for the past 20 years and still going strong as an Assistant Professor and Director of Science Laboratories.

Unbeknownst to me when speaking with Drewniak, my neighbor had been a recent student of hers. Her description of Drewniak was, "She was the best. An amazing bubbly professor and always understood the crazy balance of schedules each student had on their shoulders for sure."

Drewniak explained one of the things she teaches in her class is how to make beer! The students have to be over 21 or else she has to meet with their parents so they can take beer home. The scientific part of this project is about plants and the fermentation it takes to make the finished product and the project also includes developing a marketing concept. The students have to design a logo and then create the label with a certain criteria such as ingredients. If over 21, they get to take a six pack.

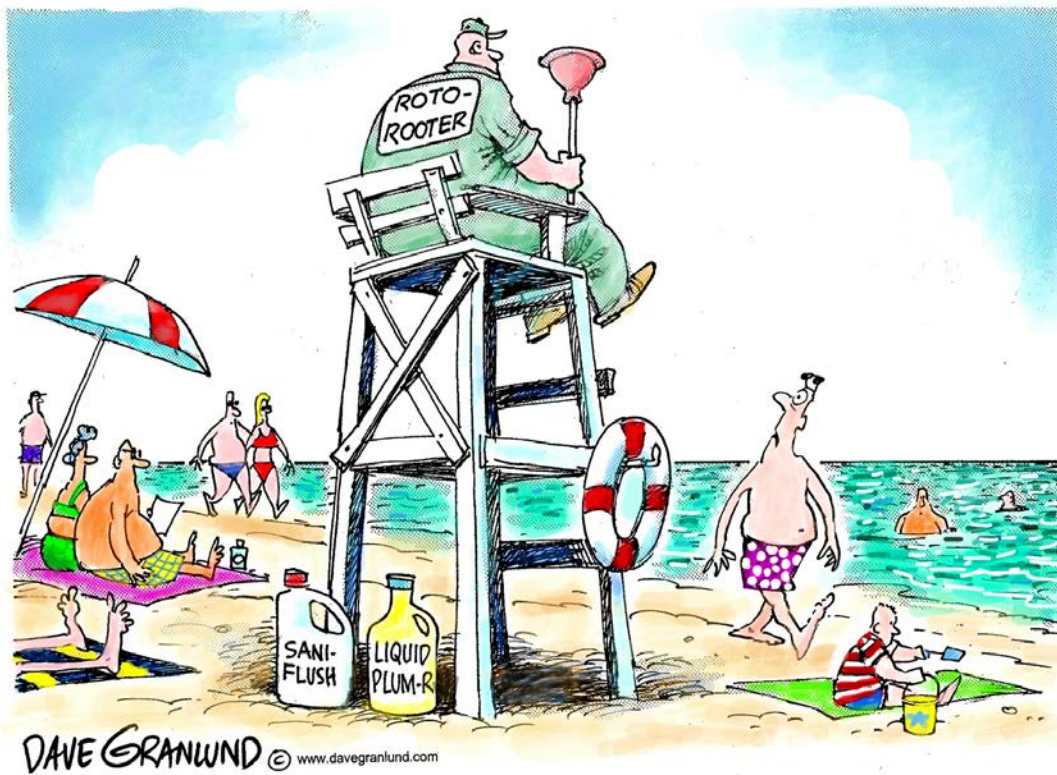
Years ago, Drewniak adopted and re-designed her classes with 'Active Learning.' Instead of just listening to her lecture in person she has her students prior to classes, listen to her talks on line and read books that also help them apply her lessons to life. She said it has helped her embrace technology as well by creating this type of curriculum. This has helped the students be prepared and she's found them to be more engaged in the course. She joked with the students they could also shut her off whenever they were tired of listening to her.

Drewniak said she's done the coffee thing of paying it forward as well as being the recipient. She explained a very simple thing she does as a Random Act of Kindness is, when shopping if she finds an item on the floor, she puts it back in its spot feeling she's just saved an employee that task and salvaging a potentially damaged product.

A couple other really neat things Drewniak shared with me are her crafting abilities. She loves woodworking and working with paper and with this talent has built and designed totally furnished dollhouses. She told me when they are completed, she gives them to people she works with, some take them home and others keep them in their offices.

Another thing Drewniak loves to give new grandmothers is a wooden sign with the letters T.G.I.F. Now most of us know that to mean, 'Thank God it's Friday' but she writes the message on the

## Clues that your local beach may have problems...



## Guest Column

### Gotta love astilbes



I love to walk around my yard admiring the blooming plants. Within the last few days my beautiful frosty pink astilbe has burst on to the scene in my shade garden, stealing the show from what is left of the mountain laurel flowers.

I love astilbe, and when they are happy, they certainly perform. They work well with other shade lovers - hostas and ferns come to mind first - off.

The astilbe has two things going for it: nice flowers and handsome leaves; traits desirable in the vase as well as the garden! Nothing is worse in my opinion than perennials that bloom for a relatively short amount of time but leave you with drab or high maintenance foliage for the rest of the season.

Not the case with astilbes, that is, as long as they are grown correctly. Most appreciate light to full



shade and moist, humus-rich soil.

They may do okay in the sun as long as the soil is right. Take my word that they will struggle in dry ground, and will be far less attractive than their

## Should I have taxes withheld if working part time?



Dear Rusty:

I just started receiving my Social Security in February of 2023. I am also working part time at a company 24 hours a week. My question is... I feel like I missed something when I signed up for Social Security because they are not taking any taxes out.

What did I miss? How do I go about fixing it so I don't get hit at the end of the year? They are taking taxes out of my paycheck now, do they still take it out of my Social Security because I am working? Please help if I am not doing something right.

Signed: Conscientious Senior

Dear Conscientious:

Unfortunately, when the Social Security Administration processes your application for benefits, they don't usually inform you that your Social Security benefits may become part of your taxable income. I expect that's because your benefits only "may" become taxable - they do not definitely become taxable, because Social Security benefits are taxed only if you exceed a certain income threshold.

The thresholds at which Social Security benefits become part of your taxable income are different depending on your income tax filing status - those



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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.

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**KINDNESS ■ from page 4**

little plaque, 'This Grandma is Fabulous.' What a special gift for a new grandmother. If you would like to tell me a story about a random act of kindness, please contact me at [bdt514@aol.com](mailto:bdt514@aol.com) or 413-788-7514. You

don't need one, but if you'd like to have a predesigned flyer to include with your next gesture, let me know. It's a way to keep the memory alive long after the gesture is done. Who knows, you might see your story in this column, 'Just 'Cause' you witnessed, did or received something nice being done.

**ELECTION ■ from page 1**

Johnson pointed out that in the Agawam charter it clearly states that as it relates to election laws, for what is not set forth in the charter, it follows the state law. The state law is that one cannot run for more than one office at a time. "You can't run for state representative and state senate or state senate and lieutenant governor, you have to pick the office you're going to run," Johnson said.

With the most recent clarity as well as formal announcements from Johnson and Cecilia Calabrese running for mayor, more nomination papers should be coming back during the month of July. Nomination papers are due back in August. As of press time, all remaining incumbent city councilors are running for re-election outside of the mayoral aspirations for Johnson and Calabrese. Few challengers have emerged for city council and school committee.

**DPW ■ from page 1**

has been completed and all that is left now will be to do the pavement, which won't happen until August. "The curbing work, the signal work, the redesign work, it's all done," Mazza said. "Once it's done and it gets the new line striping and the turn lane and the turn logos all painted on the pavement, I think it will work perfectly. It will be a big improvement to what's there now."

For further information on when various projects will take place, residents can go to the town website or to the town social media. There will also be updates posted on message boards around Agawam. Mazza also wanted to take the time to thank residents for their patience during this process. "We know it's difficult during construction, there's detours and a lot more traffic, so we appreciate folk's patience while we do all this work," he said.

**SECURITY ■ from page 4**

some of your Social Security benefits are taxable; if you are under the first threshold for your IRS filing status they are not. Social Security doesn't automatically withhold taxes from your monthly benefit, and the FICA tax being withheld from your earnings are not used for that purpose. Everyone who works and earns must pay SS tax on their earnings, which are mandatory contributions supporting the federal Social Security program. But that FICA payroll tax

has nothing to do with income tax on your Social Security benefits. If you are working 24 hours per week and also collecting Social Security benefits, you will likely exceed the threshold for your tax filing status, which means that at least some of your 2023 benefits will become taxable. That could, as you suspect, result in a surprise "hit" when you file next year's income tax return. Nevertheless, fixing this is quite easy: Download IRS form W-4V from the IRS website here: [www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4v.pdf](http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/fw4v.pdf). You will be able to choose the

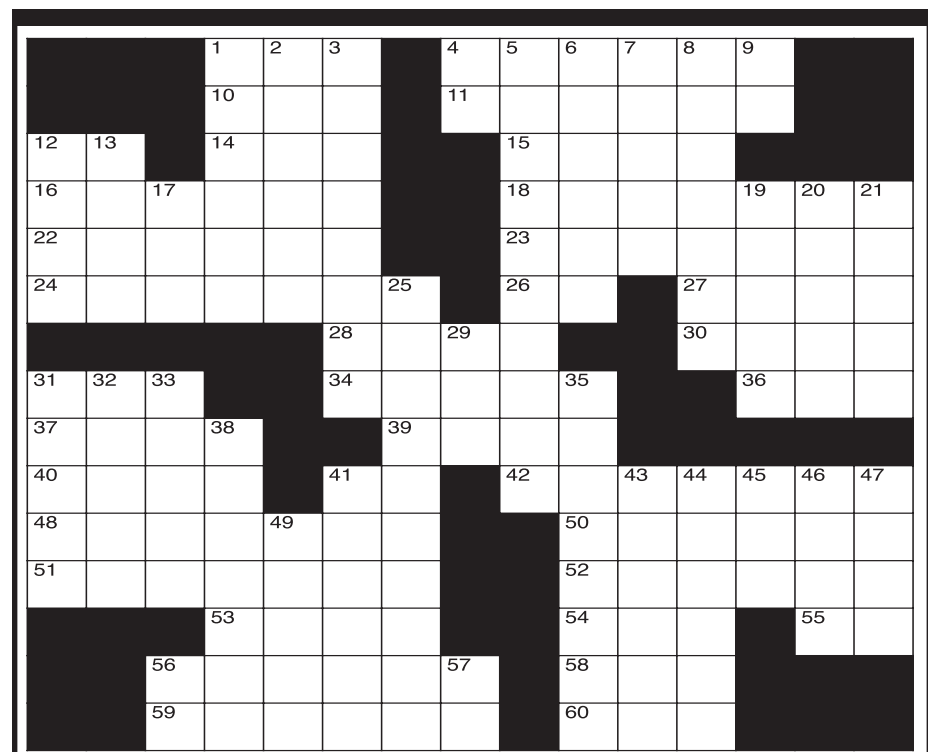
**GARDEN ■ from page 4**

sunny counterparts. For years I tried to grow a division of one of Mom's plants on the north side of my old house. Sure, I had great shade, but no matter how much I watered it, the soil drained too readily, and it struggled until I finally gave up and gave it away. To make the first astilbe happier I should have amended the soil with lots of compost prior to planting. This can be accomplished easily by loosening a space in the garden twice the width of your astilbe and a foot or more deep. Once it is friable, add a four inch layer of compost on top and mix it into the soil. Now you are ready to plant. Dig a hole and position the astilbe at the same depth it was growing in the container, with the crown of the plant an inch or two below the soil surface. Back fill and gently firm down the area. Water well until your new plant is established, as well as during periods of drought. Mulch is very beneficial to astilbes; it helps conserve vital moisture and reduce competition from weeds. If flowers become sparse or the plant encroaches on its neighbors, division may be necessary. Wait until spring, and at the first sign of new growth lift and separate the clump. The freshest parts of the plant will be towards the edge, so be sure to replant those sections. No doubt you will have

many gardening friends ready and able to take any divisions you have left. Where you place your astilbe in the border depends on the variety you are growing. They can range in height from less than one foot to over three! There are also numerous variations in flower and foliage coloration. Flowers can be brick red, salmon, mauve, lavender pink, white and many shades in between. Leaves can have a red or bronze tint, or be deep or even "electric" green. Some astilbe plumes are upright, while others are arching. They may be light and airy or rather dense. Certainly, with this many options to choose from there is an astilbe for each and every taste! Do try growing them along with hostas and ferns - a classic and hard to beat combination. Another plus: this plant is rarely bothered by deer or rabbits; I have both! But beware, it may be harvested regularly for your next floral creation. It will last a good long time in the vase, especially if picked at the first sign of bloom. *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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

percentage of your Social Security benefits you wish to have withheld for income tax purposes. Complete the form and mail it to your local Social Security office (get the mailing address here: [www.ssa.gov/locator](http://www.ssa.gov/locator)). Social Security will then start withholding income tax from your monthly Social Security benefit payment, which will mitigate any additional tax due when you file your 2023 tax return next year. This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opin-

ions 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 or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit [amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



- |   |                                 |  |   |
|---|---------------------------------|--|---|
| <b>CLUES ACROSS</b>                     | 31. "American Idol" network     | <b>CLUES DOWN</b>                        | 29. Creative output                               |
| 1. Small Eurasian deer                  | 34. Garments                    | 1. Make up for                           | 31. Recesses                                      |
| 4. Irish county                         | 36. Soviet Socialist Republic   | 2. American songbird                     | 32. District in N. Germany                        |
| 10. A major division of geological time | 37. Retired NFL DC Dean         | 3. Pay                                   | 33. Rider of Rohan                                |
| 11. Broadway actor Lane                 | 39. Hot meal                    | 4. International organization            | 35. The official emblem of the German Third Reich |
| 12. Canadian province                   | 40. A type of gin               | 5. Engravers                             | 38. One who puts down roots                       |
| 14. It causes fainting (abbr.)          | 41. Percussion instrument       | 6. Declared as fact                      | 41. Scribe  |
| 15. Two                                 | 42. A \$10 bill                 | 7. Criminal                              | 43. Painted a bright color                        |
| 16. A notable one is blue               | 48. About ground                | 8. Jewelry                               | 44. Tycoons                                       |
| 18. Utter repeatedly                    | 50. Medicine man                | 9. Hospital worker (abbr.)               | 45. Actress Thurman                               |
| 22. Rings                               | 51. Seedless raisin             | 12. Nonsense (slang)                     | 46. Walking accessory                             |
| 23. Sullies                             | 52. National capital of Albania | 13. Town in Galilee                      | 47. Crest of a hill                               |
| 24. Occurs                              | 53. Appendage                   | 17. Value                                | 49. Member of a North American people             |
| 26. Publicity                           | 54. OJ trial judge              | 19. Another name                         | 56. Type of computer                              |
| 27. Near                                | 55. By the way                  | 20. Sheep in second year before shearing | 57. U.S. State (abbr.)                            |
| 28. Tools of a trade                    | 56. Bicycle parts               | 21. Town in Surrey, England              |   |
| 30. Offer in good faith                 | 58. Barbie's friend             | 25. Appropriate during a time of year    |   |
|   | 59. In a way, stretched         |  |   |
|   | 60. Commercials                 |  |   |

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 10

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# Opinion

## Guest Column

### Massachusetts, it's time for a new state symbol

The state seal and flag of Massachusetts need to be changed. Our state flag and seal, the symbol we hold up to the world and to our own residents, depicts a white hand holding a Colonial broadsword over the head of an Indigenous person, with a Latin motto beneath that translates: "She seeks a quiet peace under the sword, but peace with liberty."

This symbol has been the subject of protest by our Indigenous brothers and sisters in Massachusetts for more than 50 years. It is a symbol of violence and, as Brian Weeden, the chairperson of the Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe has succinctly stated, it is a reminder of "the oppression of Native people."

The state flag and seal of Massachusetts has been changed many times in the past, the last time 140 years ago.

In June, the town meeting voters of Brookfield and West Brookfield voted to join 75 other towns and cities in Massachusetts, from the Berkshires to the Cape Cod, in support of changing this shameful

symbol, and more towns, such as Southbridge, are considering adding their voices soon to the push for a much needed change.

For one thing, the current image is not historically accurate, as it was modeled after a native person from Montana rather than Massachusetts.

The broadsword on our state seal is modeled after one used by Miles Standish to behead Native people. Not a great image for our young children to study in school.

Today, for the first time in 140 years, Massachusetts is undertaking a thorough review of our state symbol, and the structures are finally in place to make this update happen.

There is bipartisan support on a recently appointed bipartisan special commission, with indigenous representation, appointed by the former Republican Governor, Charles Baker, to make final recommendations for the design of a new state flag, seal and motto that may better re-

fect harmony among all the people who now call the Commonwealth their home.

Soon, the special commission will be conducting a statewide poll that will enable all of us to give input over the coming months on elements for a new design. The cost of change will be minimal, as stationery and flags and signs need to be gradually replaced anyway due to wear and tear.

Although 77 towns in Massachusetts - over 20% - have supported this positive change so far, some of them unanimously, we need to put some pressure behind these votes in order for this 40-years-in-the-making change to finally occur!

Massachusetts is the last state in the union to fly a flag with symbols of violence against one race of people. This needs to change as soon as possible.

As members of the commission themselves state, they want to find "symbols and terms that might replace harm with inspiration" and that "reflect Massachusetts' commitment to 'peace, justice, liberty and equality and to spreading the op-

portunities and advantages of education."

We urge all citizens to make your voices heard, both to your state senator and representative, asking them to push for the recommendations of this commission to be heard and enacted, and to join in the upcoming statewide polling to gather input for a new flag design we can all believe in. This is a truly historic process in which we can all participate.

As this process unfolds, we can take a great deal of pride in the willingness of the town meeting voters of Brookfield and West Brookfield to step forward and register their support for a new flag and seal for Massachusetts!

Sherry Zitter, LICSW lives in Brookfield and spearheaded the town warrant article that recently passed 2:1 to change our state seal and flag. She loves gardening, walking her dog, playing guitar and making the world a fairer place for all.

David Detmold is coordinator of the statewide campaign [Changethemassflag.com](http://Changethemassflag.com) and lives in Montague.



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# SPORTS

## Brownies, Orioles battle to draw

AGAWAM – Last Wednesday night, in A Division action, the Agawam A boys squad matched with Belcher-town at Agawam High School's turf field. Both teams notched second half goals in a 1-1 deadlock.

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Mario Daniele goes for a header.



Adam Ross socks away a free kick.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Vinnie Montagna goes after a loose ball.



Nick Solitario gets vertical for the ball.



Frank DeCaro heads up the right side.

## New England Mutiny shut out at home

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – The forecast called for thunderstorms, but the New England Mutiny lucked out with a beautiful night to play their third home match of the regular season. The weather turned out

to be the only bright spot for the Mutiny.

Sporting CT, a first-year member of United Women's Soccer, made the trip north to Ludlow from Middletown, Connecticut and posted a 4-0 shutout before a large crowd at Lusitano Stadium on Saturday, June 24.

"We faced a very tough opponent tonight. They played a 3-5-2, which is more of an attacking formation, against us," said Mutiny assistant coach Jill Kochanek. "We did have a couple of scoring opportunities. If we could've capitalized on them, it probably would've been a different result."

Kochanek took over the head coaching duties from first-year Mutiny head coach Mauricio "Toto" Coimbra for one night. Coimbra missed the home match because he was in Virginia coaching his club team at the Regionals.

The Mutiny (3-2-1), who lost 3-2 to the Albany Rush on the road on June 16, suffered their first regular season home loss during the past two years. They did lose to FC Buffalo, 2-1, at home in the Eastern Conference semifinals, last July.

"We've had a couple of setbacks, but that doesn't define you as a team," said forward Hope Santaniello, who's one of the Mutiny veteran players. "Our main goal now is to win our final two regular season matches."

If the Mutiny can post victories at the Worcester Fuel on Saturday night and at home against the CT Rush in the regular season finale on July 8, they should be able to clinch a berth in the U.W.S. playoffs for the second consecutive year. The top eight teams in the East Division will automatically qualify for the Eastern Conference playoffs.



Laci Lewis sprints up the field.  
TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY  
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Ela Kopec gets set to punt the ball away.



Jenna Kalwa tries to maneuver through the opposing defense.



Agawam's Hope Santaniello looks to take a shot.



Alexis Legowski, of South Hadley, eyes an open teammate.

# Sports

## PeoplesBank blows out St. Joe's

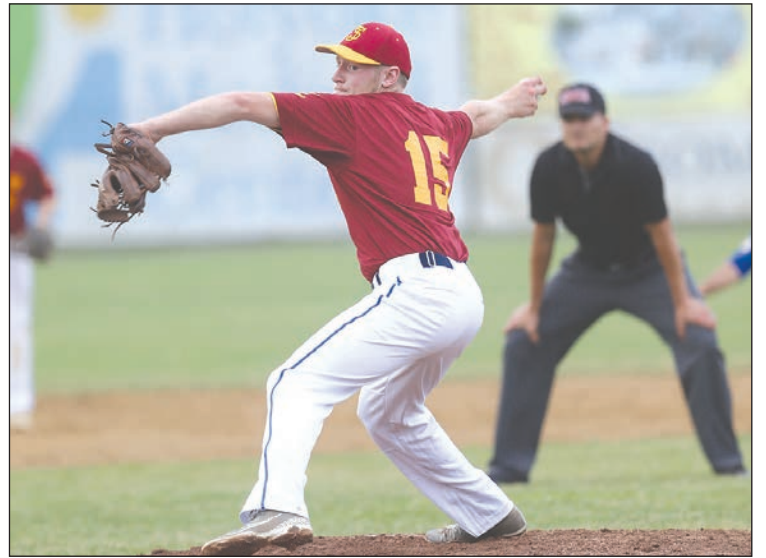
HOLYOKE – Last Tuesday night, PeoplesBank kept their momentum with a 14-0 mercy-rule shortened win over the St. Joe's Saints. Both teams, which feature players from all over the region, will be back in action following the Fourth of July holiday. PeoplesBank holds down first place with 18 points.



Cam MacDonald fires across the diamond.



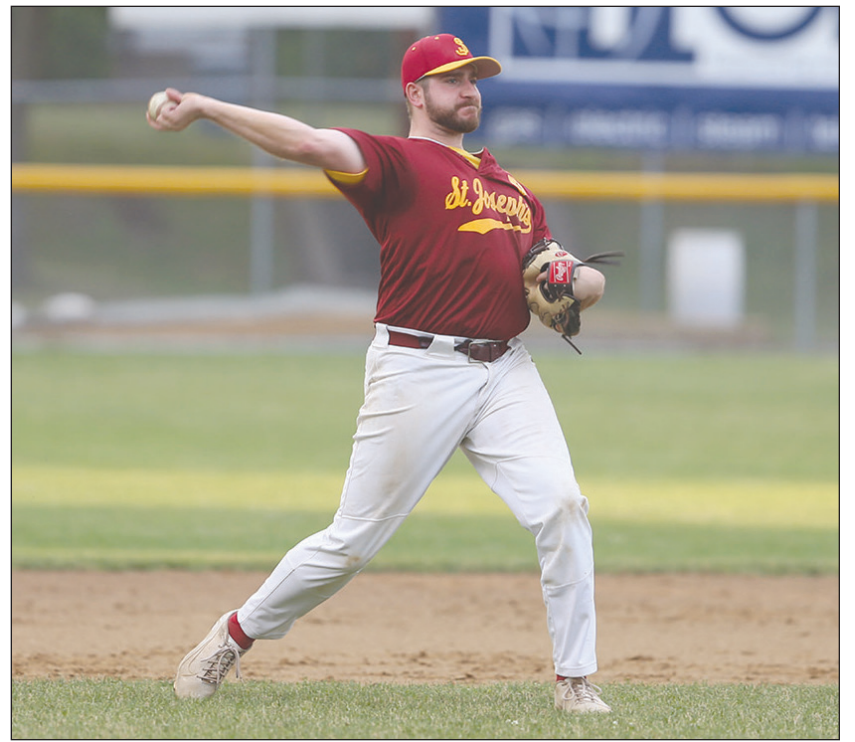
Dave Clark makes a throw to first.



Sam Schriber delivers a pitch for the Saints.



James Flahive delivers a pitcher for the Bankers.



Brandon Magni makes a play for St. Joe's. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

## Valley Blue Sox falls to Danbury Westerners

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox were defeated by the Danbury Westerners last Thursday night 8-4. Valley's record now sits at 9-10.

Danbury got out to a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the fourth inning, following a two-run homer from Luke Boynton. The Westerners added three more runs in the bottom of the fifth after an RBI double and error from Blue Sox starter Jonathan Bautista.

Bautista made his team debut for Valley, and pitched five innings allowing five runs, and striking out seven batters.

Valley answered back in the top of the sixth inning. The offense hit back-to-back home runs to lead off the inning, with solo shots coming off of the bats of AJ Guerrero and EJ Kreutzmann. Both outfielders went 3-for-5 on the night with an RBI apiece.

Michael Zarrillo would add another solo home run in the inning, cutting the Danbury lead to 5-3.

Leo Harris relieved Bautista in the bot-

tom of the sixth inning, and allowed two runs in two innings of work out of the bullpen.

The Blue Sox scored one run in the top of the eighth inning off of a sacrifice fly from Sean Scanlon.

Jason Arrigo took over for Harris in the bottom of the eighth, allowing one run and striking out two batters in his one inning of work.

Last Tuesday evening, the Valley Blue Sox are back in the win column following a 5-4 victory over the Bristol Blues in 10 innings. The Blue Sox' record stands at 9-9, and they hold a 1.5 game lead in the West Division

Valley scored five runs off of nine hits in this game. The bats were rolling early after Matt Bergevin hit an RBI single to put the Blue Sox in the lead 1-0 in the top of the first inning. Bergevin went 2-for-4

with two RBIs and a walk on the night.

The pitching staff was on point tonight for the Blue Sox. Graham Jeffries started the game for Valley, and pitched four innings allowing two runs and striking out one batter. Bristol took the lead in the bottom of the fourth inning following an RBI triple and a sacrifice fly.

Manager Pedro Santiago turned the ball over to Dillon Ryan in the bottom of the fifth, who pitched a scoreless inning with one strikeout.

Thomas Ballard was the next man out of the bullpen for Valley. The right-hander pitched one inning allowing one run along with one strikeout.

The Blues would add one more run in the bottom of the sixth off of an RBI double to make it a 3-1 game.

Michael Weidinger struck out the side in the bottom of the seventh, his one inning of work in this game.

Valley would fight back to tie the ballgame in the top of the eighth, scoring two runs off of an RBI fielder's choice from Matt Bergevin and an RBI single from CJ Willis.

Zach Cameron took over for Weidinger in the bottom of the eighth inning, keeping the game tied in his first two innings of work to force extra innings.

The Blue Sox took the lead in the top of the tenth after an RBI double from CJ Willis scored Michael Zarrillo from second. Cian Sahler would pinch run for Willis and score on a wild pitch, making it a 5-3 game heading into the bottom of the tenth.

Cameron closed the door in his third inning of work, working a double play after a leadoff RBI single. The right-hander struck Bristol's Dixon Black to end the game, and snap a five game losing streak for the Blue Sox.



## Thunderbirds set several milestones during previous season

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds were recognized for hitting milestone thresholds across a variety of business categories during the American Hockey League's Team Business Meetings this week in Tucson, Ariz. The annual event features representatives from all 32 member clubs for sessions discussing best practices and innovative ideas across multiple departments.

On the heels of another record-setting year for the Thunderbirds business that saw new regular season records in attendance per game (6,162), sellout games (15, including every Saturday from Dec. 30 onward),

season ticket members, and group sales revenue, the team's ticket sales department achieved a number of milestones for a second straight season. Among them were 600 new Full Season Equivalent (FSEs), a metric that tracks full-season and partial-season ticket sales. The department also saw a greater than 85 percent renewal rate among its full-season ticket members.

Individual game ticket sales also provided the Thunderbirds with two more threshold recognitions, as the business saw a greater than 15 percent increase in both FSE revenue per game and group ticket revenue per game.

In what was also a record-setting year for the club's corporate sales department, that area of the business was recognized for also seeing a greater than 85 percent renewal rate in corporate cash accounts en route to a single-season record in corporate revenue.

"Our entire staff has worked diligently to have an impact that is tangible in the arena, and these honors speak to that hard work coming to fruition," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "On each of our big promotional nights, we are engaging fans of all ages and creating lifelong memories, which will always remain a top priority. The growth in ticket sales is a testament to our

incredible fan support, which proves we can be a force in our league, even as a smaller market. In turn, those bodies in the arena provide so much value for our corporate partnerships, and their support and involvement have allowed that department to reach new heights as well."

The Thunderbirds also had a prolific season in the Springfield community, with more than 250 appearances by mascot Boomer and team players combined, ranging from youth hockey practice sessions to charitable affairs like the Rays of Hope Walk, annual Teddy Bear Toss deliveries, and corporate partnership events.



# Sports

## Coby finishes fifth at Seekonk

SEEKONK – Doug Coby rebounded after being collected in a mid-race wreck to finish fifth during Open Wheel last Wednesday at Seekonk Speedway. Coby won his qualifying heat race to start off the night in the Mayhew Tools No. 10 and rolled off ninth for the 100-lap, \$10,000 to win race.

Coby ran around the bottom of the top-five for much of the first half of the race until the wreck off turn two on lap 49 left him nowhere to go. During the caution period, the team worked to repair the car and Coby returned to the track, restarting from 19th. He was able to pass 14 cars up into fifth before the finish.

“It was a way different race compared to the NASCAR

Whelen Modified Tour race here a few weeks ago,” Coby said. “I thought it was a really competitive race. We raced hard out there, risking using up your stuff for track position, but you had to do it. To come back from a wreck and grab a top-five, we’re happy. The Mayhew Tools team worked hard.”

Doug Coby will return to the track driving for Tommy Baldwin Racing in the Mayhew Tools No. 7NY during the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event at Wall Stadium Speedway on Saturday, July 8. For more information on Doug Coby, visit [DougCobyRacing.com](http://DougCobyRacing.com) and follow his page on Facebook for the latest news and updates, including from the track on both race days.

### MUTINY ■ from page 7

“We’re still vying for a playoff spot,” Kochanek said. “If we do want to make a long run in the playoffs, we’ll need to capitalize on our scoring chances. This game was a good learning experience for us.”

Santaniello, who’s from Agawam, has been a member of the University of Rhode Island women’s team during the past couple of years. She recently entered the NCAA transfer portal and is in the process of searching for a new school to play soccer at in the fall.

In last Saturday’s match, Santaniello had a couple scoring chances in the first five minutes of the contest. Santaniello’s first shot attempt sailed wide, and her second shot on goal was saved by Sporting CT goalie Abby McCarthy.

Midfielder Lily Fabian, who graduated from Monson High School in 2018, played in her first match of the season for the Mutiny.

“Lily has been one of our leaders during the past couple of years,” Kochanek said. “We’re grateful to have her back for today’s match.”

Sporting CT (6-0-0) took a 1-0 lead during the 21st minute when forward Aubrey Kupla fired a shot into the upper right corner of the net past Mutiny goalie Naya Lipkens. Tiffany Weimer, who’s the Sporting CT player/head coach, was credited with the assist.

Kupla finished her first ever soccer match at Lusitano Stadium with a hat-trick.

“The atmosphere at this stadium is electric,” Kupla said. “It was a lot of fun playing in front of a large crowd. Getting the win is the most important thing to me. Scoring the three goals was just the icing on the cake.”

Weimer, who’s also an assistant women’s soccer coach at Yale University, was a member of the Penn State women’s soccer team from 2002-2005. She holds the school record with 91 career goals.

Kupla, who’ll be a senior at Cromwell High School in the fall, will be following in Weimer’s footsteps. She has verbally committed to playing college soccer at Penn State.

“Tiffany holds the record for goals at Penn State,” Kupla said. “I’m really hoping to score 92 goals during my collegiate career, so I can break her school record.”

Early in the second half, Mutiny forward Chandler Pedolzky stole the ball away from Abby McCarthy, who was the Sporting CT starting goalie, but her shot attempt sailed wide. She also had a header, but it was saved by McCarthy.

The score remained 1-0 until Sporting CT scored three goals in a span of seven minutes late in the second half.

The duo of Kupla and Weimer combined for the second and third goals.

Weimer finished the match with three assists. She netted the final goal of the match in the 77th minute.

## Community Newspaper EDITOR WANTED

Turley Publications is looking for a “hands on” energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for two weekly publications. This position will include managing and coaching a small news staff that will provide the community with a great local newspaper.

The editor will need to cover local government and events while representing the newspaper at public venues.

The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills and is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism.

This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

### Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

### Please send resume and writing examples to:

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor  
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or email directly to  
[ekennedy@turley.com](mailto:ekennedy@turley.com)

**Send Us Your Autumn Event Information**

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Autumn Fest Supplement** which will be published **September 13, 2023.**

Total circulation of 85,000 reaching over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.

**Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 16.**

## Community Autumn Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

**FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley**

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name & phone number for more information \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:**  
**Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069**  
**or email\* them to: [jamie@turley.com](mailto:jamie@turley.com)**  
**\*Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.**

# Schools & Youth

## Agawam Junior High School announces honor rolls

AGAWAM – Agawam Junior High School 7th and 8th grade honor rolls

### 7th Grade Honor Roll

Malac Abdelrahman, Daniel Abramchuk, Aimen Adeel, Chloe Anderson, Jacob Anziano, Ahmed Arslan, Callah Ashford, Yasser Atanane, Henry Baldyga, Justin Barbaneagra, Liam Bartone, Nathan Bassette, Dylan Bates, Gianna Battista, Bruce Bertone-Gross, Jackson Bryant, Colleen Cain, Gavin Cardoza, John Carra, Madison Carroll, Julianna Castro, Jonathan Chechile, Joseph Chianciola, Patrick Chitu, Matthew Chobotaru, Kerem Cicek, Anthony Circosta, Reed D'Ambrosio, Conor Dahm, Katherine Dahm, Romano Daniele, Lea Defilipi, Camren Ducharme, Declan Eagen, Chase Eggleston, Madalynn Fleury, Jonathan Forand, Sophia Frogameni, Madison Georgina, Olivia Govoni, Nathan Granger-Nunez, Camren Hall, Owen Hebert, Jasmin Hinckley, Zackary Hollister, Isabella Iannarelli, Alexander Ivanchenko, Dylan Jorgensen, Fiona Kellogg-Brodeur, Ariba Khan, Minji Kim, Julia King, Cullen Kirk, Morgan Krieb-

el, Ella LaCresse, Atlas LaFromboise, Nicole LaRock, Charlotte Latulippe, Luke Latulippe, Frank Lawler, Madison Lichwan, Michael Lichwan, Skylar Lopes, Eli Lukin, Jack Lynch, Kaelynn Lynde, Matthew Machos, Isaiah Maldonado, Mackenzie Mapua, Nolan Mapua, Jacob Marino, Aubrey Maynard, Olsa Mirena, Lauren Moriarty, Addison Moynihan, Matilda Nakabiri, Destiny Negron, Vy Nguyen, Bretton O'Connor, Dana Osichuk, Efe Ozkay, Connor Pellegrino, Natalia Pomazniuk, Oceana Pratt, Kaleb Progulski, Andrew Radionov, Gabriella Ramos, Jack Reading, Artem Reznichenko, Luke Rios, Micah Rivera, Leo Rock, Caeden Roeder, Alanna Rose, Sofiya Rotina, Jacob Roy, Sophia Sarnelli, Deanna Savonin, Franco Sibilila, Sophie Signet, Charlotte Smith, Colin Soucy, Mark Stepchuk, Jack Sullivan, Jada Sullivan, Kayleen Sullivan, Iurii Temchenko, Dominic Vassallo, Jace Wayte, Angelina Wells, Marie Wells, Samuel Wolfe, Santino Wisley, Alexis Wyman-Gagnon

### 8th Grade Honor Roll

Urwah Aftab, Omid Afzali, Cole Agosti-

no, Fidan Ahmadov, Azaan Ahmed, Nawra Ahmed, Umniyah Al Zuhairi, Kristiani Alberto, Anahi Alvarado, Andrew Amato, Madelyn Arico, Kiril Artemov, Yvetteliz Asencio, Leutrim Avdyli, Andrew Bagley, Amariana Beardsley, Jacob Beauchemin, Mia Beaudry, Irene Birch, Dante Bistany, Tristan Blackak, Lia Boulos, Owen Bulmer, Elliot Calkins, Daniel Carlson, Chelsea Casamento, Lily Charest, Patience Chiba, Jack Chivers, Stella Christopher, Leah Cizek, Kaeden Clifford, Sean Collins, Kaylee Conway, Brady Cross, Lily Croteau, Gavin Cruz, Alyssa DaSilva, Connor Dobies, Chatham Dupre, Timothy Dupre, Allie Eaton, Mahmoud Elbakri, Emery Ellis, Scarlett Estes, Donovan Fitzpatrick, Adrianny Freitag, Nikita Fronchkevich, Timothy Garner, Luca Gauthier, Kyle Ghareeb, Nicolas Ghareeb, Maya Gingeruha, Cecilia Gomez Marin, Gianna Goodrow, Jordan Graves, Mehty Gusenov, Emma Hart, Arbion Hasani, Esther Havlytyuk, Abigail Herrick, Nicholas Iellamo, Samantha Izzo, Autumn Jedrykowski, Amil Katica, Lily Kenny, Dennis Kobylanski, Nickolas Kontsemal, Dmitry

Korniyenko, Didem Kupuc, Amanda Lareau, Justin Lareau, Khuong Le, Michelle Le, Rosalyne Le, Matthew Letellier, Andrew Livchin, Dennis Livchin, Darina Lukin, Sophia Lunden, Douglas MacKinnon, Madeline Maharne, Dominic Manes, Jace Mansur, Brayden Martin, Zayden Maurer, Jason Mihalicensco, Joseph Mikalson, Aidan Monaghan, Gage Montagna, Dominick Moretti, Mihaela Moscin, Tracey Ngabaiya, Jason Nguyen, Hunter O'Connell, Talia Oliveira, Charlize Ortiz, Megan Outhuse, Madelyn Pajer, Victoria Papova, Het Patel, Yash Patel, Nicco Patuano, Chloe Pierson, Domenick Pisano, Morgan Platten, Addison Podworski, Arnisa Preniqi, Samuel Preye, Violet Pryce, Sean Reopell, Shane Ritchie, Critian Rivera, Chloe Roderick, Kayla Ryan, Kiley Ryan, Camden Saltmarsh, Veniamin Semenyuk, Rylie Sheehan, Malalai Sherzai, Emma Shevchuk, Mark Sholopa, Bella Shunaman, Luca Smith, Christopher Sonsini, Devin Soucy, Cole Stauch, Thomas Tomlinson, Aiden Torres, Mason Tourigny, Hung Vu, Kylie Warner, Brady Webster, Jacob Weeks

## Ball makes President's List

FRANKLIN – Emily Ball of Feeding Hills has earned a place on the President's List for the Spring 2023 semester. Students named to the President's List have demonstrated a serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College.

## Locals make UHart Honors List

AGAWAM – The University of Hartford announces the students who have been named to the president's honors list for spring. The president's honors list is made up of a select group of students who earned a grade point average of 3.75 or higher in the semester. These students are from the area: Brianna Benjamin, Alexandra Humphries, Kolby Lindell and Samantha Mengwasser.

## Western New England University announces spring president's list

SPRINGFIELD – Western New England University recently named over 540 students to the spring president's list. These students are from the Agawam area:

Abel Barbaneagra majoring in computer science, Christina Richard majoring in creative writing, Emmerson White majoring in civil engineering/environmental engineering, Haley Hinchshaw majoring in pharmacy studies, Isaac Saenz majoring in criminal justice, James Typrowicz majoring in actuarial

science, Jayden Montagna majoring in engineering, Joseph Russo majoring in mechanical engineering, Julia Lescarbeau majoring in biomedical engineering, Livia Gavelis majoring in health sciences, Mackenzie Douglas majoring in human resource management, Matthew Flagg is majoring in electrical engineering, Payton Lemke of majoring in criminal justice, Samantha Kelley majoring in psychology, Sydney Dietrich is majoring in philosophy, and Vincent Martin majoring in sport management.

## Sullivan named to Dean's List

FRANKLIN – Dean College is pleased to announce that Andrew Sullivan of Agawam has earned a place on the Dean's List for the Spring 2023 semester. Students named to the Dean's List have demonstrated a serious commitment to their studies while at Dean College.

## Middle Atlantic conference academic honor roll

AGAWAM – Cameron Croteau of Feeding Hills, was one of more than 200 Lebanon Valley College student-athletes to be named to the Middle Atlantic Conference's winter/spring academic honor roll.



# Public Notices

### AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, MA on **Monday, July 24, 2023 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the request of Nancy Wheeler, who is seeking a Variance from Chapter 180-26 (A1) of the Town of Agawam's Zoning Ordinances, to allow for the construction of an addition with less than the

required side yard at the premises identified as 44 North West Street.

Doreen A. Prouty  
Chairperson  
Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals  
07/06, 07/13/2023

### AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 6:10PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St, Agawam, Ma. The pur-

pose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Al Haron on property at 54 Valley Street.

By Order of  
Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
07/06/2023

### Legal Notice of Private Sale

Notice is hereby given by USA Towing, 71 Garden St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030, sale of a motor vehicle pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, that on

July 10, 2023 at 8:00 a.m., at USA Towing, said motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien for towing, storage and costs of sale.

2008 Toyota Camry  
VIN: 4T1BEU6K18U757712  
NO PLATES ON TRAILER  
Last known reg. owner:  
Khadijeh Hamdi  
4 Gibson Court  
North Andover, MA 01845  
06/22, 06/29, 07/06/2023

### AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SILVER LAKE

On **Friday, July 14, 2023**, The Pond and Lake Connection will be conducting an aquatic plant management program at Silver Lake in Agawam, MA.

### The use of the lake's water will be restricted as follows:

Swimming, fishing, and boating - Restricted until completion of the treatment on July 14, 2023.

Direct Drinking - Restricted for 3 days.

Livestock Watering - Restricted for 1 day.

Irrigation - Restricted for 5 days.

If you need additional information, please contact Silver Lake Corporation or The Pond and Lake Connection, 203-885-0184.  
07/06/2023

### Legal Ad AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, July 13, 2023 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of the Town of Agawam for an Amendment to the Order of Conditions for the work on 0 South West Street & 0 Pine Street, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of  
Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
07/06/2023

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 \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

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## 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.*

**visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)**

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

## FOR SALE

### ESTATE SALE

**20 BRUWER AVE., WILBRAHAM 7/7 & 7/8 8:00 AM-4:00 PM** ANTIQUES, TOOLS, FURNITURE, LINENS, CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

## 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

**!!!!FRESH CUT!!!!** Over a cord guaranteed. Cut, Split, Prompt delivery. Call D & D Cordwood (413)348-4326.

**MORE HEAT LESS WOOD.** Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

## MISCELLANEOUS

**2013 SUMMERLAND 28' ONE BUMP OUT SLEEPS 6, PLENTY OF STORAGE GREAT CONDITION MUST BE SEEN ASKING \$12,000.00 (413)238-0199**

## TAG SALE

**238 ELIZABETH DRIVE, LUDLOW, MA JULY 8 9:00AM-4:00PM** TOYS, HOUSEHOLD ITEMS, TOOLS, FURNITURE, ANTIQUE DESK, COPPER HOME DECOR, BYERS CHOICE CAROLERS.

## WANTED

### 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.  
**Call Pete 413-433-0356.**

## AUTO

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

Find archives of this local newspaper at [www.newspapers.turley.com](http://www.newspapers.turley.com)

## SERVICES

**1\*\*\*\*\*A CALL WE HAUL WE TAKE IT ALL WE LOAD IT ALL**  
Lowest rates, accumulations, junk, estates, attics, garages, appliances, basements, demo services. Dumpsters available for rent.  
All Major CC's  
CALL NOW (413)531-1936  
acallwehaul@gmail.com



**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.

**BILODEAU AND SON ROOFING.** Established 1976. New re-roofs and repairs. Gutter cleanings and repairs. Licensed/ insured. Call (413)967-6679

**CHAIR SEAT WEAVING** & refinishing - cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

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

## SERVICES

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

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

**HOME REPAIR & REMODELING** for all your interior & exterior needs. Carpentry, woodworking, porches, patios, windows, doors, painting, drywall, siding, landscaping, clean-outs. Competitive pricing. References. Please call Brendan (413)687-5552

## LANDSCAPING

**A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE**  
Excavator Services  
Overgrown property?  
Extreme Brush Cutting!  
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal  
Lawn/Arborvitae 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**  
Serving Wilbraham & Ludlow

Spring clean-up and lawn repair  
Weekly mowing and yard maintenance  
Landscape installation and restoration  
Shrub trimming, pruning, and mulching  
Call or text 413-266-9975  
Insured - Commercial and Residential

## SERVICES

### 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

## RUBBISH REMOVAL

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

## 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  
413-213-5470

## SERVICES

### TUNE-UPS

**SNOWBLOWER & LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR**  
**A&M TUNE-UPS**  
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.  
Work done at your home.  
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

## PETS

**CHINCHILLA'S FOR SALE** \$60.00 or best offer. Call or text 413-523-6002

## HELP WANTED

**MAINTENANCE POSITION** For a reliable, self-starter Handyman Call Bill at 413-563-7154

### PER DIEM FRONT DESK.

Great place to work our front desk staff is averaging 10 years and counting! This is a part time per-diem position, 10-20 hours a week, including weekend coverage. Retirees encouraged to apply. Send a resume to: **The Gardens of Wilbraham, 2 Lodge Lane, Wilbraham, MA 01095.** Email: [mchisholm@thegardensofwilbraham.com](mailto:mchisholm@thegardensofwilbraham.com). Fax: 413-596-5320. Managed by Athena Communities, EOE.

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT

**3 BR DUPLEX** off-street parking. Stove, refrigerator included. W/d hook-up. \$1,400/mo. First, security. Near Big Y and MA Pike. NO PETS. 413-668-8348, 413-544-9012.



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

**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.

## 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 advertising 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.

# FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBRBAN – FRIDAY AT NOON  
or call: 413-283-8393 HILLTOWNS – MONDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
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: \_\_\_\_\_

**Quabbin Village Hills**  
Circulation: 50,500

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

First ZONE base price \_\_\_\_\_ Includes additional words  
Add a second ZONE **\$10.00**  
Add a third ZONE **\$5.00** Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):  
Subtotal \_\_\_\_\_  
x Number of Weeks \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

Quabbin  
 Suburban  
 Hilltowns

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

**\$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](http://newspapers.turley.com/photo-request)

**NEW ENGLAND'S  
FASTEST  
GROWING  
APPLIANCE  
RETAILER!**

# Manny's Appliances

**NEW LOWER  
SUMMER PRICES,  
EXPERT ADVICE,  
QUICK DELIVERY!**

**FINAL WEEK TO SAVE!**  
**DON'T MISS OUT ON THE LOWEST PRICES  
OF THE SUMMER DURING OUR 4TH OF JULY SALE!**

**FRIGIDAIRE GALLERY**

**22.6 CU FT COUNT-ER-DEPTH FENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH ADJUSTABLE TEMP DRAWER**  
MODEL# GRFC2353AF  
REG \$3299

**30" FREE STANDING ELECTRIC CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY**  
MODEL# GCRE3060AF  
REG \$1249

**1.9 CU FT 1000 WATT OVER THE RANGE MICROWAVE WITH 400 CFM VENTILATION FAN**  
MODEL# GMOS1964AF  
REG \$549

**TOP CONTROL 49 DECIBEL DISHWASHER WITH ORBIT CLEAN TECHNOLOGY**  
MODEL# GDPP4517AF  
REG \$779

**WAS \$5,876  
BUY ALL 4 FOR \$3,916  
SAVE \$1960  
PLUS GET AN ADDITIONAL 10% OFF ON-LINE PACKAGE REBATE**

**GE APPLIANCES**

**22.1 CU FT ENERGY STAR COUNTER-DEPTH FRENCH DOOR REFRIGERATOR WITH EXTERNAL ICE & WATER DISPENSER**  
MODEL# GYE22GYNFS REG \$3499

**5.3 CU FT SLIDE-IN ELECTRIC CONVECTION RANGE WITH AIR-FRY AND BUILT IN WI-FI**  
MODEL# JS760SPSS  
REG \$1949

**1.9 CU FT OVER THE RANGE SENSOR MICROWAVE & 400 CFM VENTILATION FAN**  
MODEL# JVM7195SKSS  
REG \$529

**FINGERPRINT RESISTANT 48 DECIBEL TOP CONTROL DISHWASHER WITH STAINLESS INTERIOR**  
MODEL# GDT645SYNFS  
REG \$899

**WAS \$6,876  
BUY ALL 4 FOR \$4,006  
SAVE \$2870  
PLUS GET A \$400 ON-LINE DELIVERY REBATE**

**AMANA**

**REG \$649  
\$479**

**REG \$629  
\$479**

AMANA LARGE CAPACITY TOP LOAD WASHER WITH HIGH EFFICIENCY AGITATOR MODEL# NTW4519JW  
AMANA 6.5 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH WRINKLE PREVENT OPTION MODEL# NED465SEW

**GE Profile**

**REG \$999  
\$729**

SAVE \$540 ON THE PAIR - PLUS GET A \$100 ON LINE DELIVERY REBATE

GE PROFILE 5.3 CU FT TOP LOAD WASHER WITH SMARTER WASH TECHNOLOGY AND FLEX DISPENSE MODEL# PTW705BSTWS  
GE PROFILE 7.4 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH SANITIZE CYCLE AND SENSOR DRY MODEL# PTD70EBSTWS

**Electrolux**

**REG \$1049  
\$799**

SAVE \$500 ON THE PAIR - PLUS GET A \$100 ON LINE DELIVERY REBATE

ELECTROLUX 4.5 CU FT FRONT LOAD WASHER WITH LUX CARE WASH SYSTEM WITH 18 MINUTE FAST WASH MODEL# ELFW7437AW  
ELECTROLUX 8.0 CU FT ELECTRIC DRYER WITH INSTANT REFRESH AND INSTANT REFRESH CYCLE MODEL# ELFE7437AW

**FRIGIDAIRE**

**REG \$949  
\$649  
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