

**EDUCATION** Free culinary training



REGION MassHire event PAGE 3

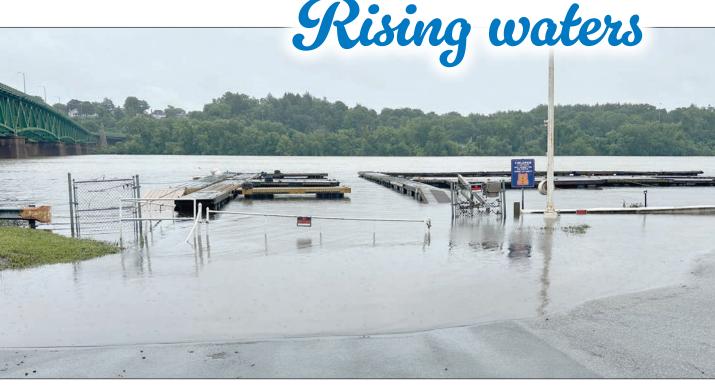


SPORTS Spec Pond League PAGE 7

# AGA

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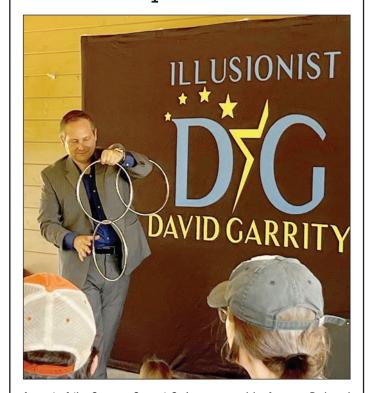
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The Connecticut River rises into a loading dock near Pynchon Point. The river has been on the rise for the past two weeks. The River Walk on River Rd. is a popular place for residents to exercise. Residents have been watching the Connecticut River next to it rise for the past couple of weeks due to excessive rain.

### Garrity entertains



As part of the Summer Concert Series sponsored by Agawam Park and Recreation and other organizations in town, three children's events are held. Last Wednesday was the first of the three as David Garrity performed his magic show for local children at School Street Park. David Garrity finishes off his show with the traditional three-ring magic trick. See more photos TURLEY PHOTO BY QUINN SUOMALA

# Council holds workshop on high school project

By Quinn Suomala Staff Writer

AGAWAM - Representatives from LeftField, the owner's representative and project management firm, and Flansburgh Architects held a workshop with the Agawam City Council on July 10 to discuss the current progress on

the high school project.

The Agawam Public Schools are in conversation with the Massachusetts School Building Authority about a potential project involving the high school. The planning and preparation for redoing the high school is predicted to take a total of 20 months.

"Currently we are in what we

refer to as the feasibility study, which is expected to take about 20 months, which is a pretty standard time frame for a project of this size," Senior Project Manager Linda Liporto said.

Within the feasibility study, there are four phases. The first

COUNCIL | page 12

# Way Finders project continues, could be finished this year

By Quinn Suomala Staff Writer

AGAWAM - Rosewood Way townhomes from Way Finders have made good progress on their housing project in Agawam.

This project will bring 62 housing units to the town of Agawam, located at 586 Mill St. in Feeding Hills. There will be 20 one-bedroom apartments, 29 two-bedroom apartments and 13 three-bedroom apartments.

"They are townhomes that are titled mixed income development, some apartments are financed with low-income housing tax credits," Mayor William Sapelli said.

The overall goal of this project is

to bring affordable and mixed-income housing to Agawam. Way Finders as a company works to bring these types of properties to suburban areas where there is high demand for such properties but a limited supply.

"I think the overall goal by Way

WAY FINDERS | page 12



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# HCC offering free culinary training for English language learners

HOLYOKE - Holyoke Community College is offering a free program for English language learners looking to begin careers in the culinary and hospitality field.

The course, "MassSTEP ESOL Culinary Arts," begins Monday July 17, at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St. It runs Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., through Aug. 25.

The 180-hour training is designed for people learning English who are at an intermediate level. ESOL instruction is built into the curriculum. The program is free thanks to a grant from the Adult & Community Learning Services division of the Massachusetts Dept. of Elementary & Secondary Education.

In the HCC class, students will gain skills in knife techniques, cooking methods, culinary math and measurements, workplace etiquette, resume building, and job searching, and earn workplace certifications including ServSafe Manager, Food Handler, and Alcohol. The course incorporates 90 hours of English language learning and career preparation.

The program is open to adult residents of Massachusetts who are learning English.

"This hands-on training is an exciting opportunity for students to begin a new ca-



HCC offering free culinary training for English language learners.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

reer in culinary and hospitality, advance into higher-level roles, or continue studying culinary and hospitality at the college level," said Pesha Black, director of ESOL at HCC. "Our alumni have gone on to work in restaurants, food service, hotels, and started their own entrepreneurial ventures. We work with over

two dozen local employers eager to hire qualified graduates as food preparers, line cooks, servers, bartenders, hosts and hostesses, and hotel workers."

For more information or to enroll, please contact Moira Lozada at 413-561-7280 or email at mlozada@hcc.edu.

# **Parish Cupboard Wishlist**

WEST SPRINGFIELD/AGAWAM -The Parish Cupboard puts out a monthly wishlist seeking donations of particular items of need. All donations to the Cupboard are greatly appreciated.

### July 2023 Wishlist:

Pasta sauce, pasta-all types, pancake mix and syrup, coffee and tea, cake mixes, Ramen noodles, canned meats - chicken, Spam, canned beets, canned carrots, hot cocoa, stuffing

## Summer concert series continues

AGAWAM - On Wednesday, July 26 at School Street Park, 418 Corey St., the Summer Concert Series continues with a kids event, Bob Bloom entertaining at 10 a.m. and later on, Maxxtone at 7 p.m.

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## First Quarter Tax Bills Due Aug. 1

AGAWAM – The First quarter preliminary real estate and personal property tax bills for fiscal year 2024 are due in the Town of Agawam collector's office by 4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 1.

Bills may be paid online at www.agawam.ma.us, by mail in the envelope provided or you may utilize the drop box that is provided outside the town hall for your convenience. First quarter payment notices were mailed June 23.

By law, bills were mailed to owners of record as of Jan. 1, 2023. Any new homeowner or anyone who has not received their real estate or personal property tax bill should contact the collector's office immediately to obtain the bill amount. The telephone number is 786-0400 extension 8218.

# 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.

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Location				
Description				
Cost				
Contact name & phone numb	er for mo	re informati	on	

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Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or email\* them to: jamie@turley.com

\*Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.

# MassHire hosts first appreciation breakfast

HOLYOKE - On June 27, MassHire Holyoke's Pillars of the Community Workforce initiative, funded by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development's Community Empowerment and Reinvestment Grant Program, celebrated its first annual employer appreciation breakfast to honor ten Hampden & Franklin County employers for their commitment to their communities and exceptional contribution to the workforce.

The event was hosted by Ramona Rivera-Reno, executive director of MassHire Holyoke's Reentry & Recovery Program and the Recovery Ready Workplace Initiative. The event took place at Summit View Banquet and Meeting House. 125 invited guests and community members were in attendance.

Aaron Vega from Holyoke's Office of Economic Development was the EMCEE for the event. MA State Sen. John Velis and Holyoke's Mayor Joshua A. Garcia were the featured guest speakers.

'The reason why we became a Recovery Ready Workplace is because we can't afford to lose a single person. Compassionately, it's the right thing to do." said Lynn, executive director, MassHire Springfield.

Rogelio Dones, a formerly incarcerated individual, delivered an emotional account of his employment journey that



Kevin Lynn, executive director of MassHire Springfield with Ramona Rivera-Reno, executive director of MassHire Holyoke's Reentry & Recovery Program

began at the age of 52. "I want everyone to know, getting out of jail and having a job is very important, it saves lives. A job helped me grow in my recovery. At 68 I purchased my first home and now I'm retired at 72." said Dones. To conclude the event, ten



State Sen. John Velis, Ramona Rivera-Reno from MassHire Holyoke, Maribel Reyes and Monique Vasquez from Helix Human Services

local employers were presented with certificates to recognize their commitment to the community. The list of employers includes Holyoke Veterans Home, Helix Human Services, The Loomis Companies, Holyoke Pediatrics Associates, J Polep Distribution Services, Springfield Housing Authority, PeoplesBank, Clean Crop Technologies, Edaron LLC, and Valley Malt. The employers were nominated by MassHire Holyoke and MassHire Springfield's Business Solutions Teams.

# **Holy Trinity** hosting annual Greek festival

HOLYOKE - Saturday, Aug. 26, at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Grounds, 410 Main Street, will be having the second annual Greek festival from 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

There will be Greek food, pastries and music. Event is rain or shine. Admission will be free. For more information, contact Sharon at 413-533-9880 or email holytrinityofholyoke@gmail.

## Searing heat presents danger for kids and pets

WESTWOOD - As temperatures soar, AAA would like to remind motorists to take extra precautions to make sure children and pets are not left in vehicles. Deaths due to heatstroke often occur when caregivers forget a child in a car, or simply do not realize how quickly temperatures rise in an enclosed vehicle.

As of July 6, 10 children have died in the United States as the result of vehicular heatstroke. In 2022, this preventable tragedy claimed the lives of 33 children, and 950 children have perished in hot vehicles since 1998, the year pediatric vehicular heatstroke deaths were first recorded.

On a summer day, leaving a child or a pet inside a vehicle for less than 10 minutes can prove fatal. Children and pets cannot regulate their body temperature like adults, and their bodies heat up three to five times faster.

It is important to note that when children are forgotten in the vehicle by their caregiver, it is common that there was a change in the normal daily routine, such as a parent dropping the child off at daycare who would not normally have that responsibility.

More than a quarter of heatstroke tragedies are caused by children gaining access to a vehicle on their own, without a parent or caregiver realizing. Examples include young children playing games such as "hide and go seek" and entering a hot vehicle to be quickly overcome by hyperthermia. For this reason, it is critical to lock parked vehicles to reduce this risk.

Unfortunately, children are often knowingly left in a vehicle; approximately 20% of these deaths occur because a caregiver left the child intentionally, yet not necessarily maliciously. Young children are left to "finish a nap" or the caregiver runs into a store or business to complete an errand without the child, not realizing the danger or how quickly brain damage can occur. Twenty-one states, including Connecticut and Rhode Island, have laws preventing caregivers from leaving children unattended in

If you see a child or pet left alone in a vehicle, dial 9-1-1 to report the incident and, if necessary, take action to remove them. Never leave children or pets unattended in a vehicle. Caregivers should use the "Look before you lock" your vehicle technique and when exiting, keep the vehicle locked so a child cannot gain access.

### **POLICE LOG**

The Agawam Police Department responded to 1,361 calls for service from July 10 to July 16 and recorded the following arrests. No arrests in the public log have been omitted. All suspects are innocent until proven guilty.

### Wednesday, July 12

Michael Armand Mesick, 33, of 8 Morningside Cir., Agawam, was arrested at 11:05 p.m. for a subsequent offense of possession of a Class A drug, a subsequent offense of possession of a Class B drug, and not having an inspection sticker.

### Thursday, July 13

Cody Michael Soden, 27, of 217 Meadow St., Agawam, was arrested at 6:57 p.m. on a straight warrant.

### Friday, July 14

Kayla Marie McIntosh, 31, of 212 Regency Park Dr., Agawam, was arrested on four straight warrant, and for disorderly conduct, assault and battery on a police officer, and resisting arrest.

### Sunday, July 16

Alexis Hales, 20, of 420 North St., Agawam, was arrested at 9:03 p.m. for disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

# **Parish Cupboard holding first** pickleball fundraiser event

WEST SPRINGFIELD/AGAWAM - The Parish Cupboard will be holding its first-ever Pickleball Fundraiser on Saturday, Sept. 9 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Mittineague Park in West Springfield.

The event will feature a round-robin format and there are only 64 slots available. For more information, contact the Parish Cupboard at (413) 734-7969 or go to theparishcupboard.org. The cost to enter is \$40 per player. Sponsors are also being sought



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# Opinion

### Guest Column

## Rainy weather equals slug paradise



was so excited to be growing my cabbage, kale and cauliflower plants under bug net-Lting this year in an attempt to keep them free from cabbage worms and loopers.

Formerly I had used a row cover with moderate success. It kept in the heat and seemed to encourage tall spindly growth on the broccoli.

So, I did some research and ended up with some netting that so far was working out great, until I saw the holes on my outer cabbage leaves.

And of course, bug netting would not have an effect on slugs. Not at all.

Has the recent bout of rainy weather made your garden slug paradise? If so, here is a recap from a previous article so that you too can wage your own private war on the slug.

Your first strategy should be to alter your surroundings to make them less slug friendly. Slugs feed during the night and hide during the day,

for that reason we should rid the garden of popular daytime hiding spots, or at least conduct a search and destroy mission on these spots regularly.

I use old boards as garden paths, separating plots of greens. First mistake; boards, bricks, and rocks make great cover for slugs from the mid-

From now on I'll turn these boards over once a day and play "salt a slug" or better yet, "squirt a slug." A couple shakes of the salt shaker will dehydrate slugs, and a mixture of half-water, half-vinegar in a spray bottle will take care of business as well.

You can also bring a container of vinegar water or salt water to the garden and simply drop them in, using gloves, of course, less be stained by soap resistant goo.

Mass trapping also works. Probably the most famous trap around is made from stale beer.

To be effective it must be set up correctly, otherwise slugs will be lured but not trapped. Bury a container level with the soil surface and fill it with beer to one inch from the top.

Ideally, slugs stretch out their bodies to reach the liquid, fall in and drown. Dump the container often, especially after it rains, since water will dilute the beer as well as raise the level of the liquid.

Commercial slug "motels" come with a yeasty

powder you mix with water - these work on the same principle as our homemade version.

Some folks also have good luck trapping slugs in watermelon or cantaloupe rinds placed about the garden. Dispose of the slug filled fruit into the trash each morning without an ounce of slime on your fingers!

Barrier methods are also used to keep slugs off of your plants.

The most common is diatomaceous earth, a sharp substance formed from the skeletons of microscopic organisms called diatoms. Slugs avoid it, less they be cut to shreds.

My mom had reasonable success using lime, and I have heard the same regarding wood ashes. The most common recommendation is a two inch strip around the plants you want to be spared.

Slugs also reportedly hate crossing over copper. Line the perimeter of your garden with copper strips, or just target specific plants that slugs seem to go for.

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 sub-



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The Community College option

This is the first of six articles that address the characteristics of the community colleges in western Massachusetts.

By Eric Goodhart

With the annual cost of private and state colleges costing in 2023 up to \$85,000 and \$39,000 respectively, families are looking at ways to save money. Community Colleges are challenged to meet the need of those students, who are looking at the CC option.

Some do it better than others. The question is, which CC is better equipped to support and prepare a teenager through two years and matriculate with the transferable credits to qualify as a junior at a four-year institution, private or public?

Many people think of a community college as the next step in post high school education either to lead to training in a vocation requiring an Associate of Arts degree, a certification for a job or matriculation to a four-year state or private college. That, in fact, has been the case for thousands of Massachusetts students since 1960. That was the year Berkshire Community College was opened. It was the very first CC in the Commonwealth.

One does not have to look far to find data ranking four-year colleges in the US. In fact, the pioneer of such research was the US News & World Report in 1983. That turned into being a huge money maker for the publisher. So much so, that many other magazines got into the ranking business. But because Community Colleges are largely drawing students from drivable distances there has been no such ranking for CCs.

This article and those that follow do not attempt to rank the colleges in the manner of the above mentioned. The focus is on identifying the academic strengths of each college, particularly the particular departments for which they are well known. I look at the percentage of students that matriculate in two years to four-year colleges, public and private. From Mount Wachusett Community College in Gardner to the Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield. Both do very good jobs in the areas I highlight below.

I counsel a number of students around the country. The rising cost of four-year private and public colleges in California has risen so high that what was once an "open-door" policy for high school graduates into a CC is no longer guaranteed for any program at most of the CCs in that state. The cost of even living in California has made CCs the most economical option for many. Nothing to be embarrassed about. Providing the even lower cost of a CC becomes a good return on investment.

Commonwealth CCs have not closed their doors except for students looking at training and certification in various health care fields such as nursing. That is the case at Mount Wachusett Community College and Greenfield Community College. That does not mean, however, a student with aspirations to become a nurse cannot start. at a CC. A good CC advisor, like the two CCs mentioned above, should be able to design a course plan for that student to earn admittance to the over enrolled more academic selective programs providing he or she has a strong academic outcome in the core courses.

Some areas a student and parents should

research before enrolling are these. Request a meeting with a counselor, who has at least four years' experience as an academic and career advisor at that college or elsewhere. Most CCs have less than 30% of full-time students enrolled. How long does it take to earn an AA or certificate in a particular vocational program? What are the transfer steps at the CC to make sure the courses taken are transferable?

If those basic steps are not satisfactory, check out another CC even if it means renting an apartment in that community. CCs should be able to suggest suitable, safe housing. Living away from home while enrolled at a CC will help the student and parents see how ready he or she is to take on the responsibility to do the academic work in class; wash their clothes in a timely manner and even take on a part time job.

In a prior column I spoke about why college is so expensive. Besides starting a dollar cost average saving plan for college when the student is still in the womb, dual enrollment can be a very good option. It will get the student out of the high school where in too many cases, the expectations and grade inflation have not truly prepared many high school graduates for college level work.

I once interviewed a Yale professor who told me candidly that in the last 15 years, he could not understand how some of his students were admitted. They could not put a cogent paragraph together in class.

There are also excellent four-year colleges that offer online courses to anyone with a desire to learn. Hillsdale College is one of those colleges. Ideally, many colleges with the exception of the Ivy League and its ilk may give college credit for such courses.

College Level Examination Program is another often forgotten option. At the very least it will demonstrate to the college admissions committee, that the student has taken the initiative and has the "intellectual curiosity" to do more than meet the basic requirements to graduate. More specifics on each of the Commonwealth's western CCs will come beginning next week.

Editor's note: People may email questions to edowner@turleycom.

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

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# Schools & Youth

## Russo named to **President's list** at WNEU

SPRINGFIELD - Antonio Russo of Agawam has been named to the president's list at Western New England University for the Spring 2023 Semester. Russo is working toward a Doctor Pharmacy degree.

NEWTON - Jenna Grasso, a Lasell Uni-

versity student from Agawam, was recog-

nized by their peers for outstanding col-

laboration in the spring 2023 semester in

their Professional Standards and Ethics in

best people to work with in the course. Re-

cipients of the Collaboration Recognition

Award are selected by their peers for ex-

emplifying superior skills in collaboration

Grasso was selected as one of the two

Education course.

## **Providence College** spring dean's list

PROVIDENCE – Providence College has announced those who have been named to the College's dean's list for the spring se-

Locals named to the College's spring list include:

Olivia Barbarini, class of 2026, Agawam. Gianna Smith, class of 2026, Agawam.

by sharing ideas and useful information,

communicating in a professional manner,

and cooperating in a way to ensure suc-

gram at Lasell University was launched

in 2021 as an opportunity to acknowledge

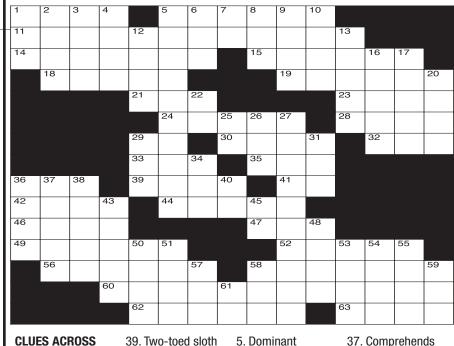
students not just for their academic per-

formance in a particular course, but for

collaborative behaviors that are the key to

success in professional environments.

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- 1. Commoner
- 5. Tea leaf 44. Biu-Mandara 11. They save you a table
- 14. Submissions
- 15. Secretly revealed 18. Personification of the sea
- (Norse) 19. Unreal
- 21. No seats
- available 23. Bangladeshi currency
- 24. Leaders
- 28. Famed garden 29. Denotes past
- 30. Not living
- 32. Midway between 63. Port in Yemen south and southeast
- 33. Small island (British)
- 35. Woman (French)
- 36. Wife

- 39. Two-toed sloth
- 41. Blood group 42. Soaks
- language of Cameroon
- 46. Japanese prefecture
- 47. Place to be during a rock concert
- 49. Fully grown humans
- 52. Emaciation 56. Sparkling
- 58. Fruits you peel
- 60. Derived from a noun 62. Popular items
- to grill

### **CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Before 2. Actress Dunham
- 3. This (Spanish) 4. Director Peter

- 5. Dominant 6. English artists'
- society (abbr.) 7. NY Giants legend
- 8. It's in the ground
- 9. No No No 10. Pesky insect
- 12. Danish-American muckraking iournalist
- 13. Kids love to do it 16. Good Gosh!
- 17. Fakes 20. A citizen of
- Denmark
- 22. Mystic syllable 25. Commercial
- 26. Letter of the
- 27. Helpers 29. Water (French)
- 31. Young woman
- 34. Red-brown sea
- bream 36. Messenger ribonucleic acid

- Comprehends
- 38. Walk with confidence
- 40. Home of the Flvers
- 43. Appetizer
- 45. News
- organization 48. Source of the Nile
- 50. A way to march 51. Soluble
- ribonucleic acid 53. Egyptian bull-
- god 54. Children's author
- Blyton 55. Baseball pitching stat
- Hebrew alphabet 57. Rude young
  - person
  - 58. Table napkin
  - 59. Monetary unit in Asia
  - 61. One-time AL MVP Vaughn

# WNEU graduates Agawam residents

**Grasso recieves award from Lasell** 

SPRINGFIELD - Western New England University held its undergraduate commencement ceremony on May 20 in the Anthony S. Caprio Alumni Healthful Living Center, celebrating the Class of 2023. The keynote speaker Jon Clifton, CEO of Gallup the global analytics and advice firm, talked about the power of being unique. "You owe it to the world to discover what makes you uniquely great and never stop developing those strengths."

These students are from the Agawam

Isaac Alexander Saenz graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BS in Criminal Jus-

Michael Alan Stepanik graduated Cum Laude with a BSE in Computer Engineer-

Scott T. Malecki graduated with a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

Joseph Ambrose Thornton graduated Summa Cum Laude with a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

### **CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 9**



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A large crowd gathers at School Street Park to see illusionist David Garrity perform.



Kids in the crowd volunteer to help David Garrity with his next trick.

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helps him to perform a magic

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David Garrity and his second volunteer complete a mind-reading trick.

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# SPORTS



Amelie Caretta works in traffic.



Hannah Podworski tries to pick up a loose ball.



Molly Hutchinson goes for a shot.



Skylar Rosario dribbles toward





Elizabeth Parent chases down

# Jackets fall to Palmer

WILBRAHAM - Last week, in Spec Pond Summer Basketball League action, the Agawam Yellow Jackets, a fifth and sixth grade girls team, was defeated by the Palmer Panthers 19-14.

The loss brought Agawam to 1-2 on the young season. Agawam had a pair of games postponed by rain and are back in action on Friday, July 21 against Taylor Real Estate.

# New England Mutiny makes playoffs following tie with Rush

By Tim Peterson

Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW - The New England Mutiny managed to qualify for the United Women's Soccer (UWS) playoffs for the second consecutive year.

The Mutiny officially clinched a berth in this year's East Conference playoffs following a 2-2 draw against the Connecticut Rush at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow on July 8.

However, it wasn't the result that the Mutiny players or coaches were really looking for in the regular season home finale.

"You don't always get the result that you're looking for in the game of soccer," said Mutiny assistant coach Jill Kochanek. "We tried a slightly different formation with the personal that we had for tonight's match."

First-year Mutiny head coach Maurico 'Toto' Coimbra was unavailable for comment following the home match.

The Mutiny, who finished the regular season with a 4-2-2 overall record, entered the playoffs as the sixth seed. They were scheduled to make to Lancaster for a quarterfinal match on Wednesday July 12.

"We come into every season expecting to make the playoffs. That's our number one goal," said Meghan Cunningham, who has been playing for the Mutiny for more than ten years. "It's disappointing that we're not a higher seed this year."

The conference semifinals and finals are scheduled to be held at a site to be announced this week-

Following a 3-0 road win against the Scorpions SC on June 12, the Mutiny had a 3-0-1 record.

Their leading goal scorer at that point of the regular season was Catherine Berry, who headed back to University of South Carolina to prepare for the upcoming

fall soccer season. Had Berry been able to play in every regular season match, the Mutiny, who posted a 1-2-1 mark during the second half of the regular season, would've probably been hosting a playoff match for the second consecutive year.

A year ago, the Mutiny lost to FC Buffalo, 2-1, in the East Conference semifinals at Lusitano Stadi-

"Having to play a midweek playoff game on the road is always a very difficult thing to do," Cunningham said. "Hopefully, we can get a good group of players for our playoff game. It has been a lot of fun being a member of this soccer team and I'm hoping to come back again next year."

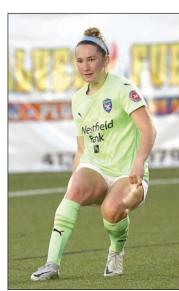
The start of last Saturday's match was delayed for an hour due to lightning.

Once the weather did clear up, the Mutiny took a 1-0 lead during the second minute of the opening

Jenna Kalwa, who's the head coach of the University of Saint Joseph women's soccer team, began the scoring play by sending a pass to Catherine Bean in the middle of the box. Bean finished off the play by blasting a shot into the upper left corner past Rush goalie Alessandra Augur.

Bean, who's from Westfield, will be a junior on the Bryant Uni-

MUTINY | page 9





Laci Lewis gets ready to clear the ball.



Laura Gauvin gets past an opponent.



Meghan Cunningham looks to make a decision with the ball.



Hope Santaniello maneuvers through the middle of the field. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

# Bonsignore wins photo finish at New Hampshire

LOUDON, N.H. - Justin Bonsignore scored his second win of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season on Saturday evening at New Hampshire Motor Speedway - and did it in a photo finish coming to the line. The driver of the No. 51 for Ken Massa Motorsports machine was out front when rain hit the track with just under 35 laps to go and the field pulled down pit

It looked as though it might be over but the rain stopped - NASCAR and track officials dried the track - and the Mohegan Sun 100 went back under the green flag. Bonsignore pitted during the caution and had to restart outside the top-10. He charged through the field and was in position to race for the lead in the final few laps in the Phoenix Communications ride.

Bonsignore passed Doug Coby to take the lead when the field crossed at the white flag. Off turn two on the final lap, Coby went to the outside of Bonsignore for the lead with Ron Silk looking three-wide to the bottom. Bonsignore led through the



Justin Bonsignore was a winner at New Hampshire Motor Speedway last weekend.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

middle of turn three before Coby crossed to the bottom and got inside coming off turn four to the finish line.

Bonsignore and Coby drag-raced to the line and made a little bit of contact, with Bonsignore coming out on top by a small margin. It was the 37th career win for the Holtsville, New York, native and his second points-paying win at New Hampshire.

"It was just crazy," Bonsignore said. "The way we were able to drag-race back to the line and beat Doug, it was amazing. This is our Super Bowl, our Daytona 500. There's nothing like racing a Modified here. I'm glad we got the race back going and the fans stuck it out. Coby, Silk and I have a good rivalry but there's a ton of respect involved. I knew where I wanted to be on the last lap."

Bonsignore will be back on the track at Claremont Motorsports Park for the next NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour event on Saturday, July 29. For more information on the three-time series champion, visit JustinBonsignore.com.

# Valley Blue Sox doubled up by Danbury Westerners

HOLYOKE - The Valley Blue Sox were defeated by the Danbury Westerners by a score of 10-5 last Saturday. The team fell to 16-15-1 on the season.

Sean Scanlon started the game for the Blue Sox, pitching five shutout innings with four strikeouts.

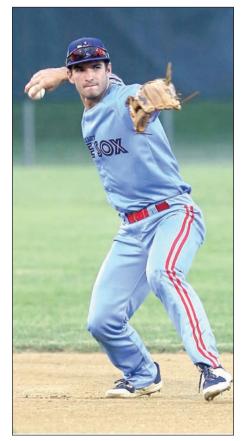
Valley led the game for the first five innings. Eliot Dix leadoff the game with a solo home run, followed by an RBI groundout by Efrain Correa Jr. in the top of the second. Michael Zarrillo added a solo home run in the top of the sixth inning to make it 3-0. Zarrillo batted 2-for-3 on the night with a walk.

The trouble began in the bottom of the sixth inning, when the Blue Sox gave up seven runs off of back-to-back-to-back home runs followed by a fielding error and a sacrifice fly to allow the Westerners to take the lead 7-3.

AJ Guerrero hit a solo home run in the top of the seventh to cut the Danbury lead to three runs. The left fielder went 3-for-5

Danbury added three more runs off in the bottom of the seventh following a two run home run and an RBI double, allowing the Westerners to increase their lead 10-4.

Valley would take one more run back following a solo home run from CJ Willis, making the final score 10-5.



Jeff Pierantoni winds up for a long throw.



Michael Zarrillo gets the out at first.



Jonathan Bautista pitches for the Blue Sox.



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**Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor** 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or email directly to ekennedy@turley.com

# **Sports**

# Hall presenters named

SPRINGFIELD - The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the list of Hall of Famers scheduled to present the Class of 2023 at the Enshrinement Ceremony to be held Saturday, Aug. 12, at Symphony Hall in Springfield, Massachusetts, the "Birthplace of Basketball." 45 Hall of Famers are expected to be in attendance for the ceremony, including all presenters.

Members of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Class of 2023 were asked to select previous inductees to accompany and present them to their peers. The choice is solely the decision of the incoming Hall of Famers or their family members if recognized posthumously.

The 2023 Hall of Fame Inductees and Presenters:

1976 Women's Olympic Basketball Team, presented by Ann Meyers (Class of 1993), Nancy Lieberman ('96)

Becky Hammon, presented by Sheryl Swoopes ('16), Teresa Weatherspoon ('19) David Hixon, presented by Jim Calhoun ('05), John Calipari ('15)

Dirk Nowitzki, presented by Jason Kidd ('18), Steve Nash ('18)

Dwyane Wade, presented by Allen Iverson ('16)

Gary Blair, presented by Teresa Weatherspoon ('19), Van Chancellor ('07) Gene Bess, presented by Chris Bosh ('21), John Calipari ('15), Roy Williams

Gene Keady, presented by Jerry Colangelo ('04), Tom Izzo ('16)

Gregg Popovich, presented by David Robinson ('09), Manu Ginobili ('22), Tim Duncan ('20), Tony Parker ('23)

Jim Valvano, presented by John Cali-

Pau Gasol, presented by Toni Kuko

Tony Parker, presented by Manu Ginobili ('22), Tim Duncan ('20)

For more information and the latest updates, visit hoophall.com/Enshrinement or follow @hoophall on Twitter and Instagram.

# Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE **PUBLIC HEARING AGAWAM** CITY COUNCIL

The Agawam City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 7:00 P.M. in Veterans Hall located at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Michael Dipon for a zone change request for 314, 318 & Rear Silver Street, Agawam from Business A & Agriculture to entirely Residence A-3 (ZC-2023-1).

This public hearing will be live-streamed on the Town of Agawam's website at www.agawam.ma.us and will also be televised on Cable Access Channel 15. ZC-2023-1 is available for public inspection by emailing the office of the City Clerk for an electronic copy at vgioscia@agawam.ma.us BY ORDER OF:

Christopher C. Johnson City Council President 07/20, 07/27/2023

### LEGAL NOTICE **PUBLIC HEARING AGAWAM** CITY COUNCIL

The Agawam City Council will hold a public hearing on Monday, August 7, 2023 at 7:00 **P.M.** in Veterans Hall at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the petition of Mayor William Sapelli on an Ordinance to amend Section 29 of Chapter 180 of the Code of the Town of Agawam regarding Residence A-3 districts (TOR-2023-5). This public hearing will be live-streamed on the Town of Agawam's website at www.agawam. ma.us and will also be televised on Cable Access Channel 15. TOR-2023-5 is available for public inspection by emailing the office of the City Clerk for an electronic copy at vgioscia@agawam.ma.us

BY ORDER OF: Christopher C. Johnson City Council President 07/20, 07/27/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P0572EA **Estate of: David E Haskell** Date of Death: 10/24/2022 CITATION ON PETITION FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons: A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by: John J Ferriter of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale. IMPORT ANT 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 08/18/2023.

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: July 13, 2023

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 07/20/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court **Probate and Family Court Hampden Division 50 State Street** Springfield, MA 01103

(413)748-8600 Docket No. HD23P1303EA Estate of: Mary Kozak Also Known As: Mary A. Kozak **Date of Death:** October 18, 2022 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner CatherineA. Moretti of Bourne, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

CatherineA. Moretti of Bourne, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court. but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 07/20/2023

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.

# Obituary

## Matthew "Babe" Blackak

AGAWAM - Matthew "Babe" Blackak, 94, passed away peacefully July 10, 2023 surrounded by his loving family. Born June 20, 1929 in Springfield, MA, he was the son of the late Matthew George and Marion (Rosenstein) Blackak. Matt grew up in Agawam where he attended Agawam public schools. He

was predeceased by his wife of 62 years, Lucille (Johnson) Blackak and together they spent many wonderful years raising a family, and vacationing in Old Saybrook, CT and Lake Winnipesaukee, NH. Matt loved his country and served a brief time with the US Army. He was a technician for National Scale and worked for Strathmore Paper. He also retired from the Agawam Fire Department in 1971. Matt was a faithful member of the Agawam Congregational Church since 1953 and served in many capacities including serving as Deacon for many years, church Trustee and Head Usher and was on both the Flower and Missionary committees. Matt was truly dedicated to serving others and devoted countless hours throughout a 25-year span with the Springfield Loaves and Fishes ministry of the church, along with many years as volunteer and recruiter, on behalf of the church, for the Parish Cupboard in West Springfield. He was also a 10 Gallon Donor with the Blood Program. Matt loved and cherished his family, his church and his country. In faithfulness to this great nation, Matt insisted on pledging allegiance to the flag of the United States at appropriate times. He also enjoyed his quiet time tending to his vegetable and rose gardens.



Matt is survived by his 4 children Sheryl Longhi and her husband, Nick, Matthew David Blackak and his wife, Deborah, Brian W. Blackak and his wife, Melissa and William G. Blackak and his wife, Susan; 11 grandchildren; and 18 great-grandchildren. He is further survived by his nieces Ada Cameron and her husband, John and their son, Matthew and

Ginny Harnois and her husband, Rusty and their children; and numerous other loving relatives and friends. He sincerely appreciated his many long-time friendships he had nurtured over the years; his special friend and companion since 2013, Gail Demers; and his two wonderful neighbors Leo and Laura Gagnier and the Tom Cascio Company. In addition to his parents Matthew and Marion and wife, Lucille, he was predeceased by his grandson Chad Blackak. Calling hours for Matt will be held on Monday, July 17, 2023 from 10AM-12PM at Colonial Forastiere Funeral Home, 985 Main St., Agawam, MA 01001 with a funeral service beginning at the funeral home at 12PM followed by a church service, to be celebrated at 1PM, at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., Agawam, MA. A private burial will be held at the convenience of his family. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Matt's name to the Parish Cupboard, 738 Main St., West Springfield, MA 01089, Shriners Hospital for Children, 516 Carew St., Springfield, MA 01104, Agawam Lions Club (Sight and Hearing) PO Box 52, Agawam, MA 01001 or to the Agawam Congregational Church. For online condolences please visit www. forastiere.com.

### **MUTINY** ■ from page 7

versity women's soccer team in the fall.

She gave the Mutiny a 2-0 advantage by converting a rebound goal during the 23rd minute.

The Mutiny other local players, who saw action in the regular season finale, were Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Laura Gouvin (Monson), Ela Kopec (Ludlow), Brooke Samborski (Chicopee), and Alexis Legowski (South Hadley). Julia Robak (Chicopee) was the back-up goalkeeper.

The Rush (1-6-1) cut the deficit in half a couple of minutes later following Ellery Winkler's first goal of the con-

A little more than five minutes into the second half, the Mutiny had another scoring chance on a header in the box by Rachel Marchini following a corner kick, but it just

The Mutiny managed to hold onto the one goal lead until the 74th minute when Winkler fired a low shot into the right corner of the net past Kopac tying the score at 2-2.

Marchini missed another header and the Mutiny had to settle for the draw.

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### **DEATH NOTICE**

Blackak, Matthew Died July 10, 2023 Services July 17, 2023

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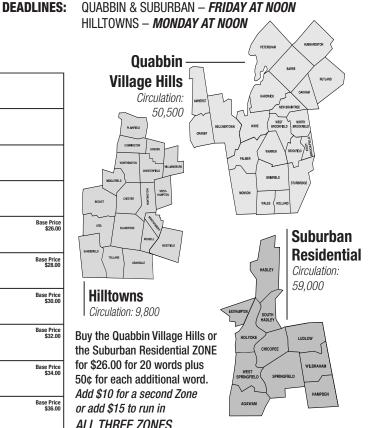
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### **WAY FINDERS ■** from page 1

Finders was to offer what they consider affordable housing," Sapelli said.

In order to ensure that homes are affordable, apartments have been reserved for households at a variety of income levels. There will be 20 apartments reserved for households at or below 30% area median income, 27 apartments reserved for households at or below 60% area median income, 5 market-rate apartments and 10 apartments reserved for households who qualify for MassHousing's Workforce Housing Pro-

The project will take up about nine acres and will be made up of 10 two-story row house-style townhomes. Way Finders is working with design-builder Allegrone Companies and Dietz & Company Architects on these townhomes.

Four of the apartments will be fully accessible and another three will be equipped for those who are hearing or visually impaired.

There will also be an open grass area for residents, a paved loop for off-street parking and a separate community building for residential services and the Way Finders on-site property management.

Local destinations, including schools, the library, a grocery store, retail shops and a bus stop will be accessible by foot or bicycle from this property. Major roadways should also be easily accessible.

The project is coming along well and Sapelli believes, from his knowledge, that it could be done before the end of construction season.

They're moving fairly quickly on it, they might have them completed, the rate they're going, before the construction season ends which would be December...I'm pretty sure some of the units will be ready to go prior to Christmas," the mayor said.

Once completed this project will take a 70% local preference when deciding who will get these homes.

"Fortunately for us, it's going to be 70% local preference, which is important for me as mayor, that our residents, 70% will get preferential placement," Sapelli said.

The tenant screening will be determined via lottery of eligible applicants, according to the Way Finders website. For more information, including access to applications, go to https://www.wayfinders.org/real-estate/ property/rosewood-way-townhomes-0.



### **COUNCIL** ■ from page 1

phase of the project, which was the formation of the project team, began in December 2022, and the team was formed by March 30, 2023.

Currently, the project is in the second phase, also called the feasibility study phase, with a goal of completion by Oct. 2023. During the feasibility stage, the different potential plans are drawn up and discussed. Following this is the schematic design phase, which is predicted to take about seven months with a target submission date of May of 2024.

Finally, there will be the phase of getting funding for the project, which will involve the MSBA approving their portion of the funding and the district taking a vote for approval. The goal is for these votes to take place between June and July of 2024.

Currently, the project team has developed a variety of plans for how this project could be executed. The city council and the representatives from LeftField and Flansburgh Architects discussed the current potential options at the workshop.

'What we have outlined here is we have new construction...New construction, if it's off the existing building, is straightforward. It's 24 months to build that building, probably six months of site work," Principal-In-Charge Kent Kovacs, from Flansburgh Architects, said. "We have addition/renovation, where we have an addition of 75%, renovation of 25%. And then we go even further, where we're renovating more of the existing building."

The different plan options were separated into two categories, those involving the reconstruction of the current high school and those solely involving new construction. If the committee were to select the option involving reconstruction, the school would have to use modular classrooms for some time.

"Because there's no swing space, that means we're moving students to another location so we can work on those buildings for 12 to 14 months, you'll require

modular classrooms," Kovacs said. "When we talk about reimbursement, modular classrooms are not reimbursed by the MSBA, that's all on the town."

The city council will be sure to take the addition of modular classrooms into context when discussing the costs of the project. However, the project team is not yet at the point where the predicted costs of projects can be discussed.

"It's a little bit early in the process right now...but we will reconcile all the options and put actual pricing together for those and those options will give you feedback on what your potential reimbursement from the MSBA would be for them as well," Liporto promised.

The council was grateful for the information the representatives provided on the project.

Liporto and the other representatives also made it clear that they would work to ensure that this project would be the best fit it could be for the town of Agawam.

The idea is that we will find some sort of happy middle ground where it is the best project for everyone involved and yet the most fiscally responsible project that we can come up with," Liporto said.

Council President Christopher Johnson was pleased to hear of this goal set by the project team.

"It was heartening to hear that what they are searching for is the most economically feasible project that delivers what the students need in the classroom, the most economically feasible project that meets educational requirements," he

The council agreed that this workshop helped keep them informed on the project process and they look forward to meeting with the representatives again in the future as the project progresses.

"I had asked for the presentation tonight because the mayor, myself and the superintendent met with representatives from LeftField and I wanted the council to hear firsthand where in the process we are and what the process is," Johnson said.

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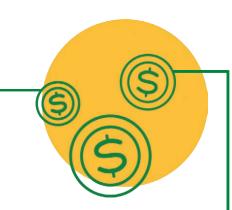
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