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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

July 31, 2025 | Vol. 47, No. 22 | \$1.00

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

Fashion and style shine at Agawam Public Library

By Quinn Suomala
 Correspondent

AGAWAM – Teens were asked to bring their best fashion design ideas into Agawam Public Library for their Project Waddleway event.

This event asked teens to design unique outfits for giant rubber ducks before the ducks had to walk the runway in front of the judges.

The teens had to use the materials provided by the library to create their ducks. These materials included markers, hot glue guns, small fabric swatches, fabric flowers and small plastic jewels.

Each duck was judged based on creativity of the outfit, whether the outfit went together in a concept, and on the aesthetic of the design.

“The winner gets to take

home a cardboard trophy that I made and painted gold,” Youth Associate Evan Delano said.

Delano was inspired to create this program for the teens last year while they were watching the show Project Runway.

At the time they also heard about another library which had done a rubber duck costume contest, and they thought it would be fun to combine the two ideas.

“I thought it would be fun if I made Project Runway, but for ducks,” Delano said. “It sounded silly and fun.”

All the teens had a great time last year, so Delano knew they wanted to bring the program back for this summer.

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Left: Noah Perry was proud to be the overall winner of Project Waddleway. Above: After gathering their materials the teens quickly got to work on creating the outfits for their ducks.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA

Councilor wants town to explore different fiber optic options

By Gregory A. Scibelli
 gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Bringing affordable high-speed Internet through fiber optics has become more difficult in Agawam as a company contracted by the town, GoNetSpeed has declined to continue pursuing a project to install network in town.

The effort, which began with a task force under former Mayor William Sapelli, hit the skids when GoNetSpeed informed Mayor Christopher Johnson they could not continue the project because of issue negotiating the

owners of the numerous utility poles in the community.

City Councilor Thomas Hendrickson called on Johnson last month to bring back the task force formed by Sapelli to begin exploring other options.

“Whether its “to look into what steps the town should take, whether that is creating our own municipal fiber network, whether it’s contracting with Westfield to expand Whip City Fiber into Agawam, [or] whether it’s finding another company,” Hendrickson said in a press release in June.

Hendrickson made ref-

erence to a piece of legislation called One Touch Make Ready, which would require utility pole owners to allow a single construction crew to make changes to multiple utility wires.

The legislation has passed in 26 states, and eases the process of creating fiber optic networks.

Fiber optic networks exist in a few surrounding communities, including Westfield and Chicopee. Both cities have their own utility companies as well. Westfield formed its own fiber optic company called Whip City Fiber. Whip City Fiber nego-

tiated to expand fiber optic Internet to the neighboring Town of Southwick, but its town meeting voted down the spending required.

Hendrickson, speaking earlier this week on the issue, said he spoke with Johnson and the mayor is planning to reach out to former task force members to see if they are interested in working on the issue again.

When asked if Whip City Fiber could potentially be a good partner for Agawam, Hendrickson it is likely Whip City would run into the same issues GoNetSpeed did with pole owners. He said the leg-

islation could be the key to town and cities like Agawam being able to move forward with a fiber optic network.

Without a fiber optic network to provide high-speed Internet, residents are the mercy of companies like Xfinity, which charge more for the service and continuously raises prices on existing customers.

Hendrickson noted that the neighboring Town of West Springfield is attempting to work with Whip City Fiber, and they are experiencing the same issues with utility pole owners, and are running into roadblocks at-

tempting to establish a fiber optic network.

He also said the Agawam City Council endorsed OTMR legislation in April of 2023. Agawam’s state senator, John Velis, subsequently co-sponsored the bill during the 2023-24 legislative session. Meanwhile, Agawam’s state representative, Nicholas Boldyga, did not co-sponsor the bill. OTMR policies are opposed by the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), an organization that drafts legislation and connects state legislators with private sector representatives.

Paranormal program to haunt Old Meeting House Museum

By Charles F. Bennett
 Times Editor Emeritus

WILBRAHAM – Historian David Bourcier, president of the Athenaeum Society of Wilbraham that operates the Old Meeting House Museum in the center of town, is asking the community: “Have you ever wondered what goes bump in the night? Then, join us at the Old Meeting House Museum on Sunday, Aug. 10 at 2 p.m. for a fascinating afternoon with Agawam Paranormal, a nearby team of experienced investigators who explore reported paranormal activity in the area.”

Rob Goff, founder, director and lead investigator of the Paranormals will be the guest speaker at the museum’s Open House on Aug. 10. The community event is free, open to the public and runs from 2 to 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served and the Gift Shop will be open.

Founded by Rob Goff Sr. in 2007, Agawam Paranormal is a close-knit team of family and friends who conduct investigations at homes, businesses, and historic sites suspected of being haunted. Their work is rooted in a



Agawam Paranormal Director Rob Goff Sr. conducts a pre-investigation briefing at his home at a previous event. His work is rooted in a scientific approach, using a wide array of equipment and techniques to document potential evidence of paranormal activity.

PHOTO COURTESY VALLEY ADVOCATE

Freshman and new student orientation scheduled

AGAWAM – Agawam High School’s Grade 9 and new student orientation will take place on Thursday, Aug. 28 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. All students new to AHS are encouraged to attend.

This is a student only event, and is an opportunity for students to meet new friends, school administrators, current AHS student leaders, and school staff. Chromebooks will be distributed and students will tour the building, and access their schedule through the Power-school App.

Our Student Leaders are called “Chiefs”, and will bring them on a tour around the building where they will have time to learn and meet with students who participate in a wide variety of extracurricular clubs and sports.

Transportation will be available for students. There will be a bus picking up and returning students from the Feeding Hills section and another from the Agawam section. The bus schedules are posted on the Agawam High School website and are attached below.

PARANORMAL | page 12



General Ulysses S. Grant to visit historic site

AGAWAM – The grounds of the historic Thomas Smith House at 251 North West Street in Feeding Hills, will be the site of a first-person visit from General & Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant, and the General's horse, Egypt, on Saturday, Sept. 6. An open house at the National-Register-listed property will take place from 12 to 3 p.m.; General and Mrs. Grant will arrive (with Egypt) at 1 p.m.

After a brief introduction and survey of the General's life by Mrs. Julia D. Grant, the engagements, habits and contributions of the great Civil War general will be explored by Sam Grant through the use of lively and often humorous anecdotes, letters and impressions of the times.

Since 1989, Sam Grant has dedicated his life to understanding Ulysses S. Grant, one of the greatest leaders this nation has ever known. After years of study and experience, and portrayal of General Grant, his professional interpretation of the General's physical stature and character have won him the intellectual admiration and heartfelt appreciation of novice spectators and the most serious students of Civil War history alike. A highly acclaimed academic and motivational speaker, film producer, and United States Navy veteran, Sam Grant's inspiring and informative presentation will leave you with the overwhelm-

ing sense you have experienced the true General Grant, up close and personal, as history should be. Photo opportunities with the General, Mrs. Grant, and Egypt will follow the presentation.

This program, free and open to the public, is supported in part by a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

The private, non-profit, all-volunteer Agawam Historical Association preserves and presents Agawam and Feeding Hills history at its two locations and provides educational opportunities at its quarterly meetings. The association archives and displays artifacts pertaining to the Town of Agawam and its Fire Department in the Marilyn P. Curry History Room and Chief Russell "Rusty" Jenks Apparatus Room of the Agawam Historical & Fire House Museum, located in the former Elm Street Fire Station at 35 Elm Street in Agawam Center. The association has preserved the ca. 1757 Thomas Smith House, at 251 North West Street in Feeding Hills, in largely original, unrestored condition; the property was listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 2005. The association also offers an annual scholarship to an Agawam senior pursuing higher education in a history related field.



The Agawam Historical Association will host a first-person visit by General and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant on Saturday, Sept. 6 at the historic Thomas Smith House, 251 North West Street, Feeding Hills, Mass. An open house will take place from 12 to 3 p.m.; General and Mrs. Grant will arrive with the General's horse, Egypt, at 1pm, with presentation by acclaimed Grant portrayist Sam Grant to follow.

For more information, please visit [Agawam Historical Association on](http://AgawamHistoricalAssociation.org) [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/agawamhistory) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/agawamhistory). Volunteers and new members are always welcome!

Freedom Credit Union collecting cash and food donations for the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts

'Month of Giving' campaign extends from June 1 through August 31

REGION- Food insecurity continues to affect families across western Massachusetts, with inflation driving up the cost of everyday essentials. That's why Freedom Credit Union is again rallying support for its summer campaign benefiting the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. From June 1 through August 31, the community is invited to contribute to a stronger community by donating nonperishable food, personal care items or monetary gifts at any Freedom branch.

"Thanks to the generosity of our members, staff and entire community, this campaign has grown annually, and so has its impact," said Freedom Credit

Union President Glenn Welch. "Last summer, we collected more than \$3,350 in donations, along with nearly 1,435 pounds of food and personal care items. This year, we're aiming even higher. By simply adding an extra item or two to your grocery cart each week, you can make a lasting difference without stretching your budget."

Suggested donations of non-perishable food and personal care items include:

- Baby formula
- Beans in cans or dried in bags
- Bread mixes
- Canned chicken, fish and meat
- Cereals
- Coffee and tea

- Cooking oils and spices
- Diapers, wipes and toilet paper
- Dried or canned fruit
- Evaporated/powdered milk
- Granola bars and crackers
- Feminine sanitary products
- Instant potatoes
- Pasta and noodles
- Peanut butter and nuts
- Rice and grains
- Sauces
- Shampoo and body wash/soap
- Soups, stews and chili in cans
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Vegetables in cans

Velis, Veterans frustrated with recent report

WESTFIELD – Following the recent report from the Commonwealth's Supplier Diversity Office which found that the state continues to fall short of its contracting goals with Veteran-Owned Businesses, Senator John C. Velis, Senate Chairman of the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs, today shared his frustration with the report.

Dating back to 2015, the Commonwealth has set a yearly goal of contracting and purchasing goods from Veteran Owned Businesses with 3% of state agency discretionary funds. However, with many of these contracts

left unfilled by agencies, the state has fallen short by nearly \$1.3 billion cumulatively in the last 10 years, leaving Veteran business owners discouraged and unlikely to pursue future state contracts.

"I have always been committed to making Massachusetts the very best state in the nation for our Veterans to call home, and am truly concerned about what this report details when it comes to supporting our Veteran-Owned Businesses," shared Senator Velis, a veteran of the U.S. Army Reserves. "Honoring our veterans goes far beyond a once year celebration, and it is really frus-

trating to hear that our state agencies are not living up to our goals of contracting and placing orders with Veteran-Owned Businesses. I can understand why so many are losing faith in a system that should be uplifting their hard work."

Velis shared that he encourages Massachusetts Veteran-Owned Businesses to reach out to the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs with their experiences and to share any feedback on how the state can improve efforts to meet its 3% annual discretionary spending goal.

Veterans Cemetery friends group holding golf tournament

AGAWAM — The Friends of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Agawam and the Friends of the Agawam Veterans Council proudly announce their First Annual Golf Tournament in support of Wreaths Across America, a national effort to honor and remember our fallen veterans during the holiday season.

This exciting event promises a day of camaraderie, remembrance, and community support. Golfers, sponsors, and community members are invited to participate and help lay wreaths at the graves

of veterans resting at the Agawam Veterans Memorial Cemetery this December.

Event Details: 18 Holes of Golf with a cart, lunch, dinner and a raffle entry.

Location: Agawam Municipal Golf Course

Date: Aug. 31

Time: 12 noon

Registration Options:

Individual Golfer: \$125

Team of Four: \$450

Dinner Only: \$30

Tee Sponsor: \$100 (Company or "In Memory of" dedication)

Other Sponsorship Opportunities Available

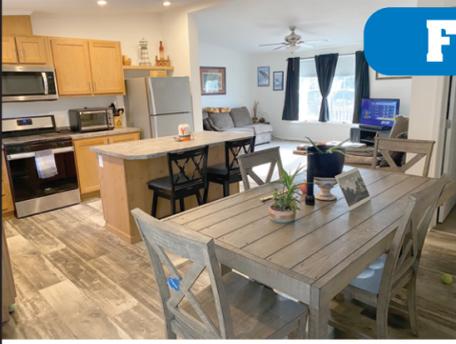
Payments Accepted: Check (payable to FMVM-CA, PO Box 03, Feeding Hills, MA 01030)

Venmo

Credit Card (by phone)

To Register or Sponsor: Contact Marline Claremont at 413-221-9548 or email wreathfriends@gmail.com. Registration forms are available upon request.

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Opinion

Guest Column



I'm turning 70. When should I apply for Social Security?

Dear Rusty:
I have a very simple question: I will turn 70 on Sept. 20 and want to start my Social Security benefits in September.

What month should I file my claim? Have there been delays with the reductions in SSA staff? Thank you for your help.

Signed: Ready to Claim.

Dear Ready to Claim:
Social Security allows you to submit your application for benefits up to four months prior to the month you wish benefits to start (you will specify your desired benefit-start-month on the application).

Thus, to have your benefits begin in September (the month you turn 70), you can submit your application as early as May 2025. That will give SS plenty of time to get your benefits started on time.

Remember, though, that SS pays benefits in the month following the month earned, so if you start benefits in September, you will receive your first SS payment in October on the third Wednesday.

And, since you will be turning 70 in September you are entitled to full benefits effective from the first of that month. Congratulations on choosing a strategy, which maximizes your monthly payment. By claiming at age 70, your monthly SS benefit will be about 31% more than it would have been at your Full Retirement Age and you will get that higher monthly amount for the rest of your life.

Re your question about possible delays, Social Security staff reductions have not included "front line" agents, those who handle applications, so the SS recent staff adjustments should not likely delay processing your application.

Although some back-office staffing turmoil currently exists at SSA, they have been moving more people to front-line positions to try to improve their service. Just be aware, however, that it normally takes the SSA about two to three months to process new applications, which is why they allow applications up to 4 months in advance. You will specify the month you wish benefits to start on your application. In any case, although your application should be fine if you submit it this month, rest assured that they will pay you starting with the month you requested, even if they must do so retroactively.

FYI, people can apply for Social Security in person by making a telephone appointment to do so at 1-800-772-1213 or they can apply online at www.ssa.gov/apply. To apply online, they need to have first created their "my Social Security" online account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Here is a video which explains the online application process: www.ssa.gov/hlp/video/iclaim_r01.htm.

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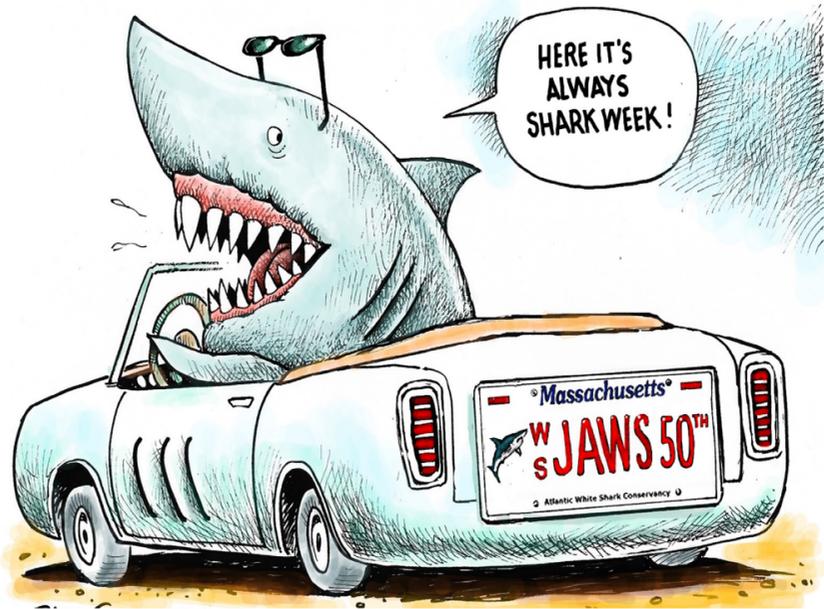
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Guest Column

Male common yellowthroat

A Brimfield resident reported a common yellowthroat in his yard.

The common yellowthroat as its name implies has a yellow throat. It also has a long tail and round belly. The males have a black mask with a whitish line above, olive upper parts, yellow throat and yellow under its tail. Females are brownish olive above with a yellow throat and breast. They lack the distinct, black mask of the male.

Yellowthroats are small songbirds about 4 to 5 inches long. The males sing a "wichety-wichety-wichety" song. Both sexes give a full sounding "chuck" note. During migration, the yellowthroat is the most common warbler found in fields and along their edges.

These warblers live in open areas with thick, low vegetation ranging from marsh to grassland to pine forests. The females select a nest location, near or on the ground supported by sedge, reeds, cattails, briars and other low plants. Nests in marshy areas are usually higher off the ground where they are safer from flooding.

Sometimes the nest has a roof like the ovenbird nests. They are one of the species that cowbirds lay their eggs in their nests.

People may designate an area of dense or tangled low-growing grasses and other vegetation to attract common yellowthroats to their yards. Yellowthroats prefer larger yards of at least half an acre or more.

Photo of a phoebe nest
I received an email containing a photo of an Eastern phoebe nest filled with phoebe nestlings. Eastern phoebes nest near humans often selecting a spot over a door or in a shed.

Wild turkeys
My grandson and I had to stop and wait for several hen turkeys with their poult to move them along a backroad in Barre. The largest hen

led the way, walking down the middle of the road. Three other hens took up the rear with the poult walking all over the place. Some even stopped to explore the edge of the road, but then ran to catch up. Finally, they headed into the grass and woods on the edge of the road.

More Brimfield birds

The Brimfield resident said he has seen more birds in his yard since his last email. "Baltimore orioles have been seen more often at the birdbath, probably because of the warm weather we have been having." On a recent day he had a robin, three orioles, cardinals, a titmouse, a chipping sparrow, blue jays, catbirds and a common yellowthroat all stopped by the birdbath and a black and white warbler was seen in the yard.

He said he took down the bird feeders because of bears. "We had a bear make a daytime visit. It was not seen, but we discovered that it had cleaned out the feeding station. All the black



GARDEN | page 12

The Pemi Loop: the second hardest day hike in the United States" - at 60

By Julie Midura
Guest Columnist

Last December, I got this harebrained idea to do something crazy for my birthday this June. It would be my way of proving to myself that 60 isn't as old as it sounds in my head.

The Pemi Loop - called "the second hardest day hike in the United States" by Backpacker Magazine - is a 32-mile hike that encircles the largest wilderness area in the White Mountains of New Hampshire.

With 10 summits and 10,500 feet of elevation gain, along with technical climbs and descents-completing this rugged hike in one day

would be the hardest endurance challenge I had ever attempted. As such, it would require significant training.

But in January, just one month after the idea took hold, life took a turn when our 1-year-old granddaughter, Charlotte, was diagnosed with inoperable brain cancer. Three months later, in April, our middle daughter's high risk pregnancy with twins became more serious when



both babies were diagnosed with heart issues.

The nail in the coffin came in May, when our 160-mile backpacking trip on the Appalachian Trail through New Jersey and New York -

my one and final opportunity to train for the Pemi Loop - ended just six days in. Our youngest daughter had been rushed to the emergency room with a life-threatening

pregnancy complication and was forced to deliver the baby five weeks early. (Mom and baby are now doing well.)

Over the last six months, our family has needed us, and my time has been better spent being there for the people I love, rather than spending my weekends training for an epic endurance hike.

So I shelved the idea of a solo, single-day Pemi Loop in favor of completing a 'leisurely' three-day Pemi Loop backpacking trip with my husband instead. After all, we wouldn't really need to train for it...would we?

The short answer, as we discovered last weekend, is

"Yes, you did need to train for it, you fools!"

Although our bodies most definitely took a beating, weary legs and several falls were a small price to pay for admission.

Because I have no desire to carefully preserve this now 60-year-old body. I prefer to use it up until there is nothing left. To wring out every last bit of my youth on adventures and experiences such as this.

You see, although our bodies most assuredly have a shelf life, there are parts of us that will forever remain age-

HIKING | page 9



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Subscriptions
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\$35 per year pre-paid
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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 changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.



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Agawam Advertiser News welcomes letters to the editor

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

Friday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper

plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in the Agawam Advertiser News.

Upcoming activities at the Agawam Senior Center

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

What happens when they or a loved is discharged from the hospital

Wednesday, Aug. 6 at 1 p.m. in the Seminar Hall

“Discharging – now what?”

From hospital to rehab.

Rehab to home with VNA.

The steps involved and how to navigate the “system.” Join us for this informative. Call the senior center to register.

Michelle A. Mccarthy, RMT – The heart-to-heart healing connection

Monday, Aug. 11 and 25 at 12 noon

Must sign up in advance.

Reiki is a Japanese stress reduction and relaxation technique. It is based on the

idea that a “Life Force Energy” flows through each of us. When your Life Force Energy is low, you are more likely to feel the effects of stress or to feel ill. Reiki is a “hands on” method of reducing stress, promoting relaxation and creating balance in ourselves and our actions. Appointments on Monday, Aug. 11 and 25 beginning at 12 noon. Call Kristina at 726-2836 to book your appointment. Cost is \$20 per 20-minute session in the library.

Jewelry Making with Sandy

Agawam Senior Center Computer Tech & Support Club

Aug. 12 and 26 from 10 to 11 a.m.

The Agawam Senior Center Computer and Technology Club will meet on July 8 and 22 and again on Aug. 12 and 26.

Medicare Supplement Plans or Medicare Advantage Plans? Which coverage is best for me?

Tuesday, Aug. 12 at 1 p.m. in Seminar Hall

For those new to Medicare, this is the top question most people have when seeking health insurance. Even if you're already enrolled on a health insurance plan, it's always a good idea to reevaluate your choices each year. Circumstances change, and so can your health plan. While we won't go into Blue Cross Blue Shield plan details, you will leave with a clear understanding of which type of Medicare plan best fits your needs. We'll discuss Original Medicare, the differences between Medicare Supplement and Medicare Advantage plans, prescription drug coverage options, and real-life case studies and resources to help you make decisions.

Call the senior center to register for this event.

Computer Classes

Monday, Aug. 18 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The Agawam Senior Center in conjunction with Revitalize Community Development of Springfield will provide Computer Literacy Work Shops twice a month at the Senior Center. Andrew Fluit who is a Digital Navigator/IT Support from Revitalize will be here to provide this service at no cost to you. The class will be available to 9 students per time. We will be sharing the computers. Please call Kristina at 726-2826 to register. First come first serve.

Karaoke, Kettle Corn, And Cousins Maine Lobster Food Truck

Tuesday, Aug. 19 from 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Do you love to sing? Do you love to cheer on others

as they belt out their favorite tunes? The Senior Center is offering Karaoke Night.

Agawam resident Raven will be coming in to run a fun Karaoke night and the Senior Center will provide the sweet treat of Kettle Corn for you to enjoy.

So brush off those vocal cords, practice your favorite tune and come down to the Senior Center for a night of fun.

All ages welcome...bring those grandkids.

Cousins Maine Lobster will be here from 5 to 7 p.m. with the option of you to purchase some delicious lobster from their food truck this night! Bring money to purchase.

Coffee Talk with Veterans

Wednesday, Aug. 20 in the Coffee Shop

Are you a Veteran? We here at the Agawam Senior Center would like to offer

you a space to have a coffee or tea on us. Come alone or bring a buddy. We would love to get to know you.

Continuing Sessions with Glenn Olsen

Aug. 22 at 1 p.m. in the Conference Room

A little about me, I was a long term successful Physical Science Special Educator. In January of 2010 I had a severely disabling stroke. For the past 15 years I have focused on rehabilitation from my injuries with both traditional and non-traditional methods. We have discussed topics essential to living a healthy life style such as foods, nutrition, and vitamins. We will continue to talk about fascinating topics such as muscle testing, energy levels, orbs, the significance of color and more. I look forward to having you a part of our discussion.

Stanley Park hosting dance sessions

WESTFIELD – Join us Aug. 18 on the Stanley Park Acre Lawn next to the Pavilion Annex from 6 to 7 p.m. for two Chakra Dance sessions led by Harlene Simmons from All Natural Reiki.

Chakra dance is rhythm for your soul, a movement-based practice that combines dance, music, and visualization to balance and activate the body's seven energy centers, or chakras.

This dance is to balance your Chakras (energy centers) and discover a deepened connection to your true self and feeling of coming home.

Music for your Base Chakra : vibrational, connecting your body to earth

Music for your Sacral Chakra: sensual, connecting to your inner goddess or god

Music for your Solar Plexus Chakra : fiery & dynamic, strong defined movement.

Music for your Heart Chakra: uplifting, joyful softening of your heart.

Music for your Throat Chakra: more ethereal, chanting as you dance, expressing your inner truth.

Music for your Third Eye Chakra: High vibrations, opens up to intuitive guidance through dance.

Music for your Crown Chakra: opening to a feeling of oneness, connected to the

divine.

Dress comfortably, easy, flowing clothes are recommended.

Donations to the Park of \$5 per person, per class, is suggested.

For more information on Chakra Dance classes and all other Stanley Park events, check online at: www.stanleypark.org.

HMC recognized for stroke care

HOLYOKE – A Greek Festival will be held on Saturday, Aug. 23 at the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church Grounds from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 410 Main Street, Holyoke. Greek food, pastries music, vendors and family-friendly features. We look forward to sharing another “Greek Day in Holyoke” with you. Admission is free; Ample parking. For more information, contact Sharon at 533-9880 or email holytrinityofholyokey@gmail.com.

Parish Cupboard to hold pickleball fundraiser

AGAWAM / WEST SPRINGFIELD – West Springfield Agawam Parish Cupboard 3rd Annual Pickleball FUNdraiser will be held Saturday, Sept. 13 at Mitineague Park in West Springfield. All ages welcome – Recreational and Competitive play divisions. For info or to register: www.theparishcupboard.org or call 413-734-7969.

West of the River Chamber holding Legislative breakfast

AGAWAM – The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will be holding its next Legislative Breakfast on Wednesday, Sept. 24 from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at Springfield Country Club. The event will feature State Representatives Mike Finn and Nicholas Boldyga, and State Sen. John Velis. To register, go to business.ourwrc.com.

Trips offered to Agawam seniors

AGAWAM – Insider's Travel, LLC, in cooperation with the Agawam Senior Center, will be announcing two new trips for area seniors on July 22 at 1 p.m. in the Agawam Senior Center. The trip reveal will include updates on currently planned trips, the new Insider's Travel Website, and a chance for a \$99 raffle drawing if you RSVP by July 21 and are present at the reveal.

Two new exciting and

affordable trips have been added to this season's schedule, which includes trips to Saratoga Race Track on Aug. 6, and beautiful Water's Edge Resort and Clinton Outlets on Sept. 9. There is also a Las Vegas concert at the famous Aqua Turf Club on Oct. 14.

With highly successful and entertaining trips already to Newport, RI and Thimble Islands, CT, two more trips are set to be revealed to 55-and-over residents. The response

from our travelers have been overwhelmingly positive regarding attention to details, scheduling, and overall planning.

Please come Tuesday, July 22 at 1 p.m. in the Agawam Senior Center for an opportunity to build your own travel experiences in a fun, safe, and affordable way.

RSVP to Jo at (413) 478-4698 or email insiderstravel2025@gmail.com.

High School of Commerce holding 50th Class Reunion

SPRINGFIELD – The High School of Commerce Class of 75 is holding their 50th class reunion.

It will take place at the Storrowton Tavern, West

Springfield, MA, on Saturday August 30, 2025 at 6 p.m.

Contact Janet at jan0826@comcast.net to learn more.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.

Let them know you saw their ad in the

Agawam Advertiser



think OUTSIDE of the BIG BOX

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- ▶ Do you want to work in your community helping local businesses connect with their customers?
- ▶ Do you want a career supporting local journalism, which tells the unique stories of our communities?
- ▶ If so, then join our team! Turley Publications is looking for an outgoing, energetic person interested in selling advertising for our community newspapers. The right candidate will assume an established territory with a portfolio of customers.

You must be a self-starter with excellent communication and organizational skills. Basic computer skills are required. Previous print sales experience is preferred but we will train the right candidate.

Turley Publications, a locally owned family business, offers a competitive commission structure, 401k, and health plan.

Send resume & cover letter to:



Jamie Joslyn
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
Email: jamie@turley.com

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Popular potato snack
5. Guards the Pyramids
11. Furnish anew
14. Herb
15. Preoccupy the mind continually
18. The lowest adult male singing voice
19. NATO commander (abbr.)
21. A major division of geological time
23. New Zealand parrot
24. Notions
28. Lump in yarn
29. Indicates position
30. Lose hold of
32. Hindu honorific
33. Former OSS
35. Electronic data processing

36. Cost per mile
41. They start the alphabet
42. Taylor Swift's tour
44. Intermediate ecological stage
46. Scarlett's home
47. Of he
49. Ohio city
52. Breakfast item
56. An evening party
58. ___ Falls
60. Linked together
62. Mythological spirits
63. Small Eurasian deer

4. Bundy and Fenwick are two
5. Qualities of sound
6. One who gets paid
7. Expresses surprise
8. O.J. trial judge
9. Pointed ends of pens
10. Shield bugs genus
12. Container for shipping
13. Upper body parts
16. Closes tightly
17. Nigerian World Heritage Site
20. Volcanic island in Fiji
22. Commercial
25. - ___ denotes past
26. They ___
27. Confraternities
29. A way to gain a point
31. Parts per billion

- (abbr.)
34. Brew
36. Badgers group
37. Sailing boat
38. ___ Polo, explorer
40. Elder citizen (abbr.)
43. Frankish law code
45. Exclamation of surprise
48. Groan
50. It presses clothing
51. Do not allow
53. Gelatinous substance
54. Common Japanese surname
55. Present in nature
57. Electronic countermeasures
58. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
59. Commercials
61. News agency

APL ■ from page 1

"I had so much fun seeing what the kids created and I could tell that they were having a lot of fun as well," Delano said.

They also enjoyed seeing how supportive the teens were of one another as they all worked to create the out-

fits for their ducks.

"They all helped one another, even though they were competing," Delano said.

This year they were excited to see what new ideas the teens came up with.

"I put out a few new things this year, so I'm excited to see what they make," Delano said.

Delano hoped that over-

all this program would be a way for the teens to relax, get to know one another and be creative.

"I hope they are proud of what they create and that they had a positive library experience," Delano said.

The teens did all have a great time, and the competition was a close one.

Youth Associate Isabelle

Malvezzi was the judge of the competition, but she had to bring in her coworker Charlie Pope to help break a three way tie for the best duck outfit.

In the end, the winning duck was named * and was designed by Noah Perry.

The library has many more fun events planned in the last month of summer.

There are weekly scavenger hunts in the children's area of the library that kids can come in any time to complete and get a prize.

There is also an adult board game night planned for Wednesday, Aug. 6 at 6:30 p.m. for any adult who wants to enjoy some snacks while playing some classic board games.

Additionally, on Thursday, Aug. 7 at 4:30 p.m. kids in grades five and six are welcome to come to the library for the Advanced Lego Building program.

To keep up to date on all the other fun events the library has planned, go to their website at <https://www.agawamlibrary.org/>.



Teens settled in at Agawam Public Library and began to plan out the designs for their duck's outfits. TURLEY PHOTO BY QUINN SUOMALA



The winner of Project Waddleway was awarded a trophy handmade by Youth Associate Evan Delano. SUBMITTED PHOTO



Above: All of the teens lined up to select the materials for their outfit design during the Project Waddleway program.



Right: Youth Associate Evan Delano explained that the two main rules of Project Waddleway were to be safe and to be fair. TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA

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 10, 2025.**

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

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 11.

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

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



Left: Teens eagerly listened to the rules of Project Waddley. Above: After gathering their materials the teens quickly got to work on creating the outfits for their ducks.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA



Right: (Left to right) Adult Services Library Associate Charlie Pope and Youth Associate Isabelle Malvezzi worked together to break a three-way tie for the winner of Project Waddley.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Youth Associate Evan Delano went around and checked in on the teens as they began to work on their designs.

TURLEY PHOTO BY QUINN SUOMALA



Youth Associate Isabelle Malvezzi was brought in to judge the ducks from Project Waddley.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

The teens came up with a wide variety of designs for their rubber ducks.

SUBMITTED PHOTO



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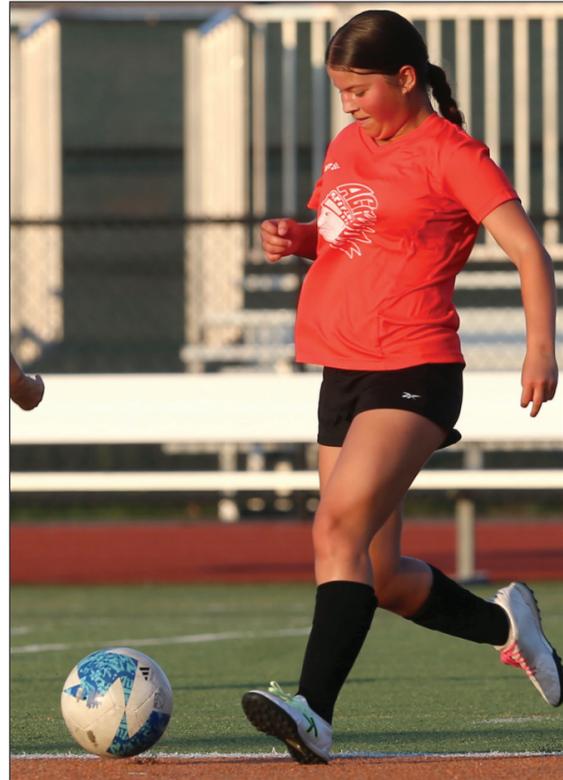
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SPORTS

Brownies fall to Lions in regular season finale

AGAWAM – In the final matchup of the regular season for Girls B action in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League, the Ludlow girls defeated host Agawam 1-0 last Thursday evening. The

Lions advanced into the B Division playoffs, facing Granby in the quarterfinals earlier this week. Agawam did not make the playoffs in the B Division.



Clockwise from above: Kaelynn Paquette advances up the field; Olivia Izzo goes for the header; Amelya Bramlett breaks away with the ball; Jasmine Chitu looks to make a quick pass; Alyssa Rondinelli goes after the loose ball.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

NxtLvl scores championship win



AGAWAM – Last week, Agawam's NxtLvl Beast 10U got the win in the Jimmy Fund championship game. Agawam Little League has been participating in the tournament for several years, hosting a number of games in the tournament over time at their little league complex at Memorial Field on School St.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Valley Blue Sox score win over Bristol

HOLYOKE – The Valley Blue Sox hosted the Bristol Blues in what was a phenomenal game. Bristol (25-17) scored two runs in the top of the second. Blues' Dean Oneill singled, which was then followed by a Thomas Ahlers single. The first baseman Trevor Hansen smacked a double into left to score Oneill and Ahlers. The Blues were in business up 2-0.

Valley (19-21) responded in the bottom of the fourth inning. Second baseman Sean Darnell singled into left for the Blue Sox's first hit of the night. An E4 by Bristol's Danny Infante allowed Michael Elko to advance to first. John LaFleur then came up to the plate. He doubled off the right field wall to score Darnell and advance Elko to third. Tim Ford hit a sac-fly to right, which scored Elko and advanced LaFleur to third. Valley's Catcher, Hayden Perry singled, scoring LaFleur to give the Blue Sox the lead 3-2 after four innings.

The Blues found their offensive footing in the top of the fifth. Tyler Benick reached first on a walk. Blue Sox's Starting Pitcher Conor Wolf got replaced by Jake Andrews with one out in the inning. Andrews struck out the first batter he faced, that

being Infante. Kristopher Giangreco walked to put another runner on base for Bristol. The three-hole hitter, Gianni Merlonghi, ripped a single into shallow right field, scoring Benick to tie the game at 3-3. Valley's relief pitcher Andrews, got out of the inning by striking out Oneill to limit the damage to one run.

In the bottom of the sixth the Blue Sox's First Baseman Elko blasted a homer into right field as the crowd roared in cheers. Valley was now up 4-3 after the go ahead homer by Elko. Blue Sox Head Coach Endy Morales was hyped after the homer. "He's unbelievable. Off the field he's a high character guy and on the field he does all the little things right." Ford then lined a single in the gap into left but then got caught on a pickoff by Bristol's Pitcher Mason Glickman. The Blue Sox were not able to score more runs after the homerun but reclaimed the lead to end the inning.

No more runs were scored and the game ended 4-3 in favor of Valley. Morales gave his thoughts on the game. "I thought we pitched really well. We got ahead of a bunch of hitters and that makes a big difference when you're getting ahead."

PeoplesBank advances to Tri-County finals

HOLYOKE – In a best-of-three games series, the PeoplesBank Tri-County baseball team swept Teddy Bear Pools in two games to

advance to the league championship series. St. Joseph's won its series in three games, two games to one, to face PeoplesBank. That champi-

onship series was scheduled to begin earlier this week. PeoplesBank defeated Teddy Bear in both games by a final of 7-2.



Alex Gochinski makes a throw to first for Teddy Bear Pools.



Seth Allen steals second base.



Rey Rivera gets the out at first for PeoplesBank.



Cam MacDonald sends the ball from third to first.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Dave Clark flips a throw to first.



Brendan Fournier throws a pitch home.



Mason Barcomb fields a grounder to short.

Ron Silk conquers the Monadnock Speedway

WINCHESTER, New Hampshire – After a series record eight different to open the year, Sunday's Cheshire County Clash 200 at Monadnock Speedway yielded the first repeat winner of the 2025 NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season.

Ron Silk would be the one to snap the streak, earning his first Monadnock victory with the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour in the process. The triumph did not come without drama for Silk, who collided with race leader Patrick Emerling in Turn 3 with 30

laps remaining, sending the latter for a spin.

Silk attributed the collision to two drivers going for the win. Although he was disappointed to see Emerling spin after the contact, Silk was more than satisfied to finally visit Victory Lane at Monadnock in his 15th appearance.

"We were racing pretty hard," Silk said. "I pulled out on the exit of Turn 2 and he didn't give me a lot of room, but I don't blame him. I feel like we both kind of got loose in and made some contact. I wish he could have held onto

it, but that's hard racing."

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it, but that's hard racing."

Matt Hirschman celebrates after claiming the Whelen Short Track Cup for the second time during the Cheshire County Clash 200 for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at Monadnock Speedway in Winchester, New Hampshire on July 20, 2025. (Photo: Jaiden Tripi/NASCAR)

Bonsignore held on to finish second while Hirschman secured third, which enabled him to claim his second Whelen Short Track Cup. Hirschman endured an odys-

sey just to reach the top five, as a mistake in qualifying relegated him to 20th on the starting grid.

By utilizing strategy and persevering with a car not to his liking, Hirschman narrowly edged out his Mud Lane neighbor Austin Beers for the Whelen Short Track Cup and a \$3,500 bonus courtesy of JDV Productions.

"I did not think this was possible," Hirschman said. "I do think we gave it away last night, but we ended up with a third place finish with a car that felt like it was on six

or seven cylinders. My guys worked hard, nobody knows what the problem is, but it's nobody's fault. The Cup wouldn't have even been a contest if we finished remotely close to where we should have last night.

"I feel like I drove my rear end off today with what I had."

Anthony Nocella and Trevor Catalano made up the rest of the top five. Rounding out the top 10 at Monadnock were Joey Cipriano III, Luke Baldwin, Emerling, Beers and Tommy Catalano.

HIKING ■ from page 4

less. And I plan to carry the best parts of my younger self into my older years.

I plan to worry less about "acting my age" and spend more time celebrating it. I plan to scramble up steep rock ledges. Watch the sun rise and set from mountain-tops. Sleep in the wilderness. Slow dance on summits. Kiss...even when someone is watching.

I plan to slide into the next decade, battered, bruised and bandaged, all while yelling, "Dang, what an amazing ride!"

So on our final day of the trip, I was disappointed to hear Tom say, "I hate to tell you this, but this will be my last Pemi Loop."

However, he said the same exact thing two years ago when we completed our fourth Pemi Loop. I'm secretly hoping that hiker amnesia kicks in again in two years when he turns 70. Because don't you agree that there's no better place to become a septuagenarian than on a walk around the largest wilderness area in New Hampshire?

See you in the wild places, my friends!

Right: The Pemi Loop is known as the second hardest day hike in the U.S.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Far Right: Julie Midura celebrated her 60th birthday on the Pemi Loop.



Better Business Bureau: Watch out for Pyramid schemes

Being able to sit in your PJs all day while you work from home with a schedule you set for yourself sounds great, right? Today, there are more and more opportunities to work for a multi-level marketing company and do just that.

Many of us are getting our social media news feeds bogged down with these opportunities - "Check out this New Skincare Line, it's All Natural!" or "Looking to Make Some Extra Money?" However, be careful when thinking about taking the leap and signing up for the convenience of being your own boss. The products may be good, and you may want to support your friend, but not all opportunities are created equal, and some might

just be scams designed to steal your money.

Updated with recent BBB Scam Tracker examples, BBB tips, and additional scam information on June 2, 2025.

- What you'll learn:
- The difference between multi-level marketing and illegal pyramid schemes.
 - Questions to ask yourself to recognize a pyramid scheme.
 - Tips for what to do when considering a new job or money-making opportunity.

It's important to understand the difference between multi-level marketing and illegal pyramid schemes.

Multi-Level Marketing (MLM) is a system of retailing in which consumer prod-

ucts are sold by independent salespeople. The earnings are determined by effort and the ability to sell consumer products that are supplied by the company. According to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), typically, distributors earn commissions, not only for their own sales but also for sales made by the people they recruit. MLM companies also encourage distributors to build their own sales teams by recruiting, motivating and training others to sell products. A well-run MLM is like being part of an extra-large family.

Pyramid schemes focus on making quick profits that are earned by selling the right to recruit others. The entire purpose of the scheme is to get your money upfront.

There is no real product to be sold as it's a scam.

BBB Scam Tracker continues to receive reports about pyramid schemes and passive income scams. This consumer reported their experience:

"I invested in [company name redacted] after seeing their claims about earning passive income through electric scooter rentals. Everything looked legit at first, but it's a complete scam. There are no real scooters, and no way to withdraw your money once it's in. They keep changing their website, delay payouts, and push you to recruit others - classic pyramid scheme tactics."

Questions to help yourself recognize a pyramid scheme:

- Are you required to "invest" a large amount of money upfront to become a distributor? Legitimate MLM businesses do not require a large start-up cost.

- Are you being told this is an easy way to make passive income after making an initial investment? Again, legitimate MLM businesses do not require an investment. Be cautious about opportunities that require you to invest in cryptocurrency.

- If you do have to pay for inventory, will the company buy back unsold inventory? Legitimate MLM companies will offer and stick to inventory - usually 80%.

- Is there any market demand for the product or service? MLM depends on establishing a market for the

company's products. If the company doesn't seem to have any interest in consumer demand for its products, don't sign up.

- Is there more emphasis on recruitment than on selling the product or service? If recruitment seems to be the focus of the plan instead of selling products, don't sign up.

- Is the plan designed so that you make more money by recruiting new members rather than through sales that you make yourself? This is the signature of a pyramid scheme operation.

- Are you being pressured to join? If you're experiencing high-pressure sales tactics to get involved with the opportunity, consider that a red flag.

Quabbin Valley set to host second over-28 fall league

Following up on the resounding success of its inaugural campaign, the Quabbin Valley Baseball League, an over-28 adult baseball league will hold its second Fall League this September and October.

Seeking to create a similar competition environment to its spring/summer league, Quabbin Valley, with contributions from the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League, created a four-team fall league last year featuring the Braves, Dodgers, Cardinals, and Twins.

Those same four teams are

set to return and each team tends to have openings on them. Additionally, the league is open to welcoming more teams in to the league if it finds enough interest.

While the fall league schedule is still under construction, it will mostly feature Sunday morning games played with wood-bat only, which is customary for fall baseball. There could be some Saturday games added to the schedule depending on the completion of the spring/summer season as well as to makeup rain-outs, potentially. Games are nine-innings long and there

is a small playoff and championship held at the end of the season. Last year's fall season was eight games and that is the goal for this year. Free and low-cost fields are used as well as just one umpire in an effort to keep the costs lower for players. The cost to play will likely range from \$40 to \$60 for the eight-game schedule. Players from outside the Quabbin League may also pay a small fee for insurance as well.

To express interest in the league, you can email the coordinators of the league at either GScibelli22@yahoo.com or ikhandfield@gmail.com.

Giving Back

with TURLEY PUBLICATIONS

If you are a non-profit please send us your events to add to our calendar section at no charge to your organization.

We want to help you get the word out to the community on what you are doing and when you are doing it.

WE WANT YOU TO BE SUCCESSFUL!

If your event needs more attention, please consider running an advertisement in your community paper, call today 413-283-8393. Please let us know you are a non-profit, so we can better serve you.

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Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.
HD25P1412PM
In the matter of:
Roberta Fletcher
Of: Feeding Hills, MA
RESPONDENT
(Person to be Protected/ Minor)

CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 & §5-405

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by

Donna Rosenberg of East Windsor, CT

Lynn Sztatrowski of Feeding Hills, MA

in the above captioned matter alleging that **Roberta Fletcher** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that

Donna Rosenberg of East Windsor, CT

Lynn Sztatrowski of Feeding Hills, MA

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney

must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **08/14/2025**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: July 17, 2025

Rosemary A. Saccomani
 Register of Probate

07/31/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No.
HD25P1503GD
In the matter of:
Sarah A Keery
Of: Agawam, MA

RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Rachel C Keery** of Agawam, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Sarah A Keery** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Rachel C Keery** of Agawam, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **08/18/2025**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named

person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: July 21, 2025

Rosemary A. Saccomani
 Register of Probate

07/31/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No.
HD25P1490EA
Estate of:
Karin A Parker
Date of Death: 06/26/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Jonathan P Averill of Oak Bluffs, MA** and **Kimberly M Averill of Oak Bluffs, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Jonathan P Averill of Oak Bluffs, MA** and **Kimberly M Averill of Oak Bluffs, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve

Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/18/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: July 17, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani,
 Register of Probate

07/31/2025

TOWN OF AGAWAM REQUEST FOR BIDS

The Town of Agawam is requesting sealed proposals for Still Brook Playground Install. RFP Packages will be available at 10AM 7/30/25. Packages are available via email at bids@agawam.ma.us. **Proposals due by 8/14/25 @ 3:00 PM** 07/31/2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

The TowerCo VI LLC is proposing to construct a 165-ft telecommunications monopole tower. Anticipated lighting application is medium intensity dual red/white strobes. The site location is 1000 Suffield St, Agawam, Hampden Co, MA 01001 (42° 03' 17.43" N, 72° 38' 15.43" W). The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Antennas Structure Registration (ASR, Form 854) filing number is A 1311707. ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS - Interested persons may review the application (www.fcc.gov/asr/applications) by entering the filing number. Environmental concerns may be raised by filing a Request for Environmental Review (www.fcc.gov/asr/environmentalrequest) and online filings are strongly encouraged. The mailing address to file a paper copy is: FCC Requests for Environmental Review, Attn: Ramon Williams, 45 L Street NE, Washington, DC 20554.

HISTORICAL PROPERTY EFFECTS - Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30-days from the date of this publication to: L. Jimenez, Terracon, 27 Worlds Fair Dr, Ste 4, Somerset, NJ 08823, 908-822-4061, or Lizett.Jimenez@terracon.com 07/31/2025

Agawam Advertiser News
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

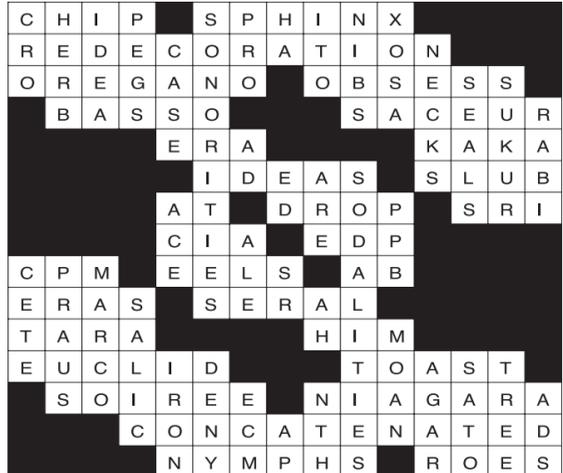
Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to 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



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CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
FRIDAY AT NOON

HELP WANTED

THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON IS SEEKING A **PART-TIME TREASURER.**

\$20,384 - \$23,110 annual salary based on experience. Approximately 16 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing admin@huntingtonma.us. Position is open until filled. *Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON HIGHWAY POSITION OPENING

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest and resumes from qualified candidates for a **full-time Equipment Operator/General Laborer** position within the Highway Department.

Valid MA CDL operator, Hydraulic Hoister's licenses and OSHA-10 certification is preferred.

More in-depth information can be found on the Town's website: www.worthington-ma.us

Questions will be answered by the Highway Superintendent at 64 Huntington Road, Monday - Friday, 7 AM to 3 PM; the telephone number is 413-238-5830 or send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to highway@worthington-ma.us and sboard@worthington-ma.us.

This posting will remain pertinent until the position is filled.
The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER

The Town of Peru Highway Department is now accepting applications for the position of **Truck Driver/Laborer.** Preferred applicants will have a valid Class B CDL, Class 2A Hoisting license, and a current DOT Physical card. Construction and mechanical experience preferred. Must be able to work in all weather conditions. Position is full time 40hrs/week with mandatory overtime during snowstorms. Excellent benefits.

Email resume to: townadmin@townofperu-ma.com or mail to **Town of Peru, Board of Selectmen, 3 East Main Rd. Suite 107, Peru MA 01235.**

For additional information contact the Highway Superintendent at (413) 655-8224. *(The Town of Peru is an equal opportunity employer.)*

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

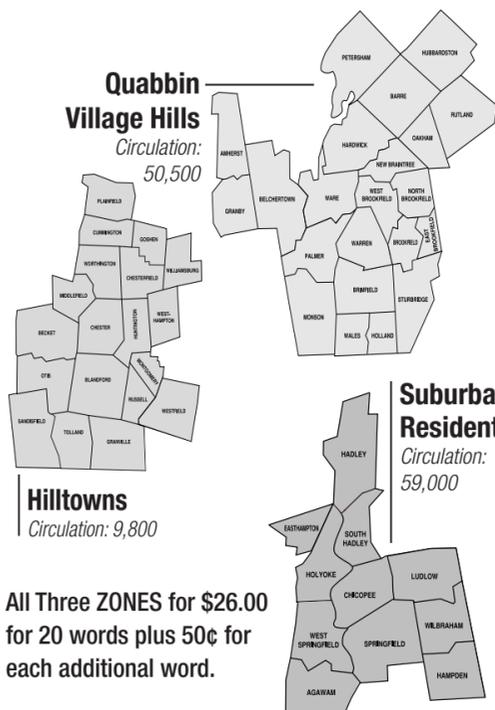
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MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
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DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON

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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.

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AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

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TurleyPublications

PARANORMAL ■ from page 1

scientific approach, using a wide array of equipment and techniques to document potential evidence of paranormal activity.

Unexplained Phenomena

According to their website, the group has over 30 years of personal experience in the paranormal field. Rob Goff has led the Paranormals in exploring countless unexplained phenomena. To ensure professionalism and preparedness, Goff developed a comprehensive training program—"Ghostology 101"—which all team members must complete before joining active investigations. The course covers everything from investigative protocol and equipment usage to types of hauntings, apparitions, and how to respectfully engage with the unknown.

Goff became interested in the paranormal over 30 years ago when he was witness to things that he was never able to adequately explain, even to himself. He has done extensive research on the subject and has a scientific mindset and approach to any investigation.

He also conducts and oversees all of the team training for new investigators. His popular "Ghostology" series are often presented at local libraries.

Goff is aided by his wife, Hope Goff, co-founder, assistant director and lead investigator. Hope says she has actually lived with a haunting and as such, brings a unique point of view and perspective to all of the investigations.

She takes a compassionate approach to both the clients and the suspected hauntings, especially if it is believed that the haunting is caused by a child spirit. She also enjoys being one of the

team's "Spirit Photographers" and is very proficient with all of the equipment and habitually thinks "outside of the box" during investigations. As if all of this wasn't enough, Hope says also makes the best chocolate chip cookies in the area.

The team also includes two full-time psychic/mediums, recognizing that some individuals may be more sensitive to spiritual presence than others.

Bourcier is looking forward to the next open house at the museum. "Come hear Rob and the team share some of their most compelling case studies, demonstrate their investigative tools, and offer a behind-the-scenes look at the fascinating world of paranormal research. Whether you're a skeptic, a believer, or just curious, this event promises to be both educational and entertaining."

Donations to the museum are welcome.

Museum Schedule

For the past several seasons the Museum, owned by the town and managed by the Atheneum Society of Wilbraham, has held guest talks nearby at the Wilbraham & Monson Chapel or at the Wilbraham Library. But this season the open houses have come back home to Sundays at the Old Meeting House, built in 1794 as the first Methodist meeting house in New England.

The August 10 event follows previous open houses featuring Rich Howell, historical re-enactor and Kristin Rivers, editor of the Wilbraham-Hampden Times who demonstrated that newspapering is the first draft of history. The July 10 open house was a sweet one that gave out Friendly's treats at the Ice Cream Social. The next open houses are as follows:

- September 7 - "Treasures from the Attic - Museum-style". Curator Lucy Pelletier, aided by Trustee Marty Lyman will search through donated historical items in boxes, closets, and chests in the storage room and attic of the Old Meeting House to find items of various areas of historical interest.

- October 26 - "Early gravestone carvers of Wilbraham" by Derek Strahan. Have you ever wondered where families got their ideas as to what to put on a gravestone?

- November 9 - Popular storyteller Dennis Picard will talk about the Hessians, mercenary soldiers for the British in the Revolutionary War.

- December 7 - The popular Christmas Tree Festival where Wilbraham organizations decorate a Christmas Tree in their own unique style. An ice carver, holiday treats and kids activities.

The Atheneum Society was incorporated in 1963 as a non-profit organization by a group of concerned townspeople that include people like Charles and Llewlyn Merrick, Jesse Rice and Peter Ablondi. Their purpose was to form a permanent local group to preserve artifacts and memorabilia relating to the people and history of Wilbraham. The Atheneum Gift Shop sells a number of Wilbraham history books. For more information about the Open Houses or the Museum, search "Old Meeting House Museum" on Facebook or Instagram.

Times Editor Emeritus Charlie Bennett is a member of the Wilbraham Historic Commission and a trustee of the Wilbraham Atheneum Society.



GARDEN ■ from page 4

oil sunflower seed, two suet cakes, a "log" of compressed seeds and fruit and suet pellets were all gone. Fortunately the bear didn't damage anything or steal any of the feeders which they often do."

His wife checks a town Facebook page and has seen many reports of bears in town and many of them are in the daytime so he figured it was time to take the feeders down. He still throws a seed mix around in several places like he always has and only put handfuls of black oil and whole peanuts in a small try hanging from a Shepherd's crook.

He said, "I've started to see young of the year around the yard. Several days ago two juveniles were following an adult male

red-bellied woodpecker around, two juvenile Baltimore orioles were seen at the bird bath and I also saw a juvenile chipping sparrow take a bath."

Bobolinks

He said, "A few years back I took part in a citizen science project monitoring bobolinks at Moore State Park in Paxton. Because the Mass Department of Conservation and Recreation has failed to maintain two large fields at the park for the benefit of grassland species the bobolink population at the park has declined. Milkweed, multi flora rose, bindweed, crown vetch and other non-grass type vegetation is slowing invading the once grass fields. The first year I monitored the park there were 149 bobolinks seen in the largest field in August but

unfortunately the numbers declined every subsequent year."

Osprey

This Brimfield resident visits a pond in Warren often to check on an osprey nest. He said, "The osprey nest in Warren may have only produced one young this year. The nest has gotten bigger over the years so I hoping that there are more young in the nest that have been unseen because the nest is deeper now."

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

Learn about a proposed natural gas system upgrade in your area.

The **Western Mass Reliability Project Informational & Listening Session (in-person and virtual)** will provide more information on efforts to improve system reliability to existing natural gas customers in the Greater Springfield area. This project includes constructing a new point-of-delivery (POD) station in Longmeadow and installing, upgrading, and operating a steel main between this new POD station and the company's Bliss Street Regulator Station in Springfield.

Please join us in person or virtually at our Informational & Listening Session on Thursday, August 7th, where you'll learn what this project will mean for the Greater Springfield area. Project team members will be available to provide information and answer your questions.

Location:

UMass Center at Tower Square, 1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA

Event Date/Time: Thursday, August 7th

6:00 PM—Open
6:30 PM—8:00 PM—Informational & Listening Session

Guest Services to be Provided:

- Tower Square parking vouchers
- Childcare available
- Refreshments throughout the duration of the event
- Spanish and Russian translation available

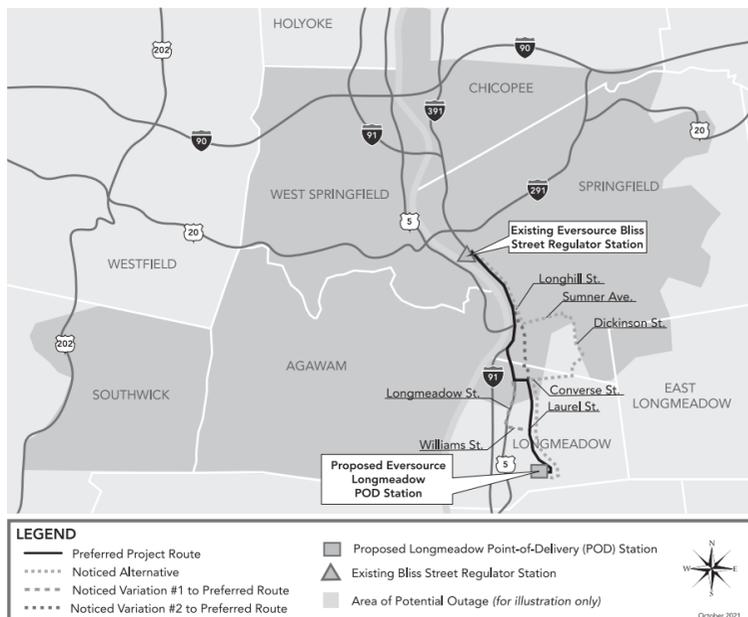
Visit [eversource.com/wma-gas-reliability](https://www.eversource.com/wma-gas-reliability) to learn more about the proposed project and see details about the Informational & Listening Session, and to access the event virtually if you are unable to attend in person.

Questions?

For more information, please email Eversource at projectinfoma@eversource.com or call **833-836-0302**. You can also keep up to date on the project by visiting our website at [eversource.com/wma-gas-reliability](https://www.eversource.com/wma-gas-reliability), or by scanning the QR code below with your smart device.



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Si necesita que le traduzcan esta notificación, envíenos un correo electrónico a Projectinfoma@eversource.com y escriba "Gas Reliability Project" en el asunto.
Если вам нужен перевод данного уведомления, отправьте электронное письмо по адресу Projectinfoma@eversource.com, указав в строке темы «Проект по обеспечению надежности газа».