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AGAWAM

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National Night Out back in full force

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – National Night Out is an event held around the country every first Tuesday in

August to give communities a chance to get to know their police department. Agawam held a National Night Out of its own at School Street Park on Tuesday, Aug. 1.

The event was packed with fun for kids and families to enjoy while they were also getting to know more about the police department.

“The idea behind this is bring-

ing the police department and the community together where we can show all of the...resources that can be helpful to provide to a member of the public,” Officer Jeff Hichborn, who organized the

celebration, said.

At the event there were a variety of vendors for members of the community to enjoy, including Q 99.7 Radio Station and Agawam Veterans Council. Each booth gave out its own items to the families present, with the Veterans Council handing out snow cones and balloon animals and Q 99.7 having its own spin-the-wheel prizes.

Also present at the event was the high school robotics team, Rosie Robotics. This robotics team brought along five robots they had designed that manipulated game pieces. The biggest hit was the robot that threw frisbees for kids in the crowds to try to catch.

The robotics program runs from kindergarten through twelfth grade, with different levels offered as the children grow and



Paramedic Jeff Oakes and Fire Inspector Derek Meyers give out gifts for kids as well as safety tips.



Agawam Police Department and the Hampden County Police do a K-9 demonstration. TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA

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COA to potentially lower membership

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The Council on Aging, supported by Mayor William Sapelli, has pushed forward a proposal to lower the number of members on the council from 13 to seven.

The CoA currently has 13 members. The law is that in order for them to run a meeting and make decisions, more than half of the members have to be present at the meeting. Therefore, they need seven members present at any one meeting in order to be able to run business as usual.

This creates a problem as currently, according to Executive Director of the CoA Michael Squindo, the council currently only has seven active members attending meetings, making it difficult if one of the consistent members is

absent, for them to make any progress.

“We have not had a CoA board meeting regularly in a while, which impedes the ability of the advisory board to do their job,” Squindo said.

Due to this, the CoA pushed forward the proposal to reduce the number of members on the CoA from 13 to seven.

“The board had recommended reducing the board to seven,” Squindo said. “The CoA is an advisory board, so they advised myself and Mayor Sapelli in our daily operations and they recommended we reduce the board to seven.”

The board voted 7-0 in favor of this proposal.

Prior to the pandemic, the CoA had been planning to begin a strategic plan, which would have encompassed this

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Aloisi set to release new book

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – Agawam native and author Michael Aloisi is releasing his next book on Aug. 22. This newest novel is titled A Life with Ghosts: True, Terrifying, and Insightful Tales from My Favourite

Haunts and is a biography about Ghost Hunters TV star Steve Gonsalves, who also helped to write the novel.

This new book will detail different locations that Gonsalves has investigated for the paranormal, providing the background history of each place as well as Gonsalves’

own experiences.

“Steve didn’t want to do the traditional biography, he wanted to focus on locations that he liked a lot, so we came up with a concept that showed the top 20 places he loves that are really haunted,” Aloisi explained.

The process for writing this biography took a lot of back and forth between Aloisi and Gonsalves, with the two of them deciding on the best locations together and then Gonsalves talking Aloisi through his experiences at those places.

“Once we picked the locations together, I would ask him all kinds of questions about them, he would tell me his experiences there and then I would do my own research,” Aloisi said.

Aloisi and Gonsalves haven been in the process of writing this novel since before the pandemic, as COVID put a halt on the works. Thankfully, the two of them were able to resume the process after the worst of the pandemic ended

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Local author Michael Aloisi is releasing his new book on Aug. 22. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



A Life with Ghosts: True, Terrifying, and Insightful Tales from My Favourite Haunts is Aloisi’s latest work.



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Celebration of community



A celebration of community took place Saturday, Aug. 5 at Feeding Hills Congregational Church. The event gathered people from many cultures to share in "Noah's Pudding." This delicious dish is an extension of the Noah Story, which is part of many cultures and religions around the world. The Turkish community also expressed their gratitude to all who helped with the relief efforts around the devastating earthquakes that occurred in Turkey last February. It was truly a time of conversation and celebration as all came together to remember that we are all humans and, in this life, together.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Household hazardous waste collection day set for Sept. 9

AGAWAM – The Agawam Department of Public Works is planning to hold its annual household hazardous waste collection day on Saturday, Sept. 9 at the DPW Annex, 1000 Suffield Street, between 9 a.m. and noon. Although this event is free to Agawam residents, pre-registration is required. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the DPW at 821-0600 ext.0 or 821-0624 beginning Monday, Aug. 14.

Participants should remain in their vehicle and place all waste in the trunk,

rear cargo area, or truck bed.

This program offers residents a safe, economical way to dispose of household items that are flammable, reactive, corrosive or toxic. Solvents, pesticides, caustic cleaners, and oil-based paints are some examples of the different types of items that will be accepted. Latex paint will not be accepted at this event.

For a more detailed list of acceptable materials visit the town website at www.agawam.ma.us.

Six Flags hosts largest fright fest auditions ever

AGAWAM – Six Flags New England, the Scare Capital of New England is looking for terrifying performers as the park launches its annual Fright Fest kicking off Saturday, Sept. 23 and running weekends and select days through Sunday, Nov. 5.

Six Flags New England is hosting its annual Fright Fest Auditions Aug. 11 & Aug. 12 and will be hiring dancers, actors, roaming monsters, terrifying zombies, scare-actors and more for its iconic Halloween event.

Dates: Friday, Aug. 11 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. Saturday, Aug.12 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Location: Six Flags New England's Human Resources Building, 1756 Main Street, Agawam.

Fill out an application at sixflags.com/jobs

Performers are encouraged to prepare a 1 minute monologue for the audition while being prepared to scream, walk, laugh and creep like their favorite monster. The park will be casting dancers for the annual Midnight Uprising and Awakening Shows. Auditions will include a dance call with the Park choreographer for those positions.

Six Flags is also hiring other entertainment positions including makeup artists, stage techs, scare zone attendants, characters and more. All applicants must be 16 or older to be part of the scariest team around. Starting pay for scare actors is \$15.25 and includes exceptional benefits like a fun atmosphere, free park admission for team members and their friends, in-park discounts, exclusive events and more.

Discussion group, nutrition classes scheduled

AGAWAM – New activities at the Agawam senior center.

Discussion Group with Glenn Olson
Friday, Aug. 18 at 1 p.m.

On Friday, Aug. 18 at 1 p.m. in the Conference Room, Glenn will hold a session on muscle testing and the usage of having electromagnetism throughout the body. He will explain how electromagnetism is the basis of all living things. Finally, we will explore the paranormal light and light spectrum. In conclusion, we will dive into what is meant by having a guardian angel. If you

are interested in signing up please call Kristina at 726-2836.

Six-Week Nutrition Class
Sept. 12-October 17 at 10 a.m.

A six-week nutrition series with Ascentria who is supported by the SNAP program. This class will be mostly nutrition based, some very simple exercises, and BINGO! We will also make a snack every week that everyone can try and will hand out prizes/incentive items for the winners of Bingo. Please call Kristina at 726-2836 to register.

Giving multiplied with school supplies for children overseas

FEEDING HILLS – As the school year approaches, shoe box packers are making use of back-to-school prices to purchase gifts and essential items for children in need around the world. Residents in Feeding Hills are collecting school supplies, along with personal care items and fun toys, to pack in shoe boxes. Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan's Purse, will deliver these gift-filled shoe boxes to children in more than 100 countries.

For many children, access to these simple items is essential to an education. This was the case for Justin Thomas, a shoe box recipient in Southeast Asia whose parents could not afford the supplies needed for school.

Thomas remembers the specific day he received a gift-filled shoe box from Operation Christmas Child and found it filled with toys and school supplies.

Growing up with hand-me-down clothes and used items, Thomas used to write with a pencil so short that he held

it using a pen cap. Having an entire packet of new pencils and a pencil sharpener all his own was a treasure to him. This simple gift made a life-changing impact for Thomas because it opened the doors for him to receive an education.

For more information, visit samaritanspurse.org/occ. National Collection Week is Nov. 13-20. Participants can donate \$10 per shoe box gift online through "Follow Your Box" and receive a tracking label to discover its destination. Those who prefer the convenience of online shopping can browse samaritanspurse.org/buildonlin to select gifts matched to a child's specific age and gender, then finish packing the virtual shoe box by adding a photo and personal note of encouragement.

Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 209 million gift-filled shoe boxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories. This year, Operation Christmas Child will celebrate its 30th year of ministry.

Workshop13 hosts 5th annual Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition

WARE – Workshop13 invites artists from throughout the northeastern US to participate in the 5th annual juried Northeast Fine Arts Exhibition. Works of traditional realism are welcomed in the following categories: Oil Painting, Watercolor, Sculpture, Drawing/ Graphics, Acrylic (includes casein & egg tempera, Pastel, and Mixed Media. Awards will be granted in multiple categories, with Best in Show receiving \$1,000. The deadline for entry is Aug. 23 by midnight.

This annual exhibition of traditional realism is held in the unique grand hall gallery of Workshop13, a non-profit cultural arts and learning center located at 13 Church St. The exhibition will be on display from Sept. 23 to Oct. 8 and can be

visited on Fridays from 4 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays and Sundays from 1 to 4 p.m. The show will open with a reception from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sept. 23, with awards announced at 3 p.m.

The juror for the 5th annual NEFAE is Julie Beck. Beck is the assistant director of the Academy of Realist Art, Boston, as well as an instructor. Julie is currently working out of her personal studio at ARA Boston, where she is developing a body of work that explores the concepts of nostalgia, relationships, and identity. She has a wide range of painting subjects including still life paintings and animal/figurative works. Her work can be found in private collections throughout the US and internationally.

OneHolyoke Thrives community 5K walk and roll to be held Aug. 26

HOLYOKE – OneHolyoke CDC will hold its third annual "OneHolyoke Thrives" community 5K walk and roll on Saturday, Aug. 26, from 10 a.m. to noon. The event will bring the Holyoke community together to walk, or roll (wheelchair, bicycle, stroller), along a 5K route, beginning at Lawler Insurance at 1 Main Street, and ending at the intersection of Race and Middle streets.

The 5K walk will celebrate Holyoke's collective efforts to promote the well-being of the community and will feature activities for participants, including a story walk for children; a Holyoke history scavenger hunt; a "find this mural" game along the route; and a celebration with food trucks at the end of the route. There will also be giveaways for participants, and those who sign up will be entered to win

an adult bike.

Registration is \$10 for adults, and \$15 per couple. Children (under 17 years) are free. The goal is for the community walk to be accessible to everyone, and those who are not able to pay the registration fee can enter the code DONAR (for individual registration) or DONAR2 (for couple registration) on the payment page of the website to receive free registration. To register, visit www.oneholyoke.org/community5K/ and registration is also available beginning at 8:30 a.m. the day of the walk.

Proceeds from the 5K benefit OneHolyoke CDC, which supports the Holyoke community. Over the past two years, OneHolyoke has been dedicated to providing educational resources, food, personal protective equipment, and vaccine clinics in Holyoke. OneHolyoke CDC's strategic plan

for community engagement has five areas: civic engagement, health, education, public safety, and maintaining the Flats Community Building as a center for community activities.

In previous years, proceeds from registration supported "Equity Pods," a collaboration between OneHolyoke and Homework House that provided safe spaces with academic support for children during the period of remote learning.

OneHolyoke CDC is seeking community sponsors to support this event, which aims to provide a safe space for the residents of Holyoke to build new relationships with fellow neighbors, strengthen those that already exist and empower the Holyoke community. Walk sponsors will also be recognized as a sponsor at OneHolyoke's 8th annual Holyoke Community

Dinner on Dec. 9.

Sponsorship levels, which support both the Community Walk and Winter Community Dinner, are as follows: Platinum Sponsorship \$1,200+; Gold Sponsorship \$600; Silver Sponsorship \$400; Bronze Sponsorship, under \$200. To become a sponsor, contact Nayroby Rosa at (413) 409-2004 or nayroby.rosa-soriano@oneholyoke.org.

To date, sponsors include Lawler Insurance; PeoplesBank; Holyoke Gas & Electric; Families First; Valley Opportunity Council; Key Food Marketplace; Whitman Properties; We Care Health; Clayton Insurance; and Tessa for Holyoke. Community partners for the ONE Holyoke Thrives 5K include Homework House; The Club at the Flats Community Building; Boston Bud Factory; Valley Green; and Green Thumb Industries.

Rotary hosts RYLA students

AGAWAM – On Wednesday, Aug. 2, the Agawam Rotary hosted several Agawam High School students at a luncheon at the Agawam Senior Center.

Hazel Meyer, Isabella Olivera, and Samantha Dean spoke about their experiences at the 2023 RYLA Conference. Rotary Youth Leadership Awards is an intensive leadership experience that helps young people develop leadership skills, make connections with other youth in the region, build communication and problem-solving skills, and learn from community leaders. The students attend a one-day conference at Springfield College East Campus.

When recalling their experience at the Rotary luncheon, All of the students agreed that “communication is important to leadership and that listening and getting the other person’s perspective is critical.”



RYLA students and the Agawam Rotary.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Rescheduled date of Oct. 14 for annual Dragon Boat Festival

SPRINGFIELD – A new date for the ninth annual Dragon Boat Festival has been set for Saturday, Oct. 14, on the Connecticut River. The event will feature Dragon Boat races, food trucks, and Asian-themed entertainment from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at North Riverfront Park, 121 West Street.

The festival was originally scheduled for July 29 but postponed due to unsafe water conditions resulting from recent flooding. Admission to the festival is free for spectators.

Twenty-four teams from throughout New England are registered to participate in this year’s Dragon Boat races. Community teams include Behavioral Health Network, CRRC-MA (the rail car manufacturer),

as well as the defending champions, Springfield Pharmacy First Responders. With the new date set, registration will be reopened at www.pvriverfront.org for additional teams to sign up to race on Oct. 14.

The Springfield Dragon Boat Festival, which has been hosted by the Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club since 2013, attracts hundreds of participants and spectators to the banks of the Connecticut River for a day of competition, festivity, and community support. The Festival is an important fundraiser in support of Breast Cancer survivors and Community Programming at the Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club.

According to Ben Quick, executive director of PVRC, “We are happy to have

found an alternative date for the Dragon Boat Festival, which has become a staple of our offerings on the Riverfront. With the additional time, we are opening registration for teams and a fall dragon boat experience on the Connecticut with colleagues and friends can be spectacular. We look forward to welcoming Dragon Boaters and fans of this fun and exciting event.”

Hundreds of paddlers from New England participate in the festival races. A dragon boat festival team is comprised of up to 20 paddlers who race against other teams in 200-meter races on the Connecticut River. Each race lasts about one minute, and each team races at least three times on the day of the festival. Dragon Boating orig-

inated in China 2,000 years ago and today is one of the world’s fastest growing team water sports. The festival makes it easy for anyone to participate and spectate.

There is free parking available nearby at 77 West Street or along Avocado Street and on property abutting and behind the new Starbucks store adjacent to the Riverfront Club. The festival can also be reached by the Connecticut Riverwalk Bikeway. More information can be found at www.pvriverfront.org or by calling (413) 736-1322.

The Pioneer Valley Riverfront Club has both adult and youth programming throughout the fall and winter months. For more information, visit www.pvriverfront.org.

Florence Bank presents 2023 Community Support Award

FLORENCE – Florence Bank recently announced it has presented its 2023 Community Support Award to Tim Deshaies of Holyoke, director of retail operations at the bank.

The Community Support Award was established by the bank in 1997 as a means of formally recognizing employees who are active in the community and give their personal and professional time to local nonprofit organizations.

Each year, the award recipient can select an organization of his/her choice, and the bank will donate \$500 to that organization. Deshaies has chosen The Therapeutic Equestrian Center, citing the incredible work the organization does with horse-assisted therapy for people in the community.

Deshaies came to Florence Bank in 2007. He holds a master’s in business administration from Western New England University.

He is very active in the community and currently holds these positions: treasurer of The Therapeutic Equestrian Center and The Wistariahurst Foundation; vice president of Black Horse Trust; and

director of Mansir Trust.

“We are pleased to shine a spotlight on Tim because we are proud of all the important work he does in the community,” said Matt Garrity, president and CEO of Florence Bank. “Tim well deserves the Community Support Award.”



Tim Deshaies with his 2023 Community Support Award.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

Community Crochet Club to meet

AGAWAM – On Tuesdays at the Agawam United Methodist Church, 491 Mill St., from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. there will be a

Community Crochet Club. For more information or to register call Mark Mickey at 413-306-7194 between 1:30 to 10 p.m.

Hibernians to hold summer picnic

HOLYOKE – The Hibernians of Hampden/Hampshire Counties invite the public to attend a Traditional Summer Picnic featuring Jim O’Connor and the Boston Blackthorn Band at Hamel’s Summit View Pavilion, 555 Northampton St., on Sunday Aug. 27, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. rain or shine.

Tickets are \$30 per person for adults and children ages 16 and up; children ages 5- 15 tickets are \$11. For reservations call

John Gaughan @860-904-3056 or Fran Hennessey @ 413-785-5687 by Sunday Aug. 20.

The Hibernians will celebrate Holyoke’s 150 anniversary of incorporation as a City and also present the Maurice A. Donahue Memorial Scholarship to Gavin Sullivan, Patrick Sweeney, and Caroline Taylor.

There will be Irish and American Music; Dancing; Food; Cash Bar; Children’s Games, and Raffles.

Schools & Youth

University of Maryland Global Campus announces Dean’s List

ADELPHI, MD – Kiesha Fairley of Agawam was named to the dean’s list for the

spring semester at University of Maryland Global Campus.

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Opinion

Guest Column



By Russell Gloor

Why is Social Security withholding my monthly payments?

Dear Rusty:

I have been working since I started collecting Social Security when I turned 62. Last year I was apparently overpaid because of my job. I made \$37,000 and now the Social Security Administration says I owe them \$8,800 dollars because I made too much and they have withheld my \$2000 monthly SS payment.

I am close to the maximum allowable again already this year. So, I am looking at quitting my job so I don't go over, but they are holding my payments so then I would have no money. Any help would be appreciated.

Signed: Frustrated by Social Security

Dear Frustrated:

You are being affected by Social Security's "earnings test," which applies to everyone who collects early Social Security and also works before reaching their Full Retirement Age. If your earned income exceeds the annual limit, which was \$19,560 for 2022, Social Security will withhold \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

If you earned \$37,000 in 2022 you were more than \$17,000 over the limit and owe half of that back to Social Security. They usually recover what you owe by withholding your future benefit payments, so they won't pay you benefits until they have recovered that \$8,800, after which your benefits will resume, but only for a while.

If you are working full time and also collecting early Social Security benefits, the earnings test lasts until you reach your full retirement age, which for you is 66 years and 8 months. The earnings limit goes up a bit each year for 2023 it is \$21,240, but if you continue to work full time, you'll receive another overpayment notice and have more benefits withheld.

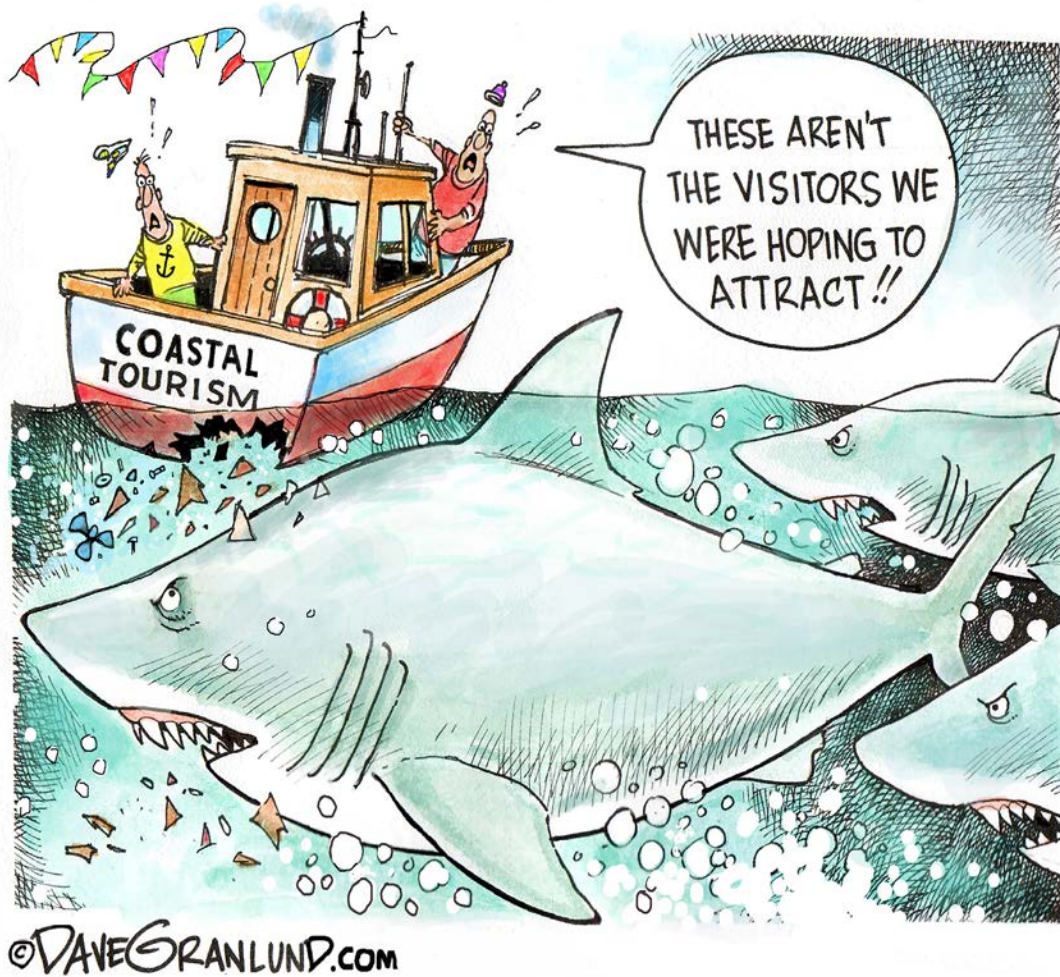
A better approach might be to contact Social Security in advance and tell them what your 2023 earnings are expected to be, thus permitting them to suspend your benefits in advance and avoid overpaying you. I'm afraid there is no way around this – collecting early benefits while working full time means the "earnings test" will affect your benefit payments.

The "good news" in all of this is that when you reach your Full Retirement Age, you will get time-credit for all months your benefits were withheld. By that I mean they will, at your FRA, recalculate your benefit entitlement as though you had claimed later (later by the number of months you had benefits withheld), which will result in a higher monthly payment after your FRA.

In that way, you may eventually recover some or all of the benefits withheld by receiving a higher monthly amount for the rest of your life, starting at your full retirement age.

I suggest you contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or at your local office and tell them you want to provide them with an estimate of your 2023 earnings because you are working and collecting early Social Security benefits.

They will work with you to suspend your benefits for an appropriate number of (additional) months to avoid another overpayment situation. Note, you'll likely need to do this each year you continue to work full time, until



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Guest Column

Soil test this fall and beat the rush



A dear friend of mine sent me a picture of her pepper; her one pepper. Granted, the fruit was picked a wee-bit prematurely by her 3-year-old granddaughter Genevieve, but still, one single fruit measuring 2 inches by 2 inches for all of her many pepper plants is nothing to brag about.

If I'm not mistaken, she used the word "pathetic" to describe said plants. Along with "stunted" and "pale."

Alas, what is a friend to do, but recommend a soil test.

I finally got the soil in two of my gardens tested last fall and I am so very happy that I did. With the necessary amendments added to bring up sub-par soil, I am enjoying bush beans and happy flowers in those areas.

Many of us garden for years before we have our soil tested. It is likely that we get fixed on our own routine of liming and fertilizing.

Perhaps too, we live with the same insect and disease problems each season and think that little can be done to remedy our situation. Maybe with a better understanding of our soil through testing, we will be able to create and maintain a fertile soil that supports healthy, optimal plant growth.

Rather than waiting until spring, beat the rush and send your sample off this fall. Here is a refresher on the nuts and bolts of soil testing.

We test the soil for many reasons. Perhaps the most important reason is to learn its pH.

Here in New England soil tends to be on the acidic side. Vital soil nutrients are unavailable to plants in an overly acid soil, even if they are in great supply.

Optimum pH for most plants is close to neutral, in the range of 6.2-6.8. Before you head for the garage to dust off the spreader, be forewarned that all limes are not the same!

Test results will indicate whether calcitic lime, hi mag lime, or dolomitic lime is best for your soil, and at what rates.

The test will also give you recommendations for boosting necessary soil nutrients, the most common of which are phosphorous, and potassium, magnesium, calcium and more. Let the

soil testing laboratory know what crops you grow and what kind of gardener you are, that way their advice can be specific to your needs.

Organic gardeners will want to use natural fertilizer sources such as blood meal, bone meal, bone char, wood ash, rock phosphate and greensand among others to feed the soil.

The standard soil test will also give you the levels of lead in your soil. As we all know, lead poisoning is a particular concern to children under the age of 6.

Produce grown in soils high in lead can accumulate enough lead in their tissue to be hazardous when eaten. The most likely cause of soil contamination is from particles of lead based paint that have been removed from nearby structures.

To reduce the risk of contamination, locate gardens away from old painted structures and keep pH and organic matter contents at optimal ranges.

For just a few dollars more, the percentage of organic matter in the soil can be determined. Organic matter is very important because it encourages a healthy population of soil microbes that solubilize stored nutrients, making them more available for plant uptake.

As organic material decomposes, humus results. Humus binds sandy soils and improves their water holding capacity; alternately, it aerates heavy clay soils and promotes better drainage.

If the percentage of organic matter in your garden comes in low, add compost, aged animal manure, or cover crops to bring levels up. Established shrub or perennial borders benefit from an application of bark mulch for the same reason.

It is very easy to gather soil for testing.

First, remove a 6-8-inch core of soil from your garden with a stainless steel trowel. Remove surface debris and air dry.

If your garden is large, mix about a dozen cores together to end up with about a cup of soil for testing. The different microclimates of your landscape should be tested separately.

Official directions and an order form are available at <http://soiltest.umass.edu>. The standard soil test is \$20, add an additional \$6 for the standard test including organic matter.

Test results could initiate some revisions to our fertilization and liming routine this fall, preparing the way for a healthier, more productive garden next spring and summer, and maybe even a few more peppers for Genevieve to enjoy!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



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Opinion

Josh's golden scam: The nickel that caused a dollar's worth of scandal



By J. Mark Powell
jmarkpowell.com

Like so many things in life, it seemed like a good idea at the time, and it would have been, too, if one man's swindle hadn't ruined everything.

When all was said and done, a conman got off scot-free, Washington had egg on its face, and a new phrase entered the American vocabulary that's still used today.

This is the story of Josh's golden scam. Back in 1866, the government began minting the first five-cent piece. It had the United States shield – our country's coat of arms if you will – on the front and "5 Cents" surrounded by 13 stars on the back.

The public liked the new coin and immediately began referring to it by the metal used to produce it: the nickel. (Its predecessor had been silver and called the "half dime.")

But it proved difficult to strike, causing countless headaches for the United States Mint. So a new design was produced.

Released on February 1, 1883, it featured Lady Liberty on the front with a giant V (the Roman numeral for five) in the center of the reverse. Americans enthusiastically embraced the new coin.

There was just one problem. It was a big one, too...and a man in Boston named Josh Tatum quickly spotted it.

No denomination appeared on the coin. There was just that great big V.

It could mean 5 cents or 5 dollars. Which caused a lightbulb to switch on in Josh's head.

The new nickel was about the same size as a \$5 gold piece. Both bore the likeness of Liberty on the front and, while not identical, to the untrained eye they looked similar to one another.

So, Josh took several of the new nickels to a jeweler and had them electroplated with gold. Then he went to a store.

Walking up the counter, he pretended to be deaf mute and pointed to a cigar. The clerk said, "Five cents, please."

Josh handed over his phony gold-plated coin and was promptly given \$4.95 in real money in change. When he pulled the scam at different stores, it worked perfectly every time.

Apparently, Josh liked to think big. He had 1,000 nickels covered with a thin layer of cheap gold and worked his way to New York City.

Never speaking, only pointing, and always walking away the richer for the exchange. He supposedly made \$15,000 (about \$375,000 today) by the time he was arrested.

Josh was eventually hauled into court and tried for his hoax. But prosecutors had a serious problem.

At no time did Josh ever claim the coin was a \$5 gold piece. In fact, he never said anything at all.

He simply handed it over and trusting clerks accepted it as genuine. Because he never claimed it was actually gold, the jury found Josh had committed no crime. He was acquitted.

While all this was happening, Washington was dealing with similar headaches caused by the new nickel. Other con artists had spotted the design oversight and were also taking advantage of it.

The head of the Secret Service had noted the potential for criminal mischief at the outset and warned the government. Then as now, bureaucrats are loath to admit a mistake.

The Philadelphia Mint's director loudly defended the new nickel. He pointed

out a three-cent coin had been minted for 22 years with just the Roman numeral III on the back and no denomination, and there hadn't been any problems.

Although he didn't mention that coin was smaller than a dime and the \$3 gold piece was larger than a quarter, making it impossible to confuse the two.

By now the scam was being reported as far away as St. Louis, Morgan City, Louisiana, and San Francisco. The government had no choice but to act.

On March 11 new nickels began coming out of the Mint with the word "cents" added directly below the V. It remained there until the Buffalo Nickel replacement debuted in 1913.

Today, the gold-plated frauds are called Racketeering Nickels and are cherished by collectors.

Two lessons from this story. First, the phrase "I'm joshing you" was popularized by the incident.

Though it appears to have shown up in print as early as 1845, its usage exploded after 1883.

And, the Mint learned its lesson. That was the last time it ever produced a coin that didn't bear the denomination.

I'm not joshing you.
Holy Cow! History is written by novelist, former TV journalist and diehard history buff J. Mark Powell.

SECURITY ■ from page 4

the year you reach your full retirement age when the earnings limit more than doubles. The earnings limit goes away when you reach your full retirement age.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information

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Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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

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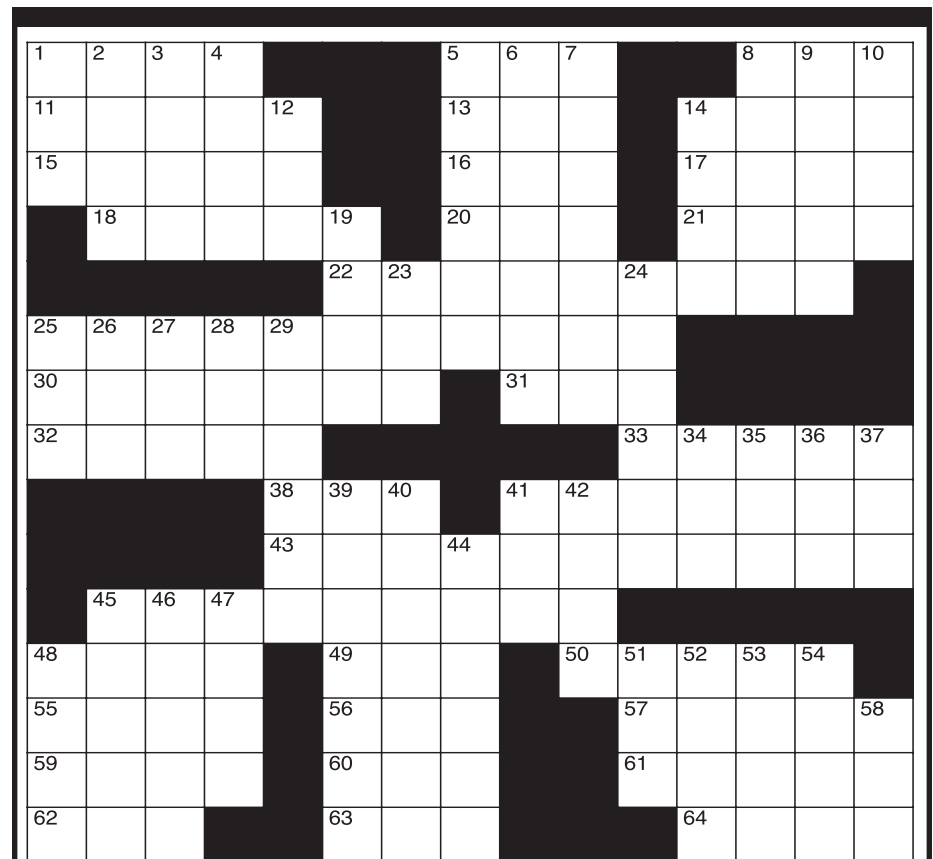
This full-time position with flexible schedule is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St., this is not a remote position.

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- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

Please send resume and writing examples to:

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



CLUES ACROSS

- Civil rights organization
- Calendar month (abbr.)
- Monetary unit of Burma
- Twyla __, US dancer
- Everything included
- "Antman" actor Rudd
- Italian city
- Nowhere to be found
- Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
- Turkish officer
- Perform on stage
- Ribosomal
- Ribonucleic acid
- Canadian coastal provinces
- Furnishes anew
- Edible mollusk
- No seats available
- Garden figurine
- Two-legged support
- Rest here please (abbr.)
- In a silly way
- One from the Golden State
- Photographers
- Native religion in parts of China
- Dickens character
- Brodway actress
- Ancient Greek sophist
- Undivided
- Daniel __, French composer
- Nocturnal S. American rodent
- Rusty
- Jewish spiritual leader
- Patti Hearst's captors
- Popular global holiday (abbr.)
- Tall, slender plant
- volcanoes
- Type of acid
- Winged nut
- Arouses
- Things are served on it
- San Diego ballplayer
- Currency and a Chinese dynasty
- __ mater, one's school
- Exclamation that denotes disgust
- Hairstyle
- Supreme ancient Egyptian god
- They __
- Connecting line on a map
- Mock
- One point north of due east
- Chinese philosophical principle
- Type of tree
- Persuade to do
- something
- A place for travelers to rest
- National Gallery of Art designer
- Panamaniaan province
- Field force unit (abbr.)
- Whalers' tool
- Simply
- Nigerian City
- Not one
- Obstruct
- Political plot
- Manila hemp plant
- Dough made from corn flour
- Fishes by letting the bob fly
- Swiss river
- Plant that makes gum
- A French abbot
- One point east of northeast
- Get free of

CLUES DOWN

- Defunct US energy company
- Fellow
- It's issued from



Lauren Blanchard and Boomer from the Springfield Thunderbirds and Elena Dore from King Gray Coach Lines welcome crowds.



Jimmy Mazz begins the concert that followed the National Night Out gathering. TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA



Friends of the MA Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Agawam Marvin Howard, Mike Brunetti, Cathleen Duquette, Delfo Barabani and Christian Cicero pose with Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi.



Agawam Veterans Council hands out snow cones and balloon animals.



Kids play with the frisbee throwing robot from the high school robotics team, Rosie Robotics.



Agawam DPW and Fire Department bring out their trucks and equipment for kids to enjoy.



Agawam Fire Department does a "Jaws of Life" demonstration.



Savannah Abdo gets a chance to sit in a Republic Services truck.

NIGHT OUT ■ from page 1

learn more skills. At the younger level, the children learn to build with legos and other activities and then, once they get to eighth grade, they begin to work with the larger robotics designs that get taken to competition.

"It's not just about engineering and I think that's why I enjoy it so much, it's about teamwork, creativity, marketing and business management," Robotics Member Tim Rua said. "You learn a lot of life skills."

On top of the robots they brought to National Night Out, Rosie Robotics also had legos so that kids of all ages could enjoy the fun.

All of the vendors were at this event for free, as a show of support to the community, something that meant a lot to Hichborn.

"The key thing with National Night Out is that nothing can be sold...so everything I get here is free promotion or free information," Hichborn said. "It's just community good will."

On top of the different vendors, there were also information booths for attendees to go to in order to learn more about helping hands in their area.

"We have fire assets, we have sheriff assets, we have MA state police assets...we have different vendors of all kinds, we have mental health over here and the boy scouts," Hichborn said.

The fire department had a booth of their own, where

they gave out activities for kids and also reminded families of safety tips they should know.

"We're going to give some fire prevention tips and safety stuff...we have smoke detector magnets here that tell you when to test it every month," Fire Inspector Derek Myers said.

They were glad to be here and to support the National Night Out event.

"It's a great public relations event just to get people out and involved in the community," Myers said.

The fire department also gave a "Jaws of Life" demonstration to the onlooking crowd. In this demonstration they show how they would get into a car that had been totaled in an accident so that they could save the people inside. Throughout the demonstration, they took out the windshield, doors and roof of the car, all of which took about seven minutes.

The police department also contributed a demonstration of their own, showing off the training they put their canines through. The canines showed their abilities to follow commands of their trainers, including in instances of taking down criminals.

In the end, it was a night of education and fun for all to enjoy, and the Agawam Police Department looks forward to hosting it again next year.

"It's always been very big and very popular and we're always trying to grow it more and get more participation," Hichborn said.

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SPORTS



Cole Ingham hopes to make a catch.



Owen Angelini takes his turn taking snaps.



Quinn Miller attempts to avoid a tag.



Nick Ugolini eyes an open receiver.



Max Holloway sends a throw away.
TURLEY PHOTOS BY SOFIA DIGRANDE

Brownies take in summer football

WILBRAHAM – With fall football season just a couple short weeks ago, many members of the Agawam football team enjoyed their own home turf for 7v7 two-hand touch football.

The league host more than a dozen schools from around the region for action Tuesday nights for the past several weeks. The league concluded earlier this month. Fall practices are set to begin on Friday, Aug. 18.

West showcased in boys soccer

BOSTON – In last month's Bay State Games, the Western part of the state featured a boys soccer team showcased. Here is a look at how they fared in some of their matchups held July 6-9: The West would win the gold medal in the showcase.

In the gold medal match, the West won 3-2.

The Gold medal match saw powerhouse West face off against Central in what would be an exhilarating and heated match. West opened the scoring within the first minute of the match with a blast from Cole Bamford (Ludlow, Ludlow HS). West then went up 2-0 with help from a penalty kick, expertly taken by Mateo Balbino (Ludlow, Ludlow HS). Swiftly followed by another goal to give them a commanding 3-0 lead. Central was able to crawl back within one with a strike from Jovuan Mensah (Worcester, Burncoat HS) and Kingston Mcgee (Sutton, Sutton HS). West ended the showcase with a dominant 5-0 record. Central ended with a 3-1-1 record.

The West started out the showcase with a 5-2 win over the Metro team.

West got on board first with a sensational strike from forward Brayden Marta (Ludlow, Suffield Academy). Followed by a hat trick of goals from Balbino. Down 4-0, Metro was able to get on the board with a tremendous effort from Oscar Martinez (Boston, East Boston HS) who scored both Metro goals to bring them within two. West then scored to make it 5-2 to capitalize on a dominant win in their first match.

The West would go a perfect 6-0 in the showcase.

Westside Sports Shop takes summer soccer title

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – While the Monson girls and the Ludlow boys soccer teams captured the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League A-Division titles for the third consecutive year, Westside Sports Shop also took home the women's championship trophy for the third year in a row.

The second-seeded Westside Sports Shop outshot the sixth-seeded Celtic Grey for almost the entire match, but goalie Brianna Kubik, who's from Aga-

wam, managed to keep the contest scoreless until the penalty shootout.

Westside goalie Emily Letendre made a couple of outstanding saves during the shootout and her team celebrated a 0-0 (3-1 PK's) win at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow on Aug. 5.

"I never expected this game to be so close," said Westside Sports Shop coach Chris Andre. "Their goalie was outstanding. She kept her team in the game during regulation and in overtime. Emily made a couple of saves in PK's. We were finally able to score a

couple of goals during the penalty shootout."

Westside Sports Shop (9-2), which is also known as Andres, joined the prestigious summer league in 2021. They posted a 4-0 shutout victory over fifth-seeded Here for Beer in last year's championship match. They defeated the Lusitano Women, 2-1, in the 2021 finals.

For her outstanding performance during the shootout, Letendre received the MVP Award following this year's championship match.

"It just feels amazing to win

our third championship title in this summer league," said Letendre, who's from West Springfield. "We did beat Celtic during the regular season, but they wanted it as much as we did in tonight's match."

Six of the Westside Sports Shop players played high school soccer for longtime head coach Nundi Goncalves at Minnechaug Regional. They are Emily Howard, Chapin Jeannotte, Rhianna Ryan, Madison Sanborn, Katie Shea, and Gabby Williams.

SOCCER | page 8



Jennifer Galindo sends a free kick away for Celtic Gray.



Olivia Crespo, of Ludlow, corrals the ball.



Madison Sanborn chases down a loose ball.

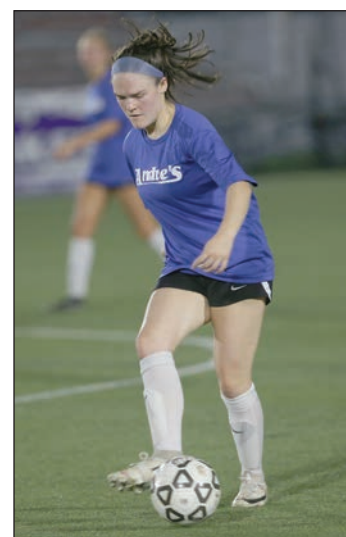
TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY



Nicole Callini makes a throw-in.



Emily Howard, of Wilbraham, takes a shot on goal.



Katie Shea makes a quick pass.

Sports

Coaches honored during Basketball Hall of Fame weekend

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced four benches that will be installed in the Naismith Coaches Circle. Sylvia Hatchell, Rollie Massimino, Tom Young, and Kay Yow, will be honored with a bench dedication ceremony on Saturday, August 12 at 2:00 PM EST in the MassMutual Gallery at the Hall of Fame.

The Naismith Coaches Circle program was first launched in 2015 and is the brain-

child of Hall of Famers John Calipari, Jerry Colangelo, and Geroge Raveling. The intent of the program is to pay tribute to basketball's first coach, Dr. James Naismith, and the core values Dr. Naismith instilled in his players – teamwork, determination, self-respect, leadership, initiative, and perseverance. He believed these principles to be the foundation by which young men and women should play the game and conduct their lives.

The Coaches Circle features a sculpture created by Master Sculptor Brian Hanlon, dedicated to celebrating Dr. Naismith. Additionally, it showcases granite benches on a recognition platform, paying tribute to coaches who share the same core values of teaching, nurturing, and mentoring their players on the court, while offering perspective off the court.

An interactive Coaches Circle video is exhibited on the second floor of the mu-

seum, which allows coaches to share their personal stories and honor those in their lives who inspired them.

Through the Coaches Circle Program Legacy Initiative, coaches are honored posthumously by either one individual or a group of individuals. Honorees include Denny Crum, Bill Fitch, Cotton Fitzsimmons, Dave Gavitt, John MacLeod, Dean Smith, Jim Valvano, and John Wooden, among others.

Springfield Thunderbirds name new operations manager

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Thunderbirds general manager Kevin Maxwell announced today that Jeff Jordan has been promoted to Manager of Hockey Operations.

Previously the Thunderbirds' Video Coach and Team Services Coordinator, Jordan will continue his work with the coaching staff in the video department during the 2023-24 season.

"Jeff has deservedly earned this promotion through hard work, loyalty, and his dedication to the Thunderbirds on both the

hockey and business side," said Maxwell. "He is a tireless worker with a wonderful personality, making him a terrific conduit between players, management, and the front office. We look forward to seeing him continue to excel in the future."

Jordan joined the St. Louis Blues' AHL affiliate in 2019 when he was hired by the San Antonio Rampage as the team's video coach. Before starting his professional career, Jordan served as an assistant coach with the OHL's Ottawa 67's in 2014-15 and 2015-16.

Foursomes needed for charity Sept. 18 golf tournament

AGAWAM – Registration and signups are currently open and underway for the Sixth Annual "Shoot Fore The Stars To Cure Cancer" Golf Tournament to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. In the first FIVE years we have raised over \$15,000 for cancer research. The four-person scramble event will take place on Monday, Sept. 18 at Wintonbury Hills Golf Course in Bloomfield, CT. The event will be an 11 a.m. shotgun start. There will be prizes up for grabs (Closest to Pin/Long Drive) along with a putting contest.

Entry fee covers golf, lunch and dinner. Please contact ShootFOREtheStarstoCureCancer@gmail.com more information.



SOCCER | from page 7

Several of the other players are from Ludlow, South Hadley, and Chicopee.

"Most of the players on this team played on the same youth soccer teams," Andre said. "Then they went their separate ways in high school and it's very nice having them back together again. It has been a lot of fun coaching them and I'm already looking forward to next season."

It was a history making day for Celtic Grey (4-6-1). They have been a member of the summer league for the past twenty years, but it was their first appearance in

the women's finals.

"We just wanted to keep this game close as long as we could," said Celtic Grey coach Rob Galazka. "We played very well defensively in tonight's game. We're hoping to make it back here again next year."

One of the key defenders for Celtic Grey is Jennifer Galindo, who's from Chicopee.

Galazka has also been the women's soccer coach at Holyoke Community College for the past 19 years.

"I coached most of these players at HCC," Galazka said. "It's awesome coaching them again in this league. It's a lot of fun."

Celtic Grey peaked at the right time of

the season.

"We ended the regular season with a shutout," Galazka said. "Then we played the top three seeds in the playoffs, and they were all shutouts. The players just stepped up."

Celtic Grey posted a 1-0 shutout versus the third-seeded Heat in the quarterfinals. They also posted a 1-0 win against the top-seeded W. Mass Extremes.

The first shot of the shootout was taken by Westside's Jocelyn Trajkovski, who's from Ludlow. She fired a low shot into the right corner to give her team a 1-0 lead.

Then Letendre made a save on the Celtic

Grey's first shot.

After both teams hit the post in the second round, Jeannotte stepped up to the line and fired a shot into the left corner giving her team a 2-1 lead.

Galindo managed to put her team on the scoreboard, which sliced the deficit in half. It wound up being the only shot made by the Celtic Grey.

Following a goal by Olivia Crespo (Ludlow), Letendre made a diving save giving the Westside Sports Shop another championship title.

The Westside players will be looking to four-peat next summer.



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BOOK ■ from page 1

and the book is set to be sold starting just next week, Aug. 22.

Gonsalves' biography is not the first celebrity biography that Aloisi has written. In fact, Aloisi is the author of over a dozen books, including the biographies for Tom Savini and Kane Hodder. It was his biography for Tom Savini, titled *Unmasked: The True Story of the World's Most Prolific, Cinematic Killer*, that really kicked-off Aloisi's career in writing biographies.

"Unmasked is probably the most special to me because it put me on the map for celebrities as he is such a big celebrity in the horror world...but also it has impacted a lot of people's lives to the point where we've gotten over 20 different people who have either written to us or come up to us to tell us that the book has saved their life." Aloisi said, "It is something we never set out to do but is a mind blowing thing, that something that I worked on was able to help somebody's life."

On top of writing biographies, Aloisi also enjoys writing fiction, specifically horror.

"I was always terrified of horror growing up and I was around 13 or 14 when I finally watched a horror movie, and I just fell in love with it and it's been my favorite thing since," Aloisi explained.

It is easy to tell that Aloisi is drawn to horror, with his biographies centering around famous horror actors such as Savini and Hodder and his fiction novels or short

story collections always focusing on the horror genre.

Despite, or perhaps because of, the eerie aspects of his writing, Aloisi truly enjoys the work.

"To me, writing is my happy place," he described. "I would actually rather be sitting at my desk and writing a story than on the beach somewhere. It's just something I really enjoy, telling myself stories, putting something out there and then seeing a final project and letting people read it. It's fun and exciting for me."

Aloisi enjoys writing biographies that truly have a story to tell, and he believes he found one with Gonsalves' life tale.

"I was a huge fun of his show, growing up I was really obsessed with ghosts, so it was just the idea of exploring ghosts and that kind of world...Steve has dedicated to his entire life to it—he's one of the biggest experts in the world on this stuff—and I find it fascinating, so it was fun and interesting for me to see his take on it," Aloisi said.

Both Aloisi and Gonsalves will be at the Barnes and Nobles in Enfield, Connecticut from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. this Saturday, Aug 19. They will be offering up signed books as well as hosting a Q&A session for all who attend.

On top of this upcoming event at Barnes and Nobles, Aloisi plans to attend the Horror Convention Terror Con in Marlborough MA, which is taking place Sept. 15 through 17 as well as New York's Comic Con, which Gonsalves will also be present at.

COUNCIL ■ from page 1

change. Now post-pandemic, the board hopes to continue forward with this.

The proposal was then sent to the Mayor's office, where Sapelli heard the proposal and reasoning and then presented it to the city council.

The CoA helps to ensure that the needs of the aging individuals in Agawam are met through the services provided in town. If the CoA is not able to function regularly, it could affect how well the needs of this demographic are met.

"The board has a lot of projects that they're trying to undertake, including the strategic plan and a review of the mission statement," Squindo said. "Then there are also day-to-day reports, data and what is going on at the senior center. Overall, receiving the consent of the advisory board is very helpful to myself and certainly when I have to bring something to Mayor Sapelli."

Squindo and Sapelli truly believe that this proposal is key to ensuring that the CoA can continue to function.

"It's a very valuable group, and something we lean on because they're out there in the field if you will, experiencing these issues...so it's good to have their input," Sapelli said. "They're an important group and we want to assist them in being successful and right now

if we don't make a change, we're setting them up for failure."

"We have a very dedicated group of CoA board members right now and any chance that they're able to do the job that they signed up and volunteered to do is going to be a positive impact for the community and the seniors," Squindo said.

In order for this proposal to be implemented, the city council needs to approve it. Thus far, the proposal was presented to the city council at their meeting on Monday, Aug. 7. The council will likely decide on the change at their next meeting.

The reasoning for the delay in the vote is that a new proposal for a change needs to be presented publicly twice. Therefore, at the Aug. 7 city council meeting, it came up as new business. At the next meeting, it will come up as old business before it is opened for discussion and, ideally, a final vote.

"Last night [the Aug. 7 meeting] it came up as new business and wasn't discussed," Sapelli explained. "Next meeting, it will come up, they'll make a motion and second it, open it for discussion, and then hold the vote."

If this proposal is approved by the city council, the current members of the CoA will serve for the duration of their term, with the seven currently active members making up the entire council.

Public Notices

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, MA on **Monday, September 11, 2023 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the request of Christina & Nathaniel Ehle, who are seeking a Special Permit from Chapter 180-23 (K) of the Town of Agawam's Zoning Ordinances, to allow for the keeping of chickens at the premises identified as 82 Northwood Street.

Doreen A. Prouty
Chairperson
Agawam
Zoning Board of Appeals
08/17, 08/24/2023

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 6:10 PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, MA. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of 277 Silver LLC on property at 277 Silver

Street
By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski,
Chairman
AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
08/17/2023

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 6:15 PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the Notice of Intent Application of Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative for work to be performed at 384 Shoemaker Lane, subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski,
Chairman
AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
08/17/2023

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 6:05PM** at the Agawam

Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, MA. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Southgate Properties, LLC on property at 824 Suffield Street.

By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski,
Chairman
AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
08/17/2023

AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, MA. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Jason Grimaldi on property at 1225 Springfield Street.

By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski,
Chairman
AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
08/17/2023

LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING

The Agawam City Council Administrative Sub-Committee will conduct a Public Hearing on

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.,

at the Agawam Senior Center Veterans Hall, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA, on two Eversource petitions for permission to perform work on Industrial Lane and Hunt Street, Agawam, MA which could include installation of a new pole(s), manholes, wires, cables and fixtures, including the necessary sustaining and protect fixtures along and across the property. This petition is available by contacting the City Council Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA or by emailing bbard@agawam.ma.us.

Robert E. Rossi, Chair
Administrative
Sub-Committee
08/17, 08/24/2023

Agawam MA May Hollow Culvert Replacement

Town of Agawam invites sealed Bids for May Hollow Culvert Replacement to replace culvert conveying flow from May Hollow Brook under No. Westfield St. Bidding is per MGL Chapter 30 s39M. Prevailing wage rates apply. Request elec. Bidding Documents (no cost): 1:00 p.m. Aug. 9, 2023 by email to MunicipalBids@woodardcurran.com with complete contact information & subject line **Agawam MA – May Hollow Culvert**

Replacement.

Official Bidding Documents will be available once registered. Documents from third parties are not considered official Bidding Documents. Mandatory pre-Bid conference: 10:00 a.m. local time on August 16, 2023 at 1000 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA, 01001. Receipt of Bids: 1:00 p.m. on August 31, 2023. Submit to: Town of Agawam, 1000 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA 01001, Attention: Jennifer Bonfiglio, Chief Procurement Officer with Bid security at 5% of total Bid.

Also published on www.commbuys.com & on the MNPA website at <http://mass-publicnotices.org>.
08/17/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD22P1590EA Estate of:

Kalliope P Perazzola Date of Death: 06/21/2022 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by John J Ferriter

of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

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 09/08/2023.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a 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.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: August 07, 2023
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
08/17/2023

Agawam Advertiser News
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

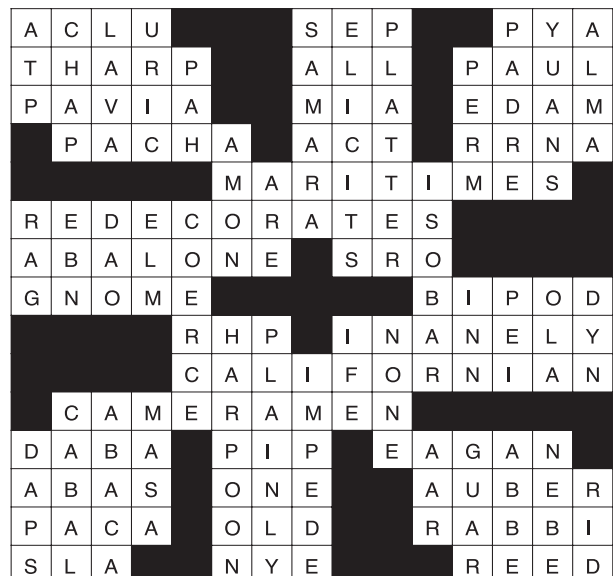
Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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.

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 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069

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Standard job requirements and a job description may be found online at www.hampdenma.gov.
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9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
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Classified Advertising DEADLINES

QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

Dakin rescues 40 cats and kittens from hoarding cases

SPRINGFIELD – Dakin Humane Society has participated in rescue efforts involving two separate hoarding cases in the past week and has taken over 40 cats and kittens into its care. The felines are being medically and, in some cases, behaviorally evaluated, with several newborn kittens and mothers being placed in foster homes. Many are available for adoption, with more becoming available in the days and weeks ahead.

On Tuesday, Aug. 1, the organization traveled to a one-bedroom apartment in Berkshire County that contained more than 80 cats and brought several felines back to provide care and place for adoption.

The following Saturday, Aug. 5, Dakin assisted a Hampden County animal control team with the intake of over 30 cats and kittens, several of them Siamese and Ragdoll breeds, and returned with 21 cats to treat and make available for adoption at Dakin.

According to Dakin's Executive Director Meg Talbert, "It's very unusual that Dakin responded to two hoarding cases just days apart, but it's a vital part of our mission to answer the needs of our community. Cats that come from these circumstances tend to be very shy and are typically not confident or social around people for what may be just an initial period, or for their entire lives. They're perfectly happy to have a home with a cat companion or two. They're very special animals, and we're hoping that people will open their hearts and homes to them."

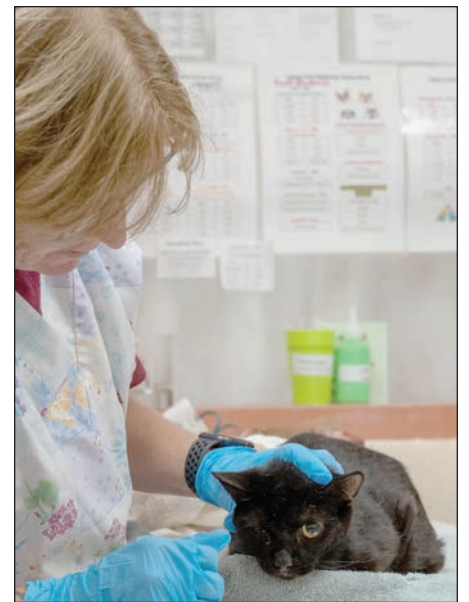
Talbert noted that cats and kittens will be spayed or neutered prior to being made available for adoption.

Due to the large number of cats taken in between the two rescues, Dakin has created an online form to collect contact information and other data from prospective adopters of these felines. All Dakin pets available for adoption,

including the cats and kittens recently rescued and ready to be rehomed, can be seen here. Several of the recently rescued cats have reduced adoption fees.

Dakin Humane Society, located in Springfield, delivers effective, innovative services that improve the lives of animals in need and the people who care about them.

In a typical year, the organization shelters, treats and fosters more than 20,000 animals and has performed over 100,000 spay/neuter surgeries since 2009, making it New England's largest spay/neuter provider. Dakin's Pet Health Center, a non-emergency veterinary resource for pet dogs and cats, opened in 2022 and has treated more than 2,500 pets. Dakin is a local non-profit organization that relies solely on contributions from individuals and businesses that care about animals to bring its services to the community. For more information, visit www.dakinhumane.org.



Dakin staff member evaluates one of the cats rescued from Berkshire County. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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 Special offer is for opening a new Get Real CheckingSM account. Minimum balance to open Get Real CheckingSM is \$10. Bonuses are for new checking account customers and limited to one account per customer. Bonus payouts may be 1099 reportable. Account must be in good standing and have a positive balance at the time the bonus is paid. May not be combined with other promotional offers. Customers who have previously received a bonus on a checking account closed with the bank within the previous 12 months are not eligible. This is a limited time offer and subject to change without notice. \$200 promotional offer is for opening a Get Real CheckingSM account and activating direct deposit (of at least \$25) OR enrolling in Online Banking and conducting 5 debit card transactions using your debit card within the first 60 days of account opening (\$200 will be credited to the account by the last day of the statement cycle following the 60th day the account has been open). \$50 promotional offer is for making 5 bill payments using Online Banking OR enrolling in eStatements within 60 days of account opening (\$50 will be credited to the account by the last business day of the statement cycle following the 60th day the account has been open). Minors (anyone under the age of 18) are not eligible for Online Bill Pay. \$50 loyalty bonus will be paid after the account has been open for 12 months (\$50 will be credited to the account by the last day of the statement cycle following the 365th day the account has been open).