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AGAWAM

ADVERTISER NEWS

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Firefighters sworn in

AGAWAM – Last week, Mayor Christopher Johnson hosted a swearing-in ceremony for three new firefighters/EMT's. The new recruits are: Firefighter/EMT Aaron Seagrove, Firefighter/EMT Timothy Clark, and Firefighter/Paramedic Alexander Bernar-



Firefighter/EMT Aaron Seagrove, Firefighter/EMT Timothy Clark, and Firefighter/Paramedic Alexander Bernar with Fire Chief Alan Sirois. See page 10 for more photos. SUBMITTED PHOTO



Above, Daisy Girl Scouts made daisies out of paper plates when they learned about the founder of Girl Scouts – Juliette Low. Her nickname was Daisy. Right, Daisy, Junior, and Ambassador Girl Scouts in Troop 11630 made essential boxes with personal care items for the homeless. They also donated clothing, blankets, and pillows that were distributed through the Bread and Water Project. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Girls scouts reflect on productive year

By Gregory A. Scibelli
 gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – Recently, members of the Agawam Girl Scouts looked back on their recent year of activity.

Margaret Bilodeau, Agawam Girl Scout Program Consultant, shared sever-

al highlights of the recent accomplishments, service, and events the scouts were a part of.

She said the Parish Cupboard was a big part of their community service work during the year. Scouts assisted with the Cupboard's Thanksgiving luncheon.

Troops made mini-home-made pumpkin breads.

"Girls then proceeded to take turns around their group's table adding and mixing together the eleven ingredients needed for pumpkin bread," Bilodeau



SCOUTS | page 10

Stormwater plan enters year seven

AGAWAM – Under the Federal Clean Water Act, municipalities throughout Massachusetts are required to reduce the amount of stormwater pollution entering our waters. The Town of Agawam received its current Phase II Stormwater NPDES permit on October 1, 2016. The intent of the regulations is to reduce the adverse impacts of water quality and aquatic habitat by controlling unregulated sources of stormwater discharges. Unregulated sources of stormwater discharges would include but not be limited to: excess fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides from agricultural lands and residential areas, oil, grease, and toxic chemicals from urban runoff and energy production, sediment from improperly managed construction sites, crop and forest lands and eroding streams, and bacterial and nutrients from livestock, pet wastes, and faulty septic systems. The NPDES Permit regulations require municipalities to develop and implement a stormwater management program that addresses six minimum control measures:

PLAN | page 10

Library hosts second 'Meet the Candidates Night' event

By Brendan Rooney
 Correspondent

AGAWAM – Last Thursday, Sept. 25, the Agawam Public Library played host to an informal "Meet the Candidates Night" event that allowed the general public to walk around and meet the candidates running for City Council and the School Committee, as election season is fast approaching, with elections set for Tuesday, Nov. 4; also in attendance was current Agawam Mayor Chris Johnson.

Providing insight about the importance of the meet and greet was Nancy Siegel, Director of the Agawam Library.

"We did this for the first time back in 2023, and it was a great success," Siegel said. "This is really the brainchild

of Corinne (Wingard). She approached me two years ago and said, 'I really want to start doing this again,' and she explained to me what it was, and I said this was the perfect fit for what the library should be doing." Siegel noted that the library was the perfect place to house the event due to the available space, all in service of allowing the public to understand the importance of voting, before stressing the 'most important thing they will do is vote'.

"It's a way for the candidates to be their original selves; they can be relaxed, and don't have to make talking points, so it should be a good way for the public not to feel put on the spot," Siegel said. "It's essentially a perfect opportunity available without the inclusion of

unnecessary stress."

In addition, attendees were encouraged to get information about voter registration, which was provided and coordinated by two Agawam High NHS (National Honor Society) members, Alex Nguyen and Jordin Agosoto, who volunteered their time and service.

Offering a comment about the event was Agosoto, who admitted it was a great experience to be a part of, while stressing the importance of understanding who you are voting for in your community.

"Even though we are a smaller town, we have a larger number of connected insights, and a sense of what is occurring in Agawam," Agosoto said. "I think it's important people attend these events, because voting

is important, and it's a justified way to ensure our concerns and issues are not only heard, but also felt."

Following a similar tune regarding the event was Agawam Resident, Lenny Cooperman, who admitted he enjoyed the presentation and the casual atmosphere of the meet and greet, but wished it was a bit more 'publicized'.

"Let it be known this is a very important election coming up," Cooperman said. "Because the people who are running for these offices are extremely close physically and politically to the community, and I wish it had a bigger turnout, and that is a reflection of the function of how well this

was publicized and marketed." Cooperman also took a moment to confess that the quality of the candidate pool represented was very high.

"Especially given the fact that they have to work as hard as they do and get compensated as meagerly as they do, I think that impressed me the most," he said.

Pivoting in a different direction, while staying in close network to the overall goal of meeting the candidates, while having the ability to ask the tough questions, was fellow Agawam Resident Robert Cassie, who came just to speak to non-incumbents, while getting a feel of the current

CANDIDATES | page 6



The evening drew a good crowd to Agawam Public Library.



Jordin Agosoto, and Alex Nguyen, Agawam High National Honor Society members volunteering and assisting with voter registration at the meet and greet candidates event.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY BRENDAN ROONEY



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Library announces October news and programs

AGAWAM – Autumn is in full swing at the Agawam Public Library. Library staff are excited to offer a variety of exciting and educational programs in the month of October.

We are proud to partner with our colleagues at the Tewksbury Public Library to provide career and networking resources for folks 50 and over. **Our ongoing virtual Career Workshops and Networking Group will have two sessions this month: Resume Building on Oct. 1 and Using Artificial Intelligence on Oct. 15.** Both online sessions will begin at 9:30 a.m., and will offer an informal networking opportunity at 9 a.m. Experience a different topic each meeting to help guide you through your career search journey. Meetings will take place online the first and third Wednesday of the month from August through December. Registrants can sign-up online to receive the Zoom meeting links. These workshops are supported by the Agawam Center Library Association.

Fall may seem like the end of our luscious gardens, but there is still harvesting and work to be done. **Join us on Thursday, Oct. 2 at 6:30 p.m. for Fall Gardening with Shari Petrucci.** This is the third installment of master gardener Shari Petrucci's series on keeping up with your garden throughout the year. This presentation will highlight putting the garden to bed for the winter which will include preparing garden beds and cleaning tools for winter storage, drying and storing herbs from the garden, and last but not least making seed tape for spring plantings. This program is

sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association. Registration is required.

Back by popular demand are two **Halloween-themed Adult Craft Take and Makes.** Get in the spirit of the season by creating a charming garland that will add just the right touch of spookiness to your home! Beginning Saturday, Oct. 11 and until supplies last, adult crafters can pick up one kit that contains the materials and instructions needed to create several book page ghosts, which can either be strung together as a garland or made into individual ornaments. Our second Adult Take and Make will be made available beginning Saturday, Oct. 18. Inspired by the thrifted ghost paintings trend, this take and make will help you add a bit of ghoulishness to your autumn décor. Each kit includes two postcards featuring vintage landscapes, as well as black and white acrylic paint and paintbrushes to use to add cute ghosts throughout the scenery. Take and makes are for ages 18 and older. One kit per person, please!

The library is pleased to offer ongoing wellness activities this fall. Drop in for an hour of gentle **Chair Yoga on Wednesday mornings at 9:05 a.m.** in the Judith Clini Community Room. Looking for something a little more active? Join Librarian Kristen Frost for the next gathering of the **APL Walking Group** on Saturday, Oct. 4 at 9 a.m. at Robinson State Park. Registration is required. Qigong Instructor Pamela Cincotta is back with another series of relaxing and meditative sessions. **Evening Qigong on Thursday, Oct. 9 at 6:30 p.m.** will help soothe your

mind, ease emotional stress, and release physical tensions. Welcome the slower seasons with our Fall Qigong classes, centered around strengthening the breath, expanding the chest, and fortifying the immune system in preparation for winter. **Fall Qigong takes place at 10:30 a.m. in the Judith Clini Community Room on Tuesday, Oct. 14, 21, and 28** and will continue into November. Qigong classes are kindly sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association.

Check out our monthly **Adult Board Game Night on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at 6:30 p.m.** We'll have games like Bananagrams, Anomia, Code Names, and more. Have a favorite game you'd like to share? Bring it along! This is a drop-in event for adults ages 18 and older, and light refreshments will be served. The spooky season is upon us, but how much do you really know about things that go "bump" in the night? Test your wits at our monthly Tea & Trivia with a couple of rounds of Halloween-themed Jeopardy and pub style trivia! Come by yourself or with a team; prizes will be awarded to the winning players. Tea and snacks will be served. We will use the same questions for both sessions, so choose the time you prefer and join us for some fun! The evening session will be Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 6:30 p.m. and the afternoon session will be Wednesday, Oct. 29 at 2:30 p.m. These programs are for patrons ages 18+ and registration is required.

On Monday, Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m., Agawam Paranormal presents Who Goes There? Join Agawam's premiere paranormal specialist,

Rob Goff, as he presents findings from investigations of unexplained happenings his paranormal group conducted on three area sites. Learn the spine-tingling details of presences detected at the Sycamore/Rawson House in South Hadley, the Backyard Bar & Grill/Vincent's Steakhouse in West Springfield and the Gaylord Library in South Hadley. Come and experience this intriguing program as we approach Halloween. Please register for this program as we expect a large audience.

Library Tech classes return! Come learn all about the C/W MARS App and Catalog on Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 6:30 p.m. or Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 10 a.m. If you're interested in finding items you're looking for or placing holds on the items you want, be sure to sign up for this class! We'll cover regular searches for authors and titles, as well as how to put items on hold and add items to customized lists. Feel free to bring along any device you plan on accessing the catalog through to follow along and your library card! We'll also provide a brief overview of the CW MARS app. It will be helpful to know your CW MARS login information in advance. Please register for either session online.

On Thursday, Oct. 16 at 6:30 p.m., the Agawam welcomes Julia Nadolny back for a special program called Discover Guidance and Training with Oracle Cards. Julia is a sound healer, educator, and intuitive guide. In this interactive program, Julia will introduce the wisdom of Oracle cards, explain how they can be used as a supportive practice, offer readings to participants as

well as guide participants how to give each other and themselves readings. Whether you are curious about card readings, seeking insight into your own journey, or simply looking for a relaxing and enlightening evening, this program is open to all. Come with an open heart and leave with fresh perspectives and a renewed sense of connection. This program is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association. Registration is required.

Cryptid enthusiasts unite! Join us for an evening of stories, discussion and evidence of Bigfoot sightings in western Massachusetts with brothers Tim and Eric Vogel. **On Monday, Oct. 27 at 6 p.m., the library will host the Vogel brothers for Let's Talk Bigfoot.** The brothers have been intrigued with the idea of Bigfoot since 1976 when they discovered footprints in the snow in their back yard, and they've been investigating this creature ever since. Come hear their compelling research, sightings and other evidence that Bigfoot is indeed afoot! This program is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association. Please register for this event.

This month, the library also features an exciting lineup of Virtual Author Talks. **On Thursday, Oct. 2 at 2 p.m., Smithsonian professionals Adrián Aldaba and Emily Key discuss Nuestra América** and highlight inspiring stories of 30 Latinos throughout history and their incredible contributions to the cultural, social, and political character of the United States. **Best-selling fantasy author Leigh Bardugo is the featured author on Thursday,**

Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. Join the discussion, Ten Years of Daring Heists and Lovable Outcasts in YA Fantasy. Sure to be a special event, **Finding My Way with Malala Yousafzai will take place on Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m.** Come listen to Malala talk about her latest book. **The "Queen of British Historical Fiction", Philippa Gregory will discuss Courtly Intrigue and Whispers as Weapons on Wednesday, Oct. 29 at 2 p.m.** For more information and to register, please visit our Virtual Author events page <https://library.org/agawamlibrary>.

Taylor Swift fans, take note! The Agawam Library is pleased to announce yet another partnership with the Tewksbury Public Library. The library will offer three virtual programs all about the cultural influences of Taylor Swift in the past several years. Please register for one or all of the following programs using our online events calendar:

Thursday, Oct. 16 at 7 p.m.: The Poetic and Musical Genius of Taylor Swift

Monday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m.: Taylor Swift Fashion through the Eras

Thursday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m.: Taylor Swift by the Book: The Literature behind the Lyrics

Please note that these are virtual programs that will take place via Zoom.

The library will be closed on Monday, Oct. 13 in observance of Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day. C/W MARS catalog software will be upgraded Oct. 12 and 13. Some features in the catalog, as well as Libby and Hoopla, may be interrupted for a short period during this time. All functionality should return on Tuesday, Oct. 14.

'Clutter Doctor' celebrates 25th anniversary Nov. 5

AGAWAM – Carleen Eve Fischer Hoffman, founder of The Clutter Doctor, Inc., a company that offers hands-on organizing services, announces a 25th Anniversary celebration for the business, Wednesday, Nov. 5.

The celebration will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. at Next Level Cowork, 11 Herbert P. Almgren Dr., Agawam, MA, and will include light fare, refreshments, and 25th anniversary award presentations. R.S.V.P. to carleen@clutterdoctor.com.

Hoffman is known for bringing humor, heart, and deep expertise to the often-overwhelming topic of clutter. She has helped hundreds of clients go from chaos to calm by helping them clear physical and emotional

space.

Her childhood passion for organizing led to the creation of The Clutter Doctor, Inc., an East Longmeadow-based business that has given her the opportunity to help clients get motivated to tackle clutter, understand the emotional side of "stuff," and learn how organization supports mental wellbeing.

The Clutter Doctor was one of the first businesses of its kind in western MA.

Hoffman appears regularly on television, where she shares tips for organizing – whether in your home, your office, or when traveling. She also been a newspaper columnist. In addition, she has been featured nationally in magazines, newspapers, radio and television.

Historical Society meets on Oct. 16

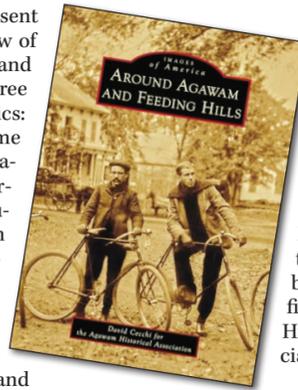
AGAWAM – The Agawam Historical Association will hold its Autumn Meeting on Thursday, Oct. 16 at 6:30 p.m. at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam.

The featured speaker will be scholar Peter Thomas, who will present "World of Pocumtuck and Other Native Villages in the Middle Connecticut River Valley."

Native peoples lived in the middle Connecticut River valley 400 centuries before English settlers arrived, and during the first forty years of colonial contact. The complex, and largely ignored Indian world, with its political, economic and social inter-connections, is a significant element of the historical and cultural context within which English settlement occurred. Thom-

as will present a fresh view of this world and discuss three main topics: The time depth of Native American occupations in the Connecticut Valley; The nature of Indian daily and seasonal lifeways, and the significance of inter-tribal relationships before and during the early years of European colonization.

Signed copies of the association's new Images of America title, *Around Agawam and Feeding Hills* will also be available for purchase. Published in May,



2026, the book features more than 200 historical photos depicting Agawam and Feeding Hills' rich history. Proceeds from the sales of the book will benefit the Agawam Historical Association.

This meeting is free and open to the public. Light refreshments will be served.

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 quarter-

ly 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. For more information, please visit agawamhistory.org or follow the Agawam Historical Association on Instagram and Facebook. Volunteers and new members are always welcome.

Garden Club's next meeting Oct. 14

AGAWAM – The next meeting of the Agawam Garden Club will be Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library located at 750 Cooper Street.

After a short business meeting Matthew Flatow, owner of Flowers Flowers, will create Fall arrangements while sharing tips and advice on how to work with and care for the plant materials.

All meetings are open to the public and not restricted to Agawam residents.

ACC Family Playgroup

You're invited to join us for crafts, stories, songs, free play and more!

WHEN: Every Tuesday from 10 am – 11 am
Starting on Sept. 16th

WHERE: Agawam Congregational Church 745 Main St

WHO: All children from birth to 5 years old with an adult.



Contact the office at 786-7111 or office@agawamcong.com with questions or more information and to let us know if you will be joining us!

Come Join Us For Sunday Service at 10 am & See Us on YouTube at AgawamCongregationalChurch.com



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Upcoming activities and events offered at Agawam Senior Center

AGAWAM – Here are some of the upcoming activities and events being held at the Agawam Senior Center.

African Drumming with Jason

Friday, October 3 at 12:30 p.m.

Join Jason for this energetic and lively class. Class will run for 10 weeks. To help cover the cost of this class, we ask that each participant pay \$50 in total for their 10-week participation. The \$50 is due by Wednesday, October 1st.

You must pay in advance.

No Class on Friday, Oct. 17 and Friday, Nov. 28. (these missed classes will be extended into December and end on Dec. 19)

Call Kristina at 413-726-2836 to register. Class is open

to 20 participants.

A Brief Introduction to AI: Artificial Intelligence

Wednesday, Oct. 8 at 1 p.m. in the Dining Room

Presented by Stan Prager, owner of GoGeeks Computer Rescue in East Longmeadow AI, Artificial Intelligence, has been much in the news lately with talk of how it is changing the world for better—and for worse! But what is AI? How is it likely to impact your life in the near future, and what might AI mean for grandchildren and great-grandchildren? Join us for "A Brief Introduction to AI," a presentation by Stan Prager, owner of GoGeeks Computer Rescue in East Longmeadow, which will focus on general themes and concepts that everyone can

understand and relate to. Call 821-0604 to register.

Tuesday Night Live Event

Tuesday, Oct. 14

Get ready to laugh your socks off with comedian ~ Maverick Prasad Maverick Prasad's on a roll, bringing laughter and good vibes to the Senior Center with his open mic comedy night. With seven plus years of comedy experience and a hit open mic night in Springfield, WorkOut Wednesdays, under his belt, Maverick's ready to bring the funny to the Agawam Senior Center on Oct. 14. He's got DJ Nyce Jones spinning the tunes and a lineup of ridiculously talented comedians from all over New England. So grab your friends, get ready to laugh 'til it hurts, and who

knows, you might just find yourself inspired to take the mic and show off your own comedy skills - you'll get a full five minutes to make the crowd go wild.

My Night at the Movies: Play with Steve Henderson

Wednesday, Oct. 15 at 1 p.m.

An Interactive Tale of Cinematic Proportions By Steve Henderson. Welcome to the story of Drew's night at the movies. And movies it is. As in not one movie, not two movies, but four movies all in one night. You won't want to miss this hectic tale as Drew tells you all about how she ended up at the Cowboy Movie, the War Movie, The Spooky Movie and the outer Space Movie at the same time. It may even seem like you are watching the charac-

ters right in front of you. The fun, no pressure, group-interactive nature of this performance will guarantee a delightful, fun packed experience. Free and open to the public, Coming on Oct. 15 at 1 p.m. join the Agawam Senior Center at 954 Main Street Agawam, MA Call 413-821-0604 to reserve your spot. This program is supported in part by the Agawam Cultural Council a city agency which is supported in turn by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Reverse Mortgage with Terry Olbrych from Fairway Mortgage Company

Thursday, Oct. 16 at 1 p.m. in Seminar Hall

Are you a homeowner 62 or older curious about how your home can help support

your retirement? Join me for an informative seminar on reverse mortgages designed specifically for seniors. I'll break down how these loans work, who qualifies, dispel rumors and how they can provide financial flexibility without giving up your home. Whether you're exploring options for future planning or just want to learn more, this relaxed, no-pressure session is a great place to start.

Annual Health Expo

Friday, Oct. 17 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Veteran's Hall

Friday, Oct. 17 the Senior Center will once again host the Annual Health Expo with over 30 vendors from the surrounding community to offer you their knowledge and expertise.

School Street Park to host 'Out of the Darkness' suicide prevention walk

AGAWAM – Suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States and the 16th leading cause of death in Massachusetts. It is also the second-leading cause of death for individuals age 15-34, yet suicide can often be prevented.

Volunteers from western Massachusetts are joining the thousands of people who are gathering this season in towns across the United States to promote suicide prevention. The annual Greater Springfield Out of the Darkness Community Walk, hosted by the American Foundation for Suicide Foundation - Massachusetts Chapter will be held on Sat-

urday, Oct. 25 at 10 a.m. (registration begins at 9 a.m. at School Street Park, Agawam, MA.

This gathering will support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's education, research and support for survivors of suicide loss. In addition to raising awareness and funds to fight suicide, the walks give those who attend a chance to connect with others and know they are not alone, whether they walk in memory or in support of a loved one or in honor of their own mental health journey.

"Suicide touches one in five families in the United States. We hope that by con-

necting with one another, we will draw attention to this issue and keep other families from experiencing a suicide loss. Our goal is to save lives and bring hope to those affected by suicide," said Lyndsey Nunes, Greater Springfield co-chair and AFSP Massachusetts Board Member.

The Greater Springfield Out of the Darkness Community Walk is one of the hundreds of events being held nationwide this year. Speakers at the Greater Springfield Out of the Darkness Walk will include local legislators and Western Mass community members who have been personally affected by suicide.

Sacred Heart holds parish picnic

AGAWAM – The parish picnic this past Sunday was a wonderful success, filled with fun, food, and fellowship. The sun shone brightly, allowing everyone to enjoy the day's festivities, from sitting enjoying the music by name of band and interacting with fellow parishioners. A sincere thank you to Fr. Steve, Parish Council, and St. Martha's Guild, for their excellent planning and to all the volunteers who helped with setup, cooking, and tear down. A big shout out to the wonderful bakers at Sacred Heart Parish, what great desserts were made.



Above, volunteers from this year's Sacred Heart Parish Picnic. Shown are (l-r): Mary Parent, Dee Ziegert, Charlotte Lee, Jack Cappuccilli, Joanne Cappuccilli and kneeling is Dan Frydryk. Left, Cooks Phil Christofori on burgers and dogs and Peter Smus on French fries. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



Thank you to the Heritage Pops Polka and for the wonderful music.

It was a joy to see so many parishioners connecting with one another, strengthening our community bonds. We look forward to celebrating again next year.

ACC welcoming new members to playgroup

AGAWAM – Come join the Agawam Congregational Church Family Playgroup - where we will play, learn and grow together.

Every Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. starting on Tuesday, Sept. 16, Agawam Congregational Church at 745 Main St. Agawam. The group is for all children from birth to five-years-old.

Catholic Women's Club members to pray Rosary

AGAWAM – Everyone is invited to join the members of the Catholic Women's Club of Agawam on Tuesday, Oct. 14, in St. John the Evangelist Church at 833 Main St., Agawam, MA, to pray the ROSARY to our Blessed Mother. Members and



guests are asked to arrive by 6:15 p.m. to be able to start promptly at 6:30 p.m. Refreshments will follow in the parish center, behind the church, after which the club's monthly business meeting will be held.

Lions Club hosting breakfast

AGAWAM – That Agawam Lions Club will host its annual Harvest Pancake Breakfast. The event will be held on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 8 to 11 a.m. at the Agawam Lions Den located on the grounds

of the Big E. Parking will be free and can be found at Gate 1. You can buy tickets at the event or from any member of the Agawam Lions Club. The cost is \$7 for adults, \$5 for children age 10 and under.



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Opinion

Guest Column

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Should my spouse be getting half of my Social Security amount?

Dear Rusty:

I was referred to you to ask a question about Social Security benefits.

I receive about \$1,700 a month from Social Security while my husband receives only approximately \$750 monthly. Is he entitled to file for half of my Social Security as a monthly benefit without touching my amount?

Signed: Curious Wife

Dear Curious Wife:

For information, spousal benefits are one of the most misunderstood areas of Social Security. A spouse does not always get half of their partner's Social Security benefit how much the spouse gets is determined by their age when the spouse benefit is claimed and it is always based upon both partner's Full Retirement Age benefit, regardless of when they actually claimed Social Security.

The partner with the lower SS benefit can only get half of the other spouse's FRA amount if that partner takes the spouse benefit at or after their personal SS FRA. And each spouse's FRA may be different depending on the year they were born. FRA today is somewhere between age 66 and 67, depending on the person's year of birth.

Here are two basic rules for a lower earning marital partner to get spouse benefits:

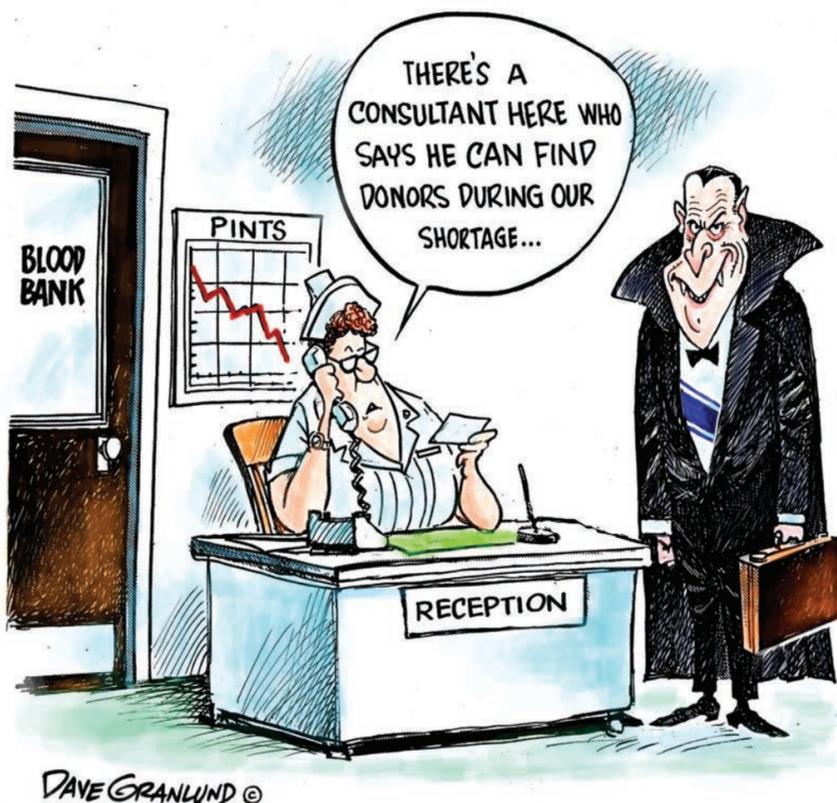
The lower earning spouse's FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of the higher earning spouse's FRA entitlement. FRA amounts are used, even if SS benefits were claimed earlier than or later than, full retirement age, and FRA amounts are frequently different than the monthly amounts actually being received.

If one spouse's FRA amount is less than 50% of the other spouse's FRA amount, the difference between those two amounts can be added to the lower earning spouse's SS retirement amount, to become their spousal benefit. That may, or may not, equal half of the higher earning spouse's FRA amount.

So, if you claimed your Social Security exactly at your own full retirement age and your husband also claimed his Social Security exactly at his own full retirement age, then based on the numbers you provided your husband is likely entitled to about \$850 per month, instead of his current \$750. And that would not affect your own SS benefit in any way.

Your FRA entitlement would need to be more than twice your husband's FRA entitlement for him to receive a spousal boost from you. But if either of you claimed Social Security before (or after) your respective full retirement ages, your husband would not get 50% of your benefit.

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 purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Guest Column

Live in the moment but plan for winter!!

Hasn't the first week of autumn been beautiful weather-wise? Warm and sunny days will have us completely spoiled!

Summer annuals continue to bloom even as we harvest our pumpkins and corn stalks. But alas, while we are enjoying, we must simultaneously prepare for what inevitably will come.

My big task for today was deconstructing a combination planter so that I could (hopefully) overwinter the summer plants indoors. These included a Hypoestes (Polka dot plant), two Fuchsias, and an Ivy Geranium.

Over the years I've had good luck overwintering regular geraniums, Gerber daisies and fuchsias, but I have never tried ivy geraniums or the finicky polka dot plant. According to my research, ivy geraniums are handled in a similar manner as regular or zonal geraniums.

I typically overwinter them as a houseplant, in a bright sunny window. Sometimes they delight me with flowers through Christmas!

When I was trying to separate the plants from my big planter, though, the amount of roots I was able to get from the ivy geranium was honestly pathetic. The plant looked big enough on top to fit in a ten inch pot, but the root ball, maybe enough roots to fit in a four inch pot.

What am I to do? First thing would be to prune the top growth. So few roots would have a difficult time supporting all of that foliage. I will take off one third to one half of the top growth. And from this foliage, I will take some cuttings.

Regardless of my predicament, cuttings are a good option if you are short on space in front of sunny windows - you can root them in a three or four inch pot placed in indirect light until they begin

to grow!

You can also store geranium stock plant out of your living space. Here is how: Cut the plants back to a couple of inches above the crown and set them in the cellar, unheated rooms, enclosed porches or other spaces that don't freeze and aren't too damp. Check them every few weeks and water sparingly if necessary, never letting the soil dry out completely.

When spring comes, gradually begin to introduce sunlight and the plant will commence growth. Once the threat of frost has passed the plants can go outside for the summer months. If last year's potting soil is "exhausted" of nutrients, carefully repot the plant into new soil.

Prune away any weak branches and give it some liquid fertilizer. For this situation, storage temperatures can go as low as 45 to 50 degrees.

My fuchsia extraction went much better than the geranium one did. I have equal roots to foliage and flowers. I am going to try and overwinter this plant in a northeast window, knowing that fuchsias don't like bright sun.

The last time I overwintered one of these I got the plant to live into the late winter, long enough to take a cutting. The offspring thrived! The mother plant looked pretty woody, but apparently, if I had waited a little bit longer and gave it a light fertilization, new supple growth would have ensued.

Live and learn. Aside from a part sunny window, fuchsias can also

be overwintered out of the main living space, following my recommendations above.

The polka dot plant is another story all together. The roots were massive and the top growth the same. Although the plant looked diminutive at purchase, there was no saying that now. It became the "hog" of the pot.

I pruned both the roots and the top growth, cutting it back to healthy growth just a four inches tall, settling on an eight inch pot for the three original cuttings that made up the one plant. I don't have high hopes for overwintering, because, I guess, this plant has always been a finicky one as a seedling in the greenhouse.

It looks dry so you water it, only to find out it has root rot and now you've killed it.

My research indicates that overwintering temperatures should be warmer than what you would use for geraniums or fuchsias. We are talking 65 to 75 degrees. Another point of interest is that the plant likes humidity.

Putting the pot in a tray of wet gravel will provide some humidity to the immediate area and may help, especially since winter air tends to be dry. Indirect light is best for these plants as well. Let's keep our fingers crossed!

Be adventurous, by trying to overwinter some annuals. You just may make it a little easier on your wallet come spring, especially if your favorites are growing strong right in your own house!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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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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*.

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Bonsai Society to host free show Oct. 11

AGAWAM – On Oct. 11 and 12, the Pioneer Valley Bonsai Society will have a free two-day bonsai show at the Captain Charles Leonard House, 663 Main Street, Agawam. The show hours are Saturday, Oct. 11, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday, Oct. 12 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

members will be there to demystify the Bonsai hobby and explain the bonsai process. If you have ever wanted to learn more about this intriguing hobby, please come and see our trees and talk with us.

The show will feature trees from around the world, as well as those from the New England region. Our club

For additional information, please get in touch with the club's Vice President, Joe Polaski, at 860-680-8748 or via email at joe.striper@gmail.com.

Sacred Heart to host animal blessing event

AGAWAM – Sacred Heart Parish in Feeding Hills will host the Annual Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, Oct. 4 at 10 a.m. in honor of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. The Blessing of the Animals celebrates the important place that pets hold in the lives

of our families; it also reminds us of the blessing of all God's creatures. Please keep all pets on a leash or in crates so they do not disturb other animals or people. Children who are unable to have a live pet may bring their stuffed animals for a blessing also.

Obituary

Judy V. Stoddard

1956 – 2025



Judy V. Stoddard, 69, of Agawam, MA, passed away peacefully on her birthday, Sept. 19, 2025. Born in Springfield, MA, Judy was a longtime resident of Agawam who dedicated much of her life to her community.

Judy worked for the Town of Agawam for 27 years, serving in various departments with dedication and warmth. After her retirement, she was a crossing guard in West Springfield, where she was known for her friendly smile and caring presence.

She was deeply loved by her late husband, Alfred "Fred" Stoddard, who passed away in February 2025. Together, they shared a bond

rooted in devotion, especially during Judy's long journey with Alzheimer's. Fred was her constant support, ensuring she received the best care and cherishing their time together.

An avid walker, Judy could often be seen strolling miles around town, visiting her brother in West Springfield and her mother's grave in St. Thomas Cemetery. She was also fondly recognized by the Jeep she proudly drove, a small but memorable part of her identity.

Judy is survived by her sister Linda Kirby and her husband John of Laurel Springs, NJ; her brother Joseph of Enfield, CT; her brother-in-law Fred Nygard of Old Lyme, CT; friends, Steve Melanson and

Dale Melanson; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Fred, her parents Elizabeth (Maiuri) and Joseph Gregitis, and her sister Joanne Nygard.

Judy's family extends their heartfelt thanks to the Blaire House in Worcester who provided support and care throughout her illness.

To honor Judy, services were held on Tuesday, Sept. 30, 2025, with a visiting hour from 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Colonial Forastiere Funeral & Cremation, 985 Main Street in Agawam, followed by her burial in Agawam Center Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Judy's memory to Alzheimer's Association: <https://donorservices.alz.org>. For more information or to share a message online, please visit www.forastiere.com.

DEATH NOTICES

Judy V. Stoddard
Died Sept. 19, 2025
Services Sept. 30
Colonial Forastiere
Funeral & Cremation

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.

Fifth Annual Paper City Food Festival to take place Oct. 11, 12

HOLYOKE – Nueva Esperanza will host the 5th Annual Paper City Food Festival on Saturday and Sunday, Oct. 11 and 12 transforming downtown Holyoke into

a two-block, open-air celebration of local cuisine, culture, music, and community.

This year's festival will also serve a special purpose:

a portion of activities will support Grace "Gracie" Gianna Falcon, a courageous four-year-old from Holyoke who is battling B-Cell Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia

(B-ALL).

"The Paper City Food Festival is about the best of Holyoke—our flavors, our music, our small businesses, and our heart," said Pa-

per City Food Festival organizers. "By coming together this year, we'll not only enjoy an incredible weekend downtown, we'll also stand with Gracie and her family."

On Saturday, Oct. 11, the event will take place from 2 to 10 p.m. and then 12 to 8 p.m. on Sunday, Oct., 12. It will span two city blocks from Appleton to Dwight St.

Residents challenged to bake history this Saturday

AGAWAM – Area residents are encouraged to enter the Agawam Historical Association's annual Apple Pie Contest, to be held on Saturday, Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Thomas Smith House, 251 North West Street, Feeding Hills. The National Register-listed Smith House and its preserved 1920s garage will also be open for tours.

The contest is open to the public (amateur bakers only,

please) and entrants may use their own favorite recipe, using either a homemade or store-bought, full, top and bottom, double (rolled) crust. Fresh apples must be used; no store-bought fillings, tarts, or crisps are allowed. Pies must be baked in a 9" or 10" disposable pie plate and be at room temperature when delivered. No identification is allowed on the pie tin. Pies will not be returned.

Participants must register on or before Wednesday, Oct. 1 by texting Katy at (413) 297-4967 or emailing 1855@agawamhistory.org. Pies must be dropped off by 12:30 pm on Saturday, Oct. 4 at: Thomas Smith House, 251 North West Street, Feeding Hills, Mass.

Judging will begin at 1:30 p.m. by Don Anderson, Agawam Historical Association Board Member Emeritus; Sarah Curran, 2024 AHA Apple Pie Contest First Place Winner; and Agawam Mayor Christopher Johnson, who will judge entries on flavor, filling, crust and overall appearance, and creativity. The decisions of the judges are final. In addition to bragging rights, the first place winner will receive a blue ribbon and an apron hand-sewn by AHA board member Charlotte Fields.

The Agawam High School Marching Band will make their Smith House debut at noon and perform stand tunes and pieces from their

2025 field show, and local historian and "Whips of Westfield" author Bruce Cortis will be on hand during the open house to discuss the industry that powered the Westfield economy during the late 18th century.

Signed copies of the historical association's new Images of America title, Around Agawam and Feeding Hills will also be available for purchase. The book features more than 200 historic photos depicting Agawam and Feeding Hills' rich history. Proceeds from the sales of the book will benefit the Agawam Historical Association. This event is free and open to the public.

Agawam Congregational Church announces 'Trunk-or-Treat' event

AGAWAM – Agawam Congregation Church will hold its annual Trunk-or-Treat event in the parking lot of the church on Sunday, Oct. 26 from 4 to 6 p.m. Please bring a box of elbow macaroni or a jar of spaghetti sauce to benefit our loaves and fishes ministry to be entered in a special raffle prize.

Vehicles interested in distributing candy must preregister as there is a limited number of spaces available. To register your trunk contact ACC at 413-

786-7111 or email office@agawamcong.com with your name, email, phone number, and trunk theme.

*All candy donations are welcome to be dropped off at the church by Oct. 25.

*There is no access to electricity and generators are prohibited.

*Jumper cables will be available for graveyard batteries.

*Only vehicles participating will be allowed to park in the lot. All others must park along Elbert or Monroe Streets.



Residents are encouraged to enter the Agawam Historical Association's Pie Contest coming up on Oct. 4. SUBMITTED PHOTO

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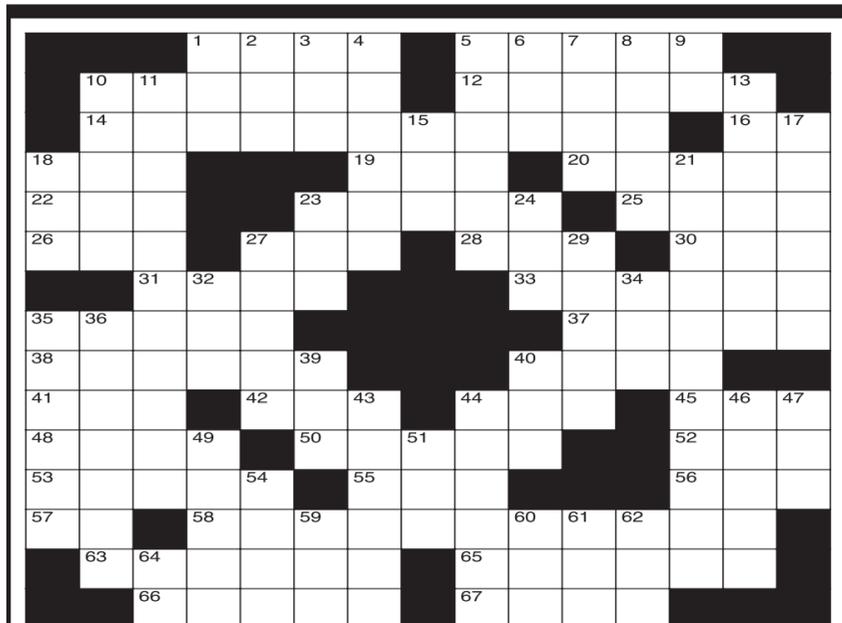
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CLUES ACROSS

1. Native American people of CA
5. Long periods of time (Brit.)
10. Classroom tool
12. Rods
14. One who renews
16. They start the alphabet
18. Periodical (slang)
19. Smooth singer Cole
20. Dorsal sclerites in insects
22. One from Utah
23. The world of the dead
25. Singer Redding
26. Mafia head
27. Wrongly
28. Unhappy
30. Anger
31. Dark olive black
33. Places to sit and

CLUES DOWN

1. Witch
2. Utilize
3. Writing utensil
4. Where rockers work
5. Becomes less intense
6. Consume
7. Type of catfish
8. "Horsetown, U.S.A."
9. Atomic #50
10. The Muse of lyric poetry
11. Brings back to life
13. Humorous critiques
15. Cool!
17. Worst
18. Wet dirt
21. Useful
23. Hebrew unit of liquid capacity
24. High schoolers' test
27. Internet device
29. City in India
32. A place to rest
34. Chat responder
35. A way to move on
36. What consumers are given
39. Digital audiotape
40. More (Spanish)
43. Disfigured
44. White (Spanish)
46. Church building
47. Georgia rockers
49. Surgeon's tool
51. "Much ___ about nothing"
54. Make by braiding
59. Local area network
60. Unit of work
61. Indigenous person of Thailand
62. Liquefied natural gas
64. Distance to top

Election

Wendy Rua seeks new term on school committee

AGAWAM – This week, Agawam School Committee member Wendy Rua issued her statement for re-election:

To be an effective leader, first you must listen. I put people over politics in every single decision that I make. My votes do not reflect my personal opinions, but the opinions of the constituents that I represent. I'm transparent and approachable, do not hesitate to reach out (wrua@agawamed.org/ 413-348-7272).

Working in partnership with teachers and families requires listening, learning and demonstrating commitment towards the common goal-- the edu-

cation and betterment of our students. It means that we need to recognize that not all students learn the same and build pathways to future success in a variety of ways (service, career, college). It means that we owe it to the children to make our school buildings as safe as they can be. It means that if we are doing our job to the best of our ability, we will never be completely satisfied, because there will always be room to grow.

As a parent, I know what it feels like to attend a band concert, cheer at a football game, share pride in moving up moments and cry with pride as my child crosses the stage at high

school graduation. But I also know the concern about if my child is fitting in, if the workload is too strenuous, or the worry in today's world about whether my child is safe. As a parent, I walk through the aisle at Stop-&-Shop and run into friends and community members who often ask, "Do you have a minute?" and we talk about all of these things. Even on parent nights, when I'm "just a mom" I often have other parents asking my opinion or checking in about an issue that they feel needs addressing. I always listen.

Education costs and making fiscally responsible decisions to sustain our buildings, our teaching

staff, and our community's financial well-being are among the top of voter concerns. I make a strong commitment to support and strengthen our schools, while also having the confidence to make difficult decisions when necessary.

Thank you for your support and your vote! As a graduate of AHS, a proud parent of three children (two of whom graduated over the past few years), the daughter of a former elementary school teacher, and a staff member in higher education at Mount Holyoke College, education is dear to my heart. I appreciate your trust in me and respectfully ask for your vote on Nov. 4. Thank you!

Have your voice heard; ask the candidates

AGAWAM – While the mayor is not being opposed for election this year, there are 17 candidates for 11 city council positions and seven candidates for six school committee positions. The Agawam Advertiser News will be sending out questionnaires to all the candidates to get their views on some of the issues affecting the community. But the Advertiser would really love to hear from you in the community. What would you like to see the Advertiser ask the candidates? What issues are important to you?

If you have any suggestions for questions we should

ask the candidates for this year's election special to be printed in an October edition of the paper, please email the suggested questions to the Advertiser's email, aan@turley.com. With the questions, please submit why you are asking the question and why you believe it is important for the community to know where the candidates stand on the issue.

Please note that not all questions will be used in the questionnaires and some may need to be modified for form and clarity.

Please submit your question suggestions to aan@turley.com by Sept. 30.

Suffriti looks for another term on council

AGAWAM – Agawam City Councilor Anthony Suffriti issued the following statement for his candidacy for re-election:

I am writing to formally announce my intent to run for City Council in the upcoming election.

As a longtime resident of Agawam, I continue to witness the challenges and opportunities that have shaped our community. I am focused on moving Agawam forward in a positive, balanced direction, with the importance of public safety,

education, and fiscal conscience.

Throughout my career, I have demonstrated a commitment to integrity, collaboration, and effective leadership. I am deeply invested in addressing the concerns and aspiration of our fellow citizens and am enthusiastic to continue working together to implement positive change.

I am always eager to engage in dialogue with community members to gain a deeper understanding of the issues that matter most to

them. My goal is foster an inclusive and transparent dialogue that reflects the diverse voices and experiences within our community.

I am dedicated to uphold the highest ethical standards, and I am committed to serving with integrity, honesty, and accountability. I am truly honored and humbled by the opportunity to seek your support and earn your trust.

Thank you for your consideration, and I look forward to your continued support on Nov. 4.

Mercadante makes case for another term

AGAWAM – Agawam City Councilor Dino Mercadante issued the following statement for his candidacy for re-election:

To the citizens of Agawam, my name is Dino Mercadante, candidate for reelection to the Agawam City Council. It has been my privilege and honor to serve you on your council for the last eight years, a position that I take very seriously. To highlight a few recent accomplishments With the help of my colleagues, we passed legislation on E bike

safety as well as the formation of the new traffic control safety unit. As a lifelong resident of Agawam married 44 years, with two adult children educated in our school system, I take pride in this city, for it has afforded me a blessed life. As a business owner in our town, our family has invested our lives in Agawam's success. For elder folks, our family owned and operated the Ye Olde Coach Inn Motel and the A&W Root Beer restaurant On S. Main St. For younger adults, the 911 Burgers And Dogs North

Westfield St. you see, our roots run deep in this town we love. This is important because Agawam matters to me. From the biggest issue to the smallest, I treat everybody's concern as it is my concern. Please, as I tell everybody I meet just reach out to me that I may be of service to you. I humbly ask for your vote this Nov. 4, ballot position No. 3, to continue to represent all our citizens with all my heart. Thank you, Dino Mercadante, candidate for reelection to the Agawam City Council.

Gerald Smith announces run for re-election

AGAWAM – Agawam City Councilor Gerald Smith issued the following statement for his candidacy for re-election:

My name is Gerry Smith and I've had the privilege of serving as your City Councilor for the past three terms, and I'm asking for your support once again as I seek re-election this year. I am not a career politician. I'm a proud member of this community, having called Agawam home for the past 50 years. The next part of this statement makes me feel very uncomfortable, but if I want to be elected, I have to do it. I have done a good job at all of my endeavors. As a teacher, I was selected as entrepreneurship teacher of the year twice. As a coach, I was inducted into Hall of Fame at the state and local level. The baseball field at

the high school was named Gerry Smith Field to honor me. As a businessman, I started a business 44 years ago that is still running successfully today. As a City Councilor, I am serving as chairman of the Agawam Housing Council, chairman of the school budget sub-committee, vice chairman of the Administrative subcommittee, and vice chairman of the community relations subcommittee. In the 6 years that I have served as City Councilor, I have only missed one meeting. Agawam is my home. I love this town and its people. Serving you on the Council has been a honor, and I would be grateful for the opportunity to continue for two more years. Thank you for your trust and support. Together, we can keep Agawam a wonderful place to live.

Robert Rossi looks to keep seat on city council

AGAWAM – Agawam City Councilor Robert Rossi issued the following statement for his candidacy for re-election:

City council incumbent * Life long Resident * Former Agawam Police Lieutenant * *U. S.Navy Veteran*

Bachelor Degree, Criminal Justice, from Western New England University and a Masters Degree, Criminal Justice Studies and Interpersonal relationships from American International College

This election brings new beginnings, and a new truth. We will need experience and sound judgment more than

ever. Someone who will stand firm to make those difficult decisions, who has the courage to lead. Someone who has demonstrated the ability to navigate those complicated issues, make things happen, and get things done

With diminishing State and federal funds, and the ever increasing state mandates, Agawam will have to shoulder a much greater responsibility. What happens tomorrow depends greatly on how we act today.

I have always been a proponent of local control. Agawam, is very capable of determining it's own priorities, and making their own

decisions that reflect how they wish to live. Adopting or expanding some home rule authority. Managing our own affairs without constant state approval.

Agawam, is very capable of determining it's own priorities, and making their own decisions that reflect how we wish to live. Agawam must adopt or expand some form of home rule authority. To manage its own affairs without constant state approval; a direction that could produce many benefits.

As always, my promise remains a to stand alone when needed, to compromise when necessary, and always,

always act in the best interest of the citizens of Agawam. I will always stand firm on that pledge, as a strong and independent voice, to create better living standards, to improve our schools and to make public safety a priority.

Let history be our story of how we come together, undivided, that will empowers us to achieve things that we couldn't otherwise do. I ask you please, join me in making our city a better, more inclusive and enviable place to live, work and play.

I hope I have earned your trust, respect and you vote. I thank you for your continued support.

Council President Sandlin seeks another term

AGAWAM – Agawam City Councilor Rosemary Sandlin issued the following statement for her candidacy for re-election:

I am Rosemary Sandlin and I am currently the President of the Agawam City Council. I have many years in public service starting with my interest in public education serving many terms on the School Board. But my first taste of volunteering started with my appointment to the Agawam Housing Authority serving the family and seniors in our community. I was elected

to the House of Representatives and cut my teeth on compelling issues and brought money

back to Agawam and the communities in the Third Hampden District.

As a lifelong resident of Agawam I hope to use my skills and knowledge to enhance my community which has given so much to myself and my children. My door is always open to the people of Agawam, no issue is too big or small, I will listen, advise and help.

I make no promises, only that I will do the best for my fellow residents.

Former councilor Cecilia Calabrese seeks return

AGAWAM – Former Agawam City Councilor Cecilia Calabrese issued the following statement for her candidacy to return to the council:

With great eagerness I announce my campaign for Agawam City Council. Having served 9 terms in previous years, I look forward to returning to the City Council. As an effective member of our municipal government I supported improved infrastructure, sustained funding for our first responders to make sure that police, firefighters, ambulance, and DPW remain appropriately equipped and staffed. I also upheld appropriate funding of our schools through the

annual budget process.

During my last 2 years out of office a troubling trend has emerged denying the citizens of Agawam the right to self-determination regarding land use planning. Powerful forces on Beacon Hill have stolen local control over the future of our community. This has forced the anticipated construction of lithium-ion battery storage facilities upon us, exposing the people of Agawam and surrounding communities to potential health and environmental hazards. This is unacceptable!

I could not sit idly by and allow this trend to continue. Therefore, I am seeking to

return to the City Council, in order to work toward restoration of our rights in land-use planning.

Further, I have had the opportunity to discuss issues with our Senior residents. Troubling circumstances arise in which several Agawam Seniors have had to sell their homes and to move to other communities because of affordability. With the looming tax increases that will come with the construction of the new high school building, we, as a legislative body, must work together to find creative solutions for our Seniors that will allow them to remain a vital part of the community we all love.

In previous terms on City Council, it has been my honor to serve as Council Vice President as well as Chair of the Finance Committee, and member of the School Budget Committee, Legislative Committee, and Community Relations. As part of the municipal leadership team, I upheld the services required to provide our citizens in Agawam with a safe, healthy community.

I have always believed that strong local government is democracy in action. Put my strong leadership skills to work again on the Agawam City Council. On Nov. 4, I ask for your vote for Agawam City Council.

CANDIDATES ■ from page 1

political landscape.

"Again, my goal was to understand who is running and discover who's new, and who's running on single-issue candidates such as lithium battery storage, and PreK early childhood education," Cassie said. Before transitioning into the open-ended question about the current identity and potential renovation of the Walnut Street extension area in Agawam, which Cassie noted as 'woefully underdeveloped.'

"It's multiple land-

lord-owned properties, and it also has a high turnover of any kind of business, due to no traffic coming down, and my goal is to ask the mayor and any other candidates if they possess any kind of vision, because there is a real opportunity for mixed-use development to take place," said Cassie. "It could have retail and restaurants on the first level, professional offices on the 2nd, and apartments, and small studios on the 3rd and 4th, and you just don't see that in Agawam," Cassie noted that similar outlets are found around the country

and have welcomed ample success. "It's not a new model, and it's very successful because it creates energy in focused areas, and that's where I pursue that question every time," he said. "And even though all the candidates are all open, when it comes to answering and listening, but I don't really see anyone with that clear vision or passion to make that happen."

TURLEY PHOTO BY BRENDAN ROONEY
Despite being unopposed for another term, Agawam Mayor Chris Johnson is at his table, getting ready to talk to the public.





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SPORTS

Brownies pick up first win

AGAWAM – After two straight weeks of struggles on offense, Agawam High School football hosted its first game of the season at Harmon Smith Field and was

able to take care of Holyoke 28-15. The Brownies are 1-2 heading into its Suburban South schedule. The Brownies will host Amherst Regional on Friday, Oct. 3 at 7 p.m.



Cole Ingham tries to emerge on a long run.



Joseph Duffy makes a catch for the Brownies.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Domenick Pisano winds up for a throw.



Elijah Ramos makes his way up the field.



Ronan Cullen makes a stop.



Ryan Sexton goes for a tackle.

Girls soccer suffers shutout

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School girls soccer team suffered a shutout loss on the road at South Hadley 5-0 last Monday afternoon.

The game was close throughout the first half, but South Hadley broke through for four goals in the second half.

Mikayla Weaver, Hannah Haesaert, Kelcey Zranuig, Natalie Rios, and Allison Flury scored the goals for the Tigers. Olivia Athas and Cara Dean combined.

Agawam is 1-5-2 now while South Hadley is 4-4.



Makayla Rosario hustles up the field.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



Kylie Warner is pressured by a South Hadley midfielder.



Maya Gingeruha navigates through the middle of the field.



Megan Fitzgerald heads toward the loose ball.



Madalynn Fleury makes a stop.

Girls volleyball outlasted in Westfield

WESTFIELD – Last Tuesday evening, the Agawam High School girls volleyball team came back to tie its match at Westfield High

School with a 25-21 win in the fourth set.

Unfortunately, the Brownies came up short in the fifth set 15-11 to fall 3-2 to the

Brownies. Agawam got 11 kills from Emily Scott and Toni Vassallo had 14 assists. Sophia Laprise turned in 16 aces. Agawam is now 3-7.



Emily Scott fires a hit over the net.



Leah Cizek gets the bump.



Sophia Laprise gets the bump to keep the ball in play.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Mia Atkins sends the serve away.



Toni Vassallo and Taylor Stairs make a block.



Toni Vassallo serves for the Brownies.

Public Notices

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by 716 Spring Valley, LLC a/k/a 716 Spring Valley LLC to Freedom Credit Union dated January 15, 2021 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 23653, Page 189, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 a.m. on the 30th day of October, 2025, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 49 North Street, Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"Beginning at an iron pin the in the southerly line of North Street, said iron pin being at the northeasterly corner of land now or formerly of one Polanczak and thence turning an angle of 78 degrees 3' and running thence

EASTERLY by said North Street, fifty-three and 24/100 (53.24) feet to an angle point in said North Street; thence turning an external angle of 182degrees 6' and continuing externally by said North street, forty-six and 76/100 (46.76) feet to a point at land now or formerly of one DiDonato; thence turning an internal angle of 99 degrees 53'; and running

SOUTHERLY by last mentioned land, one hundred twenty-seven and 69/100 (127.69) feet to an iron pin; thence turning an angle of 90 degrees and running

WESTERLY ninety-nine and 91/100 (99.91) feet to an iron pin; thence turning an angle of 90 degrees and running

NORTHERLY one hundred forty-nine and 415/1000 (149.415) feet to the point of beginning.

Being the same premises conveyed to 716 Spring Valley, LLC by deed recorded herewith."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$25,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith. A buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the successful bid will be paid by the successful bidder and incorporated within the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of

sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.

Freedom Credit Union, Present Holder of said Mortgage By: /s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein Jonathan C. Sapirstein SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.

1500 Main Street, Suite 2504 P.O. Box 15408 Springfield, MA 01115-5408 (413) 827-7500 Its Attorneys

Date: September 2, 2025 09/18, 09/25, 10/02/2025

Town of Agawam Notice of Public Hearing

The Agawam City Council Administrative Sub-Committee will conduct a Public Hearing on **MONDAY, October 6, 2025 at 6:30PM**, at the Agawam Senior Center Hall Seminar Hall, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA, on an Eversource petition for permission to install a joint owned pole on or near 395 Main Street, Agawam, MA and could include installation of 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 09/25, 10/02/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25C0293CA In the matter of: Kelsey Anne Granaudo CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Kelsey Anne Granaudo of Feeding Hills, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Kelsey Anne Moody IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 10/21/2025.**

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: September 22, 2025 **Rosemary A Saccomani** Register of Probate 10/02/2025

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jasnja Realty, LLC to Freedom Credit Union dated November 26, 2019 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22974, Page 573, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing,

the same will be sold at Public Auction at 11:00 a.m. on the 29th day of October, 2025, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 438 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills section of Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"The land in Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, being known and designated as Lots #1 (one), #2 (two), #3 (three), and part of Lot #4 (four) as shown on a plan of "City View Heights", recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds, Book of Plans L, Page 45, said lots being more particularly bounded and described in one parcel as follows:

SOUTHERLY by Springfield Street, one hundred four and 60/100 (104.60) feet;

WESTERLY by Harding Street, about two hundred nine and 19/100 (209.19) feet;

NORTHERLY by land conveyed to Caesar A. Ferranti et ux by deed dated September 29, 1956 and recorded in said Registry of Deeds, Book 2500, Page 4, about one hundred fifteen (115) feet; and

EASTERLY by the easterly line of said Lots #1, #3 and #4 about two hundred eleven and 73/100 (211.73) feet.

The northerly line of said parcel is parallel to and two hundred (200) feet north of Springfield Street, measured at right angles thereto. See Book 2775, Page 470.

Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagor herein by deed of BRVS, LLC, dated November 27, 2019, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds immediately prior hereto."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$25,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith. A buyer's premium equal to five percent (5%) of the successful bid will be paid by the successful bidder and incorporated within the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time

and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale

Freedom Credit Union, Present Holder of said Mortgage By: /s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein Jonathan C. Sapirstein SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.

1500 Main Street, Suite 2504 P.O. Box 15408 Springfield, MA 01115-5408 (413) 827-7500 Its Attorneys

Date: September 2, 2025 09/18, 09/25, 10/02/2025

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Niloufar Realty Trust to Freedom Credit Union dated November 26, 2019 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22974, Page 600, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 p.m. on the 29th day of October, 2025, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 873 Springfield Street, Feeding Hills section of Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"Certain real estate situate in the part of Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, known as Feeding Hills, being bounded and described as follows:

A parcel of land known and designated as Lots 44 (forty four), and 45 (forty five) and 46 (forty six) all as shown on a plan of lots recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book of Plans S, page 42, said lots being more particularly bounded and described in one parcel as follows:

NORTHERLY by Springfield Street, One Hundred Thirty Nine and 73/100 (139.73) feet;

EASTERLY by Highland Street, Two Hundred Fifty Seven and 13/100 (257.13) feet;

SOUTHERLY by Lot 47 (forty seven) as shown on said plan, One Hundred Five (105) feet; and

WESTERLY by Lot 43 (forty three) as shown on said plan, One Hundred Sixty Four and 88/100 (164.88) feet.

SUBJECT TO pole and wire rights in Highland Street, granted to Western Massachusetts Electric Company by instrument dated August 17, 1948 and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 1954, Page 4.

Being the same premises conveyed to the Mortgagor herein by deed of Robert R Koziol, dated January 14, 2015, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 20566, Page 409."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: TWENTY-FIVE THOUSAND AND 00/100 (\$25,000.00) DOLLARS will be required to be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance of the purchase price in connection with the sale shall be paid in cash, or by certified or bank cashier's check within thirty (30) days of the date of the sale and the Deed transferred contemporaneously therewith. A buyer's premium equal to five

percent (5%) of the successful bid will be paid by the successful bidder and incorporated within the purchase price. The purchaser at the sale shall be required to sign a Memorandum of terms of sale containing the above terms at the Auction sale. The purchaser will be responsible for all closing costs, Massachusetts deed excise stamps and all recording fees.

The sale may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.

Freedom Credit Union, Present Holder of said Mortgage

By: /s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein Jonathan C. Sapirstein SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.

1500 Main Street, Suite 2504 P.O. Box 15408 Springfield, MA 01115-5408 (413) 827-7500 Its Attorneys

Date: September 2, 2025 09/18, 09/25, 10/02/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD25P1845GD In the matter of: Aurea Noda 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 **Rosa Clark** of East Granby, CT

Fatima Noda-Lake of Chicago, IL

in the above captioned matter alleging that **Aurea Noda** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that

Rosa Clark of East Granby, CT

Fatima Noda-Lake of Chicago, IL

(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 **10/24/2025**. 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: September 25, 2025 **Rosemary A. Saccomani** Register of Probate 10/02/2025

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a

certain mortgage given by PCR Agawam LLC to Freedom Credit Union dated September 29, 2023 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 25173, Page 475, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at 1:00 p.m. on the 30th day of October, 2025, on the mortgaged premises believed to be known as 21 Dwight Street, Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said Mortgage, to wit:

"Land in Agawam, Hampden County, Massachusetts, being designated as Lots 31 (thirty-one), 32 (thirty-two), 33 (thirty-three) and land Westerly of said Lot 33 (thirty-three), all as shown on the plan recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book of Plans 2, Page 163, said real estate being bounded and described in one parcel as follows:

NORTHERLY by Dwight Street, as shown on said plan, two hundred twelve (212) feet, more or less;

EASTERLY by Lot 30 (thirty), as shown on said plan, one hundred twenty (120) feet;

SOUTHERLY by Lots 36 (thirty-six), 35 (thirty-five) and 34 (thirty-four), all as shown on said plan, and land of owner unknown by a straight line, three hundred seven and 50/100 (307.50) feet, more or less; and

WESTERLY by land now or formerly of Ida Bernatchey, by an irregular line, one hundred fifty-seven (157) feet, more or less.

Being the same premises conveyed to the mortgagor herein by deed recorded herewith."

The premises will be sold subject to any and all restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, and existing encumbrances of record superior to the mortgage, if any. Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said mortgage, to tenancies or occupation by persons on the premises now and at the time of said auction which tenancies or occupation are subject to said mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, also to all laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances. It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal regulations.

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Other terms, if any, will be announced at the sale.

Freedom Credit Union, Present Holder of said Mortgage

By: /s/Jonathan C. Sapirstein Jonathan C. Sapirstein SAPIRSTEIN & SAPIRSTEIN, P.C.

1500 Main Street, Suite 2504 P.O. Box 15408 Springfield, MA 01115-5408 (413) 827-7500 Its Attorneys

Date: September 2, 2025 09/18, 09/25, 10/02/2025

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.



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A&M TUNE-UPS
Snowblowers, Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers & Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.
Call Mike (413) 348-7967

AUTO

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS

FREE TOWING
FAST SERVICE
CASH PAID AS IS
CALL OR TEXT
413-219-6839

2007 FORD E150 VAN, 86655 mileage includes: steel partition door, shelving, cabinets, bins/racks, roof racks. Call for info 413-658-8535.

PETS

AKC CHOCOLATE LABRADOR puppies ready for loving homes. Must see! Contact/text Pam 413-388-1866 for details.

HELP WANTED

HOLE SPECIALIST. Ludlow MA is looking to hire machine shop assistant. Good mechanical abilities and basic blueprint reading required. Full and part time positions available.
Email Bob@HoleSpecialists.com

PART TIME SNOWPLOW DRIVERS NEEDED

Part time snowplow drivers are needed for the Town of New Braintree for the 2025-2026 season. Positions available for both CDL and non-CDL License.
If you are interested, please contact Highway Superintendent Richard Ayer at (508) 867-2451 or email hwysecretary@newbraintree.org.

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

GREEN STREET, PALMER Newly renovated 1 bedroom apt. porch, off-street parking, coin-op laundry, \$1,500/ mo includes heat. No Pets. Call Tom 413-896-1555

QUAINT WEST BROOKFIELD BROOKHAVEN LAKE by babbling brook, I-shaped 2bdm. ranch, 2/full baths, finished basement, walkout slider, enclosed front porch. Enjoy nature trails, very quiet private area. \$2850/monthly rental fee. Bernice Stone 774-262-6667.

FOR RENT

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development " HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Classified Advertising DEADLINE
FRIDAY AT NOON

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!
Make checks payable to Turley Publications

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

SCOUTS ■ from page 1

stated. "As they went they also checked off each item on their recipe checklist. As we prepared and orchestrated this project we found there was a lot to be learned from working with food. Also with a few creative techniques we discovered it was not nearly as messy as we thought. With many younger Girl Scouts who had not yet been introduced to fractions in school, we found it especially challenging to explain measurements. Someone devised a cardboard pie chart divided into quarters (one fourth, one half, etc.) that became especially useful for measuring. Cracking an egg was another "teachable moment" for the younger Girl Scouts.

"While all the breads were baking the girls went on to assemble festive table decorations for the Parish Cupboard's meal. After cutting cups from recycled styrofoam egg cartons, and positioning them with double tape on cardboard colored turkeys, small bags of M&M's

were added. A nice treat after a hearty meal.

"The end results of all our efforts produced 27 mini pumpkin breads, over 40 table decorations, and two laundry baskets overflowing with donations of canned and boxed food items the pantry said they especially needed. What a fun and worthwhile endeavor it was."

Bilodeau said scouts transitioned into working on food badges, with simple meals for Juniors and a dinner part for the Cadettes.

Troop 65350 participated in a project assisting known community servant "Bob the Bike Guy" as they stuffed backpacks with donated snacks, toys, and personal care items. Backpacks went into a police cruiser and were donated.

The same scouts also were fortunate to have a visit with Hampden County therapy dogs, learning how they were trained to earn their pet badges.

Another troop featuring fourth and fifth grade girls



Daisy Petals Tea Party with Minnie Mouse as the guest. The girls earned three of their Daisy petals. SUBMITTED PHOTO

spend time with the Connecticut River Clean-up, volunteering on the shores

of the river cleaning trash. Bilodeau said one of the troops had multiple levels

of scouts involved with one another. "Troop 11630 was a

multi-level Girl Scout troop composed of first year Daisies and also older girls," Bilodeau said. "Most times the groups met separately but at times they would join together for projects. Both groups showed interest in making a difference by helping the homeless. The girls simply said it made them feel good. Daisies decorated shoe boxes and filled them with personal care items, foods, and books that were distributed by the "Bread & Water Project." The younger girls went shopping for the shoebox items while at the same time practicing their Girl Scout laws to be respectful and polite. Older girls participated in the project by having a winter clothing drive.

Bilodeau thanked the Agawam Lion's Club for their generous donation, and also to the Agawam Congregational Church for the use of their excellent facilities for many years.

For more information about Girl Scouts call (413) 584-2602 or go online at www.gscwm.org.

Send Us Your Community Dazzler Events

Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar events **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Dazzler Supplement** which will be published November 19, 2025.

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

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 _____

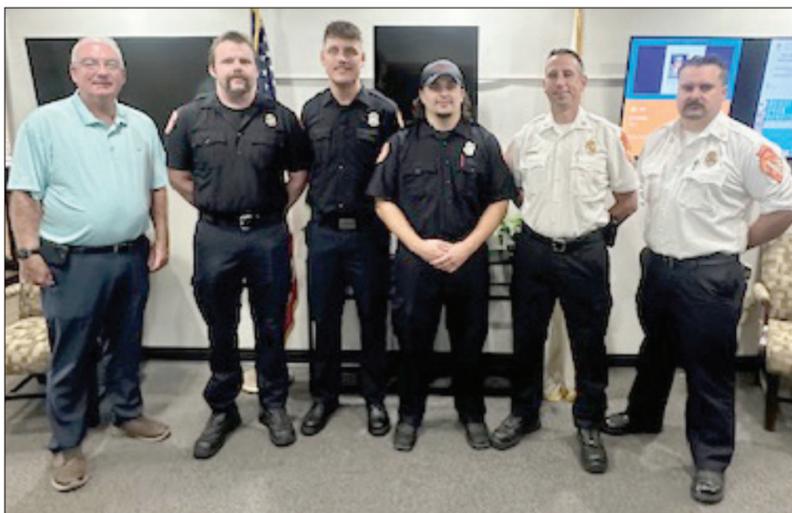
Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

New firefighters join AFD



Mayor Christopher Johnson stands with the newest members of Agawam's fire department. SUBMITTED PHOTO

PLAN ■ from page 1

- Public Education and Outreach
- Public Involvement and Participation
- Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- Construction Site Stormwater Runoff Control
- Post-Construction Stormwater Management
- Pollution Prevention / Good Housekeeping

To learn more about Agawam's Stormwater Management Program or to review the Year 7 Annual Report, visit www.agawam.ma.us/NPDES

Comments may be made by emailing stormwater@agawam.ma.us.

St. Joseph's holding Polish fare dinner

WESTFIELD - St. Joseph's National Catholic Church at 73 Main Street in Westfield is hosting a Community Dinner featuring authentic Polish Fare on Sunday, Oct. 19 at 12 noon. This community feast will feature delicious Cheese Pierogi, Kielbasa, Galumpki, Lazy Cabbage Pierogi, Pickled Beets, Rye Bread, and Apple Crisp with Vanilla Ice Cream for Dessert. Coffee, Apple Cider, and Bottled Water will

also be available. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. For tickets, phone or text Cliff at (413) 977-2007. Deadline for purchasing all tickets is Oct. 16. A limited number of Meals-To-Go will be available at 12:30 p.m. (when buying your tickets, please indicate if you are dining with us or planning take-out). All are welcome. Please join us for an authentic, traditional Polish dinner.

Hibernian hosting charity clothing, food drive

HOLYOKE - The Ancient Order of Hibernians of Hampden/Hampshire Counties along with the Polish National Credit Union announce the Annual Clothing and Food Drive for Providence Ministries from Sept. to Dec. 1.

Please drop off gently used clothing, blankets, sleeping bags, and/or non-perishable food items to the Polish National Credit Union 270 Westfield Rd., Holyoke. Make a donation and be entered to win a raffle basket.

Please help those who are experiencing food insecurity and assist Providence Ministries as they continue to transform lives through their life-changing programs. Stop by the PNCU-your efforts will be greatly appreciated.

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET! INFLATION PRICE BUSTERS PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!

<p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CUT FREE..... \$1.98 lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN ASSORTED PORK LOIN CHOPS..... \$1.88 lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS \$2.98 lb</p> <p style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">SLICED IN OUR DELI</p> <p>USDA INSP. TURKEY BREST..... \$4.99 lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. MONTEREY JACK CHEESE \$4.99 lb</p> <p style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">TAILGATE SPECIALS</p> <p>USDA INSP. STOREMADE BONELESS KOREN BBQ MARINATED PORK BUTT STRIPS \$3.35 lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. STOREMADE BONELESS CAROLINA GOLD MARINATED CHICKEN THIGHS \$2.99 lb</p>	<p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$11.99 lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAK \$6.49 lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF \$3.99 7 LB BAG</p>	<p style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px;">FROZEN CHICKEN SALE</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN TENDERLOIN TRAY PAK ... \$1.59 lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK..... 88¢ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN WINGS TRAY PAK..... \$1.29 lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN SARA LEE COOKIES & CREME WHIPPED CHEESECAKE 24 OZ ... \$5.99 ea</p> <p>USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN GORTON'S CRUNCHY BREADED FISH PORTIONS 50 OZ BAG..... \$9.99 ea</p>
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f 90 Meat Outlet 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

SALE DATES: 10/2/25-10/8/25 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE We reserve the right to limit quantities.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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