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# AGAWAM

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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## Johnson, Calabrese advance to general election

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – Mayoral candidates Christopher Johnson and Cecilia Calabrese will be on the November general election ballot.

The primary election was held on Oct. 10 for Agawam residents to vote on who will be their two candidates for mayor in the November general election.

On the preliminary ballot were Calabrese and Johnson as well as William Clark and Andy Montefusco.

Calabrese received 640 votes total and Johnson received 1,077 to move onto the general election ballot. Clark received 237 votes while Montefusco received 58, putting them out of the running.

The overall voter turnout was 9.22%, with 2,028 out of 21,991 residents voting.

Calabrese and Johnson are pleased to be moving forward to the general election ballot. Both are hopeful for the outcome of the November election.

“I’m going to put my best case forward as will he [Johnson], and we’ll see which direction the voters want to go,” Calabrese said.

Johnson and Calabrese were grateful to everyone who came out to vote and they encouraged all community members to let their voice be heard on Nov. 7.

“A big thank you to all those who came out...and I want to encourage everyone, no matter who they’re supporting, to come out and vote,” Johnson said. “Your vote counts much more in a local election than it does in a state or federal election. You have a direct say in how the community in which you live operates and I would just

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## Harvest Festival provides fun for community

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The Agawam Rotary Club hosted their annual Harvest Festival at School Street Park on Saturday, Oct. 14.

This festival is held every year to help raise funds for the Rotary Club so that they can continue to support the community.

“This has been a fundraiser and a community event for many years, with the exception of the pandemic,” Agawam Ro-



Agawam’s Rosie Robotics had their robots for people to play with and enjoy as they walked around the festival.  
TURLEY PHOTO BY QUINN SUOMALA



Karin Luce, Heather Bacon and Kelsie Bacon sell their handcrafted crochet and knitted items.

tary Club President John Barber said. “It’s an opportunity for local vendors to come and share what they do and for the community to come out and enjoy themselves.”

The rotary club helps to provide scholarships to local students, organize projects around the community—such as the Pollinator Garden they just put in—and to help give food and other items for families in need.

The club raises the funds needed for this event them-

selves and then puts all proceeds raised during the event to help the club continue running and giving back to the community.

“Our biggest goal is to make sure we can continue as the Agawam Rotary Club to be able to provide for our community,” Secretary, Harvest Chair and Fundraiser Chair of the Agawam Rotary Club Lynne Merceri said. “We help the less fortunate, our

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## Schools recognize new staff members

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

AGAWAM – Principals from Agawam Public Schools introduced their new staff to the Agawam School Committee at the meeting on Sept. 26.

Agawam schools welcomed many new teachers this year, several of whom are native to the town.

The Early Childhood Center has four new teachers. There are

direct learning teachers Kimberley DeBarber and Jennifer Montagna as well as classroom teachers Marybeth Morrissey and Alicia Gibbs.

All are enjoying being a part of the ECC.

“It just warms my heart that I have a part in the community, that I have a role with our youngest learners and that I get to be a part of the first experiences they have in Agawam Public Schools,” Gibbs said

James Clark School has one new staff member, Art Teacher Jenna Gamelli who is shared with Clifford M. Granger School.

Gamelli was formerly a student at Clark and was a paraprofessional at Granger, so she was glad that she was able to return to two schools which she already felt welcomed in.

“I am definitely very happy to be the art teacher for where I went to school and I was a paraprofessional at Granger, so to go

back there and see the kids as an art teacher is super exciting,” Gamelli said.

Benjamin J. Phelps School has two new staff members, Connections Teacher Hunter Acconcio and Adjustment Counselor Leia Georgeopolus

Acconcio is a first year teacher who received a bachelor’s degree in special education from Westfield State University.

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## Church hosts ordination



On Sunday Oct. 15, Feeding Hills Congregational Church hosted the ordination of Reverend Janet Brown. The service, conducted by fellow clergy, included members of the congregation as well as family and friends of Rev. Brown. Reverend Janet Brown and fellow clergy following the ordination. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## Celebrate Joke Days at library

AGAWAM – The Agawam Library will now have Joke Days on Wednesdays and Fridays. People of all ages, including children, teens and adults, can come to the Agawam Library on Joke Days and tell a joke to the librarian in the Children’s Room.

After that, the joke-tellers may then pick out a rubber ducky to keep, just for

telling a joke. For those who may have trouble thinking of a joke, a librarian can point the way to the joke books. All joke formats are welcome. It is not necessary to make the librarian laugh, but that is fairly likely as they love jokes.

The Agawam Library is open on Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m.- 9 p.m., and Fridays and Saturdays, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

## Books for kids and teens this spooky season at the library

AGAWAM – As the days are getting shorter and Halloween is almost upon us many people are looking for fun, scary books to read and the Agawam Library is here to help. Scary books are a great way to kick off the Halloween festivities but they also have a lot to offer the reader

Reading scary stories can be reassuring for kids. When the scary things are happening in books and not in our everyday lives it gives the reader, or the listener, a level of control. If the scariness gets to be too much, then one can always just close the book and put the fictional terror away.

Here are some book suggestions to help readers of all ages celebrate the scary season:

### Books for Preschool/Kindergarten

*Click, Clack, Boo!* By Doreen Cronin & Betsy Lewin.

*The Good, The Bad, and the Spooky!* By Jory John.

### Books for grades 1-2

*A Spoonful of Frogs* by Casey Lyall.

*The Hallo-Wiener* by Dave Pilkey.

*Books for grades 3-4*

*Ghosts* by Raina Telgemeier.

*Frankenstein Makes a Sandwich* by Adam Rex.

### Books for grades 5-8

*The Graveyard Book* by Neil Gaiman.

*What Lives in the Woods* by Lindsay Curry.

### Books for grades 9-12

*The Weight of Blood* by Tiffany Jackson.

*Through the Woods* by Emily Carroll.

All of these books are available at the Agawam Public Library. For these books, or other fine suggestions please visit the Agawam Library at 750 Cooper St.

The Library is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

## Halloween events to be held at the Agawam Public Library

AGAWAM – Celebrate Halloween at the Agawam Public Library. We will have a Great Halloween Parade for all ages on Monday, Oct. 30 from 4 to 5:30 p.m. This event is for kids of all ages. Registration is requested. To register call 413-789-1550 ext. 3. The parade will wind around the library. Cider donuts, stories, and songs on the library lawn will follow. Teen and Tween volunteers are needed to help with set-up, clean-up, and Halloween prize dis-

tribution. If teens or tweens would like to volunteer please contact Evan Delano at 413-789-1550 ext. 3 or email edelano@agawamlibrary.org.

The Library will also have fun treats available at the library all day on Oct. 31 for any trick-or-treaters who happen to stop by.

The Agawam Library is open 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. on Mondays-Thursdays, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays.

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## Christmas musical begins Dec. 1

AGAWAM – Bethany Assembly of God, 580 Main St., is presenting He's Here a musical production. The dates of the production are Dec. 1 at 7 p.m., Dec. 2 at 6 p.m., and Dec. 3 at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. There will be a second weekend of shows on Dec. 8 at 7 p.m., Dec. 9 at 6 p.m. and Dec. 10 at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. For more information, please call 413-789-2930 or check the website at [www.Bethany-AG.org](http://www.Bethany-AG.org).

## Agawam to participate in textile competition

AGAWAM – The Town of Agawam is excited to announce its partnership with the Hartsprings Foundation and Town of West Springfield in a friendly competition to collect used unwanted textiles. In an effort to reduce the amount of textiles entering our waste stream and supporting Hartsprings Foundation's mission of financially supporting Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Hartsprings will be sponsoring the friendly competition. The community that collects the most textiles in weight will win a \$500 donation to a program within their community. The \$500 donation will be made out to either the Agawam Municipal Scholarship Fund or West Springfield

High's Terrier Closet Program.

"The Town of Agawam is very excited to participate in this friendly competition with West Springfield again" stated Mayor William Sapelli. Having fun while encouraging our residents to make responsible waste reduction practices is a win for our community and solid waste disposal costs. We look forward to this challenge and hope to receive the funds for our community".

Residents and supporters of the Town of Agawam are encouraged to donate their bagged or boxed used clothing, linens, hats, shoes, belts, towels, curtains, drapes, and other cloth items, on either or

both of the two drop off dates between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. the Department of Public Works, 1000 Suffield St., Saturday, Nov. 4 or Saturday, Dec. 2.

Acceptable donations include clothing, bedding, draperies, table cloths, towels, shoes, hats, mittens, gloves, etc.

A Hartsprings truck will be at the DPW for collection and the driver will help residents transfer donations from their vehicles. Hartsprings Foundation, Inc. is a registered non-profit that collects used goods and through the sale of those goods, financially supports Big Brothers Big Sisters mentoring programs in Massachusetts and Connecticut. [www.hartsprings.org](http://www.hartsprings.org)

## Bazaar and Craft Fair set for Nov. 4

AGAWAM – Heritage Woods Senior Living will be holding its 19th annual Holiday Bazaar and Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 4. The event will be held from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m. at 462 Main St. Dozens of vendors will showcase homemade items, crafts, candles, jewelry, holiday decorations, cosmetics, and more. A raffle, bake sale, and lunch will also be available. Admission is free and open to the public.

## Agawam High School Class of 1973 50th reunion celebration

AGAWAM – The Agawam High School Class of 1973 will hold a celebratory weekend for their 50th Reunion.

On Friday, Nov. 10, there will be an informal social at Casa Di Lisa bistro, located at 801 Springfield St. Agawam from 5 to 8 p.m. It will be a cash bar and hors d'ourves. RSVPs are appreciated and walk-ins welcome.

On Saturday, Nov. 11, there will be a golf event held at The Ranch Golf Club, 65 Sunnyside Rd, Southwick. If you like to golf, Contact Steve Richter [Richo777@gmail.com](mailto:Richo777@gmail.com) for details and

registration. Tee time is 9 a.m. and it will be played under scramble format.

Later, the main event will begin at 6 p.m., also at The Ranch with a social hour from 6 to 7 p.m. followed by dinner and entertainment. The cost is \$75 per person. Please RSVP and make checks out to AHS Class of 1973 or Venmo/Zelle to Paul Henault [pwhenault@gmail.com](mailto:pwhenault@gmail.com). No tickets will be sold at the door.

For more information, please contact Susan Borgatti Meunier by email at [smeutooz@comcast.net](mailto:smeutooz@comcast.net) or call (413) 786-4789.

## Tag, bake sale to benefit Grange #382

FEEDING HILLS – Community Grange #382 of Feeding Hills, located at 47 North West St., will hold a multi-family indoor fall tag and bake sale on Saturday, Oct. 28, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The tag sale will include furniture, household items and crafts among others, and the bake sale will include Halloween-themed baked goods. Soup to go will also be available. Proceeds will benefit the building fund.

## Real estate and personal property taxes due by Nov. 1

AGAWAM – The second quarter preliminary real estate and personal property tax bills for fiscal year 2024 are due in the Tax Collector's office by 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 1. Bills may be paid online @ [www.agawam.ma.us](http://www.agawam.ma.us), by mail in the envelope provided or the drop box that is provided outside Town Hall may be used.

Second quarter payment notices were mailed Sept. 28. By law, bills were mailed to owners of record as of Jan. 1. Any new homeowner or anyone who has not received their real estate or personal property tax bill should contact the Collector's office immediately to obtain the bill amount. Telephone 413-786-0400, ext. 8218.

## Turkey dinner to be held at Congregational Church Nov. 11

AGAWAM – On Veterans Day, Nov. 11, Agawam Congregational Church is pleased to, once again, host its popular, delicious, sit-down, turkey dinner. Doors will open at 5 p.m. and tickets are \$17.

"This is the first turkey dinner to be held in Bryan Hall since COVID-19," said Dale Melanson, chair of the church's catering committee. "We're thrilled. Folks have been asking when we would be hosting one of our special turkey meals served by church members."

The meal will include turkey, stuffing, yummy gravy, butternut squash, roll with butter, cranberry sauce, a gingerbread square with whipped cream coffee, tea and water.

All ticket orders and payments with a check, money order or cash must be received by Wednesday, Nov. 8, at noon,

in the church office, which is open from 8 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday. Take-out orders will also be available with prepayment. There will be no walk-in orders.

The church hall will have festive, fall decorations at all the tables. In addition, each attendee will receive a small American flag honoring all veterans and an amusing Thanksgiving sticker.

Everyone will also see other holiday decorations in preparation for the church's Holly Wreath Bazaar to be held Saturday, Nov. 18, starting at 9 a.m.

For more information, contact the church at 413-786-7111 or email at [office@AgawamCong.com](mailto:office@AgawamCong.com)

The church is located in the Historic District of Agawam, at 745 Main St., and is handicapped accessible with a large parking lot.

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# Opinion

## Guest Column

### Random Acts of Kindness

Mary Ann Dietschler

By Barb Turcotte

Special to the Agawam Advertiser News

Mary Ann Dietschler has quite an incredible story of how she's filling her need to give back, but first let me tell you a little about her.

She and her husband have been married 55 years and for 53 of those have lived in the same home in Agawam which is exquisitely decorated and extremely welcoming. They had three children, two sons and a daughter but unfortunately lost one of their sons two years ago during the pandemic from tragic circumstances. They do delight in their four grandchildren who seemed to have learned well from their grandparents about entrepreneurial skills.

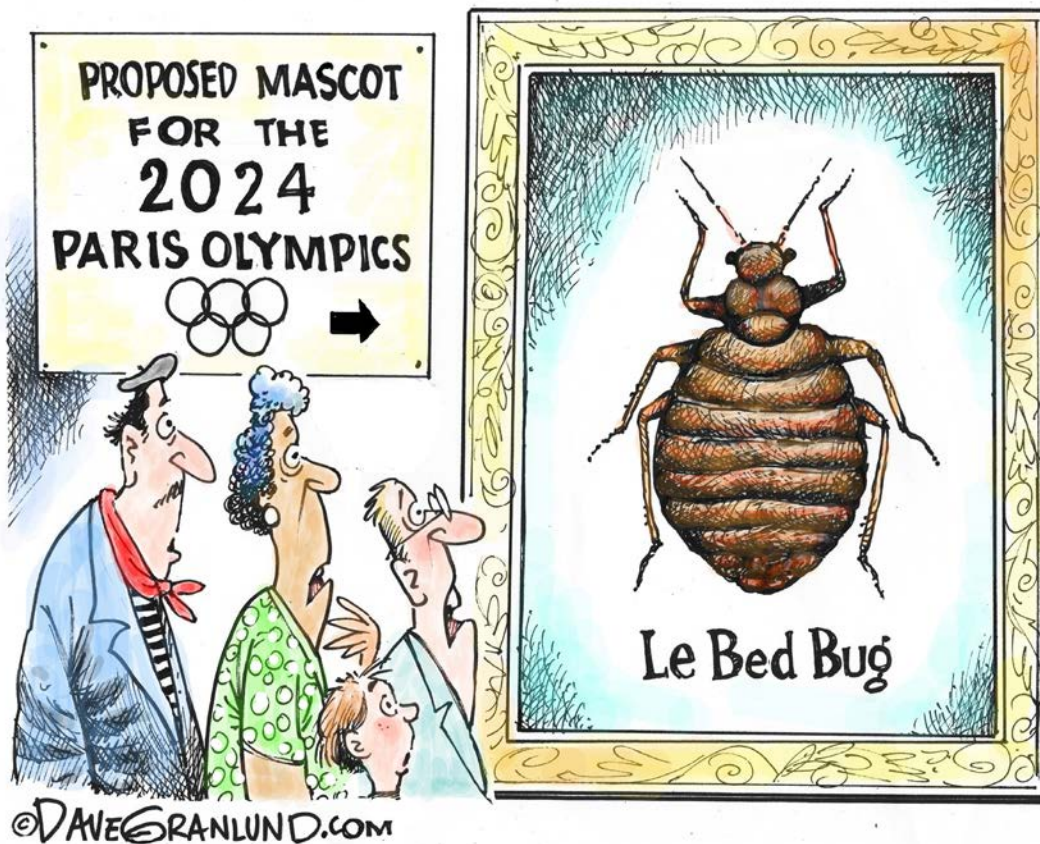
If you know or have ever met Dietschler, not only is she like the energized bunny but she doesn't look anywhere near her biologic age. She disclosed she started instructing yoga classes at 60 and still instructs two classes a week. She also teaches a Bible Study class via Zoom on Friday's. She's a natural at helping others and pursued her passion by being a life coach for ten years as well.

While in a secondhand bookstore in 2014 Dietschler stumbled upon the book, "The Underground Railroad" which explained about the plight of slaves. This made her realize there was still slavery happening in today's world although it may look different; it exists in every part of our country, even the little quiet towns. It's called sex trafficking and it's real. She explained about a case right here in Western Mass. that recently happened. A young girl sharing explicit pictures with her 'supposed' boyfriend who in turn told her if she didn't 'service' his friends he would make those pictures public, not only to her classmates and friends but to all her family as well. Unfortunately, until this young girl gained strength, she found herself caught up in this vicious cycle. Thankfully she found her courage and is now free of this!

Dietschler felt she had to do something after reading the book but didn't know what she could do on her own. That is until she was making a wreath for her door and her friend asked if she could make her one. And that's when at seventy years old her non-profit, 'Wreaths With A Reason' was created. It's literally what it says, creating decorative themed wreaths then donating the proceeds to help sex trafficking victims when they are rescued from this type of life.

Dietschler started with one volunteer and now has five that meet every Monday to make these beautiful creations. She posts the new wreaths on her website on Tuesdays so you can purchase them on-line as well. These stunning wreaths and other designs such as centerpieces start at \$35 up to \$105. You can hear Dietschler tell her story and see some of their incredible handiwork on her website: <https://wreathswithareason.com>. Her next in-person wreath sale will be held on Saturday, Nov. 18 at 281 Elm St., Agawam.

Not all the volunteers are designers; some are the shoppers often scouring tag sales and thrift stores for items they can use. When those finds are discovered, many have to be stripped and cleaned so they can be refurbished into beautiful fabrications. There is always the continuous need of keeping all the paraphernalia organized as well. One gentleman became quite ingenious when he noticed her dilemma for storing her ribbons and attached gutters to her wall in rows, problem solved, little room



## Letters to the Editor

### Will my wife's Social Security be affected by her pension?



Dear Rusty

My wife, born in 1960, was a Texas school teacher for about 10 years and receives a \$1,000 per month pension from that work. She didn't pay into Social Security while teaching, but she paid into it for about 23 years while working elsewhere. I paid into Social Security my entire life, the maximum in most years, so my SS benefit will be much greater than hers.

I understand there are some sort of penalties or restrictions on my wife's Social Security benefits and also for spousal benefits due to her school pension. Please share the process I can use to estimate my wife's Social Security and tell me if she can file for spousal benefits.

Signed: Planning for the Future

Dear Planning

Because your wife has a Texas school teacher pension earned without contributing to Social Security, any SS benefits she is entitled to will be

affected by two rules: first, by the Windfall Elimination Provision, which will reduce her personally earned Social Security retirement benefit and, second, by the Government Pension, which will reduce any spousal boost if she is entitled to one to her own benefit.

The amount of the WEP reduction to your wife's personal SS retirement benefit will be computed using a special formula, which considers the number of years she has contributed to Social Security through other (non-state) work. Since your wife became eligible for Social Security benefits in 2022 the maximum WEP reduction with 23 years contributing to SS will be \$358. If your wife has already obtained an estimate of her Social Security retirement benefit, deduct \$358 from that estimate and that will be pretty close to her actual SS retirement benefit when she claims. Social Security will figure out the exact amount of her WEP reduction when your wife applies, but you can also use Social Security's "WEP Calculator" for an estimate, which you can find by visiting [www.ssa.gov/benefits/calculator/](http://www.ssa.gov/benefits/calculator/).

Whether your wife will be entitled to a "spousal boost" to her own Social Security retirement benefit depends on how your respective FRA entitlements compare and the GPO. The base amount

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On Friday, Oct. 6 Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a sighting of a LeConte's sparrow in Longmeadow.

The LeConte's sparrow is about five inches long and has a dark crown with a white central stripe. It



LeConte's sparrow

also has reddish-brown streaks on a gray nape. The upper breast and flanks are buff colored.

It has an orang to buff orange face surrounding a gray ear patch. Other distinct features are a flat head and a short tail with fine streaking on the upper breast of juveniles.

This sparrow feeds on the ground and eats grass and weed seeds as well as insects. The female lays three to five light gray eggs with darker marks in a cup like nest of grasses placed on or just about the ground. They breed in Canada and winter in the Florida Gulf states.

To avoid danger, it often runs through grasses rather than flying over the grass. It may sing during the day and night. LeConte's sparrows inhabit marshes, wet meadows and weedy fields. Their song is a high-pitched buzz with accents at start and end like "tika-zzzzzz-tzt."

#### Other sightings

Other sightings for Oct. 6 reported to Massachusetts Audubon Society included a Townsend's warbler at Plum Island, a prothonotary warbler in Winchester and several reports of clay-colored sparrows.

#### Loon Preservation Committee

Loon Preservation Committee staff and volunteers in the month of September focused on a number of important post-season tasks including storing nest rafts on shore for the winter (over 140 rafts



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#### LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and length. The deadline is Monday at noon. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, care of Turley Publications Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, or e-mail [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).

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**SECURITY** ■ from page 4

of your wife's spousal boost will be the difference between her pre-WEP FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement. If your wife's normal FRA entitlement is less than 50% of your FRA entitlement, the difference is a "spousal boost" added to your wife's personal SS retirement benefit. However, that base spousal boost will be reduced if taken before your wife reaches her FRA and even further reduced by the GPO (the GPO reduction will be 2/3rds your wife's State of Texas pension, e.g., about \$667. Any remainder left after these reductions to your wife's spousal boost will be added to her own WEP-reduced SS retirement amount, but if the remainder is \$0 then no spousal boost will be given and your wife will get only her WEP-reduced Social Security retirement amount.

FYI, Social Security's WEP and GPO provisions apply to anyone, who has a pension earned without contributing to

Social Security, including many public service retirees in the 26 states, which do not participate in the federal Social Security program. I've published numerous articles about how these rules affect benefits and also about the rationale behind both provisions, which you are welcome to review at this AMAC Foundation website by visiting [www.SocialSecurityReport.org](http://www.SocialSecurityReport.org).

*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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisior@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisior@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

**KINDNESS** ■ from page 4

needed and great visual for them.

When Dietschler began, her intention was to donate proceeds from one wreath a month but this soon turned into a much bigger success. Since May of 2014 her non-profit has donated over \$120,000 to this cause. To learn more about what inspired her involvement please watch the documentary "Sound of Freedom" by Tim Ballard.

At age 10, one granddaughter made Chloe's Canine Cookies and gave 10% of the proceeds to support her grand-

mother's cause. And not to be outdone, a grandson made chocolate covered pretzels donating all the money from his sales to her cause as well.

One day her teenage grandson called her and started asking her all kinds of questions about her life. When she inquired why all the questions she was quite taken back by his response. He told her one of their assignments was to write about their hero and he was writing about her.

*If you would like to tell me a story about a random act of kindness, please contact me at [bdt514@aol.com](mailto:bdt514@aol.com) or 413-788-7514.*

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# Schools & Youth

## Goodwin University announces dean's list Summer 2023

EAST HARTFORD, CT — Goodwin University announces 524 students achieved dean's list status for the Summer 2023 session. These students are residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills:

Heather Rainville of Feeding Hills, Alyssa Riley of Feeding Hills and Nina Thomas of Agawam.

**BACKYARD** ■ from page 4

statewide), pulling and storing the signs that were used to protect vulnerable loon families, rescuing loons in distress and beginning the process of quality checking the data collected during the summer months.

LPC staff rescued five loons in distress throughout the state during the month of September. Rescuing a loon is just the first step in getting it the help that it needs. They thank the veterinarians and rehabilitators who worked with us to evaluate and treat ailing loons: the wonderful veterinarians and staff at VCA Capital Area Veterinary Emergency and Specialty, Hopkinton Animal Hospital, and Meadow Pond Animal Hospital, who helped with x-rays, blood work and assessment of rescued loons; Dr. Mark Pokras, who consulted on all cases

and provided valuable insight and suggestions for care; and Maria Colby of Wings of the Dawn Wildlife Rehabilitation, who housed, fed and provided daily care and treatment to all five loons rescued in September.

Sadly, LPC also continued to collect and necropsy dead loons throughout the state, nine total in September. While it is always sad to lose a loon, being able to determine the cause of death for individual loons allows LPC to collect valuable data on the challenges that the loon population is facing.

**Feeders**

I put out my suet feeder during the day and take it in before dusk so the bears don't take the suet and feeder. I have lost quite a few feeder that way. I have downy, hairy and red-bellied woodpeckers coming to the suet as well as white-breasted nuthatches and black-capped chickadees.

I also have a small tray feeder for meal worms and bird seed. I put a small amount of the meal worms and seed each day. The birds empty the feeder so the bears only find an empty tray.

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



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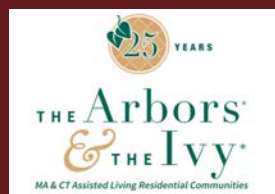
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# Ribbon cutting ceremony for Parenzo Hall

WESTFIELD – Westfield State University held a ribbon cutting ceremony for newly renovated Parenzo Hall on Friday, Oct. 13, at the entrance to the building.

The over \$40 million project, a partnership with Westfield State University and the Massachusetts Division of Capital Assets Management and Maintenance, started its planning phase in 2018 and was completed earlier this month.

The newly designed 90,000 square foot building will host Dever Stage, the Center for Student Success and Engagement, the Department of Education, the Department of Political Science and the new Collaboration and Maker Space.

Parenzo Hall will also be home to Westfield State's new Research, Innovation, Design, and Entrepreneurial Center. RIDE will serve as the nexus and hub of innovation and workforce development in Western Mass., fulfilling the University's stewarded agreement to engage students while partnering and collaborating with external stakeholders and community leaders.

RIDE will partner with MakerHealth, a division of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, which will outfit RIDE with equipment and modules that support transdisciplinary innovation, design, and entrepreneurial practices. Westfield State University will be the first undergraduate institution in the nation to establish this partnership.



Classroom space for the new RIDE Center in Parenzo Hall. SUBMITTED PHOTO

# Join story time at Agawam Library

AGAWAM – For a lively, fun-filled story time there is no better place than the Agawam Public Library, at 750 Cooper St. The library offers a Baby Story Time for birth to 18-months-old, a Toddler Time Story Time for children 19 to 36 months, and a Story Time for ages 3-5. During each of these programs library staff and children will read books together, sing songs, and have some awesome play time.

No registration is necessary and parents and children may just drop in. Toddler Time meets every other Mondays at 10 a.m. Story Time meets every other Tuesday at 10 a.m. Baby Story Time meets every other Thursday at 10 a.m.

Why come to story time? The power of story time cannot be overstated in early childhood education. It is important for children to see the adults in their life interact with books, use them, read them, hold them and value them, especially because in this increasingly digital age. That example can positively impact their attitude towards reading and get them excited to start reading on their own when they are ready for it.

Although life is busy for everyone, story time and the benefits it brings will be present in children's lives as long as parents and teachers make it a priority. And once a child gets excited about reading and starts to choose his or her own books, it might even get difficult to convince them to put those books down. But that's another story.

For more information about this program or other programs at the Agawam Public Library please visit its website at [agawamlibrary.org](http://agawamlibrary.org).

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## Annual art and craft fair to be held

EAST LONGMEADOW – St Mark's Church, 1 Porter Road, will hold its annual Art and Craft Fair on Saturday, Nov. 15 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be a wide range of artists and crafters offering items ranging from hand knit sweaters to hand-turned wooden bowls and birdhouses, from homemade jam to ceramics and glassworks.

The Art and Craft Fair also offers a 'Cookie Walk' and an eclectic raffle of donated handmade items that benefits St. Mark's Church.

The kitchen offers breakfast and lunch items such as homemade soups, chili and loaded baked potato for sale.

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# SPORTS



Sarah Kriebel winds up for a long hit.



Lilah Carr makes her way up the field.

## Brownies field hockey falls to Minnechaug

WILBRAHAM – In a bit match-up between league rivals, Minnechaug scored early and took it to Agawam 4-1.

Alayna Lucas scored twice for Minnechaug while Audrey Izzo and

Serina Chen also had goals. Lilah Carr scored Agawam's lone goal. Amber Bates had a busy day in goal with 20 saves.

Agawam is now 5-3-4 while Minnechaug is now 10-1-1 this season.



Brooke Dwyer gets low to clear the ball.



Alyssa DaSilva guides the ball up the field after taking possession.



Samantha Matland plays the ball on defense.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY SOFIA DIGRANDE

## Girls still seeking playoff spot

CHICOPEE – With a spot in the state tournament in sight, Agawam defeated Chicopee Comprehensive last Wednesday evening 3-1. The Brownies captured wins in the first and second sets before falling in the third set. Agawam closed the door with a 25-14 win in the fourth set. Hannah Jock led Agawam with 12 kills while Isabella Spaulding contributed eight kills. Agawam is 7-9 with two games remaining.

## Agawam girls soccer falls to South Hadley

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley girls' varsity soccer team only played three home matches during the first month of the regular season.

The Lady Tigers kicked off a five game home stand with a 2-0 shut-out victory over Kurty/Fielding rival Agawam on Columbus Day.

"We did play a lot of road matches at the beginning of the season.

SOCCER | page 8



Marlee Montagna sends the ball away.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



McKenna Podworski balances the ball before dribbling upfield.



Isabella Spaulding goes high for a shot.



Gabriella Wood dribbles up the field.



Kylie Warner watches a pass come to her.



Angelina Kozhenevsky sends a quick pass to her left.



Ella Mickiewicz makes a set for the Brownies.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY  
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# Sports

## Springfield Thunderbirds rebound to beat Bruins

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-1-0-0) overcame a subpar second period and battled their way to a 4-3 win over the Providence Bruins (0-1-0-1) on Sunday afternoon inside the MassMutual Center.

Vadim Zherenko got the nod in net for Springfield and picked up the win, stopping 38 shots on the afternoon. On the other end, Brandon Bussi got the start for Providence in the net, making 20 saves on 24 T-Birds attempts.

After a flurry of chances in the Providence zone about halfway through the first period, captain Matthew Peca got the T-Birds on the board first as he knocked a rebound home at the 7:48 mark. On a seemingly harmless play, Wyatt Kalynuk wristed a point shot toward Bussi, who appeared like he would squeeze it in the glove to get a whistle. Instead, the puck popped out of his trapper, and Springfield kept the puck in the zone the next half minute, culminating

in the goal by Peca, which came as a sixth attacker was jumping on the ice following a delayed Providence penalty.

Peca's first goal of the season would be the only tally of the period, as the T-Birds marched back to their dressing room with a 1-0 lead. Nathan Walker picked up a point for a second straight day, getting credit for the primary helper, while Dylan Coghlan accrued his first point as a T-Bird with the secondary assist.

Providence had a golden opportunity to score five minutes into the second frame when Vincent Arseneau took advantage of a turnover and found teammate Joey Abate in the slot, but Abate's shot nailed the post and the score remained 1-0.

The T-Birds had a golden opportunity of their own to capitalize on with 7:28 to go in the second after Zachary Bolduc intercepted an errant pass, but Bolduc just missed on the glove side of Bussi as the shot sailed over the crossbar.

John Farinacci finally got the P-Bruins on the board, hammering home a rebound past Zherenko on the power play, tying the game up at one apiece.

With just over a minute to play in the second, after an unforced giveaway in the defensive end by Springfield, the Bruins took advantage as Farinacci found Luke Toporowski for a one-timer in the slot, giving the P-Bruins a 2-1 lead going into the dressing room.

It didn't take long for the T-Birds to get even in the third, as Walker recorded his second goal of the season just nine seconds into the period to open up the scoring, with Adam Gaudette and Calle Rosen getting credit with the assists.

Just 4:19 later, Bolduc joined the scoring party on a 2-on-1 rush as he rifled home a shot past Bussi on the blocker side. The first-round pick's first career pro goal made it a 3-2 game.

Providence did not go away quietly

though, as Marc McLaughlin tipped in a Reilly Walsh point shot on a Bruins power play at the 13:21 mark, bringing the game to a 3-3 tie.

In need of another response, and with another delayed penalty situation, the top line delivered in the clutch. Finding a quiet area in the slot area, Gaudette snapped a perfect shot under the crossbar and recorded his first of the year and second point on the day, making it 4-3 with just 4:52 to go in the third.

Despite pulling their goalie and several dangerous scoring chances, Providence could not tie the score and the T-Birds escaped with their first victory of the year in thrilling fashion.

The T-Birds return to the MassMutual Center on Friday to complete their season-opening three-game homestand as they take on the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, with puck drop set for 7:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome.

## Worcester Railers fall to Mariners in opener

AUBURN, ME – The Worcester Railers HC (0-1-0-0, 0pts) fell to the Maine Mariners (1-0-0-0, 2pts), on Friday night by the final score of 4-2 at Norway Savings Bank Arena. The Railers are at the Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center against the Maine Mariners on Saturday, October 14th at 7:05 p.m. EST.

Maine started the game with two quick goals in the first from Ethan Keppen (2-0-2) and Wyllum Deveaux (1-0-1) to grab a 2-0 lead through one period. Worcester got on the board in the second thanks to Zach White's tip in front to make it 2-1. The Railers and Mariners traded goals midway through the second, as Jimmy Lambert (1-1-2) for Maine put the Mariners up 3-1 just before Jake Pivonka (1-0-1) got the Railers back to within one. Keppen scored the only goal of the third, as Maine would go on to beat Worcester 4-2 on Friday night.

The Mariners poured on the offense in a hurry to open the first, scoring twice in

the first 3:06 of the game. Ethan Keppen (1st) finished off a cross-ice passing sequence from Tyler Drevitch to beat Tikkanen far-side and make it 1-0 Mariners. Wyllum Deveaux similarly capped off an up-ice rush with a backdoor tap-in past Tikkanen off a feed from Reid Stefanson (1st) to make it 2-0 Mariners. Former Railer Jimmy Lambert was in the lineup for the Mariners and managed to record the secondary assist on Deveaux's goal. Shots in the first favored Worcester 14-6.

Zach White (1st) got Worcester on the board early in the second with his first as a Railer. John Copeland unleashed a shoulder-high shot from the point that White redirected past Starrett to make it 2-1 Maine. Lambert (1st) recorded his second point of the night as he beat Tikkanen with 8:01 to go in the second, and put Maine back up by two, 3-1. Just 19 seconds later, Jake Pivonka (1st) got Worcester back to within one off assists from Riley Piercey and Ashton

Calder. The second period came to an end at 3-2, with Worcester continuing to outshoot the Mariners 12-11. The Railers led in shots through two at 26-17.

Intensity & physicality escalated midway through the third period. Mike Higgins and Cole Dubinsky dropped the gloves in response to a check on Worcester's Artyom Kulakov, which left him slow to get up. Maine scored first in the third when Ethan Keppen (2nd) found the puck alone far side off a feed from Stefanson to beat Tikkanen and make it 4-2. Worcester went on the power play late in the game with 1:46 remaining as Connor Doherty was sent to the box two minutes for roughing. Kulakov then dropped the gloves with Doherty, with both players ejected for the rest of the game after the fight. Neither team would score to wrap up the third, as the Railers fell 4-2 to Maine to open the preseason.

## Half-marathon registration

CAMBRIDGE – Registration is open for the Cambridge Half Marathon and 5K at CambridgeSide. The races are scheduled for Sunday, Nov. 5 (race begins 7 a.m. EST) on a gorgeous new course with views of the Charles River along Memorial Drive.

- The Cambridge Half Marathon is a 13.1 mile fast and flat course featuring views of the MIT, John W. Weeks Footbridge, Harvard University Stadium, Charles River and more. The new 5K race also offers scenic views alongside the Charles River. Both courses are USATF certified and start and finish at CambridgeSide.

- Race registration includes quarter zip pull over (half marathon participants) or long sleeve shirt (5K participants), five complimentary CambridgeSide parking passes, training plan, race bib with timing chip, and finishing medal. Register for both races at CambridgeSide.com.

Cambridge Half Marathon and 5K at CambridgeSide race proceeds benefit Cambridge Camping (CambridgeCamping.org), City of Cambridge Scholarship Fund (Cambridgema.gov/Services/CityScholarship) as well as other local charities. Cambridge Half Marathon and 5K is sponsored by Canam Group Inc. and training sponsor MYSTRYDE.

goals in that contest were scored by sophomore Kylie Warner.

The Lady Tigers reached double digits in victories on the same day with a 6-1 home win against Chicopee Comp. Marjanski recorded a hat-trick, while senior Gracie Dean, Roy, and Fleury netted the other three Lady Tigers goals.

### SOCCER ■ from page 7

We now have a nice stretch of home games coming up," said South Hadley head coach Rich Marjanski. "It's always nice to win a home game."

South Hadley, who began last week's action as the top ranked team in the MIAA Division 4 power rankings, had a 9-1-1 overall record and an 8-1-1 league record following their second meeting of the regular season with Agawam. They were also the second ranked team in the Western Mass. Class B power rankings behind first place Pope Francis.

The Lady Tigers celebrated a 3-0 victory over the Brownies when they made a visit to Harmon A Smith Field at the end of September.

"Anytime that you play the same team for the second time, it's always a lot more challenging," Marjanski said. "Agawam has improved a lot since the first time that we played them. This was a close game, and we were able to put a couple of shots into the net in the second half."

The Brownies (3-8, 3-5) had a 3-1 record following a 4-0 shutout victory at Pittsfield on September 19 before losing their next seven matches.

"This is probably the best game that we've played so far this season," said Agawam head coach Laura Wray-Ramos. "I told my players to keep their heads up. The game of soccer can be frustrating at times. You can play a fantastic game and still come away with a loss."

Despite having a below .500 record, Agawam was ranked 22nd in the Division 2 state power rankings. The top 32 teams in each of the five Divisions will automatically qualify for the state tournament. The Brownies were also ranked eighth in the

Western Mass. Class A power rankings.

The Lady Tigers outshot the Brownies, 10-4, during the first 40 minutes of the contest.

A strong performance by senior goalie Joann Schmuck (13 saves) and the Agawam defensive unit kept the contest scoreless at halftime.

"Joann has the most saves by a goalie in Western Mass. this season," Wray-Ramos said. "She has been keeping us in our games. She's a fantastic goalie."

The Agawam defense is led by senior Alivia Carrier, senior Isabella Castro, junior Gabriela Cosentini, and junior Katelyn Cleavall.

Most of the Lady Tigers' shot attempts in the first half were taken by senior Lauren Marjanski.

Down at the other end of the field, South Hadley senior goalie Drew Alley (8 saves), who missed the first two games of the regular season with an injury, posted her third consecutive shutout and fifth overall.

"I couldn't post a shutout without the help of my defense, which has been performing very well so far this season," Alley said. "I'm very glad that we were able to win another game."

South Hadley starting defenders against Agawam were senior Madelyn McArdle, senior Gianna Roy, junior Maddie Soderbaum, and junior Margo Watkins.

The Lady Tigers took a 1-0 lead nine minutes into the second half on an unassisted goal by Lauen Marjanski.

"Lauren just ripped a shot from about 20 yards out into the net. It was a pretty goal," coach Marjanski said. "The Agawam goalie did make a couple of very good saves in the first half."

Carrier also had a couple of shots on goals for the visiting team. Alley made a

one handed save on the first attempt, which kept the score 1-0.

During the 55th minute, Lauren Marjanski had a breakaway shot, which was saved by Schmuck.

Marjanski also had several more shots on goal during the final 25 minutes of the match.

With 13 seconds left in regulation, Schmuck made another save on another Marjanski shot, but sophomore Allison Fleury was able to knock home the rebound shot giving the home team a 2-0 victory.

Agawam ended their losing streak by posting a 3-0 home win against Pittsfield, last Thursday. All three of the Brownies



Milana Kogan sizes up a bump.

URLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM



# Kidney Associates at Holyoke Medical Center to open Nov. 1

HOLYOKE – Kidney Associates at Holyoke Medical Center is scheduled to open on Nov. 1, with two locations, one at the hospital campus at 10 Hospital Drive, Suite 301, Holyoke, and a second location at 2150 Main St. Both offices are currently scheduling appointments and accepting all patients.

Led by nephrologists Balaji Padmanaban Athreya, MD, FASN, and Shaji Daniel, MD, FACP, FASN, this new service will provide care for patients with chronic kidney disease, dialysis treatments, and transplant care. Common conditions that may warrant a referral to our nephrology team include chronic kidney disease, protein in urine, blood in urine, hypertension, low sodium and/or potassium levels, urinary tract infections, and kidney stones, dialysis and transplantation needs.

“We are excited to bring this new and

important service to Holyoke Medical Center. Dr. Athreya’s and Dr. Daniel’s knowledge, expertise and compassionate care will be an asset to the community and will have a positive influence on the health and well being of our patients,” said Spiros Hatiras, president and CEO of Holyoke Medical Center.

Dr. Balaji Padmanaban Athreya completed a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery degree at Thanjavur Medical College in India before completing senior house officer roles in general surgery, and accident and emergency medicine in London, United Kingdom. He completed a residency in internal medicine and a fellowship in Nephrology and Hypertension at Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center in New York. Athreya has been an active member of the medical staff at Holyoke

Medical Center since 2000.

“In this busy world, patients feel that they don’t get enough time and they’re being rushed. I like to take the time to listen to my patients, caring for them and their needs,” said Athreya. “We educate patients about chronic disease. We want to slow the progression of kidney disease and provide comprehensive care, including screening and disease management. In the event a patient needs to go on dialysis, we provide full service dialysis and transplantation.”

Dr. Shaji Daniel completed his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery degree at the University School of Medicine, Kerala, India. He then completed a residency at the University School of Medicine Calicut, India. Following these, Daniel underwent an Internal Medicine Residency in Ireland and was awarded the prestigious Member-

ship of the Royal College of Physicians in Dublin, Ireland. Daniel then completed a fellowship in nephrology at the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland and underwent further training at the University School of Medicine in London, Ontario, Canada. After relocating to Western Massachusetts, he trained at Baystate Medical Center before he began practicing Nephrology and Transplantation medicine in Western Massachusetts for the past 15 years. Daniel has been an active member of the medical staff at Holyoke Medical Center since 2008.

“During my training, I was deeply touched by the complexity of problems kidney patients go through every day. I want to care for them, help them, and be part of their journey,” says Daniel.

To learn more or make an appointment, please call 413.534.2787.

## Dakin Humane Society to host Whisker Wonderland Nov. 4

SPRINGFIELD – Dakin Humane Society will present Whisker Wonderland on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at its location at 171 Union St. Admission is free, but donations will be welcomed.

The second-annual holiday craft event will include a variety of local artisans offering pet-centric crafts and gifts. Last year’s first-ever Whisker Wonderland event attracted many pet lovers and craft enthusiasts across western Massachusetts and northern Connecticut, as well as holiday shoppers, and people seeking eco-friendly, locally-focused gift items.

In addition, Dakin’s Home Again thrift shop will be open at that time to provide additional shopping options. There will be a raffle of donated

gift items to support animals at Dakin Humane Society, and Dakin’s holiday merchandise will be for sale. The family-friendly event will also feature a bake sale with hot chocolate.

“Last year when we introduced Whisker Wonderland, it attracted nearly 300 people,” said Dakin’s Director of Development and Marketing, Stacey Price. “We got a lot of terrific feedback from shoppers about how they got some great gifts for the animal lovers in their life, which helped with their holiday shopping. This year we will have even more vendors offering unique gifts inspired by pets at Whisker Wonderland.”

Sponsors for Whisker Wonderland include VCA Animal Hospitals, and Finck & Perras Insurance Agency, Inc.

## Burn awareness video contest

STOW – The Department of Fire Services’ annual Burn Awareness Video Contest is underway, and schools with communications courses that focus on media design and production are encouraged to take part.

State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine said the annual contest is a way to raise awareness of the painful, lifelong consequences of misusing fire and to counteract dangerous stunts and challenges that young people may see on social media. The contest is sponsored by DFS, the Massachusetts Property Insurance Underwriters Association, and Shriners Children’s.

The winners will be announced during Burn Prevention Week, which runs from Feb. 4-10, 2024. This year’s grand prize is a digital video camera for the winning students’ school, courtesy of the Massachusetts Property Insurance Underwriters Association. The second-place team will share \$100 in gift cards from Best Buy, courtesy of Shri-

ners Children’s. The third-place team will share \$50 in gift cards from Best Buy courtesy of Shriners Children’s.

The contest is open to students in grades 9-12 who are enrolled in Massachusetts schools. Submissions must be from school-sponsored communications courses or extra-curricular groups. Communications teachers or faculty sponsors are required to review and approve all storyboards before filming starts.

Videos should explore burn prevention topics in one to three minutes. They should be well researched, educational, and informative, and they must not demonstrate risky or unsafe behavior. Fire may only be depicted through royalty-free stock footage, and not through images recorded by students.

For the complete contest rules, scoring rubric, and submission form, visit the Department of Fire Services’ website.

### SCHOOL | from page 1

Georgeopolus did her undergraduate at Westfield State and Framingham Universities and received her masters in psychology from Westfield State. She has spent nine years as an adjustment counselor in another district and is excited to be in Agawam.

“I can’t express how excited I am to be in Agawam and how wonderful my experience has been so far,” Georgeopolus said. “I am having such a great time getting to know my students.”

Clifford M. Granger has three new staff members: Kindergarten Teacher Eileen McCarthy and Special Education Teachers Kaitlin Cookish and Angela Sherry.

Roberta G. Doering has four new staff members: Inclusion Teacher Riley Nash, Music Teacher Jamie Dever, Fifth Grade Teacher Taylor De George and Teacher Jessica Hersey.

The Junior High School has seven new staff members, who Principal Norman Robbins affectionately calls the “super seven”.

These staff are: Eighth Grade English Teacher Jessica Gauthier, Special Education Teacher Karlene Welles, Seventh Grade ELA Teacher Madeline Borowski, Special Education Teacher Brittany Fortier, Math Teacher Julie LaChappelle, Social Studies Teacher Alexander Stebbins, and Teacher Jennifer Morrisino.

“They’ve filled in seamlessly with our school,” Robbins said. “They’ve hit the ground running and you wouldn’t know that they’re new teachers or new to our school district.”

Finally, Agawam High School welcomed five new staff members. These staff are: French Teacher Meghan Powers, Chorus Teacher Amanda Johnson, Science Teacher Christopher Olson, English Teacher Sadie Petta and English Teacher Elizabeth LaBruna.

Many of the new staff could not help but comment on how welcoming and supportive the Agawam community has been to them since they began their positions. They all feel they have found their home at

Agawam Public Schools and look forward to the year ahead.

“It’s been so welcoming and supportive here, I have my team but I also have Spanish teachers and math teachers and health teachers that are always willing to help me with technology and knowing different policies in the school,” Borowski said.

“I’m here and I have to say kudos to all the staff, the veteran people who are here at Agawam, they’re wonderful, you can go to anyone,” Morrisino said. “Not one person pushes you aside, they have a smile on their face, they’ll take their time to help. I have to say this was the most welcoming feeling, coming to the Agawam Public Schools and I plan to stay.”

### ELECTION | from page 1

encourage everyone to come out and vote.”

Both candidates will be appearing in television interviews over the next few weeks as the election approaches.

On top of the mayoral election, there will be an election for the city council and the school committee.

There are twelve candidates running for a position on the city council.

This includes eight of the current city councilors: George Bitzas, Thomas Hendrickson, Dino Mercadante, Robert Rossi, Anthony Russo, Rosemary Sandlin, Gerald Smith and Anthony Suffriti.

An additional four challengers are also running for a spot on the council. They are: Edward Borgatti, Susan Dawson, Peter Smus and Maria Valego.

Seven candidates are also running for the school committee: Shelley Borgatti-Reed, AJ Christopher, Dawn DeMatteo, Catherin McDougal, Christopher Pass, Michael Perry and Wendy Rua.

McDougal is the only challenger for a position on the school committee. The remaining six candidates are incumbents.

On election day, poles will be open from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The different polling locations are: Precinct 1: Robinson Park School, 65 Begley Street

Precinct 2: Clifford Granger School, 31 South Westfield Street

Precinct 3: Agawam High School, 760 Copper Street

Precinct 4: Roberta G, Doering School, 68 Main Street

Precinct 5: Benjamin Phelps School, 689 Main Street

Precinct 6: James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street

Precinct 7: Agawam Jr. High School, 1305 Springfield Street

Precinct 8: James Clark School, 65 Oxford Street

If you have any questions about where to vote and the precinct you reside in or to get more information on the elections in Agawam, including a sample of the ballot questions, go to <https://www.agawam.ma.us/231/Election-Information>.

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This paper publishes birth, engagement, wedding and significant anniversary announcements free of charge.

Simply log on to our web site, choose the paper you want the announcement to appear in, then use our SUBMISSION link to email your information.



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MOVING SALE: **SAT., OCT. 21. 59 Letendre Ave., Ludlow.** 8am-3pm.

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**ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy **(860)874-8396**

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

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## SERVICES



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Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.**

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## SERVICES

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## HELP WANTED

### HELP WANTED

#### Board of Health Coordinator Position

The Town of Hampden seeks qualified applicants for the position of Health Coordinator, providing a wide variety of administrative services to the Regional Health Department and Hampden Board of Health. The successful candidate will possess effective communication skills, computer literacy, and the ability to operate office equipment.

Full job description and compensation information at the town of Hampden website: <https://www.hampdenma.gov>.

Submit cover letter and resume electronically to Robert T. Markel, Town Administrator, at [townadmin@hampdenma.gov](mailto:townadmin@hampdenma.gov).

## SERVICES

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**QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON**  
**HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON**

## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

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21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.50
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25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
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37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
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**Quabbin Village Hills**  
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**Suburban Residential**  
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Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential ZONE for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

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Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
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# Public Notices

## AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION LEGAL AD

The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, October 26, 2023 at 6:00PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St, Agawam, Ma. The purpose of this meeting will be to hear the Request for Determination of Applicability of Federico on property at 141 Elizabeth Street.

By Order of  
Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman  
AGAWAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
10/19/2023

## AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that

the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St., Agawam, MA on **Monday, November 13, 2023 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the request of the Lower Pioneer Valley Educational Collaborative, which is seeking a Special Permit in accordance with the Town of Agawam's Zoning Ordinances, Ch.180, Section 8(B) for the construction of a fence within the setback areas in excess of 4 feet at the premises identified as 384 Shoemaker Ln/ Lot 3 Moylan Ln.

Doreen A. Prouty  
Chairperson, ZBA  
10/19, 10/26/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Hampden Probate and

**Family Court**  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758  
Docket No. HD23P2077EA  
Estate of:  
**Bruce Francis Bacht**  
Also known as:  
**Bruce F Bacht**  
Date of Death: 09/12/2023  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Linda M Cardaropoli of Agawam, MA and JeriAnn Bacht of Agawam, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests

that: **Linda M Cardaropoli of Agawam, MA and JeriAnn Bacht of Agawam, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/08/2023.**

This is **NOT** a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by

an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara**

**M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 10, 2023  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/19/2023

## Notice of Private Sale

Notice is hereby given by USA Towing, 71 Garden St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030, sale of a motor vehicle pursuant to the provisions of M.G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, that on November 6, 2023 at 8:00 a.m., at USA Towing, said motor vehicle will be sold at a private sale to satisfy the garage keeper's lien for towing, storage and costs of sale.

2000 Dodge Dakota  
VIN: 1B7HG2AZ9YS767733  
No plates on vehicle  
Last known reg. owner:  
Jody Curtis  
33 Avondale Ave.  
West Springfield, MA 01089  
10/19, 10/26, 11/02/2023

## JOB OPENING

# STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

### Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to

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

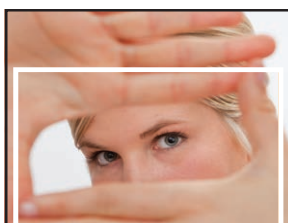


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- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

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



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## Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

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### CLUES ACROSS

1. A device to disengage without a key
5. Subdivision
8. Network of nerves
12. Lounge chair
14. Ocean
15. C. European river
16. Bowl-shaped cavity
18. \_\_\_ Caesar, comedian
19. Lyric poems
20. Tia's sister
21. A way to develop
22. Cows collectively
23. Areas close by
26. Slightly disreputable
30. Made a mistake
31. One who cites
32. Food stall: \_\_\_ pai dong
33. Narrow valley between hills
34. Members of people living mainly in the Congo
39. More (Spanish)
42. Classroom implementations
44. Cognizant of
46. One who tells on others
47. Free from slavery
49. Thick piece of something
50. Containing two nitrogen atoms between carbon atoms
51. Removed entirely
56. Late rocker Turner
57. Appreciated
58. Observation expedition
59. Opposite of sub-tracts
60. Unit of work
61. Wreckage on the sea bed
62. Affirmative! (slang)
63. Witness
64. River in England

### CLUES DOWN

1. A dissenting clique
2. Japanese city
3. Spiritual leader
4. Second letter of Greek alphabet
5. Musical term
6. Ruled over
7. Fortified wine
8. First year player
9. Moved in a circular way
10. Adolescents
11. Scottish or Irish Gaelic language
13. Someone who serves in the armed forces
17. Bring up
24. Factual written account (abbr.)
25. Having three sides
26. Annoy
27. Hustle
28. American WW2 leader
29. Stale atmosphere
35. US Treasury
36. Sound unit
37. They \_\_\_
38. Soviet Socialist Republic
40. Places to play video games
41. Medical event
42. When you hope to arrive
43. Fixed prices
44. Popular Boston song
45. Valley in Indiana and Illinois
47. Omit when speaking
48. German explorer of the Congo Basin
49. Stick around
52. From a distance
53. Heroic tale
54. Amounts of time
55. Eat

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 3

# GUNS WANTED

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The New Day Church was present at the Agawam Rotary Club's Harvest Festival to do some face painting and to get to know the community.



Mireille Gale sold her handcrafted jewelry and laser engravings to the community during the Agawam Rotary Club's Harvest Festival.



Anne Liptak, David Cecchi and Katy Krause from the Agawam Historical Society worked to educate the community on some of Agawam's history.



Crystal Falletti sold her hand painted goods and enjoyed the music from the band during the Harvest Festival.



Megan Leavitt enjoyed selling her variety of baked goods with her boyfriend, Dan Williamson at the Harvest Festival.



Jennifer Paquette sold bowl cozies, quilts, coasters and more hand-quilted items at the Harvest Festival.



Local Author Judith Cosby advertised her new book, The Attachment and spoke on her previous three books, The Threads Trilogy, at the Harvest Festival.



Children and their families played together at the family fun section during the Harvest Festival.



Stephany Pettazzoni, Blake Saltmarsh and Jennifer Paquette from Granger Elementary School sold a variety of goods to raise money for the fourth grade class.

**FESTIVAL ■ from page 1**

scholarships provide for our youth and we keep the community involved."

Throughout the day there were a variety of activities for families to enjoy, including face painting, live music, different games, a car show, a raffle and robots from Rosie Robotics.

Families could also get food from Nicky's Pizza and shop around at the over 60 different vendors available.

"Many of the different vendors are smaller, local companies, some of them are just starting out, so this helps them to get word out about their business," Merceri said.

"It's great to provide the opportunity for vendors to promote and sell their wares," Barber said.

All of the vendors were happy to be present at the fun event. They looked forward to getting to meet all the different members of the community and to enjoying the live music throughout the day.

"We love the bands and the food and we like it because of the atmosphere too," Local Vendor Lori Laru said. "With the park and it draws a lot of people, it's just really nice here."

Many of the vendors were returners from prior years who were excited to be attending the event again.


"I started here back in, I think, 2018, and I've come every year that they've had it since," Local Author Judith Cosby said. "I love it and it's great because you get to meet the community."

The community wasn't just a draw for the vendors. Both Barber and Merceri enjoyed getting to see members of the community come out and enjoy the festival.

"It's nice to see the crowds come out and enjoy themselves," Merceri said. "It's nice for me to see that because then I can see the fruits of my labor and just see the people having fun."




"It's always a joy to see people out mingling," Barber said.

The event as a whole was a big success and a great opportunity for the community to come out and have fun while enjoying the fall weather.



# Wilbraham & Monson Academy

*presents*

<b>WOMEN BUSINESS</b>	<b>WOMEN BUSINESS</b>	<b>WOMEN BUSINESS</b>
 Rayna '22 Western New England University, Major: Law & Society, 3+3 Law Dual degree program WMA Pieria Prize winner	 Allie '16 Client Services Associate, Kathleen Collins Wealth Management B.A., Economics and Music, Wellesley College, 2020	 Maddie '23 Babson College, Major: Entrepreneurship Babson Blank Scholars Program WMA Recipient of Stephen D. Luckraft Memorial Award

## Sunday, October 22, 10 a.m.

### Shenkman Trading Center, Mattern Hall

Hear from recent WMA alumnae about their experiences from WMA to the boardroom. Gain new perspective about WMA's Center for Entrepreneurship, Economics & Finance and the opportunities that abound for WMA students.

RSVP by Oct. 18: [www.wma.us/womeninbiz](http://www.wma.us/womeninbiz)

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