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AGAWAM

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School Committee votes on MASC resolutions

By Quinn Suomala
 Staff Writer

AGAWAM – The school committee voted at their meeting on Oct. 24 on the resolutions from the Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

These resolutions are submitted by school committees across the state to the resolutions committee, which is made up of representatives from districts around the state.

From there, these resolutions are sent out to school committees to vote on and, using that data, some of the resolutions will be voted forward to be legislative priorities during the Delegate Assembly at the annual MASC-MASS conference.

School Committee Member Michael Perry stated that he

would not support any of the resolutions but forward as he did not support the MASC.

Perry feels that MASC has veered off into supporting politically and socially diverse topics that do not apply to the town of Agawam.

“I think MASC has unfortunately veered off into social and politically diverse topics that... too many of them in my opinion are really kind of outside the scope of what we deal with in Agawam or what I believe the school committee should be doing,” Perry said. “I just want to say I want a vote of no confidence in MASC, I don’t think I have the confidence in them to carry forward even well-intentioned resolutions without in-

SCHOOL | page 10

Voters to choose new mayor

By Gregory A. Scibelli
 gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The time has come for Agawam to choose its new mayor.

This Tuesday, Nov. 7, polls will be open as residents will have the ability to choose between current City Council President and the town’s first-ever mayor Christopher Johnson, and fellow City Councilor Cecilia Calabrese. Calabrese recently spent a couple of terms in the vice president position.

Johnson and Calabrese outlasted a pair of challengers in Andy Montefusco and William Clark. Montefusco and Clark were ousted handily in the primary election held on Oct. 10 with the longtime city councilors advancing to the general election.



Cecilia Calabrese



Christopher Johnson

She has served as president and vice president of the council. She has served on multiple subcommittees and have served as chair of the Finance Committee. She is also a past president of the Massachusetts Municipal Association.

Both candidates are licensed attorneys. Calabrese is also a dental hygienist and rental property manager.

The candidates for public office participated in a questionnaire where they weighed in on many key issues facing the town, which was published in last week’s edition.

The new mayor will have to work with the city council and school committee on a potential new school project, and face upcoming infrastructure needs over the next term.

MAYOR | page 10

Agawam Congregational hosts TRUNK OR TREAT

By Quinn Suomala
 Staff Writer

AGAWAM – Agawam Congregational Church hosted their annual Trunk or Treat on last Sunday

This event brought out hundreds of people from the Agawam community as well as other communities nearby despite the poor weather pushing it indoors.

“I bet you we’re going to have close to 300 people, if not more,” Church Member Roberta Page said. “And it’s not just people from Agawam, it’s people from the greater community too.”

Agawam Police Department was also in attendance, bringing along their canine friend Frankie for children to meet.

“It is great to have the police department participating in this,” Page said. “I’m really pleased they were here.”

“I just love seeing all the children having fun,” Page said. “Hearing their laughter and seeing the smiles on their faces, it’s the best part of this event.”

Those who had been planning to set up and decorate trunks outside were instead provided with tables to use to display their creativity.

Available at the event was popcorn, a variety of games, raffle prizes and, of course, different tables with candy for children to enjoy.

Creators of the tables provided

their own candy and Congregational Church made sure to have plenty of extra to prepare for all the attendees.

“We have enough in case a large number of kids come in and people run out of their own,”

Chair of the Event Donna Decoteau said.

Anyone was welcome to sign up to create a “trunk” and, according to Decoteau, many community members were excited to do so.

“We had people from the community sign up, a lot of them who had done it in past years and wanted to return,” she said. “Some of them have been coming for years and now their children are old enough to help design the

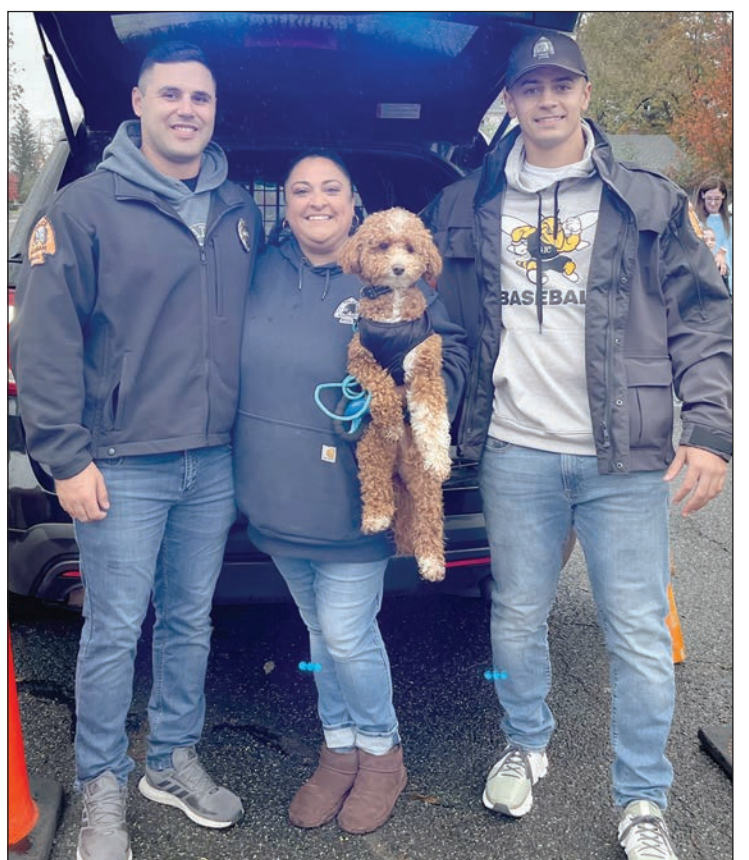
trunks.” This event has become a tradition for many members of the community. From the people designing the trunks and getting

TRUNK OR TREAT | page 12



Maya Zilinski, Jolene Bertone-Gross and Ash DeForge show off their costumes at Agawam Congregational Church’s Trunk or Treat.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA



Officer Alex Ablianitis, Records Clerk Julie Depalm and Officer Joseph Oliver from the Agawam Police Department attended the Trunk or Treat, and brought along Frankie the goldendoodle.



Library announces upcoming November programs for adults

AGAWAM – The Agawam Library would like patrons to note changes in the hours for the November holidays: the Library will be closed Friday, Nov. 10 and Saturday Nov. 11 for the observance of Veterans' Day. The library will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 22 and remain closed on Thursday, Nov. 23 for Thanksgiving. The Library will be open normal hours for the Thanksgiving weekend. For a full schedule of events please visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

Adult Game Night is Wednesday, Nov. 1 at 6:30 p.m. Celebrate the joys of a good old game night with board games and snacks. Games will be on hand like Settlers of Catan, Ticket to Ride, Munchkin, and more, but feel free to bring a game from home. There will be multiple tables for multiple games, so bring a friend or meet some like-minded gamers at the event. Light refreshments will be available.

The Bizarre Bazaar Beginning Nov. 1, the library will be accepting gently used holiday (any holiday) craft supplies and

decorations. Donations must come from a non-smoking home. Items will be accepted during regular library hours between Nov. 1 and Nov. 13. The shopping days will be Nov. 17 from 1 to 3 p.m. and Nov. 18 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. One bag per adult will be provided. Please contact Wendy McAnamana with any questions wmcanama@agawam-library.org or (413) 789-1550 X8865.

APL is welcoming Richard Hughes to the library on Thursday, Nov. 9 at 6:30 p.m. Hughes will provide musical accompaniment to the silent film Grandpa's Boy. Join everyone for a fun night and good music from the Golden Age of Silent Film. This program is sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association.

Local Author Katherine Anderson joins APL on Monday, Nov. 13 at 7 p.m. to discuss her latest Nora Phillips book, Murder at the Alma Mater. Books will be available for sale and signing. Please register online or by calling the Information Desk.

Tea & Trivia returns twice this month.

Join APL to test knowledge in a round or two of trivia and a game of Scattergories too. The afternoon trivia will be offered on Wednesday, Nov. 15 at 2:30 p.m. and the evening trivia will be offered on Tuesday, Nov. 21 at 6:30 p.m. Tea will be served and prizes will be awarded for the winning team. This program is for patrons over the age of 18. Please register online or call the Information Desk.

Library Tech Sessions return with a special look at Hoopla. Come learn how to listen to audiobooks, read eBooks, and check out movies, music, and more, right from your smart device! Please bring the device (phone, tablet, iPad, etc.) you'd like to use the app with, and your library card number and PIN/password. If you don't have that information, please set it up in advance by stopping in or giving us a call. Patrons can choose from an evening class on Wednesday, November 15 at 6:30 p.m. or a morning class on Tuesday, November 21 at 10:00 a.m. Please register online www.agawam-library.org or by calling (413) 789-1550 X4.

The Agawam Library welcomes visitors Monday through Thursday, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Please visit our online calendar to register for adult programs www.agawam-library.org or call the Information Desk at (413) 789-1550 X4.





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— Beth from Belchertown

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— Greg from West Springfield

"It was absolutely AMAZING! This was the first time ever brining a turkey and then I followed your cooking directions on your website. It was perfect cooking it low and slow."
— Kelly from Ludlow

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— Kevin Sullivan
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November programs available for kids at APL

AGAWAM – There’s always something fun happening for kids at the Agawam Library. Stop in for one of the story times, or register for a new Pathways Program that looks interesting. Below are the programs for kids birth - grade 4 at the Agawam Library.



You & Me In Music – for ages 2-5
Wed. Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, & 29, at 10 a.m.

Registration is required. To register go to agaawamlibrary.org

When you register you will be signed up for all 5 weeks.

You and your child are invited to engage in the many aspects of music, including singing, playing instruments, and moving in a fun, social group setting. We will create music together, while encouraging children’s social, emotional and physical development. Join us for this dynamic program led by Music Therapist, Renee Coro of Harmonious Happenings.

This program is brought to us by Pathways for Parents.

Baby Story Time for ages birth – 18 mo.

Thurs. Nov. 2, 16 & 30 at 10 a.m.

Drop-in. Join us as we learn a little American Sign Language, read stories, sing fun songs, and play together.

Grow, Play & Learn – for Birth – age 5

Fri. Nov. 3, & 17 at 10 a.m.

Drop-in. Stories, songs and skill building! Resources provided based on children’s individual needs. *Ages and Stages Questionnaire to be completed.

This program is brought to us by Pathways for Parents.

Family Take & Make Crafts

Mondays in November

Drop-in. A new Take & Make craft will be available each Monday.

Mon. Nov. 6 – Farm Animal Magnets

Mon. Nov. 13 – Clothespin Scarecrow

Mon. Nov. 20 – Wooden Spoon Turkey

Mon. Nov. 27 – Leaf Crown

Leaf Themed Hunt & Riddle –

for all ages

All Day During Week of Nov. 6 –11

Drop-in. Stop by any time to do our Leaf

themed Scavenger Hunt & Riddle. Winners

will be chosen and will each get a small

prize.

Yoga With Lisa – for ages 2-5

Tues. November 7 at 10 a.m.

Registration is required. To register go

to agaawamlibrary.org

Songs, movement activities and games

help to bring the yoga practice to young children. Children ages 2-5 and their caregivers will learn how to use large muscles to support self regulation, while bending, breathing and stretching and practicing mindfulness.

This program is brought to us by Pathways for Parents.

Puzzle Night – for grades K-2

Wed. Nov. 8 at 6 p.m.

Registration is required. To register go

to agaawamlibrary.org

Create-Your-Own puzzle and design fun

paths with marble runs in a fun filled, brain

powered time.

Turkey Themed Hunt & Riddle –

for all ages

All day during week of Nov. 13 – 18

Drop-in. Stop by any time to do our

Turkey themed Scavenger Hunt & Riddle.

Winners will be chosen and will each get a small prize.

Toddler Time –

for ages 19 months – 36 months

Mon. Nov. 13, & 27 at 10 a.m.

Drop-in. Join us as we read stories, sing,

& play together.

Story Time – for ages 3-5

Tues. Nov. 14 & 28 at 10 a.m.

Drop-in. Join us as we read stories, do

activities, play together, & do a simple craft.

Cardboard Town – for grades 3-4

Wed. Nov. 15 at 6 p.m.

Registration is required. To register go

to agaawamlibrary.org

Let’s build an entire town in an hour.

We will work together to create a miniature

town made of recycled boxes and more.

Plenty of materials will be provided, but

feel free to bring something from your own

recycling bin if you’d like.

Gratitude Night –

for ages 3+ and their families

Tues. Nov. 21 at 5 p.m.

Registration is required. To register go

to agaawamlibrary.org

Thanksgiving is a time to celebrate all of

the things we are grateful for. We will read

stories about gratitude, make grateful jars,

and celebrate all of the things that make us

feel grateful.

The Agawam Library is open 9 a.m.-9

p.m. Mondays-Thursdays and 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

on Fridays and Saturdays. To learn more

about these programs or other fun things

happening at the library check out our

website at agaawamlibrary.org.

Library announces upcoming November programs for teens

AGAWAM – There are lots of fun things happening at the Agawam Library this month. Come learn to make a mug cake in a microwave with Izzy or role-play as a bear in a game of Honey Heist with Evan. Or just visit the library to check out some books and say hello to your favorite librarians.

Here are all of the programs for students in grades 5-12 at the Agawam Library:

Teen Take-and-Make Craft – For Grades 5-12 Available Wednesday, Nov. 1

This month’s take-and-make craft for teens is an Infinitely Spinning Top made with (mostly) recycled materials. Stop by the Teen Space to pick up a craft kit. They will be available until we run out of supplies. No registration necessary.

Microwave Cooking Class – For Grades

5-8 Wednesday, Nov. 1, 6 to 7 p.m.

Learn how to bake a cake in a microwaveable mug and make a mini cookbook full of easy microwave recipes to take home. Registration required. To register, visit our calendar of events at agaawamlibrary.org.

Cozy Season Social – For Grades 9-12 Friday, Nov. 3, 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Celebrate Cozy Season (and the end of a long week) by getting cozy at the library. Make a craft, sip tea or cocoa, and listen to a cozy story read aloud by Evan. Don’t forget to wear your softest sweater. Registration is suggested; if we run out of craft materials, priority will be given to registered participants. To register, visit our calendar of events at agaawamlibrary.org.

After School Drop-In – For Grades 7-12 Every Tuesday during the school year, 2 to

3:30 p.m.

Stop by the library after school and visit the Children’s Activity Room. Play board games, use our art supplies, or just hang out. No registration necessary.

Festival of Trees – For All Ages Submissions accepted Nov. 13 to Dec. 15

Everyone is invited to make a tree out of upcycled or recycled materials. The trees can be any theme you’d like (they don’t have to be holiday-themed). Trees will be on display until Jan. 5. For full details, visit agaawamlibrary.org.

Open Switch Gaming – For Grades 5-12 Friday, Nov. 17, 2:30 to 4 p.m.

Drop in and play games on the library’s Nintendo Switch. Bring a controller if you have one, or use ours. Board games will also be available. No registration necessary.

Honey Heist – For Grades 5-8 Monday, Nov. 20, 4 to 5:30 p.m.

Honey Heist is a tabletop role-playing game where everyone plays a bear trying to steal honey from a honey convention. No experience with role-playing games? No problem. Honey Heist is beginner-friendly, very silly, and very fun. Registration required. To register, visit our calendar of events at agaawamlibrary.org.

Read With Pride Book Club - For Grades 9-12 Wednesday, Nov. 29, 2 to 3 p.m.

This group meets every month to discuss books by LGBTQ+ authors and/or books that feature LGBTQ+ characters. For November, we’ll be discussing *You Should See Me in a Crown* by Leah Johnson. Copies will be available to check out ahead of time at the library’s circulation desk.

ACC invites community to Sunday services

Agawam Congregational Church invites the community to Sunday morning services at 10 a.m. On the first Sunday of every month communion is served with bread and grape juice or with individually-packaged wafer and grape juice.

Following all Sunday services, there is a Friendship gathering in the church hall. Coffee, tea, and water are served along with various goodies and packaged treats. Juice is, also, available, especially, for children in attendance. Children can, also, visit the “Mural Room” where many animals are painted floor to ceiling on an entire wall.

The church is handicapped accessible with a large parking lot. If anyone may need a ride or assistance, contact the church at 413-786-7111 or office@agaawamcong.com. Located at 745 Main Street, the church is in the interesting Agawam Historic District.

Veteran’s Day Ceremony to be held on Nov. 11

AGAWAM – The Agawam Veterans’ Council will be honoring veterans at their Veteran’s Day Ceremony on Saturday, Nov. 11. This year’s ceremony will be held at the Veteran’s Green at Phelps School in Agawam at 10:45 a.m. (The location in case of rain will be the Agawam Junior High School). The Veterans’ Council will also be laying a wreath at the Vietnam Veterans’ Memorial Bridge (Strathmore Bridge) at 7 a.m. All are welcome to attend.



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Opinion

Guest Column



What I did (wrong) last summer

I always joke that gardeners are an optimistic lot. We no sooner pick that last fruit and we are already thinking about next year's garden. Our goal may be to improve on our mistakes or simply try something new.

Mistakes do happen. Oftentimes it's because we run out of time to do everything we should, or we do this or that to simply "get it done."

Sometimes we underestimate or overestimate. Sometimes we are hopeful but not practical.

Read on to learn about my imperfectness this past summer.

Right now, I have 50, three-inch apples staring at me when I walk to my car. Had I thinned said apples I would have had 10-15 five-inch apples.

What's the big deal? It's likely I'd fill a basket to the same height, be it with three-inch or five-inch fruit.

Of course, we all like bigger apples, but it goes well beyond that. I learned that seed production really tires out the tree, so fewer apples would mean fewer seeds and a happier tree.

I'll have to be observant come spring. Will my tree be too tired to bloom next year or bloom well?

If I'm lucky enough to have fruit clusters, I will indeed thin out all but one fruit per cluster. Ordinarily you would save the biggest one, but if it has any insect damage, it's best to take off that fruitlet and save another.

Thinning is especially important in young trees. While it's hard to wait for trees to bear, it's best to leave only a few fruit early on so that energy can go to strong roots and developing a healthy scaffold of branches.

As I stare out the window just now, I'm reminded of another misstep. I did not deadhead my spent lilac blooms.

Not only do the blackish seed heads look ugly, I fear that I will lose some flowers because of it. Seed production comes into play here too in terms of the plant expending energy and then being too depleted to perform well the next year.

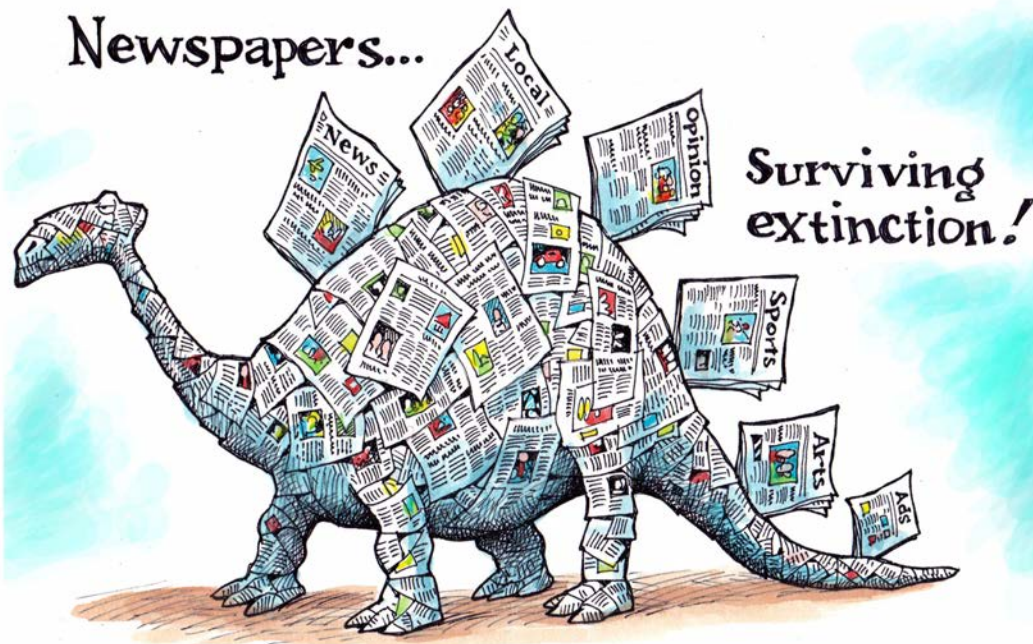
Pruning or deadheading lilacs can take place any time before July 1, not to sacrifice flowers for the following spring.

My winter squash production was abysmal this summer. I had soil tests done last fall and did I follow the recommendations to the T? No.

I was told that my nitrogen and phosphorus were low. While I amended the rows for individual crops like tomatoes and green beans, I neglected to amend the larger area within my garden in which I grew my cucumbers and squash.

Being frugal I added a little compost

GARDEN | page 5



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

Letter to the Editor

Trustees thank participants of recent fundraiser

The Board of Trustees at the Captain Charles Leonard House would like to extend their sincere appreciation to the many participants at the Harvest Craft Beer and Wine Tasting presented by McCarthy's Liquors of Agawam. Store owners John and Manon McCarthy have again donated all proceeds to the Leonard House to be used for the maintenance and preservation of the historic former stage coach tavern.

Thank you to all the vendors who participated, helping create an enjoyable time on the grounds of the Leonard House. A special thank you to the staff at Nicky's Pizza in Agawam, and Joey's Deli & Market in Feeding Hills for preparing the wide variety of delicious snacks served during the evening. Thanks also goes out to Tony Boido for providing the beautiful lighted tent from TNT Tents in West Springfield. The support from local beer and wine

distributors, breweries and area businesses, like Sarat Ford of Agawam, is greatly appreciated.

Thank you to Robert Casinghino and his band, Papa C and the Three for playing a concert at the event. Everyone appreciated the live music and people were having a good time listening and dancing. Music for this event was funded by a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council. The trustees and guests are thankful for the support from this local agency.

Last but not least, the Trustees would like to thank all the volunteers who helped with the setup, the food and the cleanup after the event. We could not have done it without you.

Hope to see you all at next year's events.

Chris Johnson, President

Trustees of the Captain Charles Leonard House

Guest Column

My birthday is on the first of the month; when should I claim Social Security?



Dear Rusty

I will be 62 on Nov. 1 and I have chosen to take my benefits early. I know that my benefit will be less than it would be if I waited and that does not concern me, but I don't want to be without income for a long period of time. I know that if my birthday is on the first or second of the month, then I can draw that month. Does that mean that when I turn 62 on Nov. 1 that I can receive my first check on the second Wednesday of November? And should I select November as the month I'd like my benefits to start? I also read that I would be paid the month following the month I select, hence my confusion.

Signed: Confused Senior

Dear Confused

There are a few different Social Security rules, which come into play in your specific circumstance which are likely creating your confusion. First, since you will be 62 on Nov. 1, you will first become eligible for Social Security starting with the month of November.

Those born on the first or second of the month are eligible for benefits for that entire month, whereas those who turn 62 later in the month wouldn't be eligible for benefits until the following month. To claim benefits, you must be 62 for the entire month and, because your birthday is on the first, your first month being 62 for the entire month will be November and that is the month you should specify as your benefit-start month on your application.

The next thing to be aware of is that Social Security pays benefits in the month following the

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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.

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Election letters to the editor welcome

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 news-

paper 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.

Opinion

SECURITY ■ from page 4

month those benefits are earned. That means that your November benefits will be paid in December. The exact payment date is determined by the recipients birthday – born before the eleventh of the month, SS payments are made on the second Wednesday; born between the eleventh and twentieth of the month, payments are received on the third Wednesday of the month and for those born after the twentieth of the month, payment is received on the fourth

Wednesday.

Thus, since you were born on the first of the month and are claiming benefits to start in November, your first Social Security payment will be deposited in your bank account on the second Wednesday of December and all subsequent Social Security payments will be made on that same second-Wednesday schedule.

You can apply for your Social Security benefits up to 4 months prior to the month you wish them to start, and SS recommends you apply at least 2 months prior to

allow time for processing your application. On the application, they will ask which month you wish your benefits to begin, and you can indicate November to get your earliest possible payment in December.

Actually, you can simply select the following option on the Social Security benefit application: "I want benefits beginning with the earliest possible month and will accept an age-related reduction," which will accomplish the same thing.

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.

GARDEN ■ from page 4

to the rows (I was trying the row method and not the hill method this year) and called it done. The vines grew for a while, set a few fruit, then turned yellow.

Squash bugs overran.

I think I have three edible squash (actually I just checked and it's officially two!) from a 200 square foot area. The same area in year one, with fresh soil and no bugs yielded 50 fruit.

I was short on time and energy. Next

year I will amend the soil per the test results.

The squash vine that has engulfed the chicken coop (not planted on purpose, mind you) is still lush and green, growing in all that nitrogen rich chicken fertilized soil. I only hope the two beautiful butternuts have a chance to fully ripen.

Another area in which I was lax was removing volunteer plants. I was so proud of my new perennial border, only to have many Cosmos seed themselves.

The bed was pretty enough but the tall

cosmos through the whole design off. The Goldfinches were happy so that was a consolation, but next year they will have to be happy in another part of the garden where the Cosmos will be planted on purpose.

A long time ago someone told me the real definition of a weed: "a plant that grows where it is not supposed to regardless of whether it is a dandelion or a rose!"

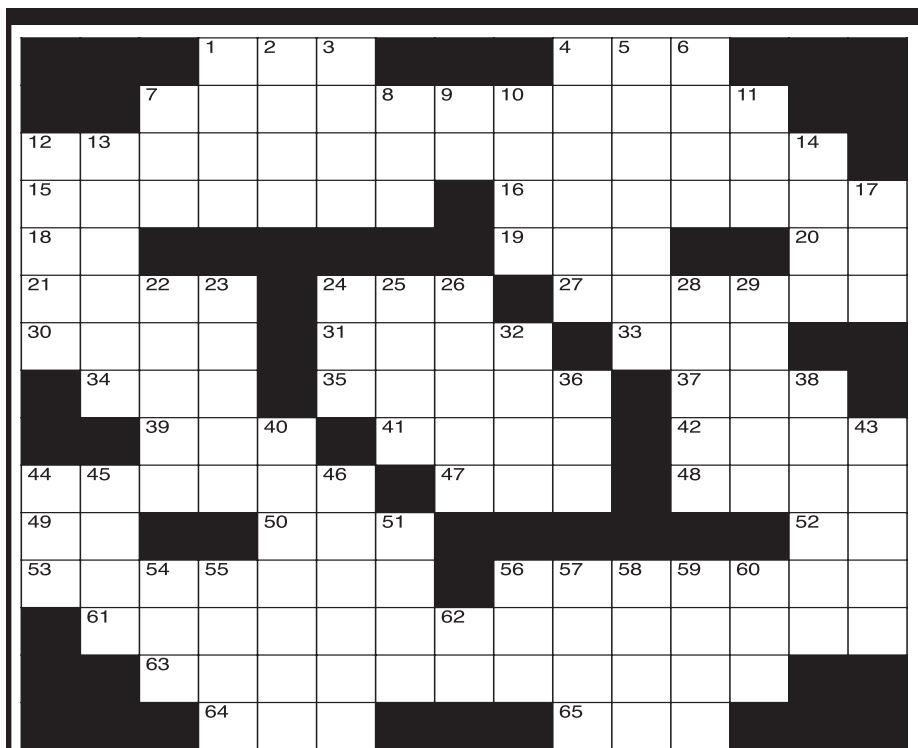
I did do a few things correctly.

Planting a bed of carrots after the garlic was harvested was smart. They are ready for harvest and boy are they sweet now that

colder temperatures have set in.

The succession of lettuce transplants I put in after the peas are also going strong. I am dreaming about next year already, despite my failures and I hope you are too!!

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



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A way to drop
- 4. Bits per inch
- 7. Ghosts
- 12. Presents
- 15. Noises
- 16. Honorable fourth name in ancient Rome
- 18. Elevated railroad
- 19. A way to drench
- 20. The Tarheel State
- 21. Lilly and Manning are two
- 24. Where golfers begin
- 27. Harvester
- 30. Unit of subjective loudness
- 31. Jewish calendar month
- 33. Dash
- 34. Armed conflict
- 35. Daisy __: Broadway actress
- 37. Jump

- 39. Get free of
- 41. A written proposal or reminder
- 42. Organic chemistry reactive structure
- 44. African country
- 47. Cool!
- 48. Used to treat Parkinson's disease
- 49. __ route
- 50. Ed Murrow's home
- 52. Lethal dose
- 53. Give cards incorrectly
- 56. A treeless grassy plain
- 61. Famed R.L. Stevenson novel
- 63. In an incisive way
- 64. Mark Wahlberg's screen partner
- 65. Criticize

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Mountain in the Julian Alps

- 2. A domed or vaulted recess
- 3. Trade agreement
- 4. Larger
- 5. Edged
- 6. Data
- 7. Something curved in shape
- 8. Root mean square (abbr.)
- 9. Farm state
- 10. Pre-1917 emperor of Russia
- 11. Short-term memory
- 12. Indigenous peoples of central Canada
- 13. Honor as holy
- 14. Monetary unit of Samoa
- 17. Company that rings receipts
- 22. City in Finland
- 23. Small finch
- 24. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- 25. Mild yellow Dutch cheese made in balls
- 26. Very willing
- 28. Partner to "ooohed"
- 29. Turntable
- 32. Major Hindu deity
- 36. Move head slightly
- 38. Plain-woven fabric
- 40. Die
- 43. Shipped as cargo
- 44. Something highly prized
- 45. Individual thing or person
- 46. Humbled
- 51. Speak indistinctly
- 54. No seats available
- 55. Financial obligation
- 56. Green vegetable
- 57. Tough outer skin of fruit
- 58. __ Spumante (Italian wine)
- 59. Troubles
- 60. Singer Charles
- 62. Camper

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 9

PAID POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

Chris Johnson For Mayor

Proven Experienced Leadership

Don't forget to vote November 7th!



Qualifications and Experience

- Served as Agawam's First Mayor
- President of Agawam City Council
- Served as Agawam City Solicitor
- Served as Chair of Agawam School Committee

Endorsed by Mayor William P. Sapelli

"I strongly support Chris Johnson to be Agawam's next Mayor. I have enjoyed working with Chris as Council President. I believe his combination of leadership skills and experience make him the right choice for Agawam."

– Bill Sapelli

chrisjohnsonformayor.com

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT CHRIS JOHNSON



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.



www.turley.com



Bernie Duffy stands next to his painting.

ACAA presents Bernie Duffy

AGAWAM – On Wednesday, Nov. 8, the Agawam Community Artists and Artisans will feature Bernie Duffy as their program demonstrator. The demonstration will take place at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., beginning at 6 pm on Wednesday, Nov. 8.

Duffy is from Broad Brook, CT is a self-taught painter, but has taken both

private and college level art courses. Duffy describes his art as leaning toward impressionism/expressionist but does drift into abstract on occasion.

Duffy's work is colorful, and his style is such that at times different works look like different artists did the pieces. He describes himself as an oil painter, but works with acrylics, pastels, watercolor,



Bernie Duffy's painting "At Rest".

SUBMITTED PHOTO

and mixed media.

Duffy is a member of the Academic Artists Association, Tobacco Valley Artists Association, Artists at the Crossroads, and Agawam Community Artists and Artisans. He has been accepted in

numerous judged art shows and has been recognized with awards.

For further information please contact Ceil Rossi (413) 207-1247 or email tocarefree2@hotmail.com. Or visit the website www.agawamarts.com.

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!		INFLATION		PRICE BUSTERS		PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!	
USDA INSP. FROZEN COUNTRY STYLE PORK RIBS	99¢ lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF STRIPOIN CUT FREE	\$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS TOP SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST or STEAKS	\$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN WHOLE TURKEY 20-24 LB	99¢ lb
USDA INSP. SMOKED HAM BUTT or SHANK PORK	\$1.39 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAK	\$4.99 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS 10 LB BAG	66¢ lb	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN 10" PUMPKIN or SWEET POTATO PIES	\$4.99 ea
USDA INSP. FRESH AMERICAN LAMB SHOULDER CHOPS	\$6.99 lb	USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF 7 LB BAG	\$3.79 lb	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN 31/40 COUNT RAW SHRIMP 2 LB BAG	\$7.99 ea	90 Meat Outlet 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com	
SLICED IN OUR DELI TURKEY BREAST	\$3.99 lb	SALE DATES: 11/2/23-11/8/23		HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3		We reserve the right to limit quantities.	
TAILGATE SPECIALS							
USDA INSP. STORE MADE BOURBAN MARINATED BEEF BLADE STEAKS	lb						
USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS CAROLINA GOLD MARINATED CHICKEN THIGHS	lb						
USDA INSP. KAYEM 2 1/2 LB BOX NATURAL CASING HOT DOGS	\$6.99 ea						

St. John's Parish accepting donations

AGAWAM – In preparation for the annual Christmas bazaar, St. John's Parish is looking for donations for the Christmas booth and book booth. The Christmas booth is looking for donations of tree ornaments, decorations and Christmas villages or accompanying pieces. The Book booth is in need of mysteries, fiction books, biographies, non-fiction, religious, cook books and children's books. Donations of children's toys will also be accepted. All donations will be greatly appreciated.

Donations will be accepted at St. John's Parish Center at 833 Main St. only on the following dates and times: Nov. 7 and 8, Nov. 13 through Nov. 16 between the hours of 1 and 3 p.m.

Don't forget to save the date for the Christmas bazaar which will be held on Saturday Nov. 18 between 9 a.m. and 2 p.m.

AHA holds last event of the season

AGAWAM – Celebrate Autumn as the Agawam Historical Association holds its last event of the season on Saturday, Nov. 18, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Thomas Smith House, 251 North West St.

Local educators and historians Stan and Steve Svec, who spoke about the History & Wildlife of the Lower Westfield River at an association event earlier this year, will speak about the area's Native Peoples. Stan is the chair of the West Springfield High School history department, and Steve teaches biology there.

Homemade pies are also sought for the association's apple pie contest to take place that afternoon. Pies must be dropped off at 12:30 p.m., and judging will begin at 1:30 p.m. Entries will be judged on flavor, filling, crust and overall appearance, and creativity by Donald Anderson of the Agawam Historical Association, Agawam Mayor William Sapelli, and Mark Tansey, owner of Agawam's Partners Restaurant. Contest rules and information can be found on the Agawam Historical Association's Facebook page, by texting Katy at (413) 297-4967 or emailing David at cecco@davidcecchi.com.

Bazaar and Craft Fair 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.

The Western New England Fall

Bridal Show

November 5, 2023 • 11am - 3 pm
MassMutual Center • Springfield, MA

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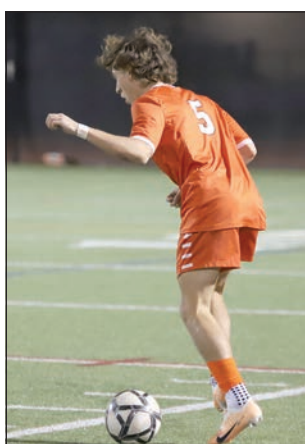
Lucas Ritson heads the ball past an opponent.



Andrew Regnier settles the ball. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Cooper Gabriel-Achorn eyes a teammate to his left as he moves through the middle of the field.



Vinny Rodier gets a foot on the ball before moving upfield.



Vincent Montagna makes a quick pass to an oncoming teammate.

Brownies come back to advance

AGAWAM – Last Wednesday night, Agawam boys soccer overcame an early deficit to win 4-3 against a tough Longmeadow team.

Agawam scored twice in the second half and went to overtime tied

3-3. The Brownies avoided penalty kicks with a goal in the second overtime.

Agawam got goals from Colby Dietrich, Vinny Rodier, Andrew Regnier, and Lucas Ritson. Ben Lang made 10

saves for the win. Agawam fell in the semifinals against Ludlow in a well-played game.

The Brownies, 7-7-4, head for the state tournament, set to begin later this week.



Gabriela Cosentini makes a throw-in.



Megan Fitzgerald passes ahead of pressure.



Gabriella Wood moves the ball toward the left side.



Katelyn Cleavall looks to pass ahead.



Abbey Moore gets possession of the ball ahead of an opponent. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Agawam girls soccer falls in quarterfinals

LONGMEADOW – Last Thursday afternoon, Agawam girls soccer matched Longmeadow in the first half, with Abbey Moore's goal helping the Brownies to a 1-1 tie at the break. But Longmeadow netted a pair in the

second half for a 3-1 win in the quarterfinals of the Class A Western Mass. Tournament. With the loss, Agawam faced Westfield in a nonplayoff game, falling 5-0 to go to 6-11-1. Prior to the Westfield loss, Agawam was ranked

No. 33 in Division 2, and would have needed some help from one of the teams above them to squeeze into the state tournament as part of the top 32. Seeds for the tournament were scheduled to be released on Wednesday.

Brownies lose in semifinals

LONGMEADOW – After working for a pair of ties against longtime rival Longmeadow during a regular season, the Brownies could not solve the Lancers in the semifinals of the Class A Western Mass. tournament last Friday. Agawam was shut out 4-0. With the defeat, Agawam finishes the season with a 6-5-5 record. They were seeded No. 15 in Division 2 and will make the state tournament, though the final loss may tweak their final seeding when brackets were released Tuesday.



Sarah Kriebel moves through the middle of the field. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Brooke Dwyer is pressured near mid-field.



Lilah Carr tries to move the ball into the circle.



Tessa Ebreo tries to move up the field on defense.



Sydney Frasier gets the backhand.

Sports

Tournament football seeds released

Belchertown, Minnechaug,
Ware, South Hadley
head for tournament

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

It has not been easygoing for teams from the West and Central region of the state to make the 16-team state tournament since its inception in 2021.

For the third straight year, only a small handful of Western Mass. teams will make the eight 16-teams fields.

Among those heading for the tournament will be Minnechaug, Belchertown, Ware, and South Hadley.

For the third time, Minnechaug qualified for the Division 3 tournament. The Falcons went 5-2 on the regular season. Minnechaug qualified as the No. 14 team, but could have done better had it not lost a game on its schedule early in the season. The Falcons were scheduled to play West Springfield in Week 1, but severe thunderstorms on Sept. 8 forced the cancellation of the game. Attempts were made to make up the game as late as Monday, Sept. 11, but more severe weather nipped that plan, and the Falcons only played seven games in the regular season. Minnechaug will be traveling to No. 3 Milton for the first round.

Belchertown is a first-time qualifier to the state tournament. Belchertown received the No. 14 seed in Division 5 with

a 7-1 record. The Orioles travel to No. 3 Shawsheen Valley Tech on Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.

In Division 7, South Hadley qualified at No. 14 with a 7-1 record. The Tigers made the state tournament for the second time and head for West Bridgewater, the third-seeded team.

Ware makes the state tournament in Division 8 for the third time. Ware was a perfect 8-0 and they will hold the No. 5 seed and host No. 12 Randolph on Friday, Nov. 3 at 7 p.m.

Not making tournament despite positive records are Agawam and Pathfinder. Chicopee, Palmer, Ludlow, Chicopee Comprehensive, and Holyoke join them and will be in nonplayoff games for Week 9 and 10.

Cambridge half-marathon registration open

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 US-ATF 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.

Thunderbirds even record with wins over Bruins

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (4-4-0-0) came back from two separate third-period deficits to knock off the Providence Bruins (1-3-1-2) on Sunday at the Amica Mutual Pavilion in a 3-2 overtime victory.

Vadim Zherenko got the starting nod and was up to par in the first, blocking aside all 14 Bruins shot attempts, including a calm breakaway stick save against Justin Brazeau in the opening minutes. Brandon Bussi was not tested much at all in period one, as the second-year Providence goalie only needed to make four saves in the opening 20 minutes.

After a chaotic first period that featured no goals but a combined eight penalty infractions, the Bruins finally broke the 0-0 tie with their fourth power-play goal in three games against Springfield. Reigning AHL All-Rookie Team member Georgii Merkulov netted the tally with a wrist from the right circle at the 7:41 mark of the middle period, his second of the year.

The complexion of the game may have changed just past the midpoint of regulation when Sam Bitten dropped the gloves before a puck drop with Trevor Kuntar, drawing a huge ovation from his teammates on the bench. While Bitten and Kuntar would be given game mis-

conducts for the fight, the shots and chances heavily leaned in Springfield's favor from that point forward.

2:43 into the final period, Bitten's scrap had its first tangible effect when Drew Callin took a feed from Mathias Laferrere in the trapezoid and wrapped it home through Bussi to tie the score, 1-1.

More adversity loomed just nine seconds later, though, as Justin Brazeau scorched a slap shot into the top shelf from the right circle, and Providence had restored its lead, 2-1.

Despite the quick counter by the Bruins, the T-Birds continued to play with confidence, and in a period where they outshot Providence 18-7, Mikhail Abramov found a soft spot in the slot area to deflect a Calle Rosen wrist shot over Bussi to make it a tie game again, 2-2, with 9:34 remaining in regulation.

The T-Birds' penalty kill then had the pressure on its shoulders after Austin Osmanski inadvertently cleared a puck

out of play, forcing Springfield into a delay-of-game minor with just over five minutes to play. The PK picked up their teammate, and after nothing was settled in the closing minutes, the two rivals went to overtime, Springfield's first extra-time game of the season.

In the 3-on-3 session, Abramov helped complete the comeback when he peeled off at the right-wing boards, drawing the attention of two defenders. Meanwhile, Dylan Coghlan sneaked down the left side to receive a rink-wide pass and snap a wrist perfectly off the post and in to win it at the 1:38 mark of overtime, 3-2. It was Coghlan's second straight game with a goal.

Zherenko earned his third win in four starts by virtue of his 25 stops, while Bussi turned away 33 in the losing effort for Providence.

The T-Birds embark on yet another 3-in-3 on Friday night as they welcome the Belleville Senators to the MassMutual Center for a 7:05 p.m. puck drop.



How to contact the Sports Editor

Have the scoop on a local sports story? Want to submit a team photo, pass along a potential story idea, or just find out how to get a copy of that great photo of your young athlete? Please send all sports-related press releases and information to Sports Editor Greg Scibelli at: sports@turley.com or call, 1-413-283-8393.

Health & Wellness

Questions answered by a Baystate Health breast surgeon

SPRINGFIELD – Should you have a mastectomy or lumpectomy? That's a question that can only best be answered in consultation with your breast cancer team. There are many questions to ask your doctor, here a just a few along with some general answers from Dr. Jesse Casaubon of Baystate Surgical Oncology and Breast Specialists.

Q: What is a mastectomy, what are the pros and cons of mastectomy and what can be expected after surgery such as restrictions, recovery time, and more?

A: A mastectomy is a procedure that removes all of the breast tissue and is typically compared to lumpectomy which involves removal of the infected area only but leaves the remainder of the breast tissue intact.

There are many pros and cons but the important thing to note is that for breast cancer, either option is effective, assuming that the patient is a candidate for lumpectomy (for example some women have cancer that has spread throughout multiple areas of the breast and require mastectomy/are not candidates for lesser surgery). By effective I mean that the survival between the two is exactly the same. There is a slightly lower risk of having the cancer come back when someone chooses mastectomy, however, if they choose lumpec-

tomy and the cancer returns, it typically recurs within the breast and the patient would then be a candidate for mastectomy which is likely why the survival is the same between the two. Unfortunately, mastectomy is a much larger procedure that is associated with a higher risk of bleeding and infection. It also will permanently change how the chest feels and looks.

Q: What are the different types of mastectomies?

A: There are different types of mastectomies. The most basic mastectomy is called a total mastectomy and involves removing the breast and most of the overlying skin so that the chest wall looks flat afterward. Other variations of the mastectomy involve leaving skin, or sometimes even leaving the nipple and areola so that a plastic surgeon can perform reconstruction or rebuilding of the breast.

Q: Will I be a candidate for breast reconstruction?

A: Many women are candidates for breast reconstruction though it is important to note what things make reconstruction riskier such as uncontrolled diabetes and smoking. Only the plastic surgeon can

decide after discussing with you.

Q: What is a lumpectomy and what are the pros and cons of lumpectomy and what can be expected after surgery such as restrictions and recovery?

A: Lumpectomy is typically a less intensive/invasive procedure and the recovery is quicker. Everybody is different but usually within a week or so people are feeling close to normal. It is important to recognize that it takes a long time to get completely back to normal with any procedure. Mastectomy takes longer typically, often we will tell people it will be weeks until they are feeling almost like normal.

Q: Are there different types of lumpectomies?

A: Yes. It is typically just related to how much tissue needs to be removed compared to how much is being left behind and what will need to be done to the tissue that is being left behind so that it looks good.

Q: What will my breast look like after a lumpectomy?

A: Your breast should look relatively similar after lumpectomy to what it did before lumpectomy.



Dr. Jesse Casaubon

Free soil testing kits offered

AGAWAM – Healthy soil is the foundation for successful gardening and the first step to cultivating healthy soil is to have the soil tested. The Department of Public Works will be offering a limited number of Soil Sampling Tests to residents in Agawam. Collecting soil samples only takes a few minutes and has many benefits to help save money on the lawn, garden and landscape care.

The free soil sampling kits will include test fees for a Routine Soil Analysis and Nitrate measurements, conducted by the UMass Extension Soil and Plant Nutrient Testing Laboratory. The Routine Soil Analysis is the most popular analysis offered at the lab. This analysis measures soil pH, nutrient levels, and other chemical properties. Most often it's used to determine the

limestone and fertilizer needs for a soil. It can also be used to diagnose problems, or to find out whether the lead level is elevated in the soil. Nitrate testing provides an excellent way to evaluate the available Nitrogen in the soil, therefore helping to prevent the overuse of fertilizer.

Residents should visit the Department of Public Works at 1000 Suffield St., to request a soil sampling kit, while supplies last. Kits will include a pre-paid testing form, detailed sampling instructions, packaging for the soil, and a pre-addressed mailing envelope. Residents will be responsible for postage. For additional kit information call 413-821-0624. For more information regarding the UMass soil and plant nutrient testing, visit <https://ag.umass.edu/services/soil-plant-nutrient-testing-laboratory>.

Town of Agawam to participate in friendly 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.

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

Obituary

Edward J. Smith



Edward J. Smith, 86, entered into eternal rest on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 surrounded by his loving family at Baystate Medical Center. Born in Springfield, son of the late George and Veronica (Starzic) Smith, he grew up in Springfield and attended Springfield schools and Springfield Technical Community College. A 38-year veteran of the food industry, Ed began his career as a part timer at the former First National Grocery Store in high school, working his way up to store manager over the next decade. He managed numerous stores in Connecticut and Western Massachusetts before moving on to Food Enterprises, New England's largest food broker in 1970, where he retired as vice-president. Ed was elected to the Connecticut Food Association Board of Directors and served as an officer for two years. In 1995 he was named Person of the Year by the Connecticut Food Association. He also coached for the Agawam Athletic Association and coached for several years of basketball and girls softball. He was a member of the Polish Club in Feeding Hills where he was the president for two years, the chairman of the board for four years, and the secretary in the 1980's. Ed was also a member of the Knights of the Grip, serving for five years as an officer and for two years as president.

Ed was all about family. Whether it was at the cabin on Wildcat Rd or at the house on the lake in Ludlow VT. Vermont was in his bones and where he reset with his family. He loved to travel and spent many family vacations at Myrtle Beach or Florida. But his grandchildren were his most precious

gifts. He loved to watch his grandkids play sports or go to their school events, he was always front row. He loved them with a fierce passion. He loved parties and a good social event, especially at his beloved Polish Club where so many friends became like family. Ed will be forever remembered for his soft-spoken grace and dignity throughout the many decades of his life. He was a true gentleman with the kindest heart who will be so missed by all who knew and loved him. He was a faithful communicant of Sacred Heart Church. He leaves the love of his life, his wife of sixty-four years, Ursula J. (Kida) Smith, two sons, Stephen J. Smith of Avon, CO, Jeffrey E. and his wife, Christene Smith of Feeding Hills, a daughter, Robin Ann Smith of Agawam, two brothers, George Smith of New Hampshire, Robert Smith of Easthampton, a sister, Gloria Christofori of Chicopee, five grandchildren, Kelsey, Christopher and Adam Trenti, Bodie and Cole Smith along with many nieces and nephews and numerous fur grand babies. The funeral was held Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023 at 9 a.m. from the Agawam Curran Jones Funeral Home, 745 Cooper Street followed by a Mass at Sacred Heart Church at 10:00am. The burial will follow in Springfield Street Cemetery. Calling hours were Monday, Oct. 30, 2023 4 to 7 p.m. For online condolences, please visit www.curranjones.com. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Dakin Humane Society, www.dakinhumane.org, or Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control and Adoption Center, www.tjconnoradoption-center.com.

Public Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD23P2192GD
In the interests of
Joshua Grayson Santiago
of Agawam, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. Hearing Date/Time:
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **10/23/2023** by **Kathleen A Joubert** of Agawam, MA will be held **11/28/2023 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing**. Located: **Judge Randle - In Person: 50 State St., Springfield, MA 01103 Courtroom 3 - 4th Floor**

2. Response to Petition:
You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:
File the original with the Court; and
Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Counsel for the Minor:
The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Counsel for Parents:
If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are

indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing:
A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.
Date: October 23, 2023

Rosemary Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/02/2023

**Legal Ad
AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**

The Agawam Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, November 9, 2023 at 6:00 PM** at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA. The purpose of this hearing will be to hear the Notice of Intent Application of DePalma for work to be performed at South Westfield Street (Parcel ID E4 2/10 & E4 2/2), subject to the Massachusetts Wetlands Protection Act.

By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski, Chairman
AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
11/02/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD21P1069EA**

**Estate of:
Paula J Sullivan
Also known as:
Paula Jean Sullivan
Date of Death: 03/27/2021
CITATION ON
PETITION FOR
ORDER OF COMPLETE
SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Anne G Chernick** of Springfield, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of testacy and heirs at law and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/27/2023.

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.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 23, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
11/02/2023

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

**Town of Agawam
Invitation to Bid**

The Town of Agawam invites sealed bids for pedestrian upgrades at the intersection Silver and Suffield Streets (Route 75). Work will include the following: mill and overlay, new pedestrian curb ramps, pedestrian signals with countdown timers, signal posts and foundations, APS push-buttons and a single point video detection. Other work will include pavement markings, minor utility adjustments, and improved roadway signage. A bid package will be avail. beginning Wed. Nov. 1, 2023 at 10:00 AM at the Department of Public Works Office, 1000 Suffield Street, Agawam, MA 01001 or by email to bids@agawam.ma.us Bids will be received until: **2:30 P.M. on November 16, 2023**

There will be a **non-mandatory pre-bid conference on Tuesday November 7, 2023 at 9:00 AM** in the DPW Conference Room 1000 Suffield Street Agawam, MA 01001. Prevailing Wage Rates apply. Each bidder must submit with the bid a bid

deposit equal to five percent (5%) of the amount of the bid. The successful bidder will be required to furnish a Labor and Materials Payment Bond in the amount of 50% of the contract total.
11/02/2023

**AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
LEGAL AD**
The Agawam Conservation Commission will meet on **Thursday, November**

9, 2023 at 6:15PM 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 Champagne on property at 28 Cynthia Place.

By Order of
Henry A. Kozloski,
Chairman
AGAWAM
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION
11/02/2023

Agawam Advertiser News
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.
One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.
The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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



Feline Friends fundraiser this Saturday

Feline Friends Inc. Cat Sanctuary of Feeding Hills will be holding a food/supply drive at Smithland Pet & Garden Center on Saturday, Nov. 4 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Volunteers will be accepting food, litter and monetary donations for our kitties. Opened bags/boxes will also be accepted. Gift cards from various pet stores or Costco would be much appreciated.

Smithland, a valued sponsor, is stocked with Friskies Pate or Shreds canned food (single flavored cases preferred), some Fancy Feast varieties and unscented, clumping cat litter. All donations are gratefully ac-

cepted. Our donation bin is located near the cash registers.

Other Wish List items: Disinfecting wipes, paper towels, puppy pee pads, dry cat or dog food for strays & colonies.

Special thanks to our monthly donors and everyone who donated in October either at our events, bins, through the mail or Paypal/Venmo: Joanne L, Katie H, Carl & Cheryl K, Joanie E, Lisa P, Ken, Terry & Joey, Crystal M, Virginia R, Margaret B, Elizabeth S.

We are thankful to all of our community members for their support throughout the

year. Just a reminder that we have collection bins at the Agawam Public Library & the Agawam Senior Center as well as at Smithland in Agawam.

Feline Friends Inc. is a community-based, nonprofit sanctuary that does not euthanize or discriminate against any cat based on age, gender or disability.

More information about our sanctuary may be found on our website at felinefriendsinc.org or our Facebook page at Feline Friends Cat Sanctuary. Contact us with questions at info@felinefriendsinc.org or by phone at 413-786-5019.



Real estate, 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, 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. The telephone number is 413-786-0400, ext. 8218.

Women's Fellowship to meet

AGAWAM – On Wednesday, Nov. 8 at noon, a Women's Fellowship event will take place in the church hall at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., and all women and men from the community are invited to attend, by Women's Fellowship chair Sharon Christian.

A pot luck luncheon will be followed by a presentation by church member Debra Pond on her trip to Normandy,

France, this summer. Her slideshow photos will accompany a bit of World War II history of what took place in Normandy in the 1940s. All veterans from any era are encouraged to attend.

Reservations are requested by contacting the church at 413-786-7111 or office@agawamcong.com.

The church is located in the Agawam Historic District, is handicapped accessible, and has a large parking lot.

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'oeuvres. RSVPs are appreciated and walk-ins welcome.

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

registration. Tee time is 10 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. No tickets will be sold at the door.

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

Agawam Senior Center events

AGAWAM – The Agawam Senior center, 954 Main St., has many events for everyone, including:

Health New England

Friday, Nov. 3, 12 noon to 3 p.m.

Representatives from Health New England will be at the Senior Center for information on insurances they can offer.

Medicare 101

Wednesday, Nov. 8, 10 to 11:30 a.m.

Medicare 101 is an educational seminar designed to help you understand your Medicare options here in Massachusetts. A locally licensed, independent Medicare Advisor will answer the questions: What is Medicare? Who is eligible? And what is covered by each of the options? Erica Anne Beaudry from EA Financial Solutions, will be providing this seminar. Call Kristina at 413-726-2836 to register.

Chronic Disease

Self-Management Program Presented by Greater Springfield Senior Services 6-Week Program Starting Nov. 8

1 to 2:30 p.m. on Wednesdays

Living with chronic conditions like arthritis, diabetes, high blood pressure, or heart disease can be a daily challenge. Attend this 6-week workshop to learn skills such as relaxing techniques to deal with pain and fatigue. Better communication with family, friends and doctors. Manage symptoms and medications and create an exercise program around your needs. Also discussed will be healthy eating to improve the condition.

Light refreshments will be served. Complete at least 5 sessions of the 6-week course to earn a gift card.

Spaces are limited, registration is required. Please call Kristina at 413.726.2836 to reserve your spot.

The Agawam Senior Center Resource Fair

Thursday, Nov. 9

9:30 a.m. to 12 noon

In the Veteran's Hall of the Senior Center, with over 30 Vendors and the coffee shop will be open.

MAYOR ■ from page 1

Twelve candidates for city council turned in their papers to be certified. 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.

As only eight of the 11 city councilors are running for re-election, this leaves three open spots on the council.

This means three of the four challengers are likely to gain a seat on the legislative body. They are: Edward Borgatti, Susan Dawson, Peter Smus and Maria Valego.

Seven candidates have turned in their nomination papers for the school committee. They are: Shelley Borgatti-Reed, AJ Christopher, Dawn DeMatteo, Catherin McDougal, Christopher Pass, Michael Perry and Wendy Rua.

Pass and McDougal are challengers for a position on the school committee. The remaining five candidates are incumbents.

There are six seats on the school committee with the seventh, and chair position, occupied by the mayor.

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, go to <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/Where-DoIVoteMA/>.

SCHOOL ■ from page 1

jecting what, in my opinion, is a cultural or political bent to it."

School Committee Member Wendy Rua mentioned that the resolutions themselves were not made by MASC, but rather the school committees around the district.

"These resolutions that we see in front of us tonight are not necessarily there because MASC said 'these are really good things for us to advocate for', they are brought forward by our member committees who felt that that was an issue for them," Rua said. "It doesn't necessarily mean MASC says that these are things we should stand behind, they are things that our peers have decided they wanted to sponsor, they took votes to advance it forward."

While this is true, Perry pointed out that MASC does control the agenda for what resolutions are presented to be discussed and then sent for school committees to vote on.

Therefore, according to Perry, while they are not actively making the resolutions, they do support them by approving them for their agendas.

"The MASC resolutions committee is not required to put these proposed reso-

lutions on the agenda for the conference, so ultimately they're the gatekeeper and choose what goes on there," Perry said. "I believe a lot of these resolutions, if not all of them, are a direct reflection of the MASC itself."

Due to this mindset, Perry resolved to vote no on all eight MASC resolutions.

Of the eight resolutions sent by MASC, the committee discussed the six relevant to Agawam and voted to pass five of those six.

The first resolution discussed, which passed with six yes and one no, was focused on having the MASC prevail on asking the auditor to investigate the bidding practices of transportation companies for schools.

Those findings would be sent to ensure that schools are receiving the most efficient transportation services available.

Another resolution was to ask the Massachusetts School Building Authority to reinstate the accelerated repair program for 2024 applications.

It would also ask the MA legislature to remove the \$800 million cap to MGL chapter 70B section 7 and to allow public pre-schools to be included in the accelerated repair program and core program.

This passed 6-1.

Two of the resolutions passed in the

school committee only after they suggested amendments.

One of the resolutions was to ask all schools to have a diversity, equity and inclusion coordinator position within their district to help work toward an anti-racist school community.

The committee agreed that having such a position was important, but they wanted to make an amendment to suggest to MASC that the resolution also include funding for such a position.

"I agree that it's an important resolution but I don't like the part where it says all districts should adopt the position of a DEI coordinator, I don't feel it's right that we force districts to adopt this," Committee Member Shelly Reed said.

The other resolution was to install video monitors on buses to improve monitoring of people who pass school buses. It would also ask the MA legislature to raise the fine charged on people who passed school buses.

Again, the committee voted to amend the resolution to include a funding portion so districts could afford to take this step without having to cut programs or staff.

"This is an excellent resolution but if we're going to be advocating for it we

should be asking for the money to support the initiative," Rua said.

Both of these resolutions, once amended, passed 6-1.

The final resolution approved by the committee was to ask MA to develop a wider, more consensus-built strategy for the state academic evaluation system and to launch an investigation into the biases pertaining to MCAS testing.

It would also ask MA to enact a moratorium on MCAS testing and to develop an alternative to MCAS testing.

This resolution passed 5-2, with Perry and Kerri O'Connor voting no.

The resolution that did not pass would have urged the superintendent and staff in schools to inform guardians of students about proper firearm storage.

The committee members felt that this resolution was overstepping the bounds of what MASC and the schools themselves could do.

"I think this one is way out of bounds," Rua said. "I think this is something that law enforcement agencies should be doing and communicating with families and should not live in the schools at all," Rua said.

The committee denied this resolution with a unanimous no.

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Inside Agawam Congregational Church a variety of different tables were set up for the Trunk or Treat.



A steampunk themed table by Julie Vooy's was a favorite of many attendees.



Sadie and Nicole Kirk were costumed and ready to enjoy the Trunk or Treat. TURLEY PHOTOS BY QUINN SUOMALA



People could vote for their favorite "trunks" for the creators to win prizes.



Many of the tables were themed with fun decorations.



Alexis Lussier, Josh Muzzy and Leo Muzzy all enjoyed the festivities at the Trunk or Treat.



Sexton for the Church Dave Christian made popcorn for all trunk or treat attendees.

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TRUNK OR TREAT | from page 1

their children involved to the people who just come to enjoy the fun.

All who created trunks were eligible to win prizes across different categories. The categories were: most fun, kid's choice and funniest.

After making a loop around the room, all attendees were invited to vote on which "trunk" they felt should win each category.

The winners were: the trunk Five Nights at Freddy's for both the most creative and kids' choice categories and the trunk Cook-

ie Monster for the funniest.

The church looks forward to this event every year. It is a great opportunity to bring the community together in a safe manner to celebrate Halloween.

"I love seeing everybody from the community come out," Decoteau said. "It really gives us a presence in the community."

The church has been hosting this event for several years now and they hope to continue to do so for many more years to come.

"The church is really pleased to host this," Page said. "It's great to bring happiness to so many people."

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