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# AGAWAM

## ADVERTISER NEWS

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### Council to decide on tax shift after holiday

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – A yearly vote that takes place in December is set to happen on Monday, Dec. 1 as city councilors will be asked to approve the town's tax rate for FY2026 as well as approve the tax shift that will be brought forward by Mayor Christopher Johnson.

Each year, the city council has to evaluate the proposal, which is always met with the comments from the public on how the tax rate should be shifted. Agawam is one of several communities that operates with a split tax rate.

There is a tax rate for resi-

dential property owners, and a higher tax rates for commercial and industrial properties. Over the past several years, the rate for commercial and industrial properties is approximately 1.6 times the rates residents pay.

Agawam, along with neighbor West Springfield, has consistently had the lowest residential property tax rates in the region.

The tax rate decided on by town officials will charge resident that rate times \$1,000 valuation on property.

Last year, the residential tax rate was \$14.54 while the commercial and industrial

TAX SHIFT | page 10

### City Council finally approves construction hours ordinance

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – The Agawam City Council recently approved new hours for construction work through an ordinance that took two tries to get it passed.

The ordinance will only allow active construction, which includes building or excavation, to take place between the hours of 7 a.m. and 6 p.m. on weekdays, and hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on weekends.

The measure originally failed to get enough votes to pass at the city council's Oct. 6 meeting. There, it passed 7-4. However, ordinances, like requests to take out debt in town, require a two-thirds

majority. That means eight votes of the 11-member city council are required to vote in favor of the ordinance for it to pass. Two "readings" of the ordinance are required, as well, which basically means a second vote to confirm the first vote is also needed.

The original proposal would have had hours of 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. for active construction. After it failed to get a two-third majority, an amendment for weekdays beginning at 7 a.m. That amendment also failed.

The original proposal by Mayor Christopher Johnson sought construction hours of 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

HOURS | page 10



American Legion Post 185 members deliver a gun salute at last Tuesday's Veterans Day ceremony held at School Street Park. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

### Town hosts veterans with wreath laying, ceremony

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – It was very cold, windy, and there was even a little bit of snow falling at School Street Park. But that did not stop a crowd from gathering at the band shell to take part in the town's annual Veterans Day ceremony.

Pat Asta-Ferraro of the

Veterans Council, led this year's ceremony, which included speeches from Mayor Christopher Johnson, and a special appearance from Rosemary Saccomani, the Hampden County Register of Probate.

"Thank you for being here to honor and celebrate our veterans," she said. "It is more than a day on the calendar, and we should

take time to reflect on what Veterans Day really is. Do young people, especially those who didn't have family who served...do they appreciate the sacrifice of those served or still wear the uniform?"

Saccomani said veterans left families, jobs, and every day activities so we could have the everyday freedoms we have

every day.

"In a time where our country feels deeply divided," she said. "Your service reminds us of what unites us. Let that inspire us to agree to disagree, and to listen more."

Johnson recognized Ruth Bitzas for helping create the war memorials.

VETS | page 12



### Students honor veterans

AGAWAM – Last Monday at Roberta Doering School, students and school officials continued a longtime tradition with "Take a Veteran to School Day" at the middle school. The event brought veterans into the classrooms throughout the school to

share stories, educate students on the sacrifices and service performed by veterans, and included a ceremony in the auditorium with the entire school community gathered with the veterans who were invited to take part in the event.



Above, students greet veterans visiting the school. Left, Chris and Shannon Malloy were participants in "Take a Veteran to School" Day at Roberta Doering School last Monday.



Veterans Aldo Mancini and Chris Cekonsky prepare to enter the ceremony. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



# Upcoming adult activities at Agawam Public Library

AGAWAM – Here is a look at activities remaining this month at Agawam Public Library. Our annual Bizarre Bazaar returns this month and is a great chance to stock up on decorations just in time for the holidays. Donate your gently used holiday decor and holiday themed items to the library between now and Saturday, Nov. 8. Items can be related to any major holiday and can include all kinds of decor (wreaths, wall hangings, signs, statues, flags, ornaments, gift wrap, etc.). We will organize all of the donations for our Bizarre Bazaar, which

runs Friday, Nov. 21 from 1 to 3 p.m. and Saturday, Nov. 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or the public to browse and “shop”. Bags will be provided.

Looking for ways to improve wellness before the holidays arrive? The library has a few options to keep your body and mind in shape. Join yoga instructor Heidi Taberman for an hour of gentle Chair Yoga on Wednesday mornings at 9:05 a.m. in the Cline Community Room. Qigong will be offered three times this month. Exercises will focus on strengthening the breath, expanding the chest, and for-

tifying the immune system in preparation for winter. Chairs are available for modified movements and a yoga mat is suggested for those practicing in bare feet or socks. Evening qigong will be held on Thursday, Nov. 20 at 6:30 p.m. These programs are sponsored by the Agawam Center Library Association

Are you a writer looking to connect with other writers? Then stop by on Thursday, Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. for our monthly Writers Group, hosted by award-winning author Katherine Anderson. This in-person workshop is

open to writers of all levels and genres. There will be opportunities for peer and host feedback, learning the basics of self-publishing, finding opportunities for submission to magazines, literary journals, and presses, assembling a portfolio, and the basics of a query package for submissions and publications. Registration is required.

Our Library Tech Classes this month will help users get started with our digital library app Libby. We'll show you the essentials on how to find and borrow new eBooks and eAudiobooks, along with some

helpful hints and tips. Feel free to bring your smart devices and/or your e-Readers with you to the class. This month's final class will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 24 at 10 a.m. Please register to attend.

The holidays have begun, which means our annual Festival of Trees will be here before you know it. Get ahead of the game – and get your creative juices flowing – at our Adult Craft Night on Monday, Nov. 24 at 6 p.m. Rather than just having folks decorate an artificial tree, we challenge you to build one from scratch. Come check out the vari-

ety of items we will have on hand for creating your own uniquely designed tree, or feel free to bring materials you have at home that you want to use. When you finish your creation, leave it here at the library to be part of our Festival of Trees celebration in the month of December. What kind of tree will you design? Registration is required for this craft night.

Please note that the library will close at 5 p.m. on Wednesday, Nov. 26 and remain closed for Thanksgiving. We will be open normal hours Friday and Saturday.

## Shop set to be open on ‘Bazaar Day’

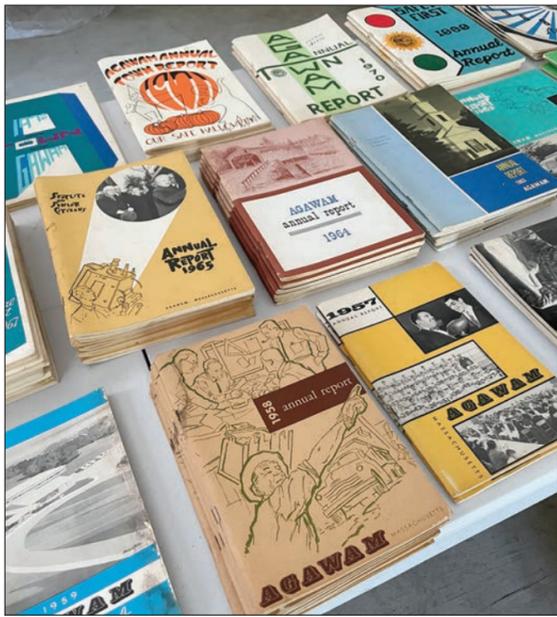
AGAWAM – The Agawam Historical Association Museum Shop will be open on Bazaar Saturday, Nov. 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Agawam Historical and Fire House Museum, 35 Elm Street in Agawam Center.

Among items on sale will be the Agawam Historical Association's new Images of America title “Around Agawam and Feeding Hills,” which features more than 200 historical photos depicting our town's past.

Bazaar Special – Saturday, Nov. 22 only – Author David Cecchi has donated a limited number of copies of his book “The Big E - Eastern States Exposition” (2016) to be given as a free gift (\$25 value) with the purchase of all three “Agawam and Feeding Hills” titles: “Agawam and Feeding Hills” (2000), “Agawam and Feeding Hills Revisited” (2005), and “Around Agawam and Feeding Hills” (2025). The author will be available to sign copies during this event.

Copies of Edith LaFrancis's town history book (1980) will also be available. All books are \$25 each.

Other items for sale will



The Agawam Historical Association Museum Shop will be open on Bazaar Saturday, Nov. 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Agawam Historical and Fire House Museum. SUBMITTED PHOTO

be new Thomas Smith House magnets and Fire House Museum enamel pins, Agawam Historical Association tote bags, reproduction maps, vintage town reports, and other items and souvenirs.

All proceeds benefit the

efforts of the Agawam Historical Association to preserve the history of Agawam and Feeding Hills at the Agawam Historical & Fire House Museum and the Thomas Smith House.

## Wreaths Across America holding event at Veterans Cemetery

AGAWAM – On Saturday, Dec. 13 at 10 a.m., the Friends of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Agawam will join Wreaths Across America in our annual mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach.

Together, we will lay Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our nation's heroes at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery, located at 1390 Main Street, Agawam, MA.

Parking and Shuttle Information:

Parking will be available at Six Flags New England, with shuttles running to the cemetery beginning at 8 a.m. Please plan to arrive early to allow for shuttle transport and seating before the ceremony begins.

The Friends of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Agawam is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to honoring

those who have served, comforting their families, and enhancing the beauty and dignity of this eternal resting place.

By sponsoring a wreath through the Friends, you help ensure that every veteran resting at the cemetery is remembered with a wreath of honor and gratitude.

For more information or to sponsor a wreath, please visit our website at agawam-friends.org or email us at wreathfriends@gmail.com.

## Feline Friends holding new raffle

AGAWAM – Feline Friends announced the winners of a recent raffle as well as a new raffle taking place next month. The following is a statement from the group:

“We thank Pauline Sosnowich and the Community Grange #382 for their warm welcome at the Halloween bake sale and small tag sale on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 47 North West Street in Feeding Hills.

The winners of the raffle baskets were Carol Hager, Ken Kurowski and Joyce Siana. Betty Sosnowich donated the great cat basket. We sold beautiful & fragrant catnip mats and toys created & donated by Joan Woods.

We have been invited to participate in their largest

fundraiser/sale on Saturday, Dec. 13.

Mini Raffle- We are currently selling tickets for \$10 each for a fall mini raffle from Nov. 2-16. Please include your contact information. Winners will be chosen & announced each evening from December 1-15 on our Facebook page (Feline Friends Cat Sanctuary).

We are incredibly grateful for the response to our appeal for help with supplies. We have received packages at the dental office at 532 Springfield St. (at the corner of Cleveland St.) in Feeding Hills and at the Agawam Public Library. Financial donations have arrived by check at P.O. Box 174, Feeding Hills 01030 as well as PayPal: @FelineFriendsRaffle. Venmo: @Fe-

line-Friends. Please include name/ contact information with donations if you would like an acknowledgement. Venmo donations do not provide addresses or email information.

We appreciate every single donation. Local pick up is available by calling 786-5019

Feline Friends Inc. is a community-based, nonprofit sanctuary that does not 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.

## Department of Public Works hosts used holiday light recycling collection

AGAWAM – Frustrated with broken holiday lights, or just have a bunch that no longer suits your needs? No matter what the reason, resist the urge to throw old holiday lights in the curbside trash or recycling collection cart. Holiday light strings are known as “tangles” in the recycling industry. Tangles are

things like plastic bags, ropes, cords, hoses, wires, and light strings that jam sorting machinery by wrapping around the equipment, which is dangerous for workers.

Light strings may be delivered to the Department of Public Works front office from Dec. 1 to Jan. 16. This program is for light strings

only: incandescent, LED and “icicle” light strings with wires and attached bulbs. Boxes, bags, and packaging must be removed before placing lights in the recycling container. Alternative options for recycling light strings would include mail back programs such as HolidayLEDs.com or Christmas-light-source.com.

## Zero Waste Club announces annual toy collection

AGAWAM – The Agawam Zero Waste Club, Agawam High School Environmental Club and National Honor Society are hosting the 10th Annual Holiday Used Toy Exchange. This event was created to become a source of holiday gifts for residents on tight budgets, as well as increase the lifespan of consumer goods which are discarded long before their

usefulness is waned.

Gently used, clean, working toys may be dropped off at the Agawam Public Library on Friday, Dec. 5, from 12 noon to 4:30 p.m. Gently used toys wanted include musical instruments, action figures, dolls, sports equipment, books, bicycles, electronics, video games, DVDs, stuffed animals, model kits, art supplies, building toys, creative learning toys, outdoor toys and structures, games, puzzles and baby toys. No dirty, broken or incomplete toys will be accepted. All donations should be inspected before being dropped off.

General public free shopping of these gently used toys will be on Saturday, Dec.

6, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. In order to share with as many families as possible, families will be limited to an amount they are able to carry in one trip to their vehicle. Shoppers are asked to bring their own reusable shopping bags, as this is a zero-waste event. Any toys remaining will be donated to local charities. Children should not be brought into the shopping area, so that each toy will be an exciting surprise. An activity will be available to children while adults shop. For more information, visit www.agawam.ma.us under the events column or email Nancy Bobskill at AgawamZeroWaste@gmail.com The Agawam Public Library is located at 750 Cooper St.

READY TO COOK!

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USDA INSP. SKINLESS & SHANKLESS BUDABALL OLD FASHIONED SMOKED WHOLE HAM..... **\$2.66** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH LEG LAMB..... **\$6.69** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE **\$11.99** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST **\$7.77** lb

USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP ROUND ROAST **\$6.99** lb

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF 5 LB BAG **\$5.29** lb

USDA INSP. FROZEN TURKEY BREAST..... **\$1.69** lb

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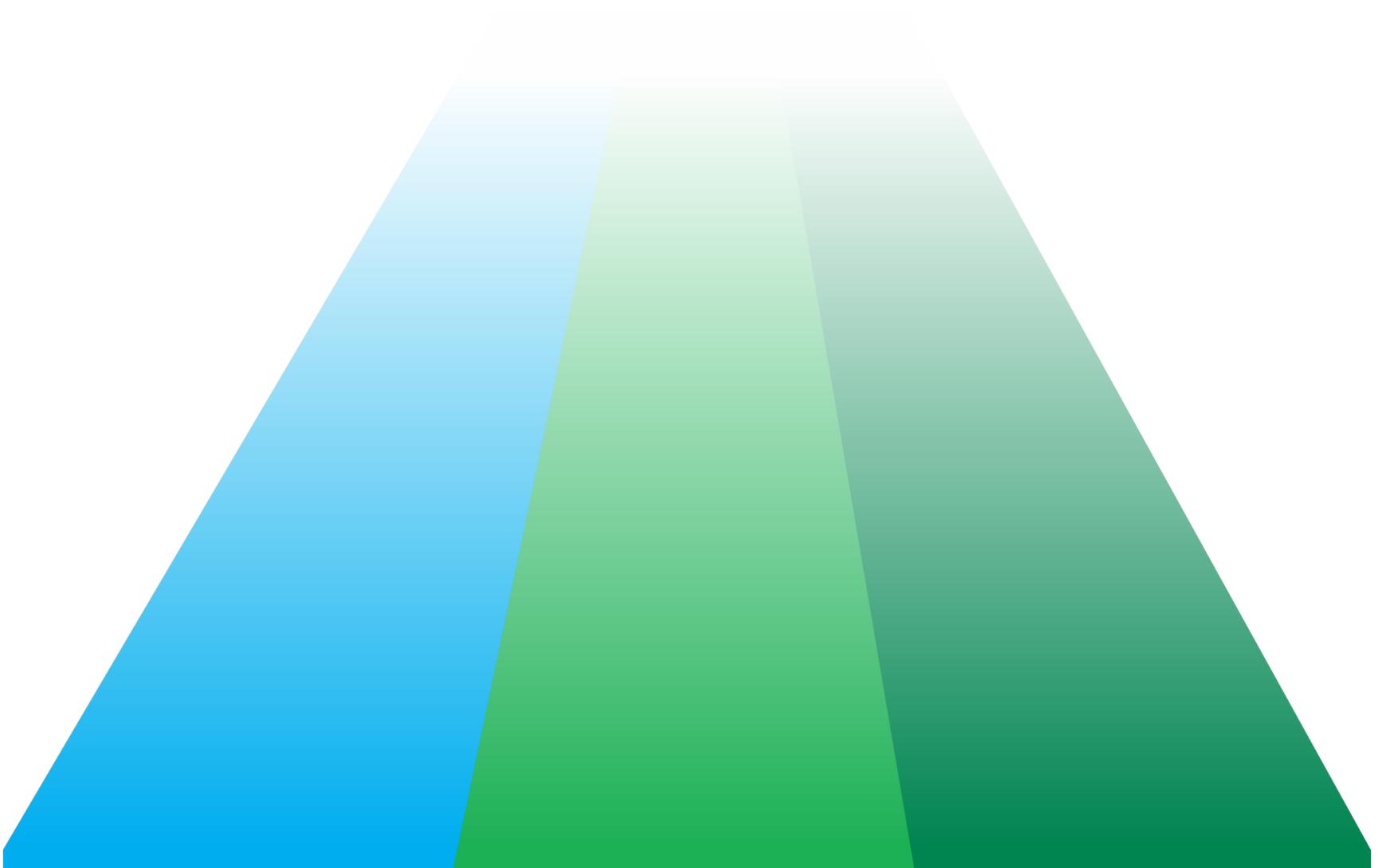
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# Opinion

## Guest Column



### Did the Obama-era Social Security tax cuts hurt the program?

**Dear Rusty:**  
I will be retiring early next year, but my question to you is: During the Obama administration, payroll taxes that employees pay were cut in half from 6.2% to 3.1%, while the employer's part stayed the same at 6.2%. This continued for around a year I think. This was an attempt at giving people a tax cut, which I think was a bad idea or maybe the wrong way to have done it. How much damage do you think this may have caused to Social Security?

*Signed: Soon to Retire*

**Dear Soon to Retire:**  
FYI, the Obama-era cut in the employee portion of FICA payroll taxes and SECA (self-employment tax) was a temporary measure, which has long since expired. However, the legislation which enabled that cut in employee FICA/SECA taxes also included a provision to replenish the Social Security Trust Funds from the General U.S. Treasury in an amount equal to the estimated loss of tax revenue to the Trust Funds. So, in effect, there was little or no impact on the Social Security Trust Funds.

FYI, the Trustees of Social Security have been projecting for many years that the Social Security reserves would be fully depleted in the mid-2030s, unless Congress takes action to reform the SS program. Unfortunately, Congress has not yet taken any meaningful action to accomplish that reform and the current projection from the Trustees is that all Social Security reserves will be depleted in about 2033, necessitating an across the board cut of about 21% in everyone's

benefit. Time is running short and we see signs that Congress is finally starting to seriously discuss Social Security reform.

At AMAC, we have developed and submitted to various Congressional Representatives a reform plan, which would restore Social Security to full solvency. People can see AMAC's suggested plan by visiting [www.amac.us/social-security-guarantee](http://www.amac.us/social-security-guarantee). And AMAC is working every day in Washington, D.C. to promote Social Security reform to avoid future cuts in benefits. We believe and hope that Congress will eventually reform the Social Security program to avoid future benefit cuts but, unfortunately, not until they can muster sufficient bipartisanship to make the hard choices needed. To this end, contacting your Congressional Representative to demand Social Security reform now would be a good thing to do. The longer Congress delays reform, the harder the choices will be.

*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 [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

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### Thanksgiving questions for the Garden Lady

Eva, who has a big vegetable garden in Ware, wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady: "We are supposed to have a low of 27 degrees one night this week. With that said, are my Brussels sprouts going to be OK? I was hoping to harvest them just in time for Thanksgiving."

It has been a few years since I have grown Brussels sprouts, but I do remember that they do thrive well into late fall and early winter. A few frosty mornings won't hurt them!

For readers not familiar with Brussel sprout culture, I will elaborate. Brussels sprout seeds are started indoors, around the same time you would start their cousins, broccoli, cabbage or kale.

For me, seeds are sown off heat the first week of April through tax day. They are grown cool but under supplemental light to prevent stretching, and are transplanted once the first set of "true leaves" unfold.

I transplant mine into the cells of a six pack, although individual two or three inch pots are also a good option. Brussels sprouts can be moved into the garden a couple of weeks prior to Memorial Day, where fertile soil and eight-10 hours of direct sun are preferred.

They need to be given a lot more room than their cousins, about nine square feet of growing space per plant! It

and a little more caramelization. I hope they will be a wonderful part of your family meal, Eva!

Melissa, who gardens in Palmer, just moved to a house that has a few "highbush cranberries" on her property.

"I was curious if this shrub is a tall version of the Thanksgiving cranberry and if so, if it is edible? The word 'highbush' reminds me of blueberries, so I thought maybe it worked out the same," she asked.

The American cranberry is not to be confused with *Viburnum trilobum*, an eight-12 foot multistemmed shrub sometimes called highbush cranberry, crampbark, or even cranberry viburnum.

The berries of this native shrub hang in clusters and are orangey-red in color. Although they are edible, birds generally find them a whole lot more appealing than we do, and will typically "gobble" them up before winter hits.

The shrub typically has great fall interest, too, with foliage that varies in hues of orange, red and purplish red.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

Personally, I like to roast them for heightened crunch

stomachs. To rid themselves of the spins they periodically shed the stomach lining and coughing it up in one giant pellet, similar to an owl.

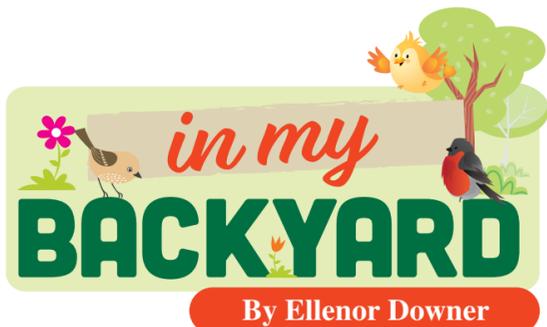
They sing especially at night in midsummer. Their song is a staccato with less of a knocking sound than the yellow-billed cuckoo. They also perch motionless for long periods of time so they can be tricky to find. A good location to look for them are areas with tent caterpillars or fall webworms, a favorite food of these birds.

#### Audubon bird sightings

On Nov. 9, Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the following sightings at Wachusett Reservoir.

Sightings included: nine common loon, two horned grebe, one double-crested cormorant, two great blue heron, 135 Canada geese, four mute swan, one immature gadwall, two black ducks, 63 mallard, five ring-necked duck, 95 greater scaup, eight lesser scaup, 41 bufflehead, 11 hooded merganser, seven common

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In October, Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a black-billed cuckoo at Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary and another was seen at a different location in Wellfleet. The black-billed cuckoo is often heard more than seen. They spend a lot of

### Agawam Advertiser News welcomes letters to the editor

The *Agawam Advertiser News* welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to the *Agawam Advertiser News*, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to [aan@turley.com](mailto: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 Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call 413-283-8393.

#### Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper

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

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



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#### 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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**BACKYARD** ■ from page 4

merganser, one ruddy duck, one red-tailed hawk, three wild turkey, 11 ring-billed gull, one belted kingfisher, one northern flicker and one pileated woodpecker. Other birds included on common raven, one winter wren, one Carolina wren, 46 eastern bluebird, five cedar waxwings, 90 dark-eyed junco and 30 red-winged blackbird.

**Black vulture**

I received an email from a Palmer resident on Nov. 4. She said, "When I came home, I noticed two birds across from the house. I thought they might be vultures because of their face, but were not turkey vultures." She googled vultures and said, "It was easy to recognize them because of their face white feet and legs. Plus the head appeared to be gray and like a helmet. They were definitely black vultures. They stayed in that one spot for quite awhile. They didn't appear to be scared of anything. Cars going by did not phase them." Since then she has not seen them again. She said, "They are really a beautiful bird."

**Helping birds**

Bird feeders and feeding platforms are also hotspots for disease. Many wildlife diseases, like mange and avian pox, are spread by physical contact between healthy

and sick animals. It is important to clean bird feeders frequently and remove any molding seeds and debris from them especially during the rainy weather. Moving the location of feeders to different locations also helps prevent the spread of disease.

**Flocking birds**

Birds are migrating. Last week I saw a large flock of blackbirds flying overhead. I also have seen flocks of about a dozen Canada geese flying overhead. Last week, my granddaughter, Lizzie and I saw a flock of geese flying low over her house. We could hear their wings beating. The robins that head south have also been flocking in my field and along the roads. Some robins over winter living in the swamps.

**Winter berries**

Every year a flock of robins come and make short order of the winterberries on a bush in my yard. I've spotted the bright red winterberries in several spots during my travels. I will keep an eye out for birds at those bushes.

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

# Suffield Players announce newest production

SUFFIELD, CT – This December, The Suffield Players invite audiences to laugh their way through the season with 8 Ways to Survive the Holidays, a spirited comedy by Don Zolidis presented as the theatre's annual Holiday Benefit for its Hope-Hearth-Happiness season. Performances will take place December 12, 13, and 14 at Mapleton Hall, 1305 Mapleton Avenue, Suffield, CT.

Directed collaboratively by Becca Coolong, Mary Fernandez-Sierra, Konrad Rogowski, and Kelly Seip, this year's benefit blends heart, humor, and holiday mayhem in a collection of short sketches that celebrate the joy (and occasional chaos) of the festive season.

*Four Directors, One Merry Mission*

Each director brings their own perspective to the eight comedic vignettes, which highlight everything from disastrous family photos to impossible gift lists and culinary catastrophes—all threaded together by a pair of narrators trying their best to keep the holiday madness under control.

Director Becca Coolong describes the project as a joyful reunion of creativity and friendship: "I was drawn to this production because I was looking forward to the opportunity to work with so many people I love," Coolong

said. "As we head into the holiday season, the thing that is most important to me is connecting and creating with my people. 8 Ways to Survive the Holidays is a collection a directing The Players' Holiday Benefits for the opportunity to direct over-the-top crazy comedy," she shared. "It's pure fun to have so many folks together in a relaxed atmosphere to laugh and have a wonderful time!"

Fernandez-Sierra also praised the easy collaboration among the directing team: "All four directors have worked together before, so there's a lot of trust in each other's abilities. We're similar in our approaches—we all run a tight-but-fun ship! We communicate constantly and help each other solve potential problems ahead of time—like how to make Proton Blasters from scratch for one of my scenes involving The Ghostbusters!"

*Balancing Humor and Heart*

Though each vignette bursts with laughter, the directors agree that heart remains at the center of the show.

Coolong noted, "You can't have humor without heart! We want to make these pieces relatable so everyone can find a bit of themselves somewhere in the stories."

Rogowski added that laughter unites both cast and audience: "These are

silly characters doing silly things—and that's the joy of it!" he said. "We all face the same holiday chaos, but humor helps us step back, breathe, and remember the true heart of the season."

Fernandez-Sierra agreed, emphasizing that the scripts themselves strike the perfect balance: "Each script shines a spotlight on the stressful side of our most common holiday experiences—family photos, big meals, decorations, gift-giving—and reveals how those stresses can be handled in humorous, unconventional ways. It's cleverly and insightfully written, so it's easy for all the actors to relate."

*Community and Connection on Stage*

In keeping with The Suffield Players' long-standing spirit of community, 8 Ways to Survive the Holidays brings together a vibrant mix of seasoned performers and newcomers. One cast member shared that his favorite part of the production has been meeting and collaborating with both new and returning actors in a relaxed, low-pressure environment that encourages creativity and connection.

He described the atmosphere as reminiscent of The Players' New Faces Program—a welcoming opportunity for artists to learn, grow, and become part of the larger theatre family.

Among his fellow performers is a newcomer appearing onstage for only her second time, inspired to audition by her son, who performed in A Few Good Men last winter. Her enthusiasm and dedication, he noted, have brought an inspiring sense of discovery to the ensemble.

Moments like these highlight how The Suffield Players continue to build connections through creativity—making the Holiday Benefit not only a show, but a celebration of artistic community.

*The Heart of the Benefit*

The annual Holiday Benefit is one of The Suffield Players' most beloved traditions—combining laughter, generosity, and community spirit. Proceeds from the event support the theatre's ongoing artistic programming, scholarships, and accessibility efforts as part of its Hope-Hearth-Happiness 2025-2026 season.

When asked how they personally "survive the holidays," the directors were quick to share their own wisdom:

Coolong: "Pie... lots and lots of pie."

Rogowski: "Remember the real purpose of each holiday and enjoy being with the people with whom you share them."

Fernandez-Sierra: "Be grateful for everything that happens and throw yourself into it all with a good heart."

# Scholarship and Fellowship funds available

WESTFIELD – The Horace Smith Fund, located in Westfield, Massachusetts has scholarship and fellowship money available for residents of Hampden County, MA. Graduating high school seniors and students already in college may apply for Scholarships of up to \$12,000. Those in their final year of college and previous college graduates pursuing advanced degrees may apply for Fellowships of \$15,000. Applicants must maintain at least a B average in college and be enrolled as

full-time students. Awards are made based on both academic achievement and merit. Of great importance is a personal written account of why the student feels deserving of financial assistance and their goals in pursuing higher education.

Last year, \$297,000 was awarded to 24 individuals. Scholarships were given to 18 graduating seniors from 11 Hampden County high schools. Three scholarships were also awarded to current college students to

assist them in completing their undergraduate degrees, and three fellowships were given to college graduates pursuing advanced degrees, who had graduated from Hampden County high schools.

The Horace Smith Fund was established in 1899 by the successful and generous philanthropist named Horace Smith, co-founder of Smith & Wesson, established in Springfield. The scholarships and fellowships are named for Walter S. Barr, a West Springfield

businessman, whose widow left the bulk of the family estate to The Horace Smith Fund in 1950.

Completed applications must be received either electronically or by mail to The Horace Smith Fund at 16 Union Avenue, Suite 2K, Westfield, MA 01085 no later than March 15, 2026. Applications will also be available at local high school guidance offices, college financial aid offices, online at [www.HoraceSmithFund.org](http://www.HoraceSmithFund.org) or by phoning (413) 739-4222.

# St. Patrick's Committee hosting holiday gourd painting event

AGAWAM – Join members of the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee on Tuesday, Dec. 2 from 6 to 9 p.m. for a holiday gourd painting event. Gather your

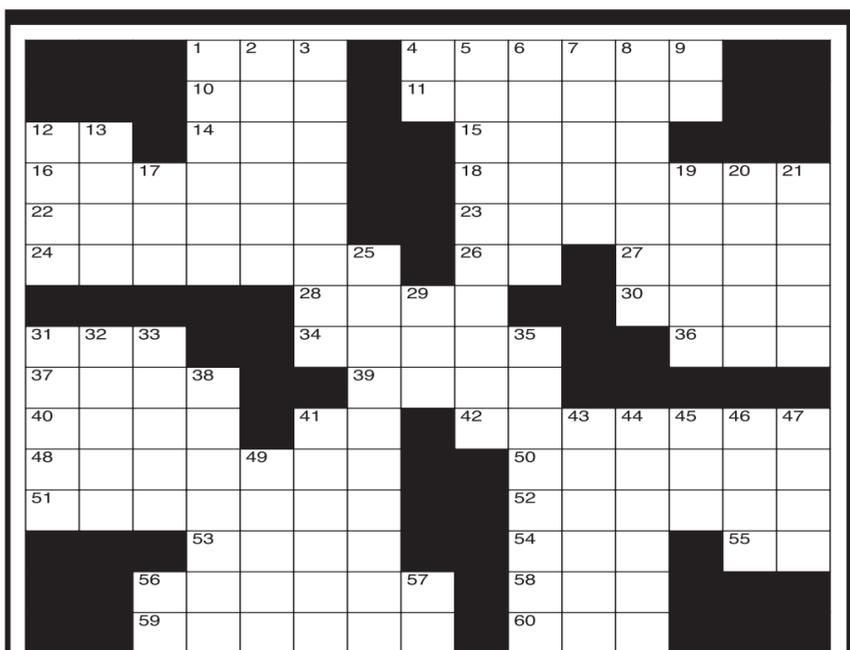
friends for some holiday painting therapy. The cost to participate is \$35 and tickets are available at [zeffy.com/en-us/ticketing/holiday-gourd-painting](http://zeffy.com/en-us/ticketing/holiday-gourd-painting). You

can also email [agawamstpatricks37@gmail.com](mailto:agawamstpatricks37@gmail.com) or call 413-244-2610. The event will take place at Take 5 Restaurant on Springfield St.

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

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- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Popular broadcast network
  - 4. Train line
  - 10. Go quickly
  - 11. Straightforward
  - 12. Canadian province
  - 14. Swiss river
  - 15. It can be straight or curved
  - 16. Edit
  - 18. Utter repeatedly
  - 22. Gotten up
  - 23. Sea vessel
  - 24. Agents of one's demise
  - 26. Not out
  - 27. Something to scratch
  - 28. A round water pot
  - 30. Slang for cylindrical green fruit
  - 31. Promotions
  - 34. Masses of matter
  - 36. Soviet Socialist Republic
  - 37. Nightstand item
  - 39. The content of cognition
  - 40. Arab ruler
  - 41. Northern U.S. state
  - 42. Chewed in small bites
  - 48. Hawaiian island
  - 50. More thin
  - 51. Of one
  - 52. Rigid bracelet or anklet
  - 53. Barbary sheep
  - 54. Not even
  - 55. Atomic #106
  - 56. Haggle
  - 58. Boxing's GOAT
  - 59. Division of a group into opposing factions
  - 60. Vietnamese offensive
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Horse-drawn carriage
  - 2. Prejudices
  - 3. Peacefully
  - 4. University athletic official
  - 5. Soldiers
  - 6. Large mollusk
  - 7. Take out again
  - 8. Sour or bitter in taste
  - 9. Songwriter Tunstall
  - 12. Husk of wheat
  - 13. Flexible covering in some birds
  - 17. Energy
  - 19. Night monkey genus
  - 20. Small nails
  - 21. Colorless volatile liquid
  - 25. In a way, changes integrity
  - 29. Mark Wahlberg's stuffed animal
  - 31. Remember it
  - 32. "Good Will Hunting" lead man
  - 33. Pleasant facial expression
  - 35. Sea vessel
  - 38. Lacking poetic beauty
  - 41. Tall, swift and slender dog
  - 43. Sports personality Michelle
  - 44. Robber
  - 45. Liquefied natural gas
  - 46. Snakelike fish
  - 47. Sediment at bottom of a liquid
  - 49. Crimean seaport
  - 56. Bad grades
  - 57. Popular S. Korean rapper



Taber Art Gallery Director Rachel Rushing supervises the installation of a piece for the "HyperColor" exhibit on display through Dec. 18. SUBMITTED PHOTO

## 'HyperColor' on display at HCC Taber Art Gallery

HOLYOKE — Five artists from western Massachusetts use brilliant colors to explore spirituality, memory, intuition, time, and rebellious joy in the latest exhibit at the Holyoke Community College Taber Art Gallery.

"HyperColor" opened Monday, Nov. 3, and runs until Thursday, Dec. 18.

The show features the work by Andrae Green, Donnabelle Casis, Kim Carlino, Sharon Leshner, and Sunny Allis.

The gallery will host a reception on Thursday, Nov. 13, from 5-7 p.m. with an artists' panel discussion at 6 p.m.

"On its face 'HyperColor' is an exhibition about color,

but it's also about the ways people explore and express themselves without shame or hesitation," said Taber director Rachel Rushing. "The artists in this exhibition are fearless in their use of color to explore the internal worlds of dreams, memory, and intuition as well as the ways we connect to the world around us with curiosity and play."

All five artists are active in community and education.

Carlino and Leshner are local muralists. Leshner's most recent mural is located at 787 Dwight St. in Holyoke, and made in partnership with The Children's Museum at Holyoke. Carlino's latest

project is located at 23 Laurel St. in Northampton and was commissioned by Valley Community Development for a set of newly renovated affordable apartments.

Green maintains studio space in Holyoke, teaches at the Hartford Art School, and has work on view at the Boston Center for the Arts.

Casis hosts "Art Beat Report" on WHMP 101.5 FM, a segment about art news in the Pioneer Valley, and has work on view through 2026 at both the Albany International Airport and the Wing Luke Museum in Seattle, Washington.

Allis has worked for years as an educator with schools

and communities of all ages and backgrounds on topics like sculptural storytelling, world building, kinetic sculpture art, and puppetry. Their most recent positions include Clark Art Institute and Hampshire College.

"I hope visitors connect with the passion of these artists and the joy and curiosity their work inspires," Rushing said.

The Taber Art Gallery, located off the lobby of the HCC Library on the second floor of the HCC Donahue Building, is free and open to the public Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. during regular school sessions.

## Many activities still available for kids and teens at APL

AGAWAM — Here are the programs remaining this month for kids and teens that will be offered at the Agawam Library this November. Some programs require registration. To register, go to our website [agawamlibrary.org](http://agawamlibrary.org) or call us at 413-789-1550 ext. 3.

Art and Stories - For ages 3 - 5  
Tuesday, Nov. 25 - Drop-in.

Join us for a short story time followed by an art project. We will explore simple art concepts and experiment with materials. Please wear clothing that can get messy!

Baby Story Time - For birth - 18 mo.  
Thursday, Nov. 20 at 6 p.m. - Registration is required

Come design and make your own beaded bracelets! To register, go to our website [agawamlibrary.org](http://agawamlibrary.org)

Family Take and Make Crafts - For all ages

First Day of the Week & again on Thursdays - While supplies last - Drop-in and pick up.

A new Take and Make craft will be available the first day of each week and again on Thursdays. Nov. 20 Colorful Chicken Craft Nov. 24 and 26: Raccoon Hand Puppet

Volunteer-run Free Family Photo Shoot - For all ages  
Grow, Play, and Learn - This program is provided by Pathways for Parents.

Wednesdays and Fridays Ages 0-2 at 9:30 a.m. Ages 3-5 at 10:30 a.m. - Drop-in.

No class Friday, Nov. 28. Stories, songs and skill building, led by an Early Childhood Developmental trained staff member, guiding caregivers in strengthening interactions with their child.

Pre-K Pals - For ages 3 - 5 Mondays in November at 11 a.m. - Registration is required. We will provide activities to support your child to learn by playing.

This program is provided by Pathways for Parents.

Special Saturday Craft: Clothespin Dinosaur Craft - For All Ages

Saturday, Nov. 29 All Day - While supplies last - Drop-in & pick up.

Chomp, chomp! Kids will have a blast assembling these dino-mite crafts and then pressing the clothespin pieces together to open and close each dinosaur's mouth.

Stroller Strides with Fit4Mom - For parents and their child ages 1 month - 10 years old

Teen After-School Drop-in - For grades 9-12  
Tuesday, Nov. 25 from 2 to 3 p.m.

Stop by the library after school and visit the Activity Room. Play our Nintendo Switch, try out the button maker, eat snacks, or just hang out! No registration necessary.

Teen Fall Pride Meetup - For grades 7-12

Saturday, Nov. 22 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

Celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride all year round. Mark your calendars for our Fall Pride Meetup. Hang out, do a craft, eat snacks, and play a Pride-themed trivia game. Registration on our website is optional. All are welcome, whether or not you've registered!

Teen Take and Make Craft - For grades 7-12

Available now  
Stop by the Teen Space to pick up a Take and Make Craft kit! They'll be available until we run out of supplies. No registration necessary.

Teen Trivia Thursday - For grades 7-12  
Thursday, Nov. 20 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Visit the Teen Space and answer a trivia question to get a small prize.

Toddler Time - For 19 mo. - 36 mo.

Monday, Nov. 24 at 9:30 a.m. - Drop-in.

Join us as we read stories, sing, and play together.

## HCC college magazine named best at regional conference

HOLYOKE — The Connection, the official magazine of Holyoke Community College, received a first-place gold Medallion Award at the Fall 2025 District 1 conference of the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations.

The Spring 2025 edition of The Connection took the top spot in the category of Large-Scale Magazine, for publications of more than 16 pages.

"The design looks polished and professional," the NCMPR judges said in their comments. "It's an engaging issue that highlights student and alumni success while showing how the college continues to grow and support its people."

In addition to its usual campus news, alumni briefs and class notes, the Spring 2025 issue includes a cover story about the opening of HCC's Marieb Adult Learner

Success Center and Parent Learning Center ("A Family Affair"); a profile of late alum JoAnne Wrobel, who launched a free food cart for students that grew into the Thrive Center and Food Pantry, which now feeds hundreds of HCC students every year ("A Silent Hero"); and a feature story about HCC alum Brandon Towle, of Westfield, who founded the first sleepaway camp in New England for stuttering youth ("Freedom to Speak").

"Freedom to Speak," written by the magazine's editor-in-chief, Chris Yurko, received a second-place silver Medallion Award in the category of Long-Form Writing (stories of more than 800 words).

The magazine is designed by John Devanski, owner of Guy With Glasses Design in Ware.

The Connection is a 36-page magazine published

two times a year by the HCC office of Marketing and Communications and distributed free to alumni, students, and friends of the college.

"I'm incredibly proud of our marketing and strategic communications team for earning this recognition," said Amanda Sbriscia, vice president of the Institutional Advancement division, which includes marketing and communications, development, and alumni relations. "Their collaboration, creativity, and exceptional writing are what set The Connection apart. But credit also belongs to the HCC community - our students, alumni, faculty, and staff provide endless inspiration through their stories. Our team has the great honor of amplifying those voices, and it's that authentic storytelling that makes our work meaningful."

A digital version of the

Spring 2025 issue can be viewed at [hcc.edu/connection-SP25](http://hcc.edu/connection-SP25).

NCMPR represents marketing and public relations professionals at community and technical colleges in the United States and beyond. The NCMPR Medallion Awards recognize outstanding achievement in design and communication in each of NCMPR's seven districts.

HCC resides in District 1, the largest, which includes Connecticut, Delaware, District of Columbia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Quebec, and the United Kingdom.

The NCMPR District 1 Conference was held Nov. 3-5 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

## High School to hold 'Stakeholder Summit'

AGAWAM — On Monday, Nov. 24, Agawam High School is hosting the first of three Stakeholder Summits this year. The summits include teachers, students, parents, and community members. It will take place at AHS and the tentative agenda includes an alumni panel, focus groups (led by our current students), and even a tour of our outdoor classroom with an activity hosted by two of our Survival Science instructors. The goal of the summit is to get feedback on instructional

vision, gauge progress over the last two years, and to find opportunities for future growth. Last March the high school hosted a larger Summit with over eighty students off campus, and it was met with great appreciation. Hosting three smaller events this year will allow us to listen to more stakeholders to help chart a path forward for improved outcomes for our students.

The plan is for roughly 40 students, 10 parents, 10 teachers, and community members to attend.

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## EARLY DEADLINES FOR ADS & LEGAL NOTICES

Thanksgiving will bring early deadlines for all legal notices to run in TURLEY PUBLICATIONS the week of November 24-28, 2025.

**Thursday, Nov. 20 at 2 PM for November 27 issue**

- Agawam Advertiser News • Country Journal
- The Register • Wilbraham-Hampden Times

**Friday, November 21 at 2 PM for November 27 Issue**

- Sentinel • Quaboag Current

**Monday, November 24 at 2 PM for November 27 Issue**

- The Journal Register • Ware River News • Barre Gazette

**Tuesday, November 25 at 2 PM for November 28 Issue**

- Town Reminder • The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register

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# Velis delivers letters from more than 20 schools to vets home

HOLYOKE – Ahead of Veterans Day, Senator John C. Velis collected over 1000 letters from local students from across the Hampden and Hampshire District that will be shared with the residents of the Holyoke Veterans Home and currently deployed troops. Marking its sixth year, Senator Velis con-

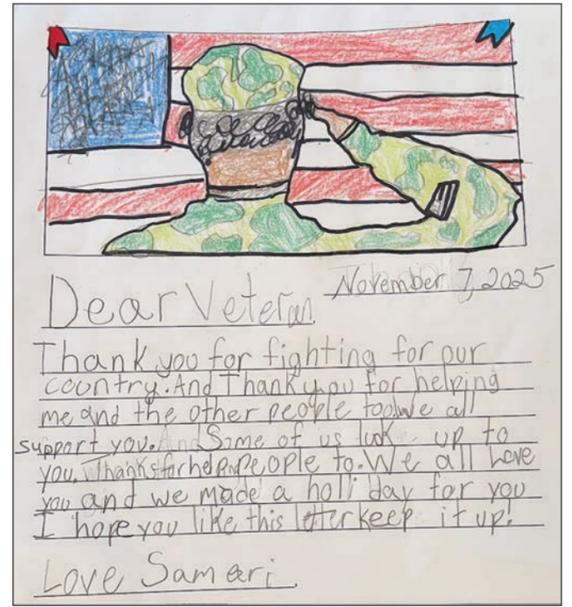
tinues to organize this annual tradition, which includes participation from more than 20 schools in Agawam, Chicopee, West Springfield, Westfield, and many other communities.

“It is truly so special to see our community come together year after year to recognize Veterans Day and

help educate an entire generation about the service and sacrifice behind this holiday,” shared Senator John C. Velis. “This year, we were not only able to deliver thousands of letters and bring joy to the residents of the Veterans Home, what really inspired the start of this annual tradition. But we also received

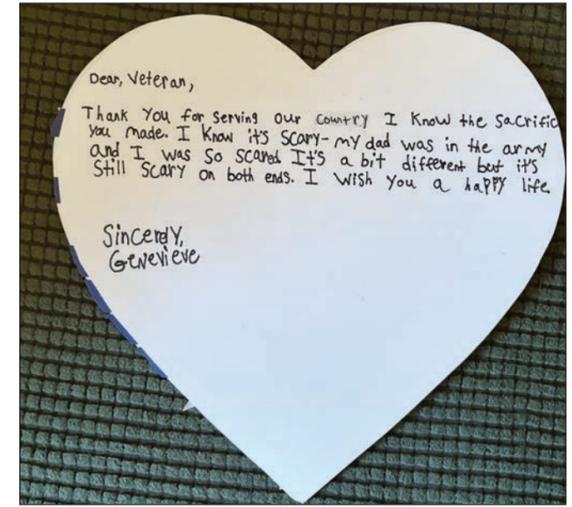
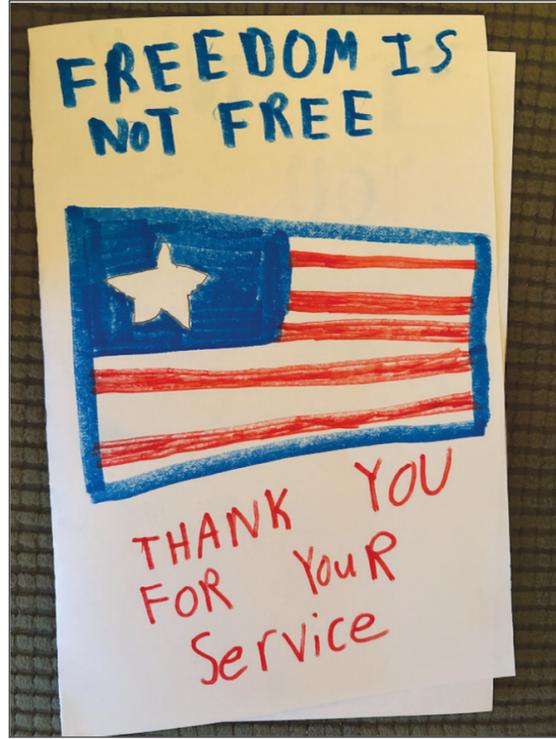
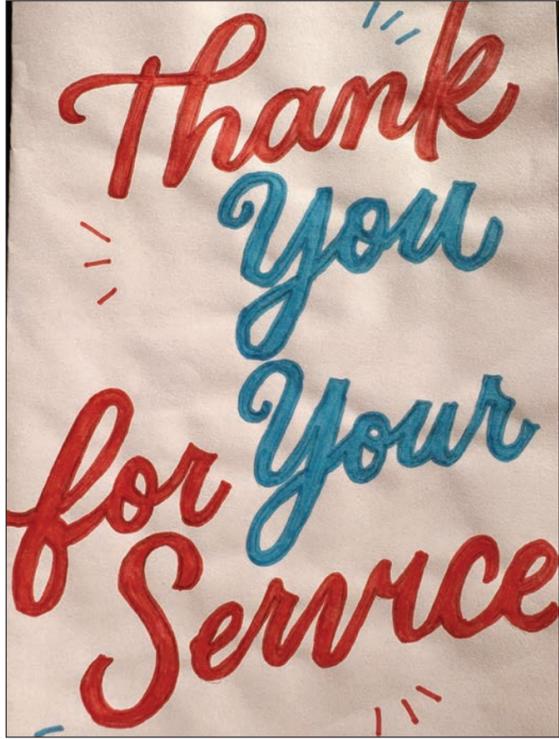
so many that I will also be bringing some of these letters with me to share with my fellow service members during my own deployment in the very near future.”

Velis shared that students of all ages, from pre-school all through high school, helped create well over 1,000 letters, cards, and other artwork.



State Sen. John Velis, D-Westfield, who is a veteran himself, continued his tradition of delivering letters from student to residents of the Holyoke Veterans Home.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS



# Museum announces return of 'Penguin Plunge' Jan. 24

WESTFIELD – Amelia Park Children's Museum announces the return of the Penguin Plunge to be held on Saturday, Jan. 24, 2026, at 1 p.m. at Hampton Ponds State Park, Westfield MA. Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. Proceeds from the Penguin Plunge will benefit the museum.

“The Penguin Plunge is a long-standing tradition in Westfield. We are very excited that we're able to host the Penguin Plunge in 2026,” said Diane Chambers, Executive Director of the museum. “We want to make this event a Plunge for the record books!” A member of the founding board, Chambers, explains that interest in the museum is at an all-time high. “We are seeing a tremendous increase in the number of visitors we serve. Please join us as we work to enhance our

facility and programs to continue serving our community's growing needs.” Through the years participants and sponsors of the Plunge have helped to raise over \$370,000 to support Amelia Park Children's Museum.

Plunge participants may join as an individual or as a team. Each participant pledges to raise a minimum of \$75 from friends and family and is encouraged to collect as many sponsors as possible. Those under the age of 18 will receive a registration discount of \$25.

There are monetary prizes of “cold hard cash” for the top three individuals or teams that raise the most money; first place - \$300, second place - \$200, third place - \$100.

A costume contest is part of the fun, and participants

are encouraged to come dressed creatively. There will be prizes for Best Individual Costume and Best Team Costume.

Register in advance online or at the Plunge on the day of the event from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Participants will receive a free 2026 Penguin Plunge T-shirt (while supplies last).

Sponsorship opportunities, registration and pledge forms are available via the museum website <https://www.ameliaparkmuseum.org/penguin-plunge> or can be picked up at the museum.

Don't want to jump in the water? No worries! Be a spectator and cheer on the brave participants. Hot chocolate, coffee, s'mores and other refreshments will be available to keep everyone warm.

# St. John's holding Christmas Bazaar hosted this weekend

AGAWAM – The St. John the Evangelist Parish Annual Christmas Bazaar will be held on Saturday, Nov. 22, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. It will take place in the parish center, directly behind the church, at 833 Main St., Agawam, MA. For sale will be

Christmas Treasures, baked goods, assorted candy, jewelry, books and media. Try your luck on the gift card and basket items. A variety of food will be available at our snack bar from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Santa will be visiting from 9 to 11 a.m., so bring

your camera/devices to create a special memory.

Proceeds from this event will be used for the parish center. Admission and parking are free and the center is handicap accessible. Come, bring a friend, all are welcome.



**Send Us Your Photos!**

**Email: [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com)**

# Jammie Jingle 2025 now ongoing

AGAWAM – The Agawam Health Department is collecting new pajamas now through Dec. 5. All sizes infant to 3X (new/with tags).

Pajamas are donated to local charities to give children a new pair of pajamas to wear this holiday season and throughout the year.

Allison Gaynor is the founder of Jammie Jingle and has been collecting pajamas for over 10 years and hopes to have an awesome turnout this year.

We have been able to donate over 3,000 Jammies to local charities including Shriners Hospital for Chil-

dren, CHD for Kids, DCF Springfield and Ronald McDonald Houses of Springfield/Hartford. Contact Pam Franco (726-9722) with questions or donations of pajamas.

Collection box located at Town Hall Health Dept.

# ACC welcoming new members to playgroup

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

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

**BABY'S FIRST CHRISTMAS**

**Logan Distler**  
September 22, 2024  
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Grandparents: Christopher & Michele Mues, Warren  
Carole & the late Bruce Distler, Long Island, NY

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This offer is available to all babies born in 2025. Pictures will be published the week of December 23-26, 2025.

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Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents' Names: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents' Town of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
Grandparents' Names & Town of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone #: (not to be printed - for office use only) \_\_\_\_\_

*Please check the newspaper you would like your announcement to appear.*

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**Deadline for photos and forms is Friday, December 12, 2025**

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# SPORTS

## Brownies, Terriers to match up on Thanksgiving

AGAWAM – On Thanksgiving morning next Thursday at 10 a.m., the Agawam High School football team will head to rival West Springfield in its annual holiday rivalry matchup. The Brownies have not won on the holiday since 2016, but still hold a commanding lead in the rivalry with 63 wins against 33 losses. There were also three ties throughout the long rivalry.

The year 2024 marks 100 years since the rivalry began in 1924, but it will be the 99th time the teams are playing each on Turkey Day.

For the first time in five years, Agawam and West Springfield are only meeting on Thanksgiving. The two teams were Suburban Conference rivals during the past four years, but West Springfield was elevated to the AA Conference this season.

The Terriers feature two advantages heading into this year's matchup. First, they had a decidedly more difficult schedule

than Agawam. Additionally, the Terriers performed very well in their return to the AA Conference. The Terriers went 3-2, losing to state playoff qualifiers Minnechaug and perennial powerhouse Central High School. The Terriers defeated Westfield, Longmeadow, and East Longmeadow. All three defeated Agawam in independent games. The Terriers were challenged on the independent circuit as well, with games against Hingham and Wachusett. West Springfield defeated Amherst and Holyoke in nonplayoff games in Weeks 9 and 10 and stand at 6-4 overall for the 2025 season.

Agawam did well with an overall 5-5 record. Agawam would go 3-0 in the Suburban South Conference before running into Chicopee Comprehensive, which ran the table in the first eight weeks of the regular season. Agawam would beat Wahconah to complete the regular season at 5-3, but then suffered nonplayoff

losses against Longmeadow at home and Westfield on the road in Weeks 9 and 10, respectively. Agawam's conference scheduled also included Amherst, Pittsfield, and Putnam Vocational.

Agawam seeks to break a seven-game skid in this year's game at Clark Field in West Springfield. Last year, at a rain-soaked Harmon Smith Field in Agawam, West Springfield completely dominated the matchup with a 51-0 win.

Agawam struggled on offense to get any momentum going, and the Brownies also attempted to convert on fourth down twice early in the game. Both attempts were unsuccessful, and the Terriers gained a short field, helping them add to their early lead. Combined with a safety, the Terriers put up four very early touchdowns quickly and led 30-0 in the second quarter.

The Brownies will be looking for a more competitive game against the Terriers this Thanksgiving.



Domenick Pisano takes the snap. TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

### Agawam Football (5-5)

- Friday, Sept. 12 – East Longmeadow 28, Agawam 14
- Friday, Sept. 19 – South Hadley 16, Agawam 6
- Friday, Sept. 26 – Agawam 28, Holyoke 15
- Friday, Oct. 3 – Agawam 18, Amherst 14
- Friday, Oct. 10 – Agawam 34, Pittsfield 0
- Thursday, Oct. 16 – Agawam 49, Putnam 14
- Friday, Oct. 24 – Chicopee Comprehensive 46, Agawam 32
- Friday, Oct. 31 – Agawam 39, Wahconah 6
- Thursday, Nov. 6 – Longmeadow 48, Agawam 36
- Friday, Nov. 14 – Westfield 48, Agawam 22
- Thanksgiving Game
- Thursday, Nov. 27 – at West Springfield, 10 a.m.



Above, Rian Villareal begins a return for the Brownies. Left, William Olson blocks on the line.

### AGAWAM VS. WEST SPRINGFIELD

Agawam leads series 63-33-3

- 2024: West Side 51-0
- 2023: West Side 37-20
- 2022: West Side 29-16
- 2021: West Side 40-19
- 2020: No game - COVID
- 2019: West Side 48-0
- 2018: West Side 19-6
- 2017: West Side 34-0
- 2016: Agawam 40-28
- 2015: Agawam 34-32
- 2014: Agawam 38-36
- 2013: Agawam 19-18
- 2012: Agawam 50-36
- 2011: West Side 17-14
- 2010: West Side 20-0
- 2009: West Side 32-20
- 2008: West Side 39-0
- 2007: Agawam 34-27
- 2006: Agawam 20-12 (OT)
- 2005: Agawam 18-12
- 2004: Agawam 42-6
- 2003: Agawam 30-8
- 2002: Agawam 26-0
- 2001: Agawam 14-6
- 2000: West Side 17-14
- 1999: Agawam 27-6
- 1998: Agawam 21-14
- 1997: Agawam 27-8
- 1996: Agawam 29-21
- 1995: West Side 7-6
- 1994: West Side 14-6
- 1993: Agawam 22-0
- 1992: Agawam 14-7
- 1991: West Side 14-0
- 1990: West Side 16-8
- 1989: West Side 12-7
- 1988: West Side 22-21
- 1987: Agawam 48-6
- 1986: Agawam 21-0
- 1985: Agawam 15-12
- 1984: Agawam 23-6
- 1983: Agawam 18-7
- 1982: West Side 20-3
- 1981: Agawam 13-6
- 1980: West Side 26-0
- 1979: West Side 42-15
- 1978: Agawam 42-6
- 1977: West Side 28-8

- 1976: Agawam 15-14
- 1975: Agawam 15-2
- 1974: West Side 16-6
- 1973: Tie 14-14
- 1972: Agawam 13-12
- 1971: Agawam 28-8
- 1970: Agawam 32-6
- 1969: Agawam 30-28
- 1968: Agawam 14-6
- 1967: Agawam 20-6
- 1966: Agawam 24-0
- 1965: Agawam 32-8
- 1964: Agawam 34-8
- 1963: Agawam 22-2
- 1962: West Side 26-12
- 1961: West Side 12-8
- 1960: West Side 48-8
- 1959: Agawam 41-0
- 1958: West Side 8-0
- 1957: Agawam 54-0
- 1956: West Side 28-13
- 1955: West Side 33-7
- 1954: Agawam 19-12
- 1953: Agawam 34-21
- 1952: West Side 13-7
- 1951: Agawam 34-21
- 1950: Agawam 20-12
- 1948: West Side 18-14
- 1947: Agawam 13-7
- 1946: Agawam 26-0
- 1945: Agawam 65-0
- 1944: Agawam 13-0
- 1943: Tie 7-7
- 1942: Agawam 14-13
- 1941: West Side 13-7
- 1940: Agawam 27-0
- 1939: Agawam 7-0
- 1938: West Side 7-0
- 1937: Agawam 6-0
- 1936: Agawam 33-6
- 1935: Agawam 34-6
- 1934: Agawam 7-0
- 1933: Tie 0-0
- 1932: Agawam 19-13
- 1931: Agawam 34-0
- 1930: Agawam 7-6
- 1929: West Side 6-0
- 1928: Agawam 30-6
- 1927: Agawam 25-0
- 1926: Agawam 7-0
- 1925: Agawam 20-6
- 1924: Agawam 6-0



Left, as the rain pours down, Dominic Rodriguez fields a kickoff. Above, Caleb Phillips heads off on a run.



Left, Joe Duffy drops back to pass to an open Ryan Litz during last year's matchup in the pouring rain.

# Sports

## Keating's goal helps Agawam boys advance

AGAWAM – On Saturday, Nov. 8, Agawam High School boys soccer kept their post-season going after an upset in the Round of 32 and headed on the road to Ashland High School. Patrick Keating socked a great shot in the right side of the net late in the first half to give Agawam a 1-0 lead. That goal held up and helped the Brownies head for the quarterfinals. Ashland played a very physical game against the Brownies with a lot of shoving and holding and several instances of players being pulled down on plays. Agawam was equal to the task, holding the fort down on defense for 80 minutes to get a hard-earned win. Agawam's season would come to an end in the quarterfinals played last Thursday against Northampton. Highlights and photographs from that game will be in next week's edition.



Above, Aidan Monaghan chases after a bounding ball headed for the sideline. Left, Patrick Keating sends a ball deep.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Jaden Holloway fights hard to get possession of the ball.



Connor Glynn tries to clear the ball away on defense.



Dawood Atanane settles the ball near the sideline.

## Railers score sweep of Lions

WORCESTER – The Railers spent the first few weeks of this season playing games where it was hard to find something they did right.

Saturday night they played one where it was hard to find something they did wrong.

Behind sensational goaltending by Henrik Tikkanen and equally sensational penalty killing, Worcester shut out the reigning ECHL Kelly Cup champion Trois-Rivieres Lions by a 2-0 score.

Tikkanen made 32 saves. The Railers killed five penalties, three in the third period. Counting the penalties and the four minutes or so Trois-Rivieres played with its goalie on the bench, Worcester spent about half the period skating 5 on 6.

Goaltending was the difference in the final 20 minutes as Tikkanen made 13 saves. So, which aspect of the game was key, goaltending or penalty killing, coach Nick Tuzzolino was asked.

"It works hand in hand," he said. "I think the lanes that our penalty kill created allowed (Tikkanen) to be as effective as he was."

Worcester got a goal from Lincoln Hatten in the second period and Anthony Callin, just back from a suspension, in the third.

The shutout was the first by a Railers goaltender since Tikkanen beat Wichita, 1-0, out there last Nov. 27. It was the first at the DCU Center since March 2, 2024. John Muse blanked Trois-Rivieres, 4-0.

It was the fifth of Tikkanen's career here. He is one behind Mitch Gillam, the franchise's all-time leader, and tied with IceCat Brent Johnson for sixth on the Worcester all-pro list. Curtis Sanford of the IceCats leads in that category with 10.

Tikkanen's career in the Islanders' organization has had its highs and lows. It is highs like Saturday night that have kept him around.

"I know he has had sort of an up and down stat career in Bridgeport," Tuzzolino said, "but every time I've been behind the bench and he's been in net I can count maybe one game that he'd like back."

"I have no issue with Teeks."

Tuzzolino did have an issue with the way his team played in the first two periods and let them know about it. Even so, the Railers had the lead going into the third thanks to Hatten's goal at 12:31 of the second period.

He snapped the dual shut-out with his second goal of the weekend at 12:31. Cole Donhauser tried a wrap-around that Lions' goalie Benjamin Gaudreau denied but the puck bounced out to Hatten just above the crease and he popped it home to give Worcester the lead.

Callin made it 2-0 at 8:12 of the third. Calle Odelius set things up with a nice rush through center ice. He found Callin on the right side and he beat Gaudreau with a high wrist shot to the far corner.

## Local players named to all-star teams

HOLYOKE – The International Volleyball Hall of Fame has made a tradition of hosting a showcase for both high school boys and girls players. The girls all-star showcase was held this week at Holyoke Community College in the Bartley Center featuring players from all over the region.

The IVHF is very proud to have its home in West-

ern Massachusetts and we are very excited to again recognize the top players in our area," said IVHF Executive Director George Mulry.

Selected players are chosen by nomination and vote of the Western Massachusetts girls high school coaches.

There were two games scheduled to be played.

One featuring the second team all-stars followed by a game between the first team all-stars. Both games were scheduled to be three-set exhibitions.

For more information on the Hall of Fame Girls All-Star Volleyball Showcase, contact events@volleyhall.org.

Players named to the first team included: Min-

nechaug's Anna O'Toole, Cora Pace, Maliha Daubon, and Nehir Elcin,

Player named to the second included: Agawam's Sophia Laprise, and Hannah Jock, Minnechaug's Haley Powers, Belcher-town's Layla Liminski, South Hadley's Grace Matyszewski, Chicopee Comprehensive's Olivia Warren and Lori Vazquez.

## T-Birds offensive struggles continue against Penguins

WILKES-BARRE, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (2-10-1-1) could not overcome an early deficit, falling 3-1 to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins (12-3-1-0) on Saturday night inside Mohegan Arena at Casey Plaza.

After scoring five goals in a third period comeback win on Friday night, the Penguins picked up where they left off just 2:20 into the game on Saturday, as Raivis Ansons funneled a wrist through heavy traffic and past Georgii Romanov to make it a 1-0 game.

The T-Birds had a tough time getting much cooking in the offensive end, and the Penguins' relentless pres-

sure pushed the lead to a pair at 12:51. After already picking up a fighting major in a scrap with Springfield's Kale Kessy earlier in the period, Boko Imama positioned himself in the slot and deflected a Zach Gallant shot through Romanov's legs to make it a 2-0 game and bringing Imama two-thirds of the way to a Gordie Howe hat trick in the opening period.

The Penguins wasted little time adding to their margin early in the second, as Rutger McGroarty - making his season debut - cashed in with a backhand tuck between the legs of Romanov just 1:06 into period two.

After continuous even-strength action for the first 28 minutes, special teams were finally put to work in the middle frame, and the T-Birds had a perfect showing, killing off two Penguins' man advantages and adding a power play goal at 11:52. After creating his own predicament on a turnover, Romanov reacted alertly to deflect a centering pass toward the neutral zone, where Chris Wagner and Hugh McGing sped up on the rush and converted a 2-on-1 past Joel Blomqvist to make it a 3-1 game, as McGing picked up his third of the season while Wagner picked up a point for a sec-

ond straight night.

Romanov settled in very well after the McGroarty tally and turned aside the final 11 shots he faced to keep it at a two-goal margin heading into the third. Blomqvist, though, answered in kind with a busy and strong final period, as the Penguin backstop turned away all 12 attempts that came his way in the third, while the Penguins' PK also survived one more Springfield power play threat.

The T-Birds continued their busy road schedule Tuesday morning when they square off in Hartford against the Wolf Pack at PeoplesBank Arena.

## Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports."

We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis.

Please follow and share

with your friends and loved ones.

We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you

can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

## Participate in the 2025 Wilbraham Turkey Trot

WILBRAHAM – Please join us on Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 27 for the Wilbraham Turkey Trot - a five-mile road race up Monson Road now in its 46nd year. The annual tradition, started in 1980, has grown in recent years selling out at 500 runners the past several years. This year, the maximum has been increased to 550 participants.

There is no vaccination requirement this year. The course starts in Woodland Dell Cemetery just up from race headquarters at the Wilbraham United Church. Runners then make a left onto Main St. and head up Monson Road. Once summited, runners turn left and enjoy scenic views of the

valley from atop Ridge Road and enjoy the downhill along Mountain Road before turning back on Main Street to the church. The race starts at 8:30 a.m. with bib pick-up beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the church.

The race focuses on providing a classic New England Turkey Trot with chip timing, race swag, and one big hill. Awards will be given for the first male and female runners to the top of Monson Road.

Registration is only \$25 and available online at [www.RunReg.com/13116](http://www.RunReg.com/13116)

Residents are asked not to park on Woodland Dell or Main Street on Thanksgiving morning and to avoid driving on the route until after the race has concluded at 10 a.m.

Any traffic will be detoured downhill from Monson Road to Main along Ridge and Mountain Roads.

Expected road closures are as follows:

Main Street: From Monson to Woodland Dell: 8:30-8:35 a.m.

Monson Road: Closed to downhill traffic from Ridge Road to Main Street: 8:30-8:50 a.m. (Traffic detoured down ridge road)

Ridge Road: Closed to uphill traffic from Mountain to Monson: 8:35-9:10 a.m. (Traffic detoured down Mountain Road)

Mountain Road: Closed to uphill traffic from Main to Ridge: 8:40-9:25 a.m. (Traffic can travel uphill via Monson Road)

## Annual ‘Sand for Seniors’ set for Nov. 21

AGAWAM – On Friday, Nov. 21 from 12:30 to 2:30 p.m., the annual Sand for Seniors event will take place at the Agawam Senior Center in the back parking lot. Seniors in the community in

need of sand for the upcoming winter season can come and have a bucket filled.

Sand and buckets will be dispensed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Orders will be taken

if supplies run out at the event. If you received sand last year through the program and need a refill, please bring your bucket from last year with you to this event.

## Annual wreath bazaar to be held on Nov. 22

AGAWAM – The Agawam Congregational Church will once again host its Holly Wreath Bazaar this Christmas season, taking place on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Browse a variety of goods from our talented crafters and stop by our country store and bakery for fresh vegetables, pies, bars, cookies, and candy.

Try your luck at our raffle

table—plus, one lucky visitor will win a door prize. Before you head out, treat yourself to lunch at our hot lunch café.

We look forward to welcoming you on Nov. 22.

# Public Notices

### 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, December 8, 2025 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in the request of P2SP Corp., which is seeking a Variance from the Town of Agawam’s Zoning Ordinances, Ch. 180-46C to allow for the construction of an addition with less than the minimum required rear set-back at the premises identified as 18 Springfield Street.

Doreen A. Prouty, Chairperson  
Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals  
11/13, 11/20/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25C0339CA**  
In the matter of: **Amaris Irene Hernandez**  
**CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**  
A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by **Amaris Irene Hernandez of Agawam, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Amaris Irene Messier**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/09/2025.**

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

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

Date: November 10, 2025  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
11/20/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25P2355EA**  
Estate of: **Stephen Page Fallon**  
Also known as: **S. Page Fallon**  
Date of Death: **10/11/2025**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Laura F Fallon 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: **Laura F Fallon 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 12/08/2025.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a

timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

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

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

Date: November 10, 2025  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
11/20/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD25C0323CA**  
In the matter of: **Neil Lamar Lockett**  
**CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to Change Name of Minor has been filed by **Neil Lamar Lockett** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to: **Neil Rivera**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Any person may appear for

### HOURS ■ from page 1

At the Oct. 20 meeting of the city council, and amendment passed to make the hours 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., but also to allow what is called “quiet preparation” beginning at 6 a.m. This allows construction crews to quiet get equipment staged and prepared so that work can begin promptly at 7 a.m. and allow for crews to take full advantage of the active hours they are allowed to work.

Some Feeding Hills residents expressed a lot of resistance to the original proposal, as it allowed construction to occur before 9 a.m. on weekends and one resident who spoke during public comment, said he wanted construction barred during legally observed holidays.

“The amendment allows construction activities on all legal holidays and Sundays, leaving no additional relief from construction noise and activity throughout the year,” resident Stephen Czerpak said.

Council Dino Mercadante said during debate that while there were various arguments with parts of the ordinance, passage of it was important so there was something in place, and there was at least some kind of protection for residents’ quality of life.

While the council passed a noise ordinance for construction unanimously, Councilor Robert Rossi was the lone no vote for the amendment which changed the hours and allowed for the one hour of prep time before active construction.

“When you start disrupting someone’s sleep, disturbing their kids in the morning, waking them up early with heavy construction, then you’re infringing on their rights,” Rossi said.

The ordinance would pass again at the second reading and will go into effect following that vote.

Agawam has had a lot of construction in recent years and Mill St. will be the main hub for the next few years with active construction at Agawam High School for four years. There is also active construction with road work and sidewalk work taking place on a consistent basis during the warmer months of the year.

Outside of the school project, active construction will be winding down in the next month.

### TAX SHIFT ■ from page 1

tax rate was \$27.70. The shift was 1.59.

As of press time, Johnson has not submitted the final number he is proposing for FY2026. But on Nov. 17, the city council did bring forward on its agenda the tax factor proposal. The public hearing will be held at the Dec. 1 meeting, by which time Johnson will make a presentation to the city council with the tax shift he is proposing along

with the tax rate that will come with that shift.

While the city council has not been amending the rate and shifts proposed by the mayor in recent years, the council does have the ability on the floor to make those changes based on the numbers they are presented along with feedback from residents and businesses in the community, both of whom can make their case for why the other should shoulder more of the tax

burden in the community.

The council will also be provided with updated property values and what increases an average property owner could expect to see in their property tax bills.

Residents who wish to be heard on the upcoming tax shift should attend the Agawam City Council meeting at the Agawam Senior Center on Monday, Dec. 1 with the meeting beginning at 7 p.m.

### LEGAL NOTICE PUBLIC HEARING AGAWAM CITY COUNCIL

The Agawam City Council will conduct a Public Hearing on **Monday, December 1, 2025, at 7:00pm**, in Veterans’ Hall at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main Street, Agawam, MA to consider TR-2025-85 which is the adoption of a Residential Tax Factor pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 56 as submitted to the City Council by the Mayor Christopher C. Johnson on October 30, 2025.

TR-2025-85 is available for public inspection by emailing the office of the City Clerk for an electronic copy at [vgioscia@agawam.ma.us](mailto:vgioscia@agawam.ma.us)

BY ORDER OF:  
**Rosemary Sandlin**  
President of the City Council  
11/13, 11/20/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD22P2385PM**

In the matter of: **Nicholas J. Scafuri of Feeding Hills, MA Protected Person/ Disabled Person/ Respondent**  
**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR’S ACCOUNT**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the **Amended First and Final** account(s) of **Michael Scafuri of Southwick, MA** as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court

for allowance.

**You have the right to object to the account(s).** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **12/19/2025.** This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return date (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

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

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

Date: November 07, 2025  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
11/20/2025

## Agawam Advertiser News OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

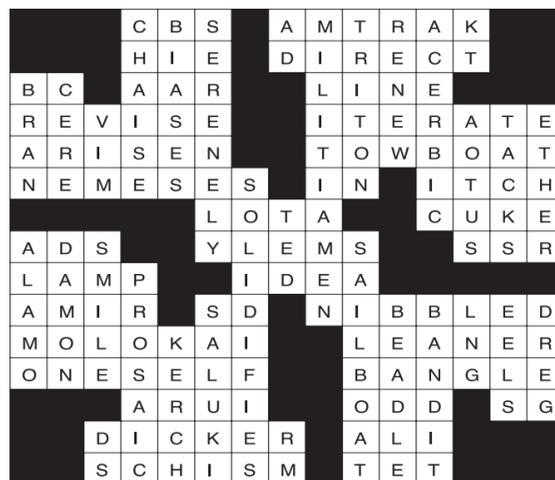
Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts’ public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

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



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### WANTED TO BUY

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Musical instruments, guitars, horns, keyboards, vintage electronics, jewelry, coins, watches, military cameras, sports memorabilia, art, sterling, signs, automotive, hunting, advertising, radios, ham radio equipment, audio equipment, toys, one item or entire estate.

Call Paul 413-206-8688.

#### ATTENTION

**SMITH & WESSON RETIRES:** Sell me your collection of S&W grips. Tim 413-246-4966.

#### SWIFT RIVER SUPPLY

We buy guns. Federal and state licensed. 413-658-5690.

## CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

THURSDAY AT 1PM

## JUNK REMOVAL

**A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL**  
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.  
We load it & take it.  
**413-531-1936**  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

## SERVICES



#### A B Hauling and Removal Service

#### 2\*\*\*\*\*A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE\*\*\*\*\*

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.

**DRYWALL, PAINTING AND CEILINGS,** plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. (413)563-0487

## ELECTRICIAN

#### PJ's Electrical MASTER ELECTRICIAN

Licensed & Insured  
Providing safe, reliable electrical services for residential and commercial projects.

**NOW OFFERING FREE CONSULTATIONS.**  
Call today to schedule your appointment.  
**(413) 366-1703**  
(Lic. #24046-A)

**BUILT 'N POWERED.** Serving all your electrical and construction needs. Fully insured and licensed. Free estimates. 10% Senior and Veteran's discounts. Call Tom 413-472-4104. Electrical Lic. #56789/CLS Lic. #104505

**JAMES FERRIS: LICENSE #E16303**  
Free estimates. Insured. 50 years experience. No job too small. Cell (413)330-3682

#### LICENSED ELECTRICIAN

I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Service upgrades, pools, trustworthy, dependable & insured. Master Elec. #20773A. Text/call Luis (413)-218-3301.

#### ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC

Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.

Call John at (413)206-6509

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

## SERVICES

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

#### HOME IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST

Decks, porches, repair service, roofing and siding contractor. Tim 413-563-2229. Licensed/insured. 35 year construction supervisor.

**HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING** Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. (413)246-2783 Ron.

### CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR Remodeling & Deck Specialists  
Residential/Commercial  
Fully Insured • Free Estimates  
**413-351-1147**

## LANDSCAPING

#### A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE

Excavator Services  
Overgrown property?  
Extreme Brush Cutting!  
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal  
Lawn/Arborvitae Installed  
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand  
Storm Clean-up  
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal  
Insured

Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

**\*\*ALL SEASON\*\*** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob (413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.

## SERVICES

### MASONRY

#### STOP WET BASEMENTS

**ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING**  
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call (413)569-1611, (413)374-5377

## PAINTING

**INTERIOR PAINTING** - only \$249.00 for average 12x16 room. Free estimates, fast, dependable service.  
Call (508)867-2550.

#### PRO PAINTING

Low, low prices. All phases interior, exterior painting and wallpapering. Also minor carpentry.  
**413-310-5099.**

## PLUMBING

**GREG LAFOUNTAIN PLUMBING & HEATING** Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg (413)592-1505

### RUBBISH REMOVAL

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL** Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 (413)537-5090

## SNOWPLOWING

**RESIDENTIAL** Snowplowing Service. Wilbraham residential only Call or Text now. Limited space available. 413-519-5439

## HOME IMPROVEMENT

**Walker Handyman Services**  
Home Improvement  
Finish Carpentry • Framing • Drywall • Painting • & more!  
**(413) 687-5552**

please recycle this newspaper

## SERVICES

### TREE WORK

**AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE.** Residential removal of trees. Free estimates. Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call 413-283-6374.

**AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING** Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994

**DL & G TREE SERVICE** - Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate (413)478-4212

## TUNE-UPS

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

## STUMP GRINDING

**AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING** Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack 413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994

**DL & G STUMP GRINDING** Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave 413-478-4212

## PETS

**GERMAN SHEPHERD PUPS.** Champion Czech and Belgian bloodlines. 30 years experience. 3M, 2F. Ready, w/shots. Now \$1,200. 413-218-2321

## AUTO

**CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS**  
FREE TOWING  
FAST SERVICE  
CASH PAID AS IS  
CALL OR TEXT  
413-219-6839

## HELP WANTED

**SERVERS WANTED**  
Inquire at **Grilly's Grill, 1315 Park St., Palmer, MA 01069** or call 413-284-0005.

## HELP WANTED

### CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT DIESEL MECHANIC

In charge of daily repairs & maintenance on trucks as well as keeping equipment records/ordering parts. Health insurance/vacation. Mon-Fri. Come & meet with us!

**RB Enterprises Ludlow, MA**

### Town of Worthington Highway Position Opening

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest from qualified candidates to fill two full-time Equipment Operator/General Laborer positions in the Town Highway Department.

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

• salary rate range: \$26.49 - \$38.59 per hour

Further information can be found on the Town's website:

[www.worthington-ma.us](http://www.worthington-ma.us)  
Questions will be answered by the Highway Superintendent at 64 Huntington Road, Monday - Friday, 7 AM to 3 PM; the telephone number is 413-238-5830 or send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to: [highway@worthington-ma.us](mailto:highway@worthington-ma.us) or to **Worthington Highway Department, PO Box 643, Worthington, MA, 01098.** This posting will remain pertinent until the position is filled.  
*The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

### TOWN OF WORTHINGTON INVITATION TO BID SNOW PLOWING SERVICES

The Town of Worthington Highway Department is soliciting bids for seasonal plowing services for the 2025-2026 winter season. Work will include plowing backroads and selected blacktop sections throughout the Town of Worthington.

Minimum equipment requirements:

- ¾-ton truck or larger
- 8-foot plow (minimum)

Please contact the Worthington Highway Department for bid specifications and route details:

**Worthington Highway Department 64 Huntington Road Worthington, MA 01098**

Phone: 413-238-5830

Email: [highway@worthington-ma.us](mailto:highway@worthington-ma.us)

*The Town of Worthington reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.*

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

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

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

## FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

Advertise your **HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES** in our classifieds.

**WE GET RESULTS!**  
Call 413-283-8393



# FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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

DEADLINES: FRIDAY AT NOON

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
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
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00

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

**Quabbin Village Hills**  
Circulation: 50,500

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

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

**GREAT VALUE!**  
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

Make checks payable to Turley Publications

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!



Veterans Council members lay wreaths at the war memorials.

**VETS** ■ from page 1

It took years of research and records to come up with the names and then get the funding for the plaques.

"A heartfelt thanks to her for those monuments so that we don't forget those who served and those who gave the ultimate sacrifice for us," Johnson said.

The ceremony also had a bell-ringing from Fire Chief Alan Sirois, who featured the department's new fire ladder truck at the event. Wreaths were laid at the town's war memorials, which has been a longtime tradition.

Earlier in the day, a wreath-laying and ceremony was held at the Vietnam Veterans Bridge on the border of Agawam and West Springfield. Officials from both towns participated in the ceremony. A similar ceremony takes place on Memorial Day.

This year's ceremony took place at School Street Park next to the site that is the new home to the Veterans War Memorials. The memorials were moved from the front of Phelps School along Main St. as part of a recent project. More on that project in next week's edition.



Fire Chief Alan Sirois rings the bell.



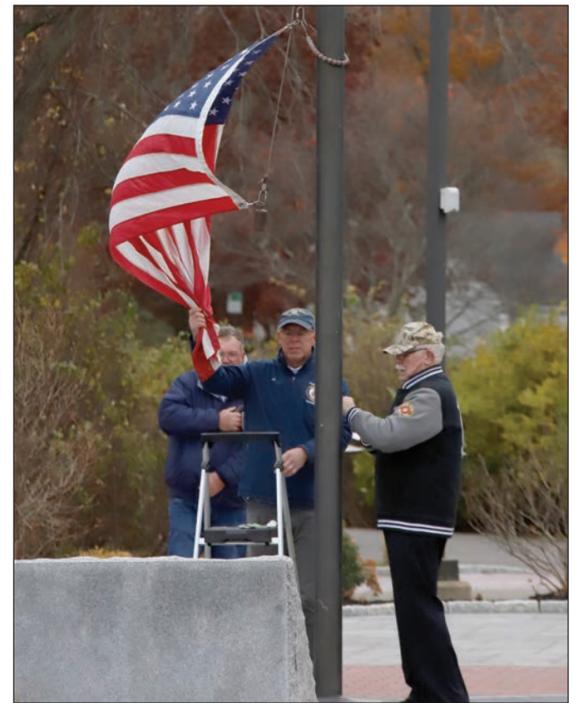
The ceremony gets underway.



Gabe Rua plays "Taps."



Mayor Christopher Johnson delivers his remarks.



The ceremony begins with a flag raising as the National Anthem is sang.



An American flag hangs from the new fire department ladder truck.



Above, Rosemary Saccomani, Hampden County Register of Probate, prepares to speak. Below, the cold weather did not deter many residents from making their way out to this year's ceremony.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

