



**EDITORIAL**  
**Yes, Virginia,  
 there is a  
 Santa Claus**  
 PAGE 4



**LOCAL**  
**Second Chance  
 Helping  
 Animals**  
 PAGE 5



**SPORTS**  
**Late run hurts  
 Agawam in  
 loss to Chaug**  
 PAGE 8

# AGAWAM

## ADVERTISER NEWS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

December 25, 2025 | Vol. 47, No. 43 | \$1.00

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com



## 'WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA'



Area residents honored Wreaths Across America Day at Agawam Veterans Memorial Cemetery on Dec. 13. At left, Brian Whitacre lays down a wreath at a grave. Please see more details and photos on page 7. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

## Senior Center hosts annual Snowflake Spectacular

By Christina Gioscia  
 Correspondent

AGAWAM- On Dec. 17, Agawam Senior Center hosted their annual Snowflake Spectacular. The Senior Center was beautifully decorated for the Snowflake Spectacular.

The event included a horse drawn carriage ride, a raffle to benefit Friends of the Agawam Senior Center, a catered lunch from Take Five, a hot chocolate station, carolers from The Fort, and David Barclay making an ice sculpture.

Deputy Director of the Senior Center, Kristina Lynch shared why holiday events such as the Snowflake Spectacular are so important for the community.

"This is the second annual Snowflake Spectacular. Preparation for this event



The dining room at Agawam Senior Center was beautifully decorated and lit up for the Snowflake Spectacular.

begins with a team; it is not just an individual effort," Lynch said. "It starts the day after the event is over with a debriefing of the event and

what we can do to improve it for next year. We are always trying to pull out the stops for our seniors and continue to improve and impress

on what we offer. The senior center has never had an ice carver here before; we were

SNOWFLAKE | page 12



Kristina Lynch, Cindy Sullivan and Lorie Arseneault at the Snowflake Spectacular on Dec. 17.

TURLEY PHOTO BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

### 'Hey Santa'



Santa greets those in attendance at the annual tree lighting at Anne Sullivan Memorial next to Granger School. See more photos on page 6.

## Police department confirms operations have moved

AGAWAM - Last Thursday, the Agawam Police Department issued a press release confirming their departmental operations have all moved to the new headquarters at 1070 Suffield St.

All telephone numbers for the Agawam Police Department remain the same. Mem-

bers of the public seeking to obtain reports, file a report in-person or any other matter that requires the assistance of our department that should utilize this location for those purposes. The old location at 681 Springfield St., Feeding Hills is now closed. No services either emergency or

non-emergency are available at our former location. The police department looks forward to meeting and serving the community from its new location.

The police department also reiterated its main telephone lines. Of course, any emergencies, one should dial 911.

But the main line for routine non-emergency calls is 413-786-4769. For records, press 1. The office hours at the police department are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., and the offices are closed on weekends and holidays and from 12 to 1 p.m. weekdays for lunch.

## Outgoing school committee member starting advisory committee

By Gregory A. Scibelli  
 gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM - Last month, Catherine McDougal was the odd person out in a seven-person race for six seats on the Agawam School Committee.

McDougal was ousted after just one term in favor of Heather Zielski, who actually topped the candidates for school committee in the

2025 municipal election.

Last Monday night, McDougal appears in front of the Agawam City Council to discuss the passage of a recent policy made by the school committee.

The policy requires the formation of an advisory committee, specifically to help with special education interests in the school district.

In the absence of the com-

mittee, an interim committee can be formed made from volunteers, McDougal told the city council and the public watching the meeting. She told Superintendent Sheila Martin and Mayor Christopher Johnson, who chairs the school committee, she was interested in volunteering for the committee.

"It's a special education Parent Advisory Council," McDougal said. "Every

school district in the state is required to have one."

McDougal used the platform with the city council to raise awareness for the new committee, and is appealing to see new members join her.

The duties include advising the school committee on the education and safety of the students with disabilities. The advisory committee

COMMITTEE | page 6



# Holiday meals and protecting your pets

By Nancy Alpers  
Correspondent

I was pretty excited to spend Thanksgiving with good friends. We've known each other since our oldest kids were babies. For as long we have known them, my house was the one that had all of the pets, and their house was pet-free and fur-free. That is until their kids grew up. Then they got a very cute, perfectly-sized, little golden-doodle. This year however that goldendoodle is still cute and perfectly-sized but no longer little. In fact, her perfect height placed her nose at exactly the same height as the tables. Of course we were sitting at the main table, so she could not walk up to that without us noticing. However, she was able to approach the table with cheese and crackers that we thought were human snacks but that she thought were dog snacks. Although less perfectly placed for her height, standing on her hind limbs also placed the counters that were covered in tasty dishes and the sink with morsels of leftovers within her reach as well. She thus demonstrat-

ed an interest in pursuing human food that our friends had previously not seen.

The dog has always been sweet and quiet before this Thanksgiving, but she also demonstrated other new behaviors that led our friends to believe she must be sick. She was barking at everyone and cowering.

No matter how much we love the holiday season, it can be stressful. If you think it is just you, go on pretty much any online forum about families or flip through any magazine at the grocery store, and you will see articles or posts about holiday stress. There's a lot of hustle and bustle. There are different foods and a much larger quantity of them. There are packages coming in from online stores. On top of it, there may be guests coming to your house. If humans find it stressful, and we know what is happening and why, it's not that surprising that our pets may find it stressful too. In addition, depending on your household's holiday traditions, there may even be a large wooden object that looks and smells like the same tree that dogs would normally pee on

in the yard.

So how do we help a dog who is no longer a tiny puppy sleeping through her first holiday season but is now struggling with the stress and responsibilities that come with new sensations, temptations, and unexpected guests? There's no one magic answer, but following your pets' normal routines can be one of the best ways to keep their behaviors closer to being routine. Make sure that you are feeding your pets on their regular schedules. Make sure water is available. Give them their regular potty breaks. If you have a cat make sure they have access to their litterbox.

There are also several tricks that may not be routine. If you know you are going to have guests over and you have a young energetic dog, make sure the dog gets extra exercise before your guests arrive. Invest in some good toys like Kongs or puzzle toys that will keep them distracted for a little while. If sounds like doorbells set your dog or cat off, ask your guests to send you a text when they get there. You may also want to put a note on your door to remind them. If you were to

walk by a counter with free candy, would you stop and take some? I certainly would. Counters and tables with food are the pet equivalent of a free candy counter. Your life will be much easier if those dishes are put up high and away from nose level.

Some people want to keep their pets away from their guests, particularly if they feel like a pet will find the company stressful. Don't set your dog up for failure. Find a quiet room that is either dog-proof or has their crate. The idea is to let them stay in a room that is just theirs. Make this room off-limits to guests. A white noisemaker can also help protect the room and therefor your pet from the stressful sounds coming from the rest of the house. There are products that can help keep pets calm, like Feliway for cats and Adaptil for dogs. There are also Thundershirts, which are special shirts that basically make your pets feel like they are getting a big hug.

Some people do want their pets to interact with their guests. If this is what you want, don't overwhelm your pet with too many people at once. Think about how

you feel when you walk into a crowded room. It can be overwhelming and scary. That can also be the case for pets. Have one or two people meet your pet at once. If your pet is good with receiving treats, meaning they don't snap at human fingers, consider providing your guests with some treats to help jumpstart their friendship with your pet. Just make sure your pet only ends up getting a small number of treats.

Some people want their dogs with them the whole time. That's fair as well, but it is important to remember that the dog will not magically know how you expect them to behave. For example, if you want your dog to stay snuggled at your feet, particularly when surrounded by strange people and tasty-smelling foods, you will probably need to work with a dog trainer. A dog trainer can help you set and achieve appropriate goals with your dog. Your vet may have some recommendations for dog trainers in your area.

Even when you do everything right, some pets are just more stressed out than others, just like some people are

more anxious than others. If your pet seems particularly prone to anxiety, you may want to find out from your vet whether your pet is a candidate for medication to handle stressful events.

Just like people can find holidays a mixture of good food, company and stress so can our pets. Make sure to plan ahead and think about how you want your pets to participate in the holidays with you this season.

Dr. Nancy Alpers is a small animal veterinarian and Belchertown Veterinary Hospital in MA. She sees dogs, cats, birds, reptiles and small exotic companion mammals. She and her husband live with many pets including two golden retrievers who are champions at counter surfing and raiding the garbage can if given the chance.

Susan Stevens-Blackshear is a certified veterinary technician at VCA Plainfield in CT. She has a special interest in behavior cases. She and her husband also own a variety of pets including a cat named Mr. Peeps who is always delighted to partake in any tasty dishes.

## HCC opens registration for noncredit classes

HOLYOKE — Holyoke Community College has opened registration for its Spring 2026 catalog of non-credit personal enrichment and professional development classes.

The spring calendar begins Jan. 12, with individual classes running on different schedules throughout the semester.

New next semester is a series of classes for seniors focused on basic technology. Each one-hour class is available for just \$20 and

cover a wide range of subjects, including Windows 11, Microsoft Word, Microsoft Excel, Microsoft PowerPoint, Canva (for graphic design), Artificial Intelligence, Zoom, smartphone use (Android or iPhone), managing and editing photos, document storage, web browsers, and computer scams.

Other classes for spring include cooking (Caribbean, charcuterie, Puerto Rican, Southern), wine tasting (winter reds, Tuscan, New Zealand, Rose, summer wines),

sewing (for beginners), sewing (machine), watercolor painting, acrylic painting, drawing, piano, conversational French, conversational Spanish, music technology, voiceover coaching, financial literacy, retirement planning, K-12 education (professional development), writing and publishing (fiction, nonfiction, screenwriting, short stories, query letters, mysteries, travel, blogs), ChatGPT, how to launch a pet-sitting and dog-walking business, and Quickbooks.

Most classes meet in the Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development on the main HCC campus, 303 Homestead Ave. Cooking and wine-tasting classes meet at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St. Some classes meet over Zoom.

To see complete spring course listings and schedules, or to register, please visit [hcc.edu/bcs](http://hcc.edu/bcs).

More classes will be added as spring approaches.

## Agawam DPW hosts used holiday light 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](http://HolidayLEDs.com) or [Christmas-light-source.com](http://Christmas-light-source.com)

## NAMI holding calendar raffle

HOLYOKE — NAMI-WM is holding a calendar raffle fundraiser for February 2026. Participants will pay \$15 for a chance to win prizes awarded each day of the month. These prizes include gift cards to various local businesses, and cash prizes. Through our fundraising, we are able

to raise awareness and provide essential education, advocacy, support groups and programs throughout your Western Mass area. Mental health support and awareness has become an increasingly important issue with all of the changes in the world. Our dedication

and commitment to mental health awareness and support within our communities is vital. Our Board of Directors, along with our dedicated staff, colleagues and volunteers work together with an ongoing goal to get our services, advocacy and assistance out into the community.

## Two positions open on Agawam ZBA

AGAWAM — Please be advised that there are openings for a permanent position and an alternate position on the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals effective January, 2026. Interested parties should contact Barbara Bard at 413-726-9716 or send in a letter of interest to [bbard@agawam.ma.us](mailto:bbard@agawam.ma.us) as soon as possible.

## Agawam Day in Florida tradition continues

ST PETERSBURG, FL — The 45th annual "Agawam Day in Florida" will be held on Wednesday, March 4, 2026 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Former Agawam residents, old friends, classmates and relatives will meet at

Fort DeSoto National Park, St. Petersburg, FL. for a reunion, picnic, raffles, hugs and to share old memories. For more information, contact: Hank Drewnowski call/text 860-462-7273 or email - [hdrew2452@gmail.com](mailto:hdrew2452@gmail.com).

Subscribe to the Agawam Advertiser News online at [agawamadvertisernews.turley.com](http://agawamadvertisernews.turley.com)

**WE CARRY A WIDE VARIETY OF FROZEN TURKEYS, TURKEY BREAST, DUCKS, GEESE, CORNISH HENS AS WELL AS FRESH HAMS & RED MEAT ROASTS FOR YOUR HOLIDAY NEEDS!**

USDA INSP. FRESH PORK CROWN ROAST ..... <b>\$2<sup>88</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE <b>\$13<sup>99</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG ..... <b>\$1<sup>69</sup></b> lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORK LOIN ROAST RIB END or LOIN END ..... <b>\$1<sup>97</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF T'BONE or PORTERHOUSE STEAK <b>\$9<sup>99</sup></b> lb	<b>NEW YEAR'S PARTY ITEMS</b>
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS or ROAST ..... <b>\$2<sup>77</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST <b>\$7<sup>77</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN PARTY CUT CHICKEN WINGS 5 LB BAG ..... <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> ea
USDA INSP. BONELESS KAYEM BUDABALL SMOKED PIT HAM ..... <b>\$3<sup>66</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST <b>\$7<sup>77</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH KAYEM CAB BEEF KIELBASA 14 OZ ..... <b>\$3<sup>33</sup></b> ea
USDA INSP. SKINLESS & SHANKLESS BUDABALL OLD TYME HARDWOOD SMOKED WHOLE HAM ..... <b>\$2<sup>66</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST <b>\$7<sup>77</sup></b> lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHEFS TOGETHER PIGS IN A BLANKET 8 PAK ..... <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> ea
<b>NEW YEAR'S DAY BREAKFAST</b>	USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF <b>\$3<sup>99</sup></b> 7 LB BAG	USDA INSP. FROZEN BACON WRAPPED SHRIMP 16.5 OZ BOX ..... <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> ea
USDA INSP. FROZEN STICKY BUNS ..... <b>\$2<sup>49</sup></b> ea	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN 5 LB BOX JUMBO RAW SHRIMP 6-10 CT FOR STUFFING ..... <b>\$37<sup>00</sup></b> ea	
USDA INSP. BACON & EGGS 2 LBS PAK BACON, 1 DOZEN EGGS <b>\$7<sup>99</sup></b> lb		

ALSO A COMPLETE LINE OF GOURMET CAKES & DESSERTS

**90 Meat Outlet** 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 [www.90meat.com](http://www.90meat.com)

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

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

SALE DATES: 12/25/25-12/31/25 • CLOSED 1/1/26

**NE WASTE INC.**

**ALL SIZE TEMPORARY CONTAINERS BULK PICK UP OR COMPLETE CLEAN-OUT DEMOLITION SERVICE AVAILABLE**

28 Moylan Lane, Agawam, MA 01001  
Phone 413-786-2449 • Fax 413-789-3738  
[www.jrsweeping.com](http://www.jrsweeping.com)  
"No Haul is Too Big or Too Small"

**Public Auction**  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> at 1:00 P.M.  
MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS  
★ GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY ★

★ (28) UNIT ★  
TWO STORY  
APARTMENT BUILDING  
LOCATED ON  
THE CORNER OF SPRINGFIELD & HIGHLAND STREETS

873 Springfield Street AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS  
To Be Sold On The Premises

Features:  
• (28) Unit Apartment Building • ±22,216 S/F (0.51 Acres) Of Land •  
• (20) Studio Units: Open Concept w/ Living Room/Bedroom, Kitchen & Bath •  
• (8) One Bedroom Unit: w/ Kitchen, Living Room & Bath •  
• All Units w/ Electric Heat • A/C Wall Units • Carpeted & Vinyl Flooring •  
• Basement • Brick Exterior • Paved Parking for ±30 Vehicles •  
• Public Water & Sewer • Zoned Business-A • Assessor's ID: G11-2-9 •  
• Hampden County Registry of Deeds: Book 20566, Page 409 •

**1% BROKER INCENTIVE OFFERED!!**

Sale Per Order of Mortgage  
Attorney Jonathan C. Sapirstein  
Of the firm of Sapirstein & Sapirstein, P.C. 1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA  
Attorney for Mortgagee  
Terms Of Sale: \$25,000.00 Deposit is Required at Time of Auction in Certified Funds.  
5% Buyer's Premium Applies.  
Other Terms To Be Announced At Time Of Sale.

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS • APPRAISERS  
West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA  
413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655  
TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK-1 (767-6451)  
MA Auc. Lic. #161 • PA Auc. Lic. #AY000241L  
[www.posnik.com](http://www.posnik.com) • E-mail: [info@posnik.com](mailto:info@posnik.com)

# Turning clutter into visual peace this holiday season

By Emily-Rose Pappas  
Staff Writer  
epappas@turley.com

BELCHERTOWN – With the holidays coming up and gifts are purchased for friends and family, its important to also consider how much room you have for these new items in your homes. Oftentimes, the idea of decluttering or organizing a home can be daunting or stressful, especially when one does not know where to begin.

For Allegra Haupt, decluttering became a source of real peace as she looked at the reduction of clutter as a reduction of visible stressors

“With the holidays approaching, and the potential onslaught of new material items in the house, there is often a frenzied tucking away of things and preparing guest rooms. Fine. Don’t sweat it or worry about the “big decluttering.” Instead, and more importantly, focus on ‘soul decluttering.’ Take a moment to sit down in the room that your family or guests will be inhabiting,” said Haupt.

Paying attention to one’s physical environment is important, as it allows you to consider your space and what you already have, and how it can ultimately affect your inward peace and, for many, their anxiety or other mental health-related struggles.

Haupt explained that the positioning of an object can

portray a message to the people who see it, right down to the placement of a vase of flowers, a childhood toy, or something else. She took this, and her experiences growing up in a chaotic environment to create a space that creates peace.

And thus came an inspiration to begin her own business that teaches people how to organize and declutter spaces, called Creating Joyful Spaces.

“As I got older, I continued to pay attention to physical environments and beauty, and the ways in which many people have dreams, yet are stuck in the process of creating spaces that reflect them,” said Haupt. “I started the business because I know that I can help other people transform their spaces, and doing so brings me tremendous joy.”

Haupt works in a Montessori classroom, and also as a campus chaplain, and through her time in college, where she learned in her anthropology class, which focused on setting up physical spaces to maximize human interactions, and how to show the most information with the least amount of visual clutter. Decluttering became a way for her to help people.

“It is a means to an end, and the end is Joy and Lightness. What I really love is people. As we work together to remove layers of “stuff,” my

hope is that individuals find space to become ‘their truest selves.’ The work of taking things away and then highlighting the important items often allows people to see themselves more clearly,” said Haupt.

While not all of the stuff in your home is considered clutter, Haupt’s first step is to “step into a room in your house and consider how you feel,” and decide if that item still serves you, whether for aesthetics, usefulness, or for the memories it holds. Decluttering can be hard for these reasons, but as you remove it, Haupt encourages people to think of how it will make someone else feel.

Following Marie Kondo, a well-known author teaching people how to declutter, starting with categories makes decluttering less daunting and a lot easier. Clothing is the easiest to declutter, as we can easily remove clothes that no longer fit us. Special items can be dealt with separately.

“Also, categories aside, if a specific pile is really weighing on you, start there. The energy you will gain from dealing with it will likely fuel more decluttering,” said Haupt.

On your decluttering journey, you may even find repeats of items like a random fifth set of nail clippers. Whatever you find, decluttering your home and living simply can greatly improve your

life and mental health.

“I strongly believe that a simpler life, in which we spend less time managing ‘stuff’ and more time enjoying people, leads to greater happiness. The time spent -and the stress involved- getting the house ready for guests could actually be spent with friends,” said Haupt.

Decluttering is a freeing process that changes the focus on the items in your home from a clutter point of view to something that reflects you as a person, and your inner thoughts. A tidy space can help a racing mind.

“I have never had anyone say, “I regret doing that project.” Most say the work has continued to have very significant ramifications: a feeling of lightness, the ability to make decisions, decreased family stress, and energy and motivation to continue the work,” said Haupt.

You can learn more about her business, Creating Joyful Spaces, at [www.creating-joyfulspaces.com](http://www.creating-joyfulspaces.com), where she teaches people how to beautify, downsize, and stage their homes, supporting them in whatever project they are undertaking.

Consider looking at decluttering this season and consider it alongside the real meaning of the holiday season: gratefulness and time meant to be spent with loved ones, not how much more “stuff” you may receive or gift.



## Fia Angelina Ferrentino

October 23, 2025

Parents: Frankie and Marissa Ferrentino, Longmeadow

Grandparents: Joao and Maria Dos Santos, Ludlow

Angelina Ferrentino, Longmeadow

Great Grandmother: Noemia Tereso, Ludlow

## Education Association to hold fundraiser

AGAWAM – The Agawam Education Association is having their annual fundraiser to raise funds for scholarships. This year’s fundraiser is the AEA Super Bowl Squares and Kickoff Raffle. When you purchase a Super Bowl square (\$25) your purchase includes a raffle ticket for the Kickoff Raffle. The raffle prizes total close to \$3,000 (\$100 cash

prizes, professional sporting events, and we have a loaded locals day too that includes a couple prizes for those who are not local as well, including \$50 cash). The raffle ticket is eligible for prizes each day and runs from Thursday to Sunday for the four weeks leading up to the Super Bowl.

The Super Bowl Squares payout are:

End of first quarter - \$200

End of second quarter - \$200

End of third quarter - \$200

Final Score - \$400

For more information or to purchase a square, please contact Kathy at [kgoyette-jediny@aga-wamed.org](mailto:kgoyette-jediny@aga-wamed.org)

Venmo, check, and cash are accepted.

## ‘Penguin Plunge’ returns

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.

## Town still in need of snow plow operators

AGAWAM – The Town of Agawam is still seeking independent contractors to assist the town with plow and snow removal operations during the winter.

The town website states the requirements for plow operators. They must have: A minimum eight-foot plow

on a personal truck, must be available 24/7, must have at least \$500,000 general liability insurance, must have proof of workers compensation for employees, a W-9 shall be provided to the Town of Agawam, and each drive must submit their legal name, date of birth, and a valid driv-

er’s license. The town offers competitive rates and pays promptly.

Full applications with specifications are available on the town website or by going to the Department of Public Works building located at 1000 Suffield St.

## Town nurse announces last-chance flu shots

AGAWAM – Flu season is upon us. The Agawam Health Department still has a very limited supply of senior High-dose flu vaccine and regular

flu vaccine available. Once gone there will be no more until next year. Home visits available to be scheduled for homebound seniors.

Don’t be sick for the holidays, get vaccinated today.

Please call Nurse Pam at 726-9722 to schedule an appointment.

## Christmas Tree collection in mid-January

AGAWAM – The Department of Public Works is pleased to announce that USA Waste and Recycling will be providing a collection of Christmas Trees during the week of Jan. 12 to 16.

Christmas trees will be collected on the same day as scheduled trash collection. Please be aware that the regular trash truck will not be collecting trees, a separate truck will be running for the

collection of trees.

Christmas trees 7’ or larger must be cut in half and placed on the tree belt no earlier than 7am of the collection day listed above.

Trees in plastic bags will not be collected.

It is not the responsibility of the hauler to dig out trees buried in the snow due to plowing or excessive snowfall prior to the scheduled collection days.

In the event of a snow delay during the scheduled collection week, residents should make alternative arrangements to recycle their trees at the Bondi’s Island Landfill. Collection routes for trees will not be re-scheduled.

Residents may dispose of trees prior to or after the scheduled collection days at the Bondi’s Island Landfill.

FIVE ISLANDS



Georgetown, Maine  
2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathroom  
Washer/Dryer, Fully Equipped

- Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach
- Close to Reid State Park

\$1200/week  
**207-607-9333**



### 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.

*It's Celebration Time!*

**TENTS, TABLES, CHAIRS,  
LUXURY RESTROOM RENTALS,  
AND MUCH MORE!**

**For All Your Indoor & Outdoor  
Event Rental Needs**



197 Main Street  
Unit Rear  
Agawam

[www.tntrentals.net](http://www.tntrentals.net)  
413-896-8297

### BUSINESS

Turley Publications is liberal with regard to its business coverage policies, but we do have some standards folks need to understand. First, local businesses and merchants are just as much institutions in our towns as the library and schools. Without them, there are no towns.

We will feature coverage of local businesses that are new, have a major expansion, moving, closing, under new management or ownership, celebrating a milestone anniversary, or have been thrust into the news realm. Merchants can request that coverage through the editor, or for our existing advertising clients, through their ad representatives.

For more information on business coverage for the Agawam Advertiser News, please email [aan@turley.com](mailto:aan@turley.com).

# Opinion

## Guest Column



### Why won't social security give me my benefits?

**Dear Rusty:**

I called the Social Security office, as well as went with my husband when he went to collect his Social Security. Because I work full-time at about \$800/week, they said I could not file for my Social Security. Yet I seem to read articles all the time about people doing so.

My husband just filed for his benefits and is now collecting them. Out of the two of us, his Social Security will be larger. Please advise me.

**Signed:**  
**Wanting my Benefits**

**Dear Wanting my Benefits:**

If you have not yet reached your SS Full Retirement Age and you are working full time, you are likely being affected by Social Security's Annual Earnings Test, which limits how much you can earn while collecting Social Security prior to your FRA. Your FRA is somewhere between 66 and 67, depending on when you were born. The annual earnings limit for those collecting SS benefits prior to FRA in 2025 is \$23,400 (changes yearly) and, if that is exceeded, Social Security will take away benefits equal to \$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit. If you applied for your benefits and are still working, and were denied, it's likely because Social Security determined that your current annual earn-

ings considerably exceed the earnings limit and, thus, you cannot collect benefits. That's because the penalty for exceeding the limit would be more than your benefit amount.

FYI, the earnings limit will go away when you reach your full retirement age so, after FRA, you can claim your benefits even if you are still working. Or if you stop working before your FRA you can collect your SS benefits at that time.

None of this means you are losing money, because your monthly SS payment will continue to grow until you later claim (e.g., after you stop working, or only work part-time), or until you reach 70 years of age. When you later claim, your monthly benefit will be higher and, depending on your longevity, you may recover what you didn't get now because you are working. And that includes both your own SS retirement benefit and any spousal boost you may be entitled to from your husband.

So, my suggestion is this: as long as you are working full time and exceeding Social Security's annual earnings limit, continue to wait to claim your Social Security. Then, when you reach your full retirement age - again, between 66 and 67, depending on the year you were born or if you stop working before

SOCIAL | page 5



### Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus

By Francis P. Church in 1897

**Dear Editor,**

I am 8 years old. Some of my little friends say that there is no Santa Claus. Papa says "If you see it in the Sun, it is so." Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus? Virginia,

Your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except what they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds.

All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's, are little. In this great universe of ours, man is a mere insect, an ant, in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as mea-

sured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to our life its highest beauty and joy.

Alas! How dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virginias. There would be no childlike faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable this existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight. The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus? You might as well not believe

in fairies! You might get your Papa to hire men to watch all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove?

Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see.

Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, or even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart. Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance, can push aside that curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond.

Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else as real and abiding.

No Santa Claus? Thank God he lives and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, maybe 10 times 10,000 years from now, he will continue to make glad the hearts of children.



**PHONE**

413.283.8393  
Fax: 413.283.7107  
Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

**EMAIL**

Advertising Sales  
Wendy Delcamp  
wdelcamp@turley.com

**Editor**

Gregory Scibelli  
aan@turley.com

**Subscriptions**  
www.turley.com

\$35 per year pre-paid  
(\$40 out of state)  
Newsstand \$1.00

**WEB**

www.agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

@AgawamAdvertiserNews

The Agawam Advertiser News is published by Turley Publications, Inc. • www.turley.com

**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.



**\$12.50 Each**  
**Digital Photos**  
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.  
Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications. Go to [newspapers.turley.com/photo-request](http://newspapers.turley.com/photo-request)

## Iconic Christmas tree benefits Habitat for Humanity

The season of giving is here and in true community spirit, many will say no one does Christmastime quite like New York City or Habitat for Humanity. Each year, a Norway Spruce is donated, decorated, and displayed outside of Rockefeller Center in Manhattan. After the tree is taken down in the New Year, the trunk is milled into lumber and donated to Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) where it will be used for a future build.

The partnership between Real Estate Company Tishman Speyer, which owns and operates Rockefeller Center, and HFHI formed in 2007. The collaboration inspired "The Carpenter's Gift," by David Rubel, a children's book that follows the journey of a young boy who wished for a decent home and how it comes true in an unexpected way. Books are available for \$10 each at Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) by calling (413) 739-5503.

"The heartwarming tale told in 'The Carpenter's Gift' brings together - through beautiful illustrations and a moving, multi-generational story - two great traditions: the Rockefeller Center tree and the neighbor-helping-neighbor program of Habitat for Humanity," said late President James "Jimmy" Carter in a previous interview. "The tree annually



brightens the Christmas season for millions who see it. Habitat houses brighten the lives of families all over the world - for those who live in them and those who build them."

Since 2007, trees have been harvested from and used in Mid-Atlantic and New England states, with the exception of the first tree. That spruce came from Connecticut, and its lumber was used in Mississippi.

This year's Norway Spruce hails from East Greenbush, a

suburb of Albany, New York. It's 74 feet tall, 45 feet wide, and weighs roughly 11 tons.

The tree is topped with more than 50,000 multi-colored lights and 5 miles of wire wrapped around it. A three-dimensional star, designed by architect Daniel Libeskind in 2018, is perched on top. The star weighs approximately 900 pounds, has 70 spikes, and is covered in 3 million crystals.

"That's so cool," said Trina Winans, Greater Springfield Habitat volunteer and sup-



porter. GSHFH intern Nate Shlosser agreed.

"That is a very kind and generous thing," he said. "I'm very thankful for it because it means another family will have the wood needed for a home."

The tree caught Rockefeller Center head gardener Erik Pauze's attention after a picture of the spruce reached him via a Rockefeller Center security supervisor. Erik visited the tree at Judy Russ's family property in East

Greenbush.

"As soon as I saw it, I knew it was perfect," Erik said.

Erik returned to the Russ property several times to water and care for the tree.

The spruce arrived at Rockefeller Center on Nov. 8.

The 2025 Rockefeller Center Christmas tree is lit daily from 5am to midnight until mid-January 2026 when it's turned off at 10pm. There are a few exceptions. On Christmas Day, the tree is lit for 24 hours. On New Year's Eve, it is lit from 5am to 9pm.

**AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS TEAM**

**EDITOR/SPORTS**  
Greg Scibelli  
aan@turley.com  
sports@turley.com

**ADVERTISING SALES**  
Wendy Delcamp  
wdelcamp@turley.com

The Agawam Advertiser News (USPS 001-170) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.



@AgawamAdvertiserNews

**WEB**

agawamadvertisernews.turley.com

**PATRICK H. TURLEY**  
CEO

**KEITH TURLEY**  
President



www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

# Second Chance surpasses record, helping more than 59,000 pets in 2025

Nonprofit appeals for support as demand for services continues to rise

EAST BROOKFIELD – Second Chance Animal Services has already helped more than 59,000 pets in 2025 with one month remaining in the year. This milestone surpasses last year's record of 56,000 pets helped and highlights both the expanding reach of the organization and the escalating crisis facing pet owners and shelters across the region.

"This year has brought an extraordinary number of pets through our doors. To have already helped over 59,000 pets is remarkable, but it is also deeply troubling how many families and shelters are struggling," said CEO and founder Sheryl Blancato. "We are privileged to make such an impact, but the challenges continue to grow as more pet owners face financial hardships and more shelters operate at capacity."

Second Chance's four community veterinary hospitals are experiencing unprecedented demand from pet owners who rely on affordable care to keep their companion animals healthy and at home. At the same time, the organization's pet food pantry program has seen dramatic growth as well. Through this program, Second Chance distributes pet food to local human food pantries, so families do not have to choose between feeding themselves and feeding their pets. Even with this support and with all the programs Second Chance offers, some local pet owners still find themselves unable to keep their pets due to financial constraints. Blancato noted that these situations are heartbreaking for families and for the staff who work to keep pets and their people together whenever possible.

Shelters across the country continue to face severe overcrowding. Second Chance is taking in as many pets as possible while also providing the resources and care that prevent unnecessary surrenders. The need, however, continues to outpace available resources.

This historic year has also brought significant recognition for Second Chance and its impact on pets and the community. The organization was honored with multiple Best of Central Mass awards in both the Pet Grooming and Veterinarian categories. Second Chance received the Super 60 Nonprofit Award from the Springfield Regional Chamber, earned the 2025



Five-year-old Sylvester is a big lovable sweetheart still waiting for a home at the Second Chance Adoption Center.



Once weak and skinny with a life-threatening condition, one-year-old Gwinnie is now healthy and loved. She is just one of the more than 59,000 pets Second Chance helped this year.

Platinum Seal of Transparency from Candid, was awarded a four-star rating from Charity Navigator and was also named a Top Nonprofit on greatnonprofits.com.

In addition, Second Chance veterinarian Dr. Lisa Nowicki was recognized with the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association Merit Award for her dedication to advancing veterinary care and improving the lives of pets in need.

"These honors reflect the commitment of our entire team and the generosity of our supporters," Blancato said. "They remind us that behind every award is a pet whose life was changed for the better."

Despite expanding programs to meet the rising demand, the nonprofit faces significant financial pressure. Blancato is urging supporters to help ensure that lifesaving services remain available to every pet that needs them.

"Every gift makes a direct difference. Whether it keeps a beloved pet with their family or provides critical medical care for a pet in crisis, support from the community is the reason we can keep saying yes," Blancato said.

The organization welcomes support of any kind and is encouraging donors to consider becoming Monthly Pet Pal Champions by enrolling in recurring giving. Blancato noted that monthly support provides vital stability and helps Second Chance respond to emergencies and plan ahead with confidence, but added that every gift, whether one time or monthly, plays an essential role in helping pets in need.

Donations and monthly enrollments can be made at [www.secondchanceanimals.org](http://www.secondchanceanimals.org) or by mail to Second Chance, PO Box 136, East Brookfield, MA 01515.

# 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.

## SOCIAL ■ from page 4

that, go ahead and apply for Social Security again.

At that time, your application will be approved, and you will be awarded your own earned SS retirement amount plus any additional amount you may be due as your husband's spouse. To be entitled to a spousal boost from your husband, your own FRA entitlement must be less than 50% of your husband's FRA entitlement. But the amount you get will be reduced if you claim before your full retirement age.

*The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information 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 [ssadviser@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadviser@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

## EARLY DEADLINES FOR ADS & LEGAL NOTICES

*New Year's will bring early deadlines for all ads & legal notices to run in TURLEY PUBLICATIONS the week of Dec. 29, 2025 - Jan. 2, 2026:*

**Friday, December 26 at 2 PM for January 1 issue**

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

**Monday, December 29 at 2 PM for January 1 issue**

- Sentinel • The Journal Register • Ware River News • Barre Gazette

**Tuesday, December 30 at 2 PM for January 2 issue**

- Quaboag Current • Town Reminder • The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register

**TURLEY PUBLICATIONS**  
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069  
413-283-8393 • [www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

### Public Auction

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 6<sup>TH</sup> at 11:00 A.M.**

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

• AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS •

★ GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY ★

**★ (16) UNIT ★**

**TWO STORY**

**APARTMENT BUILDING**

*"CLOSE PROXIMITY TO ALL AMENITIES"*

438 Springfield Street AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS  
To Be Sold On The Premises

**Features:**  
• (16) Unit Apartment Building • ±20,909 S/F (0.48 Acres) Of Land •  
• (16) One Bedroom Units; w/ Kitchen, Living Room & Full Bath •  
• All Units w/ Electric Heat • A/C Wall Units • Carpeted & Vinyl Flooring •  
• Basement • Brick Exterior • Paved Parking for ±23 Vehicles •  
• Public Water & Sewer • Zoned Business-A • Assessor's ID: H14-11-14 •  
• Hampden County Registry of Deeds: Book 22974, Page 571 •

**1% BROKER INCENTIVE OFFERED!!**  
Sale Per Order of Mortgage  
Attorney Jonathan C. Sapirstein  
Of the firm of Sapirstein & Sapirstein, P.C., 1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA  
Attorney for Mortgage  
Terms Of Sale: \$25,000.00 Deposit is Required at Time of Auction in Certified Funds.  
5% Buyer's Premium Applies.  
Other Terms To Be Announced At Time Of Sale.

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS • APPRAISERS  
West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA  
413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655  
TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK-1 (767-6451)  
MA Auc. Lic. #161 • PA Auc. Lic. #AY000241L  
[www.posnik.com](http://www.posnik.com) • E-mail: [info@posnik.com](mailto:info@posnik.com)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14				15						16		
17				18						19		
20			21	22				23				
			24	25				26				
27	28	29	30	31				32	33	34		
35			36		37			38				
39				40				41				
42				43				44				
45			46				47			48		
			49			50				51		
52	53	54			55			56		57	58	59
60				61				62		63		
64				65						66		
67				68						69		

<p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Light cavalry</li> <li>5. Coconut palms</li> <li>10. Rounded knob</li> <li>14. Central Japan city</li> <li>15. Sandwiches</li> <li>16. Shape produced by a curve</li> <li>17. Ancient region in modern-day Syria</li> <li>18. French modernist painter</li> <li>19. Grandmother</li> <li>20. Mammary gland of cattle</li> <li>22. Rocky peak</li> <li>23. Secret plan</li> <li>24. Songs to one's lover</li> <li>27. More (Spanish)</li> <li>30. Father</li> <li>31. Chinese principle underlying the universe</li> <li>32. Ballplayer's accessory</li> <li>35. Together</li> <li>37. A person's brother or sister</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>38. Evil spirit</li> <li>39. Monetary units</li> <li>40. Partner to cheese</li> <li>41. About Sun</li> <li>42. Group of like-minded people</li> <li>43. After B</li> <li>44. Seaside room</li> <li>45. Recipe measurement</li> <li>46. Partly digested food</li> <li>47. Flat-faced dog</li> <li>48. People of southern Africa</li> <li>49. Salts</li> <li>52. Beard lichens</li> <li>55. Sanders is one</li> <li>56. Fencing sword</li> <li>60. Ethnic group of Albania</li> <li>61. Metric weight unit</li> <li>63. Italian seaport</li> <li>64. Longtime late night host</li> <li>65. Extremely angry</li> <li>66. Miami mascot</li> <li>67. Mid-month day</li> <li>68. Marked for omission</li> <li>69. Body part</li> </ol>	<p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Two-toed sloth</li> <li>2. Fat from a pig's abdomen</li> <li>3. Romanian city</li> <li>4. Specifies</li> <li>5. Rounded, glaciated valley</li> <li>6. Spoke</li> <li>7. Collection of sacred books</li> <li>8. Extravagantly theatrical</li> <li>9. Very fast airplane</li> <li>10. Forearm bones</li> <li>11. Ancient kingdom</li> <li>12. Legitimate: __ fide</li> <li>13. Semitransparent gemstone</li> <li>21. Counsels</li> <li>23. Head honcho</li> <li>25. Cool!</li> <li>26. Touch lightly</li> <li>27. Extract money via taxation</li> <li>28. Dyes</li> <li>29. Cloying sweetness</li> <li>32. Sodas</li> <li>33. Coastal village in Guam</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>34. Chemical ring</li> <li>36. The bill in a restaurant</li> <li>37. Car mechanics group</li> <li>38. One-time presidential candidate Dole</li> <li>40. Health care for the aged</li> <li>41. Wise persons</li> <li>43. Passage with access at one end</li> <li>44. Make a wound</li> <li>46. America's spies</li> <li>47. Roof of the mouth</li> <li>49. Plants of the lily family</li> <li>50. Pinkish-red color</li> <li>51. Vaccine developer</li> <li>52. Mottled citrus fruit</li> <li>53. A place to store garden tools</li> <li>54. Rare goose native to Hawaii</li> <li>57. Popular Hollywood pig</li> <li>58. Musician Clapton</li> <li>59. A move exposing one to danger</li> <li>61. Historic Spanish soldier</li> <li>62. CNN's founder</li> </ol>
--	---	---	--

CROSSWORD SOLUTION ON PAGE 10

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.*

ADVERTISING SALES
HELP WANTED

- Do you want to work in your community helping local businesses connect with their customers?
- Do you want a career supporting local journalism, which tells the unique stories of our communities?
- If so, then join our team! Turley Publications is looking for an outgoing, energetic person interested in selling advertising for our community newspapers. The right candidate will assume an established territory with a portfolio of customers.

You must be a self-starter with excellent communication and organizational skills.  
Basic computer skills are required.  
Previous print sales experience is preferred but we will train the right candidate.

**Turley Publications, a locally owned family business, offers a competitive commission structure, 401k, and health plan.**

Send resume & cover letter to:  
  
Jamie Joslyn  
24 Water Street  
Palmer, MA 01069  
Email: [jamie@turley.com](mailto:jamie@turley.com)



Agawam 2025 Colleen Julia Nicosia and teacher Linda Pacheco run the cookie table.



Mayor Christopher Johnson and wife Anna with School Committee member Dawn DeMatteo and Santa.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

# Tree lit at Granger School

AGAWAM – Last Sunday night in frigid temperatures, the annual tree lighting held at the Anne Sullivan Memorial next to Granger School still look place. School Committee Dawn DeMatteo helped to organize this year's event, which drew a nice turnout despite the weather. Music

teacher Paul Sawyer provided a sing-along with Christmas carols and Santa visited the event. Mayor Christopher Johnson was on-hand to help Santa turn on the Christmas lights, and children and families were treated hot cocoa from Java Stop and cookies.



Mayor Christmas Johnson watches as the lights come on.



Luna St. Pierre poses with Santa.



Music teacher Paul Sawyer provides some entertainment.



Santa poses with Lucas and Jacob Colson.



Those braving the cold sing Christmas songs.

## COMMITTEE ■ from page 1

is supposed to meet regularly with school officials to participate in the planning, development and evaluation of the school district's special education programs.

"I have reached out to a couple of other parents in the community and I wanted to come here so that you (the city council) could tell people in your neighborhoods, the parents in our community, about this board," she

said. "We do not have a board at this time, so this is a great time for parents to get in, to form the mission and vision of the committee, and take an active role in advocating for our students with disabilities."

McDougal emphasized the importance of the committee because she was a product of a special education program and is currently a parent of a special education student in the district. "This is a cause that is

very near and dear to me, so I hope you will raise awareness of this," McDougal said.

McDougal will department her office on the school committee at the end of the calendar year. Parents interested in joining the commit-

tee should contact the superintendent's office for more information.

She did not say how many members the committee would max out at, and when the committee would start holding meetings.

### Public Auction

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> at 11:00 A.M.**

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
• AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS •

★ (8) UNIT ★  
**SINGLE STORY**  
**APARTMENT BUILDING**  
WITH ON-SITE PARKING FOR ±10 VEHICLES

49 North Street AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS  
To Be Sold On The Premises

**Features:**

- (8) Unit Apartment Building • ±13,939 S/F (0.32 Acres) Of Land •
- (6) One Bedroom Units w/ Bedroom, Living Room, Kitchen & Bath •
- (2) Two Bedroom Units w/ (2) Bedrooms, Living Room, Kitchen & Bath •
- All Units w/ Electric Heat • Slab Foundation • Wood Shingle Exterior •
- Carpeted & Vinyl Flooring • Parking for ±10 Vehicles • Public Water & Sewer •
- Zoned Business-A • Assessor's ID: 114-4.4 •
- Hampden County Registry of Deeds: Book 23653, Page 186 •

**1% BROKER INCENTIVE OFFERED!!**

Sole Per Order of Mortgagee  
Attorney Jonathan C. Sapirstein  
Of the firm of Sapirstein & Sapirstein, PC, 1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA  
Attorney for Mortgagee

Terms Of Sale: \$25,000.00 Deposit is Required at Time of Auction in Certified Funds.  
5% Buyer's Premium Applies.  
Other Terms To Be Announced At Time Of Sale.

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA  
413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655  
TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK-1 (767-6451)  
MA Auc. Lic. #161 • PA Auc. Lic. #AY00241L  
www.posnik.com • E-mail: info@posnik.com

### Public Auction

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7<sup>TH</sup> at 1:00 P.M.**

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
• AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS •  
★ GREAT INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY ★

★ (22) UNIT ★  
**TWO STORY**  
**APARTMENT BUILDING**  
KNOWN AS "THE WALNUT HILL APARTMENTS"

21 Dwight Street AGAWAM, MASSACHUSETTS  
To Be Sold On The Premises

**Features:**

- (22) Unit Apartment Building • ±29,621 S/F (0.68 Acres) Of Land •
- (22) Efficiency Units w/ Bedroom, Living Room, Kitchen & Bath •
- All Units w/ Electric Heat • A/C Wall Units • Basement •
- Brick Exterior • Azek Decking • Paved Parking for ±24 Vehicles •
- Public Water & Sewer • Zoned Residence B • Assessor's ID: J16-2-7 •
- Hampden County Registry of Deeds: Book 25173, Page 472 •

**1% BROKER INCENTIVE OFFERED!!**

Sole Per Order of Mortgagee  
Attorney Jonathan C. Sapirstein  
Of the firm of Sapirstein & Sapirstein, PC, 1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA  
Attorney for Mortgagee

Terms Of Sale: \$25,000.00 Deposit is Required at Time of Auction in Certified Funds.  
5% Buyer's Premium Applies.  
Other Terms To Be Announced At Time Of Sale.

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA  
413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655  
TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK-1 (767-6451)  
MA Auc. Lic. #161 • PA Auc. Lic. #AY00241L  
www.posnik.com • E-mail: info@posnik.com

**Find it!**  
in the  
**CLASSIFIEDS!**

**413.283.8393 • classifieds@turley.com**  
**24 Water St., Palmer • 80 Main St., Ware**



A line of volunteers head for another section of the cemetery.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

# Wreaths across America



Kaci Mack prepares to lay a wreath during the opening ceremony.



Sgt. Mauricio Garcia-Garzon lays a wreath at the Veterans Memorial Cemetery.



Dave Madsen gets ready to lead the opening ceremonies.



Many veterans' organizations were represented at the event.



The Army wreath is laid.



Volunteers move about the cemetery.



@turleysports

www.turleysports.com



facebook.com/turleysports

# SPORTS

## Late-run hurts Agawam in loss to Chaug



Trevor Moynihan tries to avoid a block while shooting.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM— Four of the previous five games played between the Agawam and Minnechaug Regional boys' varsity basketball teams were decided by less than ten points.

The only meeting of the 2025-26 regular season between the two squads was another close affair.

The Minnechaug Falcons overcame a four point deficit at the start of the fourth quarter to defeat the Brownies, 67-56, in their home opener, last Monday night (Dec.15).

"Since I joined the varsity team as a freshman, we've played a couple of close games against Agawam," said Minnechaug senior guard Miles Fergus, who scored 13 of his game-high 23 points after halftime. "We played locked down defense in the fourth quarter, which was the difference maker in tonight's game. We also made our shots."

A year ago, the Falcons pulled out a 60-56 non-league win over the Brownies at Cliff Kibbe Gymnasium. They also faced each other in a non-playoff game last February with Agawam celebrating a 59-52 home win in that contest.

The home victory improved the Falcons overall record to 2-1, while the Brownies fell to 1-1.

"We lost a couple of close games last season," said Minnechaug head coach Mike Orzech. "I think that experience has helped us so far this season."

One of the Falcons newcomers this winter is sophomore guard Max Fergus, who's Miles younger brother. He contributed 18 points in the home opener.

"It's awesome playing on the same basketball team with my younger brother for the first time," Miles Fergus said. "He makes my job a lot easier."

Max Fergus transferred to Minnechaug from Pope Francis before the start of the school year. He scored 71 points as a freshman member of the Cardinals varsity hoop team.

"I'm very glad that I made the decision to come to school here," Max Fergus said. "My brother is a senior and I just wanted to play on the same basketball team with him."

The younger Fergus, who was a member of the Pope Francis varsity basketball team last year, chipped in with 18 points in the home opener against Agawam.

Minnechaug senior forward Caden Duke scored eight of his 11 points over the final eight minutes of the contest.

"Caden does all of the little things for us," Orzech said. "He contributed offensively in tonight's game."

Freshman forward Nelson Cohen added eight points for the home team.

The Brownies also have a transfer player this year.

Sophomore guard Trevor Moynihan scored 700 career points for the Hoosac Valley boys basketball team as an eighth grader and sophomore before switching high schools. He began this season by scoring 26 points in a 68-40 win over West Springfield at the Pioneer Valley tip-off held at the UMass-Amherst Mullins Center two days earlier.

Sophomore guard Dylan Jorgensen came off the bench to score a team-high 17 points against Minnechaug. Sophomore guard Brody Sheehan, whose father, Tim, is the Brownies varsity basketball coach, also reached double digits with 11 points. He made a total of three 3-pointers in the second quarter.

The Agawam head coach wasn't very pleased with his



Gabiella Ramos goes for the pinfall.

## Brownies edged by Lions in girls meet



Cici Pioggia tries to drive her opponent down.

AGAWAM – Last Tuesday evening, Ludlow visited Agawam for a typical dual meet between the two schools. But the evening featured a second event, a five-match girls meet that saw Ludlow win three matches to defeat Agawam 18-12. Ella Libiszewski, Samantha Bertini, and Riley Morais got the pinfall wins for the Lions while Gabrielle Ramos scored for Agawam to go with a forfeit in the fifth match.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Katt Prior goes for the takedown.



Addison Podworski locks up with her opponent.

# Sports

## Offense struggles late in Brownie's opening defeat

AGAWAM – On Saturday, Dec. 13, Agawam High School girls basketball opened the regular season on the campus of the University of Mas-

sachusetts-Amherst and faced rival West Springfield for the second straight season. Unfortunately, Agawam could not find the basket late

in the game and fell to the Terriers 39-26. The Brownies got eight points from Bella Laprise and seven points from Madison Georgina.



Bella Santaniello looks to get around an opponent to reach the other side of the court.



Alanna Rose tries to bring in the rebound.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Above, Maya Gingeruha drives toward the hoop. Left, Sophia Laprise hustles into the offensive end.

## T-Birds inch closer to .500 with win at Lehigh

ALLENTOWN, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (8-11-3-2) rode yet another phenomenal night of goal-tending and special teams to a 3-1 win over the Lehigh Valley Phantoms (13-10-1-2) last Wednesday night inside PPL Center.

In a first period devoid of scoring on 13 combined shots, Vadim Zherenko carried over momentum from his phenomenal outing 10 nights earlier in Providence

with eight first-period denials, including two on a Phantoms power play.

Newest T-Bird Troy Murray quickly warmed himself up to his teammates and fans, as the 28-year-old dropped the gloves with Sawyer Boulton on the first shift of his AHL career following more than 200 professional games across three leagues before his T-Birds debut on Wednesday.

Springfield's penalty kill,

which has operated better than any other road PK in the AHL, continued its remarkable run with a second-period clinic. The T-Birds killed off three disadvantages, and on the third of those, Chris Wagner added his second shorthanded goal of the season, as he circled Aleksei Kolosov's net and stuffed a wraparound home at 15:57 of the middle period, making it a 1-0 game heading into the final frame.

Zherenko kept up his end of the bargain with nine more stops in the second to make it a two-period total of 17 denials against the Phantom attack.

The Phantoms did not stay quiet forever, though, as Alex Bump ripped a perfectly placed shot over Zherenko's glove hand at 3:19 of the third, tying the score, 1-1.

However, the Thunderbirds once again proved they were not ruffled, and just

1:58 later, moments after Garrett Wilson committed a delay of game minor for clearing the puck over the glass, Alek Kaskimaki shuffled a rebound past Kolosov following an initial try by Calle Rosen. The second-year Finn's fifth goal of the season restored the Springfield lead, 2-1.

The penalty killers stiffened one more time, completing a perfect 5-for-5 night with a man down, and with

the Phantoms' net empty in the final minute, Michael Buchinger lobbed a clear all the way down and into the yawning cage to put the nail in the coffin.

Zherenko completed another magnificent performance with 23 stops to secure the victory. Springfield has now earned points in nine of the last 10 games, and the club has begun this five-game road trip with three consecutive triumphs.

## Offense gets going early in Railers win

WORCESTER – Although they are very much alive in the ECHL's North Division playoff race, they were — for one night anyway — the late Worcester Railers.

They beat the Norfolk Admirals 6-2 last Wednesday and scored a goal in the closing seconds of all three periods. Worcester got one with two seconds left in the first, 10 seconds go to in the second and 2.1 ticks remaining in the game.

Worcester's goals were all scored by different players. Ten different players had points. Parker Gahegan continued his wonderful play in net by stopping 31 shots. That included 16 of 17 in the second period when Norfolk desperately tried to get back into a game it trailed, 4-0, after 20 minutes.

That's right. The Railers

had a 4-0 lead going into the second period. That had happened only once before in team history, on Jan. 26, 2019 here, in what became a 5-1 victory over Adirondack.

Prior to this game Worcester had spent most of its first periods in survival mode, especially at the DCU Center.

"I think we really tried to channel our road type of mentality," coach Nick Tuzolino said. "When you get into this amount of games you start pre-scouting yourself and I was pre-scouting us I'd probably say 'pounce on 'em in the first period."

"That seems to be their weakness."

Riley Ginnell, Drew Callin, Anthony Repaci and Michael Suda scored the first period goals. Matt DeMelis got one in the second period, Gleb Veremyev in the third.

Drew Callin was 1-2-3. Suda was and Repaci were both 1-1-2 and Anthony Callin had two assists.

Jack O'Leary scored both Norfolk goals. The Railers did something unusual to achieve the triumph. They beat Norfolk goaltender Isaac Poulter, a very good one just down from the American Hockey League. Prior to Friday night Poulter had put together a streak during which he allowed the Railers to score just two goals in three full games.

The first period goals were scored by, in order, Ginnell, Drew Callin, Repaci and Suda.

Ginnell converted a 2 on 1 break with a short side wrist shot from the left circle at 5:39. Drew Callin deflected home a shot by his brother at 10:11, Repaci took advantage

of a Norfolk turnover and sizzled a wrist shot past Poulter at 12:26, then Suda blasted a low shot home from 55 feet away with just two seconds left in the period.

Norfolk got one back at 8:10 of the second period as the teams traded 2 on 1 breaks. Worcester's came first and when Ross Mitton came down the right side missed to the far post on a wrist shot, that set up the Admirals' 2 on 1. O'Leary scored at 8:10.

The Admirals were all over the Railers for most of the period. Just when it looked like Worcester would escape with the 4-1 lead, DeMelis extended his goals streak to four by putting a 20-footer past Poulter at 19:50 and the Railers were up by four again.

Both teams had someone in the penalty box so it was a 4 on 4 goal.

## Rogers recognized by MIAA

FRANKLIN – The MIAA recognized 21 game officials from across the state as the 2024-2025 Game Officials of the Year during a celebratory banquet held Monday, Dec. 15 at the Doubletree Milford.

The MIAA annually recognizes the best game officials from the over 5,000 officials in Massachusetts as nominated by their peers. The following

individuals were nominated and ultimately selected as the best in their craft:

Among those recognized was longtime umpire Andrew Rogers from South Hadley.

Rogers is also the umpire assignor for Western Mass. high school baseball and multiple adult leagues as well as American Legion summer baseball.

## 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.

**CHAUG** ■ from page 8

team's performance in the road loss.

"We're a young team and we made a couple of costly mistakes," said Tim Sheehan boarding the team bus for the trip home. "They had a couple of players step up in the fourth quarter when the game was on the line. I have high expectations for my players, and we just need to play a lot better."

The only two seniors listed on the Brownies varsity roster are Jaiden Briotta and Aiden Lavelle. Neither player scored any points against Minnechaug.

The Falcons, who entered the fourth quarter trailing, 49-45, scored six unanswered points. They grabbed a one point lead (50-49) following an inside hoop from Duke with six minutes remaining in regulation.

A little more than a minute later, Moynihan made a pair of free throws which tied the score for the final time at 51-51.

Minnechaug then scored six more points. The spurt began with a Duke put-back basket before Max Fergus made a lay-up and two foul shots.

Jorgensen cut the Brownies deficit in half by sinking a 3-pointer from the left side with 3:15 left on the scoreboard clock. A minute



Brody Sheehan heads into the paint.

later, Jorgensen made two free throws, which made the score 59-56.

Agawam, who missed several 3-pointers, couldn't get any closer than that, as Minnechaug scored the final eight points of the game.



Caeden Roeder drives to the hoop.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

utes of the opening quarter.

"We got off to a quick start at the start of the game, but I knew they were going to make a run," Orzech said. "We were able to put-together run in the fourth quarter, which sealed our win."

The Brownies battled back with a 10-0 run. Their comeback began with an

inside hoop from freshman

forward Michael Dilizia, which was his only points of the game. Jorgensen then made a pair of 3-pointers and added a lay-up slicing the Brownies deficit to 13-12 at the start of the second stanza.

With the help of Sheehan's three 3-pointers, the

Brownies held a slim 31-29 halftime lead.

The Falcons took a 43-39 lead with 3:40 remaining in the third quarter following a Miles Fergus lay-up.

Miles and Max Fergus combined to score 14 points during the final quarter, which helped the Falcons celebrate a double digit win.

# 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, January 12, 2026 at 6:30PM** for all parties interested in Natalya & Andrey Domnenko's appeal of the Inspector of Buildings' Zoning Violation Notice, dated October 28, 2025, as allowed under the Town of Agawam's Charter, Section 2-8, Paragraph C and MGL, Ch.40A, Section 8, regarding the premises identified as 262 Colemore Street.

Doreen A. Prouty, Chairperson  
Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals  
12/18, 12/25/2025

or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/16/2026.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: December 16, 2025  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**, Register of Probate  
12/25/2025

requesting that

**Brian Rudd** of Feeding Hills, MA

**Samantha Rudd** of Feeding Hills, MA

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 01/15/2026. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

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

Date: December 15, 2025  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**, Register of Probate  
12/25/2025

**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. HD25P2595EA Estate of: James T Panagotopoulos Date of Death: 01/04/2019 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

**To all interested persons:**

A Petition for **Late and/or Impaired Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Gabriella Steria of Lowville, NY** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that **Gabriella Steria of Lowville, NY** 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 01/13/2026. 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**

**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: December 16, 2025  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**, Register of Probate  
12/25/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD25P2432PM In the matter of: Preston James Rudd Of: Feeding Hills, MA RESPONDENT (Person to be Protected/ Minor)**

**CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER PURSUANT TO G. L. c. 190B, § 5-304 & § 5-405**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by

**Brian Rudd** of Feeding Hills, MA

**Samantha G. Rudd** of Feeding Hills, MA

in the above captioned matter alleging that **Preston James Rudd** is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that

**Brian Rudd** of Feeding Hills, MA

**Samantha Rudd** of Feeding Hills, MA

(or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is disabled, that a protective order or appointment of a Conservator is necessary, and that the proposed conservator is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court.

**You have the right to object to this proceeding.** If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 01/21/2026. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the

written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

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

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

Date: December 15, 2025  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**, Register of Probate  
12/25/2025

## 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)

U	L	A	N	C	O	C	O	S	U	M	B	O
N	A	R	A	W	R	A	P	S	L	O	O	P
A	R	A	M	M	A	N	E	T	N	A	N	A
U	D	D	E	R	T	O	R	C	A	B	A	L
		S	E	R	E	N	A	D	E	S		
M	A	S	D	A	D	T	A	O	C	A	P	
U	N	I	T	E	D	S	I	B	B	O	G	Y
L	I	R	A	S	M	A	C	S	O	L	A	R
C	L	U	B	C	E	E	C	A	B	A	N	A
T	S	P	C	U	D	P	U	G	S	A	N	
		S	I	L	I	C	A	T	E	S		
U	S	N	E	A	C	O	L	S	A	B	E	R
G	H	E	G	C	A	R	A	T	B	A	R	I
L	E	N	O	I	R	A	T	E	I	B	I	S
I	D	E	S	D	E	L	E	D	N	E	C	K

## 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.

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

**FOR SALE**

**FIREWOOD**

**DRY FIREWOOD**  
Oak/maple, cut/split/delivered, \$300 a cord, \$285 for 2 or more. Edwin Wroblewski Logging, 413-824-0731. *Buying standing timber, paying good money.*

**FIREWOOD**  
Fresh cut & split \$225.00 Seasoned cut & split \$325.00 All hardwood. Tree length available. \*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products (413)477-0083

**MORE HEAT LESS WOOD.** Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit. Call (508)882-0178

**WANTED**

**ALWAYS BUYING ALL ANTIQUES:**  
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.

**JUNK REMOVAL**

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

**WANTED**

**WANTED TO BUY**

**ALL ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.**

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

**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

**SERVICES**

**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)

**JAMES FERRIS: LICENSE #E16303**  
Free estimates. Insured. 50 years experience. No job too small.  
Call (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  
Every customer gets a free gem stone.

**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

**SERVICES**

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**

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

**INSTRUCTION**

**NRA Certified Basic Pistol Course** with Live Fire for License to Carry permit \$140. Matt Marcinkiewicz muscione@hotmail.com 413-537-0620

**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**

**KEN'S PAINTING SERVICES.** Interior painting/staining, wallpaper removal, wall/ceiling resurfacing, cabinet painting. Quality workmanship, fully insured. Free estimates. Call 413-896-8264.

**Buying? Selling?**  
Our Classifieds Get Results!

**SERVICES**

**PLUMBING**

**GREG LAFONTAIN 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

**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.

**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

**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.

**EARLY DEADLINE**

In observance of **NEW YEAR'S** for Dec. 29-Jan. 2 newspapers there will be an **EARLY CLASSIFIEDS DEADLINE!** Place your advertisement no later than **Friday, Dec. 26 at 3 p.m.**

A TURLEY PUBLICATION  
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 • 413-283-8393 • www.turley.com

**HOME IMPROVEMENT**

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

**SERVICES**

**STUMP GRINDING**

**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**

**LUDLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT PARA-EDUCATOR.**  
Submit resume and letter of intent to: www.schoolspring.com

**REAL ESTATE FOR RENT**

**QUAINT WEST BROOKFIELD BROOKHAVEN LAKE** by babbling brook, l-shaped 2bdm. ranch, 2/full baths, finished basement, workout 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.

**STAY ON TOP OF IT ALL!**  
Subscribe Today!

**Turley Publications, Inc.**  
12 HOMETOWN NEWSPAPERS  
413.283.8393  
www.turley.com  
24 Water Street  
Palmer, MA 01069

**FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER**

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

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	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!**

**SNOWFLAKE** ■ from page 1

very excited to have David. We are always thinking of spectacular new surprises to add to our events and on one hot July Day, Cindy was googling ice sculptures and carvers and came across David who was located in Northampton, she reached out to him shortly after and we were more than thrilled to secure him for the Snowflake Spectacular."

Lynch then shared some other winter events that Agawam Senior Center will be holding this year. "Other winter events that the Senior Center holds are festive music with Richie Mitnick, an annual trip to Bright Nights with two King Gray buses and a pizza dinner to follow. The choral group from Phelps school held a concert here for

the seniors. Outreach Director, Lori has a Holiday Basket Drive which brings together staff and seniors to put together beautiful baskets for our Home bound seniors. Events that the senior center holds around the holidays really brings people together and helps combat isolation, encourages socialization and brings people together."

"The Agawam Senior Center is a fabulous place to visit, and we try to instill togetherness and community as we give the seniors new and unique experiences that will enrich and touch their lives," Lynch said.

Ice carver David Barclay shared the intricate process of ice sculpting.

"So, I'm going to carve a holiday reindeer. I start with two 300-pound blocks of ice, and they're special blocks

of ice that when they're finished, they're completely clear," Barclay said. "I draw what I want to do full scale, and I stick that pattern to the side of the ice, then I score the silhouette. Once I've got a silhouette, it's fairly easy for me to carve the rest. I'm not Michelangelo, I can't just look at it and see the shape of the ice, but with a silhouette, it works well for me. We use all kinds of tools. We usually start with a chainsaw and then you use grinders and chisels. I've been doing this for about eight years. And now I typically do about eight of them a year in a very tight window. It's warmer in New England then it used to be."

For more information about upcoming events at Agawam Senior Center visit, Council on Aging & Senior Center | Agawam, MA.



Denese Carmovy and Claude Chapdelaine at the Snowflake Spectacular on Dec. 17.



David Barclay with the beginnings of his ice sculpture at the Snowflake Spectacular.



Caron Johnson and Lou Champiney at the Snowflake Spectacular.



TURLEY PHOTOS  
BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA



Left, Holiday decorations could be found all throughout the senior center, creating a festive and welcoming atmosphere. Above, at the Snowflake Spectacular a raffle was held to benefit Friends of the Agawam Senior Center. Right, More raffle prizes to benefit the senior center.



# season's greetings

*from the staff of the Agawam Advertiser News*