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HONORING OUR HEROES



Girl Scouts from Troop 64913 carried the banner for the AmVets Post #74 who led the parade down Main Street in Bondsville. More photos on page 15.

Photos by Marcelo Gusmão



Turley photos by Dallas Gagnon

American Legion Post 241 Sergeant at Arms, U.S. Army veteran Stanley Lamb, Post Commander, U.S. Coast Guard veteran Carl Santos, and Post Chaplin, U.S. Marine veteran Glenn Perry, lead the 2023 Veterans Day ceremony.

Veterans Day Parade makes its way down Main St. in Bondsville

By Marcelo Gusmão
 Staff Writer

BONDSVILLE – This weekend, Bondsville hosted the town’s annual Veterans Day parade and ceremony.

At 10:30 a.m. on Saturday morning, residents, including veterans, town employees, state represen-

tatives, and local Boy and Girl Scout troops, marched down Main St. in Bondsville, from the Fire Department to Bondsville Grammar Park.

The marchers waved flags and were accompanied by fire trucks and police vehicles as the high school band played music.

At the ceremony in the park next to the Post Office, speeches

were made by State Representative Todd Smola, Town Councilors Robert Lavoie and Mark Caci, and Father Rick Turner.

After the ceremony, many of the attendees went to AmVets Post #74 in Three Rivers for a complimentary lunch of ham or chicken sandwiches, meatballs, sausages, and macaroni and potato salads.

Monson honors its many veterans

By Dallas Gagnon
 Correspondent
 dgagnon@turley.com

MONSON – Veterans of American Legion Post 241 shared prayers and words of wisdom with supportive community members to honor veterans who served their country as well as those who continue to serve.

The annual Veterans Day cer-

emony was held at Memorial Hall, on Saturday Nov. 10, followed by a luncheon at TJ’s Tavern.

“We are here to honor those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, and those who have died for our country,” said U.S. Army Veteran Stanley Lamb. “We support veterans and their families.”

Lamb said he joined the service after his father and uncle had served in the Navy in World War II.

His son, Nicholas Lamb, continues the family legacy, serving in the National Guard Military Police.

“We couldn’t be more proud,” said Lamb.

Like Lamb, U.S. Coast Guard veteran Carl Santos said he also followed in the footsteps of his relatives, adding his father served in the U.S. Navy during World War II.

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TOWN HALL

Palmer Town Council keeps single tax rate

By Marcelo Gusmão
 Staff Writer
 mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – This week, Town Council voted to maintain a single tax rate for the town on the recommendation of the Board of Asses-

sors.

The recently-appointed Principal Assessor, Rachael Carney, made a presentation about how the board determines the tax levy, and warned that the numbers she would be citing were not final, but rounded for presentation purposes.

“The purpose of the hearing tonight is to have the Council vote on three separate options,” Carney said. “The first being whether to split the tax rate or to have a single tax rate, the residential exemption, and the small commercial exemption.”

Carney’s presentation said that

for fiscal year 2024, the total tax dollar growth was \$197,640, and in evaluation it was \$11,622,844. She then turned to discussing the tax levy.

“Tax levy is the amount needed to be raised to cover what the town’s spent and has budgeted for

the year,” Carney said.

The town’s total budget for the year was \$48,831,735.65, with receipts estimated at \$25,753,823.01, which leads to a tax levy of \$23,077,912.

Regarding the vote on moving to a split tax rate, Carney said it was

the Board of Assessors’ recommendation to maintain the single tax rate.

“With a single tax rate, everyone’s taxed at the same rate,” Carney said. “A split tax rate, obviously, is

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COMMUNITY

27th Monson Memorial Classic Road Race to benefit cancer research



By Dallas Gagnon
 Correspondent
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MONSON – In honor of the late sisters Kelly and Kathy Waldron, the 27th Monson Memorial Classic was held on Sunday, Nov. 12, to benefit cancer research.

Proceeds raised from this year’s event will be donated to Griffin’s Friends, a Springfield-based organization dedicated to supporting families affected by childhood cancer.

Hundreds of runners from across the state and a few out-of-state participants attended Sunday’s race in support of the cause.

“This race is in their memory,” said MMC founder Lee Williams of Kelly and Kathy. “I started the race 27 years ago now.”

The race was established in 1996 shortly after the sisters died within eight months of one another from cancer; Kathy having battled melanoma and Kelly fighting breast, bone and liver cancer.

“It was awful,” said Williams. “They were wonderful, loving people.”

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BONDSVILLE

Water Commission reorganizes funds to replace water tank

By Marcelo Gusmão
 Staff Writer
 mgusmao@turley.com

BONDSVILLE – At last week’s Water Department meeting, several articles were passed to move the district toward repairing the town’s 100-year-old water tank, amidst discussion about restructuring the water districts.

The Water Commissioners invited residents to the Fire and Water District Complex on Nov. 7 at 6 p.m., where members of the Board voted on seven articles. One of the discussions in the meeting was the combining of water districts between the three villages.

“We’re looking at becoming more collaborative,” said Chairman David LaVallie. “We still have our individual identities, but we work together on...future projects coming up.”

LaVallie said that the collaboration of the districts can serve as an

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VETERANS



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Connie Barnes wraps William Griswold, of Palmer, in his Quilt of Valor.

Quilts of Valor

Local veterans honored for answering call to service

By Paula Ouimette
 pouimette@turley.com

WARE – Over 359,000 quilts have been gifted to veterans thanks to the efforts of the Quilts of Valor Foundation, which was started 20 years ago by founder Catherine Roberts.

This past Veterans Day, five area veterans received quilts during

HomeFront Strong’s Military Appreciation Breakfast, held at the Senior Center. The quilts were lovingly made by quilters of the Pro Style Graphics Chapter of Quilts of Valor in Springfield.

After the National Anthem was performed on violin by 13-year-old Graciella Baublitz, those in attendance joined in the Pledge of Allegiance led by brothers Ron and Bobby Rucki.

Presenting the quilts were Kate Blanchard and Connie Barnes.

Blanchard said the quilters in

QUILTS | page 16



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Pet of the Week



CHLOE

Chloe is a 12 year old chocolate lab mix who enjoys snuggles and kisses from her humans. She is enjoying her senior years napping near the fire, watching NCIS, and getting lots of butt scratches. We feature your pets here. Is your fur friend a dog, cat, chicken, lizard, horse, bird, mouse...you get the point. Is there a pet you're fostering and trying to re-home? All pets are welcome! Email a high-resolution jpg of your pet with a little information to mharrison@turley.com.

Jekins retains certification

MONSON— Dorothy P. Jekins, retired town collector of the Town of Monson had her designation as Certified Massachusetts Municipal Collector renewed for an additional period of five years.

Jekins' renewal was granted to her by the Board of Certification of the state-wide organization of local tax collectors and treasurers, the Massachusetts Collectors and Treasurers Association. Renewal is awarded every five years only to those previously certified candidates who continue to attend the annual school of the association held in August of each year at UMASS Amherst and successfully complete required courses in municipal laws, finance, and administration. Jekins served as Monson's Town Collector for 36 years before retirement and now teaches class at UMASS. Jekins also has served several years on the MCTA's executive board.

Jekins received her renewal certificate on Nov. 9 at the College of Holy Cross in Worcester during a luncheon ceremony attended by associations members as well as many state and local government notables.



Turley photos by Marcelo Gusmão
Theresa Perrault wraps Rich Bready in the quilt gifted to him by Quilts of Valor.



Holding the messages left by students, (from left) are Dennis Maloney, Rich Bready, Deborah Maloney, and Penny Nietupski.

Senior receives Quilt of Valor during Veterans Breakfast

By Marcelo Gusmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

PALMER – At last week's Veterans Breakfast at the Senior Center, a local veteran was honored with a gift from Quilts of Valor.

Candidates for the Quilts of Valor are nominated anonymously, and it was through such a nomination that Rich Bready was gifted a quilt, which was presented to him by Theresa Perrault. Bready said his dog, Betty Boop, would enjoy the new quilt, and spoke a little bit about his time as a loadmaster.

"We sent people over as passengers, they came back as cargo," Bready said. "There were not enough people to dignify and to take these caskets off, or transfer cases, as we called them, full of 'HR' – human remains."

Bready said that there was no honor guard or people to move these caskets, and so the crew would often have to take

them off themselves.

"It was something that, if you see or have done, you never forget it," Bready said.

The room was filled with emotion as Bready described his experiences, and the assembled room of fellow veterans and town residents appreciated Bready's sacrifices and experience.

"I'm no hero," Bready said. "I'm as much of a hero as the guy who was next to me on the airplane. We had pilots, we had flight engineers, we had loadmasters, and we were a family of different crews every time."

"If you get a chance – I mean, it's not a happy thing," Bready said. "But you walk into the best places and you see the condition that some people are in, and how they're fighting to get back to where they once were."

Quilts of Valor's mission is to provide service members and veterans who have been touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.



State coordinator for Quilts of Valor, Theresa Perrault, and a friend hold up the quilt donated to Rich Bready.

Women's club to meet Dec. 14

WILBRAHAM— The December meeting of the Wilbraham Women's Club will take place on Thursday, Dec. 14 at St. Cecilia's Parish Center on Main St. The Social Hour will begin at 11:30 a.m. and the luncheon will begin at noon.

At this meeting there will be many delicious dishes and desserts.

Join the club for this fun-filled Christmas meeting. Some holiday themed games for prizes will be played.

Orders accepted for Polish food sale starting Nov. 26

WARE – St. Mary's Church will begin to take orders for its Polish food sale starting on Sunday, Nov. 26 through Saturday, Dec. 2, or until sold out.

Call between noon-7 p.m. for Sylvia at 413-436-9268 or Diane at 413-967-5207 with questions and/or to order. Pickup will be on Saturday, Dec. 16 (snow date is Dec. 17) in St. Mary's Church hall on South Street.

Curbside pickup will only be available to anyone with a handicap card.

You will be designated a pickup time when placing your order. Payment will be collected at time of pick up and should be exact amount, either check made out to St. Mary's Church, or cash and placed in an envelope with your name, order number and payment amount.

Food items available include pierogi: cabbage, \$13/dozen or \$6.50/ 1/2 dozen. sweet cheese, \$15/ dozen or \$7.50/ 1/2 dozen and savory cheese, \$15/ dozen and \$7.50/ 1/2 dozen; golombki, \$13 for three; kapusta, \$9/quart; kielbasa from Bernat's in Chicopee, whole \$10 and half, \$5; and rye bread from Countryside Bakery, whole \$5.50 and half, \$2.75.

Thank you for your support.

Corrections

The Journal Register will gladly correct factual errors that appear in this paper. Corrections or clarifications will always appear on Page 2 or 3. To request a correction, send information to Editor at mharrison@turley.com, or call 283-8393, extension 236. Corrections may also be requested in writing at: Journal Register, Attn: Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA, 01069.

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

DEADLINE

The Journal Register has changed its firm deadline for public submissions to Mondays. To get your submission in for that week's edition, email Editor at mharrison@turley.com or call the office at 413-283-8393 by noon on Mondays. We appreciate the cooperation of our readers.



Submitted Photo

Jodie Gerulaitis, vice president Community Relations and Blair Robidoux, assistant vice president West Street Banking Center at Country Bank, John L. Zienowicz, Executive Director at Ware Senior Center.

Country Bank Supports senior centers

WARE — Country Bank recently announced donations to 21 local senior centers throughout the region.

Supporting communities has been part of Country Bank's mission since 1850, the bank is committed to the people, businesses and non-profits it serves. A total of \$42,000 in donations were made to local senior centers. These donations are made without restriction for those necessary items that may not be met within annual budgets.

"We are so fortunate to have a community partner like Country Bank. Countless members of their staff have volunteered at our events and special projects that have ranged from holiday parties at the senior center to personally delivering boxes of food items to seniors in need. This donation helps to sustain our meal program, which over the past five years, has provided in excess of 38,000 home cooked meals for the seniors. Their commitment to service, volunteerism and community is what makes Country Bank the gold standard when it comes to being true difference makers" said John L. Zienowicz, Ware Senior Center executive director.

"We know what a difference this makes for the senior centers and we are honored to be able to support the great work that they do to help our seniors" said Jodie Gerulaitis, vice president of Community Relations at Country Bank.

In addition to its annual monetary support, Country Bank also sends teams of its difference makers to volunteer at local senior centers on a monthly basis.

Annual craft fair to be held downtown



Submitted Photos by Chase Barnett

Christmas carolers fill Monson with holiday cheer as they sing festive tunes.

By Marcelo Gasmão
Staff Writer
mgusmao@turley.com

MONSON — At the end of the month, the Monson Arts Council will hold its annual Holiday Craft Fair.

On Nov. 26 and 27, the annual fair will be held downtown in Memorial Hall, the House of Arts, the Universal Church, and the Methodist Church.

"This is our 44th year," said Chase Barnett, who is on the Arts Council's Board of Directors. "It's big in town; everybody always looks forward to it."

According to the Arts Council, all locations will offer "a wide variety of gifts and collectibles, including stained

glass, bath products, books, candles, clothing, holiday decorations, jewelry, quilts, soft sculpture, handcrafted greeting cards, pottery, and much more."

A luncheon will be served in Memorial Hall and the Methodist Church during the fair.

Barnett said that after the Girl Scouts were unable to sing last year, the Council decided to hold the annual Christmas Carol Sing this year.

"We're having a little bit of an extra town-wide Christmas carol sing this year," Barnett said. "We're hoping to get a large turnout on Saturday afternoon at 4 p.m. in front of Memorial Hall."

The holiday music is set to precede an arrival from Santa on a fire truck at



Local crafters and artisans sell handmade gifts in Memorial Hall during last year's Holiday Craft Fair.

4:30 p.m. Once he arrives, children can meet Santa Claus in person at the town's Fire Station, where refreshments will be served.

Barnett, who has been with the Council for five years, said that she looks forward to the community coming together for the event and getting in the holiday spirit.

"Having the town come out, and the various people come out and do the crafting and sell their wares, and making it a town-wide event, that's what I like the most about it," Barnett said. "Just having it be supported as much as it is by the town."

Earlier this year, there was talk of selling the House of Art. Although these

plans would not have affected this year's craft fair, they would have required a change in venue for the years to come.

"The Monson Arts Council is keeping the House of Art," Barnett said. "We're all very happy that the town came behind us and allowed us to keep the building."

Barnett said there will be other non-profits that will have booths and participate in the craft fair, including the library, the Lion's Club, and the Senior Center.

"It's a big fundraiser for us, but also a fundraiser for other nonprofits in town," Barnett said.

For information or directions, Chase Barnett can be reached at 413-218-0693.

Shaped by Service

Art show celebrates works of veterans and family members

By Paula Ouimette
pouimette@turley.com

WARE — For the third year, HomeFront Strong teamed up with Workshop13 to present the Shaped by Service art show at ArtWorks Gallery, 69 Main St.

Featuring 18 artists, the Shaped by Service art show offered servicemembers, veterans and their families a chance to express themselves creatively through various mediums, capturing the true image of what it means to serve.

"There's just so many different types of mediums all coming together to celebrate the military," the show's curator Faith Eileen Ward said. "It's a wonderful mix of people."

Through their shared experiences with the military, the artists have produced a touching, and often gut-wrenching, display rich with colors and textures. "These are real things that happen," Ward said of these experiences. "They're fighting for our freedom."

Ward said her husband, uncle and aunt have all served in the military, and she knows the sacrifice servicemembers make for their country.

"I just have a lot of respect for people that allow us to live in freedom," she said.

Shaped by Service, just "brings to-



Turley Photos by Paula Ouimette

Three Rivers artist Anthony Seay displays three of the eight paintings he entered in the Shaped by Service art show.

gether what they went through, even family members," Ward said.

HomeFront Strong's Executive Director Jennifer Baublitz said this is the first year the art show has filled the entire gallery, and it featured lots of returning artists.

One such returning artist is Anthony Seay of Three Rivers, a U.S. Coast Guard veteran and one of the area's most prolific painters, showcasing eight of his hyper realistic acrylic paintings in this

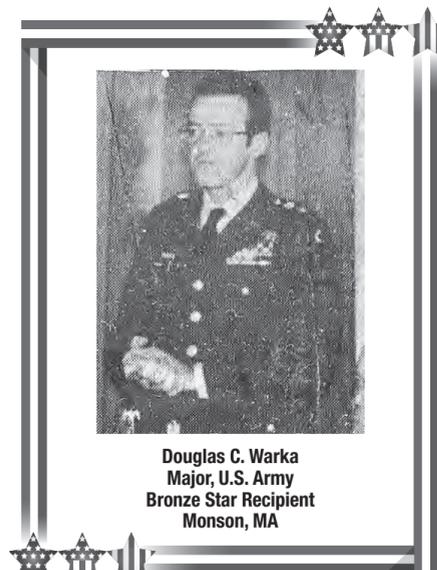
Ware resident Nancy Harder stands with a piece she made out of pottery and driftwood.

Seay has only been painting for six years, and it's something he's embraced in his sobriety.

Seay is also a volunteer at HomeFront Strong, offering support for fellow veterans for a number of things including substance and alcohol use.

Veterans helping veterans is a model HomeFront Strong uses, allowing those shared experiences to create a lasting bond and trust. Seay said unless you've been in the military, or a substance user, it's very hard to relate to someone who is.

ART SHOW | page 11



Douglas C. Warka
Major, U.S. Army
Bronze Star Recipient
Monson, MA

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Viewpoints

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Social Security Disability vs. Spouse Benefits vs. Survivor Benefits and COLA

Dear Rusty

I retired from working in June but will not sign up for Social Security until age 70 and, to do that, I plan to draw from my IRA for the next three years. My wife is receiving Social Security disability benefits and will reach her full retirement age in March of next year.

I know that my wife simply reaching her full retirement age will not mean an increase to her benefit except for Cost Of Living Allowance. What I'm wondering is, can my wife get spousal benefits of any sort based on my Social Security benefits either before I draw or after I am drawing apart from her benefits at my death? Her Social Security disability amount is only a fraction of my maximum benefit. Signed

Baffled Husband

Dear Baffled

Looks like you're confused about your wife's Social Security disability benefits, retirement benefits, spousal benefits, and survivor benefits. Here's what you need to know:

When your wife reaches her Full Retirement Age next year, her current Social Security Disability Insurance benefit will automatically convert to become her regular SS retirement benefit at the same amount she was receiving on SSDI (disability). The amount stays the same because your wife's SSDI amount is based on her FRA entitlement.

Your wife cannot get any spousal benefits from you until you claim your own Social Security retirement benefit. Since you plan to delay claiming until you are 70 several years from now, after your wife's SSDI converts to become her regular retirement benefit at her FRA next year, she will continue to receive her own SS retirement benefit until you claim. At that point your wife will get a "spousal boost" added to her own SS retirement benefit. The amount of her spousal boost will be the difference between her FRA entitlement (same as her SSDI amount) and 50% of your FRA entitlement (not half of your age 70 amount - spouse benefits are always calculated using FRA amounts, regardless of when Social Security is actually claimed).

Your wife cannot get a spousal benefit from you until you start your Social Security, but after you claim she will receive her higher spousal benefit, her own SS retirement benefit plus a spousal boost, for the rest of her life or until you predecease her. If you die first, your wife will get 100% of the amount you were receiving at your death (e.g., your age 70 amount), instead of the smaller amount she was receiving as your spouse while you are both living.

Regarding COLA, after becoming eligible for benefits, everyone gets the annually awarded COLA increase whether they are already collecting SS benefits or not. The next annual COLA increase will be added to your wife's SSDI at the end of this year and added to her SS retirement amount each year thereafter, and then to her higher amount as your spouse after you claim.

And even though you are waiting until age 70 to claim, the annual COLA will still be added to your Primary Insurance Amount each year, and you will receive that past COLA in your monthly payments after you later claim.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Thanksgiving thoughts

My dad has been gone a long time. I sometimes feel badly that he is not in my thoughts as much as he used to be. A lot has happened since his death - marriage and children, a new (old) house.

Sometimes it's easy to get caught up in the day to day, but today, as I write, I think of him. Holidays at my childhood home were always a lot of fun.

I reflect on that now, as we make plans for our Thanksgiving and Christmas gatherings. I can still picture him standing at the counter by the sink, carving the turkey and later in the day enjoying a whopping piece of apple pie (with American cheese?) from his recliner.

My mom still keeps some of the traditions alive as do other family members. Read on to learn about some of the favorite vegetables, fruits and even herbs that make an appearance at the table.

I am not exactly sure where my mom's stuffing recipe originally came from, but it is always a big hit. My Illinois based brother loves it so much that my sister-in-law asked for a copy and now makes it for him on Thanksgiving.

I guess if you can't be at home, having mom's stuffing is the next best thing! Her recipe wouldn't be the same without sage and I doubt yours would either.

Common garden sage (*Salvia officinalis*) is a shrubby perennial plant native to the Mediterranean.

Its leaves start out lime-green in color, but at maturity end up more grey than green. They are somewhat "pebbly" in texture and are very aromatic.

For the most pungency, sage leaves should be harvested just prior to flowering. Hang the leaves and stem tips in loose bunches upside down in an airy, dark place to dry.

Once completely dry (crispy to the touch), leaves can be stripped from their stems and stored in an airtight container.

Remember, as with any herb, drying concentrates the oils in the foliage. Use only half the amount of dried herbs if you have to substitute them for fresh in any recipe.

Because sage is nearly evergreen (actually, "evergrey") I rarely dry any, but harvest it for immediate use even through the winter months - it is freeze-dried but still tasty! Cut back the plant hard in early spring- you will sacrifice a few flowers, but will be rewarded with a lush bushy plant, rather than one that is woody and sparse.

Another one of mom's cherished contributions to Thanksgiving dinner is her apple cranberry relish. This is a simple recipe in which fresh cranberries and peeled apples are chopped fine and mixed together with a little sugar.

So easy yet incredibly yummy! I tried growing cranberries only to be dis-

appointed that voles chewed the roots and killed the plants.

Maybe I'll try again sometime in the future. They don't need a bog, but the water does help with harvesting.

My mom always bought a small turnip for my Dad to enjoy at Thanksgiving dinner. I have to say that I don't recall any other members of the family eagerly anticipating it, not the way he did anyway.

I remember mom carefully cutting away the hard outer skin and then cubing the flesh. It was then boiled and mashed as you would potatoes, with lots of butter.

Turnip must be one of those foods that you acquire a taste for, and as of yet I have not.

To produce the best-tasting, largest turnips time your plantings to grow and mature in cool weather. For Thanksgiving turnips sow seeds 90 days before the first fall frost is expected.

Simply make a shallow trench one-quarter to one-half inch deep and position seeds one to one and a half inches apart. Once germination occurs and plants have developed their first set of true leaves, thin seedlings to three inches apart.

Deep, loose soil is best for root vegetables of any kind. Turnips benefit from extra water during droughty periods.

If an early frost threatens and your roots aren't yet mature you can cover turnip plants with a sheet or blanket on chilly nights to get through the cold spell and sneak out some additional growing time. Do watch out for frigid temps, however, since mercury that measures below the twenty-five degree mark can damage the crown of the plant.

This type of injury can make turnips more susceptible to rot and reduce storage capabilities. Turnips are best stored at temperatures around thirty-five degrees.

They can be packed in damp sand or leaves in a cold cellar and should keep for at least two or three months. Some books recommend wrapping individual roots in plastic wrap to hold in moisture as well as prevent the strong turnip odor from permeating other vegetables.

Commercial turnip growers use a food grade wax for this purpose, which makes cutting away the outer flesh all the more challenging.

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



in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer

I received an email from a reader, who had a Cooper's hawk in his yard for two days. He said, "The barred tail was distinctive flying through the yard ... and looked like a dart with the tail straight out. Many people don't realize they, like the Peregrine Falcon, were decimated by DDT and pesticides."



Cooper's hawk

The Cooper's hawk is 16 inches long and as the reader said in his email they have a long tail with barring. They also have fine streaking on the breast.

They are gray above with reddish brown barring. Their crown is darker than the back. The immature Cooper's hawk is dark brown above and light below with thin streaking. Immature plumage is kept for one year.

During the breeding season, these hawks have a regular feeding route where it hunts for common medium sized birds such as mourning doves, blue jays and starlings.

The female lays three to six pale blue green eggs with dark marks in a platform nest of sticks place in a tree ten to 70 feet high.

Cooper's hawks may show up at bird feeders especially during the winter months, when it roams a wider area for food. Cooper's hawks inhabit mixed forests and open woodlands. They make a loud repeated "kek kek kek" call given during alarm or during pair interaction. As mentioned in the email above, the Cooper's hawks were decimated in the 1950s and 1960s due to the use of DDT.

Other birds by the lake

He lives on a lake and said, "There is an old pine the Bald Eagles love to fish from. There are two Red Shouldered Hawks' nests within three or four hundred feet of each other and when the young start yelling for food the other nest invariably starts and I have them in stereo. Last year a pair of Blue Heron nested, but this year there is only one who patrols the cove shoreline alone. The eagles seem to ignore the adult." He also sees Golden eagles as well.

Bird tally

I received an email from a reader, who visits ponds in Warren. He sent a tally of bird observed on Nov. 2, 3 and 4. They included on Nov. 2 46 Canada geese and again the same number on Nov. 3 and six on Nov. 4; one pied-billed grebe on Nov. 3, four great blue herons on Nov. 2, two on Nov. 3 and 3 on Nov. 4; a red-tailed hawk on Nov. 2 and one bald eagle on Nov. 3.

He also reported seeing two American crows on Nov. 2, a yellow-bellied sapsucker on Nov. 2, two blue jays on Nov. 2, a titmouse on Nov. 2, one bluebird on Nov. 2 and two on Nov. 3, six robins on Nov. 2, two yellow-dumped warblers on Nov. 2 and again on Nov. 3 and three song sparrows on Nov. 2. Yellow-bellied sapsuckers, yellow-rumped warblers and bluebirds were eating poison ivy berries.

Canada geese

This weekend my granddaughter and I saw about two dozen Canada geese fly over her house. They were honking as they flew overhead. They headed for a beaver pond across the street.

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

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Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length, and guest columns between 500-800 words. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require that the person submitting the opinion also include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must confirm authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, or defamation of character.

Please send opinions to: **The Journal Register Letter to the Editor**, 24 Water St., Palmer MA 01069, or by e-mail to: mharrison@turley.com

The submission deadline for consideration is Monday at noon.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Journal Register welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Journal Register, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to mharrison@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call editor Michael Harrison at 413-283-8393.

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

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Tantasqua travels to Neverland in 'Peter and the Starcatcher'

By Rowan Bernstein
Correspondent

STURBRIDGE – On Friday, Nov. 10, Tantasqua Regional High School's drama club opened their fall play, "Peter and the Starcatcher," which played through Saturday evening.

The play, a prequel to "Peter Pan," tells the story of how Peter found his way to Neverland and got his eternal youth on an adventure filled with classic characters as well as new faces.

High school senior Emma Lord took on the lead role of Molly Aster, a new character in this version of Peter Pan's story. Molly is a "starcatcher" on a mission with her father to hunt down magical "star-stuff," and on this journey, she crosses paths with an orphan known only as "Boy," played by senior TJ Belton, who eventually takes on the name of Peter Pan.

These two characters are the heart of the play, which follows the two of them as they help each other grow and change, and their friendship blossoms into a youthful romance.

Senior Sam DeRosse was also a standout as the villainous "Black Stache," a foppish pirate who hasn't yet become the fearsome Captain Hook, garnering some of the biggest laughs of the night with the character's frequent references to his mustache and tendency to mix up his words.

Although "Peter and the Starcatcher" is not a musical, it is a "play with music," featuring a handful of musical numbers complete with ensemble singers and choreography.

Perhaps the most notable is the opening number of the second act, which features much of the main cast dressed in comedic drag as mermaids. The song got plenty of laughs from the audience, while also giving the cast a chance to show off their singing and dancing chops.

The play's program notes that the show is an example of "story-telling theatre," which "use[s] minimal props" and instead "relies heavily on the audience's imagination" to bring the world of the play to life – a very fitting style for a show about Peter Pan. Their imaginations were certainly helped along, though, by the minimal yet impressive set, which transformed the Tantasqua stage first into the deck of a pirate ship, and then again into the beaches and jungles of Neverland.

"Peter and the Starcatcher" took the audience on a spectacular journey over the course of a few hours last weekend, which earned the cast and crew a standing ovation and made for a performance that is sure to go down as one of Tantasqua's most magical plays to date.

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going to shift more of the tax burden to [Commercial, Industrial, and Personal] properties, and that could cause businesses to seek business elsewhere, especially since we would be the only community our size doing a split tax rate anywhere in the state."

The Board of Assessors also did not recommend adopting the small commercial exemption, or the residential exemption, stating that they were not designed for communities the size of Palmer.

Carney explained that the assessment process involves defining properties as "Real" or "Personal." Real property is classified as anything residential, commercial, industrial or open space, while personal property refers to anything that can be moved and is not permanently attached to the land or a building, including computers, furniture, and equipment.

"Once we've determined that, we determine the fair cash value for each of those individual classes of property," Carney said. "We do that by doing a comprehensive study of the real estate market and sales, the rental market for income properties and by conducting permit inspections and cyclical inspections to ensure our data is accurate."

Carney said that the assessors then determine any new growth for the community, which factors in determining the maximum allowable levy.

"New growth is an increase in assessed value over the prior year because of new construction or physical improvements to a property," Carney said.

"New growth also includes parcels that were previously exempt, but have returned to the tax roll, so that would be like if the town sold Converse (Middle School) and it came back to the tax rolls, that would be considered new growth for the community."

The council voted unanimously to follow the assessors' advice, adopting the single tax rate, and not adopting the commercial tax exemption or residential exemptions.

Town Council Vice President Jessica Sizer praised Carney's presentation, and told the gathered public that their questions would be helpful for the newly-appointed assessor to learn about some of the issues facing the town.

"I think this was a really excellent presentation," Sizer said. "Her office is, Monday through Thursday, always open, and I encourage anybody watching, in the room, to stop by (Carney's) office if guys have any further questions."

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

E-mail items to mharrison@turley.com or mail to Calendar Editor, Journal Register, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, for receipt by Monday of week for publication.

The Journal Register encourages readers to contact event coordinators and organizers for updated event times. Have an event to promote? Email the information (in sentence form and as a Word doc or plain email text – no PDFs or flyers, please – to press-releases@turley.com.

COMING SOON

A Christmas Dinner and Concert featuring David Neill's Fanfare Brass will be held on Saturday, Dec. 2, at the First Church of Monson, 5 High St. The dinner will begin at 5 p.m. with the concert following at 7 p.m. The cost of the dinner and concert is \$20; concert only, \$5. The menu is: Meat or Vegetarian Chili; cornbread; salad; and dessert. For reservations, call Gail at 413-267-4818. The deadline for reservations is Nov. 29. Proceeds will support the First Church music program as well as the Eva Farr Organ fund.

Pancake breakfast with Santa and Mrs. Clause on Sunday, Dec. 10, from 8 to 11 a.m., at the Three Rivers Fire Station, 50 Springfield St., Adults - \$7, Children 4-12 years - \$4, Under 4 – free, hosted by the Three Rivers Fire Fighters

Association Ladies Auxiliary.

JIMMY FUND WALK: Registration is now open for the 2023 Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk Scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 1. Proceeds from the event support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at one of the nation's premier cancer centers, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. All four routes will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line in the Fenway neighborhood. If walkers want to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities, including virtually. Register as an individual walker, team member or start a team at JimmyFundWalk.org or by calling 866-531-9255.

INTERESTS

CRAFTERNOONS: Drop in 2-4 p.m. daily at the Holland Public Library, 23 Sturbridge Road to learn or practice different crafts. There are new crafts every Wednesday. For more information, call 413-245-3607.

KEEP HOMESTEAD MUSEUM: Located at 35 Ely Rd., Monson, nature trails are open daily until dusk for hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country skiing. Trail maps can be found in the park-

ing lot. The Phillips Sculpture Garden is open year-round (handouts in box on one of the signposts). For more information call 413-267-4137, email khm@keep-homesteadmuseum.org or visit keep-homesteadmuseum.org.

QUABOAG VALLEY QUILTERS GUILD: Members meet at 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of the month in the Amvets post at 2150 Main St., Three Rivers. The Guild is a no-pressure group with varying degrees of accomplishments, from novice to Big E "Best In Show" winners. Dues are \$55 a year. For more information, contact Barbara Beaulieu at 267-4044 or Merry Mombourquette at 283-7577. Follow them on Facebook for more.

ONGOING

BINGO IS BACK at Amvets Post 74, 2150 Main St., Three Rivers, on Mondays. The kitchen opens at 4:30 p.m. Early Bird starts at 6:25 p.m. Call the Post at 413-283-4518 for further information.

LINE DANCING CLASS: 3-5 p.m. and/or 6:30-8:30 p.m., every Thursday at the Monson Polish Club, 7 Bliss St, Monson. Rose's line dancing classes include absolute beginners and beginners,

and participants get to dance to all types of music. \$10 per class. Please wear comfortable footwear, no sandals.

GAME NIGHT: 6-7:45 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at Top Floor Learning (third floor of the Palmer Library at 1455 N. Main St.). Free and open to the public. Play available board and card games or bring your own. Must be 16 or older unless accompanied by an adult. No Registration Required – just show up! Questions? Call 283-2329, or 283-3691, or email palewis19@yahoo.com.

NOTCH VISITOR CENTER OPEN FOR WINTER SEASON: 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Thursday-Monday. The center is located on Rt 116, at the center of the Holyoke Range State Park. DCR Interpretive staff will be available for visitors. Coming in January, programs will also be offered to highlight the Range's special nature in winter, see the park web site for details.

QI GONG: 6 p.m., every Tuesday night at Memorial Hall with Randy Emerson. Free, no registration. Presented by Monson Parks & Rec and the Monson Free Library.

WATER | from page 1

asset when applying for government funding. The districts he referred to were Thorndike, Three Rivers, and Bondsville.

"Palmer has not shown any indication of being interested," LaVallie said. "So, they haven't joined."

As soon as Commissioner and Moderator Robert Young directed the meeting to Article Two, which asked to transfer funds amounting to \$10,000 from Certified Free Cash to reduce the Fiscal Year 2024 tax levy, members of the public asked about the sustainability.

"We take what we can out of free cash to try to reduce the tax rate as much as we can," LaVallie said.

The Commissioners said that the recent emergency with the water tank cost the district \$50,000 to fix the problem, which left them little money to put toward next year's tax levy.

"We deal with such a tight budget that something like this, when this happens...you've got to make decisions and prioritize, and that's what we've done this year," LaVallie said.

The residents asked about infrastructure improvements that could mitigate these problems in the future. The Commissioners estimate that a new 600,000-gallon tank will cost the district \$6,000,000, which they are searching for a grant program to fund.

"That pipe that we used during the emergency, it's not made for [continuous service to Bondsville]," LaVallie said. "That was not the intent of that pipe; that pipe served its purpose when the tank broke, that's what it's there for."

"As far as the new tank goes, we're in the process of getting that determined as far as what the cost of the tank would be," Commissioner Richard Dranka said.

"Our approach to this right now is to try to take this on in stages," LaVallie said. "The first stage is to try to get a pipeline up State St. so that we're in a position, then, to have supply up there."

"While that's going and getting finished off,

we'll have the tank ready to start," LaVallie said. "A new tank doesn't do us any good if we don't have any water for it."

After continued discussion with members of the public, the district voted to approve the transfer of funds from free cash.

After that, an article to appropriate \$20,923.66 from an account to purchase a Fire Department vehicle and carport to replace the boiler for the Complex was unanimously approved. The district then approved releasing \$5,100 from free cash to match the portion of \$12,000 USDA Grant for Engineering Services for a preliminary report to locate a replacement tank.

The Board also voted to release \$76,146.40 from the Interim Finance Water Grant to pay a portion of the emergency repairs done to the leaking 1908 water tank.

There was more discussion when the district voted to modify the existing bylaws, as recommended by legal counsel. A particular point of contention was the hiring of the Fire Chief.

"The Commissioners shall appoint the Fire Chief, consistent with Massachusetts General Law Chapter 48, Section 42," LaVallie read. "And they shall have the rights and authority consistent with said law."

Young explained the process to the gathered residents, as well as what kind of criteria the Commissioners would consider and how they would decide things like salary, saying that it is "fairly typical for this line of work."

After the discussion, the district voted unanimously to accept the article.

The last article was to work in collaboration with the Town of Palmer, and the Thorndike and Three Rivers respective Fire and Water Districts to obtain the estimated \$8,000,000 necessary to replace the water tank and associated infrastructure.

The article was directed by the Department of Environmental Protection's Water Emergency Order, and so the district voted unanimously to approve the article.



Submitted Photo
This photo featured in the 2024 Quabbin History Calendar shows Pratt's Sawmill in Belchertown in 1932.

J.R. Greene presents Quabbin History Calendar

WARE – Local author J. R. Greene will be at the Young Men's Library, 27 Main St., on Monday, Nov. 27 at 6 p.m. to sign and sell his annual Quabbin History Calendar.

He will give a short talk about some of this year's subjects before the signing.

If you can't make it to the library that day, there are some calendars and a few of his books on sale at the Checkout Desk now through Christmas. For more information, please call 413-967-5491.

Greene is also selling his calendars at Junction Variety in Thorndike, Quaboag Books in West Brookfield and Mimi's Coffeehouse in Hardwick. He will host a program at the Palmer Public Library on Tuesday, Dec. 12.

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Granite Valley School says Thank You to Veterans



Turley Photos by Dan Flynn
Granite Valley students present the Veterans Appreciation program.

**By Colleen Flynn
Submitted**

Students, staff and families gathered at Granite Valley School on Monson on Thursday to celebrate their annual Veteran's Day Assembly. The assembly is a beloved tradition in both the school district and greater community. Students in the elementary school are encouraged every year to invite and introduce their veteran family members (oftentimes a parent, grandparent, aunt or uncle) and allow all those in attendance a special chance to say "Thank You" for their service to our country.

Granite Valley's new music teacher, Megan Martin, led the 5th and 6th grade chorus in their renditions of the National Anthem and My Country 'Tis of Thee. Principal Joe Trivisonno was joined by several student speakers who spoke about what Veteran's Day meant to them. State Representative Brian Ashe and a member of Rep. Angelo

Puppelo's staff gave brief remarks as well, echoing the students' sentiments of gratitude for the veterans in the audience and applauding Granite Valley for their continued efforts to keeping this special tradition alive in the district.

Monson's new Director of Veteran's Services, Jered Sasen, addressed his speech to the students, expressing his admiration of the day's celebration and reminding them that many of the military heroes in their lives are called to serve and protect because of the children like them at home.

Every Veteran's student was given an opportunity to introduce them from the stage, and the applause echoed through the auditorium as service members in the audience stood to be recognized.

The event closed with all those in attendance joining together to sing I'm Proud to Be An American - a moving conclusion to a morning of pride and patriotism.



Granite Valley students present the Veterans Appreciation program.



Granite Valley students present the Veterans Appreciation program.



Veteran is recognized for his service.



Granite Valley School Principal Joseph Trivisonno addresses the audience.



Veterans in attendance stand to be recognized .



Principal Joseph Trivisonno, Monson School Committee member Colleen Flynn and Megan Martin, Music Teacher.



Veteran Ed Bertolvi is recognized by State Representative Brian Ashe.



Walt Jackson, US Army, is recognized by State Representative Brian Ashe.



Veterans Ray Beaudoin and Dan Beaudoin are presented for recognition of service by their grandchildren.



Veteran is recognized for his service.



Granite Valley chorus prepares for their next song.



Granite Valley school chorus sings I am proud to be an American.

Monson honors its many veterans



Bill Halcott served in the U.S. Navy from 1971-1980. He was joined by many other veterans at the American Legion Post 241 to honor those who served the nation.



Veteran Michael Mahitka served at a U.S. Embassy from 1978-1982.



Stanley Lamb smiles as he honors those who served and who continue to serve the United States of America. Lamb served in the U.S. Army from 1980-1986.



Raymond Royal served the U.S. Army from 1995-2014; nearly two decades. Royal is also a veterans' advocate.

MONSON | from page 1

Lamb said one way community members can honor veterans is to support their local veterans.

"If people want to support veterans they can support the American Legion, AMVETS (and) VFW," said Lamb.

Glenn Perry, U.S. Marine Corp. veteran, was also in attendance at the annual ceremony.

Perry joined the service at just 19, and said he "never questioned," joining the service.

"It's in my blood," said Perry. "I grew up talking about joining."

American Legion Post 241 Commander Carl Santos said Post 241 works all year to fundraise and support veterans.

"After Memorial Day we do things throughout the year for vets," said Santos. "We also donate to Wreaths Across America."

For those interested in donating to the Legion, checks may be made payable to the American Legion Post 241, and mailed to P.O. Box 76 Monson, MA, 01057.



Chuck Watts served in the U.S. Air Force in Vietnam from 1963-1967. Watts is joined by his son-in-law Kevin Hicks in honor of Veterans Day.



Glenn Perry served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1983-1987.



Carl Santos served in the U.S. Coast Guard from 1982-1986.



Veterans Bob Marsden and John Silva share a photo with the U.S. flag. Marsden served the U.S. Navy from 1967-1968. Silva served in the U.S. Marine Corps. from 1969 to 1972.



Joan Watson stands beside the American flag in celebration of Veterans Day. Watson served in the U.S. Air Force from 1964-1969. She honored her late husband, James Lee Watson Jr., an Honor Guard veteran.



Veteran Carl Santos is joined by TJ's Tavern owner and event organizer Deb Lawrence, Legion President Diana Wysocki and Women's Auxiliary members Lisa Burke and Nicquii Haskell to mark Veterans Day.

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27th Monson Memorial Classic to benefit cancer research



Turley photos by Dallas Gagnon
Event organizer and race director Rich Ladew and Monson Memorial Classic founder Lee Williams share a photo in front of Memorial Hall before the 27th annual race kicks-off.



Runner Diandra Mongeon is supported by her husband, Jarred Mongeon, and her mother-in-law, Sharon Mongeon.



Monson residents Chris Amsden, Nicole Ouimet and Rylee Amsden are all smiles at the annual event.



Runners are bundled up and ready to go. Several participants are shown searching for songs to listen to during the race.



Athletes smile as they make their way through the race course.



Antonio Lima, of Boston, was named 2023's first place winner of the men's half marathon.



Palmer natives Eric and Lilly Dzedzinski are ready to run.



The Quaboag Highlanders perform as they march runners in the direction of the starting point.



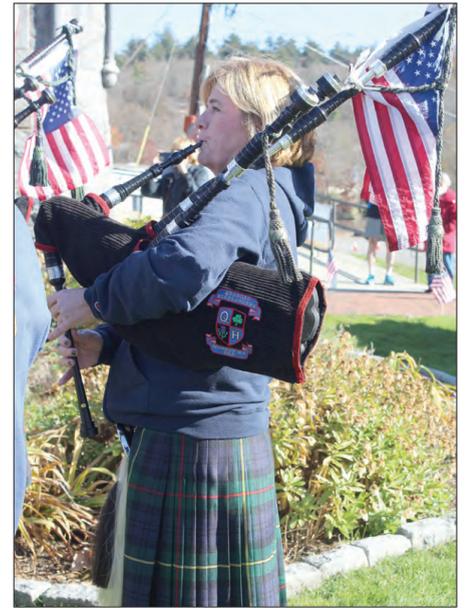
Monson natives Madelyn and Adam Mareau share a photo before the race begins. Madelyn is ready to run the 5k.



The Quaboag Highlanders perform just outside of Memorial Hall before the race kicks-off.



Monson resident Garrett Davis shows his support for the cause as he strikes a pose mid-stride.



Cindy Shields plays the bagpipes ahead of the race.



Athletes persevere through the hill-heavy course.



Jessica Smith is joined by Tom Campbell.



Athletes of all ages are encouraged to participate and put their best foot forward.

RACE | from page 1

She said since the Monson Memorial Classic was established, it evolved from a 10k race to a "more recognized" competition as a half-marathon. It now offers a 5k route in addition to the half marathon.

Former runner and Quaboag Highlander musician Chris Haley said "it's a tough half marathon," as there are many hills and "a lot elevation."

"It feels so good to hit that hill and go over it by Cedar Swamp Road because it's all downhill from there," said Haley.

Having run the course himself in the past, event organizer Rich Ladew assured athletes before the race "hills do not care about your feelings."

Several participants said they heard from other athletes that it was

a challenging course to run which prompted them to join the competition.

The 10k route begins on Green Street and loops up Main Street, down and around Bliss Street, and trails back to Cedar Swamp Road before turning down Peck Brothers

Road, up to Stafford Road and onto route 32, finishing at the same starting point on Main Street.

The 5k route begins on Bliss/Main Street, up past High Street to Chestnut Street, all the way down Bethany Road, onto State and Gates streets, Carpenter Road, Pleasant Avenue and Hampden Avenue to Park Avenue, finishing at Memorial Hall.

Williams recognized local sponsors for donating funds to help support monetary prize awards, including a \$400 prize for first place winners, \$300 for second place, \$200 for third, \$100 for fourth and \$75 for fifth.

She specifically recognized the generosity of Monson Savings Bank, which has supported the race since the very beginning.

This year's sponsorships included Monson Savings Bank, Runner Girl, USA Track and Field and Griffin's Friends.

While many participants who knew Kelly and Kathy ran the route to honor them, those who did not know the pair ran to support the cancer warriors in their lives.

David Mathews, a Monson resident, said this year marks his eighth time participating in the 5k.

Having been a student cross

country athlete in high school and college, Mathews said running has always been an interest of his.

He said he runs to honor his mother, sister and a brother, all of whom have died from cancer.

Mathews has previously participated in other running events such as a SIDS race in Springfield to honor his late grandson, Alex.

Among other athletes were some who may not have been directly affected by cancer, but participated simply to support those who have.

Ladew said he joined the organization over a decade ago after hearing from a Boston friend of his who ran the course.

"A few years later, I started running the 5k and half marathon," said

Ladew. This year marks his second season as event organizer.

"I just thought it was a good cause."

For those interested in supporting the organization and cancer research, please visit the MMC website at runsignup.com/Race/Donate to donate.

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SOCCER

Mustangs punch ticket to semifinals

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

MONSON— The second-seeded Lady Mustangs post a 7-0 shut-out victory over the 18th-seeded Bromfield Trojans in a Division 5 round of 16 contest played on a chilly afternoon at Larry Tassinari Field, last Wednesday.

“It has been a great couple of days for me,” said Kendall Bodak, who had a season-high four assists against the Trojans. “We had a lot of confidence coming into today’s game and we were prepared. We played very well as a team.”

The home victory improved Monson’s overall season record to 20-0-1. It’s the third year in a row that the Lady Mustangs have won at least twenty games.

Bodak also scored a goal in the Lady Mustangs 7-1 home win versus 31st-seeded Smith Vocational in the round of 32 contest on Nov. 6.

The following day, Bodak found out that she had been selected as an All-American.

Bodak is also one of the three players from Western Mass. to be selected for the All-New England



Lynzie Bailey controls the ball near mid-field.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

FOOTBALL



Keith LaVallie stiff arms as he opens up the ally for heavy yardage.

Staff photos by Jack Cascio NEAP.smugmug.com

Panthers, Lions prepare for another holiday meeting

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—The Ludlow Lions have won nine of the last eleven meetings on the gridiron against the Palmer Panthers.

The 76th meeting between the two rivals is scheduled to take place at historic Legion Field in Palmer on Thanksgiving morning. Kickoff is slated for 10 a.m.

playing against Palmer on Thanksgiving,” said Ray Saloio, who has been the Ludlow varsity football coach since 2014. “I believe this is the third oldest Thanksgiving Day game in Western Mass. behind Mahar-Athol and Agawam-West Side. We’re going to Palmer to compete and hopefully come back with a victory. Then we’ll enjoy our turkey dinners.”

“We’re looking forward to

FOOTBALL | page 2

FOOTBALL

Pioneers, Orioles set to matchup on Thanksgiving



Brandon Hnitecki makes a tackle for the Pioneers.

Staff photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

PALMER – Last Thanksgiving, the Pathfinder High School football team scored early and often, utilizing the pass game to their advantage en route to a win over Belchertown. It was the first Thanksgiving win in a few years for the Pioneers, which finished the season above .500 for the first time in several years.

This year, both teams are coming off pretty successful seasons, setting up for a very good matchup on Thanksgiving morning, next Thursday.

This year’s game will be held at Belchertown High School and the kickoff will take place a little early, at 9 a.m. Belchertown utilized the early kickoff two years ago for the first time.

Belchertown made the state tournament for the first time with a 7-1 record and a 4-1 conference record, losing only to Hoosac on Oct. 1.

The Orioles would be defeated by Shawsheen Valley Vocational 49-8 on Nov. 3 and then faced Ware in nonplayoff action in Week 10. The Orioles were defeated in that matchup, entering the Thanksgiving matchup with a 7-3 record overall.

Pathfinder enters this year’s matchup at 4-6, though their team has had a much better season than their record reflects.

Even in defeat, Pathfinder always was in competitive matchups, and they were successful in Tri-County action, going 3-2, including a win over Smith Vocational on Oct. 27.

Smith Vocational got a bit of revenge, defeating Pathfinder in nonplayoff action on Nov. 10. Pathfinder also lost to Lee in Week 9.

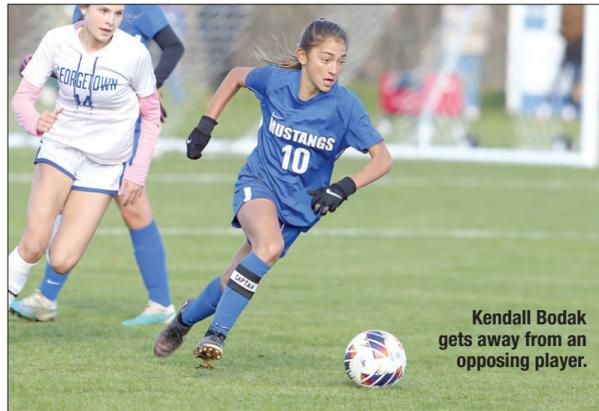


Hunter Griswold makes a throw.

MONSON | page 2



Emma Murphy guides the ball after receiving a pass.



Kendall Bodak gets away from an opposing player.

SOCCER

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



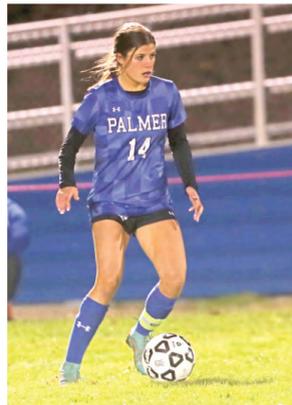
Jordan Bigda makes her way up the field.



Jayda Pardo tries to dribble past an opponent.



Vanessa Baer makes a long throw-in.



Grace Burke side steps and then passes.



Ava Swist makes her way past midfield.

Panthers advance to second round

PALMER – Last Monday night, Palmer girls soccer defeated Hopkins Academy 3-1 in the Round of 32 to advance to the second round of the Division 5 State Tournament. In the win, Vanessa Baer, Charlotte Theriault, and Grace Burke scored the goals for the Panthers. Palmer would fall in the second round of the tournament a couple of days later.

Bailey Award to be handed out for a 55th time

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

PALMER—A total of 54 football players from Palmer High School have received the Leonard J. Bailey Award.

Robert Bishop was the first re-

ipient of the Bailey Award in 1969. Joe Placanico was the 25th Bailey Award winner in 1993. Joe Lombardi was the 50th Bailey Award winner in 2018.

Damon Cardenales received the prestigious award last year.

The 55th annual Bailey Award

recipient will be announced at half-time of the Ludlow and Palmer football game, which will be taking place at historic Legion Field in Palmer on Thanksgiving morning.

“The Bailey award is an honor that a lot of great football players and valuable community members

have received,” said Palmer varsity football coach Matt Marciniac. “It is nice to have the award given to a player on our team as the year ends to highlight their achievements and work on the field but also in the classroom and around Palmer. Highlighting any player on the team

is a great thing and the Bailey award has been doing that for many years.”

Marciniac and the members of his coaching staff will have the honor of selecting the 55th Bailey Award winner.

Any player on the Palmer football team is eligible to receive the

Bailey Award, not just a member of the senior class. It’s also not an M.V.P. award. The recipient must possess the qualities of sportsmanship, ability, team spirit, attitude, selflessness, and academic achieve-

BAILEY AWARD | page 2

T-Birds fall in overtime

BRIDGEPORT, CT – The Springfield Thunderbirds (7-6-1-0) got a terrific netminding performance, but the offense went cold in a 2-1 overtime loss to the Bridgeport Islanders (4-6-1-0) on Saturday night at Total Mortgage Arena in Bridgeport.

The starting goaltenders were the best performers in the opening period. Malcolm Subban got the nod for the T-Birds after a strong relief effort in Providence on Friday and helped Springfield kill off a pair of Islander power plays in the first, denying nine shots in the period. At the other end, Ken Appleby was far busier than he was last Sunday when he needed to make just 17 saves in 60 minutes against the T-Birds. He had an answer for all 11 Springfield shots in the first frame.

The scoreless affair was broken at the 5:54 mark in the second period. After Springfield failed to generate a chance on an odd-man rush, it sprung the Islanders into the T-Birds zone on a 3-on-1, and Ruslan Iskhakov elected to take the shot himself from the right circle, slipping it between Subban's legs to give Bridgeport the 1-0 advantage and snap a streak of more than 75 minutes without a goal for the Isles.

Despite some shaky moments in the stanza, the T-Birds fought back to even the score at 15:28. Near the end of a shift, Will Bitten entered the offensive zone on the left wing, dropping a pass at the top of the left circle for Joey Duszak. After stumbling slightly,

Duszak regathered his footing and surprised Appleby with a low shot along the ice that sneaked home, equaling things at 1-1. Bitten picked up his first assist of the year, while Duszak's tally was his first goal as a Thunderbird.

Subban remained stout in between the pipes, as he shut down each of the other 13 shots he faced in the period, allowing just the Iskhakov wrister to beat him, taking the 1-1 tie into the final 20 minutes.

Shots and chances heavily favored the Islanders in the third period, as Springfield just a single shot on goal in the final 20 minutes. Subban, though, maintained his poise and nearly singlehandedly earned a standings point for the T-Birds, forcing the 1-1 tie into overtime.

After winning their first two overtime games of the season, Springfield could not make it three straight, as Iskhakov stormed up the ice to create a 2-on-1 with Sam Asselin with under a minute left in overtime. Asselin hit Iskhakov in stride, and the skilled winger made no mistake in beating Subban on the stick side to seal the victory at 4:08 of extra time.

The T-Birds come back home next Friday, Nov. 17 for another Deuces Wild Friday at the Thunderdome, where the T-Birds will take on the Utica Comets for their first of four matchups on the season, with puck drop at 7:05 p.m.

Volleyball All-Star Showcase set for next Tuesday

HOLYOKE – The 11th IVHF All-Star Showcase will feature the top players in Western Massachusetts in two showcase matches. The event will be held on Tuesday, Nov. 21 at the Holyoke Community College Bartley Center located at 303 Homestead Avenue, Holyoke.

The event will start with a 3-set Second team all-star match at 6 p.m. followed by the award presentation and a 3-set First team match at 7:30 p.m. Adult tickets are \$10. Seniors 65-and-over are \$5 and Students/Children are free of charge. Admission to the All-Star Game also includes a free of charge future admission pass to the International Volleyball Hall of Fame Museum.

"The IVHF is very proud to have its home in Western Massachusetts and we are very excited to again recognize the top players in our area," said IVHF Executive Director George Mulry.

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

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

UMass hosting Pioneer Valley Tip-Off

AMHERST – The Pioneer Valley Tip-Off is a student-run high school basketball showcase featuring some of the best talent in Central and Western Massachusetts. The PVTO was started in 2011 by Scott Moses and Pat Salle, both students at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and it continues to be entirely student-run by the McCormack Student Leaders Club today. The PVTO is held each December on the Universi-

ty of Massachusetts Amherst campus, where we strive to create a professional environment for fans and players alike. This year's event will be held on Dec. 9 and 10 and will feature teams from throughout the region. A schedule is online at www.pioneervalleytip-off.com. All games will be held at the Mullins Center on the UMass-Amherst campus.

Alumni game at Chicopee Comp

CHICOPEE – All Chicopee Comprehensive High School football alumni are invited to participate in the 6th annual CCHS Alumni Football Game. The game will be taking place on Wednesday, Nov. 22 at 6 p.m. at Chicopee Comp High School, 617 Montgomery Street, Chicopee. All proceeds will benefit the Chicopee Comprehensive football team.

For more information, please contact Tammy Martin-Griffin at tmg811@yahoo.com.

MONSON | from page 4

team. The other two All-New England players are Minnechaug senior Kylie Ray, and South Hadley senior Lauren Marjanski.

A couple of hours before facing Bromfield, Bodak, who's a midfielder, signed her National Letter of Intent to continue her soccer career at Clemson University.

"The Clemson women's soccer program is very good. They played in this year's ACC Championship Match, and they also qualified for the NCAA Division 1 tournament," Bodak said. "Clemson has always been my dream school. I love the coaches and the players on the soccer team. I'm very excited about going to school there."

The Clemson Tigers lost to top-seeded Florida State, 2-1, in the ACC finals before posting a 2-0 victory against Radford in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

Since joining the varsity soccer team as a freshman, Bodak has helped the Lady Mustangs compile an impressive 69-2-4 overall record. Their only two losses came against Sutton in the 2021 Division 5 state semifinals and in last year's state finals. Sutton moved up to Division 4 prior to the start of this season.

Bromfield, which is in Harvard, arrived in Monson with a 7-11-2 overall record. The Trojans beat 15th-seeded Mystic Valley, 7-3, in the round of 32.

"Bromfield plays a very tough regular season schedule," Degnan said. "They beat a couple of quality teams."

The Lady Mustangs outshot the Trojans, 23-13.

During the 15th minute of the opening half, Bodak assisted on the Lady Mustangs first goal of the match, which was scored by senior Lynzie Bailey.

It opened the flood gates for the home



Avery Beaudoin passes up the field.

team, as sophomore Hannah Murphy scored her first of three goals less than a minute later. Junior Addie Peterson was credited with the assist.

Murphy netted her second goal during the 18th minute, which was assisted by senior Ciara Monaghan.

Two of the Lady Mustangs final three goals of the first half were scored by Monaghan.

Monson senior Aniah Myrie also scored a goal with three minutes remaining in the



Addison Peterson sends away a free kick.

opening half.

Holding a comfortable 6-0 halftime lead, Murphy completed her hat-trick with a goal five minutes into the second half. Bodak recorded her fourth assist.

Junior goalkeeper Emily Provost (8 saves) posted her 10th shutout of the season.

The Lady Mustangs defeated 10th-seeded Georgetown, 3-0, in the Division 5 quarterfinals, last Saturday. It was also their final home game of the 2023 campaign. The Lady Mustangs goals were scored by senior Emma Murphy, Hannah Murphy, and Myrie.

The Mustangs were scheduled to play Hull at Doyle Field in Leominster earlier this week in the state semifinals. If Monson wins, they would play in state finals on Saturday at site and time to be determined.

FOOTBALL | from page

The last two Palmer victories in the series came in 2016 (34-6) and in 2021 (21-0), which was played at Legion Field.

Fourth year Palmer head coach Matt Marciniac is looking forward to hosting the Lions on Thanksgiving morning.

"It is always nice to have the game at Legion Field and not have to get on and off a bus before and after the game," Marciniac said. "Seeing past players and the community come out for this great tradition is always a nice way to end the season whether we are home or away but having it on Legion is an extra bonus."

Overall, the Lions hold a 41-31-3 overall lead in the series, which began in 1947.

The members of the Ludlow football team, especially the seniors, enjoyed their turkey dinners a year ago following a 14-0 home victory. It was the final Thanksgiving Day game played on the grass field at the Ludlow Sports Complex. A new turf surface is scheduled to be installed

before next year's Thanksgiving Day game.

"The Thanksgiving Day game is always a very special day for the seniors because it's their final high school football game," said Saloio, who graduated from Ludlow High School. "You're always going to remember your last football game, especially if you're able to win it. No matter what you do in the future, nothing is the same as playing high school football. It's unique."

The seniors listed on the Ludlow football roster are Anthony Emco, Josh Marino, James Ferrara, Dan Krutka, Alex Freitas, Dan McKenney Jr., and Mason Marques.

"We asked a lot from our seniors this year," Saloio said. "We've also had a lot of injuries and we had to shuffle some players around to different positions." Emco was the Lions starting quarterback at the beginning of the regular season before suffering a season ending injury against Smith Vocational in the second game of the regular season.

According to Saloio, sophomore Mason Morace will be the

Lions starting QB against Palmer.

Ferrara, who's a wide receiver, also suffered a season ending injury.

Junior Kyle Rodrigues is another player who hasn't played this season due to an injury.

"The injuries have derailed us," Saloio said. "It has impacted in what we've been able to do, but some of our younger players have gained some experience, which should help us in the long run."

One of the Lions key defensive players is McKenney, who leads the team in interceptions.

Junior Ashton Leary, Marino, and Krutka are also key defensive players for Ludlow.

Ludlow (2-8) lost their first eight games of the regular season before winning two non-playoff games against McCann Tech (41-12) and Mahar Regional (35-20). Palmer also has a 2-8 overall record. They celebrated a 6-0 overtime win at home against Mahar and a 41-20 home non-playoff victory against Commerce on November 9.

The Panthers did win four games in a row against Ludlow

between 2008-2011.

The seniors listed on the 2023 Palmer football roster are Peiwihiet Tim, Karter Benoit, Osvaldo Nieves Jr., Tanner Kirk, Andrew Menard, and Andrew Haley.

"It being the last game for our seniors is important for them. I want them to enjoy the experience and take it all in and it's always nice for us to get them a win in their last game," said Marciniac, who graduated from Palmer High School. "I try to talk to all the athletes about the importance of traditions but also explain how it's important to play this game like any other game of football."

Leading the Panthers offense is sophomore quarterback Matt Santos.

Another sophomore is Dylan Doherty, who's a running back. Freshman Dylan Holbrook is a tight-end, and Nieves is a wide receiver.

Haley and Benoit, along with sophomore Gavin Smola, are the Panthers leaders defensively.

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Athlete of the Week

Aubrey Boucher
Palmer High School



Boucher made eight saves in goal to help lead Palmer girls soccer to the Class D Western Mass. Championship over Granby.

To nominate someone for Athlete of the Week, contact Managing Sports Editor Gregory A. Scibelli at 413-283-8393 ext. 258 or send an e-mail to gscibelli@turley.com.

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Sign up for the Wilbraham Turkey Trot

WILBRAHAM – Please join us on Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 23 for the Wilbraham Turkey Trot - a five-mile road race up Monson Road now in its 44th year. The annual tradition, started in 1980, has grown in recent years selling out at 500 runners the past several years. This year, the maximum has been increased to 550 participants.

The race returned successfully returned last Thanksgiving morning for the annual tradition benefiting the Community Survival Center. There is no vaccination requirement this year. The course starts in Woodland Dell Cemetery just up from race headquarters at the Wilbraham United Church. Runners then make a left onto Main St. and head up Monson Road. Once summited, runners turn left and enjoy scenic views of the valley from atop Ridge Road and enjoy the downhill along Mountain Road before turning back on Main Street to the church. The race starts at 8:30 a.m. with bib pick-up beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the church.

The race focuses on providing a classic New England Turkey Trot with chip timing, race swag, and one big hill. Awards will be given for the first

male and female runners to the top of Monson Road.

Registration is only \$20 and available online at www.RunReg.com/wilbrahamturkeytrot

Residents are asked not to park on Woodland Dell or Main Street on Thanksgiving morning and to avoid driving on the route until after the race has concluded at 10 a.m. Any traffic will be detoured downhill from Monson Road to Main along Ridge and Mountain Roads.

Expected road closures are as follows:

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

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

Ridge Road: Closed to uphill traffic from Mountain to Monson: 8:35-9:10 a.m.

(Traffic detoured down Mountain Road)

Mountain Road: Closed to uphill traffic from Main to Ridge: 8:40-9:25 a.m.

(Traffic can travel uphill via Monson Road)

BAILEY AWARD | from page 4

ment.

The members of the Leonard J. Bailey Memorial Committee are David Russo, Ann Duke, Mrs. Rocky Blazejowski, Bob Chase, and James St. Amand.

Bailey was a football and baseball coach at Palmer High School for a couple of years in the early 1960's, but he made a lifelong impact on his players. He passed away in 1968 at the age of 39.

"Coach Bailey was a very special person to us," said St. Amand during a recent interview. "He wasn't only our coach, but he also made sure that we also did well in the classroom. Unfortunately, he was only here in Palmer for only a very short period of time, but he was like a second father to us. He was someone that we really respected a lot."

St. Amand, who graduated from Palmer High School in 1962, has attended all of Ludlow and Palmer football games during the past 54 years.

"I've been blessed to be able to attend all of the Ludlow-Palmer football games," he said. "It's a privilege to represent this special award."

Bailey's wife, Barbara, won't be attending this year's game, but her daughter, Susan Avezzie, is planning on being at Legion Field on Thanksgiving morning.

The Bailey Award winner receives a personal trophy, a gift certificate and his name will be inscribed in the school's Memorial Trophy Case.

The seniors on this year's Palmer football roster are Peiwihiet Tim, Karter Benoit, Osvaldo Nieves Jr., Tanner Kirk, Andrew Menard, and Andrew Haley.

"We always look for a player that represents the team, school and the Palmer community well," Marciniac said. "It is important that they play a role on the team both on the field and through leadership as well as have a good academic record. The Bailey award is one of those awards that really goes to an all-around player both on the field, in the classroom and in and around the town of Palmer."

St. Amand's son, Eric, who graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, was the Bailey Award winner in 1988. His grandson, Tyler Mastalerz, who graduated from Syracuse University, received the award in 2010.

"To see your son and your grandson win the Bailey Award is very meaningful," Jim St. Amand said. "It's something that we talk about when we get-together on Thanksgiving."

Jim Santucci, who was selected as the Bailey Award winner in 1982, also graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point.

The winner of this year's Bailey Award will be receiving the award from Cardenales. They will be able to tell their children and grandchildren that they're a member of an elite club, which hopefully will continue for a very long time.

Candlepin League News

Thursday Night Mixed League

By Ryan Drago
Staff Writer
rdrago@turley.com

PALMER – Diamond Junction Bowling Lanes had a fun night of league bowling on Thursday night, Nov. 9.

The Thursday Night Mixed League had a night of stars and strikes as many high scores were bowled at the retro candlepin lanes.

In one match, Team Two bowled against Team Five. In game one, Team Five won by a score of 420-398. In game two, Team Two won by a score of 425-403.

Danny Fennyery of Team Two led his team to the win by scoring a 106 game. In game three, Team Two won over Team Five by a score of 413-392. Fennyery scored 115 in the third game and had a three-game series of 329 for the night.

Team Two won total pinfall by a final score of 1236-1215.

Team Three bowled against Team One for the night. In game one, Team One was victorious by scoring 447 to Team Three's 372.

Kris Rickson of Team One bowled a 127 and was well over his league average as was his whole team in the first game. In game two, Team One stayed strong and won by a score of 397-369.

In game three, Team Three won the last game by a score of

432-414. Jesse Danek of Team Three finished strong with a 113 game.

Team One was the overall winner in total pinfall by a score of 1258-1173.

Team Four bowled against Team Six. In game one, Team Four defeated Team Six in a close game by a score of 438-429. Nick Maslon started off his night with a 112 game.

In game two, Team Four won again by scoring 437 to Team Six's 419. In game three, Team Four won the final game of the night by a score of 432-378. Maslon had a three-game series of 312.

Team Four won total pinfall by a final score of 1307-1226.



Turley Photos by Paula Quimette
Katie Standiford of Longmeadow entered her ceramic sunflower, "Shades of Summer".



Donald "Donny" Longley stands by his metal seahorse sculpture.

ART SHOW | from page 3

Seay had several paintings in the show based off of photos provided to him by a friend, who is a retired U.S. Marine Corps veteran. One is of a green Humvee that his friend drove in Okinawa, Japan, and another is of a 1942 U.S. Navy Willys Jeep.

His friend had the Willys shipped home after he discovered the U.S. Navy wanted to get rid of it.

"We've rebuilt it twice," Seay said with a laugh. "It still runs."

Another painting featured a truck his friend drove while in Germany.

Nancy Harder of Ware also entered eight pieces into the Shaped by Service art show, featuring pottery, glasswork and more.

"I started as a littler girl, but I didn't pursue more of it until I retired," Harder said of her creative side.

Harder said she and her husband Gregory rent a cottage on the military base in Niceville, Florida, and she took advantage of a gift certificate she received from the local art studio CREATE!

"I just have such wonderful instructors there, it's very therapeutic...they embrace anyone who comes through the door," Harder said.

Gregory is a 20 plus year U.S. Air Force veteran, and while the two both grew up in Ware, they didn't know each other until later in life, when Gregory had retired from the military.

Harder said she was living in Chicago, and he was all over the world.

"We were introduced, and our children convinced us we should be a family," Harder said. Together, the couple has four sons.

Making her art brings her joy, Harder said. She makes a lot of pieces that remind her of Gregory and home.

"Gregory walks on the beach and brings me pieces of wood that washed up on shore," she said. One of her pieces in the show features a blue ceramic heart, hanging from a piece of driftwood collected by Gregory.

This was Donald "Donny" Longley's first time exhibiting in the show since he started his job as HomeFront Strong's chief operating officer a little over a year ago.

Longley, a metalworker, served in the U.S. Air Force for six years, stationed at Dyess Air Force Base in Texas. He was deployed to both Iraq and Saudi Arabia.

For about 20 years, Longley has made sculptures out of a mix of new and repurposed metals.

"I like making abstract stuff," Longley said of his sculptures, which included a fish, a seahorse and even a ball and chain made from old railroad spikes.

The fish is Longley's favorite piece he entered in the show, and it features metal from a number of sources, including old railroad pitchforks, a lawnmower blade and leaf springs from a car. Longley cut out 100 metal disks from a sheet of metal to resemble the fish's scales.

U.S. Navy veteran Katie Standiford of Longmeadow entered her ceramic sunflower bowl titled, "Shades of Summer". The bowl is layered with seven or eight glazes, washing it in warm tints of pink, yellow, orange and brown.

The base of the bowl, which is the center of the sunflower, remains unglazed to showcase the clay's rich, earthy color.

"It's called 'Shades of Summer' because it was a culmination of every-

thing I learned over the summer about glazing," she said. "How to get different depths in the surface so it wasn't flat...it really looks like a flower."

Standiford started taking a ceramics class as part of her art therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder about a year ago. Making the bowl took her about seven hours, with most of that time committed to layering the glazes.

Husband and wife artists Maurice and Linda Iorio traveled from Sterling to display their paintings in the show.

Maurice has exhibited in Shaped by Service for all three years, and last year, he even sold the painting he entered. It is now displayed at Monson Savings Bank.

Maurice has been painting since 2014 and Linda has been painting for over 50 years, and is also his teacher.

Linda remembered the first time her husband had expressed a desire to learn how to paint, during a cruise they took following Maurice's retirement, when she had brought her watercolors along.

Maurice served 21 years as U.S. Army intelligence, and two of his paintings in the show are of his military assignments. One is from his first assignment in Windsor Locks, Connecticut and another from his last in Turkey.

"90% of all of my paintings are from pictures I took," Maurice said.

Linda entered a painting of the morning fire at Fort Devens, as well as a sunset beach scene from Turkey. The beach scene was painted using a photo one of Maurice's friends from Turkey took.

Linda explores all types of mediums for her paintings, including acrylics, oils, watercolors and Japanese rice inks.

"I got to study with a phenomenal artist, who had his doctorate from Yale," Linda said.

Now the couple has turned a spare bedroom in their home into a studio to display their work, and spend many days together in the dining room, just painting.

"The main thing is I get to spend more time with my wife," Maurice said of his interest in painting.

Police/Fire

Police Logs

Palmer

The Palmer Police Department reported 419 incidents on its logs for Oct. 31- Nov. 6.

Oct. 31

At 3:53 p.m. police responded to a call on Main Street and gave summons to Andrew Pittsley, 34, of 441 Pleasant St., New Bedford, for harassing telephone calls and annoying electric communications.

At 5:10 p.m. police pulled over and arrested Marcus K. Sherman, 32, of 35 Slater Ave., Springfield on charges of operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, no inspection sticker, and a warrant.

Nov. 1

At 10:45 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage at Shearer's Corner.

At 1:58 p.m. police responded

to a general disturbance on Main Street and gave summons to Crystaline Soto, 35, of 1282.5 S. Main Street, Palmer for possession of class B drug, contributing to the delinquency of a child and operation of a motor vehicle with unlicensed/suspended license.

Nov. 2

At 7:55 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on the corner of Main Street and State Street.

At 4:40 p.m. police responded to an accident with property damage at the corner of Pleasant Street and Bourne Street.

Nov. 3

At 5:44 a.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury and gave summons to Ronald Henry Goodrow, 83, of 67 South St., Ware for negligent operation of a motor vehicle, marked lanes violation and speeding at a rate of speed greater

than was reasonable and proper.

At 11:45 a.m. police responded to an accident with personal injury on Ware Street.

Nov. 5

At 10:44 a.m. police responded to an accident with property damage on Thorndike Street.

Nov. 6

At 1:10 a.m. police arrested Casey Theresa Sullivan, 47, of 62 W. Main St., Ware for assault and battery.

At 10:11 a.m. police responded to an accident with animal injury on the corner of Belchertown Street and Norbell Street.

Monson

The Monson Police Department reported 237 incidents on its logs from Nov. 5 to Nov. 11. No arrests were made.

Fire Logs

Bondsville

For the period of Oct. 31 to Nov. 6, Bondsville fire responded to 2 calls.

On Friday, Nov. 3 at 8:45 p.m., the department responded to Thorndike Street for an alarm activation. The department returned to service at 9:01 p.m.

On Monday, Nov. 6 at 4:13 p.m., the Chief officer responded to State Street to investigate a fluid spill and then returned to service at 4:22 p.m.

Palmer

Palmer Fire Department also responded to three Medical Assist calls for the week.

Nov. 7

3:09 p.m. Arcing electrical equipment, Pine Street, Back in service at 3:24 p.m.

Nov. 8

10:17 a.m. Passenger vehicle fire, Massachusetts Turnpike, Back in service at 10:54 a.m.

Nov. 9

4:57 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident (no injury), Massachusetts Turnpike, Back in service at 6:25 p.m.

6:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident (injury), Commercial Street, Back in service at 7:19 p.m.

8:25 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident (no injury), Ware Street, Back in service at 9:05 p.m.

Nov. 10

2:24 p.m. Smoke scare, Old Warren Road, Back in service at 2:33 p.m.

Nov. 11

12:32 a.m. Station coverage, North Main Street (Belchertown mutual aid), Back in service at 4:32 a.m.

1:34 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident (injury), Ware Street, Back in service at 2:13 p.m.

Nov. 13

4:35 a.m. Alarm activation, North Main Street, Back in service at 5:09 a.m.

3:46 p.m. Police assistance, Forest Hill Drive, Back in service at 4:05 p.m.

Nov. 14

8:30 a.m. Public service, Fletcher Street, Back in service at 8:50 a.m.

Three Rivers

The Three Rivers Fire Department responded to five calls for the week of Nov. 5-11.

On Monday, Nov. 6, the Department responded to an EMS call for a motor vehicle accident on Off Lariviere Street.

The same day, the Department responded to a contained trash or rubbish fire on Belchertown Street.

Also, that day, the Department provided medical assistance to an EMS crew on Off Lariviere Avenue.

On Wednesday, Nov. 8, the Department responded to an EMS call for a motor vehicle accident on Main Street.

On Thursday, Nov. 9, the Department responded to smoke detector activation due to a malfunction on High Street.

Support the local businesses that support your local newspaper.
Let them know you saw their ad in the **Journal Register**

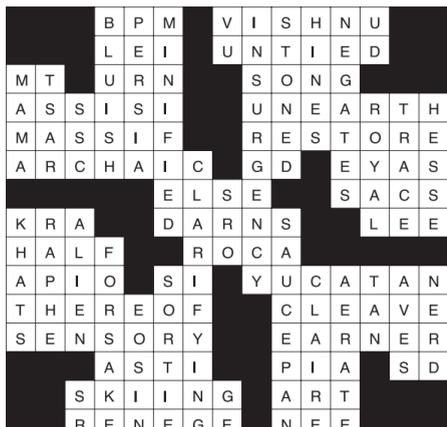
Junk & Bulk Trash Removal
Clean Out Solutions
Basement, Attic, Shed & Whole House Cleanouts
Shed, Pool & Hot Tub Removals
Arthur "Skip" Gervais (774)397-6500

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?
We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.
This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.
Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661.**

SCHOOL VAN DRIVERS
Monson - Palmer - Barre - Brookfield \$19.50/hr.
WE WILL TRAIN & LICENSE YOU
Paid sick time, Paid FMLA, Paid holidays.
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email: info@topfloorlearning.org

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 train. 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 Journal Register, please email journalregister@turley.com.
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DEATH NOTICES

Janice D. (Smith) Flegert
Died Nov. 12, 2023
Services Nov. 17, 2023
Lombard Funeral Home

Wallace J. Roberts, Jr.
Died on Oct. 31, 2023

Chester Martin Zajac
Died Nov. 8, 2023
Services Nov. 17, 2023
Beers & Story Funeral Home

Gloria (Yeomans) Ellsworth Morneau
Died Nov. 8, 2023
Lombard Funeral Home

The Journal Register
OBITUARY POLICY

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

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

O B I T U A R I E S

Janice D. (Smith) Flegert, 1949-2023

BRIMFIELD — Janice D. (Smith) Flegert, 74, passed away Nov. 12, 2023 surrounded by love of family. Janice was born in Springfield, Maine Mar. 28, 1949 to George and Mildred (Mailman) Smith. She grew up in Maine surrounded by 7 siblings and a large extended family. She moved to Brimfield where she made her home and raised her children. She retired from Sanderson MacLeod, Inc. in Palmer after 38 years. Her true joy was her grandchildren & being "Grammy".

Janice was predeceased by her husband, John P. Flegert in 2017. She leaves her daughter; Deanna Kaplan and her husband

Chad with whom she lived and their children Mackenzie, Madison and Brodie. Her son, Timothy Frenette and his wife Jessica of Brimfield and their twin daughters, Haven & Haylee and Timothy's older daughters, Heather and Christine with former daughter-in-law, Lori Frenette of Bondsville; stepdaughter, Jennifer Johns of Florida; brothers, William Smith and his wife Tammy, Richard Smith and his wife, Marilyn; sister, Georgina Smith all of Maine. Goddaughter, Tierney Batista of Holland; Janice had



7 grandchildren and 2 great grandchildren, Zoey and Hudson. Janice was predeceased by her parents and her siblings, Frank Smith, George Smith, Dorothy Doane and Sheila Payne.

Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with the arrangements. Visiting hours will be held Friday, Nov. 17, 2023 from 5-7pm in the funeral home.

For online condolences/directions please visit www.lombardfuneralhome.com

Gloria (Yeomans) Ellsworth Morneau, 1930-2023

HOLYOKE — Gloria (Yeomans) Ellsworth Morneau, 93, passed away Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2023 surrounded by love of family and friends, after a battle with cancer. She was born July 29, 1930 in Beverly, MA to the late Richard W. and Lillian (Urch) Yeomans. Gloria loved life to the fullest. She enjoyed shopping with her sister Deb and playing dominos with her two best friends Lois and Layrinda, who she dearly loved.

Gloria loved to dance, sing and she dressed up every Halloween for all her family and friends. In her younger years she even

went deer hunting with her first husband, Walter M. Ellsworth

Gloria was predeceased by her second husband Paul Morneau; her son, Walter M. Ellsworth, Jr. and infant daughter, Wendy. She is survived by Walter Jr's children, Kimberly and her husband Charles, and their children Kevin and Olivia. Daughter Lynn Chalou of Monson; her son Shawn Lamb, her great granddaughter, Nevaeh Lamb. A son, Wesley Ellsworth and his wife



Cindy of Monson; their children, Christopher and Nickolas. Daughter, Sonya Pike of WI and her children, Tiffany and Kylee. She also leaves her sisters; Donna, Pat, Joann, and Deb. She is predeceased by her siblings, Gardener, Richard, Florance and Barbara.

Lombard Funeral Home of Monson has been entrusted with the arrangements. A service will be held at the convenience of the family.

O B I T U A R I E S

Wallace J. Roberts, Jr

Wallace J. Roberts, Jr., aged 70, a resident of Springfield, Maine, peacefully passed away on October 31, 2023, at Eastern Maine Medical Center in Bangor. He was born on July 19, 1953, in Palmer, Massachusetts, to his loving parents, Wallace, Sr. and Doris (Keith) Roberts. Wallace spent the earlier part of his life in the Palmer area and later fulfilled his lifelong dream by retiring to Maine in 2012, where he could fully embrace his passion for hunting, fishing, and the beauty of the great north woods. He was a proud member of Maine's Big-

gest Buck's Club.

Wally, as he was affectionately known, worked as an independent logging contractor throughout most of his life. His dedication and hard work were a testament to his character.

Wallace will be dearly missed by his devoted wife of 47 years, Cynthia (Byrnes), his son Timothy, and his lifelong friend Dennis Mansfield. He is also survived by his siblings: Norma Roberts, Barba-



ra Rondeau, and her husband Roger, and Cheryl Rovelli. Additionally, he leaves behind nieces, nephews, and an extended family who will forever cherish the memories they created together.

A memorial service to celebrate Wallace's life will be held in Palmer, Massachusetts, with further details to be announced at a later date.

Chester Martin Zajac

MONSON — Chester Martin Zajac (Choo Choo), 82, a loving and devoted husband, son, brother, uncle, "adopted" father and friend passed away Nov. 8, 2023 at his home in Monson surrounded by family. He was born in Palmer, MA on July 20, 1941 to the late Stanley (Snuffy) F. and Aniela (Nellie) C. Zajac. He graduated from Palmer high school, STCC junior college, and attended UMASS, Amherst with a major in Business Administration. He worked for United Engineers before joining the U.S. Postal Service where he began as a "casual" employee and later joined the Postal Service Engineering Department from which he retired in July 2002. Chester served in the United States Marine Corps from Feb. 1962 to July 1965. While stationed in Kodiak, AK he experienced the 9.2 magnitude Earthquake of 1964. He also served aboard a troop carrier heading toward Cuba during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

Chet enjoyed coin collecting and encouraged younger family

members to appreciate the hobby. He also enjoyed Harley Davidson motorcycles and loved his 1967 Sportster. Being a child from a family that experienced the Great Depression, he enjoyed sharing financial and investing advice with his siblings, their families, and friends. He was the only member of his immediate family to attend college, so he stressed education to his many nieces and nephews.

Chet and his wife enjoyed many vacations, but his favorite was cruising. Their first cruise in 1982 resulted in life-long friendships with 2 couples from Long Island, N.Y. and their extended circle of friends. In all they enjoyed 10 cruises. They visited places such as Greece, Spain, France, Italy, Mexico, Venezuela, and all of the Caribbean Islands.

Besides his parents, Chet is predeceased by his siblings Mary Jane Pifer of Ft. Walton Beach, FL, Carol Ann Mason of Palm-



er, MA and Stanley E. Zajac of Bondsville, MA. He is survived by his wife of 49 wonderful years Barbara, and his brother Robert Zajac of Palmer, MA. Chester also leaves his godchildren, Ann-Marie Jones of West Palm Beach, FL and Nathan

Zajac of Florence, MA, as well as many nieces, nephews, their families and many friends.

Visitation will be held on Friday Nov. 17, 2023 from 4-7pm at the Beers & Story Palmer Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass will be held Saturday, Nov. 18th at 9am at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in Palmer. Burial will follow. In lieu of flowers a donation can be made in Chet's memory to the Clarke Schools for Hearing & Speech at www.clarkeschools.org or to the Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson's Disease at <https://www.michaeljfox.org>. For the full obituary, please visit www.beersandstory.com

Tips on dealing with grief during holidays

SPRINGFIELD — Looking at an empty chair at the table can bring a rush of emotions and it doesn't matter how long it has been, whether this year or in the past, since a family member or friend died.

"It's only natural to experience a range of emotions such as sadness, loneliness, and a feeling of helplessness

and hopelessness as you navigate the hustle and bustle of the holidays alone. Those feelings of grief, especially during Thanksgiving and the December holidays, often become more intense for those preparing to spend these joyous occasions for the first time without a spouse, child or other beloved family member or friend by their side," said Dr.

Anfang, vice chair for Clinical Services. Dr. Anfang noted that planning for the approaching holidays is the first step in developing your coping strategy, and there is no wrong or right way to deal with the holidays. Begin by making decisions that are comfortable for you and your family. Use your awareness that things are different to help you plan what makes sense. Holiday preparations, traditions, and family time may all feel less than normal. It is also important to remember that your emotions and energy level are strongly connected. Good self-care routines are important as you prepare and deal with the holiday season. Get plenty of rest and pay attention to healthy eating. Use alcohol in moderation. Plan self-care activities that will feed your mind, body and spirit. Give yourself permission to take care of yourself.

Anfang stressed that it's okay and not a sign of weakness to ask for help, whether it's help preparing some holiday treats, decorating the home, shopping, or just a shoulder to lean on.

"If you wish, you can find a way of formally remembering your loved one who is not physically present with you. For example, serving their favorite dessert and reflecting on the joy that it brought to your loved one in the past. It is stressful to experience the holiday without your loved one, but

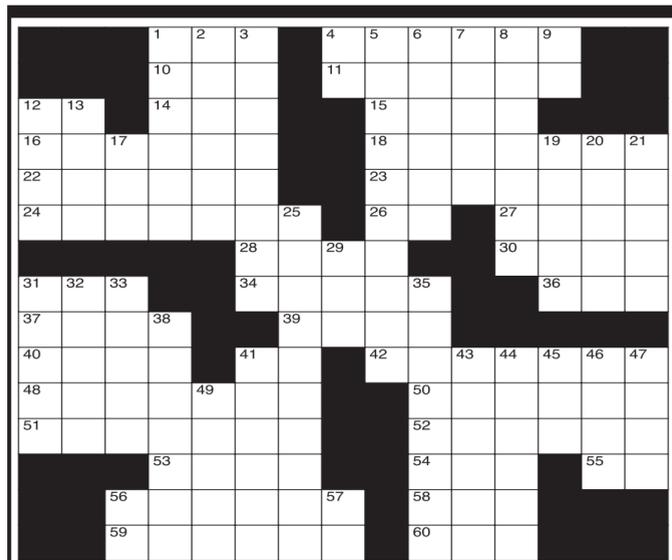
you can find ways to honor and include them," Anfang said.

According to the American Association of Retired Persons "it's amazing how in times of grief, sometimes the biggest comfort is to give to others," whether it's a physical present or doing something nice for others in need or who are also hurting. Many people volunteer during the holidays, such as serving meals at a local shelter or distributing toys to needy children.

Still, for some the holidays may offer a reprieve from sad feelings and you may find yourself caught up in the moment as you experience the joy of family and friends around you.

"If you are noticing more significant symptoms causing impairment at work, school or home, problems with sleep, low energy, dramatic change in appetite or weight, inability to concentrate, frequent crying, easy irritability, thoughts of hurting yourself or wanting to die, that may be time to seek some professional evaluation. A good place to start can be your primary care provider or a trusted clergy. Bottom line, help is available and do not suffer in silence," said Anfang.

If you do not have a primary care provider, you can find one at <https://www.baystatehealth.org/locations/search-results?loctype=primary%20care>.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Beats per minute
4. Hindu deity
10. Polynesian garland of flowers
11. Not chained to
12. Metric ton
14. Tall, rounded vase
15. Musical composition
16. St. Francis of
18. Discover the location of
22. Compact group of mountains
23. Mend
24. Not current
26. Atomic #64
27. Young hawk
28. Or
30. Pouches
31. Southern Thailand isthmus
34. Mends with yarn

CLUES DOWN

1. Similar to the color of a clear unclouded sky
2. Former name of Iran
3. Made smaller site
4. Type of meter
5. Revolt
6. Killed with rocks
7. Gregory __, US dancer
8. Nullifies
9. Home to the Flyers
12. Female parent
13. Pre-1917 Russian emperor
17. Outsourcing (abbr.)
19. Regal
20. Line
21. Hermann __, author of "Siddhartha"

25. Clearing up
29. No seats available
31. Leaves of an Arabian shrub
32. Groove in organ or tissue
33. Not of this world
35. Cooking device
38. Forget
41. Operational flight
43. Actress Danes
44. Poke holes in
45. A way to discolor
46. Shouts of welcome or farewell
47. Pharrell's group
49. Red fluorescent dye
56. Jr.'s dad
57. Electronics firm

Public Notices

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Town of Brimfield
Madeline Goodrich, Collector of Taxes
Office of the Collector of Taxes
Notice of Tax Taking

To the owners of the hereinafter described land and to all others concerned

You are hereby notified that on **Wednesday the 13th day of December, 2023, at 10:00 A.M.** at the Tax Collector's Office, 23 Main Street, pursuant to the provisions of General Laws, Chapter 60, Section 53, and by virtue of the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of Brimfield the following parcels of land for non-payment of the taxes due thereon, with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

Assessed To **HARWOOD BARBARA B**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.668 Acres located and known as 38 FOREST ROAD shown on the Town of Brimfield Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 6A-J-12 and being the premises recorded in book 06586 on page 0225 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2021 Tax \$3252.02

Assessed To **KINDBERG DAVID**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.144 Acres located and known as KNOLLWOOD ROAD shown on the Town of Brimfield Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 6A-B-28 and being the premises recorded in book 15294 on page 379 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2021 Tax \$71.35

Assessed To **MAHITKA MICHAEL P**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 1.13 Acres located and known as 385 BROOKFIELD ROAD shown on the Town of Brimfield Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 48-A-4 and being the premises recorded in book 22058 on page 261 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2021 Tax \$2,130.92

Assessed To **PETRIE JESSICA A**
A parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 11.105 Acres located and known as 10 CHAMPEAUX ROAD shown on the Town of Brimfield Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 15-8-4 and being the premises recorded in book 21184 on page 527 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2021 Tax \$4,234.61

Assessed To **STAVROPOULOS ROSS and STAVROPOULOS MARIA A** parcel of land with any buildings thereon, approximately 0.309 Acres located and known as KNOLLWOOD ROAD shown on the Town of Brimfield Assessors Records as Parcel Identifier 6A-E-14 and being the premises recorded in book 4032 on page 162 in the Hampden Registry of Deeds.
2021 Tax \$376.30

11/16/2023

MORE NOTICES ON PAGE 13 & 14

PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for The Journal Register, please email mharrison@turley.com.

In Memory of
President John F. Kennedy
on the 60th Anniversary of his death
Nov. 22, 1963 ~ Nov. 22, 2023

Eternal rest grant unto him O Lord.
And let perpetual light shine upon him.
May he rest in peace.

May his soul and the souls
of all the faithful departed,
through the mercy of God rest in peace.

Cebula Funeral Home
66 South Street, Ware, MA
413-967-4911

Public Notices

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampshire Probate and Family Court
15 Atwood Drive
Northampton, MA 01060
(413)586-8500**
Docket No. HS23P0700EA
Estate of:
Robert Anthony Aversa
Date of Death: 07/01/2023
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Judith E. Aversa of Ware, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Judith E. Aversa of Ware, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 12/06/2023.**

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

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Diana S. Velez Harris**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 30, 2023
Michael J. Carey
Register of Probate
11/16/2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **Heather M. Carson** to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Residential Mortgage Services, Inc., dated September 24, 2018 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22371, Page 553, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as mortgagee, as nominee for Residential Mortgage Services, Inc., its successors and assigns to Specialized Loan Servicing LLC, recorded on February 15, 2022, in Book No. 24405, at Page 526 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 AM on December 18, 2023**, on the mortgaged premises located at 9 Amber Road, Holland, Hampden County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage.

TO WIT:
The land in Holland, Hampden County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon, situated on the southerly side of Amber Road, being Lots 2, 3, 4, 5 and 33 on a Plan of Amber Park by Smith and Wallen, Engineers, dated April 1948 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book of Plans 27, Page 98, together bounded and described as follows:

NORTHERLY by Amber Road, 350.67 feet;
EASTERLY by Lot 1 on said plan, 90 feet;
SOUTHERLY by Lots 9, 8, 7 and 6 on said plan, 240 feet;
WESTERLY by Lot 32 on said plan, 20 feet;
SOUTHERLY by said Lot 32, 100 feet; and
WESTERLY by Pleasant Street, 55 feet.
Together with a right of way in common with others to use all roads as laid out on said plan for purposes of travel, and the right in common with others to use a fifty-foot right of way on Mashapaug Road beginning at a point 488 feet northeast of Amber Hill Brook for the purpose of getting to and from Hamilton Reservoir and to keep a boat at same.

SUBJECT to restrictive covenants, conditions, easements, agreements and reservations as set forth and as referenced in an instrument dated October 17, 2008 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 17522, Page 192, as the same may still be in force and applicable to locus. For mortgagor's(s)' title see deed recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 22371, Page 551. These premises will be sold and conveyed subject to and with the benefit of all rights, rights of way, restrictions, easements, covenants, liens or claims in the nature of liens, improvements, public assessments, any and all unpaid taxes, tax titles, tax liens, water and sewer liens and any other municipal assessments or liens or existing encumbrances of record which are in force and are applicable, having priority over said mortgage, whether or not reference to such restrictions, easements, improvements, liens or encumbrances is made in the deed.

TERMS OF SALE: A deposit of Five Thousand (\$5,000.00) Dollars by certified or bank check will be required to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The balance is to be paid by certified or bank check at Harmon Law Offices, P.C., 150 California St., Newton, Massachusetts 02458, or by mail to P.O. Box 610389, Newton Highlands, Massachusetts 02461-0389, within thirty (30) days from the date of sale. Deed will be provided to purchaser for recording upon receipt in full of the purchase price. The description of the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of an error in this publication.

Other terms, if any, to be announced at the sale.
SPECIALIZED LOAN SERVICING LLC
Present holder of said mortgage

By its Attorneys,
HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C.
150 California St.
Newton, MA 02458
(617)558-0500
23341
11/16, 11/23, 11/30/2023

NOTICE OF MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE
Premises: 3144 Main Street, Unit 3144, a/k/a 3144 Main Street, Unit 23, Palmer a/k/a Bondsville, Massachusetts
By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **Theresa Mackiewicz** to Mortgage

Electronic Registration Systems, Inc. ("MERS"), as mortgagee, as nominee for Movement Mortgage, LLC its successors and assigns and now held by Movement Mortgage, LLC, said mortgage dated December 8, 2021, and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 24290, Page 436, as affected by an Assignment of Mortgage dated May 2, 2023, and recorded with said Deeds in Book 24992, Page 225, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at Public Auction on **November 30, 2023 at 11:00 AM Local Time** upon the premises, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

The unit ("Unit") known as No. 23 in the Riverbend at Bondsville Condominium, Main Street, Bondsville, Hampden County, Massachusetts. The Unit is part of a condominium established by Bondsville Partners, Inc. pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 183A by Master Deed dated March 10, 1989 and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds on March 10, 1989 in Book 7115, Page 14, as amended by a First Amended and Restated Master Deed dated and recorded April 17, 1990 in Book 7433 Page 227, said Master Deed as amended being hereinafter referred to as the "Master Deed". The Unit is shown on the floor plans of the Building filed simultaneously with said Master Deed in Hampden County Registry of Deeds and on the copy of the portion of said plans showing the Unit is attached hereto and made a part hereof, to which is affixed the verified statement of a registered architect in the form required by Section 9 of said Chapter 183A. Said Unit is conveyed with: An undivided 2.8 percent interest in the common areas and facilities of the Property described in said Master Deed ("Common Elements") attributable to the Unit; The non-exclusive right to use parking spaces, lawn areas and walkways in the lots owned as part of the Common Elements; An

easement for the continuance of all encroachments by the Unit on any adjoining units or Common Elements existing as a result of construction of the building in which the Unit is located, or which may come into existence hereafter as a result of settling or shifting of the building, or as a result of repair or restoration of the building or of the Unit, after damage or destruction by fire or other casualty, or after taking in eminent domain proceedings, or by reason of an alteration or repair to the Common Elements made by or with the consent of the Board of Trustees; An easement in common with the owners of other Units to use any pipes, wires, ducts, chimneys, flues conduits, public utility lines and other Common Elements located in any of the other units or elsewhere on the Property, and serving the Unit; and Any easement to use any deck or patio to which access may be had only through Unit conveyed. Said Unit is conveyed subject to: Easements in favor of adjoining units and in favor of the Common Elements for the continuance of all encroachments of such adjoining units or Common Elements on the Unit, now existing as a result of construction of the buildings, or which may come into existence hereafter as a result of settling or shifting of the building in which the Unit is located, or as a result of repair or restoration of the Building or of any adjoining unit or of the Common Elements after damage or destruction by fire or other casualty, or after taking in eminent domain proceedings, or by reason of an alteration or repair to the Common Elements made by or with the consent of the Board of Trustees. An easement in favor of any adjoining Units as a common user of any common steps, entranceways, and hallways (if said steps, entranceway and hallways serve more than one Unit). An easement in favor of the other units to use the pipes, wires, chimneys, ducts, flues, conduits, cables, public utility lines and other Common Elements located in the Unit and serving such other units. The rights in favor of owners of other Units to use the

parking lots, lawn areas and walkways owned as party of the Common Elements. The provisions of the Master Deed, Condominium Trust, By-Laws and floor plans of the condominium recorded simultaneously with and as part of the Master Deed, as the same may be amended from time to time by instruments recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds, which provisions, together with any amendments thereto, shall constitute covenants running with the land and shall bind any person having at any time any interest or estate in the Unit, his family, servants, and visitors, as though such provisions were recited and stipulated at length herein. The provisions of Massachusetts General Law Chapter 183A. Such taxes attributable to the Unit and Common Elements for the current fiscal year which are not yet due and payable. Provisions of existing building zoning laws. The Unit is intended only for residential purposes. No use may be made of the Unit except as a residence for the Owner thereof or members of his or her immediate family or such lessees as may be permitted under the By-Laws, or for no more than two person unrelated by blood or marriage, and no portion thereof may be used as an office or any business whatsoever, whether or not accessory to a residential use.

The description of the property contained in the mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.
For Mortgagor's Title see deed dated December 6, 2021, and recorded in Book 24290, Page 432 with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds.

TERMS OF SALE: Said premises will be sold and conveyed subject to all liens, encumbrances, unpaid taxes, tax titles, municipal liens and assessments, if any, which take precedence over the said mortgage above described.

TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) Dollars of the purchase price must be paid by a certified check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check at the time and place of the sale by the purchaser. The balance of the purchase price shall be paid by a certified

check, bank treasurer's or cashier's check within forty-five (45) days after the date of sale.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.
Marinosci Law Group, P.C.
275 West Natick Road,
Suite 500
Warwick, RI 02886
Attorney for Movement Mortgage, LLC
Present Holder of the Mortgage
Telephone: (401) 234-9200
MLG File No.: 23-02184
11/02, 11/09, 11/16/2023

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by **Erin Przybycien**, Trustee of The 33-35 Ruggles Street Realty Trust to **Aura Mortgage Advisors, LLC**, dated July 12, 2013 and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 19918, Page 565 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage **Aura Mortgage Advisors, LLC** is the present holder, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 33-35 Ruggles Street, Palmer (Three Rivers), MA 01080 will be sold at a Public Auction at **12:00 PM on November 27, 2023**, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:
A certain tract of land, with the buildings thereon, situated on the easterly side of Ruggles Street, in the village of Three Rivers, Town

of Palmer, Hampden County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a stone bound in the easterly side of said Ruggles Street, at the southwest corner of the land to be conveyed and at the northwest corner of a private way, sometimes called Wilson Street, running easterly from said Ruggles Street, said stone bound being also forty (40) feet northerly, measured along the easterly side of Ruggles Street, from the northwest corner of land of Michael and Agnes Godak, formerly of James Wilson;

thence northerly along the easterly side of said Ruggles Street, one hundred (100) feet to a stone bound in line of land formerly of Charles S. Ruggles, now of John and Julia Jajuga;

thence easterly along last named land one hundred sixty-five (165) feet to a stone bound in line of land formerly of said Ruggles, now of Karol Kohowski;

thence southerly along last named land and land of Frank and Anna Lesnewski, one hundred (100) feet to a stone bound in the northerly line of said private way;

thence westerly along the northerly line of said private way; one hundred sixty-five (165) feet to the place of beginning.

Deed from NSP Residential, LLC, to Erin Przybycien, as Trustee of the 33-35 Ruggles Street Realty Trust, to be recorded herewith.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 19918, Page 563.

The premises will be sold

subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, **Korde & Associates, P.C.**, 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

Other terms to be announced at the sale.

Aura Mortgage Advisors, LLC
Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Przybycien, Edward J.
and Lorrie J. Przybycien,
23-024215
11/02, 11/09, 11/16/2023

MORE NOTICES ON PAGE 12 & 14

CONSERVATION AGENT TOWN OF PALMER

Advices the Conservation Commission on administering the Wetlands Protection Act and other pertinent bylaws and regulations. Assists the Conservation Commission in its mission to protect the community's natural resources, including its biodiversity, wetlands, and other water resources. Issues needed permits and monitors projects for compliance with above mentioned laws and regulations. Assists the Commission in planning, acquisition, administration, and management of municipal conservation land, and oversees tasks such as trail building and maintenance, signage and clean-up. Works independently with minimal supervision.

Work schedule is largely during business hours, but also includes regular evening meetings and occasional evening/weekend field work. Physical agility needed to access areas of conservation lands and project sites.

To submit resume/cover letter, or for a complete job description, contact: hmarnarino@townofpalmer.com.

Position open until filled.

Job Connection

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Visit www.sunshine.us or call us at 413/592-6142 Ext 1109.

AA/EOE. Sunshine Village is a great place to work!

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Public Notices

MORE NOTICES ON PAGE 12 & 14

LEGAL NOTICE MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue of and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in a certain mortgage given by Jean R. Rodich to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., dated December 6, 2006 and recorded in Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 16382, Page 545 (the "Mortgage") of which mortgage Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Owner Trustee for Cascade Funding Mortgage Trust HB4 is the present holder by Assignment from Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to Nationstar Mortgage LLC D/B/A Champion Mortgage Company dated October 16, 2017 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 21902, Page 47, and Assignment from Nationstar Mortgage LLC D/B/A Champion Mortgage Company to Mortgage Assets Management, LLC dated February 7, 2022 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 24583, Page 219, and Assignment from Mortgage Assets Management, LLC to Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its indi-

vidual capacity but solely as Owner Trustee for Cascade Funding Mortgage Trust HB4 dated June 5, 2023 and recorded at said Registry of Deeds in Book 25136, Page 572, for breach of conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same, the mortgaged premises located at 37 Bridge Street, Monson, MA 01057 will be sold at a Public Auction at **1:00 PM on November 27, 2023**, at the mortgaged premises, more particularly described below, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Certain real estate situated in Monson, Hampden County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at an iron pin in the westerly side of Bridge Street, in said Monson, at the southeasterly corner of land now or formerly of Wiktorya Holda, and running thence S. 13 degrees 42' 00" W., along said Bridge Street, one hundred thirty-six and 75/100 (136.75) feet to an iron pin at land now or formerly of Horace D. Moulton;

thence running N. 87 degrees 30' 30" W. along said last named land, nine-

ty-five and 57/100 (95.57) feet to an iron pin; thence running S. 89 degrees 17' 30" W. along said last named land, twenty-two and 90/100 (22.90) feet to an iron pin at land of Lawrence and Theresa Coolong;

thence running N. 6 degrees 25' 00" W. along said Coolong land, one hundred seventy-three and 90/100 (173.90) feet to an iron pin at the corner of land of said Holda; thence running S. 49 degrees 39' 00" E. along said Holda land, one hundred forty-five and 18/100 (145.18) feet to an iron pin;

thence running N. 40 degrees 16' 00" E. along said Holda land, seventy and 30/100 (70.30) feet to an iron pin; thence running S. 76 degrees 18' 00" E. along said Holda land, fourteen and 67/100 (14.67) feet to Bridge Street at the place of **BEGINNING**.

Subject to any conditions, covenants, easements and restrictions of record insofar as the same are in force and applicable.

For title reference, see Book 3656 and Page 82.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 3656, Page

82. The premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior liens or other enforceable encumbrances of record entitled to precedence over this mortgage, and subject to and with the benefit of all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record and subject to all tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession.

Terms of the Sale: Cashier's or certified check in the sum of \$5,000.00 as a deposit must be shown at the time and place of the sale in order to qualify as a bidder (the mortgage holder and its designee(s) are exempt from this requirement); high bidder to sign written Memorandum of Sale upon acceptance of bid; balance of purchase price payable by certified check in thirty (30) days from the date of the sale at the offices of mortgagee's attorney, Korde & Associates, P.C., 900 Chelmsford Street, Suite 3102, Lowell, MA or such other time as may be designated by mortgagee. The description for the premises contained in said mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this

publication. **Other terms to be announced at the sale.**

Wilmington Savings Fund Society, FSB, not in its individual capacity but solely in its capacity as Owner Trustee for Cascade Funding Mortgage Trust HB4

Korde & Associates, P.C.
900 Chelmsford Street
Suite 3102
Lowell, MA 01851
(978) 256-1500
Rodich, Jean R.
23-041931
11/02, 11/09, 11/16/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD23P2307EA
Estate of:
Frank Skomro
Date of Death:
August 9, 2023
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Cheryl Denner of Monson, MA** a will has been admitted to informal probate. **Cheryl Denner of Monson, MA** has been

informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 11/16/2023

**TOWN OF PALMER
TOWN COUNCIL
NOTICE OF PASSAGE**
On November 13, 2023, the Palmer Town Council

passed Loan Authorization 2023-1, a Bond Order authorizing the borrowing of additional funds in the amount of \$2,000,000 for the purpose of paying costs of designing and reconstructing the wastewater treatment plant roof. This amount is in addition to the \$2,868,000 previously appropriated for this project. A complete text of this loan authorization is available at the office of the Town Manager and Town Clerk, 4417 Main St., Palmer, MA 01069.

Town Council of Palmer, MA
November 13, 2023
11/16/2023

TOWN OF PALMER PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A, Section 15 M.G.L. the Palmer Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday, November 30, 2023 at 5:00PM** at the Palmer Town Administration Building, 4417 Main Street, Palmer, MA.

The applicant, James

McMahon is requesting an administrative appeal from a decision of the Building Inspector dated September 7th, 2023 to deny a building permit in accordance with §171-124(E), which limits the number of Marijuana Retailers in the Town of Palmer to three (3) at any one time. The property is located at 1140 Thorndike St. This parcel is also known as Assessor's Map 65, Lot 8.

A copy of the application may be inspected at the Planning Department office in the Administrative Building from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM Monday through Thursday.

Anyone interested in more information or wishing to be heard on the application can contact the Planning Department at 413-283-2605 or appear at the time and place designated above.

This notice shall also be posted on the Massachusetts Newspaper Publishers Association's (MNPA) website (<http://masspublicnotices.org>).

Dennis Fountain, Chairman
Palmer Zoning Board of Appeals
11/09, 11/16/2023

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MISCELLANEOUS

2007 CUB CADET MOWER. Series 1000, Model LT 1042 needs some TLC. \$200. **2001 Dodge Durango**, 8 cyl., auto, 146,000 miles. **508-867-9734.**

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- cane, fiber rush & splint - Classroom instructor, 20+ years experience. Call Walt at (413)289-6670 for estimate.

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Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

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Employment contingent upon satisfactory completion of a background investigation, including CORI, DCF, SORI, and fingerprint-based national CORI, NCCOR, and out of state checks if applicable, and driving record check if applicable.

To apply please go to <https://www.communityaction.us/job-openings> for full job description and information regarding benefits.

Community Action is committed to a diverse workforce. AA/EOE/ADA

HELP WANTED

TOWN OF BROOKFIELD HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT

Brookfield is seeking a full-time Highway Superintendent. Full job description and application details at brookfieldma.us. Deadline to apply is November 20th or when position is filled, whichever is longer.

PAID ON-THE-JOB HOME HEALTH AIDE TRAINING.

Earn \$2000 once you complete our Certified Home Health Aide 115-hour Training Program. \$300 Sign on Bonus also available! Call **Excel Nursing Services 413-583-8900, EOE. www.excelnursing services.com**

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



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.

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133 JABISH ST. BELCHERTOWN, MA
Mill Hollow Apartments is located in a quiet country setting with bright, clean one bedroom units. Heat, hot water, carpet and appliances are included. Patios and balconies. Near transportation and shopping. Pets allowed. Pet rules apply. To qualify applicants must be 62 years of age or older, handicapped, disabled regardless of age and meet income guidelines. Apply at the Rental Office, 121 N. Main St., Belchertown or call (413) 323-5535 or TTY 711.



REAL ESTATE

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 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 advertised 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.

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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

DEADLINES: QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS – MONDAY AT NOON

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

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Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

Buy the Quabbin Village Hills or the Suburban Residential Zone for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word. Add \$10 for a second Zone or add \$15 to run in ALL THREE ZONES.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
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First ZONE base price _____ Includes additional words
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Subtotal _____
x Number of Weeks _____
TOTAL Enclosed _____

Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):
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 Suburban
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OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

Veterans Day Parade makes its way down Main St. in Bondsville



State Representative Todd Smola chats with Town Councilors Mark Caci and Phillip Hebert in the parade.



The Boy Scouts carried flags for the parade.

Photos by Marcelo Gusmão



Veterans wave as they march from the Fire Station to the Post Office.



Jessica O'Dean, Charlene Walker, Arely, 4, Kammen, 6, and Maxwell, 7.



Girl Scout Troop #65085 carried a banner as they marched on Veterans Day.



Cheerleaders twirl flags ahead of the marching band from Palmer High School.



Local politicians walk along with the parade.



The Palmer High School band performed as part of the parade.



The Girl Scouts carried flags for the parade.



As the parade came to a close, the crowd gathered in front of the Post Office.



Mark Caci, Father Rick Turner, and Todd Smola, stand behind Robert Lavoie as he addresses the crowd.



The Boy Scouts marched alongside veterans, carrying flags for their country and Second Congregational Church.



After the ceremony, residents were invited to attend a lunch at AmVets Post #74.



The Palmer High School band played music to accompany the ceremony held in the Bondsville Grammar Park.



Boy Scouts Crew #164 carried a flag for St. Mary's Church.

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QUILTS OF VALOR



William Griswold of Palmer proudly wears his Quilt of Valor, joined by his wife, Charlann.



U.S. Air Force veteran and retired HomeFront Strong board member Belinda Morrone receives a Quilt of Valor from Kate Blanchard and Connie Barnes during HomeFront Strong's Military Appreciation Breakfast held at the Ware Senior Center this past Saturday.



Kate Blanchard thanks Palmer veteran William "Billy" Byrnes for his service.



William "Billy" Byrnes, a U.S. Army veteran, wears his red, white and blue quilt.

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The Springfield chapter started making Quilts of Valor 10 years ago, traveling to the Charlton Sewing Center before starting their own chapter closer to home. Together, they've made over 150 quilts.

Veterans can receive a lot of awards and recognition for their acts of service and bravery when protecting their country and freedom, she said, but these quilts are really to honor their willingness to serve.

"Quilts of Valor are honoring those who served and went where they were told to go," Blanchard said. "You did it, you served."

Blanchard shared a story she heard from a Korean War veteran, who had enlisted when he was just 16 years old. By the time he was 19, he was the "old man" of his unit, with the rank of sergeant.

One day, as this veteran was being driven past another servicemember handling artillery, he noticed something wasn't right with the gun that was about to be fired. He jumped out of the Jeep, and threw a hammer at the gun.

His quick actions saved five lives that day. There wasn't even a notation about this heroic action in his military files, Blanchard said.

This is the life of a veteran, she said. "In many times, this isn't even acknowledged," Blanchard said. "We are grateful for that service."

The quilts were presented to William Griswold, a U.S. Army veteran from Palmer, Belinda Morrone, a U.S. Air Force veteran from Worcester, William "Billy" Byrnes, a U.S. Army veteran from Palmer and Willie Lemieux, a U.S. Marine Corps veteran from Belchertown. Gerald Flynn, a U.S. Army veteran, also received a quilt but was unable to attend the ceremony.

Morrone, a retired HomeFront Strong board member, is part of a smaller group of veterans recognized for their service, Blanchard said.

"We're in a minority being female, but we are veterans," said Blanchard, who is also a veteran.

Blanchard and Barnes wrapped each



Veterans stand as their military branch's song is played.



Belchertown veteran Willie Lemieux, U.S. Marine Corps, wears his Quilt of Valor as Kate Blanchard explains its significance.

quilt around its recipient, thanking them individually for their service.

"We truly hope they provide warmth and comfort to you," Blanchard said of the quilts.

This is the third year HomeFront Strong, formerly the Brookfield Institute, has hosted its Military Appreciation Breakfast on Veterans Day. The breakfast is always free, and open to all veterans, servicemembers, and their families.

"We had a veterans breakfast prior to the pandemic," Jennifer Baublitz, executive director for HomeFront Strong said, seeing it return as an annual event last year.

This breakfast is just one of the ways HomeFront Strong continues its mission to build resiliency in veterans and military families through targeted programs and resources. The organization also hosts a drop-in Morning Coffee program on the fourth Thursday of each month from 10-11:30 a.m. at the Palmer Public Library, offering snacks, coffee and camaraderie.

"We remember those who serve the people," Baublitz said. "We remember our comrades."

While almost every seat in the dining room of the Senior Center was filled on Saturday, one chair at a small table remained empty the entire time.

The table, which was draped in a white table cloth, was set to honor prisoners of war and those missing in action.

"We remember them," Baublitz said, as she read the significance of each item placed on the table. "Remember until the day they come home."

The table is smaller than the other tables in the dining room, symbolizing the frailty of one prisoner alone against their captors. The black napkin represents the emptiness left in the families' hearts.

The table has a red rose, a candle, a bread plate and an inverted wine glass. On the bread plate is a lemon, a bitter reminder of these POW/MIA's fate, and salt to represent the tears of their loved ones.

The glass is overturned, to remind people that these servicemembers are not here to raise their glasses.

Baublitz credited a crew of dedicated volunteers for making the breakfast a success, including Senior Center Executive Director John Zienowicz, Chef Alton Davis, Council on Aging members and Senior Center volunteers, along with Country Bank staff, who served and cleared plates.

Morrone presented a medallion coin to each volunteer, as well as to HomeFront Strong staff and volunteers.

She also recognized Town Manager Stuart Beckley, Veterans Service Officer Mark Avis, along with Select-board members Nancy Talbot and Jack Cascio and Superintendent of Ware Public Schools Michael Lovato, who all attended the breakfast.

For more information about HomeFront Strong and the programs and services it offers, find them on Facebook and Instagram, visit brookfieldinstitute.org, call 508-499-9589 or email jennifer@brookfieldinstitute.org.

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