

OBITUARY

Nancy Susan Sena Penn, 86

Nancy was one of five children of Christine Zapka Sena and Andrew Sena of Park Hill Orchards in Easthampton.

Both of her parents were of Slovak descent and active in the local Slovak community of Easthampton. She was predeceased by her immediate family including brothers, Donald, David, Larry and sister Midge (Margaret). She is survived by her sons, Jeffrey Scott Penn and wife Susan Dion, children Nijel and Ashlin Dion and Joel Stuart Penn and wife Kim Penn, children Jacob Penn, Christopher Fulton and great-grandchildren, Leah, Aria and Charlotte Fulton.

She grew up in Easthampton with a close and loving family in a vibrant community. In high school, she participated in Glee club and was a cheerleader and Class Secretary. She loved to sing and was a member of the choirs at St. John's Lutheran Church in Hatfield, Trinity Lutheran Church in Easthampton and Russell Community Church. She trained briefly at Smith College in opera.

Nancy married in 1959. After adventures in Greely, Colorado and Windsor Locks, Connecticut, she settled in Huntington in 1961 to raise her sons, divorcing when they were adults.

Her work included secretary at a hospital in



Greely, Colorado and at Pratt and Whitney in Hartford, Connecticut. She was a Stanley Home Products hostess and returned to school to earn her Masters in both Business and Education at Westfield State, along with many other certifications.

She went on to be a special education educator, caring for and turning around many youth at several institutions including substituting at Gateway School District and full-time teaching at West Springfield Job Corps, Pace Center, Peck Middle School in Holyoke and Springfield Public Schools. She never forgot her students and always held on to her love of teaching.

Friends and family will never forget her firecracker spirit, intelligence and generosity. Nancy was an amazing mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, always up for adventure and fun and ready for mischief and silliness.

A wake for Nancy Penn will be held at Mitchell Funeral Home at 15 Park St., Easthampton, on Thursday, Jan. 11 from 10 a.m.-noon with a Celebration of her life at 11:30 a.m. followed by burial.

In lieu of flowers, you may make a donation to Hilltown Community Ambulance, 1 Bromley Road, Huntington, MA 01050.

Read the Country Journal online at countryjournal.turley.com

REGION

Legislators present check to Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts

SPRINGFIELD – Local legislators presented a \$200,000 check from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts to support its 413Cares initiative on Monday, Dec. 18 at 9:30 a.m. at PHIWM offices, 127 State St., fourth floor in the Community Music School of Springfield building.

Representative Michael Finn, Senator Adam Gomez, Senator Jacob Oliveira and other state legislators from Western Massachusetts joined the Public Health Institute to present the state funding secured for 413Cares in the FY2024 state budget. Funding was secured through the Department of Public Health.

Launched in 2019 by PHIWM, 413Cares.org is an online community resource database for Western Massachusetts. Thousands of people have utilized 413Cares.org to access critical information, resources, and referrals to community-serving organizations, all from one online portal. The platform has reached over 100,000 searches, and over 111,000 interactions with programs.

The funding is the result of a legislative earmark of the FY24 state budget, sponsored by Representative

Finn and Senator Gomez. PHIWM has received funding from the Commonwealth in the past two legislative budgeting cycles to support 413Cares, which is managed by PHIWM. Resources from the State have been used to collect data during and after the pandemic and have also been utilized to improve and update the 413Cares.org website, and raise awareness of the resource in the region.

This year the resources are funding three new regional partners to provide outreach, promotion and support of the platform: Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, Quaboag Hills Community Coalition, and the Hilltown Community Health Center. This is in addition to existing regional partner Community Action of Pioneer Valley, funded by Baystate Health.

The Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts was formed over 20 years ago with the goal of using data and its convening power to create collaborative partnerships in building a public health system through a health equity lens. The Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts is building this through community engagement, collaborative partnerships, research and evaluation and policy advocacy.

MassDOT launches plans to establish a network of electric vehicle chargers

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation is reaching out to vendors to establish a network of reliable fast charging stations for electric vehicles on state roadways.

A Request for Responses has been issued which will result in a list of pre-qualified vendors from which MassDOT may select one or more vendors to enter into a pre-development agreement, obligating the vendor(s) to evaluate sites that are identified for National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure.

Following the completion of the evaluation and confirmation by MassDOT as to particular sites, MassDOT will then issue a Task Order to vendors which are under pre-development contracts; vendors will then design, permit, build, operate, and maintain NEVI Direct Current Fast Charging stations at the identified locations.

“MassDOT is excited to be taking this step towards a brighter future for our environment and for ourselves with the installation of a state-wide network of reliable fast-charging stations for electric vehicles,” said Transportation Secretary and CEO Monica Tibbitts-Nutt. “Fast-charging stations at convenient locations along major roads will absolutely lead to reduced air pollution, fewer gas-guzzling cars on our roads and a willingness by people to make smarter choices which will help combat climate change.”

“This initiative from MassDOT is an incredibly welcomed step toward achieving our climate goals,” said Climate Chief Melissa Hoffer. “Electric vehicles are key to reducing our state’s reliance on fossil fuels and increasing the number of charging stations across our roadways will incentivize people to take that step toward a more sustainable form of transportation.”

Initial Responses to the Request for Responses will be due on Jan. 11, 2024 and the RFR process is expected to conclude in May 2024.

MassDOT will use funding from the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Formula Program to implement DCFC stations. This program was established via the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act signed in November of 2021.

The NEVI Program makes funding available to all states for the purpose of establishing a network of reliable fast chargers. In September of 2022, MassDOT submitted its initial NEVI Plan outlining how the state intended to utilize its allocated NEVI funding.

Core requirements of each NEVI charging station are that they shall have a minimum of four 150 kW Combined Charging System chargers, each able to simultaneously charge at 150 kW, spaced no further than 50 miles apart along the federally designated Alternative Fuel Corridors.

DEATH NOTICE

PENN, NANCY SUSAN SENA

Died Dec. 27, 2023
Celebration of Life Jan. 11 at 11:30 a.m.

Country Journal 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.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Worthington Conservation Commission Notice of Public Hearing

The Worthington Conservation Commission Public Hearing planned for **Thursday, December 21, 2023, at 7:15 PM** at Town Hall to consider the filing of a Notice of Intent (NOI), for the Route 143 Reconstruction Project - Phase Two, has been rescheduled. **The new date is Thursday, January 18, 2024** - same place and time. 1/04/2024

**LEGAL NOTICE of
PUBLIC MEETING
WILLIAMSBURG**

CONSERVATION COMMISSION, Williamsburg MA 01039

The Williamsburg Conservation Commission, in accordance with MGL Chapter 131, Section 40, the Wetlands Protection Act, will hold a public meeting on: 11 January, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. zia zoom (access link available on agenda, www.burgy.org) to review a: **Request for Determination of Applicability** submitted by: **The Town of Williamsburg**. The subject area or activity is located at: **16 Main Street, Williamsburg, MA 01096**. 1/04/2024

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