

# public notices

## HERREN from page 1

his drinking continued, and how at 12 years old, he asked her to take him away with her.

Two years later, she caught him getting drunk on his father's beers.

"To this day, I don't understand why no one in my family explained alcoholism," Herren said.

Herren went on to gain recognition as a basketball player on his high school team in Fall River, before playing for Boston College and Fresno State. He was ranked in the top 20 basketball players in the country at the height of his career.

He was selected by the Denver Nuggets in the second round draft pick in 1999, before being picked up by the Boston Celtics in 2000.

Despite his rising career, addiction continued to have a hold on Herren, who tried cocaine for the first time at 18 years old.

"Just one line...that one line took 14 years to walk away from," he said.

It also caused him to be kicked out of Boston College, which earned him an embarrassing headline in the newspaper.

Coach Jerry Tarkanian took a chance on him, and he flew out to Fresno, California at 19 years old where he excelled on the court, but continued to fail drug tests.

Knowing he was going to fail another drug test; Herren remembers breaking down and crying in the athletic director's office. The athletic director said to him, "it saddens me that this addiction will never let go of you."

Now at 21 years old, Herren was sent to treatment, which was announced in a press conference. Every day, Herren begged his mother and his wife to take him out of the treatment center.

"I wasted my time," Herren said of his first time in treatment. "I blew the greatest opportunity of my life. I was the 33rd pick, I was unbelievably fortunate...had a wife and a baby."

Herren remembers that his teammates wouldn't let him fall back after treatment.

He moved back home to Fall River when he was 24 years old, and filled with pride at his accomplishments. One day he had a knock on his door, and it was someone he used to play basketball with as a kid.

"He said, 'there's a new painkiller,'" Herren said, describing the plastic bag full of little yellow pills. "In 1999 I never heard of Oxycontin."

Herren gave him \$20 for one pill, threw it in his mouth, and went back to watching cartoons with his son.

"That \$20 turned to \$20,000 a month," he said.

When he returned to training camp he went through his first detox, and it was at this time that he got the call that he was now a member of the Boston Celtics.

"What should have been a dream come true, was a nightmare beginning for me," Herren said. "My first phone call was to the kid with the pills. At that point in my life, I never felt so ashamed."

Following his time with the Celtics, Herren went on to play for the number one team in Europe, where he and his family lived in a beautiful house in Italy, and he earned twice what he was making in the U.S.

Despite smuggling 300 80mg Oxycontin with him to Italy and having a plan to taper himself off of them, Herren quickly went through his supply.

"Unfortunately, Oxycontin doesn't play that way," Herren said. In desperation, Herren found a dealer and not knowing how to ask for the painkiller in Italian, he simply pointed to his arm.

He asked for heroin. Three weeks later Herren and his family were returning to the U.S. following the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

"For the next six months I woke up every single morning with no job, went to Dunkin Donuts and buy heroin every day...I'd sit in my little spot and shoot it."

After shooting heroin, Herren would get in the drive-thru and order himself a coffee and Munchkins to bring home for his children.

It was in this Dunkin Donuts that Herren had his first overdose. He remembers waking up on the pavement, with a police officer on top of him; his arm bleeding with the needle still in it.

After he bailed out of jail, he went back to the heroin dealer for more



Chris Herren gives a fist bump to a student as he walked through an assembly held for middle and high school students for Q-DRUG's Purple for Prevention Week.



Q-DRUG member and Quabbin Regional High School alumni Cody Handrahan spoke about the support he received from the organization.

since it was so good it nearly killed him.

"I kept taking a chance at dying," Herren said. By 27 years old, heroin had taken over his life.

Another overdose caused him to crash his car into a cemetery fence and he ended up in the hospital.

As a police officer led him through the hospital he said to Herren, "your poor kids have no idea how close you were to dying." It was at this time that Herren made the decision to take his life, when a nurse that had known his late mother told him she would do anything to help him.

She began by calling every detox facility, while the hospital held him as long as they could. On his last day in the hospital, NBA player Chris Mullin called him and told him that he had found a place for him in New York.

Mullin was also in recovery, and he asked Herren if he was willing to work for it.

On day 35 in recovery, Herren had earned his first phone call, which he made to his wife.

"My wife was broken, she immediately started crying," Herren recalled, as she was in the hospital giving birth to their third child.

Against his counselor's recommendation, Herren went home and witnessed the birth of their child. His first sober birth.

His oldest son cried uncontrollably in his arms in that hospital room, and told him "I don't want you to die. I still want you to be my daddy."

Herren went for a walk, and he didn't go back. He went to the liquor store and bought cheap vodka, then called his drug dealer.

"I was back on the street, taking a chance at dying," Herren said.

The next day he went back to his wife, and she told him she was leaving him. At 32 years old, Herren had nothing left to live for.

His father was waiting for him in the hospital lobby, and drove him back to New York. He went back to his room, thought about his mother, and prayed.

Aug. 1, 2008, is now his sobriety date.

His children and his wife are his life's biggest blessings and if his teenager ever came home drunk or high, he plans to ask him "why."

"Why can't my son feel good enough? Why do you have to change yourself?" Herren said. "There's a lot of pain and suffering in my family...we all have our 'why.'"

### About Q-DRUG

Q-Drug is celebrating its 10-year anniversary this year, working to empower the community to stand together to support substance use prevention. They seek to promote awareness and erase the stigma of substance use disorder to build a recovery supportive community.

For more information, visit [qdrug.org](http://qdrug.org), email [quabbin.drug@gmail.com](mailto:quabbin.drug@gmail.com), call or text 978-434-2001 or follow them on Facebook and Instagram.

### NOTICE OF AUCTION

In accordance with the provisions of the Massachusetts General Law 105A, in order to satisfy past due rents and other expenses, the contents of the following storage units will be auctioned.

The contents of Miranda Orcutt will be auctioned off at Secure Storage, 31 Southbridge Rd., Warren MA on March 23, 2024 at 9 a.m.

The contents of Tammy Handfield and Adam Ciuffo will be auctioned off at Secure Storage, 167 West St., Ware, MA at 9:30 a.m. on March 23, 2024.

Any questions or inquiries call 413-800-6278. 03/07, 03/14/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampshire Probate and Family Court 15 Atwood Drive Northampton, MA 01060 (413)586-8500 Docket No.**

**HS24P0128EA Estate of: George Omer St. Onge Date of Death: 01/07/2024 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 **Camille St. Onge Magin of Millers Falls, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Camille St. Onge Magin of Millers Falls, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE** You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this

proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/10/2024.

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)**

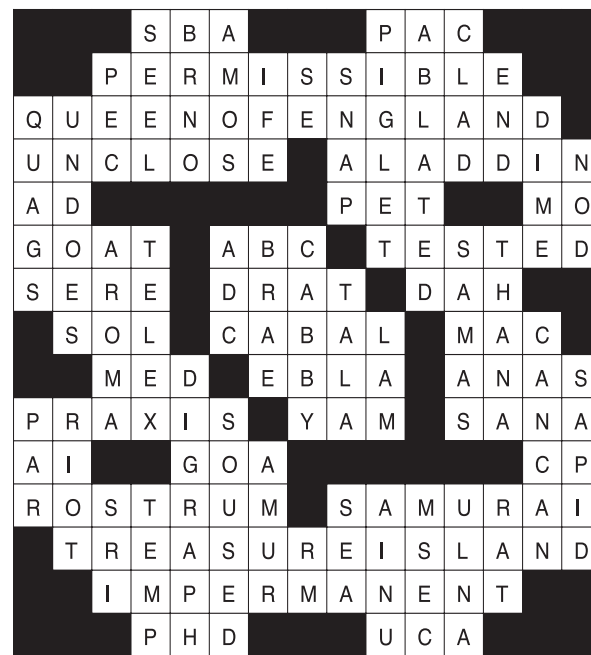
A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly

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: February 29, 2024

Mark S. Ames Temporary Register 03/14/2024

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.



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