

OBITUARY

Ann (Annie) Marie, Laurie, 66

Ann (Annie) Marie Laurie, 66 of Middlefield, passed away Sept. 20, 2025 at Berkshire Medical Center in the company of her daughter, Jessie Sullivan Laurie and her wife Mary F. Courtney after a courageous battle with a protracted illness.

Annie was blessed with a beautiful daughter in 1979, Jessie, who was the center of Annie’s universe and for whom Annie was fiercely loyal and protective. Annie took great pride in nurturing and watching Jessie grow into the strong and independent woman she is today, just like her mother. Annie was the tree and Jessie, her own apple and neither of them would have wanted it any other way.

Annie was born in Springfield on Feb. 21, 1959, the daughter of Earl Laurie (deceased) and Marguerite Ryan Laurie, she was the sister to Doug Laurie (Sherry) and Shawn Laurie. After a time living among the grape vineyards of California, her family returned to Chester, Massachusetts by way of the Woodstock traffic jam which she remembered with great fondness. She attended Gateway Regional High School in the 70s, spending most of her time with her best friend Tina Cook, or in the art class cultivating her natural artistic talent that would become her touchstone and lifelong passion for the years to come.

As the adventurous person she was, Annie traveled back to California on a Greyhound bus in 1977 reconnecting with her favorite Uncle Ray and his clan

until returning to Middlefield where she would settle down, become the proud mother to Jessie and create her own family. She valued spending time with her mother sharing stories of her life in Canada, stopping by Doug’s garage to catch up and often holding family gatherings at Annie’s home for the holidays with various members of both the Laurie and Courtney families in attendance. Annie cherished the small-town community and relationships she made in Middlefield over the years and loved you all.

Annie was a collector of sorts, mostly of lost children, wild souls, eccentric misfits and artistic outcasts as she would sometimes refer to herself with unapologetic pride. She was the most authentic, generous and kind-hearted person you could meet with a touch of cantankerous sarcasm and humor thrown in on the side. She would, and did, give people the shirt off her back expecting nothing in return. If she had an opinion, and she usually did, about something that was important to her, she was brave enough to speak up and share it while accepting that others had a place for their own beliefs.

As her mother would say, Annie was always a free spirit and stubborn in the best way possible, both traits she carried with her throughout her life. She and her mother weathered the growing pains most mothers and daughters do and came



through the storm both the better for it.

Annie spent her early professional years working with special needs children in residential programs, where she and Mary met in 1984. They became fast friends, grew into partners and soon settled down with Jessie, as a family in all its meaning. After more than twenty years together, Annie and Mary officially tied the knot, on July 17, 2004. They were lifelong partners; co-Mom’s to Jessie and the best of friends born of a life together of more than forty years. Annie was truly the yin to Mary’s yang. They established a homestead, affectionately called Petticoat Junction in Middlefield, frequented by creatures of all descriptions, family and friends from all walks of life and blessed with the peace only mother nature can provide. A coffee and a game of dominos on the front porch listening to Bob Dylan and being visited by the not so occasional bear, hummingbirds, bald eagle affectionately named “six” and various other furry and feathery neighbors made Annie’s day. It truly was the simple things in life that meant the most to her art, music and a good campfire with family and friends was really what mattered most.

She returned to art school in 1990 and was very proud to earn a 3.9 GPA and received her associate’s degree in fine arts, from Berkshire Community

College. Learning and collaborating with the faculty and art students at BCC were some of Annie’s most treasured relationships.

Annie was the original creator of the Art On No, community art project in Pittsfield, followed by her realizing her lifelong dream of opening her own community art gallery, A Reason To Pause Art and Artisans Gallery in 2022 in Cheshire. She treasured collaborating with her good friends, Bob Stone and Scott Taylor and would want them to know their friendship was deeply important to her always.

She is survived by her wife, Mary Courtney of Middlefield; her daughter, Jessie Sullivan Laurie of Becket and various grand puppies, her mother Marguette Laurie, brothers Doug Laurie and Shawn Laurie, her beloved Courtney clan especially including her many nieces and nephews, who all held a very special place in Annie’s heart, and large extended family of friends.

A celebration of life service will be at Becket Federated Church, 3381 Main St, Becket, on Saturday, Oct. 4, 2025 at 11:30 a.m. with lunch to follow, across from the Becket Library.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to the Middlefield Senior Center c/o Middlefieldma.coa@gmail.com.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Alsmann, Dr. Olberg, the nurses and the incredible CCU staff of Berkshire Medical Center for their compassionate care.

DEATH NOTICE

LAURIE, ANN (ANNIE) MARIE

Died Sept. 20 2025
Celebration of Life Service Oct. 4 at 11:30 .m.
Becket Federated Church, 3381 Main St., Becket
Donations Middlefield Senior Center

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

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

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

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

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD Senior Center Crawspace Structural Repairs and Renovations – Phase II Invitation to Bid

The Town of Middlefield is accepting Bids from state certified general contractors to make repairs and renovations to the crawspace area in the Town Senior Center located at 169 Skyline Trail in Middlefield, MA 01243. Work will include selective building demolition, existing building services MEP/FP selective demolition and new services, construction of an access door to the crawspace, installation of ventilation equipment, the installation of insulation in the crawspace, insulation of utility lines, and related work included in the plans and specifications.

Bid documents will be available commencing on September 29, 2025, by contacting the Town Assistant Administrator at middlefield.assistant at gmail.com. or by calling the Middlefield Town Hall at 413-623-2079 ext.2. Bids can also be picked up at the Select Board Office in person, from the Middlefield Administrative Assistant on Mondays from 1:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. and Wednesdays from 4:00 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. The Select Board Office is located in the Town Hall, 188 Skyline Trail Mid-

dlefield MA 01243. There is no cost for the first set of Bid Documents.

A Pre-bid Site Visit will be held for all interested parties on October 6, 2025, at 10:00 A.M. at the front entrance to the Senior Center, 169 Skyline Trail Middlefield, MA 01243.

The Bid deadline is October 15, 2025, at 2:00P.M. Bids will be opened immediately after the close of Bidding. The project will start immediately after award (approximately October 22, 2025) and shall be completed no later than December 12, 2025.

Note: Massachusetts Prevailing Rates are required to be paid on this project.

Questions can be directed to Curt Robie, Member, Select Board by calling 413-623-2079, 413-374-2082, or by email: middlefield.CDR@gmail.com. 09/25, 10/02/2025

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 Justin Day to Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Inland Bank and Trust, dated December 17, 2015 and recorded in the Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in

Book 12155, Page 171, of which mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, by assignment from: Mortgage Electronic Registration Systems, Inc., as nominee for Inland Bank and Trust, its successors and assigns to Wells Fargo Bank N.A., recorded on September 27, 2018, in Book No. 13089, at Page 30 Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. to J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp., recorded on February 2, 2021, in Book No. 13965, at Page 108 J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp. to DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc., recorded on May 19, 2022, in Book No. 14556, at Page 212 DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. to J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp., recorded on November 1, 2024, in Book No. 15273, at Page 290 DLJ Mortgage Capital, Inc. to J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp., recorded on June 20, 2025, in Book No. 15452, at Page 123 J.P. Morgan Mortgage Acquisition Corp. to U.S. Bank Trust National Association, not in its individual capacity but solely as owner trustee for RCAF Acquisition Trust, recorded on June 20, 2025, in Book No. 15452, at Page 126 for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **2:00 PM on October 14, 2025**, on the

mortgaged premises located at 14 Pleasant Street, Huntington, Hampshire County, Massachusetts, all and singular the premises described in said mortgage,

TO WIT: The land in Huntington, in the County of Hampshire and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at the southeasterly corner of land now or formerly of James Kirby at a stone post on the westerly side of Pleasant Street, so-called; thence SOUTHERLY on said Pleasant Street one hundred and nineteen (119) feet to a stone post at land now or formerly of Mary E. Graney;

thence WESTERLY on land of said Graney about ninety-eight (98) feet to a stone post at land formerly of Fred P. Stanton;

thence NORTHERLY on land formerly of Fred P. Stanton one hundred and nineteen (119) feet to a stone post at land of said Kirby;

thence EASTERLY on land of said Kirby about ninety-eight (98) feet to a stone post, it being the place of beginning.

For mortgagor's(s') title see deed recorded with Hampshire County Registry of Deeds in Book 12155, Page 168. 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, and any 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.

U.S. BANK TRUST NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, NOT IN ITS INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY BUT SOLELY AS OWNER TRUSTEE FOR RCAF ACQUISITION TRUST Present holder of said mortgage By its Attorneys, HARMON LAW OFFICES, P.C. 150 California St. Newton, MA 02458 (617)558-0500 26241 09/18, 09/25, 10/02/2025

Town of Worthington Invitation for Bids Wood Heating System

The Town of Worthington is seeking a highly qualified contractor to design and install a renewable, modern wood heating system compliant with 225 CMR 16.00: the Alternative Portfolio Standard, to be located at the town's fire station at 51 Huntington Road. To request the complete IFB email Peggy at selectboard@worthington-ma.us.

Mandatory pre-bid site visit will be held at 4 PM on October 8th, 2025.

Bids are due **by noon, Friday, October 17th, 2024**. It is necessary that the project be operational prior to the 2025/26 heating season. 10/02/2025

ADAMS

DCR lists viewing dates at Mount Greylock State Reservation

ADAMS – Beginning Saturday, Oct. 4 and continuing through Sunday, Oct. 19, the Department of Conservation and Recreation will limit recreational activities on the eastern vista on the summit of Mount Greylock State Reservation to viewing only on weekends and holidays.

Other activities like hang-gliding and paragliding will be permitted on weekdays, but not on weekends or holidays to ensure the safety of all park visitors, during peak fall foliage.

The park will be open for viewing only on the following days: Oct. 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 18 and 19.

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

WESTFIELD

Westfield Bank promotes Kelly Pignatare to First VP

WESTFIELD – Kelly Pignatare recently was promoted to First Vice President, Manager of Retail Banking and Business and Government Deposit Services at Westfield Bank.

Pignatare has over two decades of banking experience, in both retail and business capacities. In her new role, she will drive deposit and loan growth, as well as customer service excellence, across all Westfield Bank branch locations and the bank's Business and Government Deposit Services Department, responsible for providing deposit and cash management ser-

vices to commercial and municipal customers.

“Kelly brings a valuable blend of experience, strong leadership and a deep commitment to community,” said Kevin C. O’Connor, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Westfield Bank. “We’re excited to see her continued growth at Westfield Bank and are confident in her ability to lead the Retail Banking and Business & Government



Kelly Pignatare

Deposit Services teams.”

Pignatare has served in many roles at Westfield Bank, most recently as a Vice President and Regional Manager. In 2023, she graduated from the New England School

for Financial Studies, completing an intensive two-year program for banking professionals.

A local resident, Pignatare is deeply involved with the community, and serves as a board member

for the Pathlight Advisory Board and the Pioneer Valley Conference for Women, where she was chosen as a panelist for the 2025 conference held earlier this year.

Westfield Bank is a federally chartered savings bank organized in 1853 and is the largest publicly traded bank headquartered in Western Massachusetts. Currently, the bank has twenty-five branch offices, fifty ATMs and an additional thirty- three seasonal ATMs and serves Hampden and Hampshire counties in Western Massachusetts and Hartford County in Northern Connecticut.