

OBITUARY

Herbert Charles Wood, 98

Herbert Charles Wood, age 98, of Westwood, MA, passed away peacefully on December 6, 2025.

Born in Providence, RI, Herb graduated from Brown University with a chemistry major and mathematics minor in 1951 and began a long and varied career. He worked for Monsanto as a chemical engineer in the plastics division and went on to become the manager of the company's IBM computer programming team working on one of the world's first computers. He later served as Manager of Information Systems for the graphics division of Scott Paper Company, then as Chief Operations Officer at Stone Marketing, one of the earliest direct-mail marketing companies. In the later years of his professional life, he worked as an insurance agent with Farm Family Insurance.

After settling in Belchertown in 1952, Herb purchased a lot in an old apple orchard and undertook



the remarkable task of building the family home with his former wife, Jan Wood. He cleared the land, laid the foundation by hand with Jan, and spent countless evenings after work bringing the house to life. His determination and craftsmanship impressed even seasoned builders, and the home he created became the heart of his life in Belchertown, where he raised his family and welcomed friends for many years.

Herbert's dedication to service was a defining thread throughout his life. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II from December 1945 to December 1946 achieving the rank of Corporal. Beginning in 1952, he devoted more than six decades to the Belchertown Fire Department, serving as a firefighter, teaching essential firefighting skills, and later-after his retirement-developing a computer program that provided directions to more than 10,000 local addresses, long before the era of Google

Maps. Herbert and Jan, also served as youth group leaders for six years, and he generously offered his time and wisdom to multiple committees at the Belchertown Congregational Church.

At age 89, Herbert moved to Fox Hill Village in Westwood to be closer to family. There, he delighted in making new friends, sharing stories, and becoming an active member of The Dover Church. In his later years he became affectionately known as "Grandpa" to many- a gracious, funny, and wise presence whose warmth drew people together.

Herb's favorite place in the world was his beloved red house in Pocasset, MA on Cape Cod. There he kept busy with renovation projects, tending his rose garden, walking the one-mile island loop along the water, and sitting on the porch watching boat traffic. He brought the whole family together there every summer creating a lifetime of cherished memories. Herbert is survived by his daughters, Beth Karlson (Steve Karlson) of Dover, MA and Cindy Kerr (David Kerr) of Scarborough,

DEATH NOTICE

Herbert Charles Wood
Died December 6
Services Eaton
Funeral Home

ME. He is also survived by his beloved grandchildren: Jonathan, Christopher, and Rebecca Karlson; Kristin (Gil Brady Hagovsky), Brian (Megan Brewster), and Jamie Kerr. Herb leaves behind newborn twin great-grandsons-Caleb and Elliot Kerr -who brought him immense joy in the last months of his life.

He was predeceased by his sisters, Eleanor Bradbury and Dorothy Hamblett; his brother, Albert Wood; and his son, Steven Wood.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday, December 21, at 3:00 p.m. at The Dover Church, 17 Springdale Avenue, Dover, MA.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Belchertown Firefighters Association, P.O. Box 1043, Belchertown, MA 01007, or to The Dover Church, 17 Springdale Avenue, Dover, MA 02030.

To share a memory or to send a note of condolence to his family, visit www.eatonfuneralhomes.com.

ADVERTISING SALES

HELP WANTED

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

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

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



Send resume & cover letter to:

Jamie Joslyn
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
Email:jamie@turley.com

GARDEN from page 6

your container in a cool spot in your home during the night and enjoy the flowers in your living spaces during the day.

After flowering is done, throw the bulbs out free of guilt; they won't bloom again consistently. One year you may remember that I did try to regrow the bulbs by allowing them to dry out within the container I had first grown them in. Of the four bulbs, two had life left in them a year later.

I watered and waited and leaves did grow, but no flowers ever came. I ended up chalking it up to an

experience and starting over with new bulbs the following winter.

Have fun experimenting with these plants or any number of beauties worthy of a good home for the holidays.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Town Of Belchertown
Notice of Planning Board
Hearing Legal Notice

Relative to a
Definitive Subdivision Plan

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 41, Sections 81-T and 81-U, M.G.L., the Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing as follows:

Place: 2 Jabish Street, Belchertown, MA
Date: January 13, 2026
Time: 7:00 PM

This application is for a Definitive Subdivision Plan by applicant Jason Lafleur, 44 Mercier Drive, Belchertown, MA 01007. The plan is entitled "Definitive Subdivision Plan of Meeshie

Moon Path," Belchertown, MA, October 24, 2025; the surveyor/engineers Sherman & Frydryk, 3 Converse St., Suite 203, Palmer, MA 01069

The location and description: Jason's Way & Aldrich Street, Assessors Map 248, Lot 2 and Map 248, Lot 45.

The plan is available for inspection during regular business hours at the Town Clerk and Planning Board Office, 2 Jabish St., Belchertown, MA 01007

This meeting will be available online for the public: <https://meet.goto.com/173538941>

Daniel Beaudette, Chair
Belchertown Planning Board
12/18, 12/25/2025

SALE OF
MOTOR VEHICLE

This ad is pursuant to MA Gen. Law Ch.255, Sec. 39A as of December 19, 2025 the following motor vehicle will be for sale to satisfy a garage keepers lien:

Vehicle: 2009 Honda Odyssey
VIN: 5FNRL387X9B050498

Color: Blue
LKO: Aramis Ares
Address: 313 Maple Street
Springfield, MA 01105

Relentless Towing
Belchertown, MA
413-530-3804

12/04, 12/11, 12/18/2025

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.

BIRDS from page 6

The article suggests modifying heated birdbaths so that birds can safely drink, but not bathe. A metal heating element that keeps a small section of the birdbath thawed works well. People, who have bird feeders or simple feeding stations may add shallow unbreakable container around the area. Yes, it can be labor-intensive, but they can easily pour water into them (hot water when it's below freezing) and provide fresh water for at least a short period of time. As a source of drinking water, the containers can be filled with pebbles that will form small pockets of water where birds can get a drink of water.

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.

T-BIRDS from page 8

One more time, though, the T-Birds had a rebuttal, this time from Marc-Andre Gaudet, who uncorked a slap shot that ricocheted off a Utica defender before bouncing behind Daws at 8:47 for the go-ahead goal, 3-2.

Romanov and the Springfield defense batted

down the hatches from there, killing off a Utica power play and receiving numerous shot blocks in the closing minutes, including a clutch denial by Alek Kaskimaki in the dying seconds. Romanov improved to 2-0 for the season against Utica, stopping 65 of 67 Comets shots over his two victories.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

The Sentinel
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 Friday at 3 p.m.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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