

WESTFIELD

St. Joseph's Church to hold community dinner

WESTFIELD – St. Joseph's National Catholic Church, 73 Main St., is hosting a community dinner on Sunday, April 19 at noon. This community dinner will feature glazed baked ham, roasted potato medley and corn off the cob. Dessert served will be Boston cream pie.

coffee, cranberry juice and bottled water is also included. Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$10 for children 12 and under. Everyone is welcome. To purchase tickets and reserve a place, people should text or telephone Cliff at 413-977-2007. If leaving a mes-

sage, they should provide their name and telephone number. Take-Out Meals-To-Go will be available for pick-up at 12:30 p.m. When ordering tickets, indicate if dinners are To-Go. Deadline for purchasing tickets is Thursday, April 16. All community members are welcome.

Alzheimer's Association Support Group meets April 29

WESTFIELD – On Wednesday, April 29 at 6 p.m. Alzheimer's Association Support Group meet in Armbrook Village Senior Living and Memory Support Community, 551

North Road. Caregivers and family members are invited to enjoy light refreshments and to share their personal experiences and strategies for communicating with

their loved ones. The public is welcome. To join this group, people may call 413-568-0000 or email reception@armbrookvillage.com. Groups are held on the last Wednesday of the month.

Book sale to be held at Athenaeum

WESTFIELD – The Friends of the Westfield Athenaeum book sale fundraiser is back on Thursday, April 23; Friday, April 24 and Saturday, April 25. Thousands of gently used adult and children's books, DVDs, and puzzles will be available for sale. Hours will be

Thursday, April 23 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Friday, April 24 from 10 a.m.-5 p.m. and Saturday, April 25 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.. On Thursday only, they are offering a \$5 discount coupon for educators (bring ID) and new Friends of the Westfield Athenaeum members joining at the door.

People may visit their website for full details at friendsofwestath.org/2026-book-sale. The Friends of the Westfield Athenaeum is a 501(C)3 not-for-profit organization that supports the programs and services of the Westfield Athenaeum.

SCHOOLS & YOUTH

SCHOOL

from page 1

state funding for the district. There are 724 Gateway students total this year.

Select Board Chairman Jackie Coury asked if using the lesser amount from the town's assessment was not, in effect, "plugging a hole" with something that is not sustainable. Current School Committee member Nicole Daviau was asked to join Matarazzo at the table.

Member Ted Cousineau asked in the long term, "How much can you cut before you lose certification?"

Matarazzo does not believe the district is in a place "where we are in danger of losing certification."

There will be at least 14 new students from Blandford this fall.

Daviau said, as a school committee member, that there was very little notice from the state on funding, so there was very little time to consider options. "There are no good choices," she added.

Coury said, "We need to figure this out for the short term."

The board acknowledged the resignation of Keri Morawiec from the elected position as GRSD School Committee member and she was thanked and complimented for her service. It anyone is interested in joining the school committee, they should contact the Select Board.

The board tabled dis-

cussion of the appraisal of 35 George Millard Road Chapter 61 withdrawal and the Board of Health update as well.

Library request

Wearing the Porter Memorial Library Director hat, Daviau brought to the board's attention the need to locate a place for a storage unit, 8 feet by 20 feet, to be located at the Town Hall to house library supplies and materials. The books will be moved to Town Hall and she said she has shelving provided for this, on loan from the Berkshire Athenaeum in Pittsfield. She will coordinate with Highway Superintendent Ray Hultay for location for that, as well as the BetterWorld book bin and the after-hours drop off bin. The storage unit will be on the Town Hall site until the expansion is completed in November 2027.

Paving

Hultay reported to the board that he had quotes for paving the Town Hall parking lot, which is estimated at \$61,756 for what Hultay referred to as a "mill and fill" pavement process. There may be a possibility of using Chapter 90 funds, but this will require additional research.

Costs for paving Watson Park Road, using a full-depth reclamation, came in at \$80,695 and for something less than full-depth reclamation, \$66,175. Hultay said this would be a

one-and-a-half-inch base.

Cousineau asked about priorities for Ch. 90 funding, which is just over \$1.5 million dollars; Hultay replied that "Watson Park is completely doable." Further discussion was postponed.

Water trailer

Hultay also had a quote for the water trailer (to maintain dirt roads) for \$24,598, which is covered by Ch. 90 funds. He is waiting for an agreement to purchase contract from the town to the manufacturer.

The town has in excess of 80 miles of road, but the Highway Department, according to Hultay, maintains 68 miles and of that, in a later interview, said that 14.5 miles of the 68 miles are dirt roads that the Highway Department maintains year-round.

Host Community Agreement

In other business, Coury distributed the host/community agreement to be reviewed by the other two board members; this will be discussed at next meeting.

Public comment

Public comment concerned an objection to changing hunting laws to permit hunting on Sundays. Large wooded areas, which are suitable for hiking, make Sunday the only safe day currently to hike. The suggestion was made to consider increasing the number of deer hunters could harvest.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Town of Williamsburg Planning Board Legal Notice

The Williamsburg Planning Board is herewith giving notice that it will hold a public hearing on **Monday, April 27, 2026 at 6:00PM** at the Town Office Building, 141 Main Street, Haydenville, MA. The hearing is to consider proposed changes to Zoning Bylaw Section 9.1 on the topic of Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs). The changes are to align Williamsburg's zoning with Chapter 150, Section 7 and 8 of the Massachusetts Acts of 2024. These minor changes will clarify parking requirements and non-conforming lot situations to follow state law. The full text of the proposed changes will be available after April 10 in the Town Clerk's Office and on the town website www.burgy.org

Stephen Smith
Planning Board Chair
04/09, 04/16/2026

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT HAMPDEN, Div. Probate and Family Court HD26E0007PP

To Deborah A. Davignon, Hampden County, Brian J. Murphy, Gallatin County (MT), Dennis G. Murphy, Hampden County, Yolanda Murphy, Hampden County, and to all other persons interested.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Paul D. Murphy, of Hampden County, representing that they hold as tenants-in-common in an undivided part or share of land lying in Chester, in the County of Hampden, setting forth that they desire that all of said land may be sold at private sale or public auction for not less than Two Hundred and Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$280,000.00), and praying that partition may be made of all the land aforesaid according to law, and to that end that a commissioner be appointed to make such partition and be ordered to make sale and conveyance of all, or any part of said land which the Court finds cannot be advantageously divided either at private sale or public auction, and be ordered to distribute the net proceeds thereof after full adjudication of the equitable claims contained in said petition and supplemental memorandum filed with the Court.

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection in said Court at **Springfield** on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of **April 27th, 2026**.

Witness, **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of said Court, this 2nd day of March 2026.

Rosemary A. Saccomani, Register

03/26, 04/02, 04/09/2026

TOWN OF BLANDFORD PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

In accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40A, Section 5, the Blandford Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing at the Blandford Town Hall, 1 Russell Stage Road, Blandford, MA 01008 at **6:00 PM on April 24, 2026**. The purpose of this hearing is to present and discuss the proposed replacement of the Blandford Zoning Bylaws pertaining to Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic and Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS) installations. The proposed new by-laws will include Section VIII 8.1 – 8.15 and Sec-

Form 299

Date: March 24, 2026

ATTORNEY GENERAL'S NOTICE Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32 Town of Westhampton -- Case No. 12168 Special Town Meeting of December 8, 2025 Articles # 3, 4, and 5

Attorney General's Limited Authority to Waive Procedural Defects in the Notice of the Planning Board Hearing

Pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32, if the Attorney General finds there to be any defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment of any zoning by-law relating to the form or content of the notice of the Planning Board hearing prescribed by G.L. c. 40A, § 5, or to the manner or dates on which said notice is mailed, posted or published as required by that section, then instead of disapproving the by-law or amendment by reason of any such defect, the Attorney General may elect to proceed under the defect waiver provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32. Under those provisions, the Attorney General is conditionally authorized to waive any such defect. Defect Determined in Notice of Planning Board Hearing

The Attorney General has determined that the planning board hearing notice relating to the above Articles failed to comply with the notice requirements for such hearing established by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. Section 5 provides in part (with emphasis added):

No zoning...by-law or amendment thereto shall be adopted until after the planning board in a...town has...held a public hearing thereon...at which interested persons shall be given an opportunity to be heard.... Notice of the time and place of such hearing, of the subject matter, sufficient for identification, and of the place where texts and maps thereof may be inspected shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the...town once in each of two successive weeks, the first publication to be not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing, and by posting such notice in a conspicuous place in the...town hall for a period of not less than fourteen days before the day of said hearing. Notice of said hearing shall also be sent by mail, postage prepaid to the executive office of housing and livable communities, the regional planning agency, if any, and to the planning board of each abutting city and town....In cases involving boundary, density or use changes within a district, notice shall be sent to any such nonresident property owner who has filed such a request with the city or town clerk and whose property lies in the district where the change is sought.

Based on the materials submitted to this Office, we have identified the following defect: the notice of the Planning Board hearing that was posted and published did not contain information regarding where the text, and map if any, of the proposed zoning by-laws could be inspected, as required by G.L. c. 40A, § 5. For this reason, the 90-day period prescribed for the Attorney General's review of Articles 3, 4, and 5 is suspended in accordance with G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Attorney General's Election to Proceed Under the Waiver Provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32

The Attorney General has elected to proceed under the limited defect waiver authority conferred by G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Suspension of Review of Zoning By-Law Amendments

The 90-day period prescribed by law for the Attorney General's review of local by-laws is therefore suspended in accordance with the provisions of G.L. c. 40, § 32.

Posting and Publication of This Notice

The Town Clerk shall post a true copy of this Notice in a conspicuous place in the Westhampton Town Hall for a period of not less than 14 days and shall publish a copy once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Westhampton.

Filing of Claim That Defect in Notice Was Misleading or Otherwise Prejudicial

Within 21 days of the date on which this Notice is published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Westhampton, any resident of the Town of Westhampton, or the owner of any real property in the Town of Westhampton or any other party entitled to notice of the planning board hearing may file with the Town Clerk a written statement that the notice defect was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. The statement must include the reasons supporting the claim that the defect in the Planning Board Notice was misleading or otherwise prejudicial. This statement must be actually on file with the Town Clerk not later than 21 days from the date on which this Notice is published in the newspaper.

Town Clerk's Certification of Compliance with This Notice

After the expiration of the 21-day period, the Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General a true copy of this Notice with a certification of compliance with the publishing and posting requirements of the preceding paragraph, and a certification that either (a) no claim was filed within the 21-day period, or (b) one or more claims were filed within the 21-day period. The Town Clerk shall submit to the Attorney General true copies of any such claim(s).

Resumption of Attorney General's Review

Upon receipt of one original copy of this Notice with the Clerk's certification, the 90-day period provided for the Attorney General's review under G.L. c. 40, § 32, shall resume. If no claim is made, the Attorney General has the discretion to waive any such defect; if any claim is made, however, the Attorney General may not waive any such defect.

Note: By not filing a claim under this provision, a person shall not be deprived of the right to assert a claim of invalidity arising out of any possible defect in the procedure of adoption or amendment, as provided in G.L. c. 40, § 32, and in G.L. c. 40A, § 5.

Date: March 24, 2026
04/09/2026

tion XVI 16.1 – 16.13.

Section V111 - Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations

8.1 Purpose and Intent, 8.2 Definitions, 8.3 Applicability and Permitting, 8.4 General Requirements for all Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installations, 8.5 Dimension and Density Requirements, 8.6 Design, Site, and Operational Standards, 8.7 Safety and Environmental Standards, 8.8 Monitoring and Maintenance, 8.9 Special Permit Criteria, 8.10 Outside Consultant Fees, 8.11 Severability, 8.12 Enforcement Remedies, 8.13 Appeals, 8.14 Effective Date and Applicability, 8.15 Waivers.

Section XVI - Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS)

16.1 Purpose and Intent, 16.2 Definitions, 16.3 Applicability and Permitting, 16.4 General Requirements, 16.5 Application Materials and Submittals, 16.6 Design, Site and Operational Standards, 16.7 Special Permit Criteria, 16.8 Decommissioning and Site Restoration, 16.9 Safety, 16.10 Severability, 16.11 Enforcement and Remedies, 16.12 Appeals, 16.13 Effective Date and Applicability.

Copies of the proposed By-law changes will be passed out at the hearing on April 24, 2026.

Greg Garfield, Chair
Blandford Planning Board
04/09, 04/16/2026

HELP WANTED

- Produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.
- Must be dependable, professional and able to meet strict deadlines.
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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 (with a word limit of up to 500 words) 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.