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AGAWAM

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This massive puddle in the Geissler's parking lot was one of the remaining hazards late on Monday morning as flash floods wreaked havoc in town. If any residents would like to submit more photos of storm damage, please send them to aan@turley.com.

TURLEY PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

AGAWAM – Early Monday morning, many residents in town and throughout the region were woken up by sounds of heavy rains, wind, and thunder as storms caused issues in the early morning hours, with flash flooding issues continuing into the morning hours, affecting commuters and requiring motorists to have to seek alternate routes while water levels took time to drain from streets. Suffield St., near the intersection of Silver St., was among the areas that had street flooding. There were also reports of houses affected by the flooding waters as well as downed trees throughout the community. On one of the reports stated a horse stable suffered heavy damage on Equine Blvd., destroying the basement of resident Holly Thompson.

Increase for ordinance violators proposed

By Gregory A. Scibelli
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AGAWAM – It's been a long process to get an e-bike ordinance going in the community, and the Agawam Police Department, earlier this year, looked to inform the public about the new ordinance before the months got really warm and bike use significantly increased.

Now, Mayor Christopher Johnson and City Councilor Dino Mercadante want to take things a step further.

The pair have sponsored an ordinance update that would increase fines for those who violate the ordinance multiple times.

According to the proposal, which hit the city council on Monday, Aug. 3 and will be heard in a public hearing next month, a \$50 fine for the first offense, \$100 for the second offense, and \$300 for third and subsequent offenses.

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Energy saving tips for the summer

By Quinn Suomala
Correspondent

Many people see their energy bills increase in the summer due to the amount of appliances needed to keep their homes cool.

National Grid offered some advice to help keep energy costs low.

They suggested that you only run full loads in the dishwasher and dryer, setting your refrigerator temperature to 38 degrees Fahrenheit and utilizing a toaster oven to reheat or cook small meals, as

ENERGY | page 6

Rain does not spoil Bennie and the Jets performance

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

AGAWAM – Last Wednesday evening, July 29 Bennie and The Jets performed at the Polish American Club as part of this year's Agawam Summer-Fest Concert series. The performance was originally scheduled for School Street Park but was moved due to poor weather. The band is comprised of Greg Ransom

as Elton John on vocals, Dan Moraski on guitar and vocals, Mike Gibbs on bass and vocals, and Steve Lawton on drums and vocals. This band truly brought the songs they covered to life Wednesday evening. Attendance was high despite the weather and location change, with community members showing up to support Bennie and the Jets as well as the Summer-Fest concert series.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY CHRISTINA GIOSCIA

Attendees Dorris and Jim Donovan at the July 29 Summerfest Concert at the Polish American Club. Please see more photos on page 10.



Greg Ransom and Steve Lawton perform for the crowd



The second group to complete this year's APL Escape Room.

SUBMITTED PHOTOS

Library hosts Escape Room program

By Christina Gioscia
Correspondent

AGAWAM – On July 29, the Agawam Public Library began their series of Escape Room events. Escape Rooms are the perfect group activity for friends and family, especially on rainy days. These are held every summer and are open to small groups. There are sessions for adults as well as teenagers. Registration is required and can be completed on the library's website. Adult Services Library Associate Charlie Pope facilitates this program each summer.

"This is the third summer that I've created an escape room at Agawam Public Library, and it has become one of my favorite programs to plan and implement," Pope said. "I've always enjoyed writing mysteries, and making an escape room is just like writing one big mystery story filled with clues and red herrings and suspects. Getting to watch how folks go about solving that mystery was such fun, because each team had a completely unique approach and yet they all achieved the same result in the end."

Pope explained the process of creating the story for the escape room was.



A bulletin inside the Escape Room, showing a piece of the puzzle that attendees had to solve.

Pope says, "Once I knew what the premise of the escape room would be, it was a matter of finding the 'flow' of the room: figuring out what clues would lead to other clues, making sure those clues matched the plant/botany theme of the room and didn't feel out of place, and testing each puzzle several times to ensure they worked properly. My coworkers very kindly volunteered to be my test subjects and were invaluable when

it came to ensuring that the room was ready to go for our library patrons."

Pope shares how the escape room program connects to Agawam Public Library's overall summer theme this year

"The theme was inspired by the library's summer reading challenge theme," she said. "Which was 'Plant a Seed, Read.' It made me consider famous books or sto-

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SPORTS

Bridget Loughlin pushes a pass.



FIELD HOCKEY



Amelia Dibella guides the ball out of the defensive end.



Gianna Battiste sends a pass away.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY

Summer campaign continues

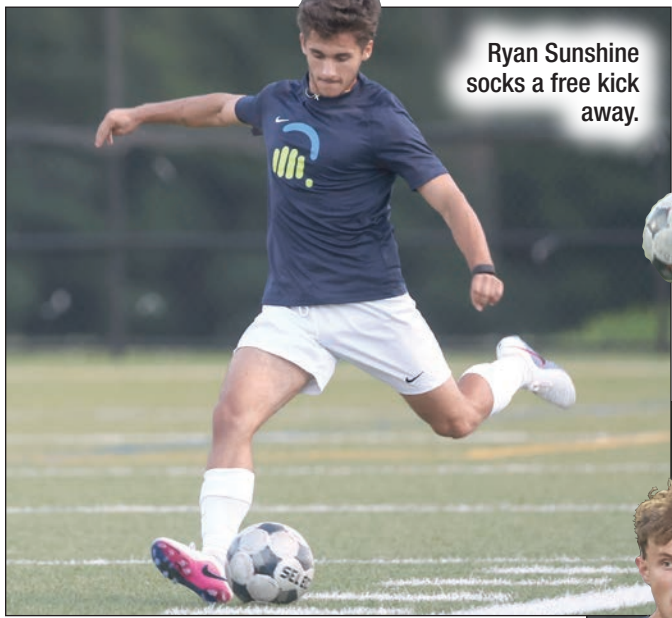
SOUTH HADLEY – The summer field hockey program for high school students, hosted by South Hadley High School, continued last Wednesday with multiple teams in action for short games. Agawam has been a regular participant in the summer league for the past few years.

SOCCER

CF Arbor reaches PVSSL semifinals

SOUTH HADLEY – In last week's PVSSL summer playoffs, the CF Arbor Men's soccer team, which was the No. 4 seed in the playoffs, was able to advance into the semifinals and took on Mt.

Carmel, which defeated CF Arbor by a score of 2-0, ending CF Arbor's chances of reaching the championship game this year. Mt. Carmel would capture this year's men's championship.



Ryan Sunshine socks a free kick away.



Tyler Lewis advances up the field.



Landry Kwawu goes to meet up with a loose ball.



Owen Dieterle heads up the field.



Troy Remillard outplays an opponent for the ball.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM

BASEBALL



Nate Woodland makes a catch for the A's during regular season action in the Valley Wheel league.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY
WWW.SWEETDOGPOTOS.COM
Pitcher Mike Bielen fires to the plate.



Sam Ribeiro takes a swing.



Ken Schubert heads to second.



Adam Strain fields a grounder.



Mike Burgos pitches in a game for the Orioles on July 26.

Valley Wheel regular season ends

WILBRAHAM – The regular season has concluded for the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League, one of several adult baseball leagues that plays in the region. This year, with play concluding this past Sunday, the Angels were able to finish the regular season with the top re-

cord, going 11-4. The Angels matched the Twins with the same record, but won two out of three head-to-head for the tiebreaker advantage in the playoffs. The Orioles finished third and the Cubs overcame the A's by tiebreaker for the final of four playoff spots. The semifinals for the

league are set for this Sunday at Spec Pond in Wilbraham. In the first matchup, the No. 2 Twins host the No. 3 Orioles at 2:30 p.m. Then, the top-seeded Angels face No. 4 Cubs at 6 p.m. The championship game will be held on Sunday, Aug. 16 at Spec Pond at 3 p.m.