

"When the mind is thinking it is talking to itself." – Plato

Country Journal

Devoted to the Needs of the Hilltowns

Becket, Blandford, Chester, Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Middlefield, Montgomery, Otis, Plainfield, Russell, Sandisfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg, Worthington

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

January 18, 2024 | Vol. 45, No. 39 | 75¢

www.countryjournal.turley.com

HUNTINGTON

Hamlin to retire, interim town clerk sought

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

Town Clerk Linda Hamlin is set to retire on Thursday, March 28 and the town has posted for an Interim Town Clerk, as it continues efforts to change the elected position to an appointed one.

At last year's Annual Town Meeting, the town complet-

ed the first step in the process when voters approved the measure. The ability to appoint the next Town Clerk will become legal when either town voters approve the measure on a ballot vote at the municipal election in May or if State Representative Nicholas Boldyga successfully advances a home rule petition authorizing the Select Board to make the change.

If both efforts fail, the Town Clerk will be elected at the annual town election, to assume duties on July 1.

Town Clerk responsibilities are numerous and varied and include managing elections, having ballots printed and overseeing the absentee ballot process; voter registration; serving as Public Records Officer as well as Registrar of

Vital Records; overseeing the town census and issuing official licenses and permits on behalf of the town. Payment will be based on an annual salary of \$18,723 for 18 hours a week, to be scheduled when Town Hall is open during the week and on Wednesday evenings when offices are open to the public.

The interim Clerk's term of service will end June 30. The

town intends to hire the Interim Clerk at a time that will ensure some time spent with Hamlin, particularly during the primary election on March 5

Posting information including a job description and application for employment is available by visiting the town website at www.huntingtonma.us. Applications are due at town hall Friday, Jan. 26 by 3 p.m.

BLANDFORD

Library use increased in every category

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

Porter Memorial Library experienced a year of growth and progress in 2023.

Director Nicole Daviau released statistics for the years 2018 to 2023, showing increases of library use across every category. She credits these impressive gains to the hard work of the dedicated and knowledgeable library staff that create a friendly and welcoming atmosphere as well as the high level of practical services

and engaging programs that the library provides.

Director Daviau said, "Without the support of the entire community we could not have achieved such growth – this shows that our library is far more than just a place for free books, it is an essential part of our community and woven into the fabric and routines of daily life in Blandford."

Blandford residents read. Blandford Library patrons checked out 9,647 items from

LIBRARY, page 3

HUNTINGTON

Central Hampshire Veterans' Services assists veterans with benefits, more

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

Veterans residing in Huntington can be supported in accessing state, local and Federal benefits by Central Hampshire Veterans' Services, located at 240 Main St., Suite 4 in Northampton.

Their office is open weekdays from 8:30 a.m.-4 p.m. and on Tuesdays from 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Staff may also be reached by calling 413-587-1299. Director Steven Connor, or his staff, can assist veterans in obtaining a wide range of

services.

According to the agency's website, "The primary mission of the Veterans' Services Department is to assist veterans with receiving the benefits due to them, and to provide food and housing, medical and employment assistance as necessary."

Office hours are also held at Huntington Town Hall on the fourth Thursday of each month from 9-11 a.m.

Staff member Rebecca Twining reports that one of the things many veterans do not understand is their eligi-

bility for VA healthcare. "A lot of the older population have never used the VA or never signed up," Twining said, adding that the VA can even provide healthcare to veterans' spouses, who are on Medicare.

"We also file VA claims. If a veteran has a health condition or injury that they believe stemmed from their time in the service, we are accredited to issue a claim with them," Twining added.

Twining said that one of

VETERANS, page 2

BLANDFORD

Council on Aging holds luncheon and other events



COA Director Margit Mikuski made several announcements about upcoming events.

By Mary Blandford
Correspondent

The first Council on Aging luncheon event of the new year

was Friday, Jan. 12 in the COA room at the Town Offices.

Diners enjoyed Chef Joann Martin's Teryaki Chicken Kabobs with vegetable slices,

twice-baked potatoes and salad plus a frosted chocolate brownie with ice cream for dessert.

Director Margit Mikuski had several announcements for

upcoming programs including local artist Susan Racine's Water Color Painting class on

COA, page 3



Valarie George and Randy Gilman share laughter over dessert.

Turley photos by Mary Kronholm



Chips Norcross and Doretta Boomsma are deep in conversation.



PAGE 6

Becket.....6	Hilltowns.....2	Opinion.....4, 5	Puzzle Page.....9
Blandford.....3	Huntington.....2	Otis.....6	Russell.....3
Chesterfield.....7	Middlefield.....2	Pittsfield.....6	Schools & Youth.....8
Classifieds.....10	Montgomery.....3	Plainfield.....7	Westfield.....2
Easthampton.....8	Northampton.....7	Public Notices.....12	Worthington.....3



HILLTOWNS

Hilltown Driver Pool offers transportation for seniors

This program prioritizes transportation for seniors and veterans to essential medical appointments, related errands and to grocery stores. Non-seniors may also be referred to the program if they meet certain criteria.

Drivers for this program are members of the community using their personal vehicles. Hilltown Community Development assists by coordinating the rides and reimburses the drivers for time and mileage. This program is grant-funded and provides a limited number of rides per person per month.

Residents from the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Hinsdale, Peru, Plainfield, Windsor, Westhampton and Worthington who are at least 60 years of age and are ambula-

tory are eligible. They are also accepting referrals from some of partner Hilltown agencies to the program for those under 60 years with mobility impairment issues.

Participants must be pre-registered to book a ride. This is a door to door service and drivers may assist riders in and out of the vehicle and accompany them to the door of their destination. However, they cannot provide weight-bearing or balance physical support. Riders may bring a Personal Care Assistant or family member with them should they require more assistance than the driver can provide.

Riders requiring a wheelchair lift will be booked to ride on the Hilltown Easy Ride van.

Destinations are restricted to a 40

mile radius from the riders home. Riders should calculate a "best estimate" of the amount of time their appointment will take and share that with the coordinator when booking the ride.

Suggested donations are \$5 for up to 19 miles round trip, \$7 for 20—39 miles round trip and \$10 for 40-80 miles round trip. Requests for rides are scheduled in the order in which they are received. Be sure to provide as much advance notice as possible, at least 48 hours in advance.

The service is available Monday through Friday during business hours from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. People may call 413-296-4232 or email ride@hilltowncdc.org and leave a message.

Other transportation option to consider is Hilltown Easy Ride van, which

provides unlimited rides for residents over the age of 60 years and veterans residing in the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Hinsdale, Peru, Plainfield, Windsor, Westhampton and Worthington. The Easy Ride van is wheelchair accessible. Riders must apply to and be approved by the Franklin Regional Transit Authority to use this service. To learn more, people may call 413-296-4232.

MassHealth Transportation (PT-1 Transportation) Department of Medical Assistance provides eligible Mass Health recipients with rides to medical appointments. A PT-1 form must be filled out by a MassHealth provider and submitted to DMA. For more information, people may call 800-814-2900.

MIDDLEFIELD

COA announces new email

MIDDLEFIELD – The Middlefield Council on Aging has a new email.

The new email is middlefield.coa@gmail.com.

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

BUSINESS DIRECTORY




George PROPANE INC.
PROPANE GAS
PLUMBING • HEATING
(413) 268-8360
TOLL FREE 1-800-464-2053
Family Owned & Operated
3 Berkshire Trail West (Route 9), P.O. Box 102, Goshen, MA 01032
www.georgepropane.com

Paul's Plumbing & Heating
238-0303
PAUL GRAHAM
Mass. License 23299



AQUA PUMPS WATER SYSTEMS
Water Pumps • Sewer Pumps
Water Conditioners
46 Pitcher Street
Montgomery, MA 01085
Donald Washburn
862-3301

Kirke R. Henshaw, Inc.
Water Well Drilling, Water Pump Sales & Service
Water Testing
System Evaluations
Water System Repairs
HENSHAW
Hydrofracture to Increase Flow
800-232-4725 • Fax 413-296-4565
Charles R. Henshaw
130 Cummington Rd., W. Chesterfield, MA • 413-296-4725




FEED • PET SUPPLIES • CLOTHING • COAL
WOOD PELLETS • WILD & CAGED BIRDSEED
POOL SUPPLIES • MOTOR OILS • FENCING
LAWN & GARDEN SUPPLIES • FERTILIZER
GATEWAY FARM & PET
Poulin Grain
REDWING SHOES
Carhartt
59 RUSSELL ROAD, HUNTINGTON, MA 01050
1-413-667-2279 M-F 8am-5pm
Sat. 8am-4pm
TARA GRENIER • PAUL GRENIER

DOWN TO EARTH EXCAVATING INC
Highly Regarded Professionals: Complete Site Work,
Septic Development and Repairs. Fully Insured.
413-667-5269
Paul & Randy LaPointe, Owners Huntington, Mass.



Dale's Structural & Carpentry
Home Improvement • Additions • Restorations • Repairs
Post & Beam Repairs
Sagging Floors - Beams - Columns
Sill Timbers - Termite Damage
Foundation Repairs - Piers & Footings
Chimney Rebuilds
FULLY LICENSED & INSURED
Huntington, MA • 413-667-3149
dalestructuralandcarpentry.com



ARCHITECT JEFFREY SCOTT PENN
77 Worthington Road, Huntington, MA 01050
Tel. 413-531-1868
Fax. 413-667-3082
Email: jpspsed@verizon.net
new construction, renovation,
historic preservation

Contact Wendy to advertise at 413-283-8393 or email: welcamp@turley.com



Jeff's Oil Burner Service
• Tune Ups
• Installations
• Oil Tanks
Huntington, Massachusetts
Office 413.667.0245
Cell 413.530.7037
jeffsoilburnerservice@hotmail.com



HUNTINGTON

Property Tax Work Off applications due Feb. 12

HUNTINGTON – Applications are now available for the Huntington Senior and Veteran Property Tax Work Off Programs for Fiscal Year 2025.

Huntington property owners, who are at least 60 years old and or U.S. military veterans, may work up to 33.33 hours at the rate of \$15 per hour in a town department to receive a maximum \$500 credit on their real estate tax bill.

The tax credit will be applied to the owner's February or May 2025 real estate bill.

Those who are both seniors and veterans may apply for both programs. The application deadline is Monday, Feb. 12. Applications may be picked up at the Huntington Town Hall or by calling the Select Board Office at 413-512-5200 or emailing admin@huntingtonma.us.

COA events meet at church and Stanton Hall during construction

HUNTINGTON – Due to the Town Hall and Stanton Hall ramp project, the Huntington Council on Aging will be hosting activities at both Stanton Hall and the Huntington Evangelical Church Chapel located at 22 Russell Road (next to Town Hall) through Wednesday, Jan. 31.

The following will be held at the Chapel. Training on how to administer Narcan will be provided on Wednesday, Jan. 24 from 1-2 p.m. Ron and Ronnie will entertain seniors on Wednesday, Jan. 31 from 2-3 p.m. The Hilltown Memory Café is held weekly on Wednesdays from 2-3 p.m. and provides seniors with activities while their caregivers participate in

a support group. The café is open to all with and without memory issues.

The following will be held at Stanton Hall, which is only accessible by the front door with stairs facing Route 20. Chair yoga is held every Wednesday at 9 a.m. and Line Dancing is held every Thursday at 10 a.m. John Garvey will present "Losing Murrayfield" on Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 1-2 p.m. The Pioneer Valley Fiddlers will perform on Wednesday, Feb. 28 from 2-3 p.m.

All events are free of charge. Anyone who needs an accommodation to enter Stanton Hall is advised to call Town Administrator Jennifer Peloquin at 413-512-5200 in advance.

VETERANS

from page 1

the main roles of their office is to provide a financial assistance program for veterans who are 200% below the poverty level.

Assistance is offered in applying for financial benefits for qualified individuals through Mass General Laws Ch. 115; applying for state annuity for 100%-service-connect veterans; applying for state and local veterans property tax exemptions and assisting with local veterans taking part in the property tax work off program.

Veterans might also be eligible for a range of Federal benefits such as VA healthcare, service-connected disability compensation, burial benefits, dependent death benefits and obtaining gravestones, markers, military records and military medal replacements.

The office also provides assistance and referrals for veterans with issues relating to homelessness, health, education and employment; fuel assistance applications and Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program applications.

WESTFIELD

104th Fighter Wing to conduct night flying training missions

WESTFIELD – The 104th Fighter Wing is scheduled to conduct night training flights now through Friday, Jan. 19.

Night training maneuvers allow pilots based at Barnes Air National

Guard Base to stay current with mandatory Air Force requirements as a part of their overall readiness training.

The pilots will be training on both critical homeland defense and overseas wartime aviation skills.

MONTGOMERY

Grace Hall Memorial Library announces news, events

MONTGOMERY – Captivating Pastel Painting Workshop with Greg Maichack entitled “Seascapes” will take place on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 10 a.m. at the Grace Hall Memorial Library, 161 Main Road.

This unique workshop promises a no-judgment, relaxed environment perfect for beginners to advanced artists. Seats are still available and participants can reserve their spot by calling the library at 413-862-3894 or emailing Montgomerylibrary@yahoo.com.

During the workshop, attendees will delve into the world of pastel artistry, drawing inspiration from the masterpieces

of Winslow Homer, particularly his iconic works, “Summer Squall” and “West Point, Prout’s Neck.” All necessary supplies are included, making it a hassle-free experience for participants eager to explore their creative talents.

Montgomery Library invites children aged 3 to 12 to participate in the Kid Reading Challenge 2024, running now through Sunday, March 31. The Amazing Authors reading challenge encourages young readers to explore 26 books from authors A to Z. Pick up a form at the library to record each author’s name for every letter in the alphabet. For every library book read and checked out during

the challenge, participants will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win exciting prizes.

Prizes include ages 3-5: Pet Vet playset, ages 5-10: Turbo Pop STEM Challenge and ages 10-12: Solar BOT.14 robot kit or Mech 5 Robot kit

“Ed the Wizard’s” will hold a balloon twisting workshop, where both children and adults can learn the art of creating delightful balloon animals. On Saturday, Feb. 24 at 1 p.m. WingMaster’s Julia Ann Collier returns to the Montgomery Library with “New England Birds of Prey.” This educational and awe-inspiring event brings live birds into the library,

offering a close encounter with eagles, hawks, falcons, and owls. The presentation delves into the birds’ role in the food web, their hunting adaptations and their status in a changing world. As many birds of prey face declining numbers, the program will highlight endangered raptors and the challenges they confront. Don’t miss this opportunity to learn, engage, and appreciate the beauty and importance of these majestic creatures.

The library is open Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Thursdays from 4-8 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. People may call the library at 413-862-3894 for more information.

BLANDFORD

Food collection continues at Country Store and Bistro

BLANDFORD – The Blandford Country Store and Bistro in partnership with the Hilltown Community Health Center Holiday Help Program hosted “giving opportunities” for families in need during the holiday season.

Due to the generosity and support of patrons, the tree was decorated with mittens, gloves and socks twice over the holiday season, and the food basket overflowed with non-perishables. Thanks to all who donated.

Over the course of the next few

months, the Country Store and Bistro will continue to supply non-perishable food items for distribution through the Community Health Center as they learned the need for families extends beyond the holiday season. People may stop by the Country Store and Bistro, 98 Main St., Monday through Saturday from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. or Sunday from 7 a.m.-1 p.m.

This partnership will continue throughout the year, so people should look for future communications in the coming months.

LIBRARY

from page 1

the collection in 2023 with books making up the majority of checkouts. This number does not include Libby (audio and E-books), which PML patrons also access books through. This is a 202% increase since 2018.

The value of materials checked out to patrons from PML in 2023 was \$128,011. Blandford residents benefit to the tune of approximately \$80 per household. Using the library saves not only with books and DVDs but also with printing, scanning and WiFi hot spots. These savings and services are not able to be quantified, but make a significant impact on the townspeople and are regularly utilized.

In 2023 the library added 48 new patrons, bringing the total number of library card-carrying residents to 482, nearly every household is represented. New patrons make up almost 10% of the PML card members. Director Daviau said that her “lofty goal for 2024 is for every household in

Blandford to use the library at least once and to hit 10,000 checkouts.” She asked that residents stop in to help make this dream a reality and see what the library can do for them.

According to Daviau, Porter Memorial library’s goals for 2024 also include applying for a Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners Small Building grant program to support adding onto the library, making it fully ADA accessible and allowing for a designated children’s and teen space.

“What these numbers show us is that ‘if you build it they will come.’ Our little library has community engagement and support, now we just need a bigger space to allow us to safely and comfortably fit in all of our patrons and programs that have seen so much growth and interest.”

Anyone interested in serving on the building committee may email BlandfordPorterLibrary@gmail.com.

COA

from page 1

Wednesday, Jan. 24 at 10 a.m. in the Blandford Council on Aging room. This program is free and open to the first 12 people to register by emailing susantracine1@gmail.com.

Mikuski said that people who signed up for Sand for Seniors can call the Sheriff’s Department, TRIAD division, when more sand is needed at 413-858-0060. Sand is available at no charge.

Game day will start on Friday,

Feb 2 at 2 p.m. in the COA room. It is open to all with whatever they would like to do: cards, games, puzzles or just socialize. Mikuski said, “If we have enough interest, we could do it twice a month and/or start movies again.” This is a great opportunity to keep in touch during the cold weather.

Anyone interested in participating in game day should call the COA at 412-848-4279 extension 400 and leave a message.

WORTHINGTON



Windborne, a folk band will perform in the Congregational Church in Worthington on Friday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. Courtesy photo by Matthew Muise

Windborne will perform Jan. 19

WORTHINGTON – Windborne, a folk band consisting of Lauren Breunig, Jeremy Carter-Gordon, Lynn Rowan and Will Rowan, will perform Friday, Jan. 19 at 7 p.m. in the Congregational Church, 159 Huntington Road.

The quartet weaves in stories engaging the audience and providing additional context for their songs. True to the genre of folk, Windborne’s music speaks to movements in social justice, civil and labor rights. Their fourth album, *Of Hard Times and Harmony*, sung in four

languages, is a collection of “songs of reflection and action from movements for social and environmental justice.”

This event is free and open to the public. It is hosted by The Worthington Library and supported by a grant from the Worthington Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. For more information, people may call the Worthington Library at 413-238-5565 or email TheWorthingtonLibrary@gmail.com.

RUSSELL

Noble View Outdoor Center to host wildlife tracking sessions

RUSSELL – Winter unveils wildlife habits like no other season.

Footprints, gait patterns and other signs not only reveal the inhabitants of the forest, but the behaviors of wildlife people seldom see. Jim Pelletier, Berkshire wildlife tracker, past chair, Mass AT Management Committee, Coordinator, Committee’s Natural Resources, member of the Berkshire Environmental Action Teams Wildlife Trackers Club and certified Track and Sign Specialist by Cybertracker North America, will lead the sessions.

On Saturday, Feb. 3, there will be a session for families from 10 a.m.-noon at Noble View Outdoor Center, 635 South

Quarter Road and from 1-4 p.m. a session for teens and adults. Space is limited. Register early for this popular hike either emailing Dawne Piers-Gamble at dawne4amc@gmail.com or by visiting <https://activities.outdoors.org/search/index.cfm?action/details/id/148023>.

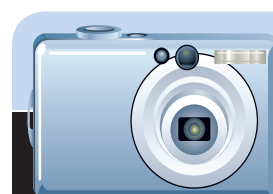
Participants should dress for winter conditions. Snowshoes may be required. People should let them know if they need snowshoes.

Pelletier shares tips on identification techniques and where to look for wildlife activity. These sessions are sponsored by Appalachian Mountain Club Western Massachusetts Family Outings and Education Committee.

Corrections policy

If you notice a factual error in our pages, please let us know, so that we can set the record straight. Email information to countryjournal@turley.com, or call us at 413-283-8393.

Corrections will be printed in the same section where the error originally occurred.



Send Us Your Photos!

countryjournal@turley.com

OPINION

GUEST COLUMN

Dreaming of roses, blueberries bushes and more? Get those orders in!



by Roberta McQuaid

For me at least, a much needed break from the garden has given way to the return of other hobbies this winter.

Quilting for one. I've enjoyed working on a Christmas tree quilt and have plans to start a pumpkin quilt.

I guess when I can't garden, I take horticulture any way I can get it – even in cloth! Quilting is fun in that you can exercise your love of color by playing with different combinations.

I like to see what looks good together and stand back and admire. It seems very similar to the admiration of a thoughtfully planned out flower garden. Well, you didn't start reading to learn about my sewing fancy, so let's get to some garden talk.

Do you dream of expanding your mini orchard or berry patch? Maybe you have a particular rose you are interested in.

If you desire to shop by mail, place your orders early (yes, now) for home delivery in April and early May.

I will start my dreaming with the Nourse Farms catalog (www.noursefarms.com or 413-665-2658). Located not far away in South Deerfield, this company specializes in producing high quality berry plants (and asparagus roots plus).

It would be great to extend my blueberry picking season over a month or more, just like my parents did with their patch. I will plan to order early, mid at late season varieties to accomplish this.

Last year, Nourse switched from selling bareroot blueberry plants to selling them in one liter pots. According to the listing, plants are cut back to just over a foot. They will increase in top growth the first year.

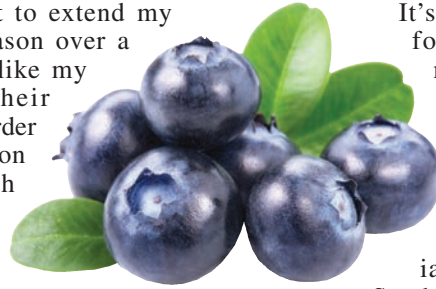
They have found that selling potted plants eases transplant shock and reduces the chance of the roots drying out in shipment. Sounds great to me!

Take care to amend the soil to the proper pH and site the plants accordingly and you could enjoy blueberries for decades. My parents' bushes are still bearing some 70 years later.

Maybe you are in the market for apple trees this year. For well-rooted, hardy Maine grown plants, shop the Fedco Trees Catalog (www.fedcoseeds.com). Fedco Trees offers a great selection of heirloom apple trees, scionwood and rootstocks for home grafting, pears, plums and grapes among other types of nursery stock and ornamentals.

For heirloom apple enthusiasts or those interested in planting a cider orchard, this is an amazing resource. The final order deadline for trees is March 1.

The catalog changes a bit every year, so be sure to check back or reach out to them if you are looking for a specific variety and you don't see it listed in print.



It's been a few years since I've found a reputable mail-order nursery for heirloom roses. Recently, I stumbled upon High Country Roses (www.highcountryroses.com), and I'm impressed with the variety of roses they carry, many of which I am familiar with from working at Old Sturbridge Village: Rosa gallica officinalis and versicolor, Harison's Yellow, Rosa eglanteria and more.

If heirlooms aren't your thing, check out the number of ARS (American Rose Selections) winners for proven success. All of the roses they sell are grown on their own roots by vegetative propagation and are not grafted.

Some arguments in favor of own root roses include better hardiness, increased blooms, vigor and longevity. With over 600 varieties to choose from there is something for new and seasoned rose enthusiasts alike, and a lot of useful information for growers on their website.

Yes, it is the middle of winter and all should be quiet on the gardening front, but it is also a great time to get your orders in to your favorite mail order catalogs. Shop early for the best selection!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

Can someone work while collecting Social Security Disability?



Dear Rusty

If a person is collecting Social Security disability benefits, can they, at any point, work at all? If they can, what is the maximum they can earn and still keep the disability benefit? I am asking because my husband is still young, but his injuries will not allow him to go back to the job he had prior to his injuries and surgeries. He does not just want to sit at home doing nothing.

Signed: Concerned Wife

Dear Concerned:

Actually, the Social Security Administration encourages those collecting Social Security Disability Insurance benefits to attempt to go back to work and they provide considerable leeway for them to do

so. The monthly earnings limit for those collecting SSDI benefits in 2024 is \$1,550 and as long as your husband earns less than the limit while working, his SSDI benefits will not be in jeopardy. Your husband should contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly to protect his disability status and discuss returning to work while collecting SSDI benefits.

The Ticket to Work program assists those now receiving SSDI benefits who wish to test their ability to return to work without putting their SSDI benefits at risk. The program provides considerable assistance, including new career training opportunities and connection to potential employers and it is voluntary and costs nothing. Here is a link to Social Security's information on the Ticket to Work program: <https://choosework.ssa.gov/>

It's not mandatory for your husband to enroll in the Ticket to Work program but, in addition to other available assistance, he can request a Trial Work Period, which would allow for nine months, over a rolling five year period, during which he can earn any amount

even over the normal monthly limit mentioned above without risking his SSDI benefits.

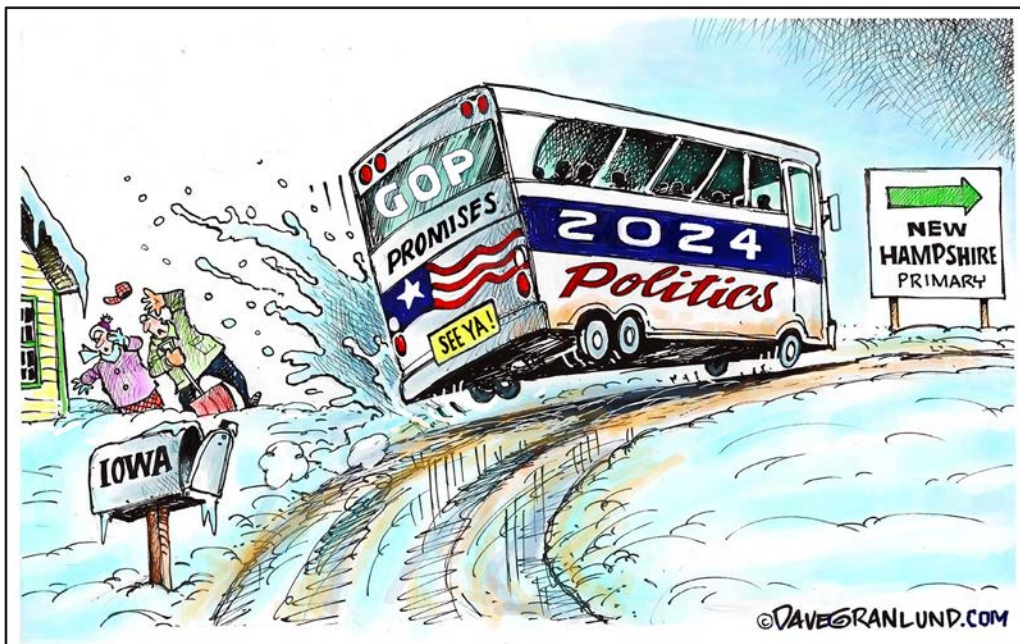
Within the Trial Work Period, only those months he earns over the normal monthly SSDI limit would count as a Trial Work Month. So, for example, your husband could work part time regularly earning under the normal monthly limit and if, in some months (up to nine), he earned more it wouldn't affect his SSDI benefits.

So, your younger disabled husband can, indeed, work while on Social Security disability, for as long as he wishes while earning under the monthly SSDI limit, the SSDI earnings limit changes yearly. He may also wish to enroll in Social Security's Ticket to Work program for assistance with developing a new career. Plus, he can take advantage of using trial work months in the event his work earnings will, at times, exceed the monthly SSDI limit.

If your husband earns over the SSDI limit for more than the nine trial work months and his benefits are consequently stopped, he can within the five-year Trial Work Period have his benefits reinstated (without again going through the full application process) if his disability, once more, renders him unable to work full time.

For starters, I suggest your husband contact Social Security's Ticket to Work program directly at 1.833-889-0108 to discuss returning to work part time. Social Security will guide him through the entire process.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor should be 500 words or less in length. We require letter writers to include his or her name, town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

Mail letter to Country Journal, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069 or mail your letter to: countryjournal@turley.com.



\$12.50 Each

Digital Photos

TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.

Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications. Go to newspapers.turley.com/photo-request

ISSN NO. 0747-2471

Country Journal TEAM



EDITOR
Ellenor Downer
countryjournal@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

The Country Journal (USPS 483-550) is published every Thursday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069.



@ Country Journal



countryjournal.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager

Turley
Publications, Inc.

www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

OPINION

HILLTOWN HISTORY

There's treasures in the hills

By Deborah Daniels
Correspondent

Some of you are lucky, you go out and walk and complete your health walk in 30 minutes and feel good for the rest of the day.

Then there are those of us who go out to walk and return hours later. Why hours later? That is because every step sometimes reveals a possible clue to the past or better yet a treasure in the form of a bottle cap, bullet casing, ancient button or glinting stone half buried in the ground we tread. These trinkets, excuse me, artifacts are begging to tell their story. Who better to tell it to than we amateur archeologists.

Here is the story of one man who has walked the fields of Deerfield, Greenfield, Chesterfield and Northfield for some 60 years finding treasure. What a collection of artifacts he has. He has found buttons, military insignia, buckles, and coins that date as early as 1700s including French coins found at Chesterfield Gorge that date to the American Revolution when the cannons were being brought down to Boston from Saratoga.

He first started finding artifacts in the fields he helped plow as a lad. The first treasure he found was a small Native American quartz hatchet. That got him researching what he had found and the rest as they say is history. He considers his inaugural brass campaign button for George Washington his prize possession, valued at \$6,000. He laments that so many of his coins have been worn so smooth, reading the dates on them is difficult. Rest assured he uses all the technology he can to enhance his inspection of the artifacts such as magnifying glasses and jewelers loops. He has consulted museum staff to help with their identity.

However it was his Post Office job for 30 years that paid his living expenses, not his artifacts. Like a poker player he keeps the location of his found artifacts close to his chest. But he has also walked fields where farmers come out and share the items they have found over the years. Is there a quiet brotherhood of wannabe archeologists out there?

What he does share is that the best time to look for artifacts is after the rain and when a field has been plowed. His tools have always been a sharp stick and good eyesight. He got a metal detector in 2004 that definitely upped his game.

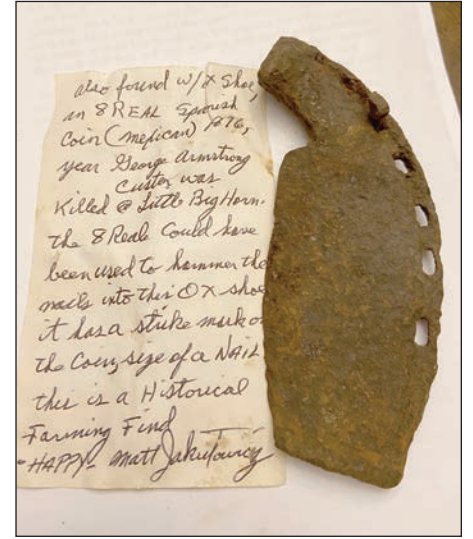
Old maps are really not that helpful he reports because the landscape changes, landmarks are gone and ownership of the land definitely restricts access. He never hunts when it is planting time on farm fields. You can just about feel the rifle trained on you if you do. The banks of the Deerfield and Connecticut Rivers have always turned up payload because Native Americans and colonials used the river like a road map. He has many lead musket balls both intact and flattened specimens, arrowheads,



Musket balls and assorted found objects in a chest. Submitted photos



Coins and buttons found in farm fields. One states True Whigs of '76 and '34, a probable election button.



Half an ox shoe found with a Spanish coin lying nearby dated 1876. There was one coin known as the pine tree shilling.



Military brass buckle found at Chesterfield Gorge.



Here is a pile of arrowheads found in the area.

chipped flints, stone grinding pots, ax heads, gouges, stone scraping tools and even an atlatl piece (ancient Native American spear thrower).

When you find something you recognize as a genuine piece of history, time in the field just melts away. It fires up your imagination to the events that possibly took place here all those years ago. One such event is the French and Indian raid on Deerfield Village in 1704.

He believes he has artifacts from that event. If you have ever been to the Memorial Museum in Deerfield, you may have seen the preserved wooden door with the hatchet marks hacked into it by Indians. It is a front door to one of the homes that was raided during this event.

This was a fascinating bit of history worth recounting. There were skirmishes over land rights in the fields of Deerfield between Native Americans and colonials for years before the French and Indian raid. It was a frontier outpost that built a stockade fence to provide some protection from raids. One early dawn in February, 250 French and Indian men attacked the outpost.

This was part of Queen Anne's War between England and France to control North America. After a series of successful raids in Maine the French focused on taking the Connecticut Valley.

During the raid two men climbed a snow pile to go over the stockade fence and unlock the gate to let the rest of the marauders in. The village was home to 291 settlers from Dedham, who were given a grant and land titles to farm the area. Caught by surprise, 48 residents were killed and 112 villagers were taken captive and the village was torched. There were 126 villagers, who survived the attack.

The captives were forced to march to Montreal, 300 miles away in frigid conditions. Those who were too weak to make the trek were killed, 89 villagers survived the journey. We know much of the history of this event because the Reverend John Williams, the Village leader and a captive wrote a book about his experience years later.

It is a tale of human resilience. His wife was killed along the route, two of his children had been killed during the

raid. His eight year old daughter, Eunice Williams, survived the trip and eventually married a Native American. She remained in Montreal and raised a family. She did visit Deerfield years later.

In fact 36 of the captives remained living with the Indians or in French Canadian society while the others were returned to Deerfield through prisoner trades with the French and ransom payments to buy back the captive villagers by surrounding townspeople. Indeed the area around Deerfield was rich in historical events and it has been more or less untouched by modern development. Ergo, it was an area rich in artifacts.

One more example of how knowledge of history can enlighten your artifact hunting is the half of an ox shoe he has in his collection. Deerfield's economy was dominated by raising stall fed ox in the late 1700s to early 1800s. These were the heavy beasts of burdens that dominated farm life. Deerfield was probably the premier place to buy your ox and a spare pair of shoes. Now you have another reason to get out and walk, to find "them there" treasures in the Hills.

This paper publishes birth, engagement, wedding and significant anniversary announcements free of charge. Simply log on to our web site, choose the paper you want the announcement to appear in, then use our SUBMISSION link to email your information.



www.turley.com

OTIS

Notice Otis Series meets Feb. 15 via Zoom

OTIS – The Otis Historical Commission and Otis Preservation Trust are hosting the second Notice Otis Series cultural event of the 2023-24 season presenting, “What’s Happening at Gould Farm: the Roadside Café and More” on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. via zoom.

Gould Farm, established in 1913, is the first residential community in the nation devoted to helping adults surmount mental health challenges and progress toward recovery, wellness and greater independence through a combination of community living, meaningful work and clinical support. The guests of Gould Farm enjoy the safety and security of a warm and welcoming family-like community that is composed of staff, families, volunteers and fellow guests. All members are not only accepted, but they are also deeply respected and celebrated for their unique individuality.

Gould Farm’s Roadside Store and Cafe has been a fixture of Monterey, Massachusetts since 1978. Over the years, Roadside has been featured in magazines such as Bon Appetit, the New York Times, Esquire, and Edible Berkshires. People come for the pancakes and stay for the warm atmosphere.



The Gould Farm and Roadside Cafe will be the topic of a zoom presentation on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. Submitted photo

For over four decades, Roadside served up farm fresh food for the community and provided a healing work environment for people with mental health challenges.

At 100 years old, the former structure that used to house Roadside was no longer meeting the needs of Gould Farm’s guests. After several months of careful planning and thanks to the generosity of many donors, the brand new and improved Roadside Store and Cafe is on track to reopen in 2024.

Otis Preservation Trust works with the Historical Commission to organize and preserve the history and heritage of Otis for future generations by supporting efforts to preserve, restore, repurpose and edu-

cate about buildings, monuments, lands and memorabilia of Otis.

OPT is a not-for-profit (501c3) organization operated for fundraising and educational purposes. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Otis Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, an agency of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The event is via zoom on Thursday, Feb. 15 at 7 p.m. To register for the Feb. 15 Zoom or for more information, people may visit www.otispreservationtrust.com; or www.townofotisma.com. There is no charge to attend this event. Donations are welcome.

Library announces upcoming events

OTIS – The Otis Library, 48 North Main Road, story walk* is “A Walk on the Farmington River Trail and will be up until Friday, Feb. 2

The story walk is located behind St. Mary’s of the Lakes Church, 72 North Main Road. The Lego Club meets Saturday, Jan. 20 at 1 p.m. in the library. People may call the library at 413-269-0109 or visit www.otislibraryma.org.

*Founded in 2007 by Anne Ferguson of Montpelier, Vermont and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library, StoryWalk® was created to promote a love of reading and physical activity.

BECKET

BCC announces 2024 Grant Awards

BECKET – Rep. “Smitty” Pignatelli and Cathy Terwedow, Chair of the Becket Cultural Council, announce the awarding of 14 grants totaling \$8,200 for wide ranging arts, humanities and science projects for the town of Becket for the 2024 calendar year.

The Becket Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.

Decisions about which activities to support are made at the community level by a board of municipally appointed volunteers. The members of the Becket Cultural Council are Cathy Terwedow, chair; Shelley Chanler, secretary; Andrea Pecor, treasurer; Sarah Reedy, publicity; Carole Rivel, Lisa Rosier, Jane Markham and Karen Ludington.

“It’s the local volunteers who really make this system work,” said Rep. “Smitty” Pignatelli. “They make limited resources go as far as possible. The

Council is very thoughtful in their work and the Becket residents are the beneficiaries.”

This year’s grants include: Becket Arts Center for its Music Brings Communities Together and Community Mosaic Public Arts Project; Becket Athenaeum for its Museum Passes program and community performances; Becket Beat for local journalism; Becket Police Association for their Holiday Party; Becket Washington School for Interactive Science Exploration; Berkshire Music School, Inc. for Willie was Different: A Musical Enrichment Program; Berkshire Pulse, Inc for Intro to Dance for PE in Nessacus Middle School; Jodi Hostetter for Music in the Park; Berkshire Art Center for Artcentric after-school program; Nutshell Playhouse, Inc for Nutshell Playhouse at the Becket Arts Center; Town of Washington for Family Fun Day and Lara Tupper for Pick Up the Pen: Start Your Writing Project.

Becket Cultural Council will again seek applications in the fall for 2025 grants. Guidelines and complete information will be available by visiting online at www.mass-cultural.org. People may email becketculturalcouncil@townofbecket.org for more information about Becket Cultural Council.

PITTSFIELD

Berkshire Green Drinks holds zoom session on tree identification

PITTSFIELD – Many find trying to identify a tree during winter to be a daunting endeavor.

With the absence of leaves, flowers, and fruit, it can appear as though there are no distinguishable characteristics to help with identification. But this is far from true. Chelsey Simmons of Berkshire Environmental Action Team for the February Berkshire Green Drinks meeting will present a virtual event to explore the buds, twigs and bark of common trees seen in the New England landscape.

It may be surprising, but winter is actually an excellent time to learn how to identify woody plant species. The absence of leaves allows for the opportunity to take a closer look at the characteristics that are often overlooked, like the subtle features of a twig, the arrangement of buds, and the overall form and structure of a tree.

Simmons will go over the steps to tree identification, break down twig morphology and give helpful hints on remembering one species from another, all of which will aid in tree and shrub identification year-round. The presentation will be live-streamed via Zoom on Wednesday, Feb. 14 at 6 p.m. People may register at: <http://tinyurl.com/Feb2024-Berks-Green-Drinks> to receive the meeting link.

As part of her work for BEAT, she leads numerous naturalist walks throughout Berkshire County year-round. For the past few years, she’s been working on an identification book of trees and shrubs found in western Massachusetts, meticulously drawing and painting each page by hand and sharing those pages with the public through BEAT’s “Tree of the Month” series with the hope of getting people excited about trees and interested in the native species found in the region.

Berkshire Green Drinks, formerly Pittsfield Green Drinks, is an informal gathering that takes place once a month. A guest speaker talks for about 30 minutes beginning at 6 p.m. and the presentation is followed by a discussion and question and answer. These nights are free and open to everyone with any environmental interest. The drinks aren’t green, but the conversations are. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to join and bring along questions.

Berkshire Green Drinks is sponsored and organized by the Berkshire Environmental Action Team. For more information regarding Berkshire Green Drinks, people may email or call Chelsey Simmons at chelsey@thebeatnews.org 413-464-9402.

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET! **INFLATION** **PRICE BUSTERS** **PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!**

USDA INSP. FRESH PORK RIBS COUNTRY STYLE \$2.45 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF RIBEYE STEAKS \$8.44 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TOP ROUND ROAST or LONDON BROIL \$4.69 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH PORK SPARE RIBS..... \$2.35 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SIRLOIN STEAKHOUSE TIPS \$8.44 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG \$1.66 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS \$2.99 lb	SLICED IN OUR DELI TURKEY BREAST \$3.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN WHOLE CHICKEN..... 88¢ lb
TAILGATE SPECIALS	USDA INSP. STORE MADE CAROLINA GOLD MARINATED BONELESS CHICKEN THIGHS \$2.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BROCCOLI & CHEESE STUFFED CHICKEN BREAST..... \$3.99 lb
USDA INSP. STORE MADE KOREAN BBQ MARINATED BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS \$3.35 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN FULLY COOKED BBQ BABY BACK RIBS..... \$3.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN READY TO COOK PARMESAN BREADED TALAPIA FILLETS 24 OZ BAG..... \$4.99 ea

90 Meat Outlet 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

SALE DATES: 1/18/24-1/24/24 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE We reserve the right to limit quantities.

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.

Local News. Local Deals!

Country Journal
countryjournal@turley.com
283.8393 • countryjournal.turley.com

NORTHAMPTON

Raishad Glover exhibits on display at Taber Art Gallery

HOLYOKE – Cubes and hexagons abound in the work of conceptual artist Raishad J. Glover of Northampton the newest member of the Holyoke Community College visual art faculty.

“The cube acts as a form of building block,” said Glover. “Building blocks for family. Building blocks for community. Building blocks for ecosystems.” A hexagon, he notes, traces the contour line of a cube, and is a form prevalent in nature, such as honeycomb found in beehives.

Cubes, hexagons, the environment, as well as other shapes and themes, come together in Glover’s latest exhibit, “Geo-Spec: Cultural Introspection Wealth,” which runs now through March 20 at HCC’s own Taber Art Gallery. The Taber Art Gallery, located off the lobby of the HCC Library on the second floor of the HCC Donahue Building, is free and open to the public Monday through Friday from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. during regular school sessions.

Glover studied studio art at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts at Tufts University in Boston and holds a master’s degree in fine art in painting



Raishad Glover of Northampton will exhibit at the Taber Art Gallery at Holyoke Community College now through Wednesday, March 20.

Submitted photo

and printmaking from the Yale School of Art in New Haven. He joined HCC in the fall after nine years teaching art

at Claflin University and South Carolina State University in Orangeburg.

“I have a lot of history up here, a

lot of family, and a lot of friends, and a gallery in Boston that is used to exhibiting my work,” said Glover, who lives in Northampton and maintains a studio there. “I wanted to get back to other areas that I’m familiar with and build connections.”

The “Geo-Spec” exhibit explores concepts such as culture, mind growth, wealth, and ecological design. “Geo” refers to geometry, “spec” to spectrum. Glover experiments with multiple mediums, such as lenticular printing, graphite powder, beeswax, dura-trans/backlit film, analog and digital photography, and LED Lights.

He is an advocate of sustainable design and chooses materials that are more environmentally friendly. Geo-Spec includes pieces constructed from granite, paper, glass, bamboo, and wool, among others.

One of the pieces is a refurbished portable television from the 1940s, retrofitted to play videos from an Amazon Fire TV Stick. “We’re going to play a short video on there,” he said, “but it’s top secret until the show opens.”

PLAINFIELD

Fire Department responds to two chimney fires within two week

PLAINFIELD – With winter temperatures here, those using wood stoves for heat either primary or assisting another heating source are burning more wood.

The Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department are seeing the results of that usage directly. They have been called to two chimney fires in town in the past two weeks as well as multiple structure fires originating from chimney fires in the mutual aid surrounding towns so far this winter.

The Plainfield Fire Department firefighters remind homeowners to have their chimney, chimney pipe and stove cleaned if they have not done so recently. Professional cleaning is a phone call away. People may find chimney cleaners on social media or through ads. The cost of cleaning is far cheaper than losing a house to a structure fire caused by extension of the chimney fire into the house.

Homeowners should burn only dry, seasoned wood. Unseasoned or green wood creates creosote, an incomplete combustion of the wood.

Firefighters also recommend having working smoke detectors and CO alarms. Time is everything in safely putting out the fire or escaping from it. Structure fires now burn incredibly faster than even



Plainfield Volunteer Fire Department responded to two chimney fires within two weeks.

Submitted photo

a generation ago. This is because of what people now have in their homes. Highly toxic gases and fast burning fires make structure fires now more dangerous than ever.

Homeowners should check the batteries in their detectors and replace them if necessary. That alarm may save a life and home.

CHESTERFIELD

CBDG hearing set for Jan. 29

CHESTERFIELD – A Community Development Block FY 24 Grant public hearing will take place Monday, Jan. 29 at 5 p.m. in the Select Board room.

Snow date is Monday, Feb. 12. Potential participating communities are Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Peru, Plainfield, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington

Residents are invited to share their input on potential Housing Rehabilitation and Social Services proj-

ects, which last year included Hilltown Elder Network, Health Outreach Program for Elders, the Goshen Food Pantry and other programs of interest.

People may share their input on how how things are going with the above listed programs.

For those who can’t come to the meeting but have comments, they may submit written comments via email beavh@hilltowncdc.org within two weeks of the hearing.

health & wellness NETWORK

NEW FORMAT
MAGAZINE SIZE

AN ANNUAL SOURCE OF
Local Health Professionals
TO BE DISTRIBUTED IN
12 TURLEY NEWSPAPERS

THE REGISTER • COUNTRY JOURNAL
THE CHICOPEE REGISTER
THE JOURNAL REGISTER
WARE RIVER NEWS • BARRE GAZETTE
THE BELCHERTOWN SENTINEL
WILBRAHAM-HAMPDEN TIMES
AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS
THE SUN • TOWN REMINDER
QUABOAG CURRENT

DEADLINE
January 31, 2024

PUBLICATION DATE
February 21, 2024

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT TO

 www.turley.com

CALL TODAY TO ADVERTISE

413.283.8393

When You Need It Done Right!
Call **413-568-3164**

**COOPER
EXCAVATING
And Trucking Inc.**

- Excavation & Site Work
- Drainage
- Gravel & Asphalt Driveways
- Septic Design, Installation & Pumping

Serving Hampden & Berkshire Counties
413-568-3164 | cooperexcavatingma.com

SCHOOLS & YOUTH

HCC announces Dean's list for fall 2023 semester

HOLYOKE – Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean's list.

The students listed below have earned Dean's list honors for the Fall 2023 semester. They are: Elizabeth Anne Breau of Blandford, Noah Alexander Primack of Chester, Misty Raye Robitaille of Chester, Liliana Manley of Chesterfield, Alexandra Joanne Adams of Easthampton, Sarah Akin of Easthampton, Selah Rotas Axelrad of Easthampton, Nathan Alexander Biddulph of Easthampton, Hind Bourhim of Easthampton, Kyle William Brosseau of Easthampton, Maxime Capitaine of Easthampton, Brenda Lee Carrier of Easthampton, Marlina Christine Devine of Easthampton, Gracelyn Helen Downer of Easthampton, Alexander Lawrence Fisher of Easthampton, Laura Gangneo of Easthampton, Cadence Hiller of Easthampton, Assya Houfr of Easthampton, Tiffany Jones of Easthampton, Helen Louise Korczak of Easthampton, McKenzie Rose McCarthy of Easthampton, Nelson Kenneth Murphy of Easthampton, Joseph Leon Penarrieta of Easthampton, Danielle C., Plasse of Easthampton, Sarah Sabo of Easthampton, Amber Slawski of Easthampton, Meghan Genevieve Teague of Easthampton, Zoe Jennelle Thomas of Easthampton, Casey Emma Wagner of Easthampton, Mary-Alice Wieland of Easthampton, Madelyn Elizabeth Wodecki of Easthampton, Akif Edward Yilmaz of Easthampton, Riley Elizabeth

Delano of Florence, Fatima Ibrahim of Florence, Aidan Layne Jones of Florence, Oliver E. King of Florence, Tsultrem Kunsang of Florence, Liliana Grace Pollard of Florence, Stephanie Marie Rafter of Florence, Lindsey Reopel of Florence, Barbara Ann Santiago of Florence, Edward Charles Sarafin of Florence, Jonas Michael Shea of Florence, Ephraim Sieber of Florence, Megan Marie Tierney of Florence, Lauren Williams of Goshen, Ruth Arroyo of Great Barrington, Colette Rose Piotrowski of Haydenville, Danielle Rose Canedy of Huntington, Caleb Labonte of Huntington, Dylan Dougllass Nicolle of Huntington, Leah May Wilson of Huntington, Staci Alice Barrett of Lee, Autumn Nicole Hamblin of Montgomery, Athena Bogdan of Northampton, Jesse Knox Conner of Northampton, Zachary Harold Fox of Northampton, Kerri Lee Hammersley of Northampton, Diana Michelle Hernandez of Northampton, Anthony Scott Knowles of Northampton, Jacob Kris of Northampton, James John Loughery Jr. of Northampton, Justin Charles Michaels of Northampton, Jozelyn Chandara Ne of Northampton, Linedith Orta-Collazo of Northampton, Rebecca Gene Tremblay of Northampton, Nathan William Wack of Northampton, Sonia Quizhpi Caguana of Pittsfield, Crystal Natalie Villanueva of Pittsfield, Amber Renae Coley of Russell and Connor Michael Hourihan of Russell.

Other students making the Dean's list are: Benjamin Kenneth Adams of Southampton, Joseph Robert Bartolucci of Southampton, Vincent Robert Bartolucci

of Southampton, Olesya Bondar of Southampton, Laci Enid Chapdelaine of Southampton, Jessa Mae Craig of Southampton, Emma Kathleen Czarniecki of Southampton, Spencer Richard Czarniecki of Southampton, Kyle Shawn Dale of Southampton, Emerson William Folta of Southampton, Wilson Mark Heath of Southampton, Zeynep Ibic of Southampton, Brooke Ireland Kavanaugh of Southampton, Sarah Bree Mason I of Southampton, Justin Andrew Meunier of Southampton, Meredith Megan Mielke of Southampton, Emily Margaret Pawlikowski of Southampton, Shannyn Agnes Samuelson of Southampton, Jack L. Seneby of Southampton, Gabrielle Dominique St. John of Southampton, Ava Christine Tellier of Southampton, Alexia Mariah Agosto of Westfield, Gabriela Artin of Westfield, Mihails Berezuns of Westfield, Erin Blake of Westfield, Olha Borova of Westfield, Ashley Noelle Brazier of Westfield, Isabella Rose Brothers of Westfield, Alyona Amy Brutskaya of Westfield, Katharine Marie Burzynski of Westfield, Sarah Elizabeth Circe of Westfield, Jeffrey Michael Collingwood of Westfield, Paige Abigail Cortis of Westfield, Nicholas Albert Couchon of Westfield, Ryan Victor DeFalco of Westfield, Katherine Theresa Dengler of Westfield, Lindsey Kristine Dion of Westfield, Diana Dovganyuk of Westfield, William Richard Folsom of Westfield, Angelica Gavrilov of Westfield, Christina Manuela Gelmudinov of Westfield, Caitlyn Gomez of Westfield, Wandeliz Gonzalez Marrero of Westfield,

Mary Esther Goretskiy of Westfield, Travis David Guin of Westfield, Marissa Helms of Westfield, Noel Winters Herbele of Westfield, Tahjae Neveah Hernandez of Westfield, Lizmarie Jimenez Diaz of Westfield, Leanora Ruth Kirouac of Westfield, Caleb Martin Konopko of Westfield, Jill Michele Krueger of Westfield, Kristina Kukharchuk of Westfield, Nawal Hassan Langrial of Westfield, Joshua David Lecrenski of Westfield, Envii Marie Luciano of Westfield, Rhys Ruby Maryn of Westfield, Curran David McKenzie of Westfield, Michael Steffan Navarro Jr. of Westfield, Paul Ortega of Westfield, Adareasheia Rose Pinsky of Westfield, Krista Marie Quaglieri of Westfield, Darryll Nycole Roberts of Westfield, Lyla Dawn Roybal of Westfield, Dianelly Marie Salgado of Westfield, Bradley Walter Sanders of Westfield, Lailany Desiree Santa-Gomez of Westfield, David Tomas Santiago of Westfield, Sarah Lorraine Shoemaker of Westfield, Cheyenne Marie Slack of Westfield, Amy Elizabeth Smith of Westfield, Logan M. Symmons of Westfield, Leah Marie Urbanski of Westfield, Abigail Edith Wescott of Westfield, Liudmyla Yemelianova of Westfield, Samuel F. Yesu of Westfield, Fazna Zakir of Westfield, Gallivan Olivia Florek of Westhampton, Emily Danielle Souza of Westhampton, Alivia Kathleen Brisson of Williamsburg, Andrew Gordon Delisle of Williamsburg and Jessica Lannon Liimatainen of Williamsburg.

A student is placed on the Dean's list if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher.

UConn announces Dean's list

STORRS, CT – The University of Connecticut announces the Dean's list for the fall 2023 semester.

Local students making the Dean's

list are: Ryan Crowther of Florence, Abigail Zeik of Great Barrington, Natalie Kells of Montague and Ragan Laurin of Southampton.

Caitlyn Pellegrini graduates from the College of Charleston

CHARLESTON, S.C. – Caitlyn Pellegrini, of Easthampton graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science in international business from the College of Charleston.

Pellegrini was among more than 370 bachelor's degree and master's degree candidates who participated in the ceremony.

Roxie Clauson makes Dean's list

MADISON, WIS – The University of Wisconsin-Madison announces the Dean's list for the fall semester of the 2023-2024 academic year.

Making the Dean's list was Roxie Clauson of Northampton in the College of Letters and Science at the University

of Wisconsin-Madison. To be eligible for the Dean's list, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own Grade Point Average requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction.

STCC announces Dean's list

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Technical Community College announces the fall 2023 Dean's list.

Local students making the Dean's list are: Carina Lemire of Chesterfield, Amanda Ziff of Easthampton, Darwin Guamarica of Easthampton, Desirae Redfern of Easthampton, Evan Ciborowski of Easthampton, Jacob Kulas of Easthampton, Jessica Parker of Easthampton, Nathan Kreuzer of Easthampton, Shaheim Torres of Easthampton, Taylor Bigda of Easthampton, Edwin Benson of Florence, Christopher Dinan of Great Barrington, Olivia Netzer of Great Barrington, Gwenyth Mineau of Montgomery, Arianna Santiago Padilla of Northampton, Bobby Lopez of Northampton, Kate Jones of Northampton, Sophie Leavitt of Northampton, Alyssa Flood of Pittsfield, Jay Doucette of Pittsfield, Victoria Arnoldi of Pittsfield, Jessica Bush of Russell and Samuel Frechette of Russell.

Other local students making the Dean's list are Allison Breeden of Westfield, Antonina Nazarets of Westfield, Antonio Dones of Westfield, Brianna Roberts of Westfield, Carlos Valdejulli of Westfield, Chelsea Eatmon of Westfield, Christina Bishop of Westfield, Dayanara Sarmiento of Westfield, Ella Nicole Bishop

of Westfield, Emily Rza of Westfield, Evan Ploof of Westfield, Evan Glenzel of Westfield, Francesca Drewnowski of Westfield, Genesis Connors of Westfield, Georgina Badger of Westfield, Hailey Smith of Westfield, Joshua Towse of Westfield, Joshua Pedro of Westfield, Kayani De Leon of Westfield, Livia Ciubotaru of Westfield, Luis Colon of Westfield, Madison Beaulieu of Westfield, Marharyta Cherepanova of Westfield, Matthew Gorman of Westfield, Megan Lavoice of Westfield, Michael Boucher of Westfield, Natalya Fodor of Westfield, Nazar Danyuk of Westfield, Nikki Beltrandi of Westfield, Petro Misiruk of Westfield, Roman Slivca of Westfield, Sakibou Geraldo of Westfield, Sophia Taglieri of Westfield, Stephen Jeffers of Westfield, Timothy Rudenko of Westfield, Timothy Lysenko of Westfield, Yelena Misiruk of Westfield, Andrew Nichols of Westhampton, Emma Skrocki of Westhampton and Zachary Longhi of Westhampton.

To be considered, degree-seeking students must earn 12 or more college level credits in the current semester or a total of 12 or more combined college-level credits earned during the fall and spring semesters, and achieve a 3.3 or above grade point average.

Send us your news & photos: countryjournal@turley.com

EASTHAMPTON

WinterFest fundraiser supports health of Nashawannuck Pond

EASTHAMPTON – WinterFest is a major fundraiser to support the health of Nashawannuck Pond.

The funds raised through WinterFest sponsorships, merchandise sales, donations and other fundraisers have paid for herbicide treatment for invasive Eurasian Milfoil in July of 2023. Ongoing projects include monitoring and treating invasive species and cyanobacteria monitoring. They are also evaluating the shoreline stabilization in 4 different areas that were put in place in 2001 to prevent erosion.

Without outside support, this kind of work is not possible. They receive no budget from the city and depend on the

generosity of the community to continue this important work.

The festivities began Jan. 1 with online events: Nash pond photo contest, snowflake making contest, pond trivia and Mt. Tom ice cream flavor contest. There are over 35 activities /events scheduled. Most activities are free to attend due to generous business sponsorships, and are family friendly. Donations are gladly accepted.

Outdoor activities will include a Historical Ice Harvest on Nashawannuck Pond featuring historian Dennis Picard on Saturday, Feb. 10. Participants can try their hands at using a pond saw to "har-

vest" blocks of ice as they learn about Easthampton's important role in the area's ice industry. Other outdoor activities include a nature walk at Arcadia, Clay Hill Farm draft horse wagon rides, a community fire by the pond and Bumble will be there for photo ops. Easthampton Fire Department will be having a Polar Plunge for the first time.

Indoor activities at Keystone Mill 122 Pleasant St. include: Vendor/artisan/craft Fair, Art in Motion dance demonstration, Ed Popeilarczyk magician, Tom Knight puppeteer, Spirit of the Heart martial arts demonstration, Family Jungle Entertainment, Yo-Yo Expert and

Go With the Float open house. Emily Williston Library, Valley Art Supplies and Easthampton Skate are having activities. Abandoned Building Brewery will be hosting our chili tasting and a night of Bingo, as well as WinterFest After Dark with live music. The 1 Man Party trivia will be hosted by New City Brewery.

To view the full list of activities, people may visit the event calendar at <https://www.nashawannuckpond.org/winterfest.html>.

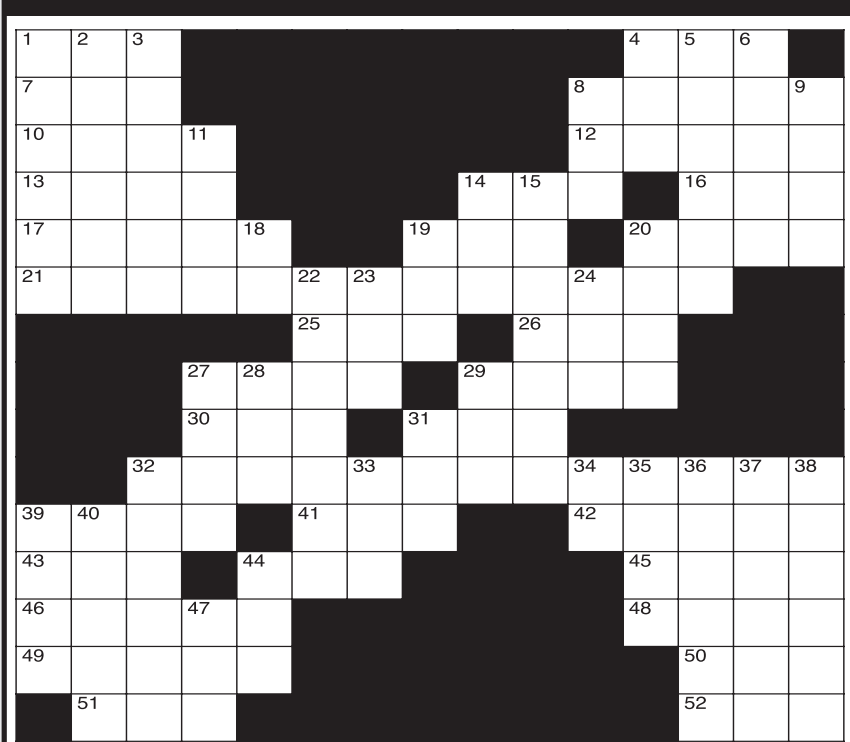
More information about sponsorship and volunteering are available by visiting the pond's website at www.nashawannuckpond.org.



- Check Out Our For Sale, Services, Pets and Other Classifieds
- Real Estate: For Sale, For Rent & Vacation Rentals
- Help Wanted: Part Time & Full Time Career Opportunities

Call to place your classified ad: **413-283-8393**

the best around
CLASSIFIEDS
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Reaching readers in
50 local communities every week.



CLUES ACROSS

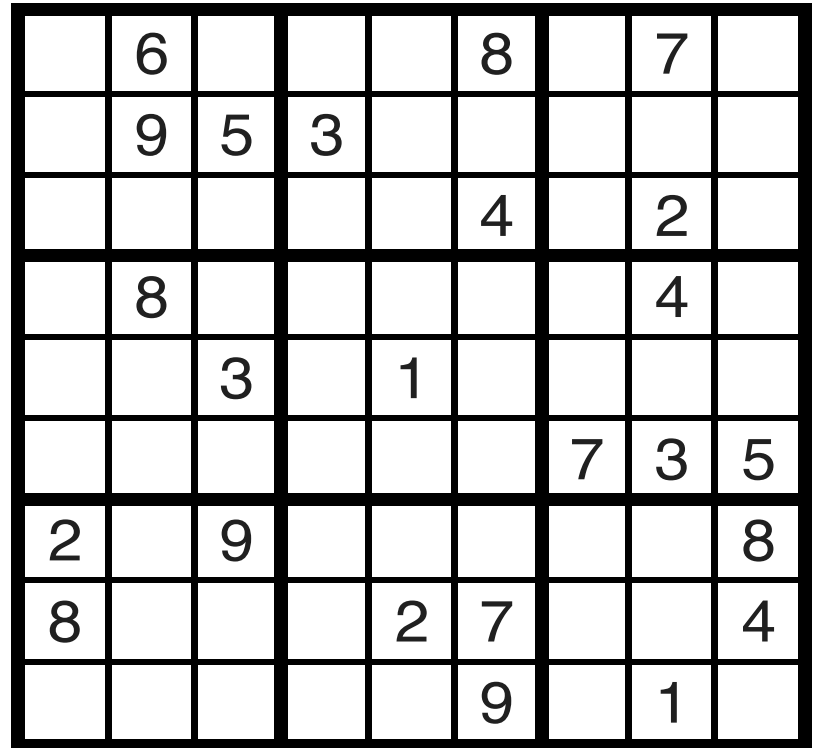
- 1. Microgram
- 4. Where golfers begin
- 7. Each
- 8. Warm weather metropolis
- 10. Coat with sticky substance
- 12. Girl's given name
- 13. Myth (Spanish)
- 14. Ultrahigh frequency
- 16. Former NBAer Jeremy
- 17. Where rockers work
- 19. Your consciousness of your own identity
- 20. Soft-finned fishes
- 21. Localities
- 25. Paddle
- 26. Union
- 27. Member of religious community
- 29. Small shrill flute
- 30. Small constellation in the Milky Way
- 31. They ___
- 32. College kid on vacation
- 39. de Armas and Gasteyer are two
- 41. Part of the human body
- 42. A progressive grading
- 43. Sound unit
- 44. Noise some birds make
- 45. Abba ___, Israeli politician
- 46. Portuguese city
- 48. Be extremely, uncritically fond of
- 49. Resembling old Norse poems
- 50. Ask for out of extreme need
- 51. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.)
- 52. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. An insane person
- 2. ___ Boothe Luce, American author
- 3. Buttock muscles
- 4. Men's fashion accessory
- 5. "Hotel California" rockers
- 6. Electronic communication
- 8. Magnetomotive force (abbr.)
- 9. Hostelries
- 11. A way to resound
- 14. Exclamation: yuck!
- 15. A resident of Indiana
- 18. Exclamation of surprise
- 19. Make a mistake
- 20. Boundary
- 22. Antilles island
- 23. It's used to make furniture
- 24. Clod
- 27. They indicate where places are
- 28. Bobby ___, NHL champ
- 29. Prints money
- 31. Honorable title (Turkish)
- 32. Appetizers
- 33. Midway between north and northwest
- 34. Spanish be
- 35. Breezed through
- 36. Grilled dishes
- 37. In a way, excites
- 38. Change mind
- 39. A French abbot
- 40. Popular candy
- 44. Partner to cheese
- 47. Wood or metal bolt

THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

- ARIES**
Mar 21/Apr 20
Aries, if resolutions seem slow-going, give it time to get into a groove and become part of your routine. You can handle anything when you put your mind to it.
- CANCER**
Jun 22/Jul 22
You may have a few plans on the horizon but aren't sure how to get started. Just like walking, take it one step at a time and soon you'll find that you're on your way.
- LIBRA**
Sept 23/Oct 23
Health issues may have you taking inventory of your habits, Libra. It's a new year and the perfect time to start to make changes for the better. Ask for help if you need guidance.
- CAPRICORN**
Dec 22/Jan 20
You will not make inroads with family or friends if you continue to play the victim. You must own up to any mistakes you've made and start making amends.
- TAURUS**
Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, there is a lot going on in your life at the moment, and you may need to accept that you can't do it all alone. Start farming out tasks to people you trust.
- LEO**
Jul 23/Aug 23
Leo, you may think you're being humble and putting others' needs before your own this week. But if you look a little deeper, you may discover you have room to improve.
- SCORPIO**
Oct 24/Nov 22
You're not one for being bashful about things. But something could occur this week that leaves you a little red in the face and perhaps wanting to hide in the shadows.
- AQUARIUS**
Jan 21/Feb 18
Sometimes the best defense is remaining quiet and letting others dig themselves into a deeper hole, Aquarius. Others will see your positive efforts for all they are.
- GEMINI**
May 22/Jun 21
How will you know if you can do something unless you give it a try, Gemini? Be adventurous this week, whether it is enjoying a new ethnic cuisine or trying a new activity.
- VIRGO**
Aug 24/Sept 22
Virgo, if you commit to something, follow through this week. Others are counting on you for your portion of the work and letting them down now is not an option.
- SAGITTARIUS**
Nov 23/Dec 21
Someone new in your life is causing all types of changes to your schedule. You're not quite sure if you enjoy it or not right now. Stay the course and wait to see.
- PISCES**
Feb 19/Mar 20
Think about planning a getaway in the next month or so, Pisces. It doesn't have to be a grand voyage. Even a weekend retreat can be a way to rest and recharge right now.



SUDOKU

Here's How It Works:
Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Fun By The Numbers
Like puzzles? Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

answers

WESTFIELD AUTO PARTS INC

CARQUEST

AUTO PARTS & SUPPLIES

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED MERCHANDISE FOR ALL MAKES & MODELS

WHOLESALE RETAIL

- ★ Complete Auto Machine Shop Service
- ★ Engine Rebuilding Of All Kinds
- ★ Authorized Caterpillar Hydraulic Hose Dealer
- ★ Hydraulic Hoses

Call "DALE" 8-12 BIRGE AVE., WESTFIELD

Dial 568-8944 or 568-1611 FAX # 568-1554

Now stocking Car Quest Filters made by WIX, Amalie Oil, Bailing Twine & Tractor Parts

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. EXTRAORDINARY performance.
Central Boiler certified Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today **413-296-4320**.

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$200.00
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call **(508)882-0178**

WANTED

WANTED TO BUY
ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED **BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer-cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy **(860) 874-8396**

CLASSIFIED DEADLINES
QUABBIN & SUBURBAN FRIDAY AT NOON
HILLTOWNS MONDAY AT NOON

JUNK REMOVAL

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

SERVICES

A DUMP TRUCK
Cleaning out attics, cellars, garages, estate cleanouts, scrap metal removal. **413-569-1611 or 413-374-5377.**

DRYWALL AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. **(413)563-0487**

SERVICES

MEDIATION
UNRESOLVED DISPUTE? Try no-risk ZOOM resolution. Pay only if satisfied. Certified mediator Jeffrey Allard MD, JD. Email: **manomed@live.com** or text **413-544-8998.**

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. **(413)246-2783 Ron.**

Find archives of this local newspaper at **www.newspapers.turley.com**

SERVICES

HOME REPAIR & REMODELING for all your interior & exterior needs. Carpentry, woodworking, porches, patios, windows, doors, painting, drywall, siding, landscaping, clean-outs. Competitive pricing, References. Please call Brendan **(413)687-5552**

LANDSCAPING

A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE
Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvite Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

SERVICES

TREE WORK
DL & G TREE SERVICE- Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate **(413)478-4212**

H & H TREE SERVICE All phases of tree care. Call Dave **413-668-6560** day/night.

TUNE-UPS

SNOWBLOWER & LAWNMOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR
A&M TUNE-UPS
Snowblowers, Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers & Small Engine Repair. Work done at your home.
Call Mike **(413) 348-7967**

2024 TAX TIME

CHANTEL BLEAU ACCOUNTING SERVICES
For Full Accounting & Tax Service
Registered Tax Return Preparer
228 West St., Ware, MA 01082
413-967-8364
Call For An Appointment
The IRS does not endorse any particular individual tax return preparer. For more information on tax preparers go to irs.gov.

TAX TIME SURVIVAL GUIDE

Call your local Turley Publications sales representative for information and rates on advertising your tax service here!
413-283-8393

Call Your Local Turley Publications Sales Representative For Information And Rates On Advertising Your Tax Service Here
CALL 413-283-8393 TO PLACE YOUR AD TODAY!

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS

ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING
All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call **(413)569-1611, (413)374-5377**

RUBBISH REMOVAL

BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 **(413)537-5090**

AUTO

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS
FREE TOWING FAST SERVICE CASH PAID AS IS CALL OR TEXT 413-219-6839

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave **413-478-4212**

FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **MONDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	Base Price \$27.00	Base Price \$27.50
22	Base Price \$27.50	Base Price \$28.00	Base Price \$28.50
23	Base Price \$28.50	Base Price \$29.00	Base Price \$29.50
24	Base Price \$29.50	Base Price \$30.00	Base Price \$30.50
25	Base Price \$30.50	Base Price \$31.00	Base Price \$31.50
26	Base Price \$31.50	Base Price \$32.00	Base Price \$32.50
27	Base Price \$32.50	Base Price \$33.00	Base Price \$33.50
28	Base Price \$33.50	Base Price \$34.00	Base Price \$34.50
29	Base Price \$34.50	Base Price \$35.00	Base Price \$35.50
30	Base Price \$35.50	Base Price \$36.00	Base Price \$36.50
31	Base Price \$36.50	Base Price \$37.00	Base Price \$37.50
32	Base Price \$37.50	Base Price \$38.00	Base Price \$38.50
33	Base Price \$38.50	Base Price \$39.00	Base Price \$39.50
34	Base Price \$39.50	Base Price \$40.00	Base Price \$40.50
35	Base Price \$40.50	Base Price \$41.00	Base Price \$41.50
36	Base Price \$41.50	Base Price \$42.00	Base Price \$42.50
37	Base Price \$42.50	Base Price \$43.00	Base Price \$43.50
38	Base Price \$43.50	Base Price \$44.00	Base Price \$44.50
39	Base Price \$44.50	Base Price \$45.00	Base Price \$45.50
40	Base Price \$45.50	Base Price \$46.00	Base Price \$46.50

Quabbin Village Hills
Circulation: 50,500

Hilltowns
Circulation: 9,800

Suburban Residential
Circulation: 59,000

All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

Name: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Number of Weeks: _____ X per week rate = \$ _____
Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover Cash Check# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

HELP WANTED

The Town of Huntington is seeking an **INTERIM TOWN CLERK**. This is a salaried position for approximately 18 hours per week. Application and complete job description are available online at www.huntingtonma.us or by emailing **admin@huntingtonma.us**. Applications are due by January 26, 2024. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Post your job openings in our classifieds. We get results! Call 413-283-8393

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

3 EASY WAYS TO SUBSCRIBE TODAY

Don't miss a week of your Hometown News Source!

PLEASE CONSIDER SUBSCRIBING

Current recipients of our weekly paper, receive town news, updates, local stories and articles of interest throughout the Hilltowns.



Each week you will receive:

- TOWN HALL NEWS • BUSINESS HAPPENINGS • AREA EVENTS
- COMMUNITY STORIES • SCHOOL COVERAGE • CLASSIFIEDS & MORE!

1 online
Use our website to securely subscribe at **COUNTRYJOURNAL.TURLEY.COM**

2 CALL US
1-413-283-8393
THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER!

Yes!

I want to subscribe to the Country Journal!

Enclosed is my payment for:

- \$31 1 year in state
- \$36 1 year out of state
- \$46 2 year in state
- \$56 2 year out of state

CHECK ENCLOSED CHARGE MY CREDIT CARD

3 Please complete this form and mail it in a secure envelope to:
Country Journal
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069

New Renewal Gift **A GIFT CARD WILL BE SENT TO ANNOUNCE YOUR GIFT!**

Name _____
Address _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Phone: _____
Credit Card #: _____
Exp. Date: _____ CW2 code: _____
Signature: _____

GIFT TO:
Name _____
Address _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

HILLTOWN HIKING ADVENTURES

Hikers explore Chester Granite Company



A Western Massachusetts Hilltown Hiker looks over the slabs of granite in Chester.

Granite quarries opened in nearby Otis in 1890 with the cutting and polishing yards established in Chester, near the railroad, under the name of the Hudson Chester Granite Company.

In 1907, a group of Finnish immigrants came to Chester from the gran-

ite yards in Quincy and established an independent cooperative, the Chester Monumental Works incorporated in 1910 as the Chester Granite and Polishing Works. At their peak, the two granite industries employed up to 275 men in Chester.



This set up of pulleys and wheel is fairly intact.



The site contains parts of equipment used for granite cutting and polishing



Here is a close up of the piece of equipment shown in another photo.



Here is some more equipment from the granite company.

Submitted photos

PUBLIC NOTICES

Notice

The Massachusetts State Lottery Commission (MSLC) has received a KENO License application from:

**Corner Grocery & Café
2 Packard Park
Worthington, MA**

Estimated weekly traffic: (number of people):500.

Current No. of Cashier positions selling Lottery products: 0

Percentage of floor space currently devoted to Lottery sales: 0%

Percentage of floor space for KENO sales: 5%

Estimated annual gross revenues of current Lottery products: \$0.

Estimated percentage of gross revenues from sales of Lottery products: 7%

Estimated net income to be derived from sales of KENO products at this location: \$6,000.

If you object to these agent(s) receiving a monitor, you must do so, in writing, within twenty-one (21) days of receipt of this letter. If applicable, please address your written objection to the Massachusetts State Lottery Commission, Legal Department, 150 Mount Vernon Street, Dorchester, MA 02125 and send via

email to Leslie Zella at lzel-la@masslottery.com or by mail. Should you have any questions regarding this program or any other issues relative to the Lottery, please call the Lottery's General Counsel, Greg Polin, at 781-917-6057 or via email at gpolin@masslottery.com. We look forward to working with you as the Lottery continues its efforts to support the 351 cities and towns of the Commonwealth.
01/18/2024

**TOWN OF HUNTINGTON
Public Hearing
Wednesday,
February 14, 2024
5:00 PM
Town Hall
24 Russell Road,
Huntington
Proposed FY 2024 CDBG
Application**

The Town of Huntington, in association with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, will conduct a public hearing regarding the FY24 Community Development Block Grant Program. The hearing will take place at **5:00 PM on Wednesday, February 14th, 2024**, in person at the Town Hall, 24 Russell Road, Huntington, MA 01050. If

the meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, the hearing will take place during the rescheduled Selectboard meeting.

The public is encouraged to attend this hearing to discuss the town's FY24 application to the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities for up to \$950,000 in available Community Development Block Grant Funds. All persons with questions or comments regarding the grant application will have an opportunity to be heard. Those unable to attend can send written comments to the Huntington Selectboard, 24 Russell Road, PO Box 430, Huntington, MA 01050, Attn: Jennifer Peloquin.

The Town is encouraging input on community needs and projects which would benefit from grant funding. Projects currently being considered include the construction of the Stanton Avenue Infrastructure Improvement Project. Additional projects may be discussed and may be included in the grant application.

The Huntington Selectboard's Meeting Room is handicapped accessible. Persons who require spe-

cial accommodations for the hearing should contact the town at least one week prior to the hearing date at (413) 512-5200. For further information contact John O'Leary at PVPC at (413) 781-6045 or joleary@pvpc.org.
01/18/2024

**Town of Worthington
Conservation Commission
Notice of Public Hearing**

In accordance with M.G.L. Chapter 131, Section 40, the Worthington Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing in response to a Request for Determination of Applicability regarding the superstructure replacement for Bridge no. W-45-008 (Pleasant Street Bridge) over Whitmarsh Brook.

The Hearing will be held **Thursday, January 25, 2024 at 7 PM** in the Selectboard meeting room at Town Hall.
01/18/2024



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 \$225, 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