

*"Women must try to do things as men have tried. When they fail, their failure must be but a challenge to others."*  
Amelia Earhart

# 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

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**HUNTINGTON**

## Sophomore takes second place at Skills USA competition

By Wendy Long  
Correspondent

Kyleigh Benson, a sophomore at Gateway Regional High School, competed in Early Childhood Education at the Skills USA Massachusetts State Conference in Marlborough.

Kyleigh was among approximately 1,000 Career and Technical Education students from the state competing in 104 vocational contests.

Benson and classmate Gia Marchese earned silver and bronze medals, respectively, in a previous district-level competition. Massachusetts is divided into six districts and students competed there in a multiple choice written test, with questions in the vocational content area, employability and Occupational Safety Health and Health Administration.

Silver and gold medalists from each district were named state finalists and moved on to the state competition. At states, Benson was recognized as a state finalist, finishing only one



Brian Bentley, from the Board of Directors for Skills USA Massachusetts is shown with teacher Kelly Bartolo, honored for starting a Skills USA Chapter at Gateway and sophomore Kyleigh Benson, who was a state finalist in the early childhood competition.

Submitted photo

point behind the winner. There, the Early Childhood competition was six hours long and consisted of a written test, planning, preparing and presenting a group les-

son for preschool children in front of judges and spectators. In addition, a resumé and written lesson plan were required.

Early Education and

Care is one of two vocational programs offered at Gateway. According to teacher Kelly Bartolo,

SKILLS, page 2

**CHESTER**

## Chester on Track happens this weekend

By Wendy Long  
Correspondent

A reminder that the 32nd annual Chester on Track will take place in venues throughout Chester on Saturday, May 20.

The day-long event will feature family-friendly activities including food, a parade, train exhibits, live music, a craft fair, a petting zoo and much much more.

People may purchase breakfast in the Blue Caboose at the Chester Railway Station and Museum, starting at 8 a.m. or come later for a "hearty railroad man's" menu and eat hobo style in an antique wooden boxcar. The parade kicks off at 10

CHESTER ON TRACK, page 7

**BLANDFORD / CHESTER**

## Chester and Blandford look into sharing services

By Mary Kronholm  
Correspondent

Chester Select Board Chair John Baldasaro and member Andy Sutton with their Town Administrator Don Humason and their Finance Committee members Andy Myers and Bob Daley met Blandford Select Board to discuss the potential shared Fire Chief position.

Baldasaro told the board Chester is "not ready yet" and that they are actively looking for a chief for the short term.

Sutton said he liked the idea of having "a chief with a couple of deputies."

Also attending this meeting was Pioneer Valley Planning Commission's Director of Economic and Municipal Collaboration, Eric Weiss, who assured everyone that he was there to help support, help the towns study options, "yes, we're here to help you."

SERVICES, page 6

**BLANDFORD**

## Historical Society holds open house

Historical Society President Chips Norcross and Director Bob Kidd were on hand Saturday morning to provide information, records access and give tours to the Society's Museum.

Wayne Blair, a descendant of the town's original first settlers was in town to visit his parent's graves, Constance and Wesley, in the Hill Cemetery and he stopped in at the open house. The first of his line in Blandford was Matthew Blair, whose grave, dated 1770, is in the Old Burial Ground.

His parents lived in Blandford on Russell Stage

Road and his father worked for the Highway Department and the Mass Turnpike. He was also relied on as a local handy-man.

Blair was in the first class in the new school building, which is now Town Hall.

A frequent visitor, Blair said he lived in town 18 years. He now lives in Niantic, Connecticut.

Wayne Blair, a descendant of the Blandford's original settlers, was one of the visitor's at the Blandford Historical Society open house held last Saturday.

Photo by Mary Kronholm



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## HUNTINGTON

### HRMC to hold community paper shredding event

HUNTINGTON – Hilltown Resource Management Cooperative will hold on Saturday, June 3 from 9 a.m.-noon a community paper shredding event at the Huntington Department of Public Works Yard, 7 Mill St.

This event is open to all HRMC towns. There is no charge, but donations made will support additional recycling

special collections. There is a five box limit for paper shredding.

This helps conserve the environment as 100% of all shredded documents are recycled. PROSHRED®'s mobile shredding trucks will be onsite to securely shred confidential document. There is need to remove paperclips, staples or hanging file folders.

### SKILLS

Kyleigh spends one to two hours a day working in Gateway's preschool and kindergarten classes at Littleville Elementary School and studying EEC content.

"I am so proud of Kyleigh for the work she put into the competition this year and I look forward to watching her participate again next year as a junior," said Bartolo, who reported that Benson will continue to study and plans to participate in the competition

again next year.

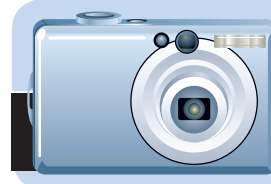
Bartolo herself was also recognized at the state conference for her work in starting an official chapter of Skills USA at Gateway. "I was surprised and honored to be recognized at the Chapter Recognition Ceremony for starting a Skills USA chapter at Gateway. I have been a part of Skills USA since 2010 and knew when I came to Gateway that I wanted to have the chance to bring the program here for our Chapter 74 stu-

### Library to book discussion

HUNTINGTON – The Huntington Public Library, 7 East Main St., announces on Thursday, June 8 at 4:30 p.m. "Narrative of The Life of Fredrick Douglas," is their next adult book for

discussion.

People should call the library at 413-512-5206 if they would like to obtain a copy and participate. All are welcome.



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**countryjournal@turley.com**

from page 1

dents," said Bartolo.

"Participating in Skills USA is an experience that helps students break out of their comfort zone, become leaders in their vocational content areas, showcase their knowledge and become world class workers. I love being a part of that and I am happy to have the support of the administration at Gateway."

Bartolo reports that she currently has 12 high school students enrolled in Gateway's EEC program, with nine

additional incoming freshmen already registered.

Skills USA is a national organization that partners with students, teachers and industry leaders to ensure that America has a skilled workforce. Their emphasis is on three pillars: technical skills grounded in academics and specific to the industry they are studying; workplace skills such as teamwork and problem solving and personal skills such as integrity and professionalism.

## NORTHAMPTON

### Forbes Library hosts panel discussion

NORTHAMPTON – To commemorate the 100th anniversary of Calvin Coolidge's presidency, the Calvin Coolidge Presidential Library and Museum at Forbes Library, 20 West St. will host a series of centennial events, beginning on Wednesday, June 7 at 7 p.m. with a panel discussion titled, "When the President Dies: How Calvin Coolidge and Others Guided America Through Mourning."

The public can attend the event by registering on Zoom by visiting <https://forbeslibrary.libcal.com/event/10472112>

or by calling 413-587-1014. The discussion will feature three historians.

Dr. Lindsay M. Chervinsky is a fellow at the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Presidential History at Southern Methodist University. She co-edited the book "Mourning the Presidents: Loss and Legacy in American Culture" which comes out later this month.

Prof. Michael J. Gerhardt is a

Burton Craige Distinguished Professor of Jurisprudence at The University of North Carolina School of Law and the author of "The Forgotten Presidents: Their Untold Constitutional Legacy."

Nathan Masters is the host and executive producer of "Lost LA" on California's public TV station KCET, and the author of the new book about the Teapot Dome affair, "Crooked: The Roaring '20s Tale of a Corrupt Attorney General, a Crusading Senator and the Birth of the American Political Scandal."

The discussion will be moderated by Bill Scher, vice president of the museum's Standing Committee.

Panelists will explore how Coolidge navigated the presidency after his predecessor, Warren G. Harding, suffered a heart attack on Aug. 2, 1923 in the midst of the brewing Teapot Dome scandal. They will also compare Coolidge's experience with other vice presidents who were suddenly and unexpectedly thrust into the presidency. This program is free and open to the public.

### Piano concert benefits Connecticut River Conservancy

NORTHAMPTON – Connecticut River Conservancy invites people to attend "Four-Hands for Healthy Habitats," a piano benefit concert featuring performances by Estela Olevsky and Deborah Gilwood on Sunday, June 4 at 4:30 p.m.

Doors open at 4:30 p.m. at the Click Workspace, 9 1/2 Market St., with light refreshments; concert begins promptly at 5 p.m. and will run approximately one hour. This event is available for RSVP by visiting <https://crc-benefit-concert.eventbrite.com>. Tickets are \$25 advance, \$30 at the door.

These Amherst based artists are donating their time and talent to put on a four-hand piano music con-

cert to benefit Connecticut River Conservancy. Works by Schubert, Poulenc, Lili Boulanger and Rachmaninoff will be some of the featured pieces. They will perform several pieces together as well as a few solos; they choose to play together because of their love for this form of chamber music and their long-standing friendship.

It will be classical music at its best in an intimate space with beautiful acoustics and for a great cause. Proceeds from the concert will benefit conservation and restoration efforts in support of a cleaner, healthier Connecticut River. There will be additional time for question and answer and mingling after the show.

### Freedom Credit Union accepting donations to 'Bed for Every Child'

SPRINGFIELD – Understanding that a good night's sleep is essential for children's health, growth and development, Freedom Credit Union is again partnering with the Pioneer Valley Chapter of the Cooperative Credit Union Association to help provide A Bed for Every Child throughout the Pioneer Valley. Through May 31, the community is invited to make cash donations at any Freedom branch.

"We believe every child deserves the opportunity to get a good night's sleep in a warm and comfortable bed of their own," said Freedom Credit Union President Glenn Welch. "This is a cause that is near and dear to the hearts of our members and staff, who all give generously every year to help ensure sweet dreams for all the children in our region."

This effort began in 2011 when the

Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless learned that many public-school students were not getting enough sleep because they did not have their own beds. In response, they launched A Bed for Every Child with a mission to help children get the restful sleep they need to learn and succeed. To date, more than 14,250 children have been helped.

Every \$350 allows for a "Bed Buddy" package, which provides one child with a complete bed set. Freedom welcomes cash donations of any amount.

Freedom Credit Union has conveniently located Massachusetts branches in Chicopee, Feeding Hills, Greenfield, Ludlow, Northampton, Turners Falls, West Springfield and two in Springfield. For more information, visit [freedom.coop](http://freedom.coop).

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## SCHOOLS & YOUTH

# Western New England University holds award ceremony

SPRINGFIELD – Western New England University held its 49th Annual Co-curricular Award Ceremony on May 6 in River's Memorial Hall, recognizing those students who have distinguished themselves within the area of co-curricular involvement.

Every year, the Office of Student Involvement and Leadership at Western New England University organizes the Co-curricular Awards ceremony, which

recognizes the culmination of a year of community service and student programming by over 70 active clubs and organizations. Out of the many deserving nominees, 23 students were chosen to receive the prestigious co-curricular awards.

Kyle Nelson of Westfield received the Student Association Award of Excellence. The Student Association Award of Excellence is given to a student or junior standing or above in good

academic standing, who has demonstrated outstanding and consistent contributions to co-curricular life campus-wide throughout the academic year. Nelson is working toward a Bachelor of Science Bachelor of Arts in business analytics and information management.

Rach Brenzel of Westfield received the Richard M. DiRuzza Student Life Award. The Richard M. DiRuzza Student Life Award is given to students of

any class standing and generally aims to highlight the exceptional efforts of first year and sophomore students. The award recognizes a student's outstanding record of service to the University with the attention to the direct impact their involvement has on improving the quality of student life and toward furthering the mission of the University. Brenzel is working toward a Bachelor of Science in secondary education/math and science.

# Art and Peg Rolland Fund Scholarship applications available

WORTHINGTON – The late Art and Peg Rolland established a scholarship fund to benefit citizens of Worthington seeking to further their educational goals.

The annual interest earned on the fund is distributed each year to qualified students by a committee consisting of the Town Clerk, a member of the Select board and a School Committee member.

Applicants must meet the following requirements. The applicant must

have been a resident of Worthington for at least two years prior to the date of application. The applicant must be a high school or secondary school graduate, pursuing a course of study at an approved school or college.

The applicant must demonstrate financial need.

Applications must be postmarked no later than Friday, June 30. All application essays must be typed in order to receive consideration.

Each scholarship awarded will be for at least \$500, but the actual amount and the number of scholarships awarded will depend on the number of applications received and the fund interest available. Funds will be distributed by Sept. 1, payable to the appropriate institution.

Applications must be mailed to: Rolland Scholarship Committee, c/o Town Hall, P.O. Box 247, Worthington, MA 01098-0247.

Paper copies are available at the Post Office and Town Hall, located on a shelf in foyer, available whenever the Town Hall is open.

If people have any questions, they may call a Scholarship Committee member:

Stephen Smith, Select board at 413-695-9248; Katrin Kaminsky, Town Clerk at 413-238-5577, extension 110) or Deborah Clapp, Worthington School Committee.

# Emily LaFond receives academic award from Assumption College

WORCESTER – Assumption University honored 75 students with academic awards for excelling in their individual fields of study.

Emily LaFond of Westfield and member of the Class of 2023 received the Human Services and Rehabilitation

Studies award.

The annual spring Honors Convocation is an opportunity to recognize students, who have received one of the University's academic departmental honors, special awards and Augustine Scholarships.

# Bridgewater State lists graduates

FOXBORO – Bachelor's degrees in the arts, sciences, business, and education were awarded to approximately 1,700 graduates during Bridgewater State University's 182nd Spring Commencement Convocation held at Gillette Stadium on Saturday, May 13.

Undergraduate majors from the Ricciardi College of Business, College of Education and Allied Studies and

the Bartlett College of Science and Mathematics were awarded their degrees during a morning ceremony while students in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences received their diplomas in the afternoon.

The following local students were among the graduates: Jennifer Bourdon of Huntington, Lia Algerio of Pittsfield and Shyanne Labrie of Worthington.

# HCC announces Phi Theta Kappa inductees for spring semester

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College announces that 78 HCC students have been accepted for membership into the Alpha Xi Omega chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa national honor society for spring 2023.

Students are invited to join Phi Theta Kappa when they have completed at least 15 college credits while maintaining a GPA of 3.5 or higher. HCC's spring 2023 inductees will be recognized in a virtual ceremony on Thursday, May 18.

HCC Spring 2023 Phi Theta Kappa inductees are: Liliana Manley of Chesterfield, Alyssa Burgess of Easthampton, Lily Dunphy of Easthampton, Assya Houfr of

Easthampton, Henry Norton of Easthampton, Samuel Bridgman of Florence, Jacob Brittain of Florence, Emily Langer of Florence, Christofer Thrasher of Huntington, Kimberly Dahlberg of Northampton, Jayda Frederick of Northampton, Jozelyn Ne of Northampton, Jeffrey Wang of Northampton, Aliyah Hall of Southamton, Katherine Pawlikowski of Southamton, Alexandra Seney of Southamton, Mia Phillips of Southwick, Rhys Cook of Westfield, Lindsey Dion of Westfield, Allison Duffy of Westfield, Angelica Gavrillov of Westfield, Megan Weidig of Westfield and Alivia Brisson of Williamsburg.

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# OPINION

## GUEST COLUMN

### in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid



## Flowering problems you may encounter

**M**y mom called up last night, disappointed that there is only one bud in her entire clump of Bearded Iris.

I am always one to turn a question into a column, so why don't we get to the bottom of my mother's sparse irises and also delve into why some flowers haven't given us the wow factor this spring.

If once upon a time your irises bloomed strong and now there is barely a blossom to be seen, chances are they are overcrowded. It's time to divide them and replenish their soil.

In our climate, this should be accomplished every three or four years.

Surprisingly, and unlike most other perennials, division of irises should take place in July or August. This will give them ample time to take hold in their new location prior to the ground freezing.

If you have no blooms, feel free to get the job done now!

At first glance the act of dividing irises may appear to be difficult. An overgrown iris patch does look like a maze of thick roots, but take heart, the rhizomes are shallow rooted and come out of the ground with relative ease.

Start digging at the outer edge of the clump, lifting as you go. Once the entire clump is removed, rhizomes can be pried apart by hand.

The healthiest "fans" of foliage are those the furthest from the center. Leave about 2 inches of rhizome attached to each fan for replanting.

If you are changing your site altogether, keep in mind that irises need at least six hours of full sun a day for optimal flowering. They despise "wet feet," so plant where drainage is good.

GARDEN, page 5

## Election policy

The Country Journal welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be emailed to [countryjournal@turley.com](mailto:countryjournal@turley.com) or to [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com). Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Tuesday to be considered for that Thursday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

Candidates statements may be emailed to the above email addresses. All statements must be received two weeks prior to the election as no statements will be printed the week before the election.

## 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](mailto:countryjournal@turley.com), or call us at 413-283-8393. Corrections will be printed in the same section where the error originally occurred.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Rural schools need fair share

We can't stop fighting and advocating for full-funding of Rural School Aid.

Earlier this year, Governor Healey announced a line item of \$7.5 million in the administration's proposed budget for Rural School Aid. The House increased this amount to \$10 million, and now, the Senate has increased the amount to \$15 million in its version. However, The Rural Schools Commission released their report that indicated that rural schools across the Commonwealth would need at least \$60 million. 15 is only 25% of 60. Thanks to my math skills I have acquired at Gateway, I know that 25%, while more than 12.5% (\$7.5 million out of \$60 million), would be a failing grade in any of my classes.

This isn't about rural schools wanting more than or even the same amount of money as a school in a highly populated place such as Worcester or Boston. This is about regional, geographical, economic, and long overdue equity within the Massachusetts education system.

The current funding and formula for Rural School Aid continues to promote inequities, the state not funding our schools causes taxpayers to have to make up the difference, despite many of them working to keep a roof over students' heads. But, we live in a state that isn't struggling economically. Our rainy-day fund is in the billions, as schools in rural areas are trying to figure out how they will repair their roofs. Over half a billion is supposed to go towards education following the passing of the Fair Share Amendment, now when will rural schools get our fair share? \$1.5 billion is

being invested into education over 6 years through the Student Opportunity Act, but rural schools are expected to get less than 1% of this, there seems to be a strong motif of small percentages on this issue.

Gateway has been at the forefront of the fight for equitable funding for our rural schools. We have heard from legislators that the Gateway community has reached out more than any other district. By working with other districts and communities to raise awareness about this issue we have seen movement on Rural School Aid funding from \$7.5 million to \$15 million. We must sustain the progress, and continue demanding full-funding and passing percentages. I call upon everyone from Blandford to Barnstable, to not let this movement stop. Please reach out to your elected officials, especially Governor Healey and advocate with us to make sure the budget is approved with no less than \$15 million for Rural School Aid, and keep pushing for that amount to be increased. Remind them how much Gateway students are the future and add to our Commonwealth.

Massachusetts is home to the first public school in the nation, is the national leader in education, and a state with economic success and opportunity. In the spirit of a Massachusetts favorite by the Dropkick Murphys, I'm shipping this message up to legislators and the Governor in Boston: Fully-Fund Rural School Aid now.

**Joey Pisani**  
11th grade student at  
Gateway Regional High School

### Bus drivers deserve thank you

Every day I drive through Russell at about 6:15 a.m. and I am continually surprised at what I see happening in the bus yard on Route 20. Every single morning, even in the rain and freezing cold, bus drivers are out there, flashing their lights, walking around the buses and checking over, under, and around each of them.

Now, this sounds like an obvious thing. Yes, our bus drivers are supposed to check their buses before beginning their routes each day. But here's the clincher, they actually do it. They go out every morning and do these safety checks before picking up our children and grandchildren to take them to school.

What a challenge, a bus driver's first attention must be on the road and main-

taining safety, not to mention remembering which children are picked up and dropped off where and when. They also, however, maintain student behavior to the best of their ability during these trips with their backs to the kids and their eyes on the road. They transport our children, and they do it well. They are truly amazing.

This past week was Teacher Appreciation Day and many teachers received kind notes, gift cards, baked goods, and even baggies of treats. Without bus drivers, though, many kids wouldn't even make it to school, just a thought. Bus drivers probably like gifts, too or maybe a simple thank you.

**Janine Modestow**  
Worthington

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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.

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## OPINION

### Should octogenarians tell Social Security they married?



Dear Rusty:

We were married two years ago at age 78 and 81. Do we need to do anything with Social Security?

**Signed: Blissfully Happy**

Dear Blissfully Happy:

Congratulations on your fairly recent marriage and, yes, there are some things you should do. Specifically, you should contact Social Security to inform them of your marriage, see whether any additional benefits are available and to make any changes needed to your contact information. Here are some things to consider:

If a name change has occurred for one of you, that person should contact Social Security to report the change. A copy of your marriage certificate and

other ID will be required, and a new Social Security card will be issued.

If a change of address has also occurred for one or both of you, that must be reported. It's important that Social Security has the correct mailing address, email and contact phone number for every beneficiary.

If there are any other changes to the contact information on file with the Social Security Administration for either of you (e.g., your banking information), the affected person should inform Social Security of the changes needed.

Social Security will evaluate whether any benefit increase is available as a result of your marriage, which may be the case if one of you is entitled to a "spousal boost," an additional amount from the other now that you're married. A spousal boost may be available if one has a monthly Social Security payment which is more than twice the other's benefit. Social Security can answer that question for you when you call.

You can call either your local Social Security office (find the number by vis-

iting [www.ssa.gov/locator](http://www.ssa.gov/locator)) or call the national number at 1-800-772-1213 and tell them you need to inform them of your marriage and update your contact information. If you have or if you create an online "my Social Security" account at [www.ssa.gov/myaccount](http://www.ssa.gov/myaccount), you can initiate changes to your contact information online, but you will need to call Social Security directly via phone to record your marriage and see if any changes to monthly benefits are available. All of this can likely be done without requiring a visit to your local SS office.

It is very important that Social Security be made aware of your new marital status and to ensure that they have the correct contact information for both of you. Even if the contact information is unchanged for one of you, the other should contact Social Security as described above to update their contact information and to determine if any changes to monthly benefits are appropriate as a result of your marriage. Doing so now will avoid future issues and will make sure you are both getting

the correct monthly Social Security payments as a married couple. And if one of you is entitled to a higher spousal amount, you should ask for the increase to be applied retroactively (SS will pay up to six months retroactively). I suggest you call Social Security as soon as possible to inform them of your marriage and make any necessary changes to your contact information.

*This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature American Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit [amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org).*

*Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*



Ovenbird

The ovenbird gets its name from the type of nest it builds, which looks like a Dutch oven.

They place the nest on the ground and it has a domed roof over the nest of grasses and rootlets. The entrance is a small slit.

The female lays three to six white eggs with brown and gray marks. They inhabit mature deciduous or mixed forests. They eat insects, worms and spiders. They walk on the ground and fallen branches and poke under leaves looking for food.

An Oakham resident has ovenbirds in her yard. She hears them making a sharp "chip" call.

The ovenbird is six inches long and has an olive-brown back. Its breast and belly with white with heavy dark stripes. The ovenbird crown is orange bordered by two dark brown stripes.



Barred owl

An Oakham resident saw a barred owl in her yard on April 28. She said in an email, "I had a surprise visitor this evening, a beautiful barred owl sat on my deck railing for quite a while. He looked all around before flying up to a maple tree. He sat in the tree for several minutes before going into the woods at the edge of my yard. I finally saw what he was after. He was tracking a squirrel." The owl and squirrel went tree to tree.

#### Other birds

The same resident sent me an email on May 3 to say she got her first hummingbird on May 2. A friend in Barre told her that her neighbors already had hummingbirds so the Oakham resident put out feeders.

She was glad she already had her feeder up when the first hummingbird appeared.

She said, "For the first time in 31 years of living here, I got my first bluebirds. I bought mealworms and set up my first tray feeder ever. I cannot get over all the birds who have gone to the tray feeder who have been ground eaters, morning doves, juncos and even a robin.

where I put the orange halves. I think it was the work of a grey squirrel or squirrels as I have lots of them.

#### Wood stork

I received a note in the mail from a Palmer resident, who saw a wood stork. She wrote, "Two mornings in a row, I saw a wood stork fly and land in some bushes on the cove at Lake Thompson in Palmer. Imagine my surprise – white bird with black wing tips – wood stock is from Florida." She said she opened her "Journal" to see who the bird person was and there was a picture of a heron and my address.

#### Other birds

The Oakham resident, who has the oven birds, saw two hooded mergansers on Long Pond a few weeks ago.

Originally, I planned to put out my hummingbird feeder the weekend of April 29 and 30, but it was so cold I decided to wait. Instead, I put the feeder out this past Saturday and I spotted hummingbirds on Sunday.

This Monday I saw a catbird. I also have not seen any dark-eyed juncos lately. I think they have all headed north to their nesting grounds.

*People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing [mybackyard88@aol.com](mailto:mybackyard88@aol.com) or [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.*

## GARDEN

If your soil is lean, compost can be added to richen it up. While you're at it, add a sprinkling of lime as well; irises prefer a soil near neutral.

Dig a shallow hole wide enough to fit the rhizome. Make a ridge of soil in the hole for it to sit on so that its fibrous roots can hang down.

The top of the rhizome should be level with the soil surface and exposed, not buried. This goes for bark mulch as well; keep it clear or blooms may be sacrificed.

If your irises hardly flower but aren't overcrowded and are planted where they receive enough sun, assess your planting

depth and adjust if necessary.

Many gardeners remarked that their Forsythia didn't usher in spring last month as usual. Very few blossoms but lots of green foliage.

Presently, my Japanese Rose (Kerria japonica), usually a showstopper, looks just about the same and I hear so do some types of Azaleas.

Why? I am guessing that the buds were killed by the one really cold, minus 17 night. Sometimes, if we have a few inches of snow when temperatures dip, you will see blossoms on the forsythia down low, where the snow insulated the buds on those low branches.

Lots of folks are sad when a tulip patch that bloomed prolifically the year before, doesn't do so well the year after. Why is that?

Tulips are bred more for their flowers and less for longevity in the garden. Some species are more apt to return than others, namely Darwin Hybrids, Emperor, and the more diminutive wildflower tulips, Greigii and Kaufmanniana among other, less known species.

Planting at the proper depth (for tulips usually 3 times the height of the bulb) in a sunny location with good drainage will get you off to a good start, and then we leave it up to Mother Nature

to to ensure adequate moisture in late winter/early spring, followed by a dry summer.

Fingers crossed for repeat blooming in year two and beyond. Hoping early flower woes will give way to a summer's worth of flowers.

*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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

from page 4



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# BLANDFORD

## FIRE DEPARTMENT HOLDS OPEN HOUSE



Shown from left at the Blandford Fire and Highway Department open house are Main Street resident Doug Emo, Deputy Fire Chief Tom Ackley, Town Administrator Christopher Dunne and Gore Road resident Sean Oclair. Photo by Mary Kronholm

## Memorial Day parade begins Monday, May 29 at 11:30 a.m.

By Mary Kronholm  
Correspondent

BLANDFORD – The Annual Memorial Day Parade, observations and town-wide picnic is set for Monday, May 29 at 11:30 a.m.

U. S. Air Force TSgt. Doug Emo is parade and memorial services organizer, which he has been doing for Blandford since 2000.

Emo said the parade will step out “promptly” at 11:30 a.m. from the parking lot at Town Hall. The parade route will turn up the hill on Main Street and continue to Veterans’ Park at Town Commons in front of the Highway Garage.

The Gateway Regional School District band will perform and students from Chester/Blandford elementary school will read their essays. Kyle Mangini will perform patriotic selections as well.

“All Veterans are welcome to march in the parade,” said Emo.

Town departments will participate and any one interested in marching should contact Emo at 413-561-3993.

The picnic will follow immediately behind the Town Hall. The Recreation Committee has organized sausages, hotdogs, hamburgers and beverages.



The Memorial Day Parade headed up Main Street to Veterans Park at Town Commons in this last year photo. The parade will follow the same route on Monday, May 29 at 11:30 a.m. File photo

Residents may bring a salad or dessert to share.

The ice cream truck will be on hand at 1 p.m.

A community tag sail is an added feature this year. Residents should bring their own table to set up on the Watson Park Road. There is no fee to set up for the tag sale.

Questions should be directed to Joann Martin at the Town Hall by calling 413-848-4279, extension206.

## Mini-Town Meeting takes place May 22

BLANDFORD – The informational meeting to prepare residents for the Annual Town Meeting June 5 is set for Monday, May 22 at 7 p.m. at the Town Hall.

This is historically referred to as the Mini-Town Meeting. It is called and con-

ducted by the Finance Committee. The warrant and town budget will be presented and residents have the opportunity to ask questions. The biggest thing up for discussion will be a presentation from the Building Committee about the proposed Fire/Highway building project.

## COA OFFERS BLOOD PRESSURE CHECKS AND MEALS



Council on Aging Board member and Fire Chief's Aid/EMT Pat Lombardo checks Deputy Fire Chief Tom Ackley's blood pressure at Friday's Council on Aging lunch. Blood pressure checks are available at each of the COA's monthly functions. Turkey Pot Pie prepared by COA board member Joann Martin was Friday's lunchtime meal.

Photos by Mary Kronholm

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## SERVICES

from page 1

He suggested, in response to Chair Cara Letendre's question of what's the first step, would be to form a committee from both towns that would include the fire chiefs, a select board member and another person from each community.

### Shared water operator

The group then moved on to discuss the shared water operator position, which has been funded by an Efficiency and Regionalization Grant through the state's Community Compact program. The grant was awarded in December 2022.

The award of \$178,123 is for Blandford and Chester to share Water Operators. Water Operators are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the water treatment plant, distribution system and all maintenance. The Water Operator reports to the Water Superintendent, who is responsible for the overall operation of the water supply and for compliance with all state, federal and local regulations.

The grant will cover \$78,241 for wages and benefits for the Water

Department Superintendent, part-time Water Operators and laborer, the shared Water Operator, a secondary Shared Water Operator and clerical help for both towns.

Capital equipment and projects will also be funded for \$89,800 and \$10,082 for Pioneer Valley Planning Commission for Technical assistance to help with the grant's implementation.

According to Chester, the Blandford Water Commissioners wanted to withdraw from the proposal, but their reasons were rebutted by Chester and the possibility remains open.

Myers said if the towns back out of the grant, they might not be looked upon favorably the next time.

The Select Board will meet with the Water Commissioners to encourage forward movement. Weiss said that the Division of Local Services “really wants to see the towns move forward with this.” No one from the Blandford Water Department was at the meeting and calls to the department on Tuesday were not returned.

### Shared Police Chief

There was a brief discussion about the Shared Police Chief. Chief Jennifer Dubiel gave the boards a report. She had compiled all the calls for the past year and said the department had responded to 89% of them. The rest were handled by the Mass. State Police. Later on during the budget review, the select board indicated that they wanted to be sure Blandford and Chester matched on their portions of funding.

### Other business

Dunne broached the issue that Springfield Water and Sewer Commission has with the town's bond bylaw that would protect byways if damaged by heavily laden trucks. He said he would have another conversation with SWSC to see what can be resolved.

Board member Allen expressed his appreciation for the work the department has done.

Dunne, who participated virtually, said that the town had received a \$1,000 grant from the New England Mountain

Biking Association for Shepard Farm and he is working on a \$300,000 MassWorks Grant for the Beech Hill Road Bridge.

### Appointments

The Select Board continued to make appointments for the term July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 and included: Dave Waldron as Highway Superintendent for the term; Adam Dolby as Forest Warden; Jennifer Dubiel as Blandford/Chester Police Chief; Aaron Poteat as Plumbing & Gas Inspector; Theodore Cousineau as Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Alternate.

Jo-Anne Auclair as was appointed to the Historical Commission for the term May 1, 2023 through April 30, 2026.

### Budget review

The remainder of the meeting was spent reviewing the budget and making a few adjustments. The entire budget will be examined at the Mini Town Meeting on May 22 when residents can ask questions.

# CHESTER

## CHESTER ON TRACK

from page 1

a.m., with local historian Ed Carrington serving as Parade Marshal.

Numerous activities and exhibits will take place at the Chester Railway Museum, including a train show, commemorative envelopes and historic stamps (a special postal cancellation for collectors), revolutionary war re-enactors, a ham radio and Morse code demo, Civilian Conservation Corps camp exhibit, the Pioneer Valley Live Steamers display and live music on the outdoor stage. A number of 1920s-era freight cars, including the 104-year-old wooden caboose and “Children’s Boxcar” will be open to the public.

Other venues include Main Street and the lawn of the Chester Inn, which will also feature live music, a craft fair, face painting and “One-lung” Steam and Gas Engine demos. Classic cars from Model ‘T’s to the newest Corvettes will line up on Maple Street, where children will also be entertained by Nicole the Railroad Clown, formerly of Ringling Bros. Circus.

Tons of activities will take place at the local ball field, located 600 feet from the museum on Emery Street such as demonstrations by the Sheriff’s Dept. K-9 unit, a steam train

derby, a bounce house, petting zoo, garden tractor pulls, kiddie train rides and Bottom’s Bistro Taco Stand. A self-guided story walk of “The Little Engine That Could” will also be located at the ball field.

Hamilton Memorial Library on Route 20 will hold a book and bake sale on the lawn and have the Library’s mineral collections on display. The Chester Historical Commission will be on hand at the Old Jail and Chester History Museum for tours from 9:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

The Chester Fire Department will hold their annual Duck Race on the Westfield River at 3 p.m.

Visitors may also elect to hike to the first American cluster of key-stone arch railroad bridges, which are National Historic Landmarks.

Chester on Track is presented by Chester Railway Station and Museum. All events are free, but donations are welcome.

For more information, people may visit [www.ChesterRailwayStation.net](http://www.ChesterRailwayStation.net) or call 413-354-7878. Donations may also be mailed to P.O. Box 743, Chester, MA 01011-0743. Like us on Facebook to stay up-to-date.

## LIBRARY OPEN DURING CHESTER ON TRACK MAY 20



This is some of the artwork by Chester Elementary School students on display at the Chester Library.



The museum at the Chester Library has a variety of gems from around the globe as well as some from Chester. Submitted photos

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## WESTHAMPTON

# Westhampton Public Library announces upcoming events

WESTHAMPTON – The Westhampton Public Library, 1 North Road, is open Monday and Thursday from 2-8 p.m., Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m.-noon and 1-5 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

The library will be closed Monday, June 19 in observance of Juneteenth. The library is open for in-person browsing and materials pickup as well as curbside pickup. To place a request for curbside pickup, patrons should email [westhampton@cwmar.org](mailto:westhampton@cwmar.org) or call 413-527-5386.

Council on Aging computer classes with Bob Miller will be held Monday, June 12 from 10 a.m.-noon. There will be no classes in the summer.

Computer class with Peg Whalen will be held Wednesday, June 21 from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at 2:30 p.m. - 4:30pm

Ongoing events include the knitting group on Mondays at 6 p.m., the Scrabble group on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. and walk-in wellness clinics with the Westhampton's Public Health Nurse on the first and third Wednesdays from 10-11:30 a.m.

Storytime, children's after school programs and teen craft night will break for

the summer in June and resume in the fall.

The summer reading kickoff is Saturday, June 24 at 11 a.m. This summer reading challenge is a battle of the bands. Participants will read to collect points for band "Grateful Read" or band "Motley Overdue." They will earn prizes and attend the fabulous lineup of summer reading programs. All ages are welcome to participate

Carrie Ferguson and The Grumpytime Club Band happens Thursday, June 29 at 6:30 p.m. The Grumpytime Club Band is a red and gold family music party band including kid musicians and costumed dancers. Playing original music from Carrie Ferguson's award-winning 2021 album, The Grumpytime Club, they spent 2022 rocking fairs and festivals with their high-energy funky folk-pop. Featuring a shifting pallet of horn, violin, guitar, keys, bass and drums, their music is highly danceable and truly fun for all ages, highlighting themes of inclusivity, social justice, Earth stewardship and LGBTQ youth/family pride. Recommended for children and families.

Amherst based Caravan Puppets will be at the library Wednesday, July 12 at 3 p.m. They have delighted countless children at schools, museums, libraries and major festivals throughout the USA, Canada and Japan since 1991. Recommended for ages 3 plus.

Tom Ricardi and Birds of Prey will be at the library Monday, July 24 at 5:30 p.m. Ricardi has been rehabilitating raptors for over 50 years. Join Tom and his magnificent birds of prey in the library yard. All ages welcome

The Friends of Westhampton Library and the Lyn Keating Program Fund are sponsoring the summer reading events.

Author Michael Miller will visit the library on Thursday, June 1 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss his new historical novel, "High Bridge," which tells the intertwined stories of a future President, Grover Cleveland, and a little known women's rights activist, Matilda Joslyn Gage, set in mid nineteenth century Fayetteville, New York. Copies of the book will be available for sale.

On Friday, June 2 at 6:30 p.m. "The Birdcage" will be shown. A gay caba-

ret owner and his drag queen companion agree to put up a false straight front so that their son can introduce them to his fiancée's right-wing moralistic parents.

On Friday, June 16 at 6:30 p.m. the movie "Real Boy" will be shown. As 19-year-old Bennett Wallace navigates early sobriety, late adolescence, and the evolution of his gender identity, his mother makes her own transformation from resistance to acceptance of her trans son. Along the way, both mother and son find support in their communities, reminding us that families are not only given, but chosen.

June artist is Angela Sciotti Vincent. Her Pioneer Valley landscapes will be on display. An artist reception will be held Thursday, June 8 from 6-8 p.m.

On Saturday, June 10 at 4 p.m. there will be an online program for teens ages 13-18, Dishing Out Drag with Giganta Smalls. Westhampton Public Library is co-hosting this PRIDE event with 30 plus other Massachusetts libraries. This program was made possible by a discretionary fund of the Trustees of Rowley Public Library.

## CUMMINGTON

# Sheep and woolcraft fair scheduled for May 27-28

CUMMINGTON – Vendors, fiber, crafts, demonstrations, sheep shows and more can all be found at this year's Massachusetts Sheep and Woolcraft Fair on Memorial Day weekend, May 27-28 at the Cummington Fairgrounds.

"The committee is once again planning a high-quality event for Memorial Day weekend," said MSWFC Co-Chair Lisa Dachinger. "2022 was a rebuilding year for the fair as COVID restrictions had put it on a two-year hiatus. Luckily, our vendors, volunteers and consumers flocked back to MSWFC in 2022 and now we can look towards 2023."

The event is sure to be a success with many returning vendors and a few new additions to the crowd! There's something for all ages at the event with a children's area to display to headline show and more, including

horse drawn wagon rides.

In addition to the family favorites, there is a new and exciting addition to the fair. This year they are adding three sheep dog demonstrations per day, weather dependent, which will surely draw a crowd.

Also new this year by fairgoer request- whole fleeces of mohair, alpaca and llama may be placed for sale, although not in competition. The 10% commission applies; no sale entry fee. In order to enter these fiber types for sale, email [fleecesales.mswf@gmail.com](mailto:fleecesales.mswf@gmail.com) directly or just bring these varieties of fleeces to drop off. Mohair, alpaca and llama fleeces cannot be entered via the website link at this time.

Additional updates may be made to the website, <https://masheepwool.org>, so be sure to check it out before attending the event on May 27-28.

## WESTFIELD

# Hikers to host group hike

WESTFIELD – Tekoa Mountain and Grace Robson Conservation Area will be the location on Saturday, May 27 from 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. of the next group hike sponsored by the Western Massachusetts Hilltown Hikers.

Participants should park at 608 Pochassic Road at the barn to carpool a half mile to the trail head on Reservoir Road. The hiking rate is moderate and approximately a 4-mile loop.

They will take a hike back in time to when Moose Meadow Brook was occupied by its earliest settlers. Here on the brook, they will find a grist mill and Moose Meadow Falls.

They will then continue to the home- stead of Richard Falley Jr. a Revolutionary

war hero and master gunsmith and find his secret armory. They will see great black locust old growth trees, the colonial road, several boundary stones and a grand view from the Tekoa Mountain cliff.

People should register per car load by visiting <https://westernmasshilltownhikers.ticketleap.com>. Maps and bottled water are provided.

They should be prepared for rocks, roots and some elevation and will hike rain or shine. Friendly dogs are welcome.

Suggested donation is \$5 and the hike is volunteer lead. For more details, people may visit [www.hilltownhikers.com](http://www.hilltownhikers.com). They may email [westernmasshilltownhikers@aol.com](mailto:westernmasshilltownhikers@aol.com) or call/text 413-302-0312 with any questions.

## GOSHEN

# Goshen town clerk list election and dog license information

GOSHEN – The Annual Town Meeting will be held this Saturday, May 20 at 9:30 a.m. in the John James Memorial Town Hall at 42 Main St. Y

Both the warrant and the Finance Committee Report and Budget Recommendations can be found here by visiting the town website at [goshen-ma.us](http://goshen-ma.us).

The late fee for dog licenses goes into effect Thursday, June 1. The late fee is \$25 per dog on top of the license fee. To obtain a 2023 dog license, people may can: stop by during office hours on Monday 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. and 6-8 p.m. and bring cash or check, valid rabies certificate, and spaying/neutering certificate or mail the dog license form, fee(s) and certificate(s) along with a stamped self-addressed envelope for the return of the license(s) and tag(s) to: Goshen Town Clerk, 40 Main St., Goshen, MA 01032.

They may also drop the paperwork described in option B in the town clerk drop box, located to the left of the door to the town offices. Additional dog licensing forms can be found by visiting [www.goshen-ma.us/dog-licenses/](http://www.goshen-ma.us/dog-licenses/)

Goshen's Annual Town Election will be held Saturday, June 3 from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in the John James Memorial Town Hall. In addition to in person voting on election day, Vote by Mail is a permanent option for all Massachusetts voters. People can register to do so in the follow-

ing ways:

Submit a signed application via email, mail or fax to the town clerk's office: Massachusetts Vote by Mail Application ([state.ma.us](http://state.ma.us))

It must include a signature that can be compared to your handwritten signature. Electronic signatures, Use the State's Mail-in Ballot Application System, found here: Mail-In Ballot Registration Status: Search ([state.ma.us](http://state.ma.us))

Any mail-in ballot must be requested in writing on Friday, May 26 by 5 p.m. The application can only be accepted if it has reached the town clerk's office by the deadline. Apply as early as possible, especially if the ballot will need to be mailed out of town.

The U.S. Postal Service recommends allowing up to seven days for mail delivery. To ensure receiving the ballot with enough time to mail it back, people should apply two-three weeks before Election Day. Ballots must be returned to the Town Clerk's office by close of the polls on election day. The last day to register to vote in time to participate in the Annual Town Election is Wednesday, May 24 from 9-11 a.m. and 3-5 p.m. in the town clerk's office.

People may email Town Clerk Kristen Estelle [clerk@goshen-ma.us](mailto:clerk@goshen-ma.us) or call 413-268-8236, extension 107 with any question.

## EASTHAMPTON

# Gary Turku named bankESB retail senior vice president

EASTHAMPTON – bankESB recently announced Gary Turku has been named senior vice president, retail banking officer for bankESB, succeeding Nancy Lapointe who recently retired.

Turku of Amherst, joined bankESB in May 2021 as the vice president, branch officer of the bank's former Locust Street, Northampton office, later transitioning to the 36 Main St., Easthampton, main office. Before joining bankESB, Turku was vice president, branch manager at both People's United Bank/United Bank and Key Bank as well as senior credit manager with Wells Fargo Financial. Gary received his bachelor's degree from the University of Tirana in Albania.

Gary brings more than 25 years of banking experience in both retail banking and lending to the role, in which he



Gary Turku

will assume responsibility for direct oversight of the bank's 11 branches, including business development, the customer experience and branch operations.

Founded in 1869 as Easthampton Savings Bank, bankESB is headquartered in Easthampton and operates 11 branches throughout Western Massachusetts. Through

its sponsorship and charitable giving program, The Giving Tree, bankESB and the Easthampton Savings Bank Charitable Foundation support non-profit organizations and causes throughout Hampden and Hampshire counties. In 2022, The Giving Tree donated nearly \$500,000 and over the past decade has donated more than \$3.2 million. For more information, people may visit [bankESB.com](http://bankESB.com).



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Mike Morin **562-3391** Alice Morin **562-1704**

# THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

- ARIES**  
Mar 21/Apr 20  
Aries, try to rectify an imbalance in a relationship with another person close to you this week. It's never too late to make amends, and the rewards are fully worth it.

**CANCER**  
Jun 22/Jul 22  
Cancer, you may have to change your way of thinking to get on the same wavelength as some others this week. Be open-minded to new experiences.

**LIBRA**  
Sept 23/Oct 23  
Libra, your urge to take action comes on strong this week. Figure out a project you can put your efforts behind as soon as possible and then dive in with maximum effort.

**CAPRICORN**  
Dec 22/Jan 20  
Others may be begging for your attention, Capricorn. But this week is all about self-healing for you. Focus inward to bring about any personal change you desire.

**TAURUS**  
Apr 21/May 21  
Taurus, friction can be overcome with patience and perseverance. Take an even-keeled approach and give things time to simmer. Change will come.

**LEO**  
Jul 23/Aug 23  
Important lessons about balance could come your way soon, Leo. You need to find that happy medium between work and home responsibilities.

**SCORPIO**  
Oct 24/Nov 22  
Use this week as an opportunity to tend to your own needs, Scorpio. Indulge in a spa treatment or play hooky and go on a road trip all by yourself.

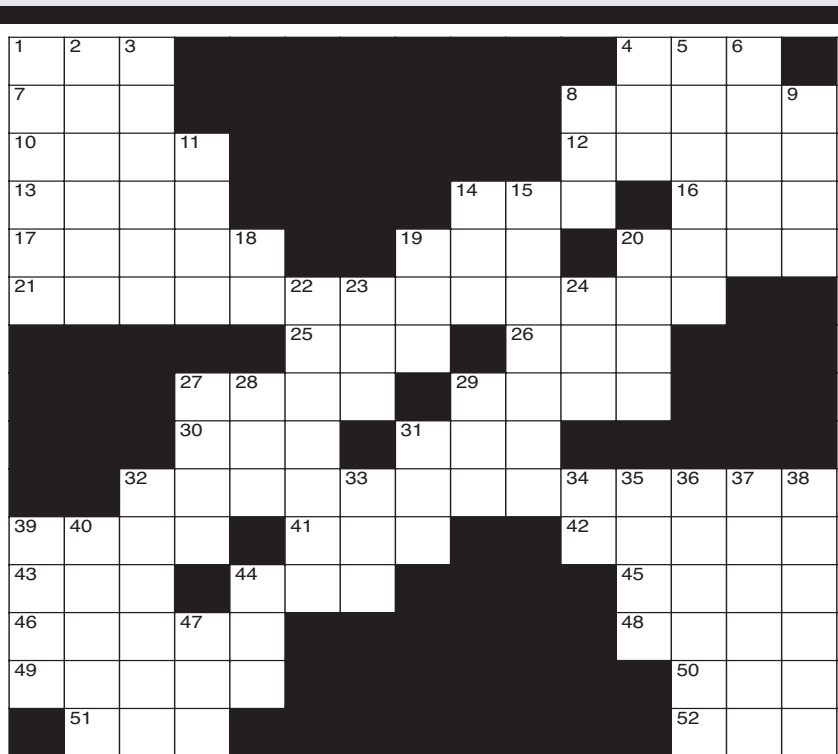
**AQUARIUS**  
Jan 21/Feb 18  
You can accomplish a great deal when you happen to get moving, Aquarius. This week the struggle may be finding the motivation to take the first step.

**GEMINI**  
May 22/Jun 21  
The brighter you shine, the more things will come your way this week, Gemini. Wear a big smile on your face and get out into the thick of things.

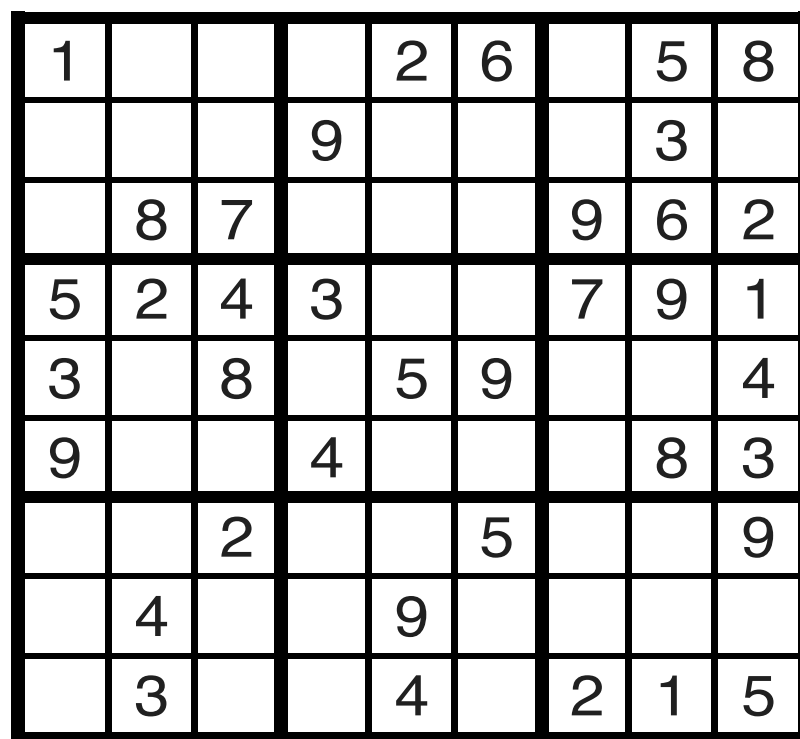
**VIRGO**  
Aug 24/Sept 22  
Events this week could leave you a little dazed and bewildered, Virgo. Nothing seems to be going to plan and that could get on your nerves. Figure out a way to de-stress.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
Nov 23/Dec 21  
Sagittarius, your desire to get ahead is very strong over the course of the next few days. Now you only need to figure out the venture that you will take on.

**PISCES**  
Feb 19/Mar 20  
Pisces, take a break from reality by reading a good fantasy book, watching a movie or enjoying a stage show. You can use the respite.



- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>CLUES ACROSS</b></p> <p>1. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)</p> <p>4. Chinese philosophical principle</p> <p>7. Branch</p> <p>8. Jewish spiritual leader</p> <p>10. Slang for requests</p> <p>12. "So Human An Animal" author</p> <p>13. Rocker Billy</p> <p>14. British Air Aces</p> <p>16. Type of tree</p> <p>17. "Tough Little Boys" singer Gary</p> <p>19. State attorneys</p> <p>20. Goddess of fertility</p> <p>21. Localities</p> <p>25. Beloved singer Charles</p> <p>26. Clue</p> | <p><b>CLUES DOWN</b></p> <p>1. Unit of angle</p> <p>2. Headgear to control a horse</p> <p>3. Clots</p> <p>4. Follows sigma</p> <p>5. A woman who is the superior of a group of nuns</p> <p>6. Greek units of weight</p> <p>8. Radio direction finder (abbr.)</p> <p>9. Systems, doctrines, theories</p> <p>11. Stony waste matter</p> <p>14. Bravo! Bravo! Bravo!</p> <p>15. Hostile to others</p> <p>18. U.S. State</p> <p>19. Not wet</p> <p>20. Something one thinks up</p> <p>22. Where beer is made</p> | <p>23. Clumsy person</p> <p>24. Belonging to us</p> <p>27. Canadian flyers</p> <p>28. Greek goddess of the dawn</p> <p>29. Snakelike fish</p> <p>31. Unhappy</p> <p>32. Fruit</p> <p>33. Not good</p> <p>34. Zero degrees Celsius</p> <p>35. Goo Goo Dolls' hit</p> <p>36. Crawls into the head (folklore)</p> <p>37. Legally responsible</p> <p>38. Move in a playful way</p> <p>39. Regarded with deep affection</p> <p>40. Partner to flowed</p> <p>44. Native American tribe</p> <p>47. Head honcho</p> |
|--|--|---|



## 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

E	E	G		O	V	D			
L	L	I		W	N	E	R	V	
d	B	M	S	A	C	V	C	V	V
N	V	I		K	N	B	E		
I	A	V		R	A	F		D	
L	D			B	A	V	E	S	
				E	S				
				W	E				
				R	A				
				V					
				C	O				
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				S	D	O	H		
				S	I				
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				L					
				R	A				
				S					
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				S	O	B			
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				T	A				

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# OBITUARY

## Ginger Donovan, 77

The family of Ginger Donovan, 77, announce with great sadness her unexpected passing (Feb. 26, 1946–May 2, 2023). Ginger was born in Pittsfield to Franklyn J. Brooks and Mary “Liz” Granger.

A Gateway Regional Alumni, she worked at Pro Brush for over 30 years and retired from Origin Lab. Ginger was active with the AmVet’s Ladies Auxiliary, enjoyed the game of golf, loved to dance, snowmobiles and was an exceptional cook.

She loved winters in Florida with her sisters, her “little piece of paradise.” With a fun-loving personality and witty sense of humor, Ginger was loved by all who knew her. She leaves behind her son, Dustin and



daughter-in-law, Courtney and sisters, Deen Nugent, Betty Parish, and Rose Sherman, along with several nieces and nephews that adored her, extended Donovan family, her Colony Park family and Beaver Brook golf family. She was predeceased by husband, Kerry “Cork” Donovan.

There will be a Life Celebration on Sunday, May 21 at the Worthington Rod & Gun Club, 458 Dingle Road, Worthington, open house 1-4 pm. In lieu of flowers, consider a donation to AMVETS, a military service organization that she was proud to belong to, at Post #12 Ladies Auxiliary, 754 Montgomery St., Chicopee MA 02013-3822.

## DEATH NOTICE

**DONOVAN, GINGER**  
Died May 2, 2023  
Celebration of Life May 21

## 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 \$100, 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](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

# PUBLIC NOTICES

### LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of the Town of Huntington will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 7:30 pm** in Stanton Hall. This Public Hearing is for the Special Permit Application of Farhat Butt of IFFA, LLC DBA B&D Variety, under the Huntington Zoning Bylaw Sections IV.D. 3f: Use Regulations; Non-Residential Uses on Lots Not Also Used for Residence, IV.I: Signs, and V: Special Permits for a change of category from a wine and malt beverages package store license to an all alcoholic beverages package store license at 22 East Main Street, Assessors Map # H-2, parcel 101-0.

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF HUNTINGTON

05/18, 05/25/2023

### LEGAL NOTICE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON ZONING BOARD OF

### APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

The Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) of the Town of Huntington will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 7:00 pm** in Stanton Hall. This Public Hearing is for the Special Permit Application of Anthony Martone DBA The Rapids, under the Huntington Zoning Bylaw Sections IV.D.2.A: Use Regulations; Non-Residential Uses on Lots Not Also Used for Residence, IV.I: Signs, and V: Special Permits to operate a restaurant with existing sign at 200 Worthington Road, Assessors Map # 326, parcel 1-A.

### ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS TOWN OF HUNTINGTON 05/11, 05/18/2023

### LEGAL NOTICE Town of Chester Invitation to Bid

The Town of Chester, acting through its Board of Selectmen, invites sealed bids from qualified companies to harvest approximately 250,415 board feet of standing timber and 235 cords of firewood located on Town land off Captain

Whitney Road in Becket, MA. A bid prospectus may be obtained from the Chester Town Administrator at the Chester Town Hall or from Bay State Forestry Service, P.O. Box 416, Montague, MA 01351. A public showing for prospective bidders will be conducted on Monday, June 5th at 9:00 A.M., beginning at the Chester Town Hall. Sealed bids are due to the Chester Board of Selectmen by Monday, June 19, 2023 at 7:00 PM when they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Chester Board of Selectmen is the awarding authority and reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Board of Selectmen  
Town of Chester  
05/11, 05/18/2023

### Notice of Chester Planning Board Hearing Relative to a Proposed Zoning By-Law Amendment Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40A, § 5

The Planning Board of the Town of Chester will hold a public hearing to discuss a

proposed amendment to the town’s zoning by-laws. The public hearing will be held as follows:

**Place: Chester Town Hall, COA Room in the basement, 15 Middlefield Road, Chester, MA 01011**  
**Date: 8 June 2023**  
**Time: 6:00 PM**

The subject matter of the proposed amendment is as indicated below. The complete text relative to the proposed amendment is available on the town’s website ([townofchester.net](http://townofchester.net)) and for inspection during regular business hours at the following place:

**Place: Chester Town Hall**

**Article Number:  
Subject Matter of Proposed  
Amendment Sufficient for  
Identification**

**TBD Section 3.5:  
Short Term Rentals and  
Glamping**

The purpose of the proposed bylaw is to add a new Section 3.5: “Short Term Rentals and Glamping” to the town’s zoning by-laws. The bylaw details the requirements and restrictions within the Town of Chester for short term rentals and glamping.  
05/18, 05/25/2023

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto: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](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

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## MIDDLEFIELD

### Middlefield COA list menu

MIDDLEFIELD – The Middlefield Council on Aging lists the menu for Wednesday, May 24 served at noon in the Middlefield Senior Center.

The menu choice is beef Wellington or low sodium hot dog on

a bun, sweet potato, vegetarian baked beans and applesauce.

Lunch is available at noon for pick up or dining in. People should reserve a meal by calling 413-623-9990 by the previous Monday and leave a message.

### Sculptor offers sculpture trail

MIDDLEFIELD – Sculptor Andrew DeVries announces the new season of the Sculpture Trail featuring over 40 works on 15 acres located at 36/42 East River Road.

The SculptureTrail is open to the public Friday, Saturday and Sundays from 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Friday, May 19 through Sunday, Sept 3 and other times by appointment. For directions, people may call the studio at 413-238-7755 or visit [www.andrewdevries.com](http://www.andrewdevries.com).

The sculptures along the trail include outdoor figurative and abstract works in bronze created by DeVries. These are installed in two shaded groves and along the meadows’ back hedge that follows the middle branch of the pristine Westfield River. New this year are recently installed aluminum signs of poetry by various writers. The artist’s gallery, DeVries Fine

Art International, formerly in Lenox is also located on the property. The gallery is open to the public during business hours and contains indoor bronze works and paintings by the artist.

Andrew DeVries also announces Open Studio events for 2023. There are four Open Studios planned for this year at River Studios Saturdays, May 27, June 17, Sept. 2 and Oct. 7 from 1-4 p.m. On the dates of July 8 and Aug. 12 from 9:30 a.m.-noon, Andrew and his wife Patricia will be hosting an early morning Sculpture Trail walk and a country brunch. Events are limited to 12 people by reservation in order to comfortably accommodate all attendees.

Due to event popularity, attendees are encouraged to reserve the date that best fits their schedule as soon as possible.

## STOCKBRIDGE

### Grange to hold community dinner

STOCKBRIDGE – The Stockbridge Grange, 51 Church St., is having a community dinner on Sunday, May 21 featuring roast pork, mashed potatoes, vegetable, with dessert choices of chocolate cream or lemon meringue pie.

Dinner is \$15 per person, take out

only with pickup from 12-1:30 p.m. Orders may be made by calling 413-243-1298 or 413-443-4352. Reservation deadline Friday May 19. Grange Community Dinners are designed to raise money for non-profit projects and building maintenance.

### Berkshire Art Center to hold Faculty Art Show May 19

STOCKBRIDGE – Berkshire Art Center announces its Faculty Art Show will be opening on Friday, May 19 from 5-7 p.m. in the Stairwell Gallery at Citizens’ Hall in Stockbridge.

Twenty-three faculty artists, working in a variety of mediums including collage, ceramics, drawing, fiber art, mixed media, painting, photography and more, were invited to participate in this exhibition, which showcases their talent and celebrates the art they have created while teaching with Berkshire Art Center, in both its Stockbridge and Pittsfield studios.

Participating artists in this show include Karen Arp-Sandel, Donna Bernstein, Lorimer Burns, Hunter Cady, Malloreay Caron, Lucie Castaldo, Mary Beth Eldridge, Lily Erb, Diane Firtell, Jill Gustavis, Jody King Camarra, Thaddeus

B. Kubis, Katie Malone-Smith, Chalice Mitchell, Marilyn Orner Cromwell, Nicole Peskin, Brielle Rizzotti, Jim Schantz, Gerald Seligman, Paula Shalan, Wednesday Nelen Sorokin, Stephanie VanBramer and Kim Waterman.

The work featured in the Faculty Art Show will be on display until Friday, July 21 and available for purchase through Berkshire Art Center’s Gallery Shop. 30% of sales support Berkshire Art Center’s programming and 70% support artists in the community. People may visit [berkshireartcenter.org/faculty-art-show](http://berkshireartcenter.org/faculty-art-show) to view and shop all of the work from the show.

For more information on Berkshire Art Center, people may visit [berkshireartcenter.org](http://berkshireartcenter.org), call 413-298-5252, extension 100 or email [info@berkshireartcenter.org](mailto:info@berkshireartcenter.org).

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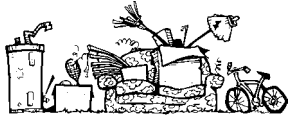
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## HELP WANTED

**THE TOWN OF HUNTINGTON IS SEEKING A FULL-TIME HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT.** This is a working superintendent position and includes performing physical labor. The Superintendent is to be on call on a 24-hour basis. Applicants must possess a Massachusetts Class B CDL with Air Brake Endorsement and 2B or higher & 4G Hoisting Engineer's licenses. Applicants should possess a thorough knowledge of vehicle maintenance, highway road maintenance, associated equipment experience, budgets, Chapter 90, and be proficient in Microsoft Office. Minimum requirement of high school diploma/GED. Must submit to drug & alcohol testing per DOT and FMCSA guidelines. A pre-employment physical is required, and a current DOT medical card must be maintained during employment. An acceptable criminal history check (CORI) and clean driving record are required. Application and complete job description are available at Town Hall, online at **www.huntingtonma.us** or by emailing **admin@huntingtonma.us**. Please send letter of interest, resume, and application to: Huntington Selectboard, PO Box 430, Huntington, MA 01050; drop off at the Selectboard office; or email to **admin@huntingtonma.us**. Position is open until filled. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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# FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or call: 413-283-8393

**DEADLINES:** QUABBIN & SUBURBAN – **FRIDAY AT NOON** HILLTOWNS – **MONDAY AT NOON**

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5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 <small>Base Price \$26.00</small>
21 <small>Base Price \$26.50</small>	22 <small>Base Price \$27.00</small>	23 <small>Base Price \$27.50</small>	24 <small>Base Price \$28.00</small>
25 <small>Base Price \$28.50</small>	26 <small>Base Price \$29.00</small>	27 <small>Base Price \$29.50</small>	28 <small>Base Price \$30.00</small>
29 <small>Base Price \$30.50</small>	30 <small>Base Price \$31.00</small>	31 <small>Base Price \$31.50</small>	32 <small>Base Price \$32.00</small>
33 <small>Base Price \$32.50</small>	34 <small>Base Price \$33.00</small>	35 <small>Base Price \$33.50</small>	36 <small>Base Price \$34.00</small>
37 <small>Base Price \$34.50</small>	38 <small>Base Price \$35.00</small>	39 <small>Base Price \$35.50</small>	40 <small>Base Price \$36.00</small>

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**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

**Suburban Residential**  
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 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
 Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
 Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

First ZONE base price \_\_\_\_\_ Includes additional words  
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 Add a third ZONE **\$5.00**  
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 Hilltowns

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# HILLTOWN HIKING ADVENTURES



The falls cascade down the west side of Shatterack Mountain.

## Taking a hike to Shatterack Falls

Some great photos from Shatterack Falls in Russell. Shatterack Brook runs from Montgomery to the Westfield River on the West side of Shatterack Mountain on an old cart path. The falls drop within unique geological features of the mountain.

Large garnets can be found in some places. Each waterfall is unique from cascades to split rock boulders.

Submitted photos



After one of the falls, the stream forms a pool, before heading to another falls.



The Hilltown Hikers stop along the hike to take some photos

# WESTFIELD AIR SHOW



Military uniforms from all major campaigns of WWII were on display.



Placid Lassie is seen in flight at the Westfield Air Show this past weekend. Photos by Deborah Daniels



Plane demonstrates air acrobatics.

## Air show draws large crowd

WESTFIELD – The Westfield Air Show was a terrific show, which was free on Sunday due to the over 35,000 attendees on Saturday, apparently overwhelming air show ticket takers.



Jet fighters perform flyovers at the air show.

# WORTHINGTON

## Ragtime Five Brass Quintet to perform

WORTHINGTON – The Ragtime Five Brass Quintet will perform on Sunday, June 11 from 3-4 p.m. in the Worthington Town Hall, 160 Huntington Road. They will perform music from the 1890s to the 1920s including ragtime, swing, marches and more. Admission is free. People may call Sheldon Ross at 413-535-7220 or email sheldontrumpet@gmail.com for more information. This program is supported in part by the Worthington Council on Aging and a grant from the Worthington Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

### JERRY AND KARA NOBLE PERFORM



Jerry and Kara Noble performed recently at a concert sponsored by the Westhampton Council on Aging. The duo has been involved in the Pioneer Valley music scene all their lives, as performers, songwriters, teachers, reviewers and presenters. The Nobles frequently perform at Music in Montgomery on the third Thursdays.

Courtesy photo Connie Dragon

## Money and valuables in unlocked vehicles targeted

WORTHINGTON – The Worthington Police received reports from nearby towns of recent thefts from unlocked vehicles.

The thefts are occurring in the overnight hours and typically target unlocked vehicles, which are ransacked for money and valuables.

The Police are advising everyone to lock their car up at night and not to leave their keys in your vehicle.

People should report any incidents or suspicious activity by calling 911.