

"I hate war as only a soldier who has lived it can, only as one who has seen its brutality, its futility, its stupidity."
Dwight D. Eisenhower

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HUNTINGTON

Gateway 2023 Golden Achievement Finalists

By Wendy Long
Correspondent

Gateway's Golden Achievement Award is the high school's highest honor.

Selections for this prestigious award begins with nominations from members of the senior class. Finalists, the top five vote earners from the class, are forwarded to the faculty of the middle and high school, whose votes then determine the winner. Criteria for the award include outstanding levels of academic achievement, leadership to school and community and service to school and community.

Principal Jason Finnie announced the five finalists for this year's award are Liam Bowler, Olivia Dame, Olivia Kanner, Nancy Mueller and Lucy Pitoniak.

Liam Bowler has been awarded the Presidential Scholarship and the Dartmouth Outdoors Scholarship. Bowler's volunteer and service experience includes volunteering with the American Kennel Club and working with the community's annual Hilltown Holiday Help project, which raises money to purchase toys for children in need. Extra-curricular activities include the Varsity Baseball Team, member of the IEA



Finalists for Gateway's 2023 Golden Achievement Awards from left are Olivia Kanner, Olivia Dame, Liam Bowler, Lucy Pitoniak and Nancy Mueller. Submitted photo

Team, an internship at Blandford Animal Hospital, dog breeding and showing as well as a pet hotel employee and dog bather/groomer. He plans on attending

the University of Vermont where he will major in veterinary sciences. Liam is from Huntington and is the son of Karin and James Bowler. Olivia Dame frequent-

ly volunteers at The Village Closet in Huntington. Her extra-curricular activities include Student Government

FINALISTS, page 3

BLANDFORD

Voters hold Annual Town Meeting June 5

By Mary Kronholm
Correspondent

The Annual Town Meeting is Monday, June 5 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

There are 29 items on the warrant and will include the Gateway Regional School District assessment of just under \$1.5 million, vocational education at \$275,000 with additional transportation in the amount of \$30,950 with some of the district assessment covered by moving \$16,974 from the new Education Stabilization Fund.

Voters will be asked to approve \$2,449,064, "more or less," for the town's operating budget. At this time the budget will be reviewed in detail. Copies will be available at the meeting.

Voters will consider establishing a Capital Projects Stabilization Fund.

There are multiple fund transfers on the warrant to cover costs for various town projects including design services for the new Fire/Highway Facility project, a brush truck and pumper engine for the Fire Department and library masonry repairs.

The town will be asked to establish a five-member Commission on Disability and amend Town Bylaw, Article X. Highways, Section 8. Offenses and Penalties, by changing

MEETING, page 5

Weather did not dampen Chester on Track



Dave Pierce was the event organizer. Photos by Wendy Long



Nicole, the Railroad clown, formerly of the Ringling Brothers Circus, entertained the crowd.



The Gateway Middle/High School Band performed during and after the Chester on Track parade.



Ed Carrington, parade marshal in the black hat rides in a convertible in the parade.



Lifelong Chester residents and twins, Judy and Paul Young have been marching in town parades since 9/11.



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HILLTOWNS

HILLTOWN HISTORY

All about the Statue of Liberty

By Deborah Daniels
Correspondent

Memorial Day is upon us so unfurl the flag and take a minute to remember the veterans, who gave their utmost to safeguard our liberty.

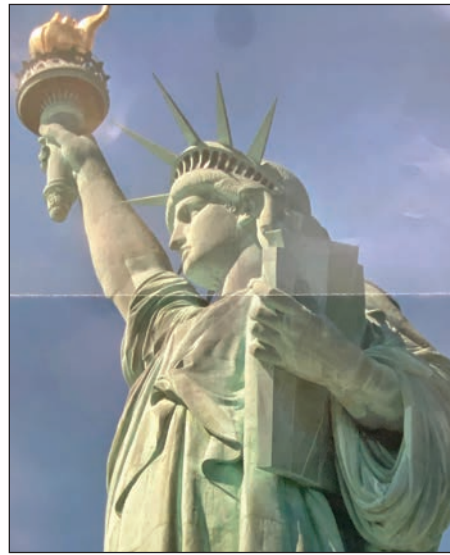
Consider that symbol of freedom standing in the New York Harbor, the Statue of Liberty. Ready for some of her history? For starters she is made of copper. That copper was selected because it was strong and impervious to the salt laden air in the harbor. Thin sheets of copper, 2.5mm thick were draped over an iron framework and the design hammered out on the reverse side in what is called the repousse method. It was to turn sea green from weathering over the first 30 years she stood in the Harbor.

There was no casting from a mold because the material had to be light enough to travel by boat to America. The sculptor was a Frenchman, Frederic Auguste Bartholdi (1834-1904). Multiple models were made of Liberty requiring exacting measurements as she was enlarged each time.

Each time Bertholdi fine tuned the sculpture. Finally the full scale plaster model was ready and the copper sheets were draped over this and molded and hand hammered into place. Gustave Eiffel designed and built the iron framework that supported Liberty. He later built the Eiffel Tower in 1889. His design uses a suspension system that allows Liberty to resist winds through expansion and contraction of her bolted attachments. Thus the torch she carries can sway five inches side to side in high winds and the whole statue can sway as much as three inches.

She was ten years in the making. Parisians marveled at this 151 foot statue that was being made in the city. They were treated to her sculpted head on display at an exhibition in 1878. Her torch arm went on display in Madison Square, New York to help raise funds for the construction of the pedestal.

The deal was for the French to build and donate the statue to America while America would build a pedestal for her to stand on. The French wanted to cel-



A familiar view of the Statue of Liberty.



Liberty Island today with the statue on its pedestal and 11 pointed wall of Fort Wood that forms its base.

brate their kindred spirit of liberty and equality that they fought for in a revolution just as Americans had. It was to be a gift to America.

French people rallied to the cause and raised the money for it. Americans not so much. It was Joseph Pulitzer, (1847-1911) publisher of the N.Y. World newspaper, who urged Americans to get on board and raise the money for the pedestal. He promised to publish every donor's name, who contributed no matter how small the amount. Contributions of 10 and 25 cents were duly acknowledged and the newspaper's circulation soared.

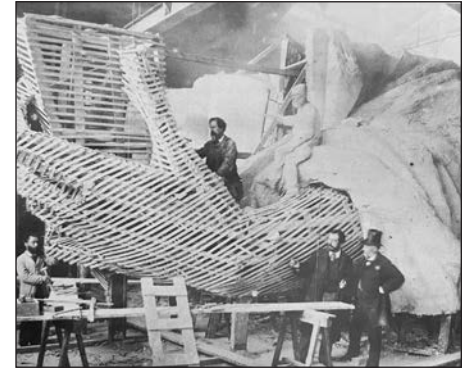
Many stories about children donating pennies or their chicken to raise money for the Liberty statue were reported. Most donations were for less than a



The right arm and torch on display at the 1876 Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia.

dollar. The Liberty project was a huge success, \$100,000 was raised by 120,000 people. Richard Morris Hunt (1827-1895) was the architect who designed the granite pedestal that was built on Bedloe's island, a former military fort. A site that Bertholdi selected as the perfect location for Lady Liberty. Hunt is renowned for his building the Biltmore Estate in North Carolina and many summer cottages in Newport Rhode Island.

Liberty was formed like a classical Roman goddess holding a torch in her right hand, a symbol of liberty shining across the world. She carries a tablet in her left hand with the date of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776 on it in Roman numerals. Her right foot is raised showing active pursuit of liberty and there are broken shackles under her feet, representing freedom from tyranny. The seven spikes in her



Plaster is being applied to the wooden lath of the final full scale model of Liberty.

Courtesy photos



This publication shows the completed statue with scaffolding around Liberty, portrait of Bartholdi and a cut out showing the statue's interior structure.

crown radiate to each of the seven continents and seven seas. The statue was packed into 214 crates and shipped to NY in 1885.

LIBERTY, page 3

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HILLTOWNS

Ragtime Five to perform June 11

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, Worthington.

This is a performance of music from the 1890s to the 1920s including ragtime,

swing, marches and more. Admission is free and 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 Massachusetts Cultural Council.

MassDOT to conduct bridge and guardrail repair on Route I-90

The Massachusetts Department of Transportation announces crews will be conducting bridge and guardrail repair work on I-90 eastbound and westbound in Lee, Montgomery, Russell, Becket and Blandford. The scheduled work will require some lane and shoulder closures.

Guardrail repair operations in Lee will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound and westbound from mile marker 10.5 to mile marker 14.0, on Thursday, May 25 and Friday, May 26, during overnight hours from 7:00 p.m.-5 a.m. the following morning. All work is anticipated to conclude on Friday, May 26 by 5 a.m.

Bridge repair work in Montgomery and Russell will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound and westbound at mile marker 36.0 from Thursday, May 25 to Friday, May 26, during overnight hours from 7:00 p.m.-5 a.m. the following morning. All work is anticipated to conclude on Friday, May 26 by 5 p.m.

Pavement milling operations in Becket will be conducted nightly on I-90 eastbound and westbound from mile marker 17.0 to mile marker 20.0, from Thursday, May 25, to Friday, May 26,

during overnight hours from 7 p.m.-5a.m. the following morning. All work is anticipated to conclude on Friday, May 26 by 5 a.m.

Traffic will be allowed through the work zones. The work will require temporary lane closures to allow crews to safely conduct guardrail and bridge repair operations.

Drivers, who are traveling through the affected areas, should expect delays, reduce speed and use caution.

All scheduled work is weather dependent and subject to change without notice.

For more information on traffic conditions, travelers are encouraged to:

Download the Mass511 mobile app or visit www.mass511.com to view live cameras, travel times, real-time traffic conditions, and project information before setting out on the road. Users can subscribe to receive text and email alerts for traffic conditions.

Dial 511 and select a route to hear real-time conditions.

Follow MassDOT on Twitter @MassDOT to receive regular updates on road and traffic conditions.

MassDOT to host 'Touch-A-Truck' events

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation announces the "Touch-A-Truck" events at Highway district depots across the Commonwealth are being rescheduled.

Due to weather, the events will now be held on Saturday, June 3 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Families can visit MassDOT Highway district depots for the annual Touch-a-Truck event featuring a dump truck, bucket trucks, plows and more. This is a family-friendly event that con-

nects the community with MassDOT workers that keep the Commonwealth's roadways safe and operational year-round. There will be a rain date of Sunday, June 3 in case of inclement weather.

"Touch-A-Truck will take place at the following locations across the Commonwealth: District 1 Headquarters Lenox, 270 Main St. Lenox and District 2 Headquarters Northampton, 811 North King St., Northampton.

LIBERTY

from page 2

President Grover Cleveland dedicated the statue in October of 1886. The first ticker tape parade celebrated the event in NYC. She has stood in the harbor proclaiming freedom and a belief that democracy should prevail.

The Statue of Liberty symbolizes a beacon of hope to those coming to America to search for a better life. Even when wartime black outs were on, Liberty flashed the torch light in a dot-dot-dash pattern, Morse code for V for victory on D-day, June 6, 1944.

She has been struck by lightning 600 times since she was built. Her interior was coated with plastic so graffiti

could be easily washed away. The torch originally intended to act as a lighthouse beam has been modified several times. It had to be replaced in 1986.

The original is on display in the museum on what is now called Liberty Island. People can climb a staircase (154 stairs) to the crown, but folk's reserve a place for this one year in advance. No one has been allowed in the torch since 1916, when it was damaged by a munitions explosion in nearby Jersey City that was set by German spies during WWI. It was never repaired until 1984.

Celebrate your liberty and thank a veteran this Memorial Day.

HUNTINGTON

Huntington to hold Memorial Day parade and ceremony

HUNTINGTON – The public is encouraged to attend the Memorial Day parade on Monday, May 29 in Huntington. The parade assembles at Pettis Field at 8 a.m. and marches at 8:30 a.m. to the gazebo on the Town green for the ceremony.

Veterans and other groups, who

are interested in marching or riding in a vehicle, are asked to call Memorial Day Parade Committee Chair Lori Belhumeur at 413-887-9746. Parade observers are reminded to stand, with right hand over their heart, when the American flag held by the color guard passes by.

FINALISTS

from page 1

Vice President, Student Council Representative, Yearbook Senior Editor, National Honor Society, and member of the Varsity Softball Team. She will attend the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts and major in health sciences - radiological technologies. Olivia is from Russell and is the daughter of Christine and Christopher Dame.

Olivia Kanner is from Blandford and is the daughter of Sabrina and Christopher Kanner. She has volunteered and served through Project 351, the Gateway Athletic Booster Club, Rays Farm, Whip City Animal Volunteer, Hilltown Holiday Help and other service projects completed through the National Honor Society. Her extra-curricular activities are as a Gateway Yearbook Editor, Student Council President, Student Government President, member and Captain of the Varsity Soccer Team, and member of the Varsity Softball Team. She will attend Bridgewater State University and major in communication sciences and disorders - speech athology.

Nancy Mueller has been awarded the Three County Fair Scholarship as well as the All-American Junior Sheep Show Scholarship. In 2022, she was chosen and participated in Girls State and was also the Gold Medalist at the 4 Weapon E Meet for Fencing. Her volunteer work includes service projects through the National Honor Society and volunteering at Whip City Animal Sanctuary in Westfield. With extra-curricular activities, she was Co-Captain

of the Varsity Basketball Team, member of the Gateway Jazz and Concert Bands and a member of Student Government. Outside of school, she was a member of the Pioneer Valley Young Shepherds 4H Club and studied and competed in fencing. She will attend Elon University and major in international relations/foreign affairs and diplomacy. Mueller is from Russell and is the daughter of Mary Hull and Mark Mueller.

Lucy Pitoniak was named an All-Star Cross Country runner and has earned High Honors all four years of high school. She has been a volunteer firefighter for Montgomery, an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the Hilltown Community Ambulance Association, volunteered through the National Honor Society, and works on a local dairy farm. Her extra-curricular activities include Captain of the Cross Country Team, Co-Captain of the Varsity Basketball Team, and member of the National Honor Society. She plans to attend both State University of New York Cobleskill where she will major in dairy production/management and a state fire academy where she will earn her paramedic certificate. Lucy is from Montgomery and is the daughter of Kristin and Stephen Pitoniak.

The winner of the Golden Achievement Award will be announced, along with scholarship and academic awards (including the Valedictorian and Salutatorian) at the Senior Awards Ceremony on Wednesday, May 31.

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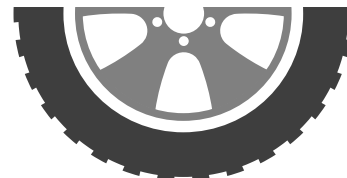
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OPINION

GUEST COLUMN



Do you ever get sidetracked? Well, last night I went into my mudroom to assess my dahlia collection in preparation for planting. Besides housing baskets and buckets of dahlia tubers, the mudroom contains a wood box, lots of coats and shoes, and when the temperatures dip into the negative realm, it may house a chicken or two.

Our big, upright freezer is also in the mudroom. Why were the floorboards in front of the door wet?

Upon inspection, the freezer wasn't at temperature and the contents had partially thawed. Just what I needed on a Saturday night.

After the mess was cleaned up and what could be salvaged was, I rewarded myself with some alone-time with my dahlias.

I chuckle when I think that the last time I wrote about dahlias I had four varieties. I'm at 10 in two short years - oops, make that 11 after the tuber I purchased at the plant sale yesterday.

It's hard not to become a collector when they come in so very many flower types and sizes, from a mere couple of inches to the size of a dinner plate.

Read on for a refresher course on dahlia growing, and if you become inspired to purchase a tuber or two, rest easy with the cost;

Dazed for dahlias

you'll be giving the offspring away before you know it!

Plant dahlias in full sun, in fertile soil amended sparingly with compost and organic fertilizers. Most tubers are planted about 3 inches deep and 1-3 feet away from one another, depending on plant size. Providing enough air circulation between plants will help keep diseases at bay.

Most gardeners install a stake at planting time and attach the dahlia to it as it grows, beginning when it is a foot tall. Subsequent ties are made every 18 inches or so depending on variety. Without the use of stakes, large flowers will likely topple in the wind and rain, sometimes taking a good portion of the plant with it.

Pinching dahlias is another good practice. When the plant has three sets of leaves gently remove its growth tip.

This will encourage more branching and inevitably more flowers. Once blooming starts it is important to cut away spent blooms on a regular basis; tubers will grow stronger because of it.

Dahlias thrive on sufficient moisture, especially since they are shallow rooted. Furnish them with one inch per week during active growth.

As the growing season draws to a close, hold back on water and any supplemental fertilization you have been providing. This will give the tubers a chance to harden off before they are removed from the ground.

Dig up dahlia tubers either just prior to or soon after frost hits. Leave a small portion of stem attached to the tubers - it is a great place to adhere a label.

Take it from me - it is easy to forget a

name over the winter months!

Soil should be eased off the tubers with a spray of water before placing in storage. Choose a location to overwinter your tubers that maintain 40-50 degrees temps and 90% humidity.

These conditions will keep them dormant and healthy until it is time to replant. Many people have good luck using a cold basement or root cellar; small quantities of tubers can be stored in the crisper drawer of the refrigerator.

Placing tubers in damp peat moss, saw dust, shredded leaves, or even ventilated plastic bags will help to prevent shriveling. Be sure to check on your tubers every couple of weeks throughout the off-season.

Should you see shriveling, mist them with clean water and re-dampen the medium in which they were placed. If you see mold, bring down the temperature and humidity level.

Some dahlias like to get a jump-start on the season by prestarting dahlias indoors.

We have done this occasionally at Old Sturbridge Village and I am always amazed at just how fast the plants grow, and how quickly they outgrow their pots and become leggy. If you attempt it, four weeks prior to the last spring frost would be soon enough.

It's my hope that you will venture into the land of dahlia growing and love it as much as I do!

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.

Senior concerned about Social Security solvency



Dear Rusty:

I retired at age 58. My husband and I worked 40 years of employment each. I had a 401K only...no other benefits. We saved, we invested through our financial advisor and have done okay watching our investments grow (except for the last three years). Neither my husband nor I have taken Social Security; we were both waiting until age 70 to get full benefits. Do you think this is still wise? I'm concerned there will not be any funds in five years when we both turn 70.

Signed: Concerned Senior

Dear Concerned Senior:

Your question relates to Social Security solvency, no doubt inspired by the recent spate of media discussion on this topic. Most articles I've read promote a "doomsday" scenario and, in fairness, Social Security's financial issues are serious. The latest report from the Trustees of Social Security warned Congress that the reserves now held in Social Security's Trust Fund, which enable full benefits to be

paid, will be depleted as early as 2033. What you may not know is that this is not new news - the Trustees have sounded the same warning for decades to multiple Congresses, which have neglected to enact corrective measures. And, unfortunately, they are likely to continue to drag their feet for a while because the reform needed is not politically palatable and the impact is still a few years away.

Nevertheless, although Social Security's looming financial issues are serious, they are not fatal. Congress already knows how to fix Social Security's financial issues - they just currently lack the bipartisan spirit and political will needed to do so. The clock, however, is ticking and Congress will be forced to act soon, which we are confident will happen before the Trust Funds run dry. What motivates most politicians is getting reelected and allowing an across the board cut to all Social Security recipients, which would happen if the Trust Fund reserves were depleted, would be political suicide. Therefore, I'm confident that reform will occur in time, and I don't suggest changing your Social Security claiming strategy over worries about Social Security's solvency.

Let me further allay your fears by explaining what would hypothetically happen in the worst case scenario, if Congress doesn't act and Trust Funds are depleted. If that were to

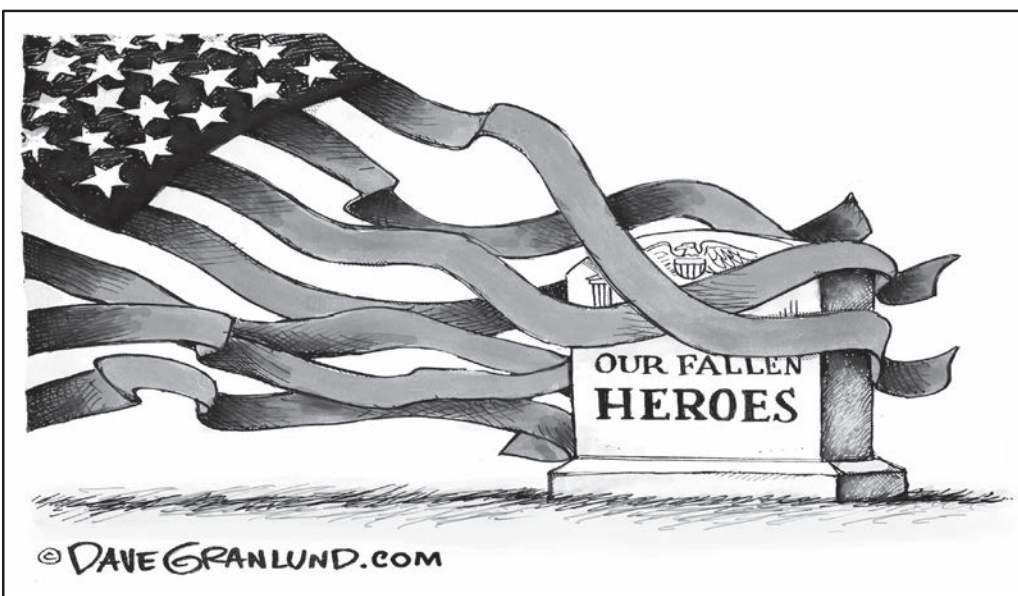
occur, when the reserves are depleted in about 2033, everyone would face an across the board benefit cut. Social Security can't go bankrupt because there would still be about 175 million workers contributing to the program but, since Social Security by law can only pay benefits from revenue received, everyone's benefit would be reduced by about 23%, according to the Trustees. Every beneficiary would still get benefits, but only to the extent available from income received. Which brings me to your specific question - whether it is still wise to wait until age 70 to claim or to claim your benefits now.

Ask yourself this question: which would result in a larger monthly payment, a 23% cut to your age 70 S.S. payment amount or a 23% cut to your current benefit amount? The answer, of course, is that your monthly payment would be more if you stay with your current strategy and wait until age 70 to claim a plan, which I assume you developed considering your current financial needs as well as your life expectancy, both of which are very important to that decision.

Again, I do not believe the worst case scenario will happen. Congress already knows how to restore Social Security to full solvency and they will almost certainly act in time to avoid an across the board cut to everyone's benefit. The Association of Mature American Citizens has proposed legislation which would restore the Social Security program to full solvency for generations without raising payroll taxes, a summary of which people can review by visiting www.amac.us/social-security. AMAC has provided this proposal to various members of Congress for consideration.

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 or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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EASTHAMPTON

Audrey Chechile joins bankESB marketing department

EASTHAMPTON – Audrey Chechile of Wilbraham has joined the bankESB marketing department as its marketing communications manager.

In this role, she will be responsible for managing internal and external communications content to drive brand awareness, engagement, and business development; managing the company's marketing and sales material development, inventory, and distribution; and managing bank-sponsored events and donations across the member banks of its parent company, Hometown Financial Group. She will be integral in supporting the marketing department in providing the highest level of service and responsiveness to customers, com-



Audrey Chechile

munities and business partners. Prior to joining bankESB, Chechile was the marketing manager at an automotive dealership group in Northampton, and before that was marketing manager at Canna Provisions in Lee. She has more than 10 years of marketing experience in complex, regulated environments with emphasis in design, public relations, project management, event planning, and more. Chechile holds a Bachelor's Degree in public relations from State University of New York Fredonia.

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

bankESB promotes Brenna Breeding to Digital Marketing Officer

EASTHAMPTON – bankESB recently promoted Brenna Breeding to digital marketing officer.

Breeding of West Springfield joined bankESB in 2020 as digital marketing manager. In her new role, Breeding will be responsible for digital marketing content strategy and development, corporate website management and will serve as the relationship man-



Brenna Breeding

ager for third party vendors. She earned a bachelor's degree in sport management from the University of Delaware, and recently earned a marketing certificate from American Bankers Association's Bank Marketing School.

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

CHESTER

Church presents evening of music

CHESTER – Chester Baptist Church, 14 Middlefield Road, invites the community to attend an evening of special music provided by the Crown College New England Men's Ministry Team on Tuesday, May 30 at 7 p.m.

The music and preaching of God's Word is sure to be a blessing for all who attend. Following the service there will be a time of fellowship and refreshments.

Since 1991, Crown College, Powell, Tennessee has been preparing young men and women for Christian service both in the United States and abroad. Each summer, several groups represent the college traveling all over the states ministering in various local churches.

People may contact Pastor Dan with any questions by calling 413-668-7768 or emailing pastor@chesterbaptist-church.org.

CUMMINGTON

American Legion Post 304 announces Memorial Day services

CUMMINGTON – The Cummington American Legion Post 304 announces the Memorial Day, May 29 service schedule.

On Monday, May 29 at 8:30 a.m. Legion members will be at the Worthington Memorial across from the Worthington Town Hall

At 9 a.m. they will be at West Cummington Cemetery and at 9:30 a.m. at Cummington Memorial

at Community House. At 10 a.m. they will be at Goshen Cemetery in Goshen and at 11 a.m. at Chesterfield Veterans' Park. At 1 p.m. they will be at Hilltop Cemetery in Plainfield.

The Post welcomes all area veterans to join them at any or all of these events. For more information, people may call Post 304 Commander Conrad Liebenow at 634-5353.

Friday Night Cafe welcomes Eberhardt

CUMMINGTON – The Friday Night Cafe welcomes Cliff Eberhardt on Friday, May 26 from 7-9 p.m. at the Village Church, Main Street, for a show to benefit the Village Church.

Eberhardt is a pro, a folk music icon who has been on the road writing and performing since he was a teenager. He has toured the world, played with every-

one, name a favorite folkie and Cliff has played with them and is still at it with great writing, playing and that voice.

He is donating his time and talent and the suggested donation is \$20, but any amount is welcome.

The performance is brought with support from the Worthington Cultural Council.

BLANDFORD



Paul Martin



Stephen Jemiolo



Nicole Daviau



Cara Letendre

Election set for June 10

BLANDFORD – The Annual Town Election is set for Saturday, June 10 at the Town Hall. Polling hours are from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Candidates for election are as follows: Paul Martin for Assessor for one year; Stephen Jemiolo for Assessor for three years; Pat Lombardo for Board of Health for three years; Peter Sparks for Cemetery Commissioner for three years; Byam Stevens for Library Trustee for three years; Peter Langmore for Municipal Light Board for three

years; Sara Simpson, Robert Twyman and Greg Garfield all for Planning Board for five years; Nicole Daviau for School Committee for three years, Cara Letendre for Select Board for three years, Doris Jemiolo for Town Clerk for three years and Michael Keier for Water Commissioner for three years.

There is one announced write-in candidate, Dale Buchanan of Sunset Rock Road for Fence Viewer for two years and Field Driver for three years.

All positions are uncontested.

MEETING

from page 1

the bylaws to include any person using a public way to transport loads in excess of ten tons for a five-day period or more, shall post with the Town a bond or cash in the amount of two thousand (\$2,000) dollars per mile. Said public way shall be inspected by the highway superinten-

dent to determine the cost of repair by the hauler, for damages caused by transportation of loads, which shall be borne by the hauler. This is a change from the existing bylaw that requires a \$25,000 bond per mile. All registered voters can participate in the meeting.

FLORENCE

Florence Bank offers drawing to celebrate 150 years

FLORENCE – To commemorate 150 years in business, Florence Bank is drawing on its partnership with the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield to offer a chance for 12 community members to win complimentary use of the popular venue's birthday room.

In addition to the use of the room, one winner from each of the bank's 12 branches will receive 10 general admission tickets to the Hall of Fame and a goody bag for each party guest.

"It's our birthday, but we'd like to celebrate it by making the birthdays of others a little more special," said President and CEO Matt Garrity.

In hopes of celebrating a birthday alongside Florence Bank's 150th, those entering the giveaway can complete a

ballot at any of the bank's branches or visit florencebank.com/bday. The contest began Friday, May 5 and ends Friday, June 2. Winners will be chosen Monday, June 5.

Florence Bank's original home was the second floor of the Davis Building on Main Street in Florence. It has outgrown its space twice, moving into a two-story brick building next door in 1891 and again in 1978 to its present main office.

Florence Bank is a mutual savings bank chartered in 1873. Currently, the bank serves the Pioneer Valley through 12 full-service branch locations in Florence, Northampton, Easthampton, Williamsburg, Amherst, Hadley, Belchertown, Granby, Chicopee, West Springfield and Springfield.

Florence Bank awards \$150,000 to local nonprofits

FLORENCE – In its 21st year, Florence Bank's Customers' Choice Community Grants Program is poised to award \$150,000 to 46 area nonprofits in honor of the bank's 150th anniversary and leaders intend to surprise their audience with an additional \$25,000 in grants.

President and CEO Matt Garrity will hand out checks to 46 nonprofit leaders across the region, awarding 13 with \$5,000 gifts, the most ever granted in 21 years and presenting \$500 surprise

awards to 10 organizations that fell just short of the required 50-vote count.

The gala and ceremony was held Tuesday, May 16 at Frank Newhall Look Memorial Park, with the ceremony. Florence Bank is a mutual savings bank chartered in 1873. Currently, the bank serves the Pioneer Valley through 12 full-service branch locations in Florence, Northampton, Easthampton, Williamsburg, Amherst, Hadley, Belchertown, Granby, Chicopee, West Springfield and Springfield.

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.

WORTHINGTON

Parent Teachers Organization holds successful spaghetti supper fundraiser

WORTHINGTON — Almost 100 people attended the Vintage Parent Teachers Organization spaghetti supper to support the R.H. Conwell Elementary School.

The fundraiser, conceived of by Lynn Lak, mother of special education teacher Emily Lak, was a huge success. Lynn Lak, a former PTO treasurer gathered nine fellow PTO members from the era when their children were at the school and put together a great evening. One teacher commented that “everyone knew what they were doing, like a well-oiled machine.” Overall, attendees were delighted with the chance to gather with community members and support the local school.

The evening culminated with the drawing of raffle prizes. Blue tickets were drawn for many items, including a painting of nasturtiums and other pieces donated by Laurie Lemrise, gift certificates to many local businesses, and many delightful items contributed by parents and townspeople. One especial-

ly popular prize was the comeback of Nanny Gail’s famous chocolate cupcakes.

Later, red tickets were drawn for winners of gift baskets created by each classroom. This raffle raised money for future students to attend Nature’s Classroom, an overnight field trip for students in fifth and sixth grades.

Kelly Wolf, one of the vintage crew, cooked enough spaghetti, meatballs, and sauce to feed an army, while husband Devon, in addition to setting up and taking down the venue, also provided the expertise needed for finding, operating and disposing of everything. Teacher Lak was delighted that “volunteers came together even though their children are no longer there” and her father thought it was “nice to see the faces of different community members out to support the school and all the great things they are doing here.” Several former R.H. Conwell students returned for the big evening, enjoying the sight of younger generations traipsing through

the same halls that bore their footsteps years ago.

The PTO thanks the follow businesses for their donations: Big Y, Sena Farm Brewery, Liston’s, The Links at Worthington, The Dewey Family, Windy Hill Farm, Hilltown Mobile Market, Old Creamery Co-op, JudyMoves Dance and Fitness, High Hopes Sugar House, The Wolf Family, Fitzwilly’s, Worth the Wait Farm and more.

If other generations of PTO members are interested in running a fundraiser, they should email PTO president Max Breitenicher or treasurer Emily Longley at worthingtonpto.ma@gmail.com. The PTO welcomes new members and volunteers at any time. Meetings are held the third Thursday of each month in the R. H. Conwell cafeteria or a zoom link can be sent, if needed. Community members interested in donating specifically to the Nature’s Classroom future field trips fund can also contact the PTO.

Democrats to hold caucus

WORTHINGTON – Registered Democrats will hold a caucus Saturday, June 3 at 2 p.m. to elect one delegate and one alternate to the 2023 State Democratic Convention.

The caucus is open to everyone; however, only those registered as Democrats in Worthington may vote and be elected to be delegates or alternates during the caucus. “Pre-registered” Democrats in Worthington who will be 16-years-old by May 23, 2023 may also participate and run as a delegate or alternate.

Youth (age 16 to 35), people with disabilities, people of color, and members of the LGBTQ+ community not elected as delegates or alternates are encouraged to apply to be add-on delegates at the caucus or by visiting massdems.org/massdems-convention/. The 2023 Convention will be at the Tsongas Arena in Lowell on Sept. 23. Anyone interested in getting involved with the Worthington Town Democratic Committee should email Ruth Lehrer at Worthingtondem@gmail.com.



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USDA INSP. FRESH PORK TENDERLOIN..... \$2.49 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER LONDON BROIL or STEAKS \$4.69 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN LEG 1/4s TRAY PAK 50¢ lb
GREAT ON THE GRILL	USDA INSP. FROZEN ST. LOUIS PORK RIBS..... \$1.99 lb	USDA INSP. SMOKED HILLSHIRE FARMS POLSKA KIELBASA 14 OZ - 13 OZ.. \$3.99 ea
USDA INSP. FRESH 2 1/2 LB BOX KAYEM NATURAL CASING HOT DOGS..... \$10.99 ea	USDA INSP. FROZEN STORE MADE HAMBURGER PATTIES 80% LEAN 20 CT BOX 3 OZ \$13.99 ea 4 OZ \$18.65 ea	USDA INSP. FRESH SLICED IN OUR DELI VIRGINIA HAM \$3.99 lb
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SCHOOLS & YOUTH

Hyjek receives academic excellence business awards

SPRINGFIELD – Western New England University held its College of Business Senior Awards Ceremony on May 2 on the University Campus.

The University honored 11 graduating seniors, who were selected based on their academic achievement in the major or based on their overall class standing. Thomas Hyjek of Huntington received the Outstanding Student in Accounting

and in Finance award. This award recognizes a graduating senior selected by the faculty for excellence in the study of Accounting and Finance. The award was presented by Yong Wang, Professor and Chair of the Department of Accounting and Finance.

Hyjek is graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in finance.

Catherine King participates in Lasell University RUNWAY shows

NEWTON, MA – Catherine King of Easthampton, a Lasell University student, participated in the institution's annual RUNWAY shows last month.

King was the RUNWAY co-director. The annual fashion shows featured work

from 89 student designers and more than 150 models and production staff members. Fashion merchandising and management students, Jacqueline Minasian Class of 2023 and Catherine King, Class of 2023, co-directed the shows.

Garrett Barnachez inducted into Beta Gamma Sigma Honor Society

SPRINGFIELD – The Western New England University chapter of Beta Gamma Sigma National Honor Society welcomed 35 students at the University's annual induction ceremony on April 27th in the University Commons.

Garrett Barnachez of Westfield is working toward a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in business analytics and information management.

Beta Gamma Sigma is a national honor society for business majors at schools accredited by AACSB International, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Students are selected from the top 7% of juniors, top 10% of seniors and top 20% of graduate students. Candidates must have completed two semesters of study at Western New England University.

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CHESTERFIELD

Local scouts place flags on Veterans graves



Chesterfield Scout Corbin Liimatainen replaces a Veteran's flag.



Scout Dylan Liimatainen helped place flags on Veterans graves in Chesterfield.

CHESTERFIELD – For more than ten years, the local scouts in Chesterfield have handled replacing the veteran flags at each of the cemeteries in town.

Most of the flags are held in a plastic veteran marker provided by the Central Hampshire Veteran's Services. Over the years, many of the plastic flag holders have broken and can no longer hold a flag.

From the yearly budget of Chesterfield Cemetery Commission, Dee Cinner was able to purchase 30 new metal flag holders. On Sunday, May 21, the Scouts in Troop 705, had the honor of replacing some of the broken holders with a metal one. Cinner is hoping to eventually replace all the plastic Veteran flag holders at the Town's cemeteries.



One of the broken plastic flag holders, which were replaced with metal flag holders.

Submitted photos

A Memorial Service for
Georgette Russell
will be held on
Saturday, June 3 at 10am
Wyben Union Church
678 Montgomery Rd., Westfield

In lieu of flowers please consider donations to Wyben Church or a charity of your choice in her name.



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MIDDLEFIELD

Middlefield COA lists menu

MIDDLEFIELD – The Middlefield Council on Aging announces the menu for the Wednesday, May 31 meal at noon in the senior center, 169 Skyline Trail. People may opt to dine in or pick up the meal. The menu includes a choice of breaded chicken bites, chicken and cheese enchiladas, zucchini, corn and fresh fruit. People should RSVP by calling 413-623-9990 the previous Monday.

PAT JONES CELEBRATES 88TH BIRTHDAY



Crystal Main, from left, helps Pat Jones celebrate her 88th birthday at the Middlefield Senior Center lunch. Submitted photo

BECKET

Becket to hold Memorial Day parade

BECKET – The Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 29 at 10:30 a.m. with line up at 10 a.m. The parade begins from the North Becket Cemetery and ends at Ballou Park with a service at 11 a.m. There will be refreshments at the Federated Church after the ceremony.

WESTHAMPTON

Westhampton to hold Town Election

WESTHAMPTON – The Town Election will be on Saturday, June 3 from 8 a.m.-noon. In the Town Hall.

To vote in the annual Town Election, residents must be a registered voter. The last day to register to vote has past. The officers to be elected at the annual Town Election are: Town Moderator, Tree Warden, Select Board, Finance Committee, Board of Assessor, members of Westhampton Elementary School Committee, two members

Planning Board, Hampshire Regional School Committee, Constable and one or more Westhampton Library Board of Trustees.

A sample ballot is available for viewing by visiting the town website at westhampton-ma.com

The Town Clerk publishes the warrant for the Annual Town Election, which will list the nominees for all offices, no less than seven days prior to the election.

PITTSFIELD

Berkshire Benchmarks data team release state of county update

PITTSFIELD – The Berkshire Benchmarks data team recently released a State of the County Update for 2023.

This brief report builds on the Berkshire Benchmarks State of the County Report published in May 2022 and highlights notable changes in regional indicators over the past year. The berkshirebenchmarks.org website has also been updated to reflect the most current available data.

The purpose of the Benchmarks initiative and report is to highlight the region's successes and challenges. The 2022 Berkshire Benchmarks State of the County report provided a comprehensive overview of our region's performance across eight sectors: economy, education, environment, government, health, housing, social environment and

transportation.

In the future, the Berkshire Benchmarks team will continue to monitor these and other indicators to aid with the regional understanding of changes in these sectors and whether the work happening throughout the region is having the intended impact.

Berkshire Benchmarks is a collaborative initiative managed through Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. Their sources are publicly available data, including the U.S. Census Bureau, the American Community Survey, various Massachusetts data sets, and periodic surveys of Berkshire County residents. Berkshire Benchmarks enhances the region's access to quality data and analysis.

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

Chester Water Commission Public Notice

The Chester Water Commission will hold a public meeting on **June 01, 2023**

at 4 PM in the Town Hall, 15 Middlefield Rd., Chester, to provide an update on water department operations and the water rate for FY2024. 05/25, 06/01/2023

Huntington Conservation Commission Notice of Public Meeting

The Huntington Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on **Wednesday, June 7, 2023 at 7:10 pm** at Stanton Hall to review a Request for Determination of Applicability submitted by the Highlands Footpath, Inc. The proposed activity

installation of an informational kiosk on Huntington town property behind Town Hall. This hearing is in accordance with M.G. L. Chapter 131 Section 40 of the Wetlands Protection Act. 05/25/2023

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) 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

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THIS WEEK'S HOROSCOPES

ARIES
Mar 21/Apr 20
You may struggle to get going this week, Aries. But once you do, it will be full speed ahead. In fact, you may need to slow things down to let others catch up.

CANCER
Jun 22/Jul 22
Deadlines could make for a heated week, Cancer. It's best to remove yourself from any situations before they get out of hand. Offer advice when things cool down.

LIBRA
Sept 23/Oct 23
Others feel you're giving off some high-strung vibes, and they wouldn't be wrong. Something is weighing on your shoulders. Figure out what it is and lighten the load.

CAPRICORN
Dec 22/Jan 20
Capricorn, emphasize a slow and methodical approach to a problem with an elusive solution. Slowing things down has a tendency to provide substantial clarity.

TAURUS
Apr 21/May 21
Taurus, if you are feeling a bit scattered as of late, take some time out of your schedule to meditate and reflect on what is most important to you. Then follow that path.

LEO
Jul 23/Aug 23
Routines are boring you lately, Leo. You may need to shake things up. If you work a set schedule, see if you can go to flex time and look for ways to change.

SCORPIO
Oct 24/Nov 22
Scorpio, you're dishing out all sorts of sage advice but it may be frustrating if others don't want to take it. All you can do is offer and let others lead their lives.

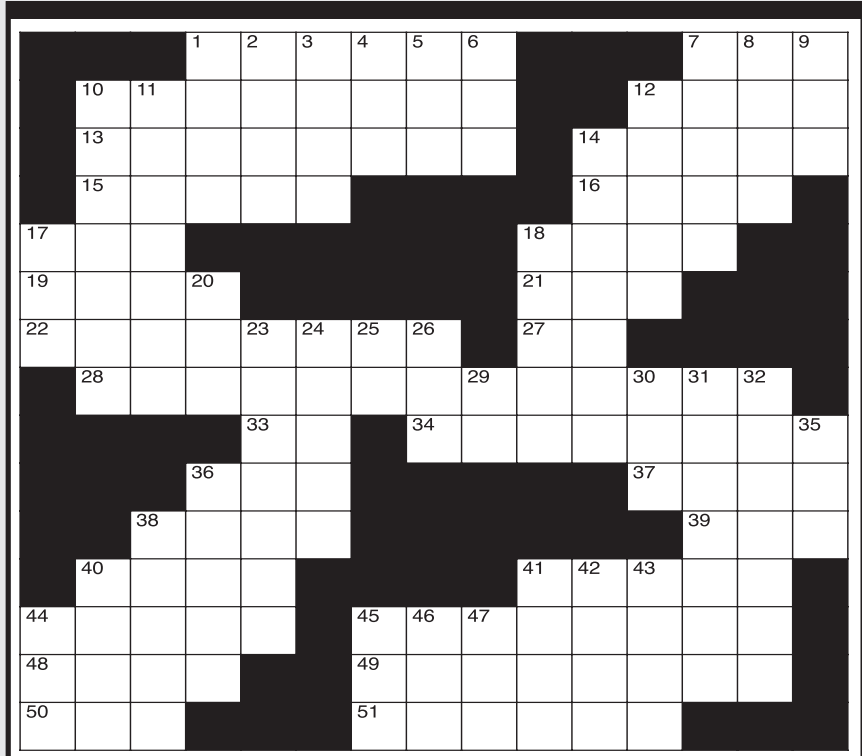
AQUARIUS
Jan 21/Feb 18
Disagreements on how to move forward could bring tension at home or work. Everyone needs to put their ideas on the table and whittle down the best answer.

GEMINI
May 22/June 21
Gemini, give yourself permission to move slowly this week. If you're racing through things, you're apt to make mistakes. Set your own pace and let things play out as they may.

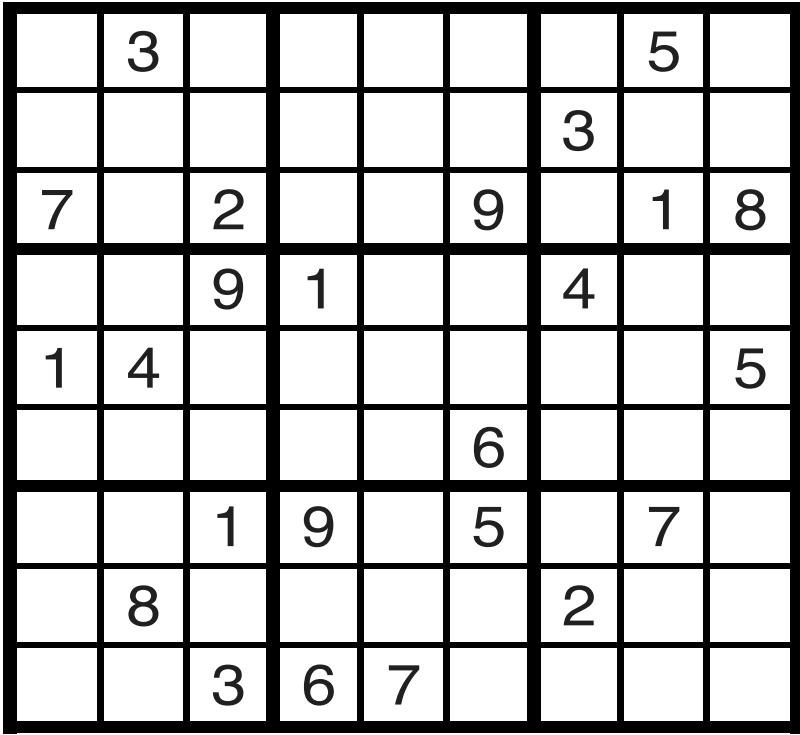
VIRGO
Aug 24/Sept 22
Do not let drama that doesn't involve you sneak into your orbit, Virgo. If you need to distance yourself from others for a while, then do so.

SAGITTARIUS
Nov 23/Dec 21
Things may be a little rough around the edges lately, and you'll need to figure out the ways to smooth things over, Sagittarius. Find a few friends who are in your corner.

PISCES
Feb 19/Mar 20
Don't compare yourself to others, Pisces; otherwise, you may downplay all of your wonderful attributes. Be proud of who you are.



- CLUES ACROSS**
- 1. Wear away by friction
 - 7. Insecticide
 - 10. Elicited a secret vote
 - 12. Beef
 - 13. Disagreement
 - 14. ___ Crawford, supermodel
 - 15. Jeweled headdress
 - 16. Digits
 - 17. Trillion hertz
 - 18. Snap up
 - 19. Classical portico
 - 21. Residue after burning
 - 22. Large integers
 - 27. Free agent
 - 28. Where ballplayers work
 - 33. Blood type
 - 34. Scottish city
 - 36. Google certification (abbr.)
 - 37. Serbian monetary unit
 - 38. Make a sudden surprise attack on
 - 39. Wood or metal bolt
 - 40. Relaxing attire
 - 41. Famed neurologist
 - 44. Dullish brown fabrics
 - 45. Member of ancient Jewish sect
 - 48. Griffith, Rooney
 - 49. Lawmakers
 - 50. Government lawyers
 - 51. The arch of the foot
 - 4. Consumed
 - 5. The habitat of wild animals
 - 6. Sun up in New York
 - 7. Cygnus star
 - 8. Male parents
 - 9. Talk to you (abbr.)
 - 10. A place to clean oneself
 - 11. Southwestern US state
 - 12. South Korean idol singer
 - 14. Pirate
 - 17. Pituitary hormone (abbr.)
 - 18. Mistake
 - 20. Promotions
 - 23. Prepares
 - 24. Partner to flowed
 - 25. State lawyer
 - 26. Patti Hearst's captors
 - 29. Pound
 - 30. Electronic data processing
 - 31. Sports player
 - 32. Treats with contempt
 - 35. Apprehend
 - 36. Excessively talkative
 - 38. Highways
 - 40. Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
 - 41. College organization for males
 - 42. Any customary observance or practice
 - 43. Employee stock ownership plan
 - 44. Male parent
 - 45. The 23rd letter of the Greek alphabet
 - 46. Female bird
 - 47. Autonomic nervous system
- CLUES DOWN**
- 1. Nonflowering aquatic plant
 - 2. Britpop rockers
 - 3. National capital



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!

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answers

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OBITUARIES

Ferol S. Breymann, 97

WILLIAMSTOWN – Ferol Stark Breymann died peacefully on Dec. 12, 2022 at the age of 97 in Williamstown surrounded by her family.

She was born Nov. 1, 1925 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. She was predeceased by her parents; her former husband, John B Breymann III.; her longtime partner, Donald B Connors and her brother, Donny Stark.

She is survived by her daughters, Meg Breymann, Kerry Breymann, Annabelle Keil (Rodrigo Corazon) and Rebecca Leiter (Mark); her grandchildren, Will Breymann (Bailey Sheran), Jackson Mansfield, Maggie Mansfield (Sam Perkins), Ben Keil and Peter Keil (Frances), Gabriel Leiter, Nicky Leiter and Noa Leiter, and her great-grandson, Pace Breymann.

Ferol graduated from Marquette University with a Bachelor of Art in journalism and from the Boston University School of Communications with



her Masters. Her many volunteer activities in Marblehead included the Festival of the Arts, the Historical Society and the Girl Scouts. She was a member of the North Shore Writer's Group.

Mom was an energetic and creative feminist. She inspired her daughters to love beauty, the outdoors, healthy eating, exercise and chocolate. We thought she would live forever. We would like to appreciate the staff people of Williamstown Commons and of Golden Living in Newton for their humor and kindness towards our mother. We are deeply grateful.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Saturday June 3, 2023 at Our Lady Star of the Sea Church in Marblehead at 1 p.m. Memorial gifts may be sent to the causes of her favorite women, Hilary Clinton and Michelle Obama or your favorite cause. For updated information please see the Flynn and Dagnoli website flynndagnolifuneralhomes.com.

Ronald L. Pease, 80

CHESTER – Ronald L. Pease passed away peacefully at home on May 19, 2023, at the age of 80.

Ron's love of family and community didn't come to an end with his death. Even though a failing heart took him away from this world, his kind and generous life left a beacon of light for all that had the privilege to know him as he was always eager to lend a helping hand to anyone in need.

Ron was predeceased by his father, Harold Kent Pease; his mother, Doris Sherwood Pease Parrett; his former wife, Charlotte DeMoss Pease and his brother, Carl Kent Pease.

He is survived by his loving companion, Cindy Lu Hube and her loving and caring family; his beloved son, John Kent Pease and his companion, Arlene; his beloved granddaughter, Ashley Lynn Quinn; her husband, Tom



and his great-grandson, William John; his beloved sister, Ora Lee and many dear family members and lifelong friends.

Ron worked at Westfield River until it closed and later at Osterman's until his retirement. After his retirement, Ron spent many summers at his camp in Jackman, Maine fishing, riding and sitting by campfires with good friends. While at home in Chester, he loved spending time outdoors hunting, fishing and having coffee with friends.

A celebration of life for Ron will be held at the Chester Railway Station on Saturday, June 17 at noon. All who knew Ron are welcome to join us to remember and honor his life and legacy.

The Graham Hilltown Comm care and services. For online condolences, people may visit hilltownfuneral-home.com.

Shirley Smith-Winer

CHESTER – Shirley Smith Winer died in her living room on Friday May 12, 2023, surrounded by family, while lilacs bloomed outside her windows and trillium still flowered on the hill, a few days after the swallows returned to her barn.

She had owned this isolated property for almost sixty years, and for almost thirty she had lived there alone, off the grid and heating with wood.

Shirley was born in 1935 in Hyde Park, Chicago. Her father was a professor of medicine at the University of Chicago. Her grandfather had been a pioneer in microbiology. Her grandmother managed a bank and a farming business.

Although her family spent weeks together sailing on Lake Michigan, Shirley's first love was horses. Every year in elementary school her teachers would write on her report card, "I wish Shirley would read something other than horse books."

Shirley attended the Laboratory School in Hyde Park through tenth grade and finished high school at the University of Chicago, where she met Clint Smith. She was sixteen and he was seventeen. A year or two later, she was arguing with her parents about marrying him immediately, but in the end she left for Radcliffe College. Travelling between Chicago and Boston, the train passed through the Hilltowns, following the tracks along the Westfield River. Later in life, she remembered seeing Chester and Huntington then and the lush green, irregular mountains around them.

She married Clint at age twenty and a sign on their car read, "Married at Last." She left Radcliffe and completed her college education at the University of Richmond while he started medical school. They moved to New Haven for his residency at Yale and then he began a private practice in psychiatry. With young children now and feeling more established financially, they started searching for a second home. In 1963 they bought the Woods farm on Kinnebrook Road, with two close friends of theirs, Marc and Anne Schwartz.

Shirley and Clint loved the hard work of maintaining the place. A list of their projects hung in the farmhouse kitchen—on an old, yellowing page ripped out of a spiral notebook and thumbtacked to the side of a cabinet. The list started at maintenance (mow lawn; cut brush along stream). Then it ranged from simple goals (make more than five gallons of maple syrup; buy a new evaporator) to stretch goals (refloor the front porch; build a new bridge) to ideas meant to get a laugh (dam stream to create ten-acre lake; exterminate forest monsters). Projects were how they mapped their future. What can we do this summer? What can we do next year?



But in 1973, before they could finish the list, Clint died from melanoma. He was thirty-nine. Shirley was thirty-eight. They had been together more than half their lives. An old cemetery lay on the hill above their farm. Shirley buried him there. Then she returned to New Haven and the task of raising their three young children alone. During the school year, she kept horses in a rural suburb outside New Haven. As soon as the school year ended, she returned with

her children and horses to Chester, where they stayed until a few days before school began again.

In 1978, she married Louis Winer, a New Haven attorney. In 1992, their marriage ended in divorce and the next year she sold her house in New Haven and moved year-round to the farmhouse on Kinnebrook Road.

Shirley took care of horses on her farm until she was 85. Every night in the winter she carried ten gallons of hot water out to the barn to melt the ice in their buckets. She would do the same the next morning. People who drove down through her valley would often see her weed whacking by the side of the road or bouncing across a field in her tractor. She read *The Country Journal* and *The New York Times* at her kitchen table. She also read stacks of magazines, annotating each cover with the titles of articles she wanted to read again. When her children came to visit, often arriving late on Friday night, she met them with news about the Hilltowns and a torrent of opinions about national politics.

Shirley lived a life that resisted categories. She was an educator. She taught fifth grade before she had children and she served on the Gateway School Committee for over 25 years. She spent decades as a leader in Pony Club—an organization dedicated to teaching children how to ride and care for horses. She founded the Sleeping Giant Pony Club in the New Haven area and then served on the board of the national organization. For almost forty years she ran a riding camp at her farm, where children brought horses and slept in tents and had to use an outhouse.

Shirley was also a conversationist. She could talk at length about threatened habitats and endangered species, global dependence on fossil fuels, and the need for alternative forms of energy. She spent hours studying the habitats on her property and decorated her living room with the skeletons of animals she found in the woods.

As soon as her grandchildren could walk and talk, she would sit with them at the edge of her pond, examining frogs and newts. Later, she would take them in the woods and show them wildflowers, ani-

DEATH NOTICES

BREYMANN, FEROL STARK
Died Dec. 12, 2022
Services June 3, 2023

DONOVAN, GINGER
2/26/1947-5/2/2023, age 76

PEASE, RONALD L.
Died May 19, 2023
Celebration of life June 17, 2023

SMITH WINER, SHIRLEY
Died May 12, 2023
Service June 4, 2023

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.

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

mal tracks in the mud or snow, or eggs in a vernal pool. To protect her land from future development, she put most of the property under a conservation easement with the Hilltown Land Trust. She contributed to organizations like Greenpeace, the Sierra Club, and the World Wildlife Fund, yet also had a sense of humor about her own passion for environmental causes. The back of her old blue, Ford pickup carried a red bumper sticker, "Save the Black Fly."

Shirley was also a community organizer. In New Haven, she organized campaigns to protect parks, change traffic flows, and bring arts education to the public schools. In Chester, she helped drive a campaign to rebuild the school buildings in the Gateway District. She was the founder of a small publication, called *Just Horses*, that advertised goods and services for horses in the era before the Internet. She was a successful investor in both stock and real estate and for most of her adult life she helped manage the farming business her family owned in western Illinois. Finally, she was an artist. She leaves behind many paintings and drawings of people and animals, the places she visited, and the buildings on her property.

Shirley faced Alzheimer's with clear-eyed bravery and a wisdom about the natural course of life. She will be buried next to her husband Clint, in the cemetery on the hill.

She is survived by her three children and their families: Douglas Smith, his wife Suzanne Owens and their children Isabelle, Rosalind, and Caleb; Mandeliene Smith, her husband Livingston Parsons and their children Ava and Simone; Emily Smith Lee, her husband Robert Lee and their children Caroline and Clint. She also leaves behind her sister, Nancy Bradley, and a large, loving, extended family. She will be buried next to Clint, in the cemetery on the hill.

The Graham Hilltown Community Funeral Home, 27 Russell Road in Huntington was honorably entrusted with Shirley's care and service request. Please visit, our website for online condolences.

A memorial service will be held on Sunday June 4, at 1 p.m. in Chester Town Hall 15 Middlefield Road, Chester, MA 01011. Please join us for a reception at Shirley's farm 139 Kinnebrook Road, Chester. Memorial donations can be made to the following organizations.

Hilltown Land Trust
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Submitted photos



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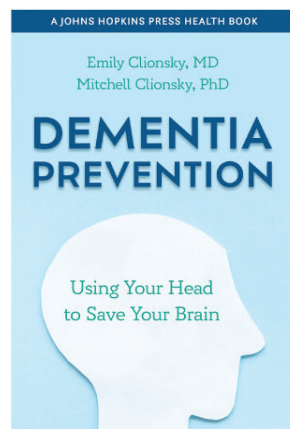


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